
CONTENTS

Foreword	v
List of Abbreviations	xvii
Table of Cases.....	xxiii
Table of Primary Japanese PIL Legal Sources.....	xxxv
1. Introduction	1
I. The Subject Matter of Japanese Private International Law	1
II. Sources of Private International Law	1
A. Major National Legislation.....	1
B. International Agreements or Conventions.....	2
C. Case Law or Court Decisions.....	3
D. <i>Jori</i> and Scholarly Writing	3
III. History of Private International Law in Japan.....	3
IV. Preliminary Matters	5
A. Uniform Substantive Laws.....	5
B. Basics of Japanese Choice of Law Rules.....	7
C. Characterisation.....	8
D. Types of Japanese Choice of Law Rules	8
E. Types of Reference.....	9
F. Incidental Question	11
G. Adaptation	12
H. <i>Dépeçage</i>	12
I. <i>Renvoi</i> and Transmission	13
V. Connecting Factors	13
A. Nationality	14
B. Domicile.....	16
C. Habitual Residence	16
D. Other Connecting Factors	17
VI. Substance and Procedure	17
VII. Proof, Ascertainment and Application of Foreign Law	18
VIII. Mandatory Rules, <i>ordre public</i> , Escape Clause and Evasion of Law	20
A. Mandatory Rules.....	20
B. <i>Ordre public</i> or Public Policy.....	22
C. Escape Clause	24
D. Evasion of Law (<i>fraus legis</i>)	24
2. Jurisdiction	26
I. General Principles	26
A. Overview/Legal Sources	26

B.	General Principles and Framework	26
C.	Service of Process	30
i.	Service of Process Outside Japan	30
ii.	Service of Foreign Proceedings in Japan	33
D.	Taking Evidence Abroad or in Japan	34
i.	Taking Evidence Abroad for Use in Japanese Proceedings	34
ii.	Taking Evidence in Japan for Use in Foreign Proceedings	35
II.	Civil and Commercial Matters	37
A.	General Rules	37
i.	Defendant's Domicile	37
ii.	<i>Forum non conveniens</i>	38
iii.	<i>Lis alibi pendens</i>	40
iv.	Anti-Suit Injunctions	42
v.	Interim Measures	43
vi.	Choice of Court Agreements	44
vii.	Submission	47
viii.	Exclusive Jurisdiction	47
ix.	Plurality of Parties or Claims	49
B.	Special Rules	50
i.	Law of Obligations	50
a.	Contract	50
Introduction	50	
Place of Performance Jurisdiction	50	
Situs of Property Jurisdiction	52	
Branch Office Jurisdiction	54	
Business Activities Jurisdiction	54	
Consumer and Employment Contracts	55	
Other Types of Contract	57	
b.	Tort	57
c.	Unjust Enrichment	61
d.	Trusts and Charitable Foundations	61
ii.	Law of Property	63
a.	Immovable Property	63
b.	Intangible Property	63
c.	Intellectual Property	64
iii.	Law of Corporations	66
III.	Status and Family Matters	67
A.	General Part	67
i.	Jurisdictional Rules in PSLA	67
a.	Introduction	67
b.	Previous Case Law	67
c.	2018 Amendments of PSLA	68
d.	Defendant's Domicile	69
e.	Last Common Domicile	70
f.	Common Nationality	70
g.	Plaintiff's Domicile	71

