



**PRIVATE PRACTICE POWERLIST 2023**  
**ARBITRATION | SOUTHEAST ASIA**

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For over 30 years, *The Legal 500* has been analysing the capabilities of law firms and sets across the world. In the research team, we constantly track which sections are used most by clients, and this often matches up with an increase in that section from submissions, client referees, requests for interviews and feedback – all of which make up the research process. The international arbitration rankings are consistently one of our most used and read editorial sections and one of the most competitive areas for law firms, sets, lawyers and barristers. This very much chimes with what we constantly hear anecdotally in the market, with international arbitration frequently cited as the preferred form of dispute resolution.

The *Arbitration Powerlist: Southeast Asia 2023* showcases the leading practitioners working in Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam, as well as practitioners in the UK who have a significant level of expertise in Southeast Asia. The use of arbitration continues to rise in Southeast Asia, as evidenced by the ever-increasing number of case filings in leading Southeast Asian arbitration institutions, including the Singapore International Arbitration Centre (SIAC). One notable trend is the increasing preference for international arbitration as a preferred method of resolving cross-border disputes among businesses and governments within the region. Several Southeast Asian countries have taken steps to enhance their arbitration frameworks, aligning them with international standards and best practices, thus fostering a more arbitration-friendly environment. This is thought to be due to, in part, the growth in the region and the relatively low costs of conducting arbitration in Southeast Asia. As Southeast Asian economies continue to grow

and attract foreign investment, the region's arbitration landscape is likely to evolve further, with an increased focus on diversity, technology integration, and expedited dispute resolution processes. It is no surprise, then, that there is a huge array of talent in this region.

In the process of compiling this list and speaking with the included practitioners, we were granted a fascinating insight into how the wider region works. Arbitrators in Southeast Asia recognise the value of the incredible cultural diversity in the region, which then allows them to work extremely efficiently with other international lawyers. It is widely believed that the unprecedented technological developments have and will impose a wider focus on the generational diversity, which is critical to the growth and development of international arbitration. It was brilliant to see firms stating that arbitrators and counsel can impart beneficial cultural insights and bridge gaps in understanding in the arbitration process.

As with any publication of this nature, we were faced with the dilemma of including as many worthy candidates as possible without diluting the significance of their listing. After lengthy discussions across the editorial team, we decided that a larger selection was necessary to provide sufficient nuance and balance across so many different markets.

To collate the list of leading practitioners we have of course drawn on our research team's expertise. We have also approached leading arbitrators, arbitral institutions and general counsel active in the market to help create a definitive list of the leading arbitration counsel in Southeast Asia today. As such, we think the listing reflects those practitioners that are deemed the gold standard by businesses. ■



Elena Lewis | Senior research analyst for the *Arbitration Powerlist – Southeast Asia*



Funke Olufon | Research analyst for the *Arbitration Powerlist – Southeast Asia*



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## Important Regional Arbitration Centres – Southeast Asia

### **Maxwell Chambers**

Location: Singapore

### **Singapore Institute of Arbitrators (SIARB)**

Location: Singapore

### **Singapore International Arbitration Centre (SIAC)**

Location: Singapore

### **Singapore International Commercial Court (SICC) Registry Services**

Location: Singapore

### **Brunei Darussalam Arbitration Centre**

Location: Brunei

### **National Commercial Arbitration Centre**

Location: Cambodia

### **BANI Arbitration Center**

Location: Indonesia

### **Indonesian Capital Market Arbitration Board (BAPMI)**

Location: Indonesia

### **The Chartered Institute of Arbitrators: Indonesia Chapter**

Location: Indonesia

### **Asian International Arbitration Centre (AIAC)**

Location: Malaysia

### **The Malaysian International Chambers of Commerce (MICCI)**

Location: Malaysia

### **The Thai Chamber of Commerce (TCC) and Board of Trade of Thailand (BOT)**

Location: Thailand

### **Pacific International Arbitration Centre (PIAC)**

Location: Vietnam

### **Vietnam International Arbitration Centre**

Location: Vietnam

## Important Regional Litigation Funders – Southeast Asia

### **Omni Bridgeway**

Location: Singapore

### **Litigation Capital Management**

Location: Singapore

### **Burford Capital**

Location: Singapore





## Cecil Abraham

Cecil Abraham & Partners

**Job title:** Senior partner

**Location:** Malaysia

**Number of years in practice:** 53

**Number of years as an arbitrator:** 30

**Current number of arbitrator appointments:** Ten

**Admissions:** Advocate and solicitor of the High Court of Malaya, advocate and solicitor of the Supreme Court of Singapore, barrister-at-law of Middle Temple

**Main sectors covered:** Corporate and commercial, environment, banking and securities, insurance, maritime, competition law and arbitration

**Geographical area of focus:** Malaysia

**Languages:** English, Malay, Tamil

Tan Sri Dato' Cecil Abraham is the senior partner at Cecil Abraham & Partners. His career at the Malaysian Bar spans over 50 years.

Within that time, he has appeared in all the divisions of the High Court of Malaya. He has appeared regularly before the Court of Appeal, the Federal Court, the Special Court, and the Privy Council. He has over 300 reported decisions of note to his name. He is first and foremost an advocate and is regarded by his peers and clients alike as one of Malaysia's leading advocates, known to be devastatingly effective in court. He has a formidable reputation for dealing with complex disputes where the stakes are high and is known to work hard to achieve a satisfactory result for his clients.

He holds the distinction of having acted for the former Prime Minister of Singapore, the late Mr Lee Kuan Yew, and several Prime Ministers of Malaysia.

He is also regularly appointed as an arbitrator in domestic and international commercial arbitrations and is the only Malaysian to be continually appointed as an arbitrator in investment treaty disputes.



## Sunil Abraham

Cecil Abraham & Partners

Job title: Partner

Location: Malaysia

Number of years in practice: 20

Number of years as an arbitrator: Five

Current number of arbitrator appointments: Five

Admissions: Advocate and solicitor of the High Court of Malaya, barrister-at-law of Middle Temple

Main sectors covered: Corporate and commercial, banking and securities, media, telecommunications, public and administrative and environmental law disputes

Geographical area of focus: Malaysia

Languages: English, Malay

Dato' Sunil Abraham is a partner at Cecil Abraham & Partners. He specialises in corporate and commercial, banking and securities, media, telecommunications, public and administrative and environmental law disputes as well as in arbitration disputes. He has significant advocacy experience before the High Court, Court of Appeal and Federal Court and before arbitral tribunals.

Dato' Sunil has successfully represented Raub Australian Gold Mining Sdn Bhd in a defamation claim against Mkini Dotcom Sdn Bhd (reported in *Mkini Dotcom Sdn Bhd & ors v Raub Australian Gold Mining Sdn Bhd* [2021] 5 MLJ 79) involving issues relating to the law on responsible journalism and reportage. He has also had the distinction of representing several ministers within the government of Malaysia in numerous libel claims, including appearing as co-counsel for the government of Malaysia in an investment treaty arbitration claim instituted by Malaysian Historical Salvors and as co-counsel for investors in investment treaty disputes.

## Angara Abello Concepcion Regala & Cruz Law Offices (ACCRALAW)

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### Business message

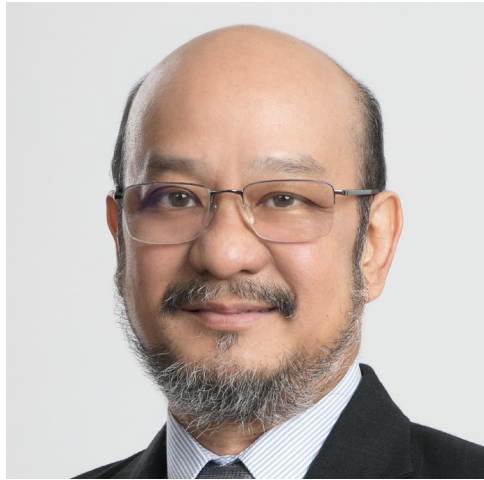
ACCRALAW was founded in 1972, out of the shared vision of its five founding partners to establish an institutional law firm based on the highest standards of legal competence.

Today, 51 years after it first opened its doors, the firm has approximately 176 lawyers (45 of whom are partners), around 180 support staff, and two branches in the two most important commercial cities in the country outside Metro Manila. ACCRALAW is uniquely positioned to

service clients throughout the Philippines. Equally as important, the lawyers have vast cross-border experience in complicated international transactions and are able to quickly service and communicate with international clients in real time. The firm also has an impressive network of correspondent firms positioned in the primary business centres of the world. The firm's strong presence in the Philippines, coupled with its international experience, makes it truly distinct in the Philippines.

The economy of the Philippines, together with the rest of Asia, is growing at an unprecedented rate. Moreover, financial centres and fortunes are shifting towards this region where there is a burgeoning, young, upwardly mobile and educated population with increasing disposable income. In the face of all this growth and economic activity, ACCRALAW is strategically and uniquely situated to serve its clients within the region and globally.







## Victor P. Lazatin

ACCRALAW

Job title: Senior legal counsel

Location: Philippines

Number of years in practice: 52

Number of years as an arbitrator: 32

Current number of arbitrator appointments:  
Five

Admissions: Philippines

Main sectors covered: Contracts, construction,  
corporate disputes

Geographical area of focus: Philippines

Languages: Filipino, English

Victor P. Lazatin is heavily involved in civil and commercial litigation, construction arbitration, and arbitration law. He is an accredited arbitrator of the Construction Industry Arbitration Commission, Philippine Dispute Resolution Center, Inc., Hong Kong International Arbitration Center, Shanghai International Arbitration Centre, and the Singapore International Arbitration Centre. He has assisted numerous domestic and foreign entities in arbitration, either as an advocate or arbitrator. His expertise has allowed him to contribute as an author of academic articles on litigation, arbitration, and dispute resolution as well as a speaker at various national and international conferences.

Victor is a member in several professional organisations such as the Inter-Pacific Bar Association, the ASEAN Law Association, the Integrated Bar of the Philippines, the Philippine Bar Association (PBA), and the Philippine Council of the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC). Victor had been a regular member of the ICC International Court of Arbitration from 2014 up to 2021. Victor served as president of the Philippine Institute of Construction Arbitrators and Mediators (PICAM) from 2005 to 2006, the PBA from 2006 to 2007, the Philippine Dispute

Resolution Center, Inc. (PDRCI) from 2009 to 2013, and the Philippine Bar Association from 2006 to 2007. He has been the chairman of the PDRCI from 2017 up to the present.

Victor graduated from the University of the Philippines College of Law cum laude in 1971. He was admitted to the Philippine Bar in 1972 and, subsequently, obtained a Master of Laws from the University of Michigan in 1974 as a Clyde A. Dewitt Fellow. He has authored/co-authored the following:

- *Handbook on Construction Arbitration* published by CIAC (1993).
- *Private Construction Disputes and Arbitration* published by CIAC.
- *Dispute Resolution in Asia* – co-author (Philippine section) – Michael Pryles (ed), Kluwer Law International (1997).
- *International Commercial Arbitration in Asia* – Philip J. Mc Connaughay and Thomas B. Ginsberg (ed), co-author (Philippine section) Arbitration in the Philippines – Juris Publishing, Inc. (2002).
- *Asia Arbitration Handbook* – Michael J. Moser and John Choong (ed), co-author (Philippine section) Oxford University Press (2011).
- *Handbook on International and Commercial Arbitration* published by USAID and PDRCI (2016) on Pre-Hearing Proceedings in Arbitration.
- *International Commercial Arbitration and Philippine Law – Jurisdiction and Arbitrability*, volume I (2014) published by Institute of International Legal Studies, University of the Philippines Law Center, co-author – 2016.

## In conversation with...

### What are the most impressive cases you have worked on as counsel or arbitrator?

I had an international arbitration case where these issues were invoked and for the first time, resolved under Philippine law, to wit:

- Applicability of the 'group of company doctrine' for a non-signatory party.
- Whether 'litis pendencia', 'res judicata', 'forum shopping' and 'splitting of causes of action' were jurisdictional or admissibility issues and subject to court review.
- The difference between 'express waiver', 'implied waiver' and 'waiver by operation by law' of an arbitration agreement under the UNCITRAL Model Law.

### What are your views on diversity and inclusion in international arbitration today?

Like in all fields, arbitration is slowly opening up to diversity and inclusion, both gender-wise and race-wise.

In the Philippines, the ratio of men to women in two of the most active arbitral institutions is approximately 15% at present and improving. Ten years ago, it was merely 5%.

