

EDITORIAL NOTE

More than 30 years have passed since the UN Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods (CISG) was drafted and adopted, and 23 years since it entered into force. With 76 signatory states the CISG is the most widely accepted uniform law regulating the transactions in the area of international sales of goods to date and covers over two thirds of the world trade. It establishes a comprehensive code of legal rules governing the formation of contracts for the international sale of goods, the obligations of the buyer and seller, remedies for breach of contract and other aspects of the contract.

The Republic of Serbia (as a part of former Yugoslavia) was one of the first countries to ratify the CISG and incorporate it as its law for international sales. With dissolution of Yugoslavia the importance of the CISG for the region did not decrease. To the contrary, all former republics of Yugoslavia filed notifications of succession to the CISG and its importance further grew as it became the main source of law for hundreds of sales contracts concluded between trade partners from different countries established on this territory. Furthermore, the growing importance of the CISG for Serbia is marked by the fact that Serbian foreign trade is predominantly oriented to partners coming from the countries of the CEFTA region and the EU, the vast majority of them being signatories to the Convention. Consequently, Serbian courts and the Foreign Trade Court of Arbitration often have a chance to apply the CISG. However, as the experience in many other countries shows, its application is not always consistent. This is why it is particularly important to enable, not only scholars, but also judges and arbitrators to be informed of the current trends in application and interpretation of the CISG.

The process of unification of law does not require just the adoption of common rules – it must be followed by the uniform application of international legal instruments. In order to make the unification of international sales law a true success, we must constantly share our experiences in application of the Convention and other sources of international trade law. With this goal in mind, the University of Belgrade Faculty of Law hosted a large international conference on unification of sales law in No-

vember 2010 which gathered more than two hundreds of lawyers from Serbia and abroad who examined the most controversial issues under the Convention. The Editorial board would like to use this opportunity to thank all the organizers, sponsors and participants of this successful event as it represented a fruitful source for many contributions contained in this volume.

Editors-in-Chief