

QATAR & MIDDLE EAST: 4th ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATION SUMMIT

The GC's Handbook on Disputes
(This conference will be conducted in English)

Wednesday, 9 May 2018, 9:00am – 5:20pm

Marriott Marquis City Center Doha Hotel

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SPEAKERS



Julian Cohen
Barrister, Gilt Chambers
Chairman



Faisal Al Sahouti
CEO, Qatar International Court
and Dispute Resolution Centre
Opening Address



Professor Dr Colin Ong, QC
Senior Partner at Dr Colin Ong
Legal Services (Brunei); Counsel
at Eldan Law LLP (Singapore);
and Queen's Counsel at St Philips
Stone Chambers (London)
Keynote Speaker



Victor Leginsky
Independent International
Arbitrator
Moderator – 1st Grand Panel



Dr. Zain Al Abdin Sharar
Senior Legal Counsel – CEO
Office, Qatar International Court
and Dispute resolution Centre



Beau McLaren
Partner, Holman Fenwick Willan



Nabeel Ikram
Partner, Hogan Lovells



William Cattan
Senior Partner,
Sultan Al-Abdulla & Partners



Philip Norman
Partner, Simmons & Simmons



Richard Ward
Partner, Eversheds Sutherland



Matthew Walker
Partner, K&L Gates



Martin Schulz
General Counsel – Legal &
Compliance, Qatar and Levante
Region, Siemens



Sami Hourbi
Director for Eastern
Mediterranean, Middle East &
Africa, ICC International Court
of Arbitration; Partner, Huerbi
Law Firm, Dubai/Tunis



Dr. Minas Khatchadourian
General Counsel, Qatar
International Center for
Conciliation and Arbitration



Jingzhou Tao
Managing Partner, Dechert LLP

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Al Areen 1-3, West Bay City Center
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SCHEDULE

9:00 – 9:10	Welcome Message by Chairman Julian Cohen, Barrister, Gilt Chambers	14:45 – 15:15	New Qatar Arbitration Law – 1 Year on Dr. Zain Al Abdin Sharar, Senior Legal Counsel – CEO Office, Qatar International Court and Dispute resolution Centre
9:10 – 9:25	Opening Address – Followed by – The Qatar Arbitration Update Faisal Al Sahouti, CEO, Qatar International Court and Dispute Resolution Centre	15:15 – 15:45	The Different Contractual and Legal Challenges Arising from Rail and Metro Projects Nabeel Ikram, Partner, Hogan Lovells
9:25 – 9:45	Keynote Session – Artificial Intelligence in International Arbitration Professor Dr Colin Ong, QC, Senior Partner at Dr Colin Ong Legal Services (Brunei); Counsel at Eldan Law LLP (Singapore); and Queen's Counsel at St Philips Stone Chambers (London)	15:45 – 16:00	Characteristics of Arbitration Between ME Countries and China Jingzhou Tao, Managing Partner, Dechert LLP
9:45 – 10:15	Enforcement of Arbitration Awards Philip Norman, Partner, Simmons & Simmons	16:00 – 16:25	Short Break & Afternoon Refreshment
10:15 – 10:45	MENA Construction and Infrastructure disputes Beau McLaren, Partner, Holman Fenwick Willan	16:25 – 17:15	2nd Grand Panel – Update in Regional Arbitration Rules In Different Jurisdictions in 2018 Moderator • TBC Panellists: • Dr Zain Al Abdin Sharar, Senior Legal Counsel – CEO Office, Qatar International Court and Dispute • Sami Hourbi, Director for Eastern Mediterranean, Middle East & Africa, ICC International Court of Arbitration; Partner, Huerbi Law Firm, Dubai/Tunis
10:45 – 11:15	Networking & Morning Refreshment	17:15 – 17:20	Closing Remarks
11:15 – 11:45	Advising on Stakeholder Disputes William Cattan, Senior Partner, Sultan Al-Abdulla & Partners	17:30 – 18:30	Networking Cocktail Party
12:15 – 12:45	Opportunities for Fast Track Dispute Resolution in Qatar: Fantasy or Reality? Richard Ward, Partner, Eversheds Sutherland		
12:45 – 14:00	Networking Lunch		
14:00 – 14:45	1st Grand Panel – Has Saving Costs and time effected the Quality of Decisions in an Arbitration? Moderator • Victor Leginsky, Independent International Arbitrator Panellists: • Matthew Walker, Partner, K&L Gates • Martin Schulz, General Counsel – Legal & Compliance, Qatar and Levante Region, Siemens • Dr. Minas Khatchadourian, General Counsel, Qatar International Center for Conciliation and Arbitration		

