In September 2019, the Max Planck Encyclopedia of International Procedural Law (MPEiPro), edited by the Max Planck Institute Luxembourg, under the direction of Professor Hélène Ruiz Fabri, began being published online by Oxford University Press. The publication is accessible alongside the Max Planck Encyclopedia of Public International Law (MPEPIL) at www.mpeipro.com.

This Encyclopedia is conceived of as a resource for practitioners, scholars, legal advisers, policy-makers and observers of international relations and global governance. It will be enriched each month with new in-depth manuscripts, eventually reaching over 1,000 articles.

Hundreds of authors have been selected among renowned experts, in accordance with principles of gender balance and geographical diversity, and are contributing to this project. More than 70 top-level academics and practitioners, including international judges and arbitrators, accepted to be members of the Encyclopedia’s Scientific Advisory Board and act as peer-reviewers of MPEiPro’s articles.

MPEiPro aims at reflecting the state of legal and interdisciplinary research on international procedure as well as promoting cutting-edge research on what remains an under-explored realm of international practice, by integrating insights from other disciplines, like history, philosophy, sociology, international relations theory, anthropology, psychology and semiotics.

The scope of MPEiPro takes a broad notion of procedure embracing decision-making by international organs in general, including political and administrative bodies whose purpose is not that of adjudicating or otherwise settling a dispute or a legal issue. However, in the first years of its life cycle, the project will focus on adjudicative means of dispute settlement, including non-contentious and non-binding forms of adjudication. MPEiPro upholds a broad notion of international legal space encompassing domestic and transnational institutions whose essential purpose is to lay down or apply rules of obvious international relevance.

In the last 25 years, the international legal space has reached, especially through the establishment of many new international courts and tribunals and others adjudicative bodies, unprecedented levels of complexity and diversity. Time is ripe, then, for undertaking a rigorous and systematic application of the comparative method of analysis to the field of international adjudication. The recourse to the analytic toolbox of comparative law is an important feature of MPEiPro.

MPEiPro’s authors receive a set of documents containing all the necessary information to start writing and advance through the editorial process, including a concept note outlining our expectations regarding the content of the article.

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