



# Arbitration (Scotland) Act 2010

## 2010 asp 1

### *Introductory*

#### **1 Founding principles**

The founding principles of this Act are—

- (a) that the object of arbitration is to resolve disputes fairly, impartially and without unnecessary delay or expense,
- (b) that parties should be free to agree how to resolve disputes subject only to such safeguards as are necessary in the public interest,
- (c) that the court should not intervene in an arbitration except as provided by this Act.

Anyone construing this Act must have regard to the founding principles when doing so.

#### **Modifications etc. (not altering text)**

- C1** Ss. 1-15 excluded by 1962 c. 46, s. 74(6)(f) (as amended (5.6.2010) by [The Arbitration \(Scotland\) Act 2010 \(Consequential Amendments\) Order 2010 \(S.S.I. 2010/220\)](#), art. 1, [sch. para. 4\(2\)](#))
- C2** Ss. 1-15 excluded by 1949 c. 87, s. 67(4) (as amended (5.6.2010) by [The Arbitration \(Scotland\) Act 2010 \(Consequential Amendments\) Order 2010 \(S.S.I. 2010/220\)](#), art. 1, [sch. para. 2](#))
- C3** Ss. 1-15 excluded by 1977 c. 37, s. 130(8) (as amended (5.6.2010) by [The Arbitration \(Scotland\) Act 2010 \(Consequential Amendments\) Order 2010 \(S.S.I. 2010/220\)](#), art. 1, [sch. para. 5](#))
- C4** Ss. 1-15 excluded by 1992 c. 52, s. 263(6) (as amended (5.6.2010) by [The Arbitration \(Scotland\) Act 2010 \(Consequential Amendments\) Order 2010 \(S.S.I. 2010/220\)](#), art. 1, [sch. para. 6\(3\)](#))
- C5** Ss. 1-15 excluded by 1996 c. 17, s. 6(2) (as amended (5.6.2010) by [The Arbitration \(Scotland\) Act 2010 \(Consequential Amendments\) Order 2010 \(S.S.I. 2010/220\)](#), art. 1, [sch. para. 7](#))
- C6** Ss. 1-15 excluded by 1962 c. 46, s. 81(7) (as amended (5.6.2010) by [The Arbitration \(Scotland\) Act 2010 \(Consequential Amendments\) Order 2010 \(S.S.I. 2010/220\)](#), art. 1, [sch. para. 4\(3\)](#))
- C7** Ss. 1-15 excluded by 1961 c. 34, s. 171 (as amended (5.6.2010) by [The Arbitration \(Scotland\) Act 2010 \(Consequential Amendments\) Order 2010 \(S.S.I. 2010/220\)](#), art. 1, [sch. para. 3](#))
- C8** Ss. 1-15: power to exclude or restrict conferred by 2007 c. 15, Sch. 5 para. 14 (as amended (5.6.2010) by [The Arbitration \(Scotland\) Act 2010 \(Consequential Amendments\) Order 2010 \(S.S.I. 2010/220\)](#), art. 1, [sch. para. 8](#))
- C9** Ss. 1-15 excluded by 1949 c. 39, s. 8(2) (as amended (5.6.2010) by [The Arbitration \(Scotland\) Act 2010 \(Consequential Amendments\) Order 2010 \(S.S.I. 2010/220\)](#), art. 1, [sch. para. 1](#))

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- C10** Ss. 1-15 excluded by 1992 c. 52, s. 212(5) (as amended (5.6.2010) by [The Arbitration \(Scotland\) Act 2010 \(Consequential Amendments\) Order 2010 \(S.S.I. 2010/220\)](#), art. 1, [sch. para. 6\(2\)](#))
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#### Commencement Information

- I1** [S. 1](#) in force at 7.6.2010 for specified purposes by [S.S.I. 2010/195](#), [art. 2](#) (with [art. 3](#))

## 2 Key terms

- (1) In this Act, unless the contrary intention appears—
- “arbitration” includes—
- domestic arbitration,
  - arbitration between parties residing, or carrying on business, anywhere in the United Kingdom, and
  - international arbitration,
- “arbitrator” means a sole arbitrator or a member of a tribunal,
- “dispute” includes—
- any refusal to accept a claim, and
  - any other difference (whether contractual or not),
- “party” means a party to an arbitration,
- “rules” means the Scottish Arbitration Rules (see section 7), and
- “tribunal” means a sole arbitrator or panel of arbitrators.
- (2) References in this Act to “an arbitration”, “the arbitration” or “arbitrations” are references to a particular arbitration process or, as the case may be, to particular arbitration processes.
- (3) References in this Act to a tribunal conducting an arbitration are references to the tribunal doing anything in relation to the arbitration, including—
- making a decision about procedure or evidence, and
  - making an award.

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### 3 Seat of arbitration

- (1) An arbitration is “seated in Scotland” if—
  - (a) Scotland is designated as the juridical seat of the arbitration—
    - (i) by the parties,
    - (ii) by any third party to whom the parties give power to so designate, or
    - (iii) where the parties fail to designate or so authorise a third party, by the tribunal, or
  - (b) in the absence of any such designation, the court determines that Scotland is to be the juridical seat of the arbitration.
- (2) The fact that an arbitration is seated in Scotland does not affect the substantive law to be used to decide the dispute.

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**I2** [S. 3](#) in force at 7.6.2010 for specified purposes by [S.S.I. 2010/195](#), [art. 2](#) (with [art. 3](#))

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**Changes and effects yet to be applied to the whole Act associated Parts and Chapters:**

- Act applied (with modifications) (temp.) by [2014 c. 1 s. 16\(4\)](#)
- Act power to amend conferred by [2014 c. 1 s. 16\(5\)](#)