

Overview

Chapter I

The Arbitration Agreement and Arbitrability

Aman Lekhi/Pranay Lekhi

The Objective Non-arbitrability of Insolvency Related Disputes:
An argument in International Public Policy

Chapter II

The Arbitrator and the Arbitration Procedure

Irene Welser/Samuel Mimmagh

„Too Late for This Arbitration?“ – Introducing New Claims
in Arbitral Proceedings

Alice Stocker/Julia Hildebrandt/Mariella Rieder/Désirée Prantl

Cybersecurity in International Arbitration

Hacked evidence turns fancy buzz words into a real threat

Sophie Aulitzky/Florian Kremslehner/Philipp Stadtegger

Economic Sanctions in International Commercial Arbitration

A guide for practitioners, by practitioners

Katherine Bell/Moritz Schmitt/Nicolas O. Zenz

The Arbitrator’s Power to Adapt Contracts –
Three Jurisdictions, Three Answers?

Clarisse von Wunschheim/Yupeng (Yves) Hu

Selecting the Seat of Arbitration in Sino-European Disputes

Practical considerations for European companies when
negotiating arbitration clauses with Chinese Parties

Hermann J. Knott/Martin Winkler

Emergency Arbitration

Securing advantages at an early stage

Chapter III **The Award and the Courts**

Elias Nigsch

Waiver of the Right to Challenge an Arbitral Award,
a Violation of Constitutional Law in Austria?

Markus Schifferl/Alexander Zojer

Decisions of the Austrian Supreme Court on Arbitration in 2020 and 2021

Chapter IV **Construction Arbitration**

Karl Pörnbacher

Construction Arbitration: Innovation and Constants
(Keynote speech VAD 2021)

Thomas Hofbauer

Extension of Time: Money for Nothing?
The challenge for experts to assess extension of time claims
and the related financial compensation

*Nikolaus Pitkowitz/Anna Katharina Radschek/Elisabeth Vanas-Metzler
and the 11 contributors*

The Vienna Propositions for Construction Arbitration

Chapter V **Investment Arbitration**

Claudia Annacker

2021 Vienna Investment Arbitration Rules

Johannes Tropper/August Reinisch

The Termination Agreement of intra-EU BITs and
its effect on investment arbitration in the EU

Sorin Dolea/Eliane Fischer

Mind the gap – Jurisdictional factors to be considered
in Investment Restructuring

Patricia Schoeffmann

Third-Party Funding and ISDS
A mutualistic symbiosis?

Annex
Regular Reports

Judith Knieper

Comprehensive International Mediation Framework with
Three Newly Adopted Texts by UNCITRAL

Johanna Kathan-Spath

VIAC's Annual Report – 2020

A year in which VIAC mastered challenges and seized opportunities

Alfred Siwy

Recent Publications

Table of Contents

Introduction	III
Overview	V
The Editors and Authors	XXIII

Chapter I

The Arbitration Agreement and Arbitrability	1
--	---

Aman Lekhi/Pranay Lekhi

The Objective Non-arbitrability of Insolvency Related Disputes

An argument in International Public Policy	3
I. Introduction	3
II. The International Public Policy of Insolvency Law	7
A. Centralization of Proceedings	8
B. Deprivation of Creditor's Right to Individual Action	9
C. The Power to Avoid Certain Transactions	10
D. Limitation on the Right to Dispose and Manage	11
III. Competing Policy Goals – the Trump of Insolvency Law Utilitarianism	13
IV. Determining the Scope of Non-arbitrability – A Solution in Modified Universalism	18
V. Conclusion	22

