SHORT ARTICLE

WTO DISPUTE RESOLUTION AS ARBITRATION

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ABSTRACT

The approach of dispute settlement under the WTO is itself of hybrid nature, as it contains both the elements of diplomatic and judicial characteristics. Noticing the presence of these elements, the WTO dispute settlement system, combined with the procedural rules as set under the Dispute Settlement Understanding, should not be understood in the same way as a national judicial court, as it does not have the support of sovereign power. Instead, the entire WTO dispute settlement system is closest to the system of arbitration, being strengthened through international norms.

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KEYWORDS: arbitration, dispute settlement, DSU, Dispute Settlement Understanding, DSB, Dispute Settlement Body, WTO