



International Law

Theme Introduction

By Troy L. Harris

To paraphrase Rick Blaine's description of Captain Renault in *Casablanca*, members of the State Bar of Michigan International Law Section are just like other lawyers, only more so. That is, we face the same substantive issues as lawyers in wholly domestic practices, but with an extra layer of law to deal with. Sometimes that extra layer is created by an international agreement; sometimes by the intertwining of U.S. law and the law of another country. But it is always there, which is why the practice is continually interesting and challenging. In this issue of the *Michigan Bar Journal*, we are excited to present articles that are both timely and informative, whether one's practice is mainly domestic, international, or somewhere in between.

The first two articles will be of particular interest to transactional lawyers. Trade secrets are ubiquitous, and the ease of international communication makes their protection essential. Yanping Wang's article, "What's New: Comparing Trade Secrets Protection Required by the 2020 U.S.-China Trade Agreement with Existing Chinese Law," is a helpful primer on the subject, particularly considering the new U.S.-China treaty. At the same time, businesses need people, and the right people are not always available domestically. Readers will find the article by John Koryto and Kevin Battle, "Investment-Based Immigration for the Small Business Entrepreneur," a useful guide to navigating business immigration issues.

On the dispute resolution side of things, "Using the U.S. Courts to Obtain Discovery Here and Abroad for Foreign and

International Proceedings" by Frederick Acomb and James Woolard is a go-to resource for litigators with an eye on an important trend: U.S. court assistance in obtaining discovery for disputes pending elsewhere. Also anticipating the future is Alyssa Hussein's article on "Addressing the Remedy Gap: Business and Human Rights Arbitration," which highlights the intersection of international human rights and international arbitration.

As all four articles in this theme issue illustrate, an international legal practice can sometimes seem highly specialized or even esoteric. But it is difficult to imagine any lawyer whose practice does not have the potential to raise international issues. The International Law Section welcomes you all! ■



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