In the International scene, among the ranks of arbitrators, it appears to me that gender parity is moving faster (though far from equal) than racial parity (which is more grossly disproportionate). There are less African and Asian (to lesser extent) arbitrators appointed in proportion to the global population. European and American arbitrators are still quite dominant in the field.

**What do international counsel facing a matter in the jurisdiction need to know about the local arbitration scene?**

On the local arbitration scene, an international counsel needs to know the following:

- The mandatory provisions of the lex arbitri or arbitration law applicable to the seat.
- The judicial attitude towards arbitration – whether it is arbitration friendly and not prone to judicial intervention.
- Good local counsel to collaborate with and assist on the above two matters and other issues that may come along.

**When you look back at your career and the knowledge you have gained, what advice would you give to those who are about to embark on a career practising arbitration?**

I would advise young starting arbitrators to keep on learning by attending arbitration seminars and conferences; be visible, actively participate, keep networking and keep in touch with contacts; continue to write and speak on arbitration and related fields; build a good library on arbitration and related fields; and be persistent.

**What is your philosophy on settling disputes through arbitration versus other dispute resolution methods?**

When parties are already in arbitration, I believe that other dispute resolution methods will likely not be effective. There are, of course, exceptions. For example, expert determination by an independent expert may be used to establish the disputed value of properties or assets involved in the arbitration. Mediation may also be pursued if the parties exhibit willingness to settle and did not have a reasonable opportunity to do so earlier. ■





# Patricia-Ann T. Prodigalidad

## ACCRA LAW

**Job title:** Senior partner, managing partner

**Location:** Philippines

**Number of years in practice:** 26+

**Number of years as an arbitrator:** Seven

**Current number of arbitrator appointments:** Four

**Admissions:** Philippines

**Main sectors covered:** Construction, infrastructure, banking and securities, project finance, intellectual property, supply and distribution agreements, bankruptcy and reorganisation and intra-corporate disputes

**Geographical areas of focus:** Southeast Asia, Philippines

Patricia-Ann T. Prodigalidad is a senior partner of the litigation and dispute resolution department of ACCRALAW, a full-service and institutional law firm in the Philippines. Patricia currently serves as the firm's managing partner.

With over 25 years of experience in managing disputes in complex commercial and corporate governance matters as well as handling numerous high-profile cases and cross-border litigations, Patricia has been consistently recognised as one of the country's prominent practitioners and leading lawyers. She leverages her science background and biology degree in representing clients in product liability, intellectual property, and environmental litigation. She has assisted clients in various congressional inquiries before various committees of the Philippine House of Representatives and the Senate.

Though an active litigator, Patricia is likewise an accomplished ADR practitioner. She penned the first emergency arbitrator decision in a commercial arbitration administered by the Philippine Dispute Resolution Center, Inc. In addition, Patricia is on the panel of arbitrators of the Philippine Construction Industry Arbitration Commission and the Philippine International Center for Conflict Resolution, and is the sole female accredited Philippine arbitrator on the panel of the Singapore International Arbitration Centre. She is currently the alternate court member for the Philippines in the ICC Court of Arbitration.

In 2013, Patricia successfully passed the Dispute Board Adjudicator Assessment Workshop

sponsored by FIDIC and the Japanese International Cooperation Agency. She now serves as the sole dispute board member for a Philippine water treatment and sewerage project.

She is well-published, has spoken at international and local conferences, and has been consistently recognised by various agencies for her achievements in litigation, arbitration, and dispute resolution.

In 2019, Patricia was one of the distinguished recipients of the 'The Outstanding Women in the Nation's Service (TOWNS)' award for her outstanding contributions to the field of law.

Patricia is a graduate of the University of the Philippines College of Law. She obtained her Master of Laws degree in 2004 from Harvard Law School.

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## In conversation with...

### **What is the most memorable case you have worked on as an arbitrator? And why was it memorable?**

One of the most memorable matters that I have worked on as an arbitrator was when I penned the first emergency arbitrator award in a commercial arbitration administered by the Philippine Dispute Resolution Center Inc. (PDRCI), the preeminent arbitral institution in the country. Though the main dispute involved a port services agreement and the circumstances surrounding its execution, implementation and termination, and presented a primary monetary claim of almost PhP2bn, the case presented the novel question on whether the emergency arbitrator had the authority, under Philippine arbitration law, to review or reassess an interim measure of protection previously granted by a Regional Trial Court prior to the commencement of the arbitration. The case was memorable because it was a 'first' on various levels.

First, though the use of emergency arbitrators was quite common in other jurisdictions, the same was unheard of in the Philippines at that time. Though the PDRCI had provided for it in its rules, this case was the first application for the actual appointment of an emergency arbitrator in a PDRC-administered arbitration.

Secondly, prior to this case, there was no jurisprudence that provided a clear demarcation of the powers of an emergency arbitrator. Though Philippine arbitration law is quite clear on the authority of an arbitrator vis-à-vis a court that had issued an interim measure of protection prior to the commencement of an arbitration, the same was not true for emergency arbitrators.

Thirdly, though a domestic arbitration in nature, I was conscious my decision on the issue, as emergency arbitrator, could possibly shape arbitration law and jurisprudence, impact the arbitration landscape in the Philippines and, thus, have significant consequences on all types of arbitration, whether domestic, international commercial or otherwise.

### **What aspects of a potential arbitration are more likely to grab your attention and have you eager to be involved?**

To me, what would likely pique my interest would be the complexity, if not novelty, of the issues involved. Having an educational background in the sciences, I enjoy the challenges presented by technical issues that would require me to employ the skills that were developed by my scientific background. In addition, being an academic as well as an ADR advocate in the Philippines, I am eager to be involved in cases that would likely impact Philippine arbitration law and the development of the Philippine ADR environment as a whole.

### **Which recent political, economic or regulatory changes have impacted your practice the most?**

Fortunately, changes at the global level have not impacted my practice significantly. Nonetheless, I must admit that the economic difficulties suffered by some industries have presented more disputes and, consequently, more opportunities for arbitration.

The foregoing notwithstanding, there are changes being implemented at the national level that may likely impact ADR practice (including the practice of arbitrators) in the Philippines. Under the Republic Act No. 9285, or the Alternative Dispute Resolution Act of 2004, the Office of Alternative Dispute Resolution, or OADR, was established as an attached agency of the Philippines Department of Justice. By legislative mandate, the main objectives of the OADR are to promote, develop and expand the use of ADR in

the private and public sectors as well as to assist the government in monitoring, studying and evaluating the use of ADR and make necessary recommendations to Congress. Though it is empowered to formulate standards for the training of ADR practitioners and to certify that such ADR practitioners have undergone the professional training required by the OADR, these legislative functions are now being used as a stepping board for accreditation such that only OADR-accredited ADR practitioners (including arbitrators) may act as neutrals in, for example, disputes involving Philippine government projects. As a number of Philippine government projects are arbitrated outside the country and under the auspices of foreign institutions, this accreditation and seeming attempt at regulation by the OADR may have implications that extend far beyond the Philippines.

**You are an expert in financial transactions and construction law. What advice would you give to someone also wishing to excel in this area?**

Expertise in any area, whether in business or law, would require exhaustive education on theory and, more importantly, immersion in practice. So, for those who want to excel in these areas, it is important to attend conferences, participate in seminars, and read reference books and scholarly articles in order to be aware of fundamental principles but also be abreast of new developments and trends. Developing expertise requires one to admit that there is always room for improvement and growth and, thus, entails a willingness to continue learning. In addition to learning theory, however, one must be able to use learnings in practical scenarios. Thus, one must be willing to get one's feet wet and dirty, so to speak, and thus one must find opportunities for these practical immersions. And, I say find, not wait. So, join focus groups, participate in technical workshops, and apply for positions that allow actual exposure to these areas of practice.

**What qualities make for a successful arbitrator?**

To my mind, all successful arbitrators have certain commonalities but foremost would be competence and integrity. Evincing integrity is their hallmark – an unblemished reputation. Successful arbitrators protect their reputations at all costs. Additional key qualities would be attention to detail as well as very good time management and people skills.

In my view, additional qualities may be demanded of women arbitrators. Though there is affirmative action to ensure diversity in arbitration panels across all institutions and jurisdictions, women arbitrators in the Philippines, especially in international commercial arbitration, are still few. Thus, women in arbitration must have the additional qualities of perseverance, persistence, and grit, while maintaining the stereotypical female ways of meticulousness and being nurturing and accommodating. Being people-oriented, as most women are characterised to be, is an extremely helpful quality especially when in a tribunal with two male (and senior) arbitrators. ■



# Arnold M. Corporal

## ACCRA LAW

**Job title:** Senior partner

**Location:** Philippines

**Number of years in practice:** 25

**Admissions:** Philippines, 1998

**Main sectors covered:** Litigation and dispute resolution involving public utilities, construction, banking and securities, estates and government contracts

**Geographical area of focus:** Philippines

**Languages:** English, Filipino

Arnold Corporal is a senior partner at ACCRA LAW and works under the firm's litigation and dispute resolution department.

He has been practising law for more than 20 years, and is focused on litigation and arbitration of commercial and regulatory disputes involving public utilities and other regulated businesses (such as telecommunications, broadcast and media companies, toll roads, electric and water utilities), banks and other financial institutions, property development and construction companies.

Arnold's experience in arbitration spans the entirety of his more than 20 years in the practice of law, having represented the firm's clients before the Construction Industry Arbitration Commission (CIAC), the Philippine Dispute Resolution Center (PDRC), Singapore International Arbitration Center (SIAC) and International Chamber of Commerce – International Court of Arbitration (ICC-ICA), and in various ad-hoc arbitrations.

## In conversation with...

### What are the most impressive cases you have worked on as counsel or arbitrator?

Among the cases that I have handled that are the most significant are the following:

- Litigation before the Supreme Court on the definition of the term 'Capital', as found in

the Philippine Constitution, for purposes of determining whether a public utility complies with the 40% foreign-ownership restriction. This issue (in *Gamboa vs. Teves*) spilled over into another case (*Roy vs. Herbosa*), where the Supreme Court clarified the manner by which 'capital' is to be reckoned (only voting shares are to be considered) and has since become a memorandum circular issued by the Securities and Exchange Commission to guide companies that are public utilities.

- Litigation before the Supreme Court for a large water distribution company against a consumer group to enjoin the company's operation of sewerage and septage facilities through a Writ of Kalikasan (an extraordinary writ issued in environment law cases). This was recently decided by the Supreme Court in favour of the water distribution company.
- An ICC arbitration where we represented an investment company against the former owners of a credit card company acquired by the client. The main issues revolved around the interpretation and application of generally accepted accounting principles and the impact of financial statements that did not accurately reflect the condition of the credit card company, thereby impacting on the sellers' representations and warranties. This was favourably ruled in favour of our client.
- Litigations before the Supreme Court for a broadcasting company on various issues ranging from a broadcaster's right to cover and provide the public information on the country's national and local elections, and issues regarding censorship and a broadcaster's responsibility over conduct of its talents that are aired.
- Litigation before the Supreme Court for a telecommunications client against the Philippine Competition Commission, to prevent the latter's assumption of jurisdiction over one of the largest acquisitions in the telecommunications sector.
- Litigation before the National Telecommunications Commission for a telecommunications company

against a competitor to obtain approval of our client's acquisition of the third player in the telecommunications industry.

- Litigation before the trial courts (ongoing) for a water company against a losing bidder in a bid for the rehabilitation and operation of a local water utility in Dumaguete province.
- Representation of a client (a large multinational pharmaceutical company) before the Philippine Senate, the Department of Health and various local government units to assist the client in its issues arising from its contract with the Philippine government and local government units for the supply of vaccines procured at the height of the Covid-19 pandemic.

### What do you think are the most important qualities or skills you bring to an arbitration?

I have 25 years of experience as a lawyer and also as a businessman. Understanding the client's problems and objective requires immersing oneself into the client's business to get a better perspective of the genesis of the dispute and how best to align the client's objectives to the processes of an arbitration and the nuances thereof that the client may not necessarily be familiar with. Doing so simplifies the exchange of information necessary to best prepare for the arbitration, as well as ensuring that both the client and my team are fully invested in seeing the process through to the solution that we aim to achieve. For construction disputes, we work very closely with the client's teams on the ground at the inception of a dispute to guide them on documentation and escalation to ensure that all decision-makers within the organisation are aware of the dispute and can contribute to the objective of finding either a settlement to avoid the dispute, or preparing air-tight evidence for use in an arbitration.