Chapter II

The Arbitrator and the Arbitration Procedure	25
---	----

Irene Welser/Samuel Mimmagh

Too Late for This Arbitration? –

Introducing New Claims in Pending Proceedings	27
I. Introduction	27
II. Selected Arbitration Rules and the Entry of New Claims	28
A. The 2020 LCIA Arbitration Rules	28
B. The 2013 UNCITRAL Arbitration Rules	30
C. The 2017 SCC Arbitration Rules	32
D. The 2021 VIAC Rules of Arbitration and Mediation 2021	33
E. The 2021 ICC Arbitration Rules	38
1. The Counterclaim Falls within the Terms of Reference	40
2. Stipulations for Authorization	41
III. Conclusion	44

Alice Stocker/Julia Hildebrandt/Mariella Rieder/Désirée Prantl

Cybersecurity in International Arbitration

Hacked evidence turns fancy buzz words into a real threat 47

 I. The Importance of Cybersecurity 47

 A. What is Digital Evidence 48

 B. Methods of Hacking 49

 II. When Cybersecurity Fails 49

 A. Various Approaches to Hacked Evidence in Investment Arbitration 50

 B. Legal Framework Applicable to Hacked Evidence 53

 1. The Notion of “Illegally Obtained Evidence”
 through Hacking 53

 2. Relevant Provisions on the Taking of Evidence 54

 a) Institutional Rules 54

 b) Soft Law Instruments 58

 c) National Law 59

 d) Conclusion 60

 3. Burden of Proof 61

 a) Burden of Proof on (Il-)Legality of the Evidence 61

 b) Burden of Proof on Authenticity of Hacked Evidence 62

 c) Conclusion 63

 4. Admissibility of Hacked Data 63

 a) Case Law on Admissibility 63

 b) Admissibility Test 65

 c) Conclusion 66

 5. Enforceability 66

 a) Lack of Enforceability in Case of Admissibility of
 Hacked Evidence 67

 b) Lack of Enforceability in Case of Inadmissibility of
 Hacked Evidence 68

 c) Conclusion 69

 III. Implementation of Cybersecurity in International Arbitration 70

 A. Introduction of the ICCA-NYC Bar-CPR Protocol
 on Cybersecurity 70

 B. Implementation in Practice 70

 1. The Standard of Reasonableness 70

 2. The Three-Step Approach 71

 a) Step 1: Analysis Phase 71

 b) Step 2: Implementation Phase 72

 c) Step 3: Situational Application of Information
 Security Measures 74

 3. Maximizing the Leverage Effect 74

 a) The Role of The Parties 74

 b) The Role of Arbitrators 75

 c) The Role of Arbitral Institutions 76

 IV. Conclusion 77

Sophie Aulitzky/Florian Kremslehner/Philipp Stadtegger

Economic Sanctions in International Commercial Arbitration

A guide for practitioners, by practitioners 79

 I. Introduction 79

 II. Sanctions Regimes: An Overview 80

 A. Most Important Actors 80

 1. United Nations 80

 a. Legal Basis 80

 b. Implementation 81

 c. Enforcement 81

 2. European Union 82

 a. Legal Basis 82

 b. Implementation 82

 c. Enforcement 83

 3. US Sanctions 84

 a. Legal Basis 84

 b. Implementation 84

 c. Enforcement 84

 4. UK Sanctions 86

 a. Legal Basis 86

 b. Implementation 86

 c. Enforcement 87

 B. Questions of Legality 87

 1. Legal Basis for UN Sanctions 88

 2. Legality of Autonomous (Unilateral) Sanctions 89

 3. Principles of International Jurisdiction 91

 4. Conclusion 92

 C. Sanctions against Sanctions 93

 1. The EU Blocking Statute 93

 2. UK Measures 94

 3. US response 94

 III. A System of Sanctions 95

 A. Nature of Sanctions 96

 B. Source and Scope of Sanctions 96

 C. Implementation and Enforcement 97

