

Fourth Issue of the Lloyd's Maritime and Commercial Law Quarterly for 2025

The fourth issue of the Lloyd's Maritime and Commercial Law Quarterly for 2025 has recently been published. It contains the following articles, cases notes and book review.

Michael Howard, "The True History of the Origin of the *Mareva* Injunction or Freezing Order"

Fifty years ago, in 1975, a revolutionary innovation occurred in English procedural law, the introduction of what is officially named the freezing injunction, formerly and to some extent even now known as the Mareva injunction. It was the consequence of two decisions of the Commercial Court, the Karageorgis and Mareva cases. The thesis of this article, lightly camouflaged, is that these cases and this change were brought about by a combination of four factors which are present in most such developments of the common law: the personal, the institutional, the technical legal and the accidental. It is an attempt to present all of them and to show that the first and particularly the last were disproportionately large contributors.

Masood Ahmed, "State Immunity and the New York Convention"

Adrian Briggs, "Book Review of Hong Kong Private International Law" (by Wilson Lui and Anselmo Reyes)

My views

I read the interesting—but in my view unconvincing—critical review by Emeritus Professor Adrian Briggs of "Private International Law in Hong Kong" (by Wilson Lui and Anselmo Reyes). My reading of the review is that Briggs laments the authors' limited engagement with English sources, suggesting that because Hong

Kong's private international law is not as fully developed as Singapore's, English texts and cases should operate as gap-fillers.

I take a different view. I am pleased to see Asian private international law scholars asserting a more autonomous and context-sensitive approach to developing their conflict-of-laws rules. That intellectual independence is healthy for the discipline, and it is precisely the direction I believe African private international law should pursue.