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COVERAGE
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STARTING
Access the resource via your subject’s library guide (you will see it under the Key Resources tab). Alternatively you could go to the URL: http://www.ciaonet.org. No username or password is required.

BROWSING
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SEARCHING

Searching
To carry out a search use the search box at the top of the CIAO homepage.
Words can be linked by the Boolean AND, OR or NOT.

Typing Sudan AND Libya would find items which refer to both Sudan and Libya. (AND must be in capital letters.)
Sudan OR Libya finds items containing either Sudan or Libya. (OR must be in capitals.)

Use the following search techniques to maximize your results:
The truncation symbol * stands for any number of characters, e.g. disarm* with find disarm, disarmament, disarms, disarmed, disarming, disarms, disarmer.
The wildcard symbol ? stands for a single character, e.g. globali?ation will retrieve globalisation and globalization.
Enclosing your search terms within double inverted commas ensures they are searched as an exact phrase, e.g. “climate change trends”.

CIAO will search for your terms throughout the bibliographic reference and also throughout the full-text document. This usually results in a high number of “hits” but may include many items which only contain a brief mention of your search term.

You can further refine your search using the facets on the left. It is possible, for instance, to limit your search to items about a particular region or to limit by date. It is often helpful to limit your search in order to avoid getting far too many results.

CIAO does not have a thesaurus or a list of subject headings or official terms, so searching for words with many spellings can be problematic. For example, the following term may give very different numbers of results depending on the spelling: al qaida; al-qaeda; al qaeda; al q’aeda.