 1. Primary and Secondary Legislation 97

 2. Public and Private Law Effects 98

 3. Different Addressees 98

 4. Exemptions 99

 D. Conclusion 101

 IV. Austrian Public Law 102

 A. Constitutional Aspects 102

 B. Implementation of EU Law – an Overview 103

 C. Austrian Sanctions Act 104

 1. Scope and Purpose 104

Contents

2. Measures	104
3. Procedures	105
V. Austrian Private Law	106
A. Conflict of Law Rules	106
1. Contracts	106
2. Other Legal Relationships	107
3. Overriding Mandatory Provisions	108
B. Substantive Private Law	110
1. Invalidity of Contracts	110
2. Impossibility	111
3. The Austrian Foreign Trade Act	112
4. Legal Consequences	113
C. Procedural Rules	114
VI. Typical Problems	115
A. Substantive Law	115
1. Validity of Contracts	115
2. Performance	116
3. Consideration	117
B. Procedural Issues	117
1. Arbitration Institutions and Arbitrators	117
2. Burden to Plead and Prove	118
C. Decisions in Sanctions Matters	118
VII. Conclusion	118

Katherine Bell/Moritz Schmitt/Nicolas O. Zenz

The Arbitrator's Power to Adapt Contracts – Three Jurisdictions, Three Answers?	121
I. The Austrian Perspective	121
A. Introduction	121
B. The Status Quo in Austria until recently	122
1. Automatic Contract Adaptation	123
2. Unilateral Contract Adaptation	123
3. True Contract Adaptation	124
C. Jurisprudence of the Austrian Supreme Court	124
D. Remaining Questions	125
II. The Swiss Perspective	126
A. Introduction	126
B. Legal Basis of the Arbitrator's Power to Adapt Contracts	126
1. Substantive Law	126
2. Arbitration Agreement	128
3. <i>Lex Arbitri</i>	128
C. Approach to Contract Adaptation	128
D. Case Law	130
III. The German Perspective	131
A. Introduction	131

B. The Power to Adapt under German <i>lex arbitri</i>	132
C. Contract Adaptation under Substantive German law	134
1. Primacy of Interpretation	134
2. Contractual Adaptation Clauses	135
3. Statutory Adaptation Mechanisms	136
D. Procedural Considerations	136
IV. Final Remarks	137

Clarisse von Wunschheim/Yupeng (Yves) Hu

Selecting the Seat of Arbitration in Sino-European Disputes

Practical considerations for European companies when

negotiating arbitration clauses with Chinese Parties

I. Introduction	139
II. The ‘Seat’ of the Arbitration and Its Relevance	140
A. The ‘Seat’ of the Arbitration – The Concept in General	140
B. The Concept of ‘Seat of Arbitration’ under the <i>PRC Arbitration Law</i>	141
III. Envisaged Revisions of the 1994 <i>PRC Arbitration Law</i> and Their Relevance	144
A. Key Amendments Regarding the Concept of ‘Seat of Arbitration’	145
B. Practical Implications of these Amendments	146
1. No More Conflict Between Seat of Arbitration and the Seat of the Arbitral Institution	146
2. More Clarity Regarding the Nationality of Awards	147
IV. Practical Considerations When Selecting an Appropriate Seat	149
A. Relevant Criteria for the Selection of an Appropriate Seat	149
1. Arbitration-friendly Legal Framework and Court Practice	150
2. Accession to the <i>New York Convention</i> or Equivalent Treaty ..	150
3. Cultural Compatibility and Proximity Between Legal Systems	151
4. Availability and Enforceability of Interim Measures & Emergency Relief	152
5. Simple Challenge Proceedings	154
6. Cost and Availability of Lawyers	155
B. Attractiveness of Selected Seats	156
C. Negotiation Advice	157
V. Conclusion	159