Julian Cohen, Barrister, Gilt Chambers

Julian has nearly 25 years of specialist experience of heavyweight international commercial arbitration in Asia Pacific, the Middle East and Europe. In addition to acting as counsel, he also acts sits regularly as an arbitrator. His areas of practice include a wide range of company and commercial disputes as well as construction and engineering arbitrations. He was called to the Bar in England in 1990, became a solicitor in 1993, and moved to Hong Kong in 1998. He was a Partner in the Construction and Engineering Disputes practice of Pinsent Masons before moving to the Hong Kong Bar in 2010. Julian has been recognised as one of the world's leading construction disputes lawyers (Expert Guides 2013 and 2015) and lectures and writes regularly on arbitration related topics.

Faisal Al Sahouti, CEO, Qatar International Court and Dispute Resolution Centre

Faisal Rashid Al-Sahouti is the CEO of the Qatar International Court and Dispute Resolution Centre (QICDRC). He is responsible for overseeing the overall management of the non-judicial operations of the court. Also, he is responsible for the overall management and operations of the Dispute Resolution Centre. He is involved in the QICDRC's contribution to the development of international legal practice in Qatar and the development of the rule of law internationally through the Qatar Law Forum. Faisal is a member of the QICDRC's Advisory Board, contributes to the drafting of the laws and regulations of the QICDRC and is responsible for delivering the QICDRC's overall vision, mission and strategy. Faisal holds a Bachelor in Law from Qatar University and an LLM in International Trade Law with Public International Law from Nottingham Trent University in the UK. He is a CEDR accredited mediator. Faisal has previous experience at the QICDRC working closely with senior judges from around the world, case management and projects related to the growth and development of the QICDRC.

Professor Dr Colin Ong, QC, Senior Partner at Dr Colin Ong Legal Services (Brunei); Counsel at Eldan Law LLP (Singapore); and Queen's Counsel at St Philips Stone Chambers (London)

International arbitrator and lead counsel. First ASEAN practising lawyer elected Master of the Bench of the Inner Temple (2010), English Queen's Counsel. Chartered Arbitrator, Law Professor (civil and common law). LL.B (Hons)(Sheffield); LL.M; Ph.D(Queen Mary). FCI Arb, FMI Arb, FSI Arb; DiplCarb. Listed as a leading arbitrator and counsel in many publications including top 30 arbitration lawyers in the world by Expert Guides: Best of the Best 2017 and top 33 global lawyers in Who's Who Legal: Thought Leaders(Arbitration) 2017. Recent feedback includes Who's Who Legal Arbitration 2018 Analysis:- "a world-renowned arbitration counsel who "always manages to make complicated issues appear unbelievably straightforward".

Acted as arbitrator or lead counsel in over 300 arbitrations governed under civil and common law. Generally appointed in complex high value international disputes and many of his arbitrations involve values up to some billions of \$US. Cases range from investor state disputes to commercial areas encompassing banking and finance infrastructure projects (bridges, downstream projects; pipelines, ports; power plants; roads), insurance, mining and minerals disputes, energy disputes (coal mining and supply disputes, power purchase agreements, production sharing contracts, electricity supply, gas contracts and oil exploration joint ventures), information technology, intellectual property, shipping, telecoms, technology transfer; and urban development and wind farms.

Lead counsel at GAR Awards 2016 Runner-up for Most Important Reported Decision of 2015 in PT PGN v CRW [2015] SGCA 30. Lead counsel in different arbitration which led to FIDIC amending Clause 20 of its 1999 Standard Form (<http://fidic.org/node/1615>). He sits on the governing boards of 4 ASEAN National Arbitration Bodies.

