

## Editorial Note

The editorial staff of a journal based, to a large extent, in The Hague, would be remiss if it failed to mark a significant anniversary of one of that city's most important institutions, the Iran-United States Claims Tribunal. In many ways, the establishment of that tribunal in The Hague in 1981 can be viewed as a catalyst for rekindled interest in this "city of international peace and justice," leading to the subsequent establishment there of such prominent institutions as the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia, and the International Criminal Court.

In keeping with this journal's editorial policy of providing succinct and timely content of use to both scholars and practitioners, we chose to focus, in this special issue, not on producing a mere retrospective of the past twenty-five years, but instead, on celebrating the Tribunal's contribution to issues of current concern in international law and dispute resolution. Thus, Dr. Ali Z. Marossi writes on issues essential to the design and implementation of mass claims mechanisms, of which there has been a proliferation in recent years, while Professors Christopher S. Gibson and Christopher R. Drahozal analyze the Tribunal's contribution to precedent in investor-state arbitration, which has become more topical in the past decade than the Tribunal's founders could ever have anticipated. The challenge decisions of the Tribunal's Appointing Authority are exceptional in being both reasoned and published, thereby forming one of the few bodies of precedent in this area, and this issue would not be complete without Ruth Teitelbaum's thorough and up-to-date review of these decisions.

This special issue is also my last issue as editor of the *Journal of International Arbitration*, which I have been honored to edit, together with Judge Dominique Hascher, for the past five years. I would therefore like to take this opportunity to both acknowledge and thank the excellent publishing staff at Kluwer Law International, my co-editor and his assistant, Sylvie Picard Renaut, as well as my assistant editors, Anna Rich, who was succeeded by Theodore Mercredi, for their diligent work and invaluable assistance. Finally, my gratitude goes out to the many authors, without whose stimulating contributions there would be no *Journal*.

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