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***Brief welcome message by Professor (em.) Dr. (Heidelberg) Athanassios Kaissis,
President of the Governing Board of International Hellenic University***

Dear guests and participants,

in my capacity as President of the Governing Board of International Hellenic University it is my great honor and pleasure to warmly welcome you to the online seminar “Limits to party autonomy in international commercial arbitration” on 19 May 2021 (17:00-18:00) organized by New York University in cooperation with International Hellenic University.

I am also delighted and honored for the opportunity to have two highly esteemed scientists in the field of international commercial arbitration Professor Franco Ferrari and Dr. Friedrich Rosenfeld, as keynote speakers in this seminar.

Prof. Franco Ferrari is Professor at New York University, School of Law and Director of the Center for Transnational Litigation, Arbitration and Commercial Law at New York University. Prof. Ferrari demonstrates significant scientific work in the field of arbitration and acts as an arbitrator both in international commercial and investment arbitrations. On 2019 Prof. Ferrari was awarded an honorary doctorate degree from the National & Kapodistrian University of Athens.

Prof. Ferrari has written several books which *inter alia* include: Concise Commentary on the Rome I Regulation, Cambridge University Press, 2nd ed., 2020, Forum Shopping and International Commercial Law, Edward Elgar Publishing, 2020 (3 vols.) (ed. with

Aaron D. Simowitz), *International Investment Arbitration in a Nutshell*, West Academic Publishing, 2020 (ed. with D. Brian King), *Private International Law: Contemporary Challenges and Continuing Relevance*, Edward Elgar Publishing, 2019 (ed. with Diego P. Fernández Arroyo), *Conflict of Laws in International Commercial Arbitration*, Juris, 2019 (ed. with Stefan Kröll), *International Sales Law–CISG in a Nutshell*, West Academic Publishing, 2nd ed., 2018 (with Marco Torsello).

Dr. Friedrich Rosenfeld is Partner at Hanefeld Rechtsanwälte in Hamburg. Dr. Rosenfeld has great experience in arbitration acting both as counsel and arbitrator, whilst frequently publishing books and articles in peer-reviewed journals. Some of his books are the following: *Autonomous versus Domestic Concepts in the New York Convention*, Kluwer, 2021 (co-editor with Franco Ferrari), *Due Process as a Limit to Discretion in International Commercial Arbitration*, Kluwer, 2020 (co- editor with Franco Ferrari and Dietmar Czernich), *Inherent Powers of Arbitrators*, Juris, 2018 (co-editor with F. Ferrari), *Die humanitäre Besatzung: Ein Dilemma des ius post bellum*, Nomos, 2009. Dr. Rosenfeld supports the postgraduate programme “LLM in Transnational and European Commercial Law, Banking Law, Arbitration/Mediation” of International Hellenic University throughout these years by teaching “International Commercial Arbitration” and “Recognition and Enforcement of International Arbitral Awards”.

I am confident that this seminar will deliberate and discuss all the different facets of this exciting topic and come up with inspiring ideas.

I wish the seminar great success and all guests and participants a most rewarding time.

Yours faithfully,

Prof. (em.) Dr. (Heidelberg) Athanassios Kaissis

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