

# International Lawyer

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Volume 33  
Number 2 *International Legal Developments in  
Review: 1998*

Article 2

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1999

## Editor's Preface

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### Recommended Citation

*Editor's Preface*, 33 INT'L L. 227 (1999)  
<https://scholar.smu.edu/til/vol33/iss2/2>

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# INTERNATIONAL LEGAL DEVELOPMENTS IN REVIEW: 1998

## Editor's Preface

In last year's Editor's Preface, I quoted Professor Robert E. Lutz's earlier description of the International Legal Developments in Review project as a "noble experiment."<sup>1</sup> After three years I believe one can now safely conclude that the noble experiment has worked well in practice.

To be sure, it has not attained the ideal of a 100 percent contribution from the substantive law committees of the section. It was perhaps unrealistic to expect that there would be enough practitioners willing to take time from their busy schedules to ensure 100 percent participation in this review. Indeed, speaking of practical realities, space limitations for this issue of *The International Lawyer* would have precluded 100 percent participation or resulted in a series of overly brief contributions.

Because of these space limitations, it was decided to defer publication of the contributions on foreign law until the fall issue of *The International Lawyer*. The contributions on foreign law were chosen for deferral on the ground that problems of logistics, space, and time involved in communicating with various authors of these contributions located abroad made it desirable to stretch out the time deadline for these contributions somewhat beyond those applicable to the other contributions.

There is no shortage of excellent contributions. On the contrary, this year's review contains thirty reports representing ninety-four authors as well as numerous assistants. Both the quantity and quality of these contributions are due in no small measure to the efforts of the division chairs (Aileen A. Pisciotta, Don Scott DeAmicis, Andrew Joshua Marcus, and Robert A. Lutz, II), their deputies, and William Hannay to ensure the maximum number of possible contributions.

Organizationally, the project has proceeded somewhat differently this year as compared to the past two years. First, the editing and "enforcement" responsibilities of the project were separated. That is, the four chairs of the section's substantive divisions had the responsibility for ensuring the maximum possible participation by committees within their respective divisions.

Second, there has been a sharing this year of substantive editing responsibilities. I have had editorial responsibility for the contributions from the Public International Law Division, and have served as general editor of the project. Peter Winship has edited contributions from the Business Transactions and Disputes Division and from the Business Regulation Division. Peter and I will share editing responsibilities for the contributions from the Comparative Law Division.

As editor, I want to express my gratitude to the many contributors who devoted their time and energies to ensuring the quality of this year's review. I am also grateful to the many persons, especially those identified above, who persistently promoted committee participation in this project. A special note of gratitude goes to Peter Winship, who is retiring this year as Editor-in-

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1. See Editor's Preface, 32 INT'L LAW. 213 (1998).

Chief of *The International Lawyer*. Peter's support and guidance over these past two years have been invaluable to me. Peter and the Student Editorial Board of *The International Lawyer* coordinated the final editing and cite-checking; and Norman Gross, ABA Publishing Managing Editor, coordinated the production work in this issue.

Lastly, I am grateful to my secretary, Mrs. Terri LaVerghetta, for her fine work on this project. Throughout this project, the faculty support services of the Villanova University School of Law were invaluable.

I would be pleased to receive any comments and suggestions readers of this review may have. My mailing address is: Professor John F. Murphy, Villanova University School of Law, 299 North Spring Mill Road, Villanova, Pennsylvania 19085. My e-mail address is: [Murphy@law.vill.edu](mailto:Murphy@law.vill.edu)