



## **White Papers on the Rule of Law: A Framework for Leadership and Action**

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Aaron Schildhaus is an international corporate and business lawyer specializing in commercial transactions, trade and finance. He has written and lectured on international relations, policy and trade throughout the U.S., Europe, Africa, the Middle East and Asia.

Mr. Schildhaus has extensive corporate and legal experience representing major multinational corporations, as well as small and medium-sized investors, based in Europe, the US and elsewhere, with respect to transnational corporate strategy, international sales and distribution, trans-border business alliances and joint ventures, and international transactions and trade in the US and abroad. He advises US and non-US entities on global corporate structuring, data protection matters in Europe, international money laundering, international anti-corruption, and US export control issues, and the design and implementation of corporate compliance programs relative to these and other areas of global business concerns.

For more than thirty-five years, Mr. Schildhaus has worked with Europe, specializing in corporate, transactional and trade matters, and with Africa specializing in privatization, legal reform and rule of law. For over fifteen years, he has worked with the United Nations Development Program, the World Bank and other institutions on a variety of legal reform projects, mostly in Africa covering more than 45 of its countries, Anglophone, Francophone and Lusophone. He has also worked on legal reform and business matters involving Asia, the Middle East, Latin America, Eastern and Central Europe, Russia and countries formerly members of the USSR.

Mr. Schildhaus has particular expertise in the international representation of non-governmental organizations based within and outside of the US. In addition to assisting them with their international strategy, he advises them on the structuring of their operations beyond their home countries, and provides general legal advice on all matters concerning their international activities.

Mr. Schildhaus was a member of the corporate law department of PepsiCo, Inc. for three years before moving to Paris in 1975, where he practiced for the next ten years. Mr. Schildhaus was founder and president of The International Business Law Firm and The European Business Law Firm, and was of counsel to the firm of Carlsmith Ball in its Washington, DC office. Since 1996, he has been in private practice in Washington, DC.

Mr. Schildhaus graduated with a J.D. degree from the Washington College of Law, American University. Mr. Schildhaus received his undergraduate education at the University of Vermont where he graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree.

Mr. Schildhaus is an active member of the District of Columbia Bar. He is a member of the Council, Administration Committee and Executive Committee, and is currently Vice Chair of the Section of International Law of the American Bar Association (ABA International), and has served as its Finance Officer, and Secretary and Liaison Officer. He was Division Chair for the Regional and Comparative Law Division. He has served as chair of the International Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO's) and Non-Profit Organizations, the International Aviation and Aerospace Law Committee, the Law Student and New Lawyer Outreach Committee, the International Service Industries Committee and the 2003 Spring Meeting of ABA International, and is currently ABA International's liaison to the CCBE. He was Deputy Head of Delegation of the ABA Delegation to the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg. He has been a member of the International Bar Association and of the Union Internationale des Avocats (UIA), serving as ABA Delegate to the UIA for eight years, and as US Vice President for six years. He is a member of the ABA's Dispute Resolution Section, Business Law Section, General Practice Division and Air and Space Law Forum.

Mr. Schildhaus speaks fluent French, and is conversant in German and Italian. His mother tongue is English.