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INTERNATIONAL BAR ASSOCIATION SYMPOSIUM 2026

A symposium presented by the IBA Asia Pacific Arbitration Group, and supported by the IBA Arbitration Committee and the IBA Asia Pacific Regional Forum

IBA Asia Pacific Arbitration Group Symposium: international arbitration in a fragmented world – geopolitics, sovereign immunity, and new paths to resolution

26 August 2026, Maxwell Chambers, Singapore

ISSUES INCLUDE:

- Geopolitics and sanctions in international arbitration
- Sovereign immunity and enforcement constraints
- ISDS mediation – a new frontier

PART OF



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BOOK BEFORE **7 AUGUST 2026** TO RECEIVE EARLY BOOKING DISCOUNTS

For more information and to book online visit www.ibanet.org/conference-details/CONF2871

Programme

Symposium Co-Chairs

Joongi Kim *Yonsei Law School, Seoul; Co-Chair, IBA Asia Pacific Arbitration Group*

Swee Yen Koh SC *WongPartnership, Singapore; Co-Chair, IBA Asia Pacific Arbitration Group*

Hangil Lee *Bae Kim & Lee, Seoul; Vice Chair, IBA Asia Pacific Arbitration Group*

Chié Nakahara *Nishimura & Asahi, Tokyo; Co-Chair, IBA Asia Pacific Arbitration Group*

Wednesday 26 August

1300 – 1700 **Registration**

1330 – 1340 **Welcome remarks**

Chié Nakahara *Nishimura & Asahi, Tokyo; Co-Chair, IBA Asia Pacific Arbitration Group*

1340 – 1400 **Keynote speech**

Catherine Amirfar *Debevoise & Plimpton, New York*

1400 – 1500 Panel discussion one

Geopolitics and sanctions in international arbitration

The escalating geopolitical tensions and expanding economic sanctions regimes have created unprecedented challenges for international arbitration practitioners. This panel will examine how geopolitical factors impact arbitration proceedings, including practical considerations for arbitrator selection, fund transfers, jurisdictional issues and challenges in enforcement in disputes involving sanctioned states or entities.

Moderator

Hangil Lee *Bae Kim & Lee, Seoul; Vice Chair, IBA Asia Pacific Arbitration Group*

Panellists

Oliver Armas *Hogan Lovells, New York*

Lara Hammoud *Arbitra International, Abu Dhabi*

Calvin Qiu *BRG, Singapore*

Baiju Vasani *Twenty Essex, London*

Vicky Zhao *JunHe, Beijing*

1500 – 1515 **Coffee/tea break**

1515 – 1615 Panel discussion two

Sovereign immunity and enforcement constraints

Obtaining an arbitration award against a state or state-owned entity is often only the beginning of the dispute resolution journey. In practice, enforcement frequently becomes the most challenging phase, particularly where sovereign immunity defences, asset tracing issues and jurisdiction-specific enforcement limitations arise. This panel will examine the evolving landscape of sovereign immunity and award enforcement across key Asia-Pacific jurisdictions. It will also discuss practical enforcement strategies, including asset tracing, indirect pressure mechanisms and jurisdictional forum selection.

Moderator

Joongi Kim *Yonsei Law School, Seoul; Co-Chair, IBA Asia Pacific Arbitration Group*

Panellists

Sunil Abraham *Cecil Abraham and Partners, Kuala Lumpur; Member, IBA Asia Pacific Regional Forum Advisory Board*

Lucas Bastin *Duxton Hill Chambers, London*

Edouard Fremault *Deminor, Hong Kong SAR*

Wendy Lin *WongPartnership, Singapore; Regional Representative South East Asia, IBA Asset Recovery Committee*

Shaneen Parikh *Mumbai*

Conference reception sponsors



Wednesday continued

1615 – 1715 Panel discussion three

ISDS mediation – a new frontier

As investment treaty arbitration faces growing scrutiny, mediation is increasingly discussed as a complementary or alternative dispute resolution mechanism in investor-state disputes. This panel will explore the recent rise in International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes conciliation cases, the emergence of new players, ongoing reform discussions within the UNCITRAL Working Group III and the potential role of mediation in resolving investment disputes. The discussion will also consider how mediation aligns with the objectives of the Singapore Convention and the evolving landscape of investor-state dispute settlement.