Hermann J. Knott/Martin Winkler

Emergency Arbitration

Securing advantages at an early stage

I. Introduction/From Novelty to Normality	161
---	-----

II. Defining Interim Measures by an Emergency Arbitrator and Their Requirements	164
III. Comparison of the Emergency Arbitrator Provisions in Selected Institutional Arbitration Rules	165
IV. The Enforcement of Emergency Arbitrator Decisions	169
V. Choice between Emergency Arbitration and Relief Sought from State Courts	171
A. No Parallel Emergency Decision-making Power under English Law	172
B. <i>De facto</i> Compliance with Decisions of an Emergency Arbitrator	172
C. Decision Criteria	172
1. No Formal Service Required in Emergency Arbitration Proceedings	172
2. Availability of Expert Knowledge	172
3. Confidentiality	173
4. International Enforceability	173
5. Availability of <i>ex parte</i> Relief	174
6. Predictability of Time When Interim Relief will be Granted ..	174
7. Third Party Involvement	174
8. International Scope of the Interim Relief Granted by the Emergency Arbitrator	175
VI. Concluding Observations	175
Chapter III	
The Award and the Courts	177
<i>Elias Nigsch</i>	
Waiver of the Right to Challenge an Arbitral Award, a Violation of Constitutional Law in Austria?	179
I. Introduction	179
A. The Problem	180
B. Relevance of the Topic	180
II. Purpose and Consequences of the Challenge of Arbitral Awards	181
A. Purpose of the Right to Challenge an Arbitral Award at the Place of Arbitration	182
1. Integrity of the Arbitral Proceedings	182
2. Compliance with the Public Interest	183
B. Consequences of a Successful Challenge	184
1. Article V (1) (e) New York Convention	185
2. The Territorialist Approach	185
3. The Delocalized Approach	186
C. Result	187
III. Waiver of the Right to Challenge Arbitral Awards according to Article 192 Swiss PILA	187
A. Preconditions for the Exclusion Agreement	188
1. Foreign Parties	188

2. Written Agreement	188
3. Avoidance of Double Judicial Review	189
B. Effects of Article 192 Swiss PILA	189
C. Compliance of Article 192 Swiss PILA with Fundamental Rights	190
1. Decision by the Swiss Federal Tribunal	191
2. <i>Tabbane v. Switzerland</i>	191
3. Result	192
IV. Waiver of the Challenge of Arbitral Awards within the ACCP	192
A. Distinction between an Exclusion Beforehand and a Subsequent Waiver	193
B. Waiver of Rights from an Austrian Historical Point of View	193
C. General Validity of the Waiver of Procedural Rights in Austria ..	194
1. Exclusion of Legal Remedies	195
2. <i>Pactum de non petendo</i>	195
V. Constitutional Validity of Article 192 Swiss PILA in the Austrian Legal Order	196
A. Safeguard of the Parties' Fundamental Rights	196
1. Guarantee of Fair Procedure	197
2. Procedural Public Policy	198
3. Grounds for Reinstatement of the Award	199
4. Right to be Judged by a Lawful Judge	200
B. Public Interest in the Annulment of Arbitral Awards	200
C. Principle of Equality	201
D. Result	203
VI. Conclusion	203

Markus Schifferl/Alexander Zojer

Decisions of the Austrian Supreme Court on Arbitration in 2020 and 2021?	205
I. Challenge of Arbitrators	205
A. Facts of the Case	205
B. Decision of the Supreme Court	206
C. Additional Remarks	207
II. Scope of Arbitration Agreement	208
A. Facts of the Case	208
B. Decision of the Supreme Court	209
C. Additional Remarks	210
III. Jurisdiction of the Arbitral Tribunal	211
A. Facts of the Case	211
B. Decision of the Supreme Court	211
C. Additional Remarks	212
IV. Application to Set Aside an Arbitral Award	213
A. Facts of the Case	213
B. Decision of the Supreme Court	213
C. Additional Remarks	214

V. Enforcement of a Set Aside Arbitral Award	215
A. Facts of the Case	215
B. Decision of the Supreme Court	216
C. Additional Remarks	217
VI. Jurisdiction of the Arbitral Tribunal	217
A. Facts of the Case	217
B. Decision of the Supreme Court	218
C. Additional Remarks	219

