

**The Vis Book**  
**A Participant's Guide to the Willem C. Vis**  
**International Commercial Arbitration Moot**

**Edited by**  
**Janet Walker**



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## PREFACE

This book is about the Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot. The Vis Moot is...well...hmmm.... That is just the problem. The Moot is an extraordinary phenomenon that cannot be summed up in a few lines, even by way of introduction. Hence, this book.

You may be thinking of organizing a team and persuading your law school to enter the competition, or you may be a new participant who wants to know all there is to know in order to overcome the jitters of travelling a long way to compete for the first time in a large competition with people from all around the world. You may be a former mootie who is thinking of returning as an arbitrator and you wish to explain to others why this is something that you just have to do, or you may be a veteran participant of many years who simply wants to be reminded of the magic of that special week you spend each year in Vienna. This book is for all of you.

Although it will take an entire book to describe the Moot in full, it can be said in a word that it is an inspiration. It has inspired many highly skilled practising and academic lawyers to devote their industry and imagination year upon year to making the Moot the tremendous success that it has become. It has inspired the authors of this book, many of whom are seasoned participants, to give generously of their time to help you make the most of your experience, and it has inspired them to donate the royalties from the sale of this book to projects that will help to make the Moot more accessible to those who might not otherwise be able to participate. It has inspired Juris Publishing to match these royalties so that a full 30% of the proceeds of the sale of this book will go to these projects for the Moot. We are grateful to Juris for their generosity.

Although the Moot is a marvel of collective effort on the part of thousands of participants, there is one person whose contribution stands out. He is, of course, the extraordinary man behind this extraordinary phenomenon—Professor Eric Bergsten. This book is for him.

Whether you are a first time participant or an alumnus of many years, we hope that this book will help you make the most of your experience, and we are grateful to you for your support of the Moot.

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September 2007