Victor Leginsky, Independent International Arbitrator

Victor P. Leginsky, Canadian citizen, is an experienced international arbitrator and Barrister & Solicitor, resident in Dubai, UAE since April 2007. Victor has prior high-level mediation experience having been appointed by the Attorney General of British Columbia, Canada, to be the Chair of the Manufactured Home Park Dispute Resolution Committee. He brings over 25 years of arbitration experience in Canada. Victor has earned the internationally-recognized designations of Chartered Arbitrator and Fellow from the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators. He is a committee member of the International Court of Arbitration (ICC) – UAE and member of ICC-Canada. He is alternate regional chapter co-ordinator of the Association of International Petroleum Negotiators (AIPN) and launched its seminar on oil & gas dispute resolution in the Middle East. He co-instructs, with Prof. Dr. Klaus Peter Berger a practical course in International Commercial Arbitration in Dubai. He is registered as a Barrister with the Dubai International Financial Centre (DIFC) Courts and is a member in good standing of the Law Society of British Columbia, Canada.

Dr. Zain Al Abdin Sharar, Senior Legal Counsel – CEO, Office, Qatar International Court and Dispute resolution Centre

Dr. Zain Al Abdin Sharar is a Senior Legal Counsel at the CEO's Office at the Qatar International Court and Dispute Resolution Centre (QICDRC). Dr Sharar has an extensive experience in the legal industry spanning over 19 years and across varying legal sectors. He has a Bachelor of Laws, a Master in International Trade Law, a Juris Doctor, and a Doctor of Legal Sciences from Bond University in Australia, specifically focused on Corporate Governance. Prior to Joining QICDRC, Dr. Zain was the Director of the Legal Affairs and Enforcement at the Qatar Financial Markets Authority (QFMA), giving him unrivalled extensive experience in capital markets, including financial services regulations, regulatory compliance, investment disputes, arbitration, mergers and acquisitions, risk and crisis management, public affairs, and litigation. Dr. Sharar has also served for three years on the QFMA's disciplinary committee. Dr Sharar has taught corporate law and corporate governance at a number of Australian Universities, and has provided legal advice and guidance regarding legal matters to board members of a number of publically listed companies in Australia. Dr Sharar has worked at Qatar University for three years as an Assistant Professor of Commercial Law and has taught companies law and arbitration law. He has also taught commercial law and maritime and aviation Law at Ahmad Bin Mohammed Military College in Qatar, and has lectured on many topics at the Legal and Judicial Studies Centre at the Qatari Ministry of Justice. Dr. Sharar is a certified mediator by the Centre for Effective Dispute Resolution in London and a qualified arbitrator by the GCC Commercial Arbitration Centre. He has provided mediation and arbitration services in many commercial and construction cases. He also participates in ADR training programs. Dr. Sharar has published many articles in leading law journals.

Beau McLaren, Partner, Holman Fenwick Willan

Beau McLaren is a partner at HFW and heads up the Construction and Construction Disputes practice in the Middle East. Beau has over 10 years' experience in the Middle East having been permanently based here since 2007. During this time, he has advised on a range of construction projects and commercial disputes in the Gulf region and further afield. He represents and advises parties at every level of the supply chain, from procurement through to contract management, and has significant experience of a wide variety of project contractual arrangements across a number of types of projects. In addition to his front-end work, Beau also advises clients on bringing and defending claims arising out of construction projects, which are often both complex and high-value. Beau has experience of all common forms of dispute resolution, such as mediation, dispute adjudication and court litigation, but has a particular focus on construction-related arbitration. He regularly represents his clients in international and domestic arbitration proceedings and has extensive experience of proceedings under most institutional rules, including the DIAC, DIFC-LCIA, ICC and LCIA rules, as well as proceedings under the UNCITRAL rules and ad hoc proceedings. Beau also sits as an arbitrator and is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators. Prior to 2007, Beau was based in London, where he advised on several infrastructure projects in England, including PFI/PPP schemes and a variety of other construction projects.

