# The Regulation of International Financial Markets

Perspectives for Reform

Edited by Rainer Grote and Thilo Marauhn

## THE REGULATION OF INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL MARKETS

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#### **PREFACE**

Most of the contributions included in this volume were originally presented during a workshop held at the 'Evangelische Akademie Loccum' in 2001. The editors wish to explicitly acknowledge the financial and logistical support provided by the 'Evangelische Akademie Loccum'. In particular, we appreciate the contribution of Dr Christoph Hüttig to the conceptual framework of the workshop and the establishment of contacts with Benjamin J. Cohen and Axel Peuker through him. Further papers were added and existing papers were revised subsequently, with final editing being done in 2004. The editors are grateful to the VolkswagenStiftung for its financial support in respect of both the workshop and the preparation of the publication. We also appreciate the editorial assistance provided by Michael Weiss. Due to the long editing process which is the sole responsibility of the editors the final versions of the various contributions differ in respect of timing. Authors have, however, successfully contributed to a meaningful interdisciplinary volume which the editors have sought to draw conclusions upon in their final chapter. This chapter also outlines perspective for further research. Finally, the editors wish to express their gratitude to the publisher and all the assistance provided by Cambridge University Press.

#### **ABBREVIATIONS**

ADB Asian Development Bank

AFTA ASEAN Free Trade Area

AICPA American Institute of Certified Public

Accountants

AMF Asian Monetary Fund

APA Administrative Procedure Act

APEC Asia-Pacific Económic Co-operation forum

ASEAN Association of South-East Asian Nations

ASEAN + Japan, China and South Korea

ASEM Asia-Europe Meeting 2000

ATS Alternative Trading System

ATTAC Action pour la Taxation des Transactions

Financières pour l'Aide aux Citoyens (Association

for the Taxation of Financial Transactions for the

Benefit of Citizens)

BCBS Basle Committee on Banking Supervision

BGBl. Bundesgesetzblatt

BIS Bank for International Settlements

BVerfGE Sammlung der Entscheidungen des Bundesverfas-

sungsgerichts (Collection of the Decisions of the

German Federal Constitutional Court)

CCL Contingent Credit Line

CEO Chief Executive Officer

CESR Committee of European Securities Regulators

CFA Commodities Futures Act

CFMA Commodities Futures Modernization Act

CFO Chief Financial Officer

CFTC Commodities Futures Trading Commission
CGFS Committee on the Global Financial System

CIA Central Intelligence Agency

CMCG Capital Market Consultative Group

CO Colorado

CPSIPS Core Principles for Systemically Important

Payment Systems

CPSS Committee on Payment and Settlement

Systems

CTT Currency Transaction Tax

DC District of Columbia

DSU Dispute Settlement Understanding

DTEFs derivatives transaction execution facilities

EAEC East Asia Economic Caucus

EAEG East Asian Economic Group

EASDAQ European Association of Securities Dealers

Automatic Quotation System

EC European Community

ECB European Central Bank

ECJ European Court of Justice

ECOFIN A configuration of the Council of Ministers of

the European Union concerned with economic

and financial affairs

ECOSOC Economic and Social Council

EEA European Economic Area

EEC European Economic Community

EMI European Monetary Institute

EMU Economic and Monetary Union

ERM Exchange Rate Mechanism

ESC European Securities Committee

ESCB European System of Central Banks

EU European Union

FASB Financial Standards Supervisory Board

FATF Financial Action Task Force on Money

Laundering

FBI Federal Bureau of Investigation

FDI Foreign Direct Investment

FDIC Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation

FESCO Forum of European Securities Commissions

FFIEC Federal Financial Institutions Examination

Council

FFSA Federal Financial Supervisory Authority

(Bundesanstalt für Finanzdienstleistungsaufsicht)

