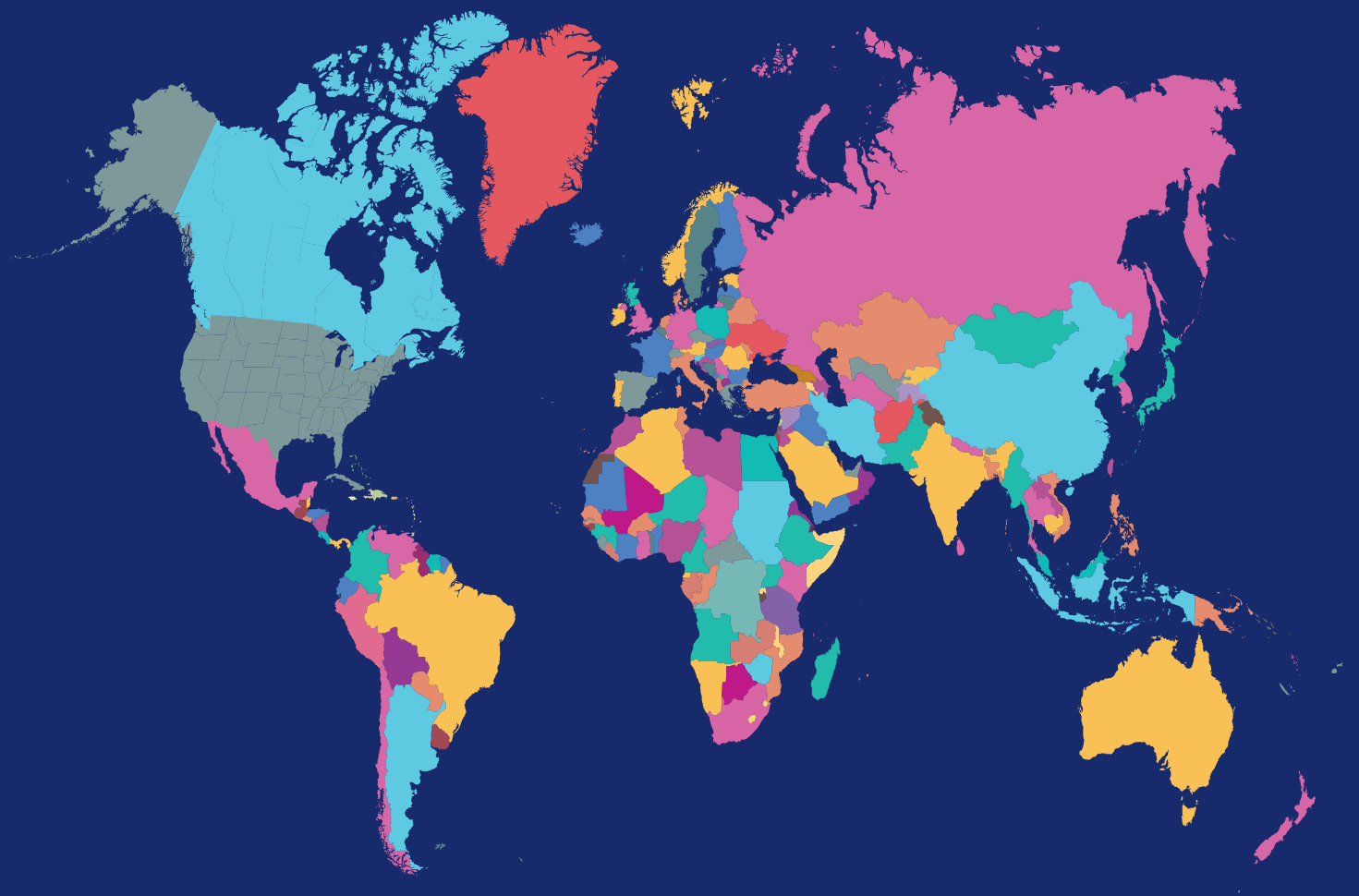


# World Atlas of Arbitration



Jurisdictional and institutional survey  
of international commercial arbitration

Edited by Roman Kramářík and Tomáš Král

2025 edition

**SAMPLE MAPS**

# World map of arbitral institutions and NYC/UML states



World Atlas of Arbitration  
2025 edition

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# Introduction and methodology

## Introduction

Welcome to the first edition of the *World Atlas of Arbitration*—a fresh and innovative addition to the landscape of arbitration publications. While the format may be new, we don’t claim full credit for inventing it. Our inspiration comes from the remarkable work of Professor Philip Wood and his *Maps of World Financial Law* (2008), which set a powerful precedent for global legal mapping. We also acknowledge the existence of other arbitration atlases—most of them regional in scope— and issue-specific maps that we encountered during the course of our research.

