

# Arbitrating for Peace



# Arbitrating for Peace

How Arbitration Made a Difference

Edited by

Ulf Franke  
Annette Magnusson  
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## Foreword

The power of the rule of law represents an essential force in achieving sustainable societies. It is also a necessary building block to meet some of humanity's future challenges. Peace and security, sustainable and inclusive development, and the respect for human rights and the rule of law should be our focus as we strive to achieve a better world.

The international community has used arbitration, mediation and other methods of peaceful dispute resolution for centuries. Over this time, nations have constructively worked together to develop a common international system which today allow states to settle most of their disputes peacefully. This is a huge achievement in human history.

But peaceful resolution of disputes rarely makes the headlines. The use of the rule of law in pursuit of peace often takes place quietly, far away from the limelight. The heroes involved; the men and women who make substantial contributions and advance peace in their capacities as brave political leaders, engaged legal specialists and wise adjudicators of integrity, receive little praise in international media. Their success remains relatively unknown.

The achievements of the governments and arbitral tribunals depicted in this publication send a message of hope. They reinforce the belief that tense conflicts between international law and power politics can be overcome, and that countries do recognize and value a global rule-based system for harmony, peace and prosperity.

While we hear about armed conflicts in the world on a daily basis, let us not forget that there is also a different story to tell. That the world has seldom been as peaceful, and the world is ever more orderly. That the international community has worked constructively over centuries to develop a functioning legal framework of cooperation and dispute resolution, and that this framework is put to use on a daily basis. By learning from past experiences of peaceful resolution of disputes, we stand better prepared to meet the challenges of the future.

Humanity has a long history of constructively being able to co-operate in dire times; of uniting in spirit and action to solve complex problems when mostly needed. *Arbitrating for Peace* draws on a number of difficult disputes from the shadows of the past, and reminds us of their peaceful resolution. It demonstrates the power of

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universally accepted rules for dispute resolution at its best; be it through ad hoc arbitration tribunals or as represented by specific bodies.

*Arbitrating for Peace* teaches us that the rule of law is one of the most powerful instruments we have for sustainable peace. Let us not forget.

*Kofi A. Annan*