

Preface

This book is the outcome of a research project which was conducted at the Tilburg Law and Economics Center (TILEC), a joint research centre of the Faculties of Law and of Economics and Business Administration of Tilburg University, between 2007 and 2011.

The project was commissioned and funded by the Hague Institute for Internationalisation of Law (HiiL), project number 100-16-503. We are very grateful to HiiL, and in particular to its Director Sam Muller and Deputy Director David Raic, for financial support and understanding throughout the duration of the project. Morly Frishman and Yordana Keremidchieva, both of HiiL, also provided help and support, for which the editors are thankful.

The project was directed by Pierre Larouche, Professor of Competition Law at Tilburg University. Initially, the project team included Filomena Chirico and Saskia Lavrijssen. After both moved on to positions outside of Tilburg University, Maartje de Visser joined the project. She also moved to another project, which led to Péter Cserne joining the team for the completion of the project. While these changes caused some delays in the research, they did enrich the overall result by broadening the range of experiences that went into the contributions. The members of the team were also able to count on much respected colleagues, such as Monica Claes, Eric van Damme or Leigh Hancher, as co-authors for some of the contributions. Finally, Angela Maria Noguera helped the team during her studies in Tilburg and produced an empirical contribution to the project as part of her masters' thesis. More details on the contributors are provided on the following pages.

Conducted within HiiL's general Research Programme, the project has analysed, in an interdisciplinary manner, how national legal systems cope with the challenges of globalisation. The research output of the project has already gained societal relevance by contributing to ongoing practical discussions, on the review and reform of European networks of national regulatory authorities (NRAs) and on the unification or harmonisation of private law in Europe, among others. Putting the individual contributions together in this collective volume, we hope to deliver added value by highlighting the synergies between the various contributions. We

trust that the output of the project will further contribute to debates, both practical and academic, on the role of law in the global world.

Most chapters in this book have been previously published in different versions in academic journals or books. We are grateful to copyright holders for allowing the publication of new versions of the original published pieces. For the present publication, all those chapters have been revised. In some cases, we are able to publish, for the first time, complete versions of papers which, due to space limitations, had been previously published in abridged form.

Finally, we wish to thank all our colleagues who have attended seminars, workshop or conferences where the contributions to this book were presented in paper form, or who delivered comments to us.

Tilburg, Summer 2012

The Editors