In the world of international arbitration, understanding the legal and cultural differences between jurisdictions is essential. These differences shape the perspectives of both parties and arbitrators and, if overlooked, can lead to surprises or even serious misunderstandings. The idea behind this Atlas was to create a tool that offers a global snapshot of key issues in international commercial arbitration—presented visually, in a way that makes complex data more accessible and comparative insights easier to grasp.

The *World Atlas of Arbitration* is a non-profit initiative, born out of our academic curiosity and professional enthusiasm for international commercial arbitration. The project was proudly sponsored by our law firm, JŠK, based in Prague, and made possible by a wide network of jurisdictional contributors from around the world.

We are especially grateful to Radim Bradáč, a junior lawyer at JŠK, whose tireless work in processing survey data was invaluable. We also extend our thanks to our outstanding student and admin team at JŠK for their behind-the-scenes support. Dissemination of the survey questionnaire was made possible with the help of ArbCEE, Vis Moot, Vis East and the Moot Alumni Association. We are also deeply appreciative of support from many professionals such as Louise Barrington, Alice Fremuth-Wolf, Ann Robertson, Emilia Onyema, Miroslav Dubovský, Martin Valasek and many others who helped amplify our call for participation.

This first edition of the *World Atlas of Arbitration* is both a beginning and an invitation: to explore, to compare and to continue deepening our collective understanding of international commercial arbitration around the globe.

## The annual jurisdictional survey

This Atlas is built on a comprehensive jurisdictional questionnaire developed over several years. Each arbitration case we’ve worked on—and many books and surveys we’ve consulted—has contributed to the growing list of questions we sought to answer.

In January 2025, we shared a draft of the survey with leading arbitration practitioners and academics worldwide to ensure its feasibility across jurisdictions. After refining it, we distributed the final version and invited broad participation through professional networks and social media. The survey closed in May 2025, with over 200 responses covering 105 jurisdictions. The full questionnaire is available at [www.ArbitrationAtlas.com](http://www.ArbitrationAtlas.com).

The result: a dataset of over 14,000 entries, each manually processed and transformed into the colour-coded maps that form the heart of this Atlas. We hope to complete the remaining jurisdictions in the 2026 edition.

All survey responses relate to the legal situation as at 1 January 2025.

## The methodology

Each map in this Atlas shows the original survey question and a legend explaining what each colour represents.

If a jurisdiction had only one respondent who either left a question unanswered or selected “not sure”, it appears on the map as “no jurisdictional input available”. When multiple respondents from the same jurisdiction disagreed and we couldn’t reconcile the differences, the jurisdiction is marked as “uncertain”.

Where possible, conflicting responses were manually resolved through desktop research, expert consultations, and, occasionally, the help of AI tools. While we aimed to provide the most accurate answers, these methods are inherently approximative. In such cases, the final call was ours—not that of the jurisdictional contributors.

Jurisdictions with no respondents are also marked as “no jurisdictional input available”.



## Some important warnings

### *Warning 1: No guarantee of accuracy.*

This Atlas is based on a survey, not on academic or empirical legal research. Even if it were, real-life disputes are often resolved in ways that defy expectations. Neither the editors nor the jurisdictional contributors can be held liable if the actual outcome in a given case differs from the information presented here.

### *Warning 2: Significant generalisation was unavoidable.*

Given the format of this Atlas, it was simply not possible to capture all the nuances and jurisdiction-specific details. The multiple-choice structure of the survey required us to phrase questions broadly and offer a limited set of answer options. Many contributors pointed out that none of the available answers fully reflected their jurisdiction's legal position. We did our best to offer a diverse and thoughtful set of options and will continue refining them in future editions.

Users should understand from the visual format alone that jurisdictional exceptions, conditions and qualifications likely apply in many cases.

