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INTERNATIONAL BAR ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE 2025

A conference presented by the IBA Arbitration Committee

# 26th Annual IBA Arbitration Day: Redefining the contours of international arbitration

3–4 April 2025, De Vere Grand Connaught Rooms, London, England

## Working programme and list of participants

Headline conference sponsor



**WiFi Network: IBA 26th  
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All speaker materials and biographies can be found at [www.ibanet.org/conference-details/conf2584](http://www.ibanet.org/conference-details/conf2584)

### Conference Co-Chairs

Chiann Bao *Bao Arbitration Services Pte Ltd, Singapore; Co-Chair, IBA Arbitration Committee*

Kate Brown de Vejar *DLA Piper, Mexico City; Co-Chair, IBA Arbitration Committee*

### Organising Committee Chairs

Reza Mohtashami KC *Three Crowns, London*

Angeline Welsh KC *Essex Court Chambers, London*

## Thursday 3 April

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1900 – 2200

### Welcome reception

The London Transport Museum

Covent Garden Piazza, London, WC2E 7BB

Open to all registered attendees

## Friday 4 April

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**All coffee/tea breaks and lunches will take place in the Balmoral Suite  
The sessions will take place in the Grand Hall**

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0700 – 1730

### Registration

0745 – 0845

### IBA Mediation Committee breakfast

*Empire Suite, De Vere Grand Connaught Rooms*

### A bespoke approach to dispute resolution: Mixed mode

'Alternative dispute resolution' is understood to refer to any dispute resolution mechanism other than litigation in court. Despite the array of processes and approaches, many simply default to mediation and arbitration and in that order. As the field of dispute resolution matures, disputants and their counsel have grown increasingly comfortable with a broader spectrum of mechanisms and approaches including borrowing dispute system design techniques to personalise the dispute resolution process. This year's Mediation breakfast will explore opportunities for counsel to provide their clients with a more personalised-bespoke approach to resolving disputes.

#### Speakers

Jalal El Ahdab *Bird & Bird LLP, Paris, France; Member, Mediation Committee Advisory Board*

James South *Centre for Effective Dispute Resolution (CEDR), London, England*

Professor Joan Stearns Johnsen *University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida, USA; Co-Chair, Mediation Committee*

Natascha Tunkel *KNOETZL, Vienna, Austria; Vice Chair, Mediation Committee*

0850 – 0900

### Welcome from the IBA Leadership

Amir Singh Pasrich *International Law Affiliates, New Delhi, Delhi; LPD Secretary-Treasurer / IBA Treasurer, International Bar Association*

Claudio Visco *Lipani Legal & Tax, Milan; President-Elect, International Bar Association*

### MOBILE TELEPHONES

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Headline social event sponsors

# Friday continued

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0900 – 0910

## **Welcome and Introduction**

Chiann Bao Bao *Arbitration Services Pte Ltd, Singapore; Co-Chair, IBA Arbitration Committee*  
Kate Brown de Vejar *DLA Piper, Mexico City; Co-Chair, IBA Arbitration Committee*

0910 – 0925

## **Opening Remarks**

Reza Mohtashami KC *Three Crowns, London*  
Angeline Welsh KC *Essex Court Chambers, London*

0925 – 0945

## **Welcome address**

### **Fragmentation of commercial disputes: The challenges for arbitration and the courts**

Mr Justice Foxton *Commercial Court, London*

0945 – 1100

## **SESSION ONE**

### **Revisiting rule of law in arbitration: does institutional support for arbitration remain fit for purpose?**

A hands-off pro-arbitration stance from courts and institutions was arguably necessary as arbitration evolved as a dispute resolution process, but has this gone too far? For example, current and anticipated procedural reforms in England make the process of challenging awards – already very difficult – even more so. Institutions scrutinize arbitral awards to varying different degrees, and in some instances not at all. As commercial arbitration in particular is typically confidential, there may be little public scrutiny of outcomes. Are there sufficient safeguards on the arbitral process? What risk is there that the arbitration process becomes something which goes against the parties' reasonable expectations without recourse, and does the pro-arbitration stance need to be revisited?

*Moderator*

Audley Sheppard KC *Twenty Essex, London*

*Speakers*

Babatunde Ajibade SAN *SPA Ajibade & Co, Lagos; SPPI Chair, International Bar Association*

Lijun Cao *Zhong Lun Law Firm, Beijing*

Paula Hodges KC *Paula Hodges KC Arbitration Ltd, London*

Adrian Magallanes Perez *Von Wobeser & Sierra, Mexico City*

Judith Evelyn Jyothi Prakash *Supreme Court of Singapore, Singapore*

1100 – 1130

## **Coffee/tea break**

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### **Associate conference sponsors**



# Friday continued

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1130 – 1245

## SESSION TWO

### Where will future disputes involving States be heard?

Where are disputes involving states (or state-owned entities) headed? With the chill of investor-state arbitration in certain jurisdictions, private companies and states alike are revisiting their dispute resolution options. What is the best forum for resolving such disputes? Will the new generation of investment treaties continue to govern such disputes or will commercial arbitrations arising out of state contracts or even standing international commercial courts lure away some of them? This panel will consider the likely future landscape.

