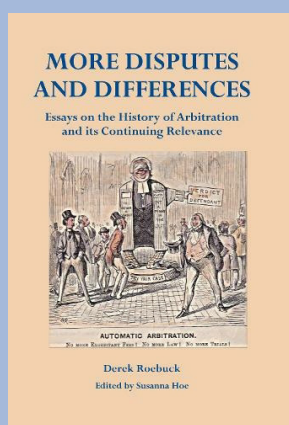

***MORE DISPUTES AND DIFFERENCES (2022) BY
DEREK ROEBUCK, EDITED BY SUSANNA HOE***

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Derek Roebuck (2022), edited by Susanna Hoe, *More Disputes and Differences: Essays on the History of Arbitration and its Continuing Relevance* is published by HOLO Books/Arbitration Press: Oxford in hardback, priced at £40 (retail) or £35/£37 online (UK/non-UK).

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This collection of essays, nearly all of which have already been published, on the history of arbitration by Derek Roebuck, was planned by the author, but put together by his long-time collaborator and wife, Susannah Hoe. The author's intention was to publish redrafted and updated versions of the essays, but this was not possible as a result of ill health. Hoe has kindly and cleverly republished the various chapters, lectures and articles under the generic categorization of "essays" and provided a helpful "Preface" explaining the background to the collection of papers. She has also done some updating of reference materials, provided a "Conclusion" that is very much located in the writing and thinking of Roebuck, and she has also compiled a very useful index. The essays may be seen as complementary to Roebuck's extensive work on the history of dispute resolution, especially his earlier book, published as *Disputes and Differences: Comparisons in Law, Language and History* (2010) and similarly dealing with important aspects of the history and development of arbitration (and to a lesser extent, mediation). The book will be very helpful to many scholars, offering as it does in one source (although in a wide range of prose styles) a substantial number of contributions originally published in a broad selection of sources, or which were unpublished.

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The essays focus on the nature and role of arbitration in several ways. Some concentrate on general issues in the arbitration process. Others look in particular at aspects of the history and development of arbitration in England, especially in London. Further essays are more comparative in nature, examining, for example, Scotland, Egypt, Malta and American colonists. There are also several essays dealing with issues of language, law and arbitration. The approach taken overall is one embedded in legal history and a reluctance to engage in a significant way with the discourses of alternative dispute resolution (ADR) and comparative legal studies, despite dealing with topics and issues that are often considered to fall within these fields. This gives the essays sometimes the exciting feel of a detective story, and certainly the reader will find many of the essays very engaging.

Roebuck enjoyed a long and varied academic career, and it was when he was founding Dean of City University Law School in Hong Kong in the late 1980s that his interest in arbitration and its history was established. Hong Kong was beginning to emerge at that time as a major centre for ADR, as a result of the massive construction work being carried out and its pivotal role in Asian trade and finance. Professor Roebuck remained there for a decade, but after leaving his work on arbitration continued. In due course he became editor and then emeritus editor of *Arbitration—The International Journal of Arbitration, Mediation and Dispute Management* (published by the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators in London, which also now hosts the annual Roebuck lecture on arbitration), and a Senior Research Fellow of the Institute of Advanced Legal Studies, University of London, where he located his History of Arbitration Project. This collection of *Essays on the History of Arbitration and its Continuing Relevance*, edited by Susanna Hoe, is a fitting and welcome tribute to Roebuck's work and influence.

About the author

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References

Roebuck, Derek. *Disputes and Differences, Comparisons in Law, Language and History*, edited by Susanna Hoe. Oxford: HOLO Books/The Arbitration Press, 2010.