Nabeel Ikram, Partner, Hogan Lovells

Ranked as a leading lawyer for construction and dispute resolution by The Legal 500, Chambers Global and Who's Who Legal, Nabeel Ikram has nearly 20 years of experience advising clients on contentious engineering and construction matters. Having had conduct of the first construction case before the DIFC Courts, as well as successfully representing clients on some of the largest and most complicated disputes the region has ever seen, it is little wonder Nabeel is highly regarded by his peers and lauded as a leading authority on engineering and construction matters across the Middle East.

Although best known for his disputes practice he has drafted the contract documentation used by market-leading developers and negotiated on their behalf on some of the largest projects in the region. He also acts as project counsel for clients, assisting them with risk management and claims preparation in order to achieve their commercial objectives while avoiding a formal dispute. Nabeel's practice has a particular focus on rail projects and he has represented contractors and consultants on a range of rail and metro projects in England and the Middle East.

William Cattan, Senior Partner, Sultan Al-Abdulla & Partners

William has been practicing law for 25 years and has been living and working in Qatar since 2004.

William has broad experience in the energy sector, particularly LNG sales transactions, the marketing of commodity petroleum products, the marketing of chemical and petrochemical products, the crude oil sector, and solar energy projects. He also has substantial experience on international project finance, equipment finance, and bank finance transactions and has worked on power, port, petrochemical and telecommunications projects in the Middle East, Asia, the US and Europe.

He is highly ranked and internationally recognised practitioner in relation to energy, project, equipment, and bank finance transactions, joint ventures, and other sophisticated corporate and commercial transactions. He has deep experience in the Qatar energy sector and has written and lectured on energy and projects in Qatar.

His practice with the Firm focuses on energy, banking and finance and a wide range of corporate, commercial and transactional matters as well as contentious matters.

He holds a Bachelor's degree from Dartmouth College, a Juris Doctor degree from Georgetown University Law Center and is admitted to the Bars of the State of New York and the District of Columbia.

Philip Norman, Partner, Simmons & Simmons

Philip is a Partner within the Construction and Dispute Resolution practice. He has been based in the Middle East since early 2010, having moved from London where he was based for the first 15 years of practice. Philip has been admitted to the English and Qatari bars, and has extensive advocacy experience. He advises on project matters, infrastructure development and commercial matters relating to the full spectrum of activities arising from project inception to completion. His work includes both contentious and non-contentious matters.

Philip has worked internationally and has spent time in-house with Black & Veatch in the UK, acting as general counsel for the EMEA region, and also with Qatar Petroleum. Philip has advised both employers and main contractors and his wide experience allows him to bring a commercial and pragmatic approach to commercial and contract issues, project support and dispute resolution. He has been involved in significant mega-arbitrations and has a good success record, based on his detailed analysis of the issues and evidence in dispute.

Philip is acknowledged by directories, peers and clients as one of the leading arbitration specialists in the region (and further afield).

Richard Ward, Partner, Eversheds Sutherland

Richard is a partner in Eversheds-Sutherland Doha office where he has been based for over 4 years. He specialises in contentious matters in particular construction and engineering disputes acting for employers and the supply chain. Prior to his arrival in Doha he was a partner with Eversheds in their London office heading up their Construction and Engineering team where his numerous projects included London 2012, CTRL Kings Cross, London Underground PPP where he was involved in a large number of disputes in various forums.

Matthew Walker, Partner, K&L Gates

Matthew Walker, a partner in the Doha office of K&L Gates, focuses his practice in construction law and dispute resolution. He has acted as advocate and counsel in ICC and QJCCA arbitrations in Qatar, the UAE, Saudi Arabia, Turkey, India and the UK, as co-counsel in cases before the Qatar Court of First Instance, and has litigated in the Technology & Construction Court and the Court of Appeal in England. He has also been nominated as a party-appointed arbitrator in a QJCCA arbitration. He was involved in a series of multimillion pound adjudications, arbitrations and mediations relating to a telecommunications system on a major underground rail network, and an international adjudication related to a gas facility in Tanzania. He is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators and a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Building.

