

HCCH a|Bridged Edition 2021

Enabling party autonomy with the
HCCH 2005 Choice of Court Convention



Dr Christophe Bernasconi has been Secretary General of the HCCH since 2013. He has long-standing expertise in the fields of international civil procedural law, international commercial and finance law, and international family and child protection law. Dr Bernasconi holds a law degree from Fribourg University, an LL.M. degree in comparative law from McGill University (Canada), and a doctoral degree in Private International Law from Fribourg University. Before joining the Permanent Bureau, he lectured in the field of Private International Law at the University of Fribourg, worked as Legal Expert at the Swiss Institute of Comparative Law in Lausanne, and as Scientific Collaborator at the Federal Office of Justice in Switzerland. He also advised practitioners on various Private International Law matters.



Trevor Hartley is Professor of Law Emeritus at the London School of Economics, where he teaches post-graduate seminars in private international law. He has previously taught at the University of Western Ontario (Canada) and, as a visiting professor, at the University of Michigan, the University of California at Berkeley and the University of Texas. He has given courses at the College of Europe (Bruges) and the Hague Academy of International law. He is a Member of the advisory committee on private international law at the UK Ministry of Justice, the American Law Institute and the European Group for Private International Law (GEDIP). He has published extensively on private international law and European Union law.

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Dr Ning Zhao is Senior Legal Officer at the Permanent Bureau of the HCCH where she works in the Transnational Litigation Team, looking after the HCCH 2005 Choice of Court Convention, the HCCH 2019 Judgments Convention, and the HCCH 2015 Principles on Choice of Law in International Commercial Contracts, on a day-to-day basis. Prior to joining the Permanent Bureau, she worked in private practice and taught private international law at various universities. Ning holds LL.M. degrees in International Economic and Business Law (*cum laude*) from the University of Groningen (the Netherlands) and in European Law from Radboud University Nijmegen (the Netherlands), as well as a doctoral degree in private international law from the University of Groningen. She has been a visiting scholar at various academic institutes and published articles in the field of private international law. She is a member of the Standing Directors of the China Society of Private International Law.



Dr João Ribeiro-Bidaoui is First Secretary and Diplomat Lawyer at the Permanent Bureau of the HCCH, heading the Transnational Litigation Team. He has primary responsibility over the Working Group on Jurisdiction, the 2005 Choice of Court and 2019 Judgments Conventions, the Principles on Choice of Law, the Tourists and Visitors (ODR) Project, as well as the 1965 Service, 1970 Evidence, and 1980 Access to Justice Conventions. He had charge over the final phases of the Judgments Project, which resulted in the adoption, at the Twenty-Second HCCH Diplomatic Session, of the 2019 Judgments Convention. Previously, Dr Ribeiro-Bidaoui was Head of the UNCITRAL Regional Centre for Asia and the Pacific and served as Director of International Affairs of the Ministry of Justice of Portugal. He also served as Deputy Secretary General of the Conferences of Ministers of Justice of the Iberian-American countries (COMJIB) and of the Portuguese Speaking countries (CMJPLOP). He holds a bachelor's degree and a masters in law from the University of Coimbra (Portugal), a masters in International Relations from the University of Cambridge (United Kingdom), and a doctoral degree from the NOVA University of Lisbon (Portugal).

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Winston Anderson. The Hon. Mr Justice Winston Anderson, of Jamaican origin and upbringing, took the degree of Bachelor of Law from the University of the West Indies in 1983, and in 1988 graduated with a Doctorate in Philosophy from Cambridge University. Also, in 1988 he was called to the Bar of England and Wales and later to the Bar of Barbados and Jamaica. He was Professor of Law at UWI where he taught for 22 years, Executive Director of the Caribbean Law Institute Centre, and General Counsel of the Caribbean Community. Professor Anderson was elevated to the Bench of the Caribbean Court of Justice (CCJ) in 2010 and became the founding Chairman of the CCJ Academy for Law. Justice Anderson is a member of several global organizations related primarily to International Law, Environment, and Sport. He is also author of numerous articles in referred journals and of several leading texts. As Chairman of the Academy he conceptualized the 'Eminent Caribbean Jurists Awards' in 2019 of which Pioneering Caribbean Women Jurists 2021 is the second edition.



