

# Deference to Foreign Sovereign Submissions

Following up on my previous post here, the United States Supreme Court granted certiorari on January 12, 2018 in *Animal Science Products, Inc. v. Hebei Welcome Pharmaceutical Co.* (No. 16-1220). The grant was limited to the following question presented:

*Whether a court may exercise independent review of an appearing foreign sovereign's interpretation of its domestic law (as held by the Fifth, Sixth, Seventh, Eleventh, and D.C. Circuits), or whether a court is "bound to defer" to a foreign government's legal statement, as a matter of international comity, whenever a foreign government appears before the court (as held by the opinion below in accord with the Ninth Circuit).*

For some of my thoughts on this question, offered well in advance of this case, see [here](#).