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#### ABBREVIATIONS

FIRREA 1989 Financial Institutions Reform, Recovery,

and Enforcement Act

FSA Financial Services Authority

FSAP European Commission's Financial Services Action

Plan

FSAP Financial Sector Assessment Program

FSF Financial Stability Forum

FSLC Financial Sector Liaison Committee

FSLIC Federal Savings and Loan Insurance

Corporation

FSMA Financial Services and Markets Act 2000

GAB General Agreement to Borrow

GATS General Agreement on Trade in Services

GATT General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade

GDDS General Data Dissemination System

GDP gross domestic product

HM Her Majesty

IAIS International Association of Insurance

Supervision

IAPC International Accounting Practices

IASB International Accounting Standards Board

IASC International Accounting Standards

Committee

IBRD International Bank for Reconstruction and

Development

ICC Interstate Commerce Commission

IFAC International Federation of Accountants

IFIs International Financial Institutions

IMF International Monetary Fund

IMFC International Monetary and Financial

Committee of the Board of Governors of

the IMF

INSOL International Federation of Insolvency

**Professionals** 

INTOSAI International Organisation of Supreme Audit

Institutions

IOSCO International Organisation of Securities

Commissions

IPO initial public offer

IRS Internal Revenue Service

ISA International Standards on Auditing

ISD Investment Services Directive 93/22/EEC

LDC less developed country

MAI Multilateral Agreement on Investment

MFN rule most-favoured-nation-rule

MoU memorandum of understanding

MPIFG Max-Planck-Institut für Gesellschaftsforschung'

(Max Planck Institute for the Study of Societies)

NAB new arrangements to borrow

NAFTA North American Free Trade Agreement

NAIC National Association of Insurance

Commissioners

xvi ABBREVIATIONS

NAMU North American Monetary Union

NASD National Association of Securities Dealers

NASDAQ National Association of Securities Dealers

Automated Quotation (system)

NCOIL National Conference of Insurance Legislators

NCUA National Credit Union Administration

NEWEX New Europe Exchange

NFA National Futures Association

NGO Non-Governmental Organisation

NJ New Jersey

NY New York

NYSE New York Stock Exchange

OCC Office of the Comptroller of the Currency

OECD Organisation for Economic Co-operation and

Development

OEEC Organisation for European Economic

Co-operation

OJ Official Journal of the European Union

OTC over-the-counter

OTS Office of Thrift Supervision

RCH Recognised Clearing Houses

RIE Recognised Investment Exchanges

ROSC Reports on the Observance of Standards

and Codes

RTC Resolution Trust Corporation

S&Ls savings and loan associations

SAIF Savings Association Insurance Fund

SDDS Special Data Dissemination Standard

SDRM Sovereign Debt Restructuring Mechanism

SEC US Securities and Exchange Commission

SRF Supplemental Reserve Facility

SROs self-regulatory organisations

TRIPS Agreement Agreement on Trade Related Aspects of

**Intellectual Property Rights** 

UCITS Directive 85/611/EEC on Undertakings for

Collective Investment in Transferable

Securities

UK United Kingdom

UN United Nations

UNCTAD United Nations Conference on Trade and

Development

UNICEF United Nations Children's Fund

US United States of America

USD US dollar

WTO World Trade Organisation

WTO Agreement Marrakesh Agreement establishing the World

Trade Organisation

XBOTs exempt boards of trade

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### Introduction: the regulatory dilemma in international financial relations

#### THILO MARAUHN

#### I. The globalisation of capital markets: benefits and risks

The globalisation of capital markets has become the subject of a broad public debate.1 It is no longer perceived as a purely technical topic. Its benefits and risks are part of a truly political discourse that has long left the secluded environment of the financial and academic elite. Benefits and risks of such globalisation are thus not only discussed from the perspective of economic rationality but are assessed against a whole set of heterogeneous values, such as democracy, human rights, and many more. While the debate has thus become much more vivid it is increasingly at risk to be governed by ideological motivations rather than rational arguments. Pleading for rationality does not mean to return to purely technical or even elitist considerations. Rather it aims at establishing a procedural framework to accommodate all the relevant aspects that should be taken into account by political, economic, and other decision-makers. Such procedural framework can effectively be provided by public international law arrangements. While this has been realised in other sectors of an increasingly global

