

# The Vienna Rules

## A Commentary on International Arbitration in Austria

by *Franz T. Schwarz* and *Christian W. Konrad*

This authoritative commentary examines the new Vienna Rules and the Austrian Arbitration Act that both came into effect on 1 July 2006 as the result of a major reform. The authors' expert guidance proceeds in conformance with international practice, reconciling approaches adopted in both common law and civil law traditions. It provides the reader with a framework, and specific instruments, to negotiate arbitrations effectively and ensure that the process remains predictable, expeditious and fair. Drawing on extensive research into the practice of the International Arbitral Centre in Vienna, as well as on case law, academic writing, and the Act's legislative history, this book will be of great value to corporate counsel, international lawyers, and arbitrators working in either civil law or common law frameworks, as well as to students of dispute resolution.

*'The book makes an important contribution to international arbitration in Austria and Central Europe. It is not only the most comprehensive commentary of the Vienna Rules available, it is also an authoritative guide to Austrian arbitration law and, what is more, a modern textbook on the practice of arbitration. The authors do not shy away from addressing the more challenging issues of procedure that counsel or arbitrators face, and make even difficult issues highly accessible. For anyone engaged in arbitration in Austria, this book is a must.'*

Dr. Manfred Heider, Secretary General of the International Arbitral Centre of the Austrian Federal Economic Chamber in Vienna

*'The authors provide a demanding and comprehensive analysis of Austrian law that is both of the highest caliber and relevant practically. Their comparative approach puts the doctrinal discussion in Austria into the context of the modern practice of international arbitration; it establishes a highly persuasive best practice standard for arbitrations that transcends civil and common law traditions, and that will provide an extremely useful guide to all users of arbitration in Austria.'*

Prof. Dr. Paul Oberhammer, Chairman of the Drafting Committee on the 2006 Reform of Austrian Arbitration Law, Professor for Swiss and International Civil Procedure, Civil and Business Law (Zurich University)

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