*Moderator*

**Eduardo Silva Romero** *Wordstone Dispute Resolution, Paris*

*Speakers*

**Professor Hong-Sik Justin Chung** *Ministry of Justice, Seoul*

**Rafael Gil Nievas** *GNCI Law, Madrid*

**Christina Hioureas** *Foley Hoag LLP, New York*

**Sam Wordsworth KC** *Essex Court Chambers, London*

1245 – 1400

## Lunch

1400 – 1430

## Fireside chat

*Speakers*

**Catherine Amirfar** *Debevoise & Plimpton LLP, New York, New York*

**Constantine Partasides KC** *Three Crowns LLP, London*

1430 – 1530

## SESSION THREE

### Arbitration at the cutting edge: is the arbitral process ready to resolve the disputes of the future?

As the global economy confronts the challenges from new industries that will give rise to disputes of the future, how suitable are our present processes and procedures to resolve those disputes? How do we fit these new disputes into the existing arbitral structure or should we be adapting our framework to make our system more attractive to trending disputes.

*Moderator*

**Nadia Darwazeh** *Clyde & Co, Paris*

*Speakers*

**Christopher Andrew Harris** *3 Verulam Buildings, London*

**Karl Hennessee** *Airbus SAS, Toulouse*

**Mimi M Lee** *Chevron Services Company, San Ramon, California; Vice Chair, IBA Arbitration Committee*

**Kate Wilford** *Anglo American, London*

1530 – 1550

## Coffee/tea break

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**d e m i n o r**  
LITIGATION FUNDING

Conference luncheon sponsor

  
**GATEHOUSE**  
CHAMBERS

# Friday continued

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1550 – 1720

## SESSION FOUR

### UNCITRAL Model Law: 40: lessons learned?

The UNCITRAL Model Law has formed the bedrock of national legislative reform for the majority of national arbitration laws. Since then, national legislatures have grappled with the benefit of a model template and at the same time localised the law to fit its needs and constituents. This panel will look at whether divergence from the UNCITRAL Model law enhances or detracts from the greater system and also consider any amendments from their jurisdiction that might be welcome.

*Moderator*

James E Castello *Arbitration Chambers, Paris*

*Speakers*

Shashank Garg LL M *Suri & Company, New Delhi, Delhi*

Dyalá Jimenez *DJ Arbitraje, San Jose*

Judith Knieper *UNCITRAL, Vienna*

Feisal Naqvi *Bhandari Naqvi Riaz, Lahore*

Nathan Tamblin *Law Commission, London*

1720 – 1730

### Closing remarks

Chiann Bao *Bao Arbitration Services Pte Ltd, Singapore; Co-Chair, IBA Arbitration Committee*

Kate Brown de Vejar *DLA Piper, Mexico City; Co-Chair, IBA Arbitration Committee*

Deborah Enix-Ross *Debevoise & Plimpton, New York; Secretary-General, International Bar Association*

1730 – 1900

### Closing drinks

*Drawing Room*

The IBA, its officers and staff accept no responsibility for any views expressed, presentations or materials produced by delegates or speakers at the Conference.

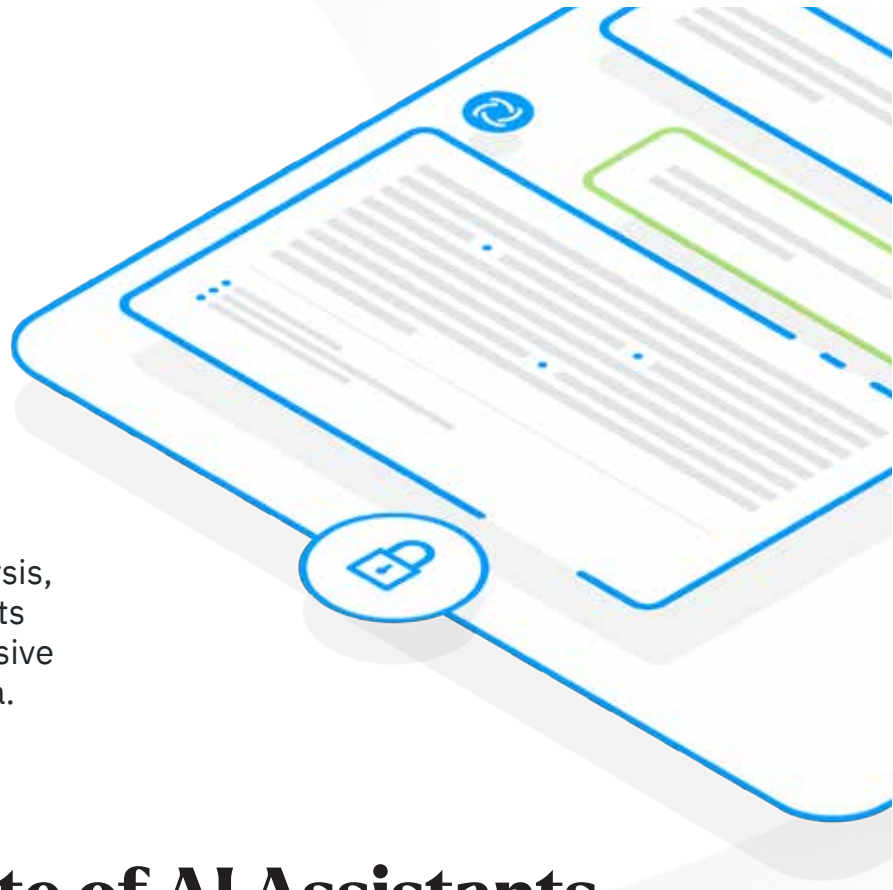
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TOP  
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GLOBAL ARBITRATION REVIEW  
EXPERT WITNESSES

