BCLP. Client Intelligent

**Awards**

# BCLP WINS 'ARBITRATION TEAM OF THE YEAR' AT THE LAW MIDDLE EAST AWARDS 2026

Nov 18, 2026

BCLP has been named 'Arbitration Team of the Year' at the Law Middle East Awards 2026 for its significant work supporting a Chinese contractor on an ongoing dispute arising out of the Cityland Mall. Cityland Mall is the world's first 1.2 million sq.ft. nature-inspired retail and entertainment destination, located beside Global Village in Dubai, UAE.

The firm acted as counsel for the client's biggest ever project in the region and its biggest dispute by far, representing it in a significant DIAC arbitration with approximately AED400m in dispute.

This matter represents a sustained, multi-front disputes mandate covering arbitration, DIFC Courts enforcement, onshore UAE court proceedings and injunctive relief, demonstrating the team's capacity to manage complex parallel proceedings across multiple UAE forums.

The breadth of the instruction reflects the depth of trust that the client has placed in the team and evidences the firm's standing as a market-leading UAE construction disputes and arbitration practice.

**Charles Lilley**, Office Managing Partner for Abu Dhabi and Dubai, is the relationship partner and has managed the disputes since June 2020, including as advocate during the successful arbitration. He has worked closely with **Anthony Hajji** (Associate, Construction Disputes) and a Corporate Transactions team led by Counsel **Oliver Hallsworth**. **Roman Khodykin**, Partner in BCLP's International Arbitration practice based in Dubai, led the advocacy before the DIFC Courts.

## Related capabilities

- International Arbitration

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## Meet the team



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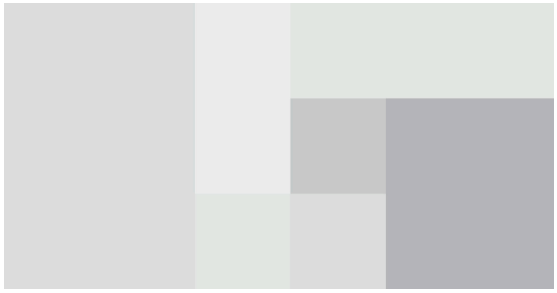


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