

## FOREWORD

It is a great pleasure for our “Droit Administratif / Administrative Law” series to welcome this excellent book, edited by Martin Trybus, Roberto Caranta and Gunilla Edelstam and bringing together contributions of some eighteen recognized experts.

As the editors mention in their introduction, the remarkable outcome readers have in hand was elaborated within the “Public Contracts in Legal Globalization” Network, which was set up by a group of colleagues gathered around Sciences Po’s Governance and Public Law Centre (the “Mutations de l’Action Publique et du Droit Public” Chair) that started in 2007. This Network, which comprises experts from nearly fifty countries, has devoted its scientific activity to the analysis of “external” legal inputs in the law of public contracts, i.e. on comparative and international dimensions of this law.<sup>(1)</sup> From the Network’s reflections have already been drawn two reference books, which this series was honored to include: *Comparative Law on Public Contracts* (2010), edited by Rozen Noguellou and Ulrich Stelkens, and *Contrats publics et arbitrage international* (2011) edited by Mathias Audit.

The present volume is an essential piece in the investigation conducted by the Network. There is no need for a long discourse to explain how strategic EU Law is in the evolution of public contracts law, and at various levels. All European public lawyers know how essential it has become in their domestic laws on public procurement. In some Member States, procurement law is a mere copy of EU Directives, in many others it is predominantly implemented EU law. At the international level, EU law on public procurement has become a major model, strongly influential in international negotiations concerning free trade and public contracts. This book describes EU law on public contracts in a quite extensive way. It does not restrain itself to procurement contracts strictly speaking. It also considers other contractual frameworks covered by European law. It does not concentrate only on issues concerning the making of contracts; it envisages the EU’s impact on contract management and redress. The book also envisages how EU law treats the contracts made by the

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(1) The Network site address is: <http://www.contrats-publics.net/inhalte/home.asp>. Since March 2013, the Network publishes a periodical, the International Journal of Public Contracts: <http://www.direitodoestado.com.br/ijpc/edicao/01>.

European institutions themselves. All chapters are written by specialists, and the editors are well-known in the field. This volume is certainly also destined to become a reference book.

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