

Despite having now filled the arbitration gap of the first edition, I have continued to omit admiralty matters, foreign currency obligations and certain other topics from this work, on one or both of the following grounds: (i) Hong Kong's approach is not sufficiently different from England's to justify separate treatment, (ii) I recognise my knowledge of a particular topic to be inadequate (i.e. even less adequate than in the areas which I have tackled).

A benefit of finally getting round to producing a second edition is that it has provided the opportunity to address at least some of the many inconsistencies and incoherencies of the first. I am conscious that the second edition is far from perfect, but I believe it is at least an improvement. Comments, as ever, will be appreciated.

Some health warnings should be noted:

- Time and resources being limited, I have focused on the Hong Kong cases, but I have selectively referred to major decisions in some other common law jurisdictions where considered relevant.
- As in the first edition, I have referred with particular frequency to *Dicey, Morris & Collins, The Conflict of Laws* (now in its 14th edition, with a fourth supplement), reflecting the frequency with which that great work is cited in the Hong Kong courts. However, the subject in England is increasingly dominated by EU and UK legislative developments which lack Hong Kong counterparts, and which naturally influence the development of the English case law. That was the case when I wrote the first edition, and it is even more pronounced today. I have therefore sought to identify, where it seems useful to do so, various instances in which it seems to me that Dicey's position on a point is or is not a good guide to the Hong Kong position, where the latter is uncertain.
- The time and resources available to me have not permitted the updating of references to other texts listed in the bibliography. Apart from Dicey, therefore, these remain as in the first edition.

Work on the second edition was principally done in January and February 2012.

I have attempted to state the law as at 1 January 2012, though a few later decisions have also been addressed.

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