INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATION

OVERVIEW

International arbitration can be an excellent forum for resolving complex commercial disputes, but it comes with its own unique set of challenges and nuances. When there can be huge sums or big issues at stake, you need the very best team at your disposal, made up of experienced lawyers able to handle arbitrations of any kind, and offer you best-in-class advice and representation across the globe.

At Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner, we have built one of the premier international arbitration teams in the world. Our team of over 100 lawyers sits across the globe, based in our offices in Abu Dhabi, Dubai, Hong Kong SAR, London, Miami, New York and Singapore, meaning we can effectively service our clients’ arbitration needs 24 hours a day. We have teams with deep experience of disputes arising from projects in Latin America, Russia and the CIS, the Middle East, Africa, East Asia, Southeast Asia and South Asia.

Our team covers a variety of specialist areas, including construction and engineering projects, investor-state disputes, energy and natural resources, banking and finance, insurance and reinsurance, commodities, sports and the full range of corporate and commercial matters.

We have recognised market leaders in investment arbitration, construction and engineering disputes and commercial arbitration – our team members take leading roles in the arbitration community, in terms of teaching, writing, speaking and taking leadership positions. They are regularly appointed to sit as arbitrators. Members of the team have previously worked at international courts and tribunals, including the London Court of International Arbitration, the International Court of Justice and the International Criminal Court. Several members of our team hold or have held teaching positions in international arbitration and international law at leading law schools around the world, including New York University, Queen Mary University of London, Emory University, Universidad de Navarra and Universidad de San Ignacio de Loyola. Many also are frequent speakers and writers on international dispute resolution issues.

Our team is multicultural – our international arbitration lawyers are qualified in a variety of civil law and common law jurisdictions, and present cases not only in English, but also in Russian, Spanish, French and Italian. In addition, individual members of the team speak a range of other languages.
Forensic accounting – Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner prides itself on being at the forefront of innovation. We can provide instant access to in-house accountancy advice on the financial aspects of arbitration claims. This provides clients with a more complete quantum analysis early on, which can lead to a strong competitive advantage.

INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATION SURVEYS

2022
International Arbitration Survey 2022

2021
International Arbitration Survey 2021
Our 2021 survey looks at the issue of Expert Evidence.

2020
International Arbitration Survey 2020
Our 2020 survey looks at the issue of Rights of Appeal.
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RELATED PRACTICE AREAS
- Construction Disputes
- Business & Commercial Disputes
- Insurance

EXPERIENCE
- Representing the Bulgarian subsidiary of a global energy company in a high-value UNCITRAL arbitration regarding the failure to properly design and build a lignite-fired power plant in Bulgaria.
• Acting for a subsidiary of a global construction company in a dispute under a joint venture agreement relating to the development of a container terminal in Aqaba, Jordan. The claim, valued at US$70m, was subject to a tiered dispute resolution clause, which includes ICC arbitration.

• Representing a shareholder in a high-profile LCIA arbitration seated in London. The dispute concerns the management and operation of one of the largest Russian e-commerce companies. The case includes unfair prejudice claims, which are rare in international commercial arbitration.

RELATED INSIGHTS

Awards
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BCLP recognized in Legal 500 Latin America Guide

News
Oct 19, 2023
Chambers UK Ranks BCLP in 41 practice areas and recognizes 74 lawyers

Awards
Oct 04, 2023
The Legal 500 UK ranks BCLP in 54 practice areas and recognizes 74 lawyers as “leading individuals”

Insights
Sep 06, 2023
The Arbitration Act 2024: An aggregation of marginal gains

The Law Commission of England and Wales has concluded its review of the Arbitration Act 1996. In our International Arbitration Survey 2022, we canvased views on the potential areas for reform of the Act. On 6 September, the Law Commission published a final report setting out its conclusions and recommendations for the reform together with a draft Arbitration Bill. The headline point is that the new Act will not contain any dramatic changes. A common refrain during the consultation process was that the 1996 Act was fundamentally sound and there was no need for a fundamental re-draft. Instead, the focus has been on incremental improvements to the Act to ensure that it remains “state of the art” and “continues to support London’s world-leading role in international arbitration.” Here is a summary of what we can expect to see in a new Arbitration Act.

Awards
Aug 17, 2023
Artificial Intelligence - the Rise of Machine Learning

For over ten years, BCLP’s International Arbitration Group has conducted a number of surveys on issues affecting the arbitration process including: cyber-security in arbitration proceedings (2019), rights of appeal (2020), expert evidence (2021) and the reform of the Arbitration Act 1996 (2022). This year our survey topic is artificial intelligence (AI) and the impact of its use in international arbitration.

Time Limits for Arbitral Awards: A Case Summary

In Alphamix Ltd v The District Council of Rivière Du Rampart (Mauritius) [2023] UKPC 20, an appeal from the Supreme Court of Mauritius, the UK Privy Council has allowed the appeal and upheld the arbitrator’s award, where the award had been annulled by the Mauritian court for being given three days after the date specified for providing an award.

Time Limits for Awards: The Danger of Deadlines

Cost and delay remain the two areas of greatest concern to parties in arbitration. A particular source of frustration is that it can sometimes take many months for arbitrators to deliberate and issue an award. As a result, we are increasingly being asked whether arbitration agreements should include a deadline for the delivery of an award. This article considers some of the pros and cons of setting a deadline for the delivery of an award.