Moderator

Huawei Sun *Zhong Lun Law Firm, Beijing; Asia Pacific Regional Forum Liaison Officer, IBA Arbitration Committee*

Panellists

Prof Teresa Cheng SC *International Organization for Mediation (IOMed), Hong Kong SAR*

Anne-Karin Grill *AKG Advisory, Vienna*

George Lim SC *Singapore International Mediation Centre, Singapore*

Lars Markert *Nishimura & Asahi, Tokyo*

Frauke Nitschke *ICSID, Washington DC*

Michele Sonen *Jus Mundi, Seoul*

1715 – 1725 Closing remarks

Dinesh Dhillon *Allen & Gledhill, Singapore; Co-Chair, IBA Asia Pacific Regional Forum*

1725 – 1825 Drinks reception

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

Information

Date

26 August 2026

Venue

Maxwell Chambers
32 Maxwell Road #03-01
Singapore 069115
Tel: +65 6595 9010
Email: info@maxwellchambers.com
Website: www.maxwellchambers.com

Language

All working sessions and Conference materials will be in English.

Interpreters are not authorised to book for the conference or attend the conference working sessions without the prior written permission of the Asia Office Director.

How to book

Online by **7 August 2026** at www.ibanet.org/conference-details/CONF2871 and make payment by credit card to avail of the online booking discount or complete the attached booking form and return it to **Sohyun.kwon@int-bar.org** at the IBA together with your proof of bank transfer payment. You should receive an email confirmation of your booking within five days; if you do not, please contact **Sohyun.kwon@int-bar.org**.

Fees

Online bookings received:

	on or before 7 August	until 17 August
Delegate fee	US\$70	US\$95

After **17 August** bookings must be received in hard copy at the IBA office.

Hard copy forms and fees received:

	on or before 7 August	after 7 August
Delegate fee	US\$95	US\$120

Full payment must be received to obtain your Conference documentation.

Fees include:

- Attendance at all working sessions
- Access to the Conference materials from the IBA website (www.ibanet.org), including any available speakers' papers submitted to the IBA before 19 August
- Access to live delegate search
- Drinks reception on Wednesday
- Tea and coffee during breaks
- Any applicable local taxes

Delegate / speaker conference bookings allow for individual entry and attendance to the conference. Delegates / speakers are not permitted to invite guests to attend any working sessions, workshops, or conference social functions.

Please note that bookings are not transferable.



List of participants

For your name to appear in the list of participants, your booking form must be received by **17 August** at the latest.

Online delegate search

Delegates can use the online delegate search via the IBA website, to use this function delegates will need to be logged into their MyIBA. This will allow search access to up-to-date attendance lists.

Booking confirmation

Upon receipt of your payment for the Conference a confirmation email will be sent to you which contains information regarding your attendance at the Conference. You will also be able to view and download your payment information and manage your booking via your My IBA profile on the IBA website.

Book with confidence

- If the IBA needs to reschedule the event, your booking will be automatically transferred to the new date and no additional fees will be charged. If this date is not convenient for a delegate, a refund of the cost of the conference place will be available on request to the IBA.
- If the IBA is unable to reschedule the conference within 12 months of the original scheduled date, a full refund of the cost of the conference place will automatically be made to all delegates.
- Please note that the IBA will not provide refunds for any costs incurred including any travel costs.

Please note, these terms are subject to any more restrictive or different local requirements and may be altered and amended from time to time to reflect any changes to restrictions or government requirements.

Continuing Professional Development /Continuing Legal Education

For Conference delegates from jurisdictions where CPD/CLE is mandatory, the IBA will provide a Certificate of Attendance for the Conference. Subject to CPD/CLE requirements, Conference delegates can use this to obtain the relevant number of hours' accreditation. The number of CPD/CLE hours available may vary depending on the rules applied by the members' bar association/law society on time recording criteria.

A Certificate of Attendance is available to Conference delegates on request. Please ask at the IBA Conference registration desk for information on how to obtain the certificate.

Terms and Conditions

All conference delegates must provide full and accurate information regarding their identity and contact information. Failure to do so will result in their conference booking being cancelled.

Full payment must be received to obtain your Conference documentation.

Cancellation of conference or social functions

If cancellation is received by email to Sohyun.kwon@int-bar.org on or before 10 August fees will be refunded less a 25 per cent administration charge. Refunds will be made minus any monies owed to the IBA. Monies cannot be kept on IBA member accounts or transferred to future IBA conferences.

We regret that no refunds can be made after this time. Conference or social function bookings received after this time will not be eligible for any refund of fees. Should you have difficulties in obtaining your visa and are not able to attend the Conference this cancellation policy will still apply.

Payment

When booking the Conference, full payment of the booking fee is required at the time we accept your booking.

