



Unite Search

QUERY GUIDE



Revision History

Date	Version	Description	Author
15 December 2022	1.0	Initial Release	Christian Dungca
16 December 2022	1.1	Review and add combined case example	Seung Soo Son
Select a date.			
Select a date.			
Select a date.			

Copyright

The present document, including any of its contents, cannot be copied or reproduced in any form without prior approval of the Office of Information and Communications Technology of the United Nations.

Confidentiality

This Document may contain confidential information on the status of systems of the Office of Information and Communications Technology of the United Nations and should be treated with care to ensure only trusted parties have access to the information contained herein.



Table of Contents

1. Introduction	3
2. Boolean Modifiers.....	3
3. Proximity Searches	4
4. Boosting a Term	4
5. Combine all together	4

1. Introduction

This document provides guidance on how to enhance the search and provide additional flexibility.

When performing a query in Unite Search, you can either use a single term or phrases:

- A single term is a word such as **security** or **council**
- A phrase is a group of words surrounded by double quotes such as "**security council**"
- () can be used to group like **(A AND B) OR (C AND D)**

Multiple words in the search box which are not surrounded by double quotes are treated as multiple single words with the default OR modifier. For example:

If the words **security council** are entered in the search box without double quotes, Unite Search will interpret this as **security** OR **council**, which will return all documents with security or council.

Additional modifiers can be added to the search query as described in the following sections. All modifiers are case sensitive and must be upper-case characters.

2. Boolean Modifiers¹

Boolean modifiers allow you to apply Boolean logic to queries, requiring the presence or absence of specific terms or conditions in order to match documents. The following are currently supported:

Boolean Modifier	Description
OR	Requires that either term (or both terms) be present for a match.
AND	Requires both terms on either side of the Boolean operator to be present for a match.
NOT	Requires that the following term not be present.
MUST	Requires that the following term be present.

Example:

NOT proliferation security AND council

Search for documents where security and council are present but not proliferation.

MUST proliferation OR security OR council

Search for documents where proliferation should be present, or any of the words, security or council.

¹ All modifiers must be used with uppercase words, otherwise it might be accepted as one of search terms

3. Proximity Searches

A proximity search looks for terms that are within a specific distance from one another.

To perform a proximity search, you add the modifier WITHIN:10 between the first and second term. The numeric value is the distance between the two terms.

Example:

protection WITHIN:10 civilians

Search for documents where protection and civilians are within 10 words of each other.

4. Boosting a Term

Boosting allows you to control the relevance of the returned documents by boosting a particular term. To boost a term, you add the modifier WEIGHT:10 before the term that should be boosted. You can only boost one term in the search query and the number should be a positive number less than 100.

Example:

WEIGHT:10 "protection of civilians" syria

In the example above, you would like "protection of civilians" boosted 10 times and more relevant than syria.

5. Combining Everything

By combining all, you can create a complex query like the example below.

Example:

(protection WITHIN:10 civilians AND WEIGHT:10 "rule 39") OR (NOT "rule 37 " AND protection AND WEIGHT:5 health)

In the example above, you would like to search for documents where the two terms, **protection** and **civilians** are close enough (within 10 words) and "**rule 39**" phrase should be present or **protection** and **health** should be present but not the "**rule 37**" phrase. The two terms "rule 39" and health are also boosted 10 and 5 times respectively, and it will affect the relevance of those terms in the result.