Chapter IV

Construction Arbitration	221
---------------------------------------	-----

Karl Pörnbacher

Construction Arbitration: Innovation and Constants

Keynote Speech Vienna Arbitration Days February 12, 2021	223
---	-----

I. Introduction	223
II. Constants	225
A. Complexity of Construction Disputes	225
B. Criticisms: Too Expensive, Too Slow	225
1. Insufficient/Inadequate Use of Dispute Avoidance and Pre-arbitration Mechanisms	226
2. Inadequate Case Management	227
III. Innovations	227
IV. Recommendations/Suggestions for Innovations	229
A. Dispute Avoidance	229
B. Arbitration – Need to Increase Efficiency	230
1. Methods to Enhance Efficiency	230
a) Qualifications of the Tribunal	231
b) Front-loaded and Active Management by the Tribunal	232
c) Dealing with Experts	235
2. How can the Proposed Methods be Implemented?	236
V. Conclusion	236

Thomas Hofbauer

Extension of Time: Money for Nothing?

**The challenges for experts to assess extension of time claims and
the related financial compensation**

I. Introduction	237
II. Understanding the Available Data	237
III. Choosing the Delay Analysis Method	239
A. Impacted as Planned Analysis	241
B. Time Impact Analysis	241
C. Time Slice Analysis	242

IV. Frequent Questions during the Delay Analysis	243
A. Understanding Float	243
B. Understanding Concurrency	243
V. Compensation for EOT	244
A. Heads of Claims for EOT Compensation	244
1. Direct Costs	245
2. Indirect Costs	245
3. Profit and Risk	246
B. Float and EOT Compensation	246
C. Concurrency and EOT Compensation	247
VI. Conclusion	247

*Nikolaus Pitkowitzz/Anna Katharina Radschek/Elisabeth Vanas-Metzler
and the 11 contributors*

The Vienna Propositions for Construction Arbitration	249
I. Introduction	249
II. The Vienna Propositions for More Effective Construction Arbitration	250
A. Multiparty Projects Can Benefit from Multi-Tiered Dispute Resolution Clauses	250
B. Appointing a Technical Expert as Arbitrator Could Lead to Faster Proceedings	251
C. Dispute Resolution Clauses – In Particular Based on Institutional Rules – Can Be Used to Mitigate Financial Risks Associated with Financially Troubled Counterparties	251
D. A More Restrictive Approach for Witness and Expert Cross- Examination Accompanied by a Technical Expert in Construction Arbitration Is the Right Choice	252
E. Determining Causality for Delays Requires Sufficient and Detailed Documentation of Events	252
III. World Café Reports	253

Anna Förstel-Cherng/Michael Komuczky/Rita Kaufmann

A. Model Clauses and Drafting for Construction Arbitration – Mechanisms to Prevent Premature Termination of Construction Contracts and Security Mechanisms to Avoid Delayed Payment	253
1. Introduction	253
2. Multitier Dispute Resolution Clauses	254
a) Possible Forms of MTCs	255
b) Effects of MTCs	256
aa) Legal Effects of the MTC	256
bb) Practical Effects of the MTC	257
cc) Drafting MTCs	258

3. Qualification Requirements for Arbitrators	258
4. Who Should Draft the Dispute Resolution Clause?	260
5. Mechanisms to Avoid Late Payment	260
6. Conclusion	262

Sebastian Lukic/Katharina Kitzberger

B. Construction Arbitrations Are Invariably Multi-Party Arbitrations – Preferably So?	262
1. Introductory Remarks	262
2. Multi-Party Arbitration and Case Management Considerations	263
3. Outlook	265