### *Warning 3: Many answers are untested and subjective.*

A significant number of questions in the survey concern issues that have not yet been tested before national courts in most jurisdictions. As a result, many responses reflect the personal and professional opinions of the contributors—often just one per country. In jurisdictions with multiple respondents, we frequently observed fundamental disagreements between some great legal minds. These differences were an important reminder about the subjective nature of most of the maps in this Atlas.

As participation increases in future editions, we hope the reliability and consistency of the maps will improve accordingly.

## No geopolitical positions taken (disputed territories)

Some borders around the world remain subject to dispute. While we may hold personal views on these matters, this Atlas is not the forum for expressing them. For consistency and practicality, we have based the underlying maps on the official position of the Czech Republic, our home country.

This choice does not reflect the views or endorsement of the editors, the jurisdictional contributors or any affiliated institutions. It is a purely technical decision and should not be interpreted as taking a stance on any geopolitical issue.

## Arbitral institutions

In addition to national arbitration laws, this Atlas includes a few pages dedicated to arbitral institutions. These institutions play a vital role in international arbitration by providing the procedural structure and administrative support necessary for the efficient and fair resolution of cross-border disputes.

To compile this section, we began with a desktop survey of publicly available statistical data, along with an analysis and comparison of fee structures. Regarding the statistical data, we then reached out to the institutions themselves, inviting them to review and, if necessary, correct the collected data or provide further details. Many responded positively—some even shared additional information beyond what is publicly available. We sincerely commend this openness and hope our work encourages further transparency and data-sharing in the arbitration community.

We aimed to make the list of institutions shown—especially in institutional map on the front endpaper—as broad and representative as possible. However, the selection is not exhaustive; it reflects both practical considerations and a degree of editorial discretion. If you believe another institution should be included in future editions, we would be happy to hear from you.

## Comments and suggestions

As this is the first edition of the *World Atlas of Arbitration*, we recognise that there is room for improvement. If you believe a map should reflect a different result for your jurisdiction, or if you have feedback on any aspect of the Atlas—whether related to the survey questions, maps, arbitral institutions or anything else—please submit your comments at [www.ArbitrationAtlas.com](http://www.ArbitrationAtlas.com). We will review all submissions carefully and take them into account as we prepare the next edition.

## Our thanks to the jurisdictional contributors

This Atlas is the result of our spirit of inquiry and our desire to contribute something both practical and academically valuable to the arbitration community. None of it, however, would have been possible without the extraordinary dedication of our jurisdictional contributors.

The survey was neither short nor simple. While contributors were free to skip questions, many chose instead to invest considerable time and effort, often undertaking additional research to provide the most accurate answers possible. We are deeply grateful for their commitment.

A full list of contributors who agreed to have their names published appears at the end of this Atlas. To all of them, we extend our sincere thanks.

*Roman Kramařík and Tomáš Král*

## The editors

**JUDr. Roman Kramařík, Ph.D.** began his arbitration career as a stagiaire at the ICC in 1994. He later learned the art of professional advocacy in Big Law before leaving in 2004 to establish an independent Prague-based law firm, now known as JŠK. The firm has since grown into a respected full-service practice, where Roman remains a partner.

Roman acts regularly as both arbitrator and counsel. A pioneer by nature, he wrote his Ph.D. thesis on e-cash and e-commerce back in 1998. He drafted and won the first Czech anti-dumping application, created the first Czech stock option plan, prepared the first Czech concession agreement and helped resolve a shareholders' dispute by converting an oil refinery into several virtual processing refineries. Roman is an avid aviator and in 2018 became the first Czech pilot to solo circumnavigate the globe. No wonder he likes maps.