Mr. Walker also provides non-contentious construction advice, particularly in the rail sector. He has undertaken secondments to Qatar Rail, London Underground and the Crossrail Project for Carillion plc. He has provided tendering advice and contract review for the multi-billion dollar civil engineering contracts for the new Doha Metro being built by Qatar Rail. He has advised a client in the energy sector on contract drafting and risk management for the provision of hydro-electric equipment to overseas clients. He has carried out the construction drafting on an implementation agreement for a £326 million rail project in London, agreements for lease on a flagship commercial development in East London, and construction contracts (including FIDIC, NEC, JCT, ACE, RIBA and bespoke forms) on construction projects of varying size and complexity.

Martin Schulz, General Counsel - Legal & Compliance, Qatar and Levante Region, Siemens

Martin is the General Counsel for Legal and Compliance Siemens WLL Qatar and the Levante Region (Jordan, Lebanon, Syria). He is a fully qualified German lawyer. Martin studied Law, Political Science and Korean Studies in Germany, New Zealand and South Korea. During the last 17 years of his professional career he worked for a German Think Tank advising the Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs, a global management consulting firm, a top tier German law firm and finally for Siemens AG (Berlin, Germany) / WLL (Doha, Qatar). Martin advised especially on M&A transactions, Corporate and Energy Law, Mobility Turnkey Projects and Compliance. He is married and has two children.

Sami Hourbi, Director for Eastern Mediterranean, Middle East & Africa, ICC International Court of Arbitration; Partner, Houerbi Law Firm, Dubai/Tunis

Sami Houerbi is the Director of the ICC Eastern Mediterranean, Middle-East and Africa ICC Dispute Resolution Services, where he is in charge of raising awareness about Alternative Dispute Resolution mechanisms throughout the region and promoting ICC Arbitration and ADR Rules. Prior to that, he was member of the Secretariat of the International Court of Arbitration in Paris, where he was directly involved in the administration and managing ICC arbitration proceedings. Mr Houerbi is a registered lawyer of the Tunis Bar Association and the Managing Partner of Houerbi Law firm, which areas of practice include mainly: Corporate Law, Arbitration and Litigation. Sami Houerbi acts regularly as arbitrator under ad hoc and various international arbitration institutions. He holds a post-graduate degree in international law from the University of Paris II and an LL.M in German Law from the Ludwig-Maximilian University in Munich. His working languages are Arabic, English, French and German.

Dr. Minas Khatchadourian, General Counsel, Qatar International Center for Conciliation and Arbitration

Dr. Minas Khatchadourian is the General Counsel of the Qatar International Center for Conciliation and Arbitration (QJCCA). He is a member of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (UK) and the representative of Qatar at the Institute for Transnational Arbitration (USA).

He holds a PhD. Degree in International Arbitration from Montpellier University (France) and is a visiting professor in several universities. He has authored many articles on international commercial and investment arbitration in a large number of legal reviews in Qatar and abroad. He sits regularly as an arbitrator under different Rules such as ICC, DIAC, ADCCAC, CRCICA, LCIA and ISTAC. He advises several public entities in Qatar and abroad in matters related to Energy, oil and gas, investment, construction and defense.

Jingzhou Tao, Managing Partner, Dechert LLP

Jingzhou Tao is the Managing Partner at Dechert LLP responsible for developing the firm's Asian practice. He has more than 30 years of experience advising Fortune 500 companies on China-related matters. He has acted as counsel, chief arbitrator or party-nominated arbitrator in over a hundred international arbitration proceedings. International arbitration related positions currently held by Jingzhou include: Member of the Court, ICC International Court of Arbitration since 1999; Member of the Advisory Committee of China International Economic and Trade Arbitration Commission (CIETAC); Member of Arbitration Advisory Board of Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre (HKIAC); Member of the Board of Trustee of Foundation International for Arbitration Advocacy; Member of the Editorial Board of Global Arbitration Review.

He is a listed arbitrator for arbitration institutions including AAA, HKIAC, SIAC, VIAC, KLRCA, CIETAC, SHIAC, BAC, as well as the Court of Arbitration for Sport.

Mr. Tao is a frequent speaker among the legal world and has also published many articles in Chinese and international legal and business publications. He is also an adjunct professor at Peking University Law School, East China University of Political Science and Law, China University of Political Science and Law for the MBA program, and a specially-invited professor of law for the International Arbitration Program at Tsinghua University School of Law.

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The Organiser

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