Emmanuel Kaufman/Sheila Schwaighofer

C. Cross Examination in Construction Arbitrations – Different Approaches for Witnesses and Experts?	266
1. Introduction	266
2. Role of Witnesses and Experts in Construction Arbitrations	266
a) Role of Witnesses	266
b) Role of Experts	267
3. Dos and Don'ts in the Cross-Examination of Witnesses and Experts	268
a) Examination of Witnesses	269
b) Examination of Experts	270
c) Examination of Witnesses and Experts in COVID-19 Times	271
4. Conclusion	271

Thomas Anderl/Katharina Riedl

D. Dispute Adjudication Boards and Mediation – Expectations vs. Reality?	272
1. Introduction	272
2. Dispute Adjudication Boards	272
a) What is a Dispute Adjudication Board?	272
b) Adjudication under the FIDIC Forms of Contract	272
c) Advantages of DABs?	273
d) DABs – A Field for Lawyers or for Engineers?	274
3. Mediation	274
4. Table Discussion	275
a) DABs	275
b) Mediation	276
c) Comparison	276

Nils Hanfstingl/Thomas Hofbauer

E. Delay and Quantum.

Assessment of EOT and EOT related costs	277
1. The VAD World-Café 2021	277
a) Key “Delay and Quantum” Topics from the VAD World-Café 2021	277
2. Contemporaneous Understanding and Documentation of Project Delays	278
a) The “Political Time Schedule”	279
b) Technical Explanation “Political Time Schedule”	280
c) The Contractor’s “Voluntary” Increase of Risk	281
d) Technical Explanation of the Increased Risk of Future Contractor Delays Caused by Employer Events	282
3. Retrospective Analysis	283
a) Project Forensic – the Multitude of Data Sources	283
b) Technical Approach to Deal with Large Amount of Data	285
c) Concurrent and Cumulative Delays	286
d) Approaching Concurrent Delays within Arbitral Proceedings	287
e) Concurrency and Disruption – Assessing Compensation	289

Chapter V

Investment Arbitration.	291
--------------------------------------	-----

Claudia Annacker

2021 Vienna Investment Arbitration Rules	293
I. Introduction	293
II. Background	293
III. Scope of Application	294
IV. Waiver of Immunity	294
V. Composition and Constitution of the Arbitral Tribunal	295
VI. Challenge of Arbitrators	295
VII. Early Dismissal	296
VIII. Expedited Arbitration	296
IX. Timing of Arbitral Awards	297
X. Third-party Funding	297
XI. Joinder and Submissions of Third Parties	298
A. Joinder of Third Parties	298
B. Amicus Curiae Submissions	298
XII. Consolidation	299
XIII. Publication of Information and Awards	299
XIV. Costs	300
XV. Conclusion	300

Johannes Tropper/August Reinisch

The 2020 Termination Agreement of Intra-EU BITs and Its Effect on Investment Arbitration in the EU

A Public International Law analysis of the termination agreement

	301
I. Introduction	301
II. The Content of the Termination Agreement	303
A. Terminating Intra-EU BITs and Their Sunset Clauses	304
B. Withdrawal of Consent for Pending Proceedings and Alternatives to Arbitration	306
1. Concluded, Pending and New Arbitration Proceedings	306
2. Structured Dialogue for Pending Arbitration Claims Initiated before <i>Achmea</i>	308
3. Access to National Courts for Pending Arbitration Claims Initiated before <i>Achmea</i>	311
III. The Termination Agreement through the Lens of Public International Law	312
A. Termination of intra-EU BITs: Over-and-out	312
B. The Termination of the Sunset Clauses:	
Ain't no Sunshine When They are Gone?	315
1. The VCLT Approach to Sunset Clauses	316
2. Considerations beyond the VCLT: Third Party Rights, Legitimate Expectations/Estoppel, Acquired Rights	321
a) Rights of Third Parties	322
b) Estoppel/Legitimate Expectations	323
c) Acquired Rights	324
3. Conclusion on Sunset Clauses	326
C. Withdrawal of Consent for 'New Arbitration Proceedings': Cutting a Gordian Knot with one Stroke?	326
IV. The End and Future of Intra-EU Investment Arbitration	332
V. Conclusion	338