### How would you describe your firm's arbitration practice in the wider region? What strengths does it have as a wider group of attorneys?

Our firm's arbitration practice is growing in the region. I have acted as co-counsel for a number of arbitrations before the SIAC on behalf of



Philippine clients. Our firm's arbitration team has also assisted other clients before the SIAC, ICC and HKIAC. Our arbitration team draws strength from the various experiences of our lawyers, whether as counsel or arbitrators, and our active participation in the various trainings provided by various arbitration institutions, whether local or foreign. We also draw strength from our being a full-service firm with a wide range of experience and expertise in many practice areas that allow us to draw on and call in lawyers from other practice areas where the substantive law issues require their assistance or participation.

**You have experience in a wide array of industry sectors, ranging from public utilities to banking. What advice would you give to someone also wishing to become an expert in a wide range of sectors?**

Understanding the client's business and objectives is very important. When a client sees their external counsel wanting to know more about them and better understand their business and goals, communication between the client and external counsel becomes more seamless and there is a clearer understanding of the origins of a dispute and the many different ways by which it can be resolved. It also helps if there is a sharing of updates between lawyer and client that goes both ways – such that counsel updates clients on new laws or legal trends that have an impact on a client's operations, and the client also updates counsel on new things they are getting into to give counsel a heads-up on what legal issues may arise from them. And most important, is keeping abreast of developments in the different practice areas not just seminars and conferences, but also in meetings or visits with regulators to better understand new issuances and their impact from both a regulator's perspective and the business perspective.

**What are your goals for practice in the next five years?**

My goals over the next five years is to help our firm continue to grow our arbitration practice in my practice sectors, and also to study how emerging trends (for example, artificial intelligence, fintech regulation, the new law redefining public utilities) will have an impact on the types of disputes that may find their way into arbitration. ■





**Salvador L. Peña**  
ACCRALAW

**Job title:** Senior partner, co-managing partner

**Location:** Philippines

**Number of years in practice:** 35

**Admissions:** Philippines

**Main sectors covered:** Construction, real property development, retail trade, banking

**Geographical area of focus:** Philippines

**Languages:** English, Filipino

Salvador L. Peña served as the firm's co-managing partner. He specialises in alternative dispute resolution, litigation, product liability and consumer protection.

Peña was admitted to the Philippine Bar in 1988 and is a member of the Rizal-San Juan-Mandaluyong Chapter of the Integrated Bar of the Philippines.



**Leland R. Villadolid, Jr.**  
ACCRALAW

**Job title:** Senior partner, co-managing partner

**Location:** Philippines

**Number of years in practice:** 33

**Admissions:** Philippines, Washington DC

**Main sectors covered:** Telecommunications, media and information technology, data privacy and security

**Languages:** English, Filipino

Leland R. Villadolid, Jr. obtained his Bachelor of Laws from the Ateneo De Manila University, College of Law. After passing the bar examinations, he worked as a legislative staff officer under former Senate president Edgardo J. Angara. Thereafter, he joined ACCRALAW where he was principally trained in litigation. Leland then applied for further studies and obtained his Masters of Laws from the George Washington University Law School. While in Washington DC, Leland was awarded a fellowship grant by the United States – Asia Environmental Partnership Program (US-AEP) for fellowship training at the Environmental Law Institute (ELI) in Washington DC.

Leland specialises in litigation and arbitration principally in the areas of information, telecommunication and technology and cyber security. He has handled international and domestic arbitration cases before the Philippine Dispute Resolution Center (PDRCI) and Construction Industry Arbitration Center (CIAC). He also handles cases in the areas of public utilities, antitrust and trade regulation, environment and natural resources, consumer protection and product liability.

Among his recent significant transactions are arbitration representing a financial institution involving an information technology dispute; criminal and civil litigation regarding cyber-related crimes, representing banking institutions before the trial and appellate courts and Supreme Court; and administrative proceedings representing information, communication and technology companies before the National Telecommunications Commission.

Leland also serves as corporate secretary and legal consultant of the Information Security Officers Group (ISOG), an organisation whose members consist of the chief information security officers and data privacy officers of leading banks and financial institutions in the Philippines as well as other companies with heavy IT security requirements. In the field of cybercrime enforcement, Leland was a former adviser to the Philippine National Police Anti-Cybercrime Group and National Bureau of Investigation. Leland gives lectures or participates as panellist on cyber security and data privacy issues at various forums and conferences. He also participates as resource person before the Bankers Association of the Philippines (BAP) Task Force on Cyber Security.



**Gilberto D. Gallos**  
ACCRA LAW

Job title: Senior partner

Location: Philippines

Number of years in practice: 30

Admissions: Philippines

Main sectors covered: Litigation and arbitration (banking, construction, and commercial disputes), corporate rehabilitation and liquidation

Geographical areas of focus: Southeast Asia, South Asia

Languages: English, Filipino

Gilberto D. Gallos' practice areas include civil, commercial and criminal litigation before the regular courts, as well as commercial and construction arbitration before domestic and international tribunals. He has argued before the Court of Appeals and the Supreme Court, and has represented a diverse range of clients in various quasi-judicial and administrative agencies. Gilberto also specialises in corporate bankruptcy and rehabilitation.

He has regularly contributed to the World Bank's Doing Business Project.

In 2004, he delivered a paper entitled 'Trends and Developments in Insolvency Systems and Risk Management: The Experience of the Philippines' during the Forum on Asian Insolvency Reform in New Delhi, India.

Gilberto is also a member of the Working Committee of the Asian Principles of Business Restructuring Project – a joint project of the Asian Business Law Institute (ABLI) and the International Insolvency Institute (III).

Gilberto has been cited a leading lawyer in the field of dispute resolution and litigation in the Philippines by various legal publications.

He was admitted to the Philippine Bar in 1994 and is a member of the Makati City Chapter of the Integrated Bar of the Philippines.



**Teodoro L. Regala, Jr.**  
ACCRA LAW

Job title: Senior partner

Location: Philippines

Number of years in practice: 29

Admissions: Philippines

Main sectors covered: Litigation, construction arbitration, contracts, property

Geographical area of focus: Philippines

Languages: English, Filipino

Teodoro L. Regala, Jr. is involved in civil and commercial litigation, administrative cases, and criminal cases. He has successfully handled the litigation of a variety of court and administrative cases from the lower courts or quasi-judicial bodies up to the Supreme Court. He also has extensive experience in construction arbitration and has successfully represented clients who were contractors or owners of multimillion-peso construction projects before the Construction Industry Arbitration Commission (CIAC).





**Oliver L. Pantaleon**  
ACCRALAW

**Job title:** Senior partner

**Location:** Philippines

**Number of years in practice:** 26

**Admissions:** Philippines

**Main sectors covered:** Energy, oil and gas, banking and finance, real estate, environment

**Geographical area of focus:** Philippines

**Languages:** English, Filipino

Oliver L. Pantaleon is a senior partner of ACCRALAW. He is also the head of the litigation and dispute resolution department. He has over 26 years of complex litigation and arbitration experience. His practice focuses on commercial and civil litigation and arbitration, both international and domestic, involving high-stakes business disputes, energy disputes, contractual and transactional disputes, shareholder disputes, director and officer liability, and antitrust litigation. His oil and energy dispute practice involves complex cases with reputational and industry-wide implications. His white-collar practice includes representation of directors and officers of corporate clients in criminal cases. He has acted for a diverse range of clients, including a multinational oil company, an international tobacco manufacturer, the largest power distribution company in the country, and domestic and foreign banks.



**Jose Martin R. Tensuan**  
ACCRALAW

**Job title:** Senior partner

**Location:** Philippines

**Number of years in practice:** 26

**Number of years as an arbitrator:** Six

**Admissions:** Philippines

**Main sectors covered:** Banking, construction, environment, health, mining, oil and gas, pharmaceuticals, telecommunications

**Languages:** English, Filipino, Mandarin

Jose Martin R. Tensuan is a senior partner of ACCRALAW. He is the current monitor of its alternative dispute resolution group (ADRG) and has been tasked, among others, to assist in spearheading the growth and development of the arbitration practice of the firm. He began his legal career in ACCRALAW's litigation and dispute resolution department (LDRD), which recently created the ADRG. Early in his practice, Jose was exposed to and handled construction arbitration cases before the Construction Industry Arbitration Commission (CIAC) and assisted clients in connection with major construction projects such as Stage 2 of the Skyway Project. He then broadened his arbitration practice to include domestic and international commercial arbitration, appearing before tribunals under the auspices of the Philippine Dispute Resolution Center, Inc. (PDRCI), Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre (HKIAC) and Singapore International Arbitration Centre (SIAC). Jose also participated in mediation proceedings before The Conflicts Resolution Group Foundation (CORE).

Jose has been appointed as arbitrator to resolve multimillion-dollar domestic and international commercial and construction disputes. Since 2007, he has participated as both lecturer and panelist in various ADR-related conferences held in both domestic and international fora. Jose has also co-authored the Philippine chapter on the 'The Law and Practice in the Philippines' of the *Chambers Global Practice Guide in International Arbitration* from 2019 to 2022.

He obtained his Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy in 1991 from the University of the Philippines and his Juris Doctor in 1996 from Ateneo de Manila University Law School. He has completed courses on arbitration, negotiation and dispute boards and is a trained arbitrator of the PDRCI and accredited arbitrator of the CIAC. He is currently a director and treasurer of the PICAM and is likewise a member of the International Council for Commercial Arbitration (ICCA) and the ADR Committee of the ASEAN Law Association.



**Antonio Eduardo S. Nachura, Jr.**  
ACCRA LAW

Job title: Partner

Location: Philippines

Number of years in practice: 16

Admissions: Philippine Bar

Main sectors covered: Public utilities, banking, telecommunications, construction, property

Geographical area of focus: Philippines

Languages: English, Filipino

Antonio Eduardo Nachura, Jr. specialises in litigation, alternative dispute resolution, administrative law, civil law, criminal law and corporate law.

Apart from regularly appearing before the various prosecutorial offices, trial and appellate courts, as well as quasi-judicial agencies and regulatory boards, Antonio also handles arbitration cases before the International Chamber of Commerce – International Court of Arbitration (ICC), the Philippine Dispute Resolution Center, Inc. (PDRC) and the Construction Industry Arbitration Commission (CIAC).

Among the significant arbitration cases he has handled include:

- enforcing contractual provisions for breach of warranty in the sale of a company in an arbitration before the ICC;
- defending a government agency in terminating a contract before an ad-hoc arbitration; and
- assisting in the enforcement of contractual obligations involving the Special Purpose Vehicle Law before the PDRC.

As a professor of Philippine political law, constitutional law, administrative law, law of public officers, election law and law on public corporations, Antonio remains up to date with the recent relevant issuances and jurisprudence.



**Antonio Jose Gerardo T. Paz**  
ACCRA LAW

Job title: Partner

Location: Philippines

Number of years in practice: 14

Admissions: Philippines

Main sectors covered: Construction, mining, energy, public utilities, product liability and consumer protection

Languages: English, Filipino

Antonio Jose Gerardo T. Paz specialises in litigation, alternative dispute resolution, arbitration, appellate practice, product liability and consumer protection, administrative law, criminal law, civil law, and family law.

For both Filipino and foreign clients, Antonio has appeared as counsel before the various trial and appellate courts, as well as the various quasi-judicial agencies, prosecutorial offices, regulatory boards and arbitration tribunals constituted by the Philippine Dispute Resolution, Inc. and the Construction Industry Arbitration Commission. He has represented clients in various sectors such as wholesale and retail distribution, manufacturing of motor vehicles, water distribution, pharmaceuticals, public utilities, telecommunications, banking, power and energy, government service, and media.



## Christopher Louie D. Ocampo

ACCRALAW

Job title: Partner

Location: Philippines

Number of years in practice: 11

Admissions: Philippines

Main sectors covered: International commercial arbitration (investment, banking, trade, energy, telecommunications), construction arbitration, domestic arbitration

Geographical areas of focus: Philippines, Asia

Languages: English, Filipino

Christopher Louie Ocampo is an experienced dispute resolution lawyer at ACCRALAW where he specialises in disputes in banking and finance, investment, antitrust, energy, construction, and white-collar crimes. Some of his most notable work include:

- advising a multinational company regarding a \$18.2bn foreign judgment obtained by a sovereign state;
- representing the Senate President of the Philippines in an environmental damages case in connection with the construction of a multi-purpose dam worth PhP11.2bn (approximately \$230m);
- representing a multinational luxury hotel group in a construction arbitration case involving a PhP3.385bn (approximately \$67.5m) construction contract; and
- representing a multinational bank in cross-border rehabilitation proceedings connected with the bankruptcy proceedings of Lehman Brothers in New York, US.

