

Bungenberg / Griebel / Hobe / Reinisch

International Investment Law

A Handbook

C.H.BECK • Hart • Nomos

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International Investment Law

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Editors' Foreword

Four years have passed since our first discussion about a *Handbook on International Investment Law* in January 2010. This has been a time of conceptual work, numerous e-mail exchanges with some 90 authors, and correspondence with our publisher.

The main purpose of this handbook – aside from providing basic information – is to strive for more clarity and an attempt to achieve some coherence in this relatively young discipline of international law, a system consisting of arbitral awards and doctrinal interpretations, constituting the most dynamic field of international economic law. After a relatively slow beginning as an integral part of customary international law, international investment law has in the past decade evolved like almost no other field of public international law, especially on the basis of an increasing number of bilateral investment treaties. In this regard, the book approaches the most crucial aspects of international investment law and thereby hopefully provides answers to many questions arising in this field.

We are particularly grateful to the contributors who have anxiously awaited the publication of this work. We owe them not only thanks for their contributions, but also for their patience. We are equally grateful to our assistant editor, Ms Yun-I Kim, for her skilful, meticulous and dedicated management of the entire editorial process. Whoever has edited a book of approximately 2000 pages will appreciate such outstanding commitment. Thanks also go to Mr Christoph Hölken and Ms Katharina Diel-Gligor who supported Ms Kim during parts of the editing process, and to the publisher for their excellent cooperation. Finally, it should also be mentioned that the resources at both the International Investment Law Centre Cologne (IILCC) and at the Department of European, International and Comparative Law of the University of Vienna, provided the necessary basis for such a comprehensive work.

It goes without saying that this first attempt at providing an encompassing overview on existing international investment law is far from perfect. There is an academic responsibility of each author for every article, but also an overall responsibility of the editors who have read each contribution and where necessary, have discussed them with the authors. Therefore, any proposal for improvement of contributions is most welcome and can be directed to the authors as well as to the editors. In any event, we hope that you enjoy reading this handbook!

Cologne, Siegen, and Vienna,
December 2014

Marc Bungenberg

Jörn Griebel

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August Reinisch

Table of Contents

List of Abbreviations	XIII
Notes on the Contributors	XXV
Chapter 1: General Introduction to International Investment Law	1
<i>Marc Bungenberg, Jörn Griebel, Stephan Hobe and August Reinisch</i>	
Chapter 2: The Law Relating to Aliens, the International Minimum Standard and State Responsibility	6
I. The Development of the Law of Aliens and the Emergence of General Principles of Protection under Public International Law	6
<i>Stephan Hobe</i>	
II. State Responsibility	23
<i>Stephan Wittich</i>	
III. The Protection of Individuals under Public International Law	46
<i>Rainer Hofmann</i>	
IV. Outlook on the Developments in Public International Law and the Law Relating to Aliens	64
<i>Burkhard Schöbener</i>	
Chapter 3: State Contracts and the Relevance of Investment Contract Arbitration	80
I. Investor-State Contracts in the Context of International Investment Law	80
<i>André von Walter</i>	
II. Typical Questions Arising within Negotiations	93
<i>Morris Besch</i>	
Chapter 4: International Investment Agreements – History, Approaches, Schools	153
I. The Evolution of the Regime of International Investment Agreements: History, Economics and Politics	153
<i>Chester Brown</i>	
II. Bilateral Approaches	186
A. European Bilateral Approaches	186
<i>John P. Gaffney and Zeynep Akçay</i>	
B. The Americas	202
<i>Andrew Newcombe</i>	
C. Chinese Investment Law	221
<i>Marc Bungenberg and Manjiao Chi</i>	
III. Pluri-/Multilateral and Regional Approaches	240
A. The Energy Charter Treaty	240
<i>Richard Happ</i>	
B. NAFTA's Contributions to Investor-State Dispute Settlement	261
<i>Andrea K. Bjorklund</i>	
C. The ASEAN Comprehensive Investment Agreement and 'ASEAN Plus' – The Australia–New Zealand Free Trade Area (AANZFTA) and the PRC–ASEAN Investment Agreement	283
<i>Vivienne Bath and Luke Nottage</i>	