VAT will be added to delegate fees as appropriate. Our prices may change at any time, but any price change will not affect bookings that we have confirmed with you. Booking fees for the Conference can only be paid in the booking fee currency listed above.

Credit card payments: The IBA accepts these payment methods: American Express, Diners, Discover, JCB, Maestro, Mastercard, UnionPay, and Visa. Payments from local or affiliate services linked to these providers can also be made through the IBA website.

It is the responsibility of the cardholder to ensure that the card's security details are ready and to check that there is a sufficient balance on the card for the payment to complete.

All fees payable to us by you in relation to the Conference shall be paid free and clear of all deductions or withholdings whatsoever.

If any deductions or withholdings are required by law to such fees, you shall pay such sum as will, after the deduction or withholding has been made, leave us with the same amount as we would have been entitled to receive in the absence of any such requirement to make a deduction or withholding.

Travel arrangements and visas

Participants are responsible for making their own travel arrangements to attend the Conference. It is recommended that you check any visa requirements with your local embassy or consulate. In particular, participants should inform themselves of the entry requirements (i.e. visa requirements) of the event location and complete the necessary formalities in good time before the event begins. The IBA will not be liable if a visa application is denied, a visa is received too late to attend, or if a delegate is not able to travel to the Conference for any other reason.

We are unable to dispatch visa invitation letters to support your visa application prior to receipt of your booking form and full payment of conference fees.

Please apply for your visa in good time.

Carbon efficient travel

With IBA conferences taking place in major business centres all over the world, travel is an unavoidable reality for our delegates. The IBA encourages its members and delegates to be responsible and conscious of the impact travel has on the environment and to take measures to reduce the carbon impact of their travel.

Some suggested steps that delegates can take include:

- Travel by train instead of flying if possible.
- Book direct flights instead of connecting flights, if available, as limiting the number of stops needed will reduce your carbon footprint.
- Consider the impact of the travel class that you book – business class travel equates to 3 times the carbon footprint of economy class.

Relying on the local public transport is the more carbon friendly option, but this is not always a realistic option. Where reliance on taxis/cars is needed use electric vehicles over petrol or diesel and share vehicle usage with other delegates and colleagues.

Badges

For security reasons, name badges are required to be worn visibly at all times during the Conference and at any IBA organised social function linked to the Conference. Proof of identity is required to collect your badge and for a replacement badge to be issued. Checks will be in place and staff will challenge delegates not wearing a valid conference badge. Anyone not wearing a badge must get a replacement badge from IBA staff or will be required to leave the venue immediately. Anyone found wearing a badge that they are not entitled to wear will have the badge removed and will be required to leave the Conference.

All conference bookings are non-transferable and cannot be resold, transferred or passed on to another person, whether for commercial gain or otherwise.

Name badges can only be used by the booked attendee to access the event or social function; name badges cannot be shared or borrowed by any other person, whether registered for the event or otherwise.

Any breach of these terms will result in the booked attendee being required to leave the event / social function with immediate effect and the cancellation of their booking without reimbursement or refund of any previously paid fees.

Dietary requirements

The IBA endeavours to accommodate all special dietary requests confirmed to us before bookings close. Requests made after this time cannot be guaranteed and all dietary requests are subject to local availability (which is outside the IBA's control).

Photography and filming

Certain sessions and social functions at an IBA Event may be photographed or filmed and some of this content may be used for future IBA marketing materials, member communications, products or services. Should you have any concerns about this, or if you do not wish to be featured in any of these materials, please contact the IBA Marketing Department at ibamarketing@int-bar.org.

No participant, attending in any capacity, is authorised to record or film the conference working sessions, workshops or social function without the prior written permission of the Conferences Director.

Illness

You will not attend the Conference if you are displaying symptoms of a communicable disease. Should you develop symptoms during your attendance, you will inform a member of IBA staff by email (**Sohyun. kwon@int-bar.org**) and you agree not to attend any further sessions or related events and to comply with all local and national restrictions.

You agree that, if asked by the relevant local or national authorities, the IBA has permission to pass on your personal information and contact details to those authorities should contact tracing be required.

Promotional literature

No individual or organisation may display or distribute publicity material or other printed matter during an IBA Event, unless by prior arrangement with the IBA. Organisations and companies wishing to discuss promotional opportunities should contact the IBA Sponsorship Department at sponsorship@int-bar.org.