Christopher is passionate about legal education. He currently teaches at the University of the Philippines – College of Law, De La Salle University – College of Law, and San Sebastian College Recoletos – Graduate School of Law where he lectures on evidence, arbitration, and antitrust. He is also an accredited lecturer for the Mandatory Continuing Legal Education (MCLE) of several law centres (in conjunction with the MCLE requirements imposed by the Supreme Court of the Philippines), and regularly lectures on arbitration and antitrust to lawyers across the Philippines. Aside from teaching at various law schools, he has also guested on popular TV shows to shed light on various legal issues that frequently confront today's youth such as bullying and cyber-libel.

Christopher is a trained arbitrator at the Philippine Dispute Resolution Center, Inc. He is an active member of the Philippine Institute of Arbitrators and the ASEAN Law Association. Christopher was recently elected as chairman of the Asian Young Lawyers of MERITAS, as well as a board member of the Emerging Leaders of MERITAS, a global alliance of business law firms.





## Joseph Anthony I. Malaya

ACCRA LAW

**Job title:** Partner

**Location:** Philippines

**Number of years in practice:** 11

**Admissions:** Philippines

**Main sectors covered:** Litigation, criminal and environmental law, construction arbitration, administrative law and regulatory practice

**Languages:** English, Filipino, Bisaya and Ilonggo

Joseph Anthony I. Malaya handles a broad range of litigation and arbitration cases. He specialises primarily in construction arbitration and criminal and environmental law. He also handles disputes on banking, mining, real estate, contractual, commercial, administrative, constitutional and government regulation issues.

In 2023 alone, Joseph has handled seven arbitration cases before the Construction Industry Arbitration Commission (CIAC).

He has handled notable cases where he:

- successfully litigated multimillion-peso construction projects in various business centres in Metro Manila and Iloilo before the CIAC;
- is currently handling a construction arbitration case before the CIAC involving a shopping centre and hotel with a sum in dispute of almost three billion pesos;
- represented the government in a multimillion ad-hoc arbitration case and was able to get a favourable decision against a foreign company for delivering a faulty system to fully computerise the operations of the government;
- is currently representing the government in a bank closure case and has been able to get the dismissal of cases of officers and employees of universal banks for alleged violation of banking laws;
- represented a multinational oil company in a multimillion-peso dispute involving a novel antitrust issue; and
- assisted numerous top 500 companies before the Department of Environment and Natural Resources regarding a multitude of issues and has given lectures to a number of companies regarding compliance with environmental laws.

Joseph completed his Juris Doctor Degree from the Ateneo De Manila University in 2011, where he graduated with Second Honors. Joseph passed the Bar in 2012 and is a member of the Quezon City chapter of the Integrated Bar of the Philippines.



**Narendra Adiyasa**  
Linklaters, Widyawan & Partners

Job title: Partner

Location: Indonesia

Number of years in practice: Over 17 years

Number of years as an arbitrator: Over one year

Current number of arbitrator appointments: One as member of the tribunal

Admissions: Indonesian Advocate Association (PERADI)

Main sectors covered: Energy, mining, banking and technology

Geographical areas of focus: Indonesia, North Asia, Southeast Asia, and Australia

Languages: English, Bahasa

Narendra Adiyasa's focus will be on continuing the growth of the litigation, arbitration and investigations (LAI) and employment and incentives practices in terms of footprint and coverage. He is ambitious about ensuring that his practice is of repute and sustainable by working with the best talents in providing high-quality legal services to both international and domestic clients. The practice will be anchored in Indonesia.



**Sheila Ahuja**  
Allen & Overy

Job title: Partner

Location: Singapore

Number of years in practice: 15

Number of years as an arbitrator: Eight

Current number of arbitrator appointments: 14

Admissions: Hong Kong, England and Wales, Singapore International Commercial Court, Bar Council of Delhi

Main sectors covered: Energy, oil and gas, financial services, complex commercial disputes

Geographical areas of focus: Hong Kong, Singapore, India, Japan, Malaysia, Indonesia, Myanmar

Languages: English, Cantonese, Mandarin, Hindi, Sindhi



**Ignatius Andy**  
Ignatius Andy Law Offices

**Job title:** Founder

**Location:** Indonesia

**Number of years in practice:** 31

**Number of years as an arbitrator:** Five

**Admissions:** Indonesia

**Main sectors covered:** Antitrust and competition, arbitration, corporate commercial matters and litigation, employment, bankruptcy, and suspension of payment

**Geographical area of focus:** Indonesia

**Languages:** English and Indonesian

Ignatius Andy started his legal career in commercial dispute resolutions and corporate commercial matters at Makarim & Taira S. He joined the banking and finance practice group at Hadiputranto, Hadinoto & Partner in 1996, and played a significant role in the establishment and leadership of the firm's litigation practice group, becoming a partner in 2001.

In July 2004, Ignatius established Ignatius Andy Law Offices (IALO), which has been recognised as a prominent boutique law firm in Indonesia, and whose substantial growth can be attributed to the rapid expansion of its legal services and client base. IALO's practice covers antitrust issues, dispute resolution, and corporate and commercial matters. IALO's dispute resolution and corporate commercial services include complex civil and commercial proceedings, business competition judicial proceedings, domestic and international arbitration, debt restructuring and corporate and commercial transactions, among others.

Ignatius and IALO have received widespread recognition and garnered praise and awards from various sources.

Ignatius Andy is listed as arbitrator at the Singapore International Arbitration Centre (SIAC), China Maritime Arbitration Commission and Indonesian Arbitration and Mediation Centre (PAMI), and is a member of the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) and the International Court of Arbitration.



**Kate Apostolova**  
Mayer Brown

**Job title:** Counsel

**Location:** Singapore

**Number of years in practice:** 13

**Number of years as an arbitrator:** Four

**Current number of arbitrator**

**appointments:** Two as sole arbitrator

**Admissions:** New York, England and Wales, Singapore International Commercial Court, Eastern District of New York, Second Circuit of Appeal of the US, US Supreme Court

**Main sectors covered:** Energy, technology, pharmaceuticals, financial institutions, private equity, telecommunications, construction

**Geographical areas of focus:** Asia, Europe, US, China, Southeast Asia, India

**Languages:** English, Bulgarian, Russian, Serbian, Macedonian



## Shirley F. Alinea

Martinez Vergara & Gonzalez Sociedad

**Job title:** Partner

**Location:** Philippines

**Number of years in practice:** 26

**Number of years as an arbitrator:** Nine

**Admissions:** Integrated Bar of the Philippines (1997)

**Main sectors covered:** Commercial, construction, restructuring and insolvency, intellectual property, labour, immigration

**Geographical area of focus:** Philippines

**Languages:** English, Filipino

Shirley F. Alinea's main area of practice is dispute resolution, specialising in debt restructuring (for example, rehabilitation and liquidation), as well as arbitration and other alternative modes of commercial dispute resolution. She has been engaged in this field of specialisation for more than 20 years.

Shirley's other areas of practice include immigration and intellectual property.

In the field of rehabilitation and liquidation, Shirley has advised and represented creditors in various proceedings, including some high-profile cases.

In the field of arbitration and other alternative modes of dispute resolution, Shirley has advised and represented clients in various ad-hoc and institutional arbitrations before local and international arbitration centres. She has also assisted clients in court proceedings filed in relation to arbitrations. She is a well-known expert and lecturer in the field of commercial arbitration.

Shirley is currently a member of the board of trustees of the Philippine Dispute Resolution Center, Inc. (PDRCI). She is also currently the Center's deputy secretary general, the chairman of its Training and Education Committee, and the chairman of the committee that was tasked to review and update PDRCI's arbitration rules. She is currently the representative of PDRCI with the Asia-Pacific Forum for International Arbitration.

Shirley is also an accredited arbitrator of the PDRCI, the Intellectual Property Office of the Philippines and the Office of Alternative Dispute Resolution. Shirley is likewise a member of the Philippine International Center for Conflict Resolution and the Dispute Resolution Board Foundation.

Shirley has been appointed as a sole arbitrator, chairperson and member in both PDRCI and ad-hoc arbitrations.

In the field of immigration, Shirley advises clients on inbound immigration requirements, and assists in the processing of necessary visas and permits to ensure clients' and their foreign nationals' compliance with Philippine laws. Shirley also handles deportation and other immigration-related proceedings, for example, naturalisation.

In the field of intellectual property, Shirley advises clients on intellectual property issues, assists them in registering and protecting their intellectual property rights, and represents them, when necessary, in administrative and judicial actions to enforce and defend such rights.

Before joining the firm in 2009, Shirley was a partner at Quisumbing Torres (Baker & McKenzie).

Shirley graduated with a degree in B.S. Legal Management from the Ateneo de Manila University in 1992. She completed her Bachelor of Laws degree at the University of the Philippines and was admitted to the Philippine Bar in 1997. She was a member of the Order of the Purple Feather, the honour society of the University of the Philippines College of Law.

dispute involving a renewable energy project to build its case. Our client was the project owner, and its dispute was with the EPC contractor and supplier. When we were first engaged by the client and reviewed the files, we quickly realised that the client was remiss in documenting the lapses of these other parties. These other parties, on the other hand, were very diligent in sending communications affirming their positions in relation to the parties' issues. Fortunately, at the time of our engagement, neither party had commenced arbitration. Our team thus had time to find ways and opportunities to slowly help the client cure this omission. We believe our team was able to do this successfully.

As arbitrator, I was very happy with the one I handled last year with two senior arbitrators who I look up to. Two circumstances made this ad-hoc arbitration special. First, of course, was the decision of these senior arbitrators to appoint me as chairperson. I would like to think that I did a competent job as chairperson of the tribunal and these senior arbitrators did not regret their decision to appoint me as chairperson. Second, it was the first time that I handled an arbitration as arbitrator where one of the parties applied for interim relief.

### **What do international counsel facing a matter in the jurisdiction need to know about the local arbitration scene?**

Arbitration practice in the Philippines is still evolving. There are still a number of lawyers who approach an arbitration in the same way that they would approach a litigation.

Likewise, outside what I call, at times, the 'arbitration bubble' or 'arbitration cocoon', when a counsel needs to go to the courts to get assistance in relation to an arbitration (such as enforcing an arbitration agreement, getting interim relief because a tribunal has not yet been constituted, or seeking the enforcement of an award), it is possible to encounter problems before the local courts. There may be times that judges may not be very familiar with arbitration and the rules and principles that arbitration practitioners take for granted as basic.

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### **In conversation with...**

#### **What are the most impressive cases you have worked on as counsel or arbitrator?**

As counsel, I was very proud of how my team and I helped a client involved in an arbitrable

**What aspects of a potential case or arbitration are more likely to grab your attention and have you eager to be involved?**

I like learning and I like challenges. Hence, when the subject matter of a potential case or arbitration is something that I have never handled, or there are difficulties or complications that must be addressed, that gets my attention. I find myself getting excited and I want to get involved.

**You have particular expertise in the intellectual property and immigration sectors. What advice would you give to someone also wishing to excel in this area?**

You learn and gain expertise through a combination of continued study and practice. So, the only advice I can really give is continue studying and handle as many matters as you can in your chosen areas of practice. It is a cliché but practice really does make perfect.

**Which recent political, economic or regulatory changes have impacted your practice the most?**

For arbitration, the recent active implementation of a 2012 executive order directing the inclusion as much as possible of alternative dispute resolution (ADR) mechanisms in contracts involving public-private partnerships, those entered into under the Build Operate Transfer Law, as well as joint ventures between the government and private entities, have greatly increased the interest in arbitration and ADR. This, coupled with the active promotion of ADR by the Office of Alternative Dispute Resolution of the Department of Justice, as well as by organisations like the Philippine Dispute Resolution Center, Inc., and individual ADR enthusiasts, will greatly boost ADR in the country. ■





## Arbitration Chambers

### Powerlist inclusions

- Chiann Bao (*p30*)

### Business message

Arbitration Chambers is the pre-eminent chambers dedicated to independent full-time international arbitrators. Their members count amongst the most experienced arbitration practitioners in the world and come from a mix of common law and civil law jurisdictions, with complementary specialities. Each of their arbitrators offers the broad array of skills and experience necessary to determine the most complex international disputes. Their members operate entirely independently from one another and do not accept instructions as counsel, which avoids the possibility of conflicts.