h.	Joinder of Claims	72
i.	Special Circumstances Test	73
j.	International Parallel Proceedings	74
k.	Choice of Court Agreements and Submission.....	74
ii.	Jurisdictional Rules in Domestic Relations (DRPCA and AGRAL)	75
a.	Introduction	75
b.	Conciliation.....	75
c.	Special Circumstances Test	76
d.	Remaining Jurisdictional Rules in AGRAL.....	77
B.	Capacity and Protective Measures	77
i.	Disappearance	77
ii.	Protection of Adults	78
iii.	Protection of Minors	79
iv.	Contractual Guardianship	80
C.	Matrimonial Matters.....	80
i.	Patrimonial Effects of Marriage.....	80
ii.	Divorce, Nullity and Separation	81
D.	Matters Relating to the Wellbeing of the Child.....	82
i.	Introduction	82
a.	Adoption	83
b.	Dissolution of Adoptive Filiation by Death	84
c.	Dissolution of Full Adoption	84
d.	Appointment of a Guardian of Minors.....	85
e.	Parental Authority and Custody	86
f.	Child Support.....	87
E.	Succession	88
IV.	Other Matters	91
A.	Insolvency Law	91
B.	Competition Law	92
C.	Jurisdiction in Shipping Claims	94
i.	Jurisdiction of the Japanese Court.....	94
ii.	The Process of Ship Arrest in Japan	95
V.	Immunities from Jurisdiction	95
A.	Sovereign Immunity	95
B.	State-Owned Enterprises (SOEs)	97
3.	Choice of Law	100
I.	Persons	100
A.	Natural Persons	100
i.	Legal Capacity to Act	100
ii.	Protection of Adults	101
iii.	Disappearance	101
iv.	Name	102
B.	Corporations and Other Entities	103
i.	Choice of Law Rule and Incorporation Theory	103

ii.	Scope of the <i>lex societatis</i>	104
iii.	Regulation by Japanese Substantive Law	106
II.	Law of Obligations	107
A.	Contracts	107
i.	Governing Law of a Contract	107
a.	Contracts and Unilateral Juristic Acts	107
b.	Modalities of Choice of Law	107
c.	Explicit or Implicit Intent of the Parties	108
d.	Objective Connecting Factor	109
e.	Scope of Application of the Law Governing the Contract	110
ii.	Ascertainment and Application of the Governing Law	110
iii.	Formal Validity	110
iv.	Material Validity	111
v.	Capacity	111
vi.	Overriding Mandatory Rules	111
B.	Specific Contracts	112
i.	Consumer Contracts	112
a.	Party Autonomy and Consumer Protection	112
Objective Connecting Factor	113	
Substantive Scope of Application	113	
Personal Scope of Application: Passive Consumer	114	
Formal Requirements	114	
ii.	Employment Contracts	115
a.	Definition of Employment Contracts	115
b.	Employee Protection	115
Closest Connection	115	
Objective Connecting Factor	115	
iii.	Insurance Contracts	116
iv.	Contracts for the Sale of Immovable Property	116
v.	Contracts for the Sale of Goods	117
vi.	Contracts for the Hire of Goods	117
vii.	Contracts for the Carriage of Goods by Sea, Air or Land	117
viii.	Negotiable Instruments	118
ix.	Letters of Credit	119
x.	Contracts Involving the Transfer of Foreign Currency	120
xi.	Agency	122
C.	Torts	123
i.	Governing Law in Tort Generally	123
a.	General Principles	123
b.	Specific Torts	124
c.	Escape Clause	125
d.	Party Autonomy	125
e.	Double Actionability	126
ii.	Specific Torts	127
a.	Product Liability	127
Law Governing the Product Liability	127	
Scope of Application	128	

