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Dean Logan's Blog

Prof. Teitz Testifies on Suing Foreign Manufacturers to the Senate Judiciary Committee

Posted by David Logan on 05/28/2009 at 12:00 AM

One of the vexing problems associated with globalization is what to do when an American consumer is injured by a product manufactured by a foreign manufacturer. [Prof. Louise Ellen Teitz](#) recently testified on these complex issues before the [U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee](#), and she was a natural choice because she has taught and written about transnational litigation for over two decades. She has also represented the State Department at the [Hague Conference](#) in connection with the Jurisdiction and Judgments Convention, [The Choice of Court Convention](#), and the Conventions on Service of Process, Evidence, and Apostille. In her testimony, Prof. Teitz pointed out that US plaintiffs seeking compensation may not be able to enforce US judgments in the "home courts" of foreign businesses because of the lack of any treaty, and the resistance by foreign courts to the US jury system and damage awards including amounts for pain and suffering. She also pointed out the competitive disadvantage this imposes upon U.S. companies who are forced to pay judgments from U.S. courts, as well as in many circumstances, those rendered by courts in other countries. [Read the full text of her testimony](#) or [watch the video online](#).