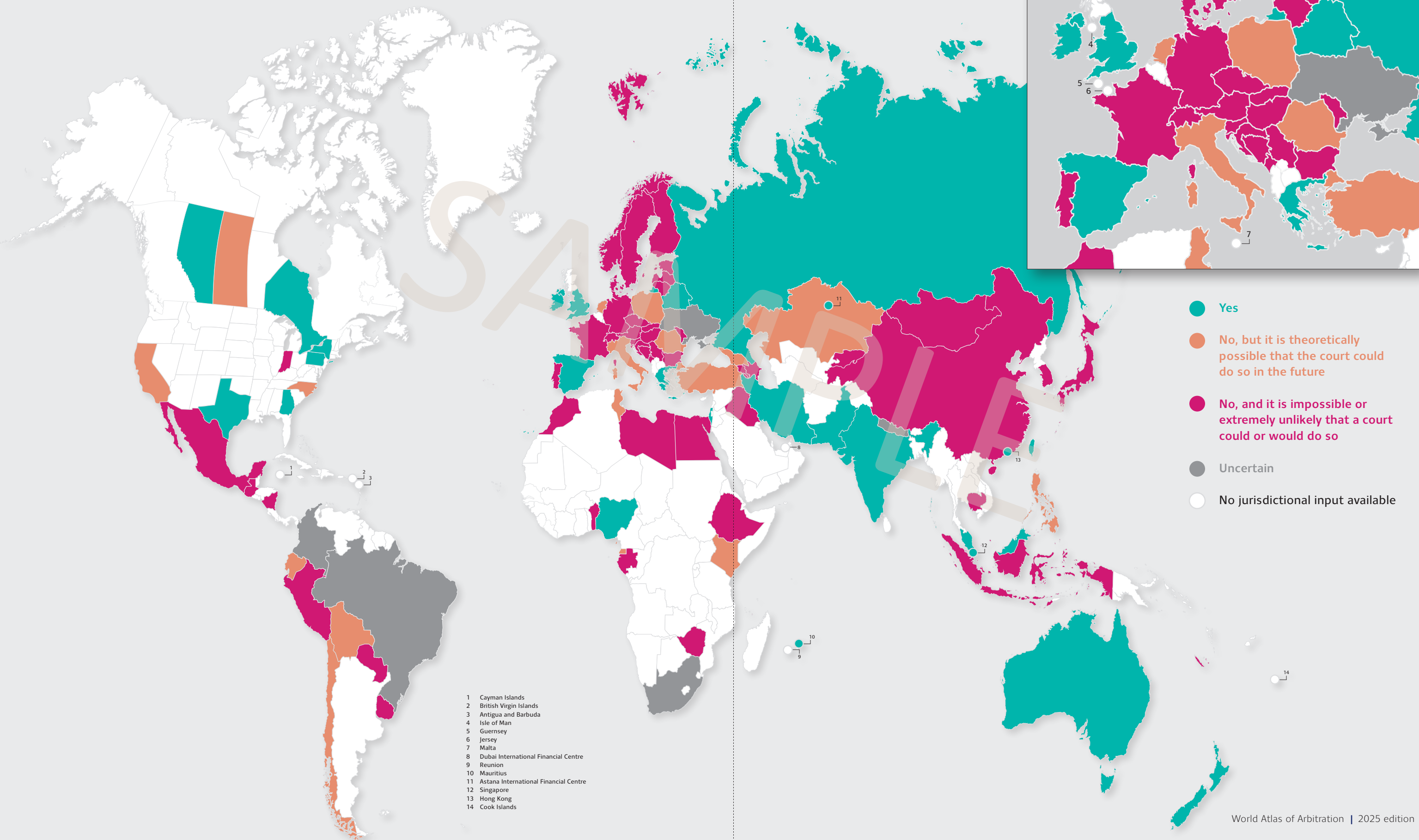


**JUDr. Tomáš Král** has always liked maps too—but ultimately chose law over geography. He earned his master's degree in law from Charles University in Prague (2014 – 2019), where he later completed his *rigorosum* (JUDr.). His legal education was enriched by several internships, most notably at the Court of Justice of the European Union in Luxembourg (in the cabinet of Advocate General Dr. Michal Bobek). In 2018, he also took part in the Exchange Program in International and Comparative Business Law at Bucerius Law School in Hamburg. It was there, in the classroom of Prof. Dr. Stefan Kröll, that he first discovered the field of international commercial arbitration.

