

## PREFACE TO THE ENGLISH EDITION

Each book has its own history. This book, which it is hoped will be of interest to the English-speaking reader, was first written as a textbook for students of Soviet higher educational institutions in which private international law is taught, as well as for employees of various organizations who, in the course of their activities, are first confronted by the problems of what perhaps may be the most complicated field of jurisprudence. The materials in this book have been set forth in as concise a manner as possible, and primary attention has been devoted to highlighting Soviet legislation and international treaties of which the USSR is a party, as well as the norms of private international law which are applied by the Soviet state. This book has been published twice in the Soviet Union – in 1974 and in 1982.

It goes without saying that the concise nature of this book has been a prime factor in its selection for translation into English. Where possible, the author has sought to avoid the presentation of any disputed issues and has rather attempted to present the more recognized views of Soviet doctrines in this field.

The author hopes that in using this book the reader will gain an impression of the Soviet approach to private international law, the significance of which continues to grow in the contemporary world in light of the development of international cooperation.

By way of an addition to the Russian edition of 1982, new Soviet legislation and Soviet international treaty practice with a *status juris* of December 1986 has been included in the present work.

In conclusion, the author would like to express his gratitude to the Law Faculty of the University of Leyden which is one of the oldest in Europe, and to the USSR Copyright Agency for assistance in the publication of this book and, of course, to David Winter and William B. Simons for their efforts in the arduous task of translating this book into English.

*Mark M. Boguslavskii*  
Moscow, December 1986