

BOOK REVIEW

LARRY A. DIMATTEO, *INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS LAW AND THE LEGAL ENVIRONMENT. A TRANSACTIONAL APPROACH* (TAYLOR & FRANCIS LTD, 3D ED. 2016)

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This book presents in a well organised and thoughtful manner the legal environment in which global trade takes place. It is a text which is suitable for law and business students, academics and practitioners. It is ordered into seven distinct parts covering the legal environment, trade regulations, doing business in the European Union and China, Comparative legal Systems, contract and Sales law, Exporting, importing and trade finance, Licencing and intellectual property rights and foreign direct investment and e-commerce. Each part is broken down in chapters highlighting the essential features of the part.

As an example, in Part II (trade regulations) the following chapters are included: International Trade Regulations, National Import and Export Regulations and Free trade agreements.

This book contains several special features which are important not only in the learning environment but also as a tool for quick references by professionals.

First the managerial perspective is focused on business transactions as practices in real world situations. It includes case studies, checklists, forms, tables, and summaries.

In addition, terminology in international business needs to be understood and hence text boxes providing definitions of key legal and nonlegal terminology is provided throughout the text. Key terms and concepts covered in each chapter are summaries at the end of each chapter.

Cases are not merely listed but at the end of each chapter case highlights are provided. These capsules provide a list of principles of law, concepts, and business practices which are presented in the case. This method makes sure that the readers

understands the key issues presented by the chosen cases. A further use is to use the case material as a starting point for more in-depth discussions. This exercises are further enriched by the provisions of end of chapter problems. These excises are not only book based but Professor DiMatteo also provides useful web sites and internets addresses which can be used for extended study and research projects.

Fittingly for an international business law text international and foreign sources are provided. Reference is made to over 20 countries and their legal structures hence the book lends itself to comparative studies as well as illustrating variations in laws between major countries such as the European Union, China and the United States.

In sum, the book provided extensive coverage on all facets of international trade and is a must for any library and is not only suitable as a text book but also a quick reference guide for any consultants and professionals in the space of international trade.