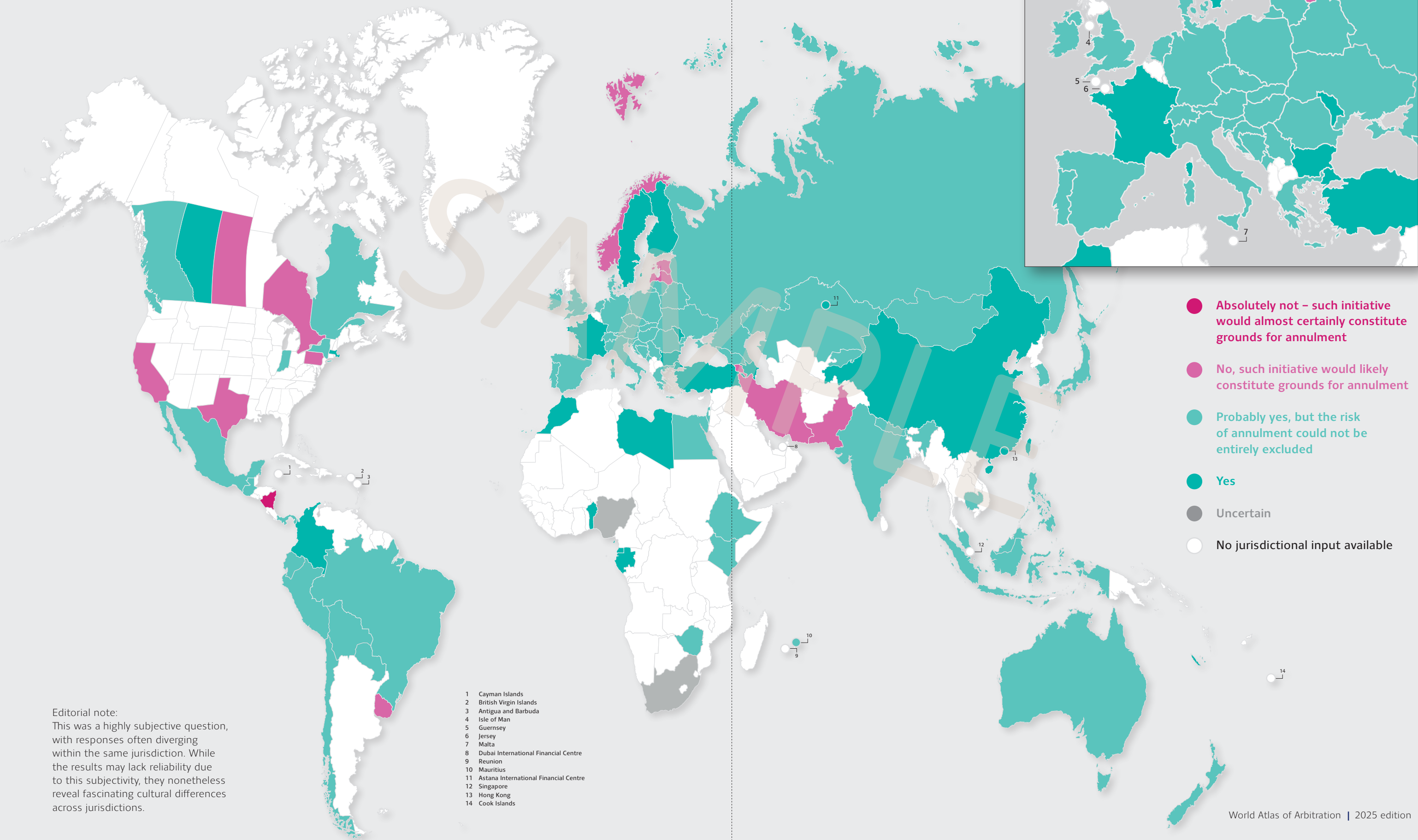
The “Doubting Tomáš” quickly turned theory into practice and is now a bar-admitted attorney at JŠK (alongside Roman), specialising in dispute resolution, including arbitration—both as counsel and tribunal secretary. In addition to domestic arbitration, his work focuses primarily on proceedings under the ICC Arbitration Rules.



# 4. **Anti-suit injunctions:** Has it ever been reported that a court in your jurisdiction has issued an injunction prohibiting a respondent from initiating court or arbitral proceedings in another jurisdiction?



