Law and Business Review of the Americas

Volume 21 | Number 1

2015

Front Matter

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Editorial and Submission Policies:

This journal is a quarterly, professional peer-reviewed publication produced by the Southern Methodist University Dedman School of Law's International Law Review Association (and its Law Institute of the Americas), as well as the Section of International Law and Practice of the American Bar Association. The journal relies on the ongoing cooperation of the SMU School of Business, the SMU Departments of Economics and Political Science, and the London Forum of International Economic and Financial Law at the Centre for Commercial Law Studies at Queen Mary College, University of London.

Aims and Publication Policy:

This journal addresses the legal, business, economic, political and social dimensions of Western Hemispheric integration efforts (e.g., NAFTA, FTAA, MERCOSUR, etc), their implementation, their future evolve- ment and expansion, and their overall impact on doing business in the Americas. The journal will combine practical and policy implications of these integration processes. As such, it will cover not only matters of immediate concern and interest, but also matters respecting reform of legal, business, economic, political and social structures (including human rights, gender, labor, and environmental issues) within the various countries in the Western Hemisphere. Subject matter concerning other reg- ional integration efforts in the world and various other comparative topics in the international trade and investment areas will also be addressed, from time to time.

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The officers of the Institute are as follows: the Honorable Roberto MacLean, President; Professor Joseph J. Norton, Executive Director; and Professor George Martinez, Associate Executive Director. The Institute is also supported by distinguished group of Professorial Fellows, Senior Research Scholars, Professional Fellows, and Student Research Fellows.

As the Institute focuses primarily on issues pertaining to the North American Free Trade Agreement and the pending Free Trade Area of the Americas, and the broader economic, political, legal, and social integration processes underway in the Western Hemisphere, Law and Business Review of the Americas is one of the International Law Review Association of SMU. Other parties of the journal are the Cox School of Business, the SMU Departments of Economics and Political Science, the London Forum, and the American Bar Association Section of International Law and Practice.

* From 1952 through the early 1970’s, the name was the Law Institute of the Americas; in 1993, it was reactivated as the Centre for NAFTA and Latin American Legal Studies; and in 1998, it returned to its original name. For further detailed historical information on the Law Institute of the Americas, please refer to the Law Institute of the Americas' website at http://www.law.smu.edu/lia.