Conference sell-outs

The IBA hosts conferences in venues of a suitable size for each event; however, there are times when a conference may sell out and the IBA cannot guarantee places will be available. Should this happen, prospective delegates will be informed, and a waiting list will operate. The waiting list will function on a 'first come, first served' basis, subject to receiving booked delegate cancellations. The waiting list for the Conference will close once the waiting list has reached ten per cent of the venue capacity, as it is very unlikely a place will become available. IBA will not be liable for any expenses or costs incurred by you (including travel and accommodation costs) in relation to attendance at the Conference, including if you travel to the Conference without a confirmed place).

Harassment

Conferences provide unrivalled professional development and network-building opportunities for international legal practitioners and their professional associates. The IBA values the participation of every delegate and member of the IBA and wants all attendees to have an enjoyable and fulfilling experience. Accordingly, all Conference attendees are expected to show respect and courtesy to other attendees, IBA staff and those involved with hosting the events throughout the Conference and at all events, receptions, and parties, whether officially organised by the IBA or others. All delegates, guests, attendees, speakers, exhibitors, staff and volunteers at the Conference are required to conform to the IBA Harassment Policy. See www.ibanet.org/iba-harassment-policy.

Cancellation by the IBA

We may at any time, with or without giving notice, in our absolute discretion and without giving any reason, cancel or postpone the Conference, change its venue or any of the other published particulars, or withdraw any invitation to attend. In any case, we will not be liable for any loss, liability, damage or expense suffered or incurred by any person, nor will we return any money paid to us in connection with the Conference unless we are satisfied not only that the money in question remains under our control but also that the person who paid it has been unfairly prejudiced (as to which, decision shall be in their sole and unfettered discretion and, when announced, final and conclusive).

The IBA shall have no liability to you, for a refund or otherwise, where the IBA is forced to cancel or reschedule part or all of the Conference due to reasons beyond our reasonable control. However, refunds may be paid at IBA's discretion.

IBA will be entitled to change the venue and make minor changes to the timing and content of the Conference.

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

Full **Conference and Events Terms and Conditions** apply.

Booking form



IBA Asia Pacific Arbitration Group Symposium: international arbitration in a fragmented world – geopolitics, sovereign immunity, and new paths to resolution

26 August 2026, Maxwell Chambers, Singapore

Please read the 'Information' section before completing this form and return it together with your proof of bank transfer to the Sohyun Kwon at the address below.

BOOK ONLINE AT WWW.IBANET.ORG/CONFERENCE-DETAILS/CONF2871 TO MAKE IMMEDIATE AND SECURE PAYMENT BY CREDIT CARD AND OBTAIN A TEN PER CENT DISCOUNT ON THE FEES BELOW

PERSONAL DETAILS *(Please attach your business card or write in block capitals)*

Title _____ Given name _____ Family name _____

Name and country to be shown on badge *(if different from above)* _____

IBA Membership number *(if applicable)* _____ Date of birth _____

Firm/company/organisation _____

Address _____

_____ Country _____

Tel _____ Email _____

SPECIAL DIETARY REQUIREMENTS

If you have special dietary requirements, due to allergen intolerances, medical, religious reasons or a life choice, please specify the requirement below. The IBA is unable to cater for dietary requirements other than for the above reasons.

Please tick box if you have allergen intolerances and specify _____

Please state all other dietary requirements clearly, i.e. I am a vegetarian.

Disclosure of dietary information denotes you have agreed to the IBA sharing this information with relevant third parties who are providing catering on our behalf.

TO OBTAIN A TEN PER CENT DISCOUNT ON THE FEES BELOW,
PLEASE BOOK BY **7 AUGUST** ONLINE AT WWW.IBANET.ORG/CONFERENCE-DETAILS/CONF2871

FORM AND FEES RECEIVED:	on or before 7 August	after 7 August	amount payable
Delegate fee	US\$95	US\$120	US\$

SOCIAL PROGRAMME

Drinks reception I will attend I will not attend
One social function place per delegate is permitted..

TOTAL AMOUNT PAYABLE US\$

FULL PAYMENT MUST BE RECEIVED IN ORDER TO PROCESS YOUR BOOKING.
PLEASE NOTE THAT BOOKINGS ARE NOT TRANSFERABLE.

METHODS OF PAYMENT

By credit card

Book online at www.ibanet.org/conference-details/CONF2871 and make immediate and secure payment by credit card

Note: please do not send your credit card details on the booking form or within an email or fax.



By bank transfer or BACs payment

Booking forms received without proof of payment will NOT be processed until proof of payment has been received.