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Expert Witness Power Index, 2024

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EXPERT WITNESSES RECOGNISED  
BY LEXOLOGY IN ARBITRATION

## THE ACCURACY WAY WHAT SETS US APART?



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Our experts regularly advise companies, investors, institutions and government bodies in a variety of non-contentious situations, which adds to the credibility of their evidence.



**Multi-disciplinary teams**

We have the capacity to combine expertise across a variety of fields, sectors, and situations, providing both breadth and depth of evidence in the most complex cases.



**Quality across all offices**

The care we have taken in developing our practice across 18 offices allows us to provide the same quality of services throughout our global network, often combining teams from different countries.



**Promotion of junior experts**

Our ethos to put forward younger experts and teams, when appropriate, attracts and retains talents, as well as promotes diversity.



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**Tony Cole,  
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**Tim Hardy,  
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**Joe  
Tirado**



**Stephen  
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**Conna A. Weiner,  
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# ARBITRATION EXPERTS WITNESS

With over 13 years of expertise, the team at Masin is specialised in handling various claims in construction and associated industries. It has pioneered cost-effective and time-efficient ways of handling claims in relation to extension of time, prolongation cost, acceleration and disruption related matters.

The team at Masin continues to innovate and adapt its practices to accommodate the diverse needs of the market. To cater to the requirements of its client, Masin offers the following consultancy services relevant to the most commonly prevalent issues in the construction industry:

## DISPUTE CRYSTALLIZATION

Review the contract scope and completion status.

Reviewing the invoices, certifications, payments and the relevant supporting documents.

Reviewing the variation orders and unapproved Variations.

Reviewing the project timelines, studying the delay issues, contractual provisions, extension of time (EoT) requests and determinations thereof.

Preparation, evaluation and quantification of claims such as but not limited to EoT, prolongation, disruption, and acceleration costs and last but not least unapproved variations, final account etc., which includes consolidation and updates.

Preparation and evaluation of contract charges or back charges and counterclaims.

## DISPUTE RESOLUTION

Review, prepare and assess position of the Parties as an Independent third-party during mediation.

Providing and assisting the local law firms with necessary technical inputs for preparation of pleading documents to present matter in local courts during the process of Litigation.

Acting as Expert witness (Delay, Quantum and Technical) on international arbitration matters under several institutions.

Masin in collaboration with law firm provides a Case management services model to its clients to offer "One-stop solution" for Arbitration. This includes legal and technical deliverables from filing Request for Arbitration until the final award.

**Masin provides its services by:**

- **Thorough review of the contractual provisions and mechanisms**
- **Analysis in accordance with the standard industry practices**
- **Evaluation of actual impact on the performance of obligations under the contract**

The team at Masin provides sound advice on claim related matters to assist its clients in receiving compensation as per the rightful entitlement. We set out any prevailing claims with a thorough understanding of the parties' positions, the issues at hand, knowledge of the industry as well as the region.

## DISPUTE AVOIDANCE

Supporting preparation and submission of the final account along with the relevant supporting information.

Supporting the consolidation of outstanding and unsettled claims under several claim headings.

Presenting the claims to the opposing party and providing necessary clarification as requested.

Initiate proceedings for amicable settlement between the two parties to avoid cost extensive dispute resolution procedures.

Advise on potential alternative dispute resolution mechanisms namely, Expert determination, mediations, conciliation etc.

Assisting and attending negotiation and settlement meetings.

## ARBITRATION EXPERT SERVICES

Masin acts as an expert appointed by a party or tribunal or court to prepare expert reports and testify as the expert witness in the dispute related to delay, quantum and technical matters related to construction and engineering projects.

Masin's expert along with an assistant expert prepares the key submission during the arbitration process. Expert is involved in preparation of independent main expert report, independent reply expert report and Joint expert report in coordination with the opponent's expert on the matter.

Testifying before a tribunal or a judge, being cross examined by the opposite party's counsel. Expert is also required for hot-tubbing with the opposite party's expert in front of the tribunal or judge.

Providing technical inputs to legal team on several pleadings/submissions like statement of claim (SOC), statement of defence (SOD), rejoinder and reply, if instructed.

# High-performance experts.

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