Sorin Dolea/Eliane Fischer

Mind the Gap – Jurisdictional Factors to be Considered in Investment Restructuring

	341
I. Introduction	341
II. Jurisdictional Hurdles in the Context of Investment Re-structuring Cases	342
A. Timing of Restructure (<i>Ratione temporis</i>)	342
B. Definition of Investors (<i>Ratione personae</i>)	345
C. Definition of Investment (<i>Ratione materiae</i>)	349
III. Final remarks and conclusions	350

Patricia Schoeffmann

Third-Party Funding and ISDS

A mutualistic symbiosis?	353
I. Introduction	353
II. Third-Party Funding – A Synopsis	355
A. Definitional Challenges	356
B. Provenance	359
III. Third-Party Funding and ISDS: A Symbiotic Relationship	364
A. The Pros and Cons	366
1. Promoting Access to Justice	366
2. Levelling the Playing Field	370
3. Encouraging Frivolous Claims	373
B. Going Forward – Laissez-faire or Proactivity	376
IV. Conclusion	383

Annex

Regular Reports	385
------------------------------	-----

Judith Knieper

**Comprehensive International Mediation Framework with
Three Newly Adopted Texts by UNCITRAL**

.....	387
I. Introduction	387
II. Background	387
A. The Inception of UNCITRAL and the International Dispute Settlement Framework Established Under Its Auspices ..	387
B. Reasons for Successful Development of International Standards	389
1. Inclusivity	390
2. Transparency	391
3. Focus on Needs	391
III. The UNCITRAL Mediation Framework	392
A. Contractual Rules and Model Law	392
B. Instrument on Enforcement	393
C. Comprehensive Mediation Framework	394
1. UNCITRAL Mediation Rules	395
2. Guide to Enactment and Use of the UNCITRAL Model Law on International Commercial Mediation and International Settlement Agreements Resulting from Mediation	396
3. UNCITRAL Notes on Mediation	397
IV. Outlook	397

Johanna Kathan-Spath

VIAC's Annual Report – 2020

A Year in which VIAC mastered challenges and seized opportunities ..	399
I. News	399

Contents

A. New VIAC Board Members	399
B. New VIAC Members to the Advisory Boards	400
C. Covid-19-Related Measures	400
1. Continued Availability of VIAC Services	400
2. Clarification in the Vienna Rules 2018	401
3. The Vienna Protocol for Remote Hearings	401
4. Covid-19 Related Mediation Initiative	401
5. Joint Statement by Arbitration Institutions	401
D. Clarifications Regarding VIAC's License in Russia	402
II. Events	402
A. In-Person Events	402
1. Vienna Arbitration Days	402
2. Winter School of the Austrian Arbitration Academy	403
3. Lecture Series "Dispute Resolution in Austria"	403
4. Visit of Moot-Court Teams	403
5. Young ITA-YAAP Joint Conference	403
6. Joint Seminars of CAM, DIS, SCC, and VIAC	403
B. Webinars and Other Online Events	404
1. Webinars on the Impact of Covid-19 on International Arbitration	404
2. Webinars and Interviews Related to the CIS Area	405
3. Other Webinars	406
III. Statistics	407
A. Number of Cases	407
B. Parties	407
C. Nationality of Arbitrators	407
D. Nature of Disputes	408
E. Gender Ratio	408
IV. Closing Remarks and Sneak Preview for 2021	409
A. Looking Back at a Challenging but Successful Year	409
B. What's next? – Outlook for the Year 2021	409
1. VIAC's Rules Revision	409
a) Investment Rules – VIAC will Enter New Fields of Business	409
b) Commercial Rules – Update and New Fields	410
2. VIAC Portal	410
3. Announced Publications	410
 <i>Alfred Siwy</i>	
Recent Publications	411
 Index	417