US dollars: by bank transfer to the IBA account at the National Westminster Bank, St James's & Piccadilly Branch, 208 Piccadilly, London W1A 2DG, United Kingdom.

US\$ Account Number: 01286498 SWIFT address NWBKGB2L, IBAN GB55NWBK60730101286498

Please ensure that a copy of the bank transfer details is attached to your booking form.

WHERE DID YOU FIRST HEAR ABOUT THIS CONFERENCE?

- | | | | | |
|---|---|---|-----------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> IBA CONFERENCE | <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER CONFERENCE | <input type="checkbox"/> DIRECT MAIL | <input type="checkbox"/> INTERNET | <input type="checkbox"/> ADVERTISEMENT |
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Please provide further details, quoting code (if applicable)

The International Bar Association would like to keep in touch with you about relevant news, events, publications and membership. You can opt out of receiving information at any time by emailing member@int-bar.org or by logging into My IBA and updating your preferences. Your details will be included in the list of participants. If you do not want your details to be included in the list, please email Sohyun.kwon@int-bar.org.

For further details on how your data is used and stored: www.ibanet.org/privacy-policy

PLEASE SEND THE COMPLETED FORM TO INTERNATIONAL BAR ASSOCIATION:

International Bar Association Asia Office

Trade Tower, Suite 4306, 511 Yeongdong-daero, Gangnam-gu, Seoul, South Korea 06164

Tel: +82-2-6279-8100 Email: Sohyun.kwon@int-bar.org www.ibanet.org



ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE INTERNATIONAL BAR ASSOCIATION

IBA 2026 COPENHAGEN

4-9 OCTOBER



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WHAT WILL IBA 2026 OFFER YOU?

The 2026 IBA Annual Conference will take place in Copenhagen, Denmark. As a gateway to Scandinavia and a thriving hub for start-ups in Europe, the entrepreneurial culture in Denmark is booming across a range of sectors.

With this emphasis on innovation, Copenhagen has a robust and stable economy – making it an attractive place for investment. Copenhagen consistently ranks top of various sustainability indexes, such as the Global Green Economy Index. It's also home to a number of prominent global companies including Carlsberg Group, Vestas Wind Systems and, of course, Lego.

There are many historical sites to explore, including the Rosenborg Castle and Christiansborg Palace, while visitors can experience Copenhagen's world-class dining and cosy café culture.

As a centre of sustainability, innovation and rich culture, Copenhagen promises to be an ideal host city, offering a memorable location for the 2026 IBA Annual Conference.

To receive details of all exhibiting and sponsorship opportunities for the IBA Annual Conference in Copenhagen, email andrew.webster-dunn@int-bar.org



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Expand your professional network and meet legal professionals and practitioners from around the world



Participate in sessions that offer practical strategies and tools to apply directly to your practice

TO BOOK NOW, VISIT: WWW.IBANET.ORG/COPENHAGEN2026



International Bar Association

the global voice of the legal profession



About the IBA

The International Bar Association (IBA), established in 1947, is the world's leading organisation of international legal practitioners, bar associations, law firms and law societies.

The IBA influences the development of international law reform and shapes the future of the legal profession throughout the world. It has a membership of more than 80,000 individual lawyers and more than 190 bar associations and law societies spanning over 170 countries.

Inspired by the vision of the United Nations, the IBA was founded in the same spirit, just before the Universal Declaration of Human Rights was proclaimed in 1948.

The IBA covers all practice areas and professional interests, providing members with access to leading experts and up-to date information, enabling them to better represent their clients' interests.

Through its various committees, fora, and task forces, the IBA facilitates the exchange of information and views among its members as to laws, practices and professional responsibilities relating to the practice of law around the globe.

IBA Arbitration Committee

The IBA Arbitration Committee focuses on laws, practice and procedures relating to the arbitration of transnational disputes. Through its conferences, publications and projects, the Committee seeks to share information about international arbitration, promote its use and improve its effectiveness.

Become a member of the Committee to benefit from networking opportunities, the opportunity to read and write IBA publications and discounts on conferences and webinars. You can also get involved with the work of the Committee.

For more information please visit the **Arbitration Committee** home page.

IBA Asia Pacific Regional Forum

In addition to offering an unrivalled opportunity to establish contact among lawyers within and outside the region, and with acknowledged experts on different areas of law, specialist Forum activities provide an unparalleled opportunity to keep abreast of legal business developments in the region. Members also benefit from excellent working relations with national Bars, the InterPacific Bar Association and LAWASIA.

For more information please visit the **Asia Pacific Regional Forum** home page.

International Bar Association Asia Office

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