Table of Contents

D. The New EU Investment Policy Approach	304
<i>Jörn Griebel</i>	
E. MERCOSUR and CAFTA	326
<i>Gabriel Bottini, Veronica Lavista and Mariana Lozza</i>	
F. The Negotiations on the OECD Multilateral Agreement on Investment	342
<i>Joachim Karl</i>	
Chapter 5: International Investment Agreements and the General Body of Rules of Public International Law	361
I. Two Worlds, but Not Apart: International Investment Law and General International Law	361
<i>Bruno Simma and Dirk Pulkowski</i>	
II. The Interpretation of International Investment Agreements	372
<i>August Reinisch</i>	
III. The Application of the Rules of State Responsibility	411
<i>James Crawford and Simon Olleson</i>	
IV. Circumstances Precluding Wrongfulness	442
<i>Christina Binder</i>	
Chapter 6: The Scope of Application of International Investment Agreements	481
I. <i>Ratione Temporis</i>	481
<i>Noah Rubins and Ben Love</i>	
II. <i>Ratione Materiae</i>	495
A. The Notion of Investment	495
<i>Jan Asmus Bischoff and Richard Happ</i>	
B. Protection of Investments Owned by States	545
<i>Sabine Konrad</i>	
C. Protection for Non-Profit Organisations	555
<i>Sabine Konrad</i>	
D. Investment in Accordance with the Law	566
<i>Katharina Diel-Gligor and Rudolf Hennecke</i>	
E. Investment in Accordance with the Law – Specifically Corruption	577
<i>Ralph Alexander Lorz and Manuel Busch</i>	
F. The Territorial Nexus between an Investment and the Host State	590
<i>Christina Knahr</i>	
G. Denial of Benefits	598
<i>Anne K. Hoffmann</i>	
III. <i>Ratione Personae</i>	614
A. Who is a Protected Investor?	614
<i>Lucy F. Reed and Jonathan E. Davis</i>	
B. Protection for Legal Persons	638
<i>Markus Perkams</i>	
Chapter 7: The Liberalisation of the International Movement of Capital and of International Investments	653
I. WTO Rules and Obligations Related to Investment	653
<i>Michael Hahn</i>	
II. EU Rules and Obligations Related to Investment	671
<i>Michael Hahn</i>	
III. Pre-Entry Obligations under International Law	685
<i>Armand de Mestral</i>	

Table of Contents

Chapter 8: Standards of Protection	700
I. Fair and Equitable Treatment: Content, Practice, Method	700
<i>Marc Jacob and Stephan W. Schill</i>	
II. Protection and Security (Including the NAFTA Approach)	764
<i>Ralph Alexander Lorz</i>	
III. Arbitrary/Unreasonable or Discriminatory Measures	790
<i>Ursula Kriebaum</i>	
IV. Most Favoured Nation Treatment	807
<i>August Reinisch</i>	
V. National Treatment	846
<i>August Reinisch</i>	
VI. Transfer of Funds	870
<i>Carsten Kern</i>	
VII. Umbrella Clause	887
<i>Anthony Sinclair</i>	
VIII. Expropriation	959
<i>Ursula Kriebaum</i>	
Chapter 9: Restitution, Damages and Compensation	1031
I. The System of Reparation and Questions of Terminology	1031
<i>Irmgard Marboe</i>	
II. Methods of Valuing Losses	1045
<i>Richard E. (Rory) Walck</i>	
III. Valuation in Cases of Expropriation	1057
<i>Irmgard Marboe</i>	
IV. Valuation in Cases of Breaches of International Law Unrelated to Expropriation	1082
<i>Irmgard Marboe</i>	
V. Valuation in Cases of Breach of Contract	1103
<i>Irmgard Marboe</i>	
VI. Limits on Compensation for Internationally Wrongful Acts	1115
<i>Borzu Sabahi, Kabir Duggal and Nicholas Birch</i>	
VII. Moral Damages	1130
<i>Patrick Dumberry</i>	
VIII. Interest	1142
<i>John Y. Gotanda</i>	
Chapter 10: Obligations of Investors	1154
<i>Karsten Nowrot</i>	
Chapter 11: Dispute Resolution	1186
I. Alternatives to Investment Arbitration	1186
<i>Jan K. Schäfer</i>	
II. Investment Arbitration: Jurisdiction and Admissibility	1212
<i>Michael Waibel</i>	
III. Investment Arbitration: Procedure	1288
<i>Monique Sasson</i>	
IV. Investment Arbitration: Applicable Law	1373
<i>Ole Spiermann</i>	
V. Investment Arbitration: Remedies	1391
<i>Stephan Wittich</i>	

