

European Commercial Law

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FOREWORD

It is a privilege to be able to introduce to an English language audience this translation of the second edition of Professor Berthold Goldman's *Droit Commercial Européen*, which appeared in the collection *Précis Dalloz* in 1971. His book is by now very firmly established in the juristic literature of the original Member States of the European Economic Community and it is especially appropriate now for it to be made available to readers in the new Member States of the enlarged Community. Professor Goldman shows, in his succinct yet amply documented study, how the progress of what has been called "the law of regional integration" has made a profound impact upon the traditional mechanisms set up by States in order to further the harmonisation, approximation and co-ordination of their legal systems. As an outstanding authority on the separate system and domain of French commercial law he is well aware of the dissimilarity of national systems in Western Europe in matters of commercial law. Because of this he is exceptionally well able to set both the promise and the performance of the law of the European Economic Community in the wider context of the less spectacular work of a multiplicity of institutions, organisations and associations which are occupied with advancing the international unification of commercial law.

In spite of the dramatic developments of the last two decades, a European *jus commune* is still out of sight to many observers. The new European law relating to enterprises, establishment, competition is, however, very much with us. Its evolution, creation and operation is described by Professor Goldman with a particular eye to its successful interaction with existing national law. Thus his book provides both an authoritative guide to the scope and working of the new law and a progress report on its contribution to the solution of the old problems thrown up by divergent national attitudes to the law and practice of international trade and commerce.

It is rare to be able to welcome a treatise that is severely practical, or a guide that is imaginative and forward-looking. This is such a book and it is unique in its field.

K. R. SIMMONDS.

March, 1973.

A revised edition stating the law as at January 1, 1973

EUROPEAN COMMERCIAL LAW—

ERRATUM

Page I, footnote 3 should read:

- ³ They have been extended, with effect from January 1, 1973, by the entry of Denmark, Ireland and the United Kingdom. The Treaty of Accession was signed in Brussels on January 22, 1972, by representatives of the three states and the original Member States; Norway also signed the Accession Treaty but did not ratify it. The manuscript of the present edition had been terminated prior to signature of the Accession Treaty. Supplementary paragraphs were added at proof stage, not in a supplementary chapter as originally envisaged, but incorporated in appropriate places in the text. This additional material deals briefly with the provisions of the Accession legislation which affect matters dealt with in this work, as well as the most important legislation and decisions up to January 1, 1973, affecting European commercial law. The material has been added to the following paragraphs: §§ 1, 21, 24, 27, 30, 173, 292, 344, 357, 376, 379, 391, 409, 415, 425, 429, 432, 434, 447, 465, 577, 609 and 627.
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