Arbitration Chambers was established in Hong Kong in 2012 by the head of chambers, Gavin Denton, and continues to have a strong presence in Asia, in addition to London and New York.

The members of Arbitration Chambers are located around the globe and include some of the best and most highly respected practitioners in the world. They practise a mix of international commercial arbitration and investor-state arbitration and are

much sought after by institutions and parties alike for appointments as sole arbitrator, co-arbitrator and presiding arbitrator.

Due to their significant arbitration experience and their diverse regional backgrounds, the members of Arbitration Chambers have familiarity with seats and governing laws from around the globe and of all of the major (and some of the lesser known) institutional rules. Many members of Arbitration Chambers have spent time living and working in Asia and maintain close ties with the region.

A number of members also hold significant positions at leading international arbitral bodies – including Lucy Reed as the president of SIAC, Juliet Blanch and Chiann Bao as vice presidents of the ICC International Court of Arbitration, John Beechey CBE as the chairman of the BVI International Arbitration Centre, and David Rivkin as co-chair of the HKIAC.

The arbitrators at Arbitration Chambers are supported by a capable international team of arbitration lawyers, who provide administrative and legal assistance as required.





ARBITRATION CHAMBERS  
*HONG KONG • LONDON • NEW YORK*

## Chiann Bao

### Arbitration Chambers

Job title: International arbitrator

Location: Singapore

Number of years in practice: 21

Number of years as an arbitrator: Five

Admissions: New York, Hong Kong, England and Wales

Main sectors covered: Corporate, private equity, pharmaceuticals and life sciences, commercial, energy (oil and gas, renewables), mining and natural resources, infrastructure, construction, investment, technology, intellectual property, media and telecommunications, real estate, agency and distributorship agreements, sale of goods, crypto-assets

Geographical areas of focus: Worldwide

Languages: English, Mandarin Chinese

Chiann Bao is an independent arbitrator with over 20 years of experience working in Singapore, Hong Kong, New York and London. She has been appointed in ad-hoc and institutional arbitrations with a total of several USD billion in dispute. Qualified in New York, Hong Kong and England and Wales, she is a panel arbitrator of the major arbitral institutions worldwide, a chartered arbitrator, and a CEDR-accredited mediator.

Chiann's primary work as arbitrator focuses on complex high-value arbitrations and she regularly sits as chair as well as co-arbitrator. While her legal qualifications are from common law systems, many of her cases are governed by laws with a civil law tradition or involve parties and co-arbitrators from civil law jurisdictions. In this regard, she has a keen understanding of both common and civil law-related disputes.

She serves as a vice president of the ICC Court of Arbitration and is the senior vice chair of the IBA Arbitration Committee. From 2010 to 2018, she served as the secretary general of the HKIAC and was subsequently appointed as a council member. She is an adjunct professor at the National University of Singapore and a lecturer at Sciences Po Law School. She serves as a member of the board of trustees and an honorary senior Fellow of the British Institute of International and Comparative Law. Chiann also serves as a member of the advisory board for the *Journal of International Arbitration*. She is a member of the board of directors for Maxwell Chambers as well as a member of the global advisory board for the New York International Arbitration Center.

Prior to joining Arbitration Chambers, Chiann worked in private practice where she focused on complex international arbitration and litigation, acting as counsel for corporates and states in a range of disputes in various sectors.

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## In conversation with...

### What qualities make for a successful arbitrator?

When I reflect upon the arbitrators I consider to be most successful, I think about those who not only possess a measured disposition and a solid legal mind, and are excellent project managers, but they are also well-attuned to 'reading a room'. To me, that is really the 'x' factor that distinguishes a great arbitrator from a good one. Possessing this 'x' factor ensures fairness beyond due process. For example, when differences surface, I find those who are able to navigate the many personalities and cultures of international arbitration to be most impressive.

### When you look back at your career and the knowledge you have gained, what advice would you give to those who are about to embark on a career practising arbitration?

Two pieces of advice:

First, stay curious and explore different areas of law. The pursuit of a career in arbitration is very different than when I first embarked on this path. Now, students have early and immediate access to the world of arbitration through their law schools and the many LLM degree programmes worldwide. Social media also plays an important role in giving students a glimpse of the 'alluring' side of arbitration, from the conferences to the international travel. However, that is but a tiny fraction of a career in international arbitration. The rest of it is the practice of law itself as well as sheer grit. Curiosity and thirst for learning in something unfamiliar goes a long way in keeping things interesting.

Second, there is no one straight path to a successful career in arbitration and that is just the beauty of it. Some may start off as a corporate lawyer or an academic, others may take the more traditional path as a disputes lawyer. Even if your first job is not in arbitration, you may well find yourself back in the field if you continue to find common touchpoints. To my mind, staying engaged in the field one way or another, be it through direct case work, committee work, or writing and speaking, will invariably lead to a career that involves some facet of arbitration. And even if it doesn't, find that spark in whatever you do and engage fully. You never know, the grass might just be greener where you are.

### What are your views on diversity and inclusion in international arbitration today?

Those who come before me have paved the way for me and others and for that I am grateful.

As evidenced in other contexts, the road towards equality and inclusion is never straightforward and



will invariably face challenges. In our field, we have seen real improvements over recent years.

The efforts made by institutions and the broader community at large have made an impact, properly moving the dial by raising awareness and ensuring gender equality in positions of leadership and arbitral appointments. However, we still have a way to go and dialogue on this issue will necessarily evolve over time. As with pursuing any real change – what gets measured, gets done. Therefore we must continue measuring progress in this field to see lasting improvements.

Having said that, one thing I have observed is that, when we create labels and groups, what also ends up happening is that there are groups that fall outside of those targeted populations. This is not to say that there is not a need to support and advocate for better representation of certain under-represented groups. More broadly though, efforts should be made to open up the dialogue to underscore the fact that – what we have in common creates a community and where we are different should be celebrated and embraced as the uniqueness of the truly international nature of our industry.

**Which recent political, economic or regulatory changes have impacted your practice the most?**

It is difficult to say which particular change has impacted my practice the most, but I do have the impression that there will be a surge of disputes in the next few years resulting from the uncertainties in the market and unstable regulatory environments and governments. The superpowers of the world also seem to be wobbling, leaving all systems in flux. The result may be a diffused system of international arbitration, with seats and governing law spreading around the world more evenly than in the past. In this regard, I imagine that my practice will see more variety as well. ■







## David Bateson

39 Essex Chambers

Job title: International arbitrator

Location: Singapore

Number of years in practice: 42

Number of years as an arbitrator: 25

Current number of arbitrator appointments: 24

Admissions: England and Wales, ACT Australia, Hong Kong

Main sectors covered: Construction, resources, energy, contract and commercial, shipping

Geographical areas of focus: Asia Pacific, Southeast Asia, Middle East, Europe

Languages: English

David Bateson is a leading international arbitrator who has been involved in over 200 arbitrations as an arbitrator in Asia, Europe and the Middle East. He has acted as chairman, party-appointed arbitrator or sole arbitrator in arbitrations under the rules of the AAA, AIAC, BANI, CIETAC, HKIAC, DIAC, ICC, LCIA, PCA, SIAC, SCMA and VIAC, or in ad hoc arbitrations.

With over 40 years of legal experience, he has been extensively involved in disputes in a variety of industry sectors, including construction, resources, commodities, insurance, joint ventures, shareholder agreements, shipping and telecommunications.

David has been consistently described as a culturally sensitive arbitration expert. *The Legal 500* lauded him as 'very hard working and extremely sharp at identifying the real issues in dispute'.



## Andrew Battison

Linklaters

Job title: Partner

Location: Singapore

Number of years in practice: 20

Number of years as an arbitrator: Ten

Current number of arbitrator appointments: One

Admissions: Australia, Singapore

Main sectors covered: Energy and infrastructure, financial services, natural resources, space and telecommunications sectors

Geographical area of focus: Indo-Pacific

Languages: English

Andrew Battison leads Linklaters' international arbitration practice in Asia and the Middle East. He has extensive experience of disputes in natural resources and general commercial disputes, among others. He acts as counsel under all the major arbitral rules and is experienced in acting for and against states in investment treaty matters.

Andrew is experienced in emerging market litigation and is a leading enforcement counsel, particularly in matters involving sovereign states, and an active member of the international arbitration community. He is an ACICA Fellow and a member of the ICC Australia Nominations Commission, and serves on the SIAC Users Council. He is a former Australian delegate to the ICC Commission on Arbitration and ADR and served as a mentor to members of the Young Institute for Transnational Arbitration.

Andrew recently acted for renewable energy investors against Spain in the Federal Court of Australia and High Court of Australia in a dispute resulting in the first contested ICSID award to be recognised and enforced in Australia. The resulting judgments have provided important clarification on the meaning and effect of the enforcement articles in the ICSID Convention and on the approach to treaty interpretation and sovereign immunity in Australia.

## Raja Bose

K&L Gates Straits

Job title: Partner

Location: Singapore

Number of years in practice: 30+

Number of years as an arbitrator: 15+

Admissions: Singapore, England and Wales

Main sectors covered: Infrastructure, construction, shipping, marine insurance, oil and gas, international sale of goods, trade finance, and mortgage enforcement

Geographical areas of focus: Middle East, Africa, and the Asia-Pacific region including South Asia, Indo-China and South-East Asia

Languages: Bahasa (Indonesian), English, French, Hindi, Malay

Raja Bose leads the firm's commercial disputes and international arbitration practice in Asia and has more than 20 years of experience in international dispute resolution. He has worked in both London and Singapore and is qualified both as an advocate and solicitor of the Supreme Court of Singapore as well as admitted as a solicitor of England and Wales.

He is also a qualified arbitrator and is a Fellow of both the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators of the UK as well as of the Singapore Institute of Arbitrators. Raja is on the panel of arbitrators of a number of arbitration institutions including the SIAC, KLRCA, ICA and HKIAC. He is also a board member and director of the UK Chartered Institute of Arbitrators – Singapore Branch.

Raja has experience conducting international arbitrations with seats in Singapore, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Vietnam, China, India, Dubai, Malaysia, London, Paris, Geneva and New York under a variety of trade association and international arbitration centre rules including UNCITRAL, LCIA, LMAA, GAFTA, CIETAC, BANI, HKIAC, KLRCA, SIAC, ICC, AAA, VIAC and ICSID.

While his practice focuses on international commercial dispute resolution with an emphasis on international arbitration, he also has considerable experience supervising, co-ordinating and managing complex court-based litigation in a wide number of countries in the Middle East, Africa and the Asia-Pacific region including South Asia, Indo-China and South-East Asia.

In addition to his experience in cross-border multi-jurisdictional disputes in infrastructure, construction, shipping, marine insurance, oil and gas, international sale of goods, trade finance and mortgage enforcement, Raja has also been involved in a number of high-profile investor-state disputes and investment treaty arbitrations including defending the governments of India and Bangladesh as well as pursuing actions on behalf of foreign investors against the governments of Thailand, Egypt and Sri Lanka.

Raja also spends a considerable amount of his time providing strategic and structuring advice to clients involved in difficult and complex problems in Asia which do not necessarily involve formal legal proceedings.

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### In conversation with...

#### **What are the most impressive cases you have worked on as counsel or arbitrator?**

I have been fortunate to be involved in a number of high-profile cases in my career. Most of the cases in the investor-state space have pushed the boundaries of complexity and challenges in client management, preparation of the case and dealing with changes in governments and client management teams. My very first treaty case now about 20 years ago was defending the government of India in relation to a US\$6bn claim surrounding

the construction of a power station under a variety of bilateral investment treaties. That 15-year dispute shut down almost all foreign investment into India but our efforts in ultimately reaching a negotiated and favourable settlement for the government also reopened India's doors to foreign investment. More recently, my engagements have been on the investor side. We acted for the Singaporean investors in the international airport of a Southeast Asian country and engaged in protracted and difficult negotiations with that country's Department of Civil Aviation in an effort to avert a potential investment treaty claim, which we were able to do by negotiating a consensus between the various stakeholders to restructure the organisation, management and operation of all major airports in the country. I am currently acting on pending investment treaty claims against the governments of a Middle Eastern country and another against a Southeast Asian country, both of which involve complex infrastructure projects over more than 15 years and each of which raises new and complex issues at the forefront of the fast-developing area of the law.

