



Roundtable: Enforcing foreign arbitral awards – country reports

Joint UNCITRAL-LAC Conference on Dispute Settlement
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Article II New York Convention (1958)

1. Each Contracting State shall recognize an agreement in writing under which the parties undertake to submit to arbitration all or any differences which have arisen or which may arise between them in respect of a defined legal relationship, whether contractual or not, concerning a subject matter capable of settlement by arbitration.

2. The term “agreement in writing” shall include an arbitral clause in a contract or an arbitration agreement, signed by the parties or contained in an exchange of letters or telegrams.

3. The court of a Contracting State, when seized of an action in a matter in respect of which the parties have made an agreement within the meaning of this article, shall, at the request of one of the parties, refer the parties to arbitration, unless it finds that the said agreement is null and void, inoperative or incapable of being performed.

Article V(1) New York Convention (1958)

1. Recognition and enforcement of the award may be refused, at the request of the party against whom it is invoked, only if that party furnishes to the competent authority where the recognition and enforcement is sought, proof that:

(a) The parties to the agreement referred to in article II were, under the law applicable to them, under some incapacity, or the said agreement is not valid under the law to which the parties have subjected it or, failing any indication thereon, under the law of the country where the award was made; or

(b) The party against whom the award is invoked was not given proper notice of the appointment of the arbitrator or of the arbitration proceedings or was otherwise unable to present his case; or

(c) The award deals with a difference not contemplated by or not falling within the terms of the submission to arbitration, or it contains decisions on matters beyond the scope of the submission to arbitration, provided that, if the decisions on matters submitted to arbitration can be separated from those not so submitted, that part of the award which contains decisions on matters submitted to arbitration may be recognized and enforced; or

(d) The composition of the arbitral authority or the arbitral procedure was not in accordance with the agreement of the parties, or, failing such agreement, was not in accordance with the law of the country where the arbitration took place; or

(e) The award has not yet become binding on the parties, or has been set aside or suspended by a competent authority of the country in which, or under the law of which, that award was made.

Article V(2) New York Convention (1958)

2. Recognition and enforcement of an arbitral award may also be refused if the competent authority in the country where recognition and enforcement is sought finds that:

(a) The subject matter of the difference is not capable of settlement by arbitration under the law of that country; or

(b) The recognition or enforcement of the award would be contrary to the public policy of that country.

CONTACT DETAILS

Peter Rižnik

Rotenturmstrasse 13

AT - 1010 Vienna

T +431 512 95 00

F +431 512 95 00 95

E p.riznik@konrad-partners.com

W www.konrad-partners.com

Vienna, Austria

Rotenturmstrasse 13

AT – 1010 Vienna

T +431 512 95 00

F +431 512 95 00 95

E office@konrad-partners.com

Prague, Czech Republic

Na Beránku II/93, Ořech

CZ - 252 25 Praha Západ

T +420 257 310 571

F +420 257 310 574

E office@konrad-partners.cz

Skopje, Republic of Macedonia

Bulevar Kiro Gligorov 4

MK -1000 Skopje

T : +389 230 65 441

F +389 230 65 441

E office@konrad-partners.mk

Bratislava, Slovakia

Mýtna 42

SK - 81105 Bratislava

T +421 244 250 022

F +421 244 250 844

E office@konrad-partners.sk

London, United Kingdom

1 Fetter Lane

London, EC4A 1BR

T +44 203 356 97 28

F +44 203 356 97 38

E office@konrad-partners.co.uk

