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We are glad to present a rich and welcome volume of the *Yearbook of Private International Law*.

The *Yearbook* continues to grow with a contribution on the relationship of party autonomy to the conflict of the law of substantive rights in comparative and private international law. The possibility for Internet — page 455 to establish advanced procedures concerning their health and affairs, in contemplation of future experiments of their mental faculties, is critical in a world where we live longer although not necessarily in better health. Two other articles will perhaps be more interesting in methodological reflections, one on the meaning of “localisation” for the purposes of law in action and the other on the opportunity to reform the system of conflict of laws of identity”, to look for the purpose of the old rules of private international law.

The same volume features articles that try to answer the following important issues for the resolution of international disputes. The first two discuss the advantages and disadvantages of new commercial courts, specialised in international litigation — some of these courts were created to solve the uncertainties offered by the impact of Brexit on the traditional conflict of law rules. The two others address, on the one hand, the advances and limits encountered in the development of the “consumer law” of international arbitration, and, on the other, the recent efforts of Chinese authorities to facilitate the recognition and enforcement in China of foreign state court judgments.

This year's volume also contains six very nice but different case notes, each of which covers an area of significant interest for us. Two focus

on the first several private international law issues related to the use of blockchain and Artificial Intelligence in various, only to general effect of law matters — in particular the difficult determination of the law applicable to crypto assets — as well as two articles, public policy and public order, covering issues arising from the use of these technologies in arbitration.

A second string is dedicated to litigation and covers various aspects of the EU “proposed proposal” as well as national perspectives on autonomy agreements. If the EU proposal seems to be a healthy attempt to grant full civil rights for children and victims of discrimination, it also seems to “throw a square peg into a round hole”, by attempting to graft and law-shaping that disregarding the variety of situations in which parent-child relationships can be established or restored. The variety and breadth of the legal rights and culturally-oriented rights of these persons by our standards suggest that balancing the interests at stake in this area of law is a particularly challenging exercise.