Fabienne Schaller is a Judge in the international commercial chamber of the Paris court of appeal (ICCP-CA). She was admitted to the Paris Bar in 1986 and to the New York Bar in 1992. She graduated with a master of law from Paris X-Nanterre Law School and a LL.M in trade regulation from NYU Law School. After practicing as a lawyer in Paris and New York, she joined the Bench in 1997. Between 2008 and 2014, she worked at the Ministry of Justice and participated in the negotiations of EU directives and international conventions within the Counsel of Europe in Strasbourg. She was appointed in 2014 as vice-president in the criminal division of the Paris Court. As an appeal Judge in the Paris Court of appeal since 2016 and in the international commercial chamber created in 2018, she specializes in international commercial disputes relating to contracts, transport, actions for damages, and international arbitration.

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Duco Oranje studied Dutch law at the University of Amsterdam. After working in the legal department of the Netherlands-Italian Chamber of Commerce in Milan he commenced practice at the Dutch Bar in 1985. While at the Bar he had an extensive international law practice at Baker & McKenzie as well as at Litigation Clifford Chance, involving arbitration, insolvency, corporate law and banking law. He also acted as arbitrator in various international ICC arbitrations. As judge in the Amsterdam Court of Appeal he deals with commercial matters, mainly corporate and banking. He is president of the Netherlands Commercial Court of Appeal.



Dr Michael Hwang S.C. currently practices as an international arbitrator and mediator based in Singapore with a selective practice as Senior Counsel of the Supreme Court of Singapore. He served as the Chief Justice of the Dubai International Financial Centre (DIFC) Courts from 2010 - 2018. Michael's other past appointments include: Judicial Commissioner (Contract Judge for a fixed term) of the Supreme Court of Singapore; Singapore's Non-Resident Ambassador to Switzerland and Argentina; President of the Law Society of Singapore; Commissioner of the United Nations Compensation Commission; Vice Chairman of the ICC International Court of Arbitration; Vice President of the International Council of Commercial Arbitration (ICCA); Visiting and later Adjunct Professor of the National University of Singapore. He received his legal education at undergraduate and postgraduate levels at Oxford University, where he won a college scholarship by open competitive examination. He has been conferred an Honorary LLD by the University of Sydney.

HCCH a|Bridged Edition 2021

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Louise Ellen Teitz, Professor of Law, Roger Williams Law School, Bristol, RI, is a renowned scholar of private international law and international procedural law. She served as First Secretary at the HCCH. Her academic areas of expertise include private international law, and international litigation, dispute resolution, business transactions, and family law. Teitz has taught and been a visiting scholar at several US and European law schools, Max Planck Institute Luxembourg, UNCITRAL, and UNIDROIT.

Professor Teitz is the author of two books and numerous articles on international law subjects. She was a member of the US Delegation for the HCCH Judgments Convention and Choice of Court Agreements Convention, and is a member of the US Secretary of State's Advisory Committee on Private International Law. Professor Teitz was Co-Reporter on the Uniform International Choice of Court Agreements Act. Professor Teitz is a member of the ALI, the International Association of Procedural Law, International Academy of Comparative Law; a U.S. representative to the ILA's Protection of Privacy and International Commercial Arbitration Committees, and a Uniform Law Commissioner from Rhode Island.



Trevor Carmichael. Sir Trevor Carmichael was born in Barbados and educated at Harrison College and the University of the West Indies, Mona, Jamaica. A member of the Middle Temple in London, he was called to the Barbados Bar in December 1977. His original practice areas spanned criminal, constitutional, labour, divorce, trademarks and later he has focused on commercial, charities and environmental law. He is associated with landmark legal decisions including the leading case on medical insanity which he presented before the Barbados Court of Appeal in 1981.