b.	Defamation.....	129
	General Remarks	129
	Remedies.....	129
	Scope of Application	130
c.	Other Specific Torts.....	130
	Private Nuisance	130
	Interference with Goods	130
	Environmental Damage	131
	Unfair Competition.....	131
D.	Unjust Enrichment and <i>negotiorum gestio</i>	133
E.	Trusts and Charitable Foundations	133
F.	Change and Extinction of Obligations	135
i.	Voluntary Assignment of Receivables.....	135
a.	General Remarks	135
b.	AGRAL Article 23	136
c.	Assignment Contract and Proprietary Effects.....	137
ii.	Statutory Transfer of Receivables.....	138
iii.	Pledged Receivables.....	138
iv.	Debt Assumption	139
v.	Subrogation by Creditor	139
vi.	Fraudulent Conveyance (<i>action paulienne</i>).....	140
vii.	Set-Off	141
III.	Law of Property.....	142
A.	Governing Law of Property	142
i.	General Rule.....	142
a.	<i>Res in transitu</i>	142
b.	Means of Transport	143
c.	Securities Held with an Intermediary.....	144
B.	Rights <i>in rem</i>	144
C.	Security Rights.....	145
D.	Acquisition and Loss of Rights <i>in rem</i>	146
E.	Expropriation.....	147
IV.	Intellectual Property.....	148
A.	General Remarks.....	148
i.	Registered Intellectual Property Rights	148
ii.	Copyright and Other Non-Registered Rights.....	149
iii.	Transfer and Licence Contracts and Infringements.....	150
a.	Employee's Invention.....	151
b.	Infringement of Intellectual Property	152
c.	Patent Infringement	153
d.	Trademark Infringement	155
e.	Copyright Infringement.....	155
f.	Legal Basis <i>de lege lata</i>	157
g.	Specificities of IPRs Infringement on the Internet.....	157
V.	Family and Succession Law	158
A.	Marriage	158
i.	Substantive Validity	158

ii.	Formal Validity	159
iii.	Same-Sex Marriages and Civil Unions	161
a.	State of Discussion Worldwide	161
b.	Japanese Substantive Law	161
c.	Choice of Law Rules for Same-Sex Marriage	162
d.	Choice of Law Rules for Civil Unions of Registered Partnerships.....	163
B.	Effects of Marriage	163
i.	Personal Effects	163
a.	Choice of Law Rule.....	163
b.	Substantive Scope of Application	164
ii.	Matrimonial Property Regimes and Maintenance Obligations.....	165
a.	Principle.....	165
b.	Party Autonomy.....	166
c.	Third-Party Protection.....	166
d.	Scope of Application	167
C.	Matrimonial Causes.....	167
i.	Divorce and Separation.....	167
a.	Principally Applicable Law.....	167
b.	'Japanese Spouse' Clause	168
c.	Formal Validity	169
d.	Scope of Application	169
e.	Legal Separation.....	171
ii.	Financial Relief.....	171
D.	Children	172
i.	Legal Parentage and Legitimation	173
a.	Introduction	173
b.	Legitimate Legal Parentage.....	173
c.	Illegitimate Legal Parentage	174
General Remarks	174	
Choice of Law Rules	174	
Other Issues.....	175	
Legitimation	175	
ii.	Adoption	176
a.	General Remarks	176
b.	Principal Choice of Law Rules	177
c.	Safeguard Clause.....	178
d.	Formality and Procedure of Adoption.....	178
e.	Dissolution of Adoption	179
iii.	Parental Responsibility and Guardianship	179
a.	General Remarks	179
b.	Scope of Application	180
iv.	Child Support.....	181
v.	Child Abduction	182
a.	1980 Hague Child Abduction Convention (HCAC)	182
b.	Implementation of HCAC in Japan.....	183

