# A new path forward: efficiency through transparency

The 8th Asia Pacific ADR Conference, Seoul

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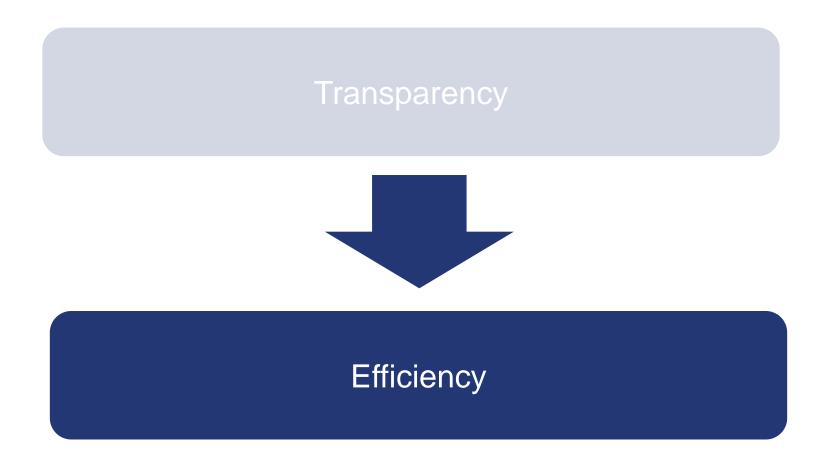
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# **Today's question**

Will the availability of information about ICA increase the quality, efficiency and legitimacy of the process?



# **Overview**

- Legitimacy in ISDS and ICA
- Arbitral awards
- Procedure
- Arbitrators

# Legitimacy debate: From ISDS into ICA

Investor-State Dispute Settlement

International Commercial Arbitration

Background

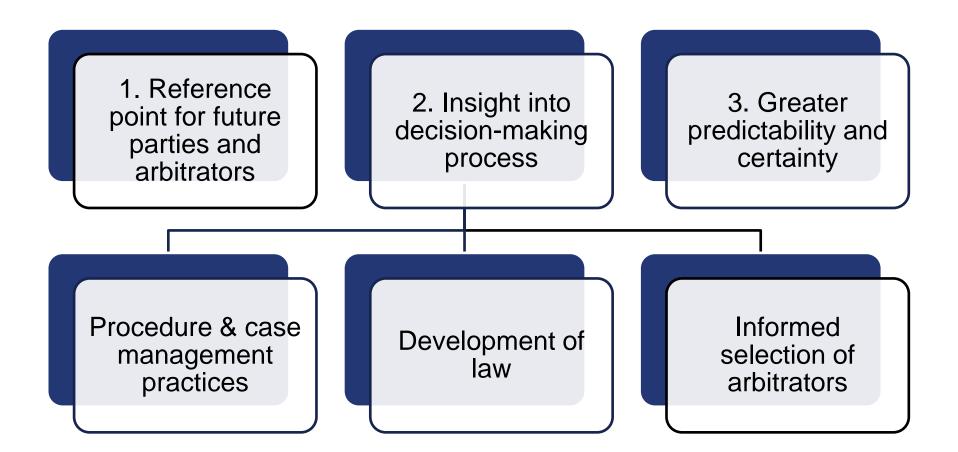
**Arbitral Awards** 

Procedure

Arbitrators

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#### **Arbitral Awards: Why Publish?**



#### **Arbitral Awards: Developments to-date**



- ICC 635 awards published
- Other innovations
   LCIA, SIAC and KCAB



 Publication of awards is commonplace



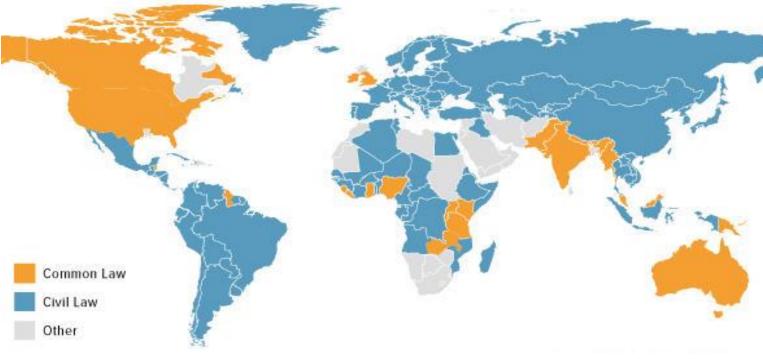
- Balancing confidentiality and transparency
- Support from institutions, parties and arbitrators

**Arbitral Awards** 

**Procedure** 

#### **Procedure: Soft Law Guidelines**

Lessons from the Civil Law World



Source: World Bank

- IBA Rules
- Prague Rules

#### **Case study: Document Production**





 Adversarial objections  $\mathcal{Q}$ 

Temporal Difficulties

- Requests early
- Prior to ventilation of issues



#### **Best Practice**

 Transparent innovation required to develop procedure

**Arbitral Awards** 

#### **Procedure**

Arbitrators

### **Appointment of Arbitrators**

Efficiency is often driven by arbitrator performance	<ul> <li>Choice of arbitrator is therefore important</li> <li>Parties' choice is often based on available information</li> </ul>
There is some information currently available	<ul> <li>Information provided by arbitrators</li> <li>Commercial directories and arbitral institutions</li> <li>Referrals and word-of-mouth</li> </ul>
But, there is a paucity of objective information	<ul> <li>Greater objective information on arbitrator quality and performance will allow parties to make an informed decision</li> </ul>

**Arbitral Awards** 

**Procedure** 

#### **Appointment of Arbitrators**

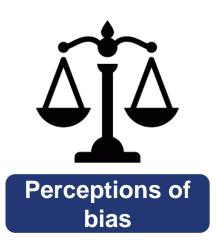


- Fundamental Art
   11 of the Model Law
- 4th most valuable characteristic QMUL 2018 respondents



Independence

- Growing scrutiny
- Important in virtually all jurisdictions



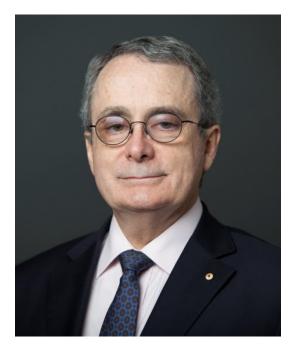
- Evidence in ISDS
- Alternative appointment -ICDR's AAA

**Arbitral Awards** 

**Procedure** 

# Conclusion

- 1. The legitimacy "crisis" in ISDS has informed debate in ICA.
- It provides a unique opportunity to drive efficiency through transparency, in respect of arbitral awards, procedure and the appointment of arbitrators.
- Transparency must be balanced against the confidentiality of arbitral proceedings.
- 4. The approach toward transparency must preserve the attractive features of ICA while addressing legitimacy concerns.



# **Professor Doug Jones AO**

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