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## Editor's Note

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## *Editor's Note*

The international community is changing at a pace faster than ever before. New technology in transportation and communication spurs the growth of commerce on a global scale. Along with this, current trends in international relationships find doors of opportunity opening in regions once forbidden to capitalists. More than ever, the transnational practitioner must be prepared to guide clients through such uncharted areas and such monumental changes in private international law.

To this end *The Transnational Lawyer* continues its tradition of providing timely articles designed to be of functional use to the transnational practitioner. Our spring issue begins with two articles, one on Spanish labor law and a second on compulsory patent licensing in Mexico. We then present to you our Focus section, which centers on legal developments in Asia. An Introduction by Duan Devore, an international consultant, emphasizes the need for the transnational practitioner to be aware of both legal and cultural differences in the private international arena; the motivation being more effective client representation. Three articles then focus on legal issues in Asia, offering practical perspectives on the patent process in Vietnam, trademark policies in Japan, and a newly created business tax in the People's Republic of China. Student comments, a long-time source of pride for *The Transnational Lawyer*, then focus on labor law in Vietnam, banking law in the Russian Federation, the investment strategy in various world stock markets, and the recently enacted U.S.-Mexico tax treaty.

*The Transnational Lawyer* is committed to carrying on its tradition of assisting the transnational practitioner with topical discussions of transnational events that will be of practical utility. We embrace any suggestions our readers may have. Furthermore, we appreciate and strongly encourage the submission of articles dealing with private international law. Ultimately, the Board of Editors is excited to have been a positive contributor to such a dynamic field of law. Interest in private international law and transnational business continues to grow at the same pace that new developments occur. It is no wonder that our readership continues to grow. Always cognizant of the need for continual improvement, the Board of Editors is nonetheless pleased and proud of *The Transnational Lawyer's* progress thus far. We remain confident that we will be able to keep pace with the dynamics of the transnational law field, and future Board of Editors will remain committed to serving the needs of the transnational practitioner.

*Gary Kenji Nakata*

