

Arbitration in Germany: *SchiedsVZ Journal* SchiedsVZ Journal Promotes Arbitration in Germany

By Jörg Risse

Business disputes, especially those with an international context, are often decided by an arbitral tribunal. As of January 1, 1998, the Federal Republic of Germany has adopted the UNCITRAL Model Law¹ for domestic and international arbitrations taking place in Germany. Consequently, German parties have increasingly chosen arbitration as a means of dispute resolution. Moreover, international parties are also discovering Germany as a suitable place for arbitration. The reason for this trend is not only the acceptance of the well-known and arbitration-friendly Model Law. Germany as the designated place of arbitration compares favourably with its international competitors given its very efficient court system that willingly supports arbitral tribunals, if required. Furthermore, a large number of polyglot German lawyers who are well-versed in the laws of foreign jurisdictions are qualified to conduct arbitral proceedings at a high standard for – compared to their Anglo-Saxon competitors – a relatively low price.

These were only some of the considerations that prompted a number of experienced practitioners and the German Institution of Arbitration (DIS)² to launch the SchiedsVZ - German Arbitration Journal (www.schiedsvz.de). SchiedsVZ will focus on articles that address current problems of arbitral procedures. Court judgments and arbitral awards of leading arbitration bodies will be published and reviewed. In addition, alternative forms of dispute resolution in commercial matters will be addressed. As the “German Arbitration Journal”, SchiedsVZ will also deal with arbitration issues in other countries, in particular in the German-speaking countries of

¹ UNITED NATIONS COMMISSION ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE LAW (UNCITRAL), UNCITRAL Model Law on International Commercial Arbitration, can be downloaded at: <http://www.uncitral.org/en-index.htm> (under “Adopted texts”), last visited 31 January 2002; see the German Civil Procedure Act (*Zivilprozessordnung - ZPO*), §§ 1025-1066 BGBI. I pp. 3224 *et seq.* (pursuant to Art. 1 Nr. 7 des Gesetzes zur Neuregelung des Schiedsverfahrensrechts), as amended and in force as of 1 January 2002. See, hereto, e.g. Richard H. Kreindler, Das neue deutsche Schiedsverfahrensrecht: Eine ausländische Betrachtung, in: Klaus Peter Berger et al. (eds.), *Festschrift für Otto Sandrock* (1999), 515 ff.

² *Deutsches Institut für Schiedsgerichtsbarkeit* (DIS), <http://www.dis-arb.de>

Switzerland and Austria. To emphasise its international focus, SchiedsVZ will contain various articles published in English, and will also provide an English summary of all articles written in German.