c.	Central Authority of Japan (JCA).....	183
d.	Return Proceedings.....	184
e.	Grounds for Return.....	185
f.	Grounds for Refusal.....	186
g.	Enforcement of a Return Order.....	189
h.	Change of Circumstances.....	190
i.	Non-Convention Cases.....	191
E.	Protection of Adults and Minors.....	192
i.	General Remarks.....	192
ii.	Guardianship etc of Adults.....	192
iii.	Guardianship etc of Minors.....	193
F.	Succession.....	193
i.	Choice of Law Rule.....	193
ii.	Scope of Application.....	194
iii.	Range of Estates.....	194
iv.	Transfer of Estates.....	195
v.	Administration of Estates.....	196
vi.	Absence of Heirs.....	196
G.	Wills.....	197
i.	Substantive Validity and Effects of Wills.....	197
ii.	Revocation of Wills.....	198
iii.	Probate.....	198
iv.	Formal Requirements.....	199
VI.	Insolvency Law.....	200
VII.	Competition Law.....	201
A.	Contracts.....	201
B.	Torts.....	201
4.	Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Judgments.....	204
I.	Recognition.....	204
A.	General Principles and Overview.....	204
B.	Recognition under Bilateral, Multilateral Treaties and Conventions.....	206
C.	Recognition under National Laws.....	206
i.	Final and Binding Judgment.....	206
ii.	Indirect Jurisdiction.....	208
iii.	Proper Service of Process.....	210
iv.	Public Policy.....	211
v.	Reciprocity.....	214
vi.	Recognition for the Purpose of Establishing <i>res judicata</i> and issue estoppel.....	217
vii.	Interlocutory Judgments.....	217
D.	Different Categories of Judgment.....	217
i.	Persons.....	218
a.	Natural Persons.....	218
b.	Corporations or Legal Persons.....	219

ii.	Law of Obligations.....	219
a.	Judgments Relating to Specific Contracts	219
b.	Judgments Relating to Specific Torts	220
c.	Judgments Relating to Unjust Enrichment	221
d.	Judgments Relating to Trust and Charitable Foundations	221
iii.	Law of Property.....	221
a.	Judgments Relating to Immovable Property.....	221
b.	Judgments Relating to Intangible Property.....	221
iv.	Intellectual Property.....	222
v.	Family Law.....	222
a.	Decrees Relating to Maintenance Obligations.....	223
b.	Decrees of Divorce, Nullity and Separation.....	223
c.	Judgments Relating to Parentage and Parental Responsibility	224
	Legal Parentage	224
	Adoption.....	225
	Parental Responsibility.....	225
d.	Judgments Relating to Succession	226
vi.	Competition Law.....	226
II.	Enforcement of Judgments	227
A.	Means of Enforcing Judgments in Japan.....	227
B.	Procedures for Enforcing Judgments	227
III.	Recognition of Foreign Insolvency Proceedings	229
5.	Arbitration and Mediation	232
I.	International Commercial Arbitration	232
A.	Overview in Japan.....	232
B.	Jurisdiction of the Arbitral Tribunal.....	235
i.	Arbitration Agreement	235
ii.	Arbitrability of Disputes	236
iii.	Types of Arbitration Agreement.....	236
C.	Choice of Law	236
i.	Validity of an Arbitration Agreement.....	237
ii.	Effects of an Arbitration Agreement.....	238
iii.	Arbitrability of Disputes	238
iv.	Arbitration Proceedings	239
v.	Merits of the Case	239
D.	Setting Aside of Arbitral Awards	240
i.	Grounds for Setting Aside.....	240
ii.	Procedural Issues	241
iii.	Conflict of Interests	242
iv.	Public Policy.....	243
E.	Recognition and Enforcement of Arbitral Awards.....	244
i.	Legal Sources.....	244
ii.	Grounds for Refusal	246

II.	Investment Treaty Arbitration	248
A.	Overview	248
B.	Jurisdiction of the Arbitral Tribunal.....	253
C.	Choice of Law	253
D.	Recognition and Enforcement of Arbitral Awards.....	254
III.	Mediation.....	255
A.	Overview	255
B.	Jurisdiction of the Mediators.....	256
C.	Choice of Law	256
D.	Legal Effects of Mediated Settlement Agreements	256
	i. Settlement Agreements under Domestic Law	256
	ii. Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Settlement Agreements.....	257
6.	The Harmonisation of Private International Law.....	258
I.	Japan's Role in the Work of the HCCH, UNCITRAL, UNIDROIT and Other Organisations	258
II.	The Future of Private International Law.....	260
	<i>Selected Bibliography</i>	<i>263</i>
	<i>Glossary of Basic Technical Terms</i>	<i>270</i>
	<i>Index.....</i>	<i>273</i>