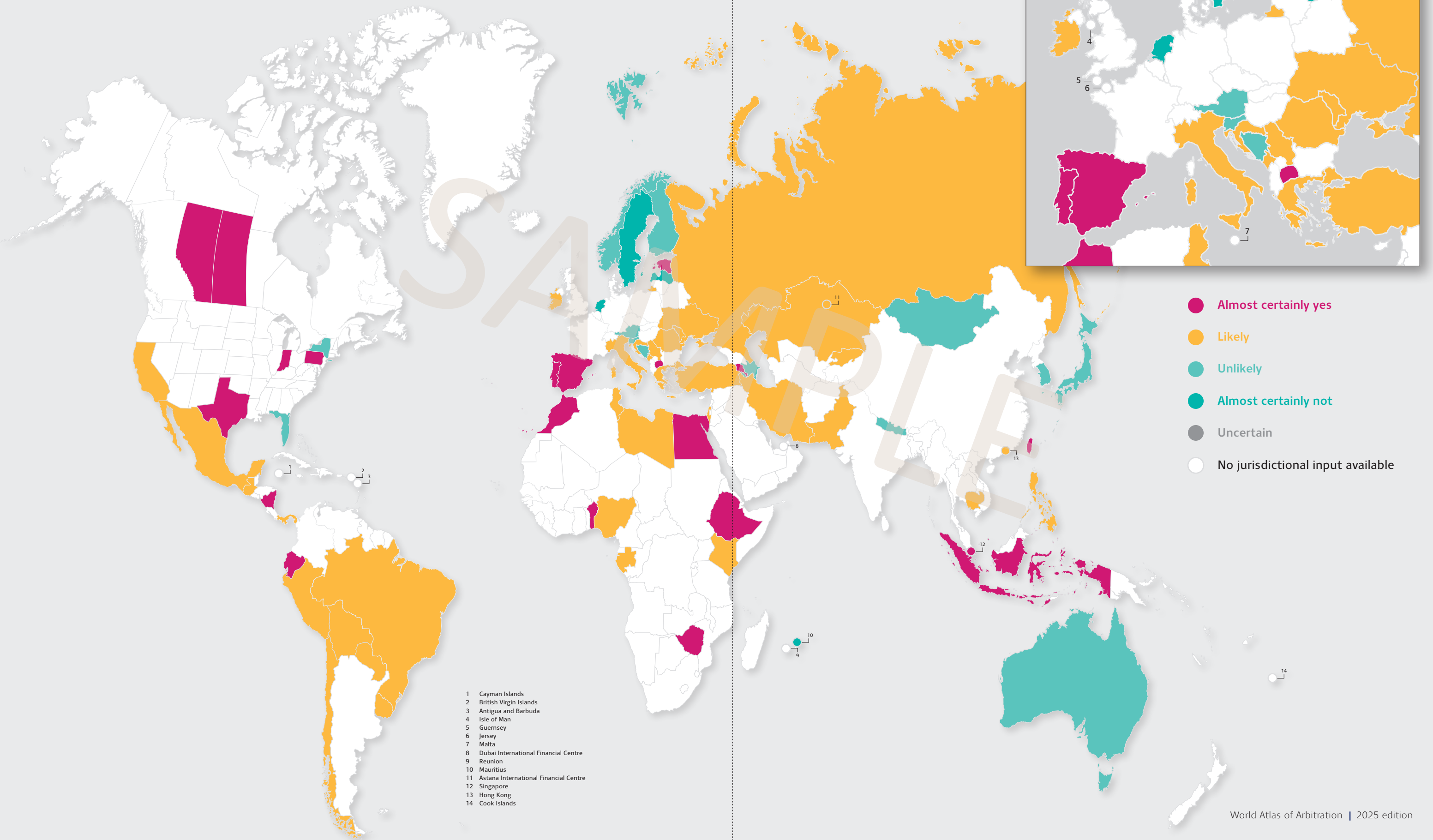
# 15. **Public domain evidence:** Can arbitrators, on their own initiative, refer to or search public domain sources and use them as evidence, provided they inform the parties and allow them to comment or make submissions? It is understood that this is not a widespread practice, and that answering “yes” does not imply any endorsement of such practice.



Editorial note:  
This was a highly subjective question, with responses often diverging within the same jurisdiction. While the results may lack reliability due to this subjectivity, they nonetheless reveal fascinating cultural differences across jurisdictions.



# 21. Use of illegally obtained evidence (annulment): Can an arbitral award be annulled if it is based on illegally obtained evidence? Disregard the specific type or nature of the illegality and assume that any commonly recognised form (e.g. stolen documents, breach of confidentiality) would trigger this question, regardless of where the illegality occurred.





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SAMPLE

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"An excellent and comprehensive overview of international arbitration law in the world's leading arbitral seats – invaluable for practitioners and others."

**Gary Born**

"An excellent tool to show parties, legislators, as well as students, at one view how an important question is regulated in a particular jurisdiction and what the prevailing international trend is. Extremely useful, and I am already looking forward to the next editions, where hopefully only a few white spots will remain on the maps."

**Stefan Kröll**

