THE EU'S CUMBERSOME INVESTMENT LAW AND POLICY AND ITS EFFECTS ON IP PROTECTION

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OVERVIEW

- 1. The Source of All the 'Problems'
- 2. Post-Lisbon Issues Surrounding Investment
- 3. Opinion 2/15 and mixity
- 4. C-284/16 Slovakia v Achmea
- 5. What effects on IP Protection?

THE SOURCE OF ALL THE 'PROBLEMS'

Pre-Lisbon	Post-Lisbon	
Art. 133(1) TEC	Art. 207(1) TFEU	
 Tariff and trade agreements Trade protective measures: anti-dumping + subsidies 	 Tariff and trade agreements goods + services Trade protective measures: anti- dumping + subsidies + FDI + commercial aspects of IP 	

POST-LISBON ISSUES SURROUNDING INVESTMENT

Existence of old MS BITs Override? Reg. 1219/2012 Extra-EU BIT/FTAs Who concludes them? Opinion 2/15

ICS and MIC Compatible with EU Law? Opinion 1/17 (P)

Conclusion of new MS BITs Exception from CCP exclusivity Reg. 1219/2012 Correction of Opinion 2/15 Facultative mixity not 'dead' C-600/14 OTIF Intra-EU BITs Compatible with EU Law? C-284/16, Achmea

OPINION 2/15 – 'MIXITY'

No		Advocate General	CJEU	
1	Objectives and Definitions	Exclusive EU	Shared *	
2	Market Access for Goods	Exclusive EU	Exclusive EU	
3	Trade Remedies	Exclusive EU	Exclusive EU	
4	Technical Barriers to Trade	Exclusive EU	Exclusive EU	
5	Sanitary and Phytos. Measures	Exclusive FU	Exclusive EU	
6	Customs and Trade Facilitation	Ex clus ve 🚉	Exclusive EU	
7	Non-Tariff Barriers to Trade	Exclusive EU	Exclusive EU	
8	Services, Establishment and	Exclusive EU except	Exclusive EU	
	Electronic Commerce	air, maritime, inland water ways		
		transport (shared)		
9	Investment	Exclusive over FDI / ISDS except	Exclusive EU over FDI except	
	- Includes IP rights!	non-direct investment and ISDS	Non-direct investment and ISDS	
	BIT	related to it (shared)	(shared)	
		Termination of MS BIT excl. MS	Termination of MS BIT excl. EU if	
			covered by exclusive EU comp.	
	Government Procurement	Procur. for trans. services (shared)		
11	Intellectual Property	Exclusive except	Exclusive EU	
		non-commercial aspects of IP rights (stared)		
12	Competition and Related	Exclusive EU	Exclusive EU	
	Matters			
13	Trade and Sustainable	Some components shared while	Exclusive EU	
	Development	others exclusive		
14	Iransparency	snared *	snared *	
15	DS Between the Parties	Shared *	Shared *	
16	Mediation Mechanism	Shared *	Shared *	
		Sharea	onaroa	

C-284/16 SLOVAKIA V. ACHMEA

 Investor-state tribunals 'such as' the one under NL-SK intra-EU BIT 'incompatible' with EU law!!

Opinion 2/13

Autonomy of EU law

- Special features of EU law
- Mutual trust
- Removing cases from MS jurisdiction
- Art. 344 TFEU
- Art. 267 TFEU

WHAT EFFECTS ON IP PROTECTION (1)?

1. EFFECTS OF OP 2/15 ON THE CONCLUSION OF FT(I)As WITH IP PROTECTION

- IP Protection falls under EU Exclusive, External competences! (even non-commercial aspects)
- BIT 'split' from FTA: EU-Singapore, EU-Japan, EU-Australia will be two separate agreements
- IP chapter included in FTA \rightarrow no mixity (in principal)
- IP rights as 'investment' + ISDS/ICS included in 'split' BIT
 → mixity (in principal)

WHAT EFFECTS ON IP PROTECTION (2)?

2. EFFECTS ON JUDICIAL PROTECTION OF IP RIGHTS

• IP rights constitute 'investment' \rightarrow ISDS/ICS protection

However!

- The international judicial protection mechanism (ISDS/ICS) will not be found in the FTA, but the 'split' BITs → FTA leaves enforcement of IP chapter up to the parties.
- Split BITs fall under shared competence → potential problems with them coming into force, due to mixity
- ICS/ISDS might be incompatible with EU law (Opinion 1/17)

WHAT EFFECTS ON IP PROTECTION (3)?

 Intra-EU Member State BITs will need to be terminated: no protection of IP rights under them anymore

However

 Extra-EU Member State BITs still in force: protection of IP rights as 'investment' still possible

Compatible with EU Law?