

Insolvency close-out netting: A comparative study of English, French and US laws in a global perspective

Muscat, B.

Citation

Muscat, B. (2020, December 1). *Insolvency close-out netting: A comparative study of English, French and US laws in a global perspective. Meijers-reeks*. Retrieved from https://hdl.handle.net/1887/138478

Version: Publisher's Version

License: License agreement concerning inclusion of doctoral thesis in the

Institutional Repository of the University of Leiden

Downloaded from: https://hdl.handle.net/1887/138478

Note: To cite this publication please use the final published version (if applicable).

Cover Page



Universiteit Leiden



The handle http://hdl.handle.net/1887/138478 holds various files of this Leiden University dissertation.

Author: Muscat, B.

Title: Insolvency Close-out Netting: A comparative study of English, French and US laws

in a global perspective **Issue Date**: 2020-12-01

Insolvency Close-out Netting:

A comparative study of English, French and US laws in a global perspective



Insolvency Close-out Netting

A comparative study of English, French and US laws in a global perspective

PROEFSCHRIFT

ter verkrijging van de graad van Doctor aan de Universiteit Leiden, op gezag van Rector Magnificus prof. mr. C.J.J.M. Stolker, volgens besluit van het College voor Promoties te verdedigen op dinsdag 1 december 2020 klokke 15.00 uur

door

Bernadette Gatt

geboren te Mosta, Malta

in 1970

Promotoren: prof. dr. M. Haentjens

prof. dr. B. Wessels

Promotiecommissie: prof. dr. R.D. Vriesendorp

prof. dr. W.A.K. Rank

prof. dr. S. Schwarcz (Duke University, Durham, USA) prof. dr. P. Moffatt (Nottingham Trent University, UK) dr. S. Praicheux (Panthéon-Sorbonne University, Paris,

France)

Lay-out: AlphaZet prepress, Bodegraven Printwerk: Ipskamp Printing

© 2020 B. Muscat

Behoudens de in of krachtens de Auteurswet van 1912 gestelde uitzonderingen mag niets uit deze uitgave worden verveelvoudigd, opgeslagen in een geautomatiseerd gegevensbestand of openbaar gemaakt, in enige vorm of op enige wijze, hetzij elektronisch, mechanisch, door fotokopieën, opnamen of enig andere manier, zonder voorafgaande schriftelijke toestemming van de auteur.

No part of this book may be reproduced in any form, by print, photoprint, microfilm or any other means without written permission of the author.

Acknowledgements

My deep gratitude goes foremost to my two esteemed Supervisors, Professor Matthias Haentjens and Professor Bob Wessels, for placing their trust in me and accepting to supervise my research. Not only have they enriched the quality of my research with their expert guidance and professional mentoring, but their support and encouragement were instrumental for its finalisation during difficult times.

My sincere acknowledgements go also to the honourable Members of the Ph.D. Committee: Professor R.D. Vriesendorp (Secretary), Professor W.A.K. Rank, Professor S. Schwarcz, Professor P. Moffatt and Dr. S. Praicheux for assessing my manuscript and providing valued comments to enhance my research. I further thank Professors Schwarcz and Moffatt, and Dr. Praicheux for ensuring that a correct understanding of national laws is portrayed in the respective national law chapters.

My special thanks to the administrative staff of the Leiden Law School, in particular to Ms. Esmé ten Donkelaar and her colleagues, for guiding me throughout the administrative process and assisting me in the many questions I had during the course of my research, to the staff at the Meijers Institute for their kind collaboration in the publication of this manuscript and to Mr. Peter Bakker and Ms. Elly Colijn for preparing the layout of the text.

Further acknowledgements go to the management and staff of the Law Library of the European Central Bank for allowing me to make use of their library facilities.

Finally, my personal thanks go to my family to whom I dedicate this manuscript: my husband and daughter, and my beloved departed parents who unfortunately passed away during the course of my research. I owe a lot to the encouraging words of my late father to persist in achieving this lifelong aspiration.