When it comes to commercial arbitrations, in addition to the 'normal' claims which relate to routine occurrences of disputes when people run a business, especially when it comes to complicated oil and gas engineering projects, where our team comes into its own has been in the 'bet the company' disputes, where it is not simply a question of whether the client wins or loses the dispute but as to its continuing existence. The dispute is an existential crisis and losing means they go out of business for good. Each of those types of disputes that I have been fortunate enough to win has been incredibly rewarding and you feel you have made a real difference.

#### **What do international counsel facing a matter in the jurisdiction need to know about the local arbitration scene?**

Singapore prides itself on its transparency of information and everything someone new to



the jurisdiction needs to know is available with some proactive online research. The thriving international arbitration scene also means that they will be spoilt for choice if they are looking for co-counsel to work with. There are many first-rate law firms both locally and internationally. In addition, the infrastructure and supporting facilities in terms of the curial jurisdiction of the Singapore courts, the management and conduct of the arbitrations and hearings, the presence of all major arbitration organisations and the constant discussions at forums, conferences and workshops throughout the year dealing with best practices and developments in the practice and procedure of international arbitration, make it one of the best cities in the world to be working in this space.

The Singapore International Commercial Court (SICC) is a constituent division of the Singapore High Court. International arbitration matters such as jurisdictional challenges and setting aside awards are channelled to the SICC. In addition to Singapore High Court judges, there are 19 international judges on the SICC panel. This unique constitution allows benches consisting of common law as well as civil law judges and provides both width and depth to the judicial viewpoints in the international arbitration regime. The SICC allows non-Singaporean counsel to be registered as SICC counsel and has a costs regime more akin to the arbitration scale, rather than the costs structure of the General Division of the High Court.

**Which recent political, economic or regulatory changes have impacted your practice the most?**

In 2021 the third-party funding regime in Singapore was expanded to cover both international and domestic arbitrations and related court and mediation proceedings. This follows a global trend in which waves of investors have entered the market seeking to financially support the conduct of claims brought before arbitral tribunals and courts in return for a share in the proceeds.

K&L Gates has strong relationships with the leading third-party funders, and we have successfully secured funding to support a number of our clients' claims in recent years.

**With your experience in various industries such as infrastructure, construction, shipping and international trade disputes, how do you stay knowledgeable about the specific challenges and trends in each sector?**

It boils down to our team. It is of the utmost importance to have a talented, client-focused and commercially-minded team of lawyers behind you who are well ingrained within their sectors of emphasis. We have a sizeable team of disputes lawyers in Singapore who are organised along various industry and jurisdictional areas. Our partners are able to leverage their knowledge and experience to keep ahead of the trends and developments in our target sectors. This allows us to stay ahead of the curve and start conversations with our clients early on issues that may be coming down the line. On the other side of the equation, it is also important to have a regular dialogue with our clients; this gives us an opportunity to hear first-hand from them the real-world trends and issues they are currently facing.

**You are on the panel of arbitrators for multiple arbitration institutions. How do you manage your time and commitments effectively while serving on various panels?**

It is a science and an art all at the same time! As lawyers, we are trained to be as efficient with our time as possible. Setting priorities and being strict with boundaries are obviously important. And yet, there will be things during the day which will come in from completely left field. Flexibility and delegation are important skills to utilise wherever possible. So is having an excellent legal secretary to keep me on track and prepared ahead of each engagement, which is something that I am grateful for. ■





**Ratthakarn Boonnua**  
Watson Farley & Williams

Job title: Partner

Location: Thailand

Number of years in practice: 31

Number of years as an arbitrator: 13

Admissions: Registered foreign lawyer, Solicitors Regulation Authority, UK; The Chartered Institute of Arbitrators, UK; Arbitration Committee, ICC Thailand; Thai Bar Association; Lawyers Council of Thailand

Main sectors covered: Power, oil and gas, construction, investor-state disputes

Geographical areas of focus: Domestic and international clients, including leading energy companies, governments, state enterprises, multinational corporations and major Thai companies and conglomerates.

Languages: Thai, English

Ratthakarn Boonnua is currently acting for the Kingdom of Thailand and the Ministry of Energy against Chevron Thailand Exploration and Production in a \$3bn arbitration in relation to decommissioning disputes in the Gulf of Thailand.

**Tony Budidjaja**  
Budidjaja International Lawyers

Job title: Counsel

Location: Indonesia

Number of years in practice: 27

Number of years as an arbitrator: 17

Admissions: Indonesian Bar

Main sectors covered: International trade, insurance, shipping law, tax court, capital markets, aviation, banking and finance

Geographical areas of focus: Indonesia, Asia Pacific, Europe, North America

Languages: Bahasa Indonesia, English

Tony Budidjaja is an accredited advocate, mediator and arbitrator. He is a Fellow of the Singapore Institute of Arbitrators (FSI Arb), and Fellow of the Asian Institute of Alternative Dispute Resolution (FAIADR). He is listed as a mediator and arbitrator in several institutions providing mediation and arbitration services both in Indonesia and abroad, including the China International Economic and Trade Arbitration Commission (CIETAC), Singapore Chamber for Maritime Arbitration (SCMA), Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre (HKIAC), Russian Arbitration Centre (RAC) and Swiss Arbitration Centre (ASA).

He is also listed on the panels of mediators for numerous district courts in Indonesia such as the District Court of Central Jakarta, District Court of South Jakarta, District Courts of Denpasar and District Court of Batam. He is currently serving as chairman of the Indonesian Academy of Independent Mediators and Arbitrators (MedArbld). He is one of the founders of the Indonesian Institute for Conflict Transformation (IICT) and the Indonesia chapter of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (CI Arb).



## Cavinder Bull SC

Drew & Napier

Job title: Chief executive officer

Location: Singapore

Number of years in practice: 29

Number of years as an arbitrator: 11

Current number of arbitrator appointments: Nine

Admissions: Singapore, England and Wales, New York

Main sectors covered: Construction and engineering, corporate and commercial, international trade, investor-state disputes, joint venture disputes, public international law, sports, telecommunications, media and technology disputes

Geographical areas of focus: Singapore, Hong Kong, London, New York, Paris, The Hague, Tokyo, Washington

Languages: English, Chinese

Cavinder Bull, SC is the chief executive officer of Drew & Napier, one of the largest law firms in Singapore. With nearly 30 years of experience in international arbitration, Cavinder acts as counsel in both commercial and investor-state cases, and as arbitrator in ICSID, NAFTA, the Permanent Court of Arbitration (PCA), International Court of Arbitration (ICC), Singapore International Arbitration Centre (SIAC), London Court of International Arbitration (LCIA) and Korean Commercial Arbitration Board (KCAB) arbitrations.

He sits on the governing board of the International Council for Commercial Arbitration (ICCA), the World Bank Sanctions Board, and the advisory board of the AFSA International Arbitration Rules Drafting Committee. Cavinder is vice-president of the Court of Arbitration of the SIAC and a former vice-president of the Asia Pacific Regional Arbitration Group.

Cavinder was a justice's law clerk before joining Drew & Napier where he has been practising since, save for some time in the US where he obtained an LLM from Harvard Law School and then practised litigation in New York with Sullivan & Cromwell. Cavinder is one of a few to have been appointed senior counsel by the Chief Justice of Singapore before the age of 40.





## Youdy Bun

Bun & Associates

**Job title:** Managing partner

**Location:** Cambodia

**Number of years in practice:** 16

**Number of years as an arbitrator:** 11

**Admissions:** Bar Association of the Kingdom of Cambodia

**Main sectors covered:** Banking and finance, construction, corporate and M&A, infrastructure, foreign investment, telecommunications and new technology, fintech, and oil and gas

**Geographical areas of focus:** Asia, Europe, US

**Languages:** Khmer, English, French

Youdy Bun is a former president – and a founding board member – of the National Commercial Arbitration Centre of Cambodia (NCAC). He has been involved with arbitration in Cambodia and the NCAC since the initial stages of its development and was among the first-generation commercial arbitrators admitted to the NCAC panel. He also sat on the NCAC's appointment committee.

Youdy successfully led the amendment of the NCAC's arbitration rules, which featured an online hearing, emergency arbitrators and expedited procedures in conformity with international trends and standards. His efforts made arbitration a preferred method of ADR among the legal and business community in Cambodia.

Some of Youdy's notable arbitration-related works include acting for an international construction company to successfully enforce a foreign arbitration award in Cambodia under the New York Convention and acting as lead counsel in an arbitration proceeding relating to a dispute arising out of a public infrastructure project. He also represented clients in objecting to the jurisdiction of Cambodian courts over disputes subject to an arbitration agreement and had the cases transferred to arbitration. He provided expert opinions on Cambodian law aspects concerning an investment arbitration case at the International Centre for the Settlement of Investment Disputes and a commercial arbitration case administered by an international arbitration centre.

Youdy is a member of the Bar Association of the Kingdom of Cambodia and a Fellow of the Singapore Institute of Arbitrators. He specialises in other sectors, including banking and finance, construction, corporate and M&A, and litigation, among others.



## Rodman Bundy

Squire Patton Boggs

**Job title:** Senior partner

**Location:** Singapore

**Number of years in practice:** Over 40 years

**Admissions:** New York Bar

**Main sectors covered:** National governments, energy and infrastructure

**Languages:** English, French

Rodman Bundy has over 35 years of experience as counsel and advocate in high-profile public international law litigations and international commercial and investment arbitrations, including appearances before the International Court of Justice, the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea, the Iran-United States Claims Tribunal and various ad hoc, ICC and ICSID arbitral tribunals.

He also has extensive experience in advising international energy companies and national oil companies on upstream oil and gas matters, including production sharing and joint operating agreements, service agreements, domestic and international unitisation and the risks associated with petroleum operations carried out in disputed offshore areas. Rodman also advises numerous governments on international law issues.

Rodman lectured for many years on international boundary disputes at King's College, London, boundary workshops organised by the International Boundaries Research Unit, and at the School of Oriental and African Studies at the University of London. He is a frequent guest speaker at conferences and workshops on issues of public international law, upstream oil and gas operations and construction disputes, including at the National University of Singapore and the Centre of International Law. Rodman has written on issues of public international law and international dispute resolution and delivered the inaugural lecture at the Public international law session of The Hague Academy of International Law in 2019.



**Donemark Calimon**  
Quisumbing Torres

**Job title:** Partner

**Location:** Philippines

**Number of years in practice:** 22

**Number of years as an arbitrator:** 14

**Current number of arbitrator appointments:** One as sole arbitrator, five as chair

**Admissions:** Philippines (2001)

**Main sectors covered:** Construction, energy, mining, infrastructure, industrials, manufacturing and transportation

**Geographical areas of focus:** Philippines, Asia Pacific, North America

**Languages:** English, Filipino, Tagalog

Donemark Calimon is a partner in Quisumbing Torres' dispute resolution practice group and heads the firm's arbitration practice as well as the construction sub-sector of the industrials, manufacturing and transportation industry group. He was the head of the firm's dispute resolution practice group from 2013 to 2020. Donemark has more than 20 years of experience in dispute resolution, including civil, criminal, corporate and regulatory litigation, and commercial arbitration.

He is one of the founders of the Philippine Institute of Arbitrators (PIArb). He is a member of the panel of arbitrators of the Singapore International Arbitration Center (SIAC), the Philippine Dispute Resolution Center (PDRC) and the Philippine International Center for Conflict Resolution (PICCR). He is also an accredited arbitrator of several Philippine arbitration institutions including the Wholesale Electricity Spot Market (WESM) and the Intellectual Property Office (IPO). He is presently serving as secretary general of the PICCR, an alternative dispute resolution centre set up by the Integrated Bar of the Philippines to provide arbitration and other dispute resolution services and facilities.



**Chan Leng Sun SC**  
Duxton Hill Chambers

**Job title:** Senior counsel, chartered arbitrator

**Location:** Singapore

**Number of years in practice:** 30

**Number of years as an arbitrator:** 15

**Current number of arbitrator appointments:** One as chair, four as sole arbitrator, five as co-arbitrator

**Admissions:** High Court of Malaya, Supreme Court of Singapore, England and Wales

**Main sectors covered:** International trade, marine, corporate and joint ventures, insurance, oil and gas, construction and technical dispute

**Geographical areas of focus:** Asia, UK, US

**Languages:** English, Malay, Indonesian, Mandarin, Cantonese

Chan Leng Sun SC is a senior counsel of the Supreme Court of Singapore, practising from Duxton Hill Chambers, Singapore. He is a chartered arbitrator and member of the ICC Commission of Arbitration and ADR and the SIAC court, and the deputy chairman of the SGX Appeals Board.

