Preface

Arbitration is the most popular form of alternative dispute resolution. Of the reasons for arbitration’s leading position as a means of alternative dispute resolution, at least in an international commercial context, is the presumption of the principle of confidentiality entailed in it.

This monograph is a comparative study of the doctrine of confidentiality in international commercial arbitration in the legal systems of England, the USA, Germany and France. The undertaking of the current work has been considered essential due to the central role of confidentiality in arbitration, alongside the fact that confidentiality is not always preserved and the fact that its protection is often problematic in many respects and in many stages throughout the arbitration proceedings. The purpose of this book is to analyse comparatively, critically discuss and assess the role and the problematic areas of confidentiality in international commercial arbitration, in the legal systems of England, the USA, Germany and France, and to propose ways to overcome the problems encountered in the light of the wider spread and strengthening of the role of arbitration worldwide as a powerful means of alternative dispute resolution.

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The law stands as on 30 September 2009.

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