Table of Contents

Ac	KNOV	VLEDGEMENTS	V		
Lis	T OF	Acronyms	XI		
Int	RODI	UCTION	1		
	Intr	oduction to the Notion of Insolvency Close-out Netting	1		
	A	Research Methodology	6		
		A.1 Research Question	6		
		A.2 Origins of the Common and Civil Law Systems	8		
		A.3 Definition of Lex Mercatoria	11		
		A.4 Methodology	14		
	В	Structure of the Research	16		
	C	Importance of the Research Question	17		
Раг	кт I	Introductory Chapters: Close-out Netting,			
		Insolvency Law and Global Perspectives	19		
1	Inti	roduction to Close-out Netting	21		
	1.1	Understanding Close-out Netting and the Various Netting			
		Techniques	21		
		1.1.1 The Constitutive Elements of Close-out Netting	31		
		1.1.2 Close-out Netting Provisions in Master Agreements	34		
		1.1.2.1 2002 ISDA Master Agreement	35		
		1.1.2.2 2011 Global Master Repurchase Agreement	38		
	1.2	Evolution from the Concept of Set-off	39		
		1.2.1 Historical Origins of Set-off	41		
	1.3	Preliminary Conclusions	47		
2	Inti	roduction to Insolvency and Close-out Netting	51		
	2.1	Close-out Netting and its Treatment under Insolvency Law	51		
	2.2	2.1.1 Derogations from Insolvency Law Principles Credit Institutions, Resolution Measures and Financial	52		
		Stability	56		
	2.3		58		

VIII Table of Contents

3	Inti	Introduction to Lex Mercatoria and Close-out Netting				
	3.1	1 Lex Mercatoria and the Development of Close-out Netting				
	3.2	1				
		Markets	61			
		3.2.1 Early International Reports on the Netting Process	62			
		3.2.2 Netting in the Aftermath of the Financial Crisis	65			
		3.2.3 Private Industry Initiatives	66			
		3.2.4 EU Legislative Developments	68			
	3.3	The Regulation of Close-out Netting Provisions under				
		EU Law	73			
		3.3.1 The Financial Collateral Directive	73			
		3.3.1.1 Regulation of Close-out Netting Provisions	75			
		3.3.2 The Bank Recovery and Resolution Directive	78			
		3.3.2.1 Limitations on the Exercise of Close-out				
		Netting Rights	80			
	3.4	Preliminary Conclusions	86			
		•				
Pa	rt II	NATIONAL CLOSE-OUT NETTING REGIMES	89			
4	Insc	nsolvency Close-out Netting under English Law				
	4.1	Overview of the Regulation of Insolvency Close-out Netting				
		under English Law	91			
	4.2	Constitutive Elements of Insolvency Close-out Netting	99			
		4.2.1 Insolvency Set-off under English Law	105			
		4.2.2 Insolvency Close-out Netting and Insolvency Set-off Compared				
	4.3	The Recognition of Close-out Netting Provisions Before and				
	1.0	After the Adoption of a Bank Resolution Regime	116			
	4.4	Rationale of English Insolvency Law	123			
		4.4.1 Principles Upheld by English Insolvency Law	125			
		4.4.2 Effect of State Goals on English Insolvency Law	129			
	4.5	Preliminary Conclusions	130			
	1.0	Tremmary Concrasions	100			
5	Insc	DIVENCY CLOSE-OUT NETTING UNDER FRENCH LAW	133			
	5.1	Overview of the Regulation of Insolvency Close-out Netting				
		under French Law	133			
	5.2	Constitutive Elements of Insolvency Close-out Netting	140			
		5.2.1 Insolvency Set-off under French Law	145			
		5.2.2 Insolvency Close-out Netting and Insolvency Set-off				
	5.3	The Recognition of Close-out Netting Provisions Before and				
		After the Adoption of a Bank Resolution Regime	156			
	5.4	Rationale of French Insolvency Law	164			
		5.4.1 Principles Upheld by French Insolvency Law	166			
		5.4.2 Effect of State Goals on French Insolvency Law	169			
	5.5	Preliminary Conclusions	172			

