

THE VINDOBONA JOURNAL

OF INTERNATIONAL COMMERCIAL LAW AND ARBITRATION

VOLUME 26 ISSUE 2 (2022)

MOOT ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OF THE WILLEM C. VIS
INTERNATIONAL COMMERCIAL ARBITRATION MOOT

**Free Your Mind: Using the Matrix to Understand the CISG’s
Interaction with Non-Harmonised Australian Law**

Benjamin Hayward*

1 Introduction 98
2 What is The Matrix?.....101
3 The CISG and Non-Harmonised Australian Law.. 102
**4 Using The Matrix to Understand the CISG’s Interaction
with Non-Harmonised Australian Law 107**
5 Conclusion.....116

In 1999, cinemagoers were introduced to *The Matrix*: a film with a unique mythology spawning three movie sequels, multiple video game adaptations, and other related media across its franchise. In this article, I show that *The Matrix*’s mythology provides an excellent basis for understanding the interaction of the United Nations Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods with non-harmonised Australian law. This article explores that interaction, in light of this analogy, in order to better equip Australian lawyers to deal with the Convention and thereby assist their clients.

* Dr Benjamin Hayward is an Associate Professor in the Department of Business Law and Taxation at the Monash Business School, Monash University, Australia. Material presented in this article is current as of 6 September 2024. The author would like to thank the organisers of (and the attendees at) the 2021 Australasian Consumer Law Roundtable, held at the Sydney Law School via Zoom, where a work-in-progress version of this research was first presented. The author would also like to thank Rob Sutherland for his advice regarding my treatment of *The Matrix* franchise and other matters of language and style. Any errors remain the author’s own.