A member of the International Bar Association, as well as an associate member of the Canadian Bar Association, the International Tax Planning Association, the International Fiscal Association, he was one of the parties responsible for establishing a Barbados Chapter of the International Fiscal Association of which he is Charter President.

HCCH a|Bridged Edition 2021

Enabling party autonomy with the HCCH 2005 Choice of Court Convention



He was the Barbados Country Chairman of the International Litigation Committee on Business Law of the International Bar Association and a former Deputy Secretary General of the International Bar Association. He is a Life Fellow of the Institute for Advanced Legal Studies in the United Kingdom, a Life Member of the Commonwealth Magistrates and Judges Association and a member of the International Law Association.

Sir Trevor has spoken to a wide range of audiences on international, commercial and tax matters and has authored over one hundred (100) articles and monographs and books in the areas of Law, Economics and Public Policy, and serves as a Panel Member of the International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes of the World Bank in Washington. He is also a Certified International Arbitrator with the International Museums Association (ICOM).



José Antonio Moreno Rodríguez was a member of the Working Group and a delegate of the Special Commission and Council meetings that drafted and approved the Hague Principles. He is a Member of the UNIDROIT Governing Council and a Chair of its Working Group on the Guide of Agricultural Land and Investment Contracts. He is the Vice-President of the Inter-Juridical Committee of the Organization of American States, and Rapporteur of its guide on international contracts. He was a lecturer at The Hague Academy of International Law. He is a former President and Secretary-General of the American Association of Private International Law. He is a Member of Annulment Committees at ICSID, a Member of the PCA, a Member of the Arbitration Court of the ICC, and a Member of the Court of Arbitration for Sport. He acted many times as a delegate and observer at UNICTRAL. He is the author and co-author of several law books and articles published in the Americas, Europe, and Asia. He is a Professor and Visiting Professor at several universities, including Heidelberg, CIDS of Geneva, Paris II, Externado, Buenos Aires, and others. He is the President of CEDEP and the Managing Partner of the Altra Law firm.

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Nadia de Araujo was a Brazilian Delegate to the 22nd Diplomatic Section of the HCCH and the Special Commission on the Judgments Project. She was also a lecturer at The Hague Academy of International Law. She is an Arbitrator in the Mercosur's Permanent Tribunal of Revision and a Member of the Permanent Court of Arbitration, The Hague. She is the author and co-author of several law books and articles published in the Americas, Europe, and Asia. She is a Professor of Law at the Pontifical Catholic University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, and a Visiting Professor at several universities. Nadia is the founding partner of Nadia de Araujo Advogados, where she serves as arbitrator and expert in both Brazilian Law and Private International Law, providing legal opinions and expert witness testimony in judicial proceedings in Brazil and abroad.



Mauricio París is a Costa Rican attorney. He teaches international contracts and conflicts of law at the University of Costa Rica. He is frequently appointed as arbitrator in commercial matters. He is partner of the Spanish firm ECIIA, where he heads the arbitration practice for Central America and the Caribbean.

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HCCH 2005 Choice of Court Convention



Ignacio Goicoechea. Mr Ignacio Goicoechea joined the Permanent Bureau in 2005. He became Principal Legal Officer in June 2011 and currently serves as the Representative of the Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean (ROLAC) based in Buenos Aires, Argentina. The main objectives of ROLAC are to facilitate the proper implementation and operation of HCCH Conventions in the region, to encourage governments and stakeholders to engage actively in the work of the HCCH, and to support legislative projects developed at headquarters in The Hague to the extent needed.

Before joining the HCCH, Mr Goicoechea worked for 11 years as a legal consultant to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Argentine Republic, at the Direction of International Legal Co-operation.



Paula María All. President of the American Association on Private International Law (ASADIP). Full Professor of Private International Law and Researcher at the Center of Legal Research of National University of Littoral (Argentina). Academic Director of the Latin American Open Chair of Private International Law. Academic Director of the Jean Monnet Module on European Integration at the National University of Littoral. Member of the Working Group on a Model Law on Warehouse Receipts of UNIDROIT. Member of the Advisory Commission on Private International Law of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Argentine Republic.