Table of Contents	IX
-------------------	----

6	Inso	lvency Close-Out netting under US Law	177				
	6.1	6.1 Overview of the Regulation of Insolvency Close-out Netting under US Law					
	6.2		177 181				
	0.2	Constitutive Elements of Insolvency Close-out Netting	188				
		6.2.1 Insolvency Set-off under US Law	100				
	()	6.2.2 Insolvency Close-out Netting and Insolvency Set-off					
	6.3	The Recognition of Close-out Netting Provisions Before and	107				
	<i>(</i> 1	After the Adoption of a Bank Resolution Regime	197				
	6.4	Rationale of US Insolvency Law	204				
		6.4.1 Principles Upheld by US Insolvency Law	207				
	. -	6.4.2 Effect of State Goals on US Insolvency Law	210				
	6.5	Preliminary Conclusions	213				
Рат	эт III	Comparative Analysis and the Influence of the					
IAI	(1 111	LEGAL SYSTEMS	219				
		LEGAL JISTEMS	21)				
7	Сом	PARATIVE ANALYSIS OF THE CLOSE-OUT NETTING REGIMES OF					
	Engi	land, France and the US	221				
	7.1	Uniformity of the Close-out Netting Concept	221				
		7.1.1 Constitutive Elements of Close-out Netting	222				
		7.1.2 Scope of Application	229				
	7.2	Relationship with Set-off	234				
		7.2.1 Scope for Contractual Enhancement	234				
		7.2.2 Recognition 'In Accordance With Its Terms'	243				
	7.3	Fulfilment of State Insolvency Goals	252				
		7.3.1 Congruence with State Insolvency Goals	252				
		7.3.2 Effect of Resolution Measures	262				
	7.4	Preliminary Conclusions					
8		Influence of the Legal Systems on the Recognition of					
		se-out Netting Provisions	273				
	8.1	1					
		Netting Regimes	273				
	8.2	The Role and Development of Set-off Within the Legal					
		Systems	275				
	8.3	Tracing the Link between Set-off, Close-out Netting and					
		Legal Systems	282				
		8.3.1 English Law	283				
		8.3.1.1 Relationship with Set-off	283				
		8.3.1.2 Scope of Application	284				
		8.3.1.3 Recognition 'In Accordance With Its Terms'	285				
		8.3.1.4 Congruence with State Insolvency Goals	288				
		8.3.2 French Law	289				
		8.3.2.1 Relationship with Set-off	290				
		8.3.2.2 Scope of Application	291				

X Table of Contents

			8.3.2.3	Recognition 'In Accordance With Its Terms'	293
			8.3.2.4	Congruence with State Insolvency Goals	295
		8.3.3	US Lav	v	296
			8.3.3.1	Relationship with Set-off	297
			8.3.3.2	Scope of Application	299
			8.3.3.3	Recognition 'In Accordance With Its Terms'	301
			8.3.3.4	Congruence with State Insolvency Goals	304
	8.4	Recog	gnition b	by EU Law of Close-out Netting Provisions	305
		8.4.1	Scope of	of Application	307
		8.4.2	Type of	f Derogations	308
		8.4.3	Retenti	ion of National Law Restrictions	310
		8.4.4	The US	Situation	312
	8.5	The E	Effect of	Resolution Measures	313
8	8.6	Final	Conclus	sions	318
Sum	MAI	RY			323
_			10		
SAM	ENV	ATTING	G (SUMMA	ary in Dutch)	333
_					- · -
RIBL	IOG	RAPHY			345
т.					0.71
IABI	LE O	F CASE	S		371
Тарт	T O	e I rete	TATION	AND CONVENTIONS	373
Table of Legislation and Conventions		3/3			
Спр	RIC1	пим Т	/ITA E		381
Curriculum Vitae 3			501		

List of Acronyms

ACPR Autorité de contrôle prudential et de résolution (France)

BAPCPA Bankruptcy Abuse Prevention and Consumer Protection Act (US)

BCBS Basel Committee on Banking Supervision

BIS Bank for International Settlements

Brexit Exit of the United Kingdom from the EU
BRRD Bank Recovery and Resolution Directive (EU)

CPSS Committee on Payment and Securities Systems (BIS)

DIP Debtor-in-possession (US)

EACB European Association of Cooperative Banks

EBA European Banking Authority (EU)
EBF European Banking Federation
EMA European Master Agreement
ESBG European Savings Bank Group

EU European Union

FCAR Financial Collateral Arrangements (No. 2) Regulations (UK)

FCD Financial Collateral Directive (EU)
FDIA Federal Deposit Insurance Act (US)

FDIC Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (US)

FDICIA Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation Improvement Act (US)

FSB Financial Stability Board

GMRA Global Master Repurchase Agreement
IATA International Air Transport Association

IBA International Bar Association

ICMA International Capital Markets Association

ISDA International Securities and Derivatives Association, Inc.

IMF International Monetary Fund

Intro Introduction

OLA Orderly Liquidation Authority (US)

OTC Over-the-Counter

QFC Qualified Financial Contract (US) SFD Settlement Finality Directive (EU)

SIFI Systemically Important Financial Institution

Sifma Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association

SRB Single Resolution Board (EU)
SRM Single Resolution Mechanism (EU)
SSM Single Supervisory Mechanism (EU)

INSOL Association of International Insolvency Practitioners

UK United Kingdom

UNCITRAL United Nations Commission on International Trade Law UNIDROIT International Institute for the Unification of Private Law

US United States
USC United States Code