

---

## Preface

---

Editing a book on international investment law in current times is an equally joyful and daunting task. On the one side, it provides the opportunity to contribute to a still developing field of law with significant practical relevance and high academic interest. On the other side, international investment law is *semper reformanda* and one is never certain which novelties the next treaty reform or arbitration award will bring. Furthermore, the topic is highly ideologised which makes sound and sober scientific analysis at times difficult, but all the more needed. The editors of the present *Research Handbook* tried to meet these challenges by inviting a group of distinguished authors from different academic and geographical backgrounds, including experienced commentators and younger observers, to contribute in order to present a variety of perspectives and to attempt to cover as many angles as possible.

While there is no shortage of scholarly contributions to international investment law, a *Research Handbook* aims at providing an overview of the pertinent topics of a field and at establishing a basis for further research. It assembles the current state of thinking and suggests new ways forward by revisiting classic issues and reflecting on recent developments, by raising fundamental and conceptual questions as well as addressing practical problems and challenges and by engaging different schools of thought and preconceptions (*Vorverständnisse*) of international investment law.

Editing a *Research Handbook* is teamwork. It requires a group of excellent and dedicated contributors who are willing to commit their time, energy and skills to write chapters on topics allocated to them and simultaneously provide an introduction into, overview of and deep reflections on a subject of a general character. We are thankful that we could work with authors who mastered these challenges brilliantly. We would also like to thank our contributors for their patience as some of them who delivered their manuscripts within the agreed time framework had to wait for those who needed one or two gentle reminders.

In addition, we would like to thank our publisher, for trusting us with the editing of a *Research Handbook* on such an important subject at such interesting times. We are also grateful to Laura Mann, who accompanied and supported the project during the past three years.

Last, but certainly not least, we owe significant thanks to Hanna Geks, our student assistant without whose help and support during the final stages the book would not have seen the light of day, especially as Hanna took care of adapting the manuscripts to the necessary form and style guidelines, a task which is more often than not happily ignored by the contributors and procrastinated by the editors until the last moments.

Markus Krajewski and  
Rhea Tamara Hoffmann  
Erlangen, Germany, July 2018