Table of Contents

VI. Investment Arbitration: Challenges to the System	1431
A. ICSID Annulment	1431
<i>Jean-Christophe Honlet, Barton Legum and Anna Crevon</i>	
B. National Setting Aside Proceedings in Investment Arbitration	1460
<i>Lars Markert and Helene Bubrowski</i>	
VII. Enforcement of Awards	1482
<i>Stefan Kröll</i>	
VIII. Precedents in International Investment Law	1505
<i>Marc Bungenberg and Catharine Titi</i>	
Chapter 12: Political Risk Insurance and Financing of Foreign Direct Investment	1517
I. Political Risk Insurance and Investment Treaty Protection	1517
<i>Kaj Hobér and Joshua Fellenbaum</i>	
II. Excursus: German Political Risk Insurance	1552
<i>Joachim Steffens</i>	
III. Financing of Foreign Direct Investment by Development Finance Institutions ..	1569
<i>Ulrich Klemm</i>	
Chapter 13: Contemporary Issues and Outlook	1585
I. Investment Law and the Individual	1585
<i>Yun-I Kim</i>	
II. The Relationship of International Investment Law and European Union Law ..	1602
<i>Marc Bungenberg and Stephan Hobe</i>	
III. Investment Law and Public Services	1629
<i>Markus Krajewski</i>	
IV. Investment Law and Energy	1644
<i>Achim-R. Börner</i>	
V. Investment Law and Taxation	1677
<i>Arno Gildemeister</i>	
VI. Investment Law and Intellectual Property Rights	1692
<i>Henning Grosse Ruse-Khan</i>	
VII. Investment Law and Sustainable Development: The Environment breaks into Investment Disputes	1714
<i>Jorge E. Viñuales</i>	
VIII. Human Rights and Investment Disciplines: Integration in Progress	1739
<i>Pierre-Marie Dupuy and Jorge E. Viñuales</i>	
IX. International Investment Law and Good Governance	1768
<i>Catharine Titi</i>	
X. Investment Law in Conflict with WTO Law?	1784
<i>Andreas R. Ziegler</i>	
XI. Investment Law and Sovereign Wealth Funds	1802
<i>Christian Tietje</i>	
XII. Multilateralization: An Ordering Paradigm for International Investment Law ..	1817
<i>Stephan W. Schill</i>	
XIII. Approaches to Investment Protection outside of Specific International Investment Agreements and Investor-State Settlement	1839
<i>Giorgio Sacerdoti and Matilde Recanatì</i>	

Table of Contents

Chapter 14: The Future of International Investment Law	1863
I. The Future of International Investment Law – Substantive Protection and Dispute Settlement	1863
<i>Karl-Heinz Böckstiegel</i>	
II. Does Investment Arbitration have a Future?	1873
<i>Kaj Hobér</i>	
III. Where Public meets Private: a Few Thoughts on Investment Law and Arbitration	1879
<i>Catherine Kessedjian</i>	
IV. The Likely Content of Future EU Investment Agreements	1884
<i>August Reinisch</i>	
V. The Future of International Investment Law	1904
<i>Christoph Schreuer</i>	
Index	1913