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SITTHARN SITTHISOOK : EFFECTIVENESS OF COMPULSORY DISPUTE
SETTLEMENT PROCEDURE IN THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION ON THE LAW OF
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The objective of this research is to study the effectiveness of compulsory dispute settlement procedure as stipulated in Part XV of the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea , in order to evaluate whether the procedure can be applied to settle any dispute that may arise.

The effectiveness of the system is a result of the flexibility and acceptability of the procedure itself. There exist comprehensive choices of procedure , encompassing a compulsory conciliation procedure and resort to an Arbitral Tribunal where parties to a dispute accept different fora, as well as limitations and exceptions , obligations to exchange views and preliminary proceedings.

However , it is also found that exceptions in limitations and optional exceptions make the procedure less effective because the types of disputes most likely to arise come under these exceptions.

Consequently, when the provisions of the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea are closely analyzed , one may reach a conclusion that the limitations and optional exceptions in the Convention will make the compulsory dispute settlement procedure in this Convention less effective.