Leng Sun was the global head of arbitration of Baker McKenzie, and former president of the Singapore Institute of Arbitrators. He is also the author of *Singapore Law on Arbitral Awards* and co-editor of *Conflict of Laws in Arbitration*.





**Daryl Chew**  
Three Crowns

**Job title:** Partner

**Location:** Singapore

**Number of years in practice:** 16

**Number of years as an arbitrator:** 11

**Admissions:** New York, Singapore

**Main sectors covered:** Energy (oil and gas, nuclear and renewables, energy transition), construction (infrastructure, shipbuilding, power, industrial and petrochemical plants), M&A, joint venture, private equity, shareholder, and general commercial disputes

**Geographical areas of focus:** Global, with seats in all major arbitration hubs and Asia

**Languages:** English, Mandarin

Daryl Chew is the managing partner of the Singapore office of Three Crowns LLP. He possesses an active portfolio of arbitrations involving a wide range of applicable laws and venues arising from energy, construction, M&A, joint venture, and general commercial disputes.

Daryl serves as the chairman of the board of Maxwell Chambers, an integrated alternative dispute resolution (ADR) complex in Singapore established to provide first-class facilities and services for the conduct of ADR activities. He also co-chairs the YSIAC committee, serves on various governmental and regional arbitration committees, and lectures at several universities in Southeast Asia.



**Sharon Chong Tze Ying**  
Skrine

**Job title:** Partner

**Location:** Malaysia

**Number of years in practice:** 14+

**Number of years as an arbitrator:** Six

**Admissions:** Malaysian Bar, High Court of Malaya

**Main sectors covered:** All commercial sectors, including aviation, commodities, energy, oil and gas, joint venture, M&A, shareholders disputes, fraud and asset recovery, sports law

**Geographical areas of focus:** Asia Pacific

**Languages:** English, Chinese Mandarin, Chinese Cantonese, Chinese Hokkien, Malay, Indonesian

Sharon Chong Tze Ying is a dispute resolution partner, and her portfolio includes aviation, international arbitration, joint venture and shareholders disputes, commodity disputes, fraud and asset recovery, and insolvency and restructuring. She acts as an advocate in a wide array of cross-border disputes and has appeared at all tiers of the Malaysian courts and in international arbitrations in Asia and Europe.

Sharon is the immediate past president of the Malaysian Institute of Arbitrators and a member of the Maxwell Chambers Steering Committee and the YSIAC Committee. In addition to her work as counsel, Sharon sits as arbitrator and has served as sole arbitrator in AIAC, SIAC and ad hoc arbitrations. She is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (FCIArb) and the Malaysian Institute of Arbitrators (FMIArb). She is also on the panel of arbitrators of the AIAC, SIAC, HKIAC, KCAB and THAC.

Sharon is a member of INSOL International and a founding member and current co-chair of the Malaysia Network of the International Women's Insolvency & Restructuring Confederation. She is part of the faculty for the Bar Council of Malaysia's Advocacy Training Course and Delos's Remote Oral Advocacy Programme (ROAP) Asia 2023 edition.



## Yee Leong Chong

Allen & Gledhill

Job title: Partner

Location: Singapore

Number of years in practice: 33

Number of years as an arbitrator: 15

Current number of arbitrator appointments: Three

Admissions: Singapore Bar, Malaysian Bar, England and Wales

Main sectors covered: Construction, energy, oil and gas, power and infrastructure projects, investments, commercial and company disputes

Geographical areas of focus: Southeast Asia, South Asia, Hong Kong, Japan, South Korea

Languages: English, Malay

Yee Leong Chong is the co-head of Allen & Gledhill's international arbitration practice. With over 33 years of experience, he is recognised as a leading international dispute resolution practitioner in the Asia Pacific region and has been consistently recommended by various leading legal publications for his expertise in international arbitration.

Yee Leong's practice focuses on the areas of construction, energy, oil and gas, power and infrastructure projects and investment and commercial disputes. He has been involved in numerous arbitrations administered by, or in accordance with the rules of, the Singapore International Arbitration Centre (SIAC), International Chamber of Commerce (ICC), London Court of International Arbitration (LCIA), Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre (HKIAC), Asian International Arbitration Centre (AIAC), Japan Commercial Arbitration Association (JCAA) and United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL).

Yee Leong is a chartered arbitrator and a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (CI Arb) and the Singapore Institute of Arbitrators (SI Arb). He is the deputy chairman of the board of directors for the SIAC and is also on the panel of arbitrators for the SIAC, AIAC, JCAA, and CI Arb presidential panel of arbitrators.



## Timothy Cooke

Reed Smith

Job title: Partner

Location: Singapore

Number of years in practice: 23

Number of years as an arbitrator: Eight

Current number of arbitrator appointments: Two as sole arbitrator

Admissions: England and Wales

Main sectors covered: Energy, private equity, entertainment and media, transportation and communications

Geographical area of focus: Southeast Asia

Languages: English

Timothy Cooke is the author of the bestselling Singapore arbitration book *International Arbitration in Singapore: Legislation and Materials*, which has been cited by the Singapore courts and is independently reviewed as 'an impressive comprehensive guide to the law and practice of international arbitration in Singapore' and has received praise as an invaluable resource with remarkable coverage.

Timothy developed and coded Reed Smith's one-of-a-kind mobile application, the Arbitration Pricing Calculator, which allows users to estimate the costs of arbitration quickly and easily at over 25 arbitral institutions around the world. It has received tremendous feedback from clients, lawyers, arbitrators and arbitral institutions worldwide. The app was shortlisted for awards for innovation in 2022, with Timothy receiving recognition in 2023 for conceiving, developing and coding it.

Timothy founded a committee to examine witness conferencing in international arbitration and led the drafting of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators' Guidelines on Witness Conferencing in International Arbitration. He has been a director of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (Singapore branch) since 2012 and regularly authors client-facing alerts that summarise key developments in the arbitral community and teaches on international arbitration at various arbitral institutions.

Timothy is 'loved by clients for his no-nonsense approach'. He has co-presented on arbitration-related podcasts on Reed Smith's podcast channel Arbitral Insights, covering topics such as 2022 horizon scanning for international arbitration and Asia, among others.



## Cruz Marcelo & Tenefrancia

### Powerlist inclusions

- Simeon V. Marcelo (p46)
- Elmar B. Galacio (p48)

### Key individuals

- Jacques S. Lynn (p50)
- Carla S. Pingul (p51)



### Business message

Cruz Marcelo & Tenefrancia (CMT) is an enduring legal institution founded on integrity, tenacity and professionalism in providing unparalleled representation across various fields of law in both Philippine and international practice. Tracing its roots to a firm founded in the 1980s, the full-service firm was established in 2013 by accomplished lawyers committed to doing well while doing good.

The firm's arbitration and alternative dispute resolution team has more than three decades' worth of experience in representing clients from different sectors of the economy. Guided by Simeon V. Marcelo and Elmar B. Galacio who have acted as arbitrators under international and local institutions, including the ICC, the firm's pool of accredited and highly trained arbitrators and counsel provides exceptional client representation in both domestic and international arbitration, ensuring that its clients are guided and properly informed to make sound and cost-efficient decisions in every step of the dispute resolution process.

As an optimal solutions firm in complex, high-value commercial disputes, its lawyers are experts in their respective fields of specialisation who extensively handle diverse subject matters including information technology, construction and infrastructure, mining and energy, civil and commercial contracts, and labour and employment.

CMT's trained teams have a keen understanding not only of the intricacies of the entire arbitration process but also of the technical and financial aspects of the dispute, with primordial focus on the client's objectives. Being subject matter specialists, CMT's arbitration practitioners have a deep understanding of the substantive aspects of the dispute. The firm encourages and ensures that its practitioners are updated both on the technical subject matter and on current best practices as arbitration counsel, adviser or arbitrator. This is achieved through regular trainings and workshops conducted in-house, locally or internationally.



CMT's subject matter experts from the other practice groups (for example, certified public accountants, engineers, specialists in corporate, special projects, infotech, cybersecurity and fintech, fraud examiners, labour lawyers) provide an excellent complementary and indispensable role.

The firm provides vigorous representation before institutional or ad-hoc arbitral tribunals and courts to secure specific reliefs, such as interim measures of protection. CMT's representation extends to post-award proceedings, including judicial recourse for recognition, vacation, confirmation and enforcement of arbitral awards; appellate review; and enforcement and execution mechanisms or remedies related to arbitration awards as well as in resisting the same. CMT's relentless commitment is to deliver the highest quality, cost-effective legal service in its arbitration practice to help clients attain their objectives.

**CRUZ MARCELO  
& TENEFRANCIA**



## Simeon V. Marcelo

Cruz Marcelo & Tenefrancia

Job title: Senior partner

Location: Philippines

Number of years in practice: 42

Number of years as an arbitrator: Ten

Admissions: Philippine Bar (1979)

Main sectors covered: Litigation and dispute resolution, arbitration and alternative dispute resolution, telecommunications, media, technology, banking litigation, appellate practice

Geographical areas of focus: Philippines, Asia

Languages: English, Filipino

Simeon V. Marcelo handled his first arbitration in 1984. After his arbitration practice was halted when he was appointed as Solicitor General in February 2001, and almost two years later, he was appointed as the youngest Ombudsman of the Philippines. After his stint as a government executive and going back to private practice in 2008, his arbitration practice was revived when he served as a member of an ICC Arbitral Tribunal in two significant inter-related international cases (2012-14). He later acted as the chairman of an arbitration tribunal that resolved a very important international arbitration case in 2015-16. He provided important legal advice (being the lead counsel in a related case pending in the Supreme Court) to the legal team that won a very important case involving billion of pesos in an arbitration proceeding conducted by the UN Permanent Court of Arbitration. In addition, he acted as counsel in several important domestic arbitration cases wherein he and his team secured favourable awards, including a very notable arbitral award rendered by the Philippine Construction Industry and Arbitration Commission. He is presently a member of an arbitral tribunal handling a dispute involving very valuable mining rights. Just recently, he accepted the position of chairman of an arbitration dispute administered by the Philippine Dispute Resolution Center, Inc., Incidentally, he was one of the founding trustees of the Philippine Dispute Resolution Center, Inc. (est 1996) and the first corporate secretary of the Philippine chapter of the International Chamber of Commerce which he helped to organise in 1999. He presently serves as one of its trustees.

### In conversation with...

#### What are the most impressive cases you have worked on as counsel or arbitrator?

I served as a member of an ICC arbitral tribunal in two significant inter-related international cases (2012-14), involving the principal issue of corruption, in the procurement of certain very expensive equipment, between a state agency and a private corporation. In a very important international arbitration case in 2015-16 related to a supply agreement between a Filipino company and a foreign corporation, I acted as the chairman of the arbitration tribunal that heard and resolved it. I assisted and provided important legal advice to the legal team that won a very important case involving billions of pesos in an arbitration proceeding conducted by the UN Permanent Court of Arbitration (I was the lead counsel in a related case then pending in the Supreme Court). In addition, I acted as counsel in several important domestic arbitration cases wherein my team and I secured favourable awards, including a notable arbitral award rendered by the Philippine Construction Industry and Arbitration Commission.

#### As a prominent figure in the good governance movement, can you share your views on the current state of governance and anti-corruption efforts in the Philippines? What do you believe are the key challenges and potential solutions?

By the end of 2022, the Philippines ranked 116th in Transparency International's Corruption Perception Index (CPI), which assesses the perceived levels of public sector corruption in 180 countries and territories globally. The country's latest CPI score was 33, unchanged from the previous year and its lowest score in the index. According to the report, 'in recent years, democracy has been declining in the region, including in some of the most populous countries in the world, such as India (43), the Philippines (33) and Bangladesh (25)'.

The key to solving corruption in the Philippines, inter alia, is to ensure that a stronger, very

competent and very dedicated prosecution team is established that can really win cases for the government. For the Office of the Ombudsman, the following innovative changes can be implemented: (1) allow the Office of the Ombudsman to deputise private lawyers to assist in the prosecution of its cases; (2) passage of a robust witness protection programme to be administered by the Office of the Ombudsman in relation with corruption cases; (3) allow the Office of the Ombudsman to have access to bank documents even at the fact-finding stage; (4) strengthen individual and institutional competence and effectiveness of the Office of the Special Prosecutor-Office of the Ombudsman; and (5) create a very competent training institution for its field investigators and prosecutors not only to vastly improve their skills but also instill in them the passion for excellence and pride in their work.