See, inter alia, Richard A. Grasso, 'Globalization of Capital Markets', (1997) 21(2) Fordham International Law Journal 390-6; Dragana M. Durić, 'Globalization of Financial Markets', (1999) 50(1082/83) Review of International Affairs 15-21; Sol Picciotto and Jason Haines, 'Regulating Global Financial Markets', (1999) 26(3) Journal of Law and Society 351-68; Eilis Ferran and C. A. E. Goodhart (eds.), Regulating Financial Services and Markets in the Twenty First Century (Oxford, 2001); Joseph E. Stiglitz, 'Principles of Financial Regulation – A Dynamic Portfolio Approach', (2001) 16(1) World Bank Research Observer 1-18.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Chantal Thomas, 'Does the "Good Governance Policy" of the International Financial Institutions Privilege Markets at the Expense of Democracy?' (1999) 14(2) Connecticut Journal of International Law 551-62.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Cf. Ross P. Buckley, 'The Essential Flaw in the Globalisation of Capital Markets – Its Impact on Human Rights in Developing Countries', (2001) 32(1) California Western International Law Journal 119–31.

economy,<sup>4</sup> capital markets have for one and another reason largely escaped the regulatory power of public international law. Even the academic discourse has long been led by economists and experts in private law with a significant silence on the side of political scientists as well as experts in public law.<sup>5</sup> The situation seems about to change, most probably due to the topic moving into the wider political arena.

It is against this background that the research for this publication was undertaken. The basic question to be addressed from a variety of angles is whether there is a meaningful potential in the regulation of international financial relations at the level of public international law. In spite of grand rhetoric such as 'international financial architecture' the present contribution of public international law to a regulatory framework for global capital markets is rather limited. Neither does the reference to an 'international financial architecture' describe an existing regime nor does it provide a blueprint for governance in international financial relations. Rather it covers a great variety of institutions and numerous forms of co-operation among actors on the international financial markets. Whether or not there is a need for and a potential impact of public international law in international financial relations can only be assessed against the background of a much broader analysis.

A first part of this analysis must be a historical one,<sup>7</sup> considering the factual dimension of the problem and the ups and downs of capital

<sup>5</sup> Rochael M. Soper, 'Promoting Confidence and Stability in Financial Markets – Capitalizing on the Downfall of Barings', (1997) 7(2) Duke Journal of Comparative and International Law 651-70; Herbert Kronke, 'Capital Markets and Conflict of Laws', (2001) 286 Recueil des Cours/Académie de Droit International de La Haye 245-385; Douglas W. Arner, 'Globalisation of Financial Markets – An International Passport for Securities Offerings?' (2001) 35(4) International Lawyer 1543-88.

<sup>6</sup> Cf. Peter Behrens, 'The International Architecture of Global Financial Markets' (1999) 6(3) Maastricht Journal of European and Comparative Law 271-98.

Such analysis is provided in this book by Benjamin J. Cohen (chapter 1). See also William F. Shepherd, International Financial Integration – History, Theory and Applications in OECD Countries (Aldershot, 1994).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Bilateral as well as multilateral agreements related to foreign direct investment rather provide a framework for the settlement of disputes than a set of substantive standards; cf. Christian Tietje, 'Die Beilegung internationaler Investitionsstreitigkeiten', in Thilo Marauhn (ed.), Streitbeilegung in den internationalen Wirtschaftsbeziehungen. Völkerrechtliche Einhegung ökonomischer Globalisierungsprozesse (Tübingen, 2005), pp. 47–62 at 49–51. Similarly, the World Trade Organisation (WTO) does not integrate national economies into the global economy but only tears down barriers to economic transactions in between these economies; see Hans van Houtte, *The Law of International Trade* (2nd ed. 2002), at p. 128: 'A free market requires . . . liberalisation of the movement of goods and services as well as the prohibition of restrictions on competition by the market participants.'