Correlatively, the Sandiganbayan, the anti-corruption court of the Philippines, must also institute significant changes in speedily resolving corruption cases. A swift and forthcoming punishment is the most effective deterrent. Interestingly, public officials are, in fact, more wary of preventive suspensions during administrative proceedings than the penalty of imprisonment after criminal proceedings. The effect of a preventive suspension, while not a penalty, is immediate, and communicates that the accused is a disreputable public official. The threat of imprisonment is lost in long-drawn trials, especially in bailable offenses, aside from an appeal process that usually, unfortunately, takes about two decades to complete.

Now, more than ever, there is an urgent need to fully promote and provide arbitration as an alternative to judicial litigation. If both adverse parties want to avoid the unfortunate corruption in the judiciary, they can resort to arbitration; apart from arbitration being speedy, the adverse parties would surely choose jointly an impartial and competent arbitrator in the case of sole arbitrators: when the arbitral tribunal is composed of three arbitrators, the two arbitrators chosen by each party will definitely select a chairman who is known not only for competence but also for probity.



**Your commitment to pro-bono work demonstrates a continued dedication to social justice. Could you tell us more about your motivations for engaging in pro-bono work and the impact you hope to achieve?**

'Doing well while doing good' is not just a slogan we state on behalf of our law firm for public relations. To use a cliché, we always 'walk the talk'. In fact, before it became a buzzword, I have been doing it since I was a young lawyer. In the same light, when we say that we have a passion for 'excellence', when we render services to our clients, it is not an option, it is mandatory and indispensable. Our firm was established not only to provide the best legal services to our clients but also to build a legal institution with a strong social conscience and a reputation for service with distinction with respect to nation-building. Apart from making its mark in the profession, CMT, since its establishment, is committed to providing a substantial part of the time of its lawyers to do pro-bono work for the less fortunate in our society. Hence, CMT strongly encourages its lawyers to serve the legal needs of an underserved community. As members of the legal community, we believe that we also have a professional duty to provide legal services to those who cannot afford the best legal counselling.

I, as one of the founding partners of CMT, personally promote the firm's policy of rendering legal service pro-bono to deserving indigent clients. I was born and raised in a small rural farming community in our country. I was able to graduate from the best exclusive school for my pre-law degree due to a scholarship grant, and when I took up my law studies at the top public university, again I was lucky to get a scholarship. Thus, paying forward comes logically to me. This personal aim has encouraged our lawyers to handle public interest cases and render legal assistance to poor clients. Indeed, apart from the psychic income, pro-bono work provides valuable learning opportunities and experience to each member of the firm. In fact, our hiring committee would evaluate a potential new hire of the firm partly based on their interest in doing pro-bono work. Further, our lawyers are given credit for their pro-bono work as if they have done paid work for our paying clients. They are expected

to observe the same highest standard of excellence and level of attention and effort given to paying clients when handling their pro-bono cases.

**How do you see the future of the legal profession evolving, particularly in the context of advancements in technology, changing societal values and the need for ethical leadership?**

The legal profession, as we know, will be unrecognisable even just in the near future because of massive and rapid changes being brought about primarily by technological advancements and also in no small part by the changing societal values and, in order to survive, the need for ethical leadership.

While some may view the future of the legal profession as uncertain due to the rise of and proliferation of artificial intelligence, it has also shown its usefulness and seeming astuteness. Artificial intelligence is now being used to automate many legal tasks, such as legal research and contract writing of initial drafts. As AI continues to develop, it will undeniably result in job displacement for members of the legal profession. Lawyers would be compelled to upskill in order to remain relevant. Those who refuse to do so will see their private practice unable to survive. Most importantly, AI will require that only those students who really possess inherent intelligence and the passion for the practice of law as a vocation, instead of just a mere job, will aspire to become lawyers. On the bright side, the advances in technology have brought about new fields of law that lawyers could practise in, such as cybersecurity law, cyber white-collar crimes, AI law and data privacy law. Moreover, as AI has allowed for the automation of some legal work, lawyers are now 'freed-up' from simple but necessary tasks and, thus, will be enabled to focus on more complex work that is beyond the scope of AI's capabilities. Furthermore, with these new fields, the legal profession has now become more collaborative, as lawyers have started working with other professionals, such as information technical people, professional business advisers, and even social scientists, to solve complex legal problems. This is because legal problems are often interconnected with other issues, such as technology, business and society.



**What are your goals for the next five years?**

My goal is for our arbitration team to continue to consistently produce high-quality work and innovative strategies for our cases. I am committed to further strengthening the capabilities of each member of our team. Specifically, it is my objective for our arbitration team to represent clients who will truly make an impact in providing better services to Filipinos and in improving the business climate in the Philippines.

The members of our arbitration team currently act as counsel or advisers in diverse fields and industries, even in technical fields. Our team can do this because of the diverse backgrounds of CMT's lawyers, many of whom have obtained undergraduate or postgraduate degrees and certifications in technical or specialised fields such as engineering, accounting and finance, international trade, economics, information technology and even physics. Our arbitration team's diverse exposure on different fronts, because of their colleagues and their own backgrounds, has allowed it to develop a nuanced understanding of, and thus expertly navigate, the Philippine arbitration system. While it is highly regarded in the legal community, our arbitration team maintains a low public profile. This allows our arbitration team to discreetly advocate the best interests of its high-profile clients, away from the media spotlight and above the political fray. ■

## Elmar B. Galacio

Cruz Marcelo & Tenefrancia

Job title: Senior partner

Location: Philippines

Number of years in practice: 25

Number of years as an arbitrator: Nine

Admissions: Philippine Bar

Main sectors covered: Information technology, construction, energy, mining, labour, investment, banking, fraud, government and commercial contracts

Geographical areas of focus: Philippines, Asia

Languages: English, Filipino, Nihongo, Cebuano

Elmar B. Galacio heads the arbitration and alternative dispute resolution (ADR) practice of the Cruz Marcelo & Tenefrancia Law Offices in Manila, Philippines. He is widely recognised for his expertise in arbitration and ADR and possesses the rare blend of both impeccable credentials and top-calibre skill, experience and reputation as senior litigator and arbitration practitioner.

He has extensive practice as a Philippine arbitrator (whether as chairperson or member of the tribunal) and as arbitration counsel and adviser in both domestic and international arbitration, for over 20 years. His far-reaching experience as well as published articles cover all stages of ADR and arbitration-related processes, including preventive dispute mechanisms and advice, to post-award enforcement, remedies and judicial recourse.

He handles disputes involving diverse subject matters including information technology, construction, mining, civil, commercial contracts, investment, government contracts, and labour and employment. He is a sought-after expert by banks and financial institutions, being a certified fraud examiner (CFE) licensed in the US and the Philippines,

which is a distinct discipline that complements his expertise as dispute resolver and adviser.

In international arbitration practice, he is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (CI Arb) and a member of the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) Institute of World Business Law, International Council for Commercial Arbitration (ICCA), Asia Pacific Institute of Experts (APIEx) and Dispute Resolution Board Foundation (DRBF). He has obtained an Oxford Diploma in International Commercial Arbitration (DiplCI Arb), a Certificate in International Investment Arbitration from the Washington College of Law, and a Certificate in Maritime Disputes and Arbitration from the Lloyd's Maritime Academy.

His accreditations in the Philippines include the Construction Industry Arbitration Commission (CIAC), Philippine International Center for Conflict Resolution (PICCR), Philippine Dispute Resolution Center, Inc. (PDRCI), Philippine Institute of Arbitrators (PI Arb), Integrated Bar of the Philippines (IBP), Office of Alternative Dispute Resolution (OADR), and the Philippine Association on Voluntary Arbitration (PAVA) both as land-based voluntary arbitrator (AVA) and maritime voluntary arbitrator (MVA) for labour disputes. He is currently a member of the board of trustees of the PICCR.

Elmar is a senior litigator and previously deputy general counsel of the Integrated Bar of the Philippines (IBP). He is a professorial lecturer on arbitration and ADR, both domestic and international. He finished his law degree at the University of the Philippines (U.P.) College of Law, where he was a member of the Honor Society of the Order of the Purple Feather (OPF), and his Master of Public Policy (MPP) from the Graduate Research Institute for Policy Studies (GRIPS) in Japan. He speaks English, Filipino, Nihongo and Cebuano.

### In conversation with...

**Heading the firm's arbitration practice group, you've acted as both an arbitrator and lead counsel in arbitration proceedings. How does your experience as an arbitrator inform your approach as lead counsel and vice versa?**

My experience as either lead counsel or arbitrator sparks a unique synergy and generates a holistic perspective that is most helpful and crucial in achieving success and efficiency in arbitration proceedings. When sitting as arbitrator, I recognise, understand and consider the appearing counsel's concerns, objectives and mindset. I also expect that counsel realises that I am mindful of these. When appearing as counsel, the CMT team is guided by its keen awareness of the perception and sensitivity into the assessment of the arbitral tribunal both as to interim and incidental matters as well as long-term outcomes.

Moreover, whether as arbitrator or arbitration counsel, our expertise in multi-pronged complex litigation provides an excellent complement in understanding the dispute and the parties' interests, anticipating the process and thereby optimising best solutions efficiently.

**Your extensive experience in construction and commercial arbitration spans nearly two decades. How do you stay updated on evolving industry standards and legal nuances to effectively represent your clients in these areas?**

Industry standards and legal nuances in construction and commercial arbitration are vibrantly evolving.

To be effective in representing clients necessitates both sustained engagement into the current best practices in these fields and relentless immersion into current legal frameworks. We approach this with anticipation of what and where these areas of practice are headed to.

Obtaining and maintaining relevant credentials (both locally and abroad), continuous dynamic engagement with local and international arbitral institutions, and consistent active participation in trainings both on subject matter expertise and on arbitration procedure are significant considerations and proficiencies that our team provides to clients.

**With your diverse background and accomplishments, what advice would you give to aspiring lawyers who are interested in specialising in arbitration or pursuing expertise in complex banking fraud cases?**

It is advised that they first enrich themselves with the fundamentals in arbitration in both theory and practice. As soon as able, they should consider engaging with colleagues and experts, attending conferences, and joining arbitration organisations. These not only establish and expand a professional network, but are also good opportunities to gain insights and attain proficiency through training interactions with the experts. I also advise them to be aware of the cultural norms, business practices and legal systems of the countries that may be involved in future cases. Further, considering the continuing popularity of online arbitration, it is now a must to be proficient in utilising multimedia and evidence presentation via videoconferencing platforms.

For those intending to specialise in complex banking fraud cases, they are to immerse themselves into the workings of bank operations, especially on supervision, particularly in examination and investigation. In terms of subject matter, banking fraud needs to be approached and understood from the perspective and lens of both regulation and prosecution. I therefore advise them to be familiar with these disparate yet complementary areas. Their exposure to training also needs stress on efficient litigation skills and thereafter, on strategic dimensions designed to deliver the intended results that maximise the client's desired objectives.

**What are your views on diversity and inclusion in international arbitration today?**

Arbitrators and counsel can impart beneficial cultural insights and bridge gaps in understanding in the arbitration process. At CMT, we cultivate an environment where diverse voices are heard, valued and given equal opportunities. The firm fosters a sense of belonging and empowers individuals to perform to their full potential. We continuously develop a firm culture that is more balanced and inclusive, which can ultimately redound to more effective legal practice. Our roster of trained arbitration counsel will apply the same culture in the arbitration process. Our partners, who are also law school professors, foster a healthy professional relationship with our associates, staff and clients with conscious regard to promoting diversity and enhancing inclusivity as an essential component in our mentorship and clientele policy. International arbitration is constantly evolving, and CMT seeks to keep the pace with this development by engaging with diverse colleagues, increasing our understanding of the different cultures of our clients, and fostering an inclusive environment in our firm. ■







## Jacques S. Lynn

Cruz Marcelo & Tenefrancia

Job title: Partner

Location: Philippines

Number of years in practice: 14

Admissions: Philippine Bar

Main sectors covered: Construction, banking, trade, mining, information technology, commercial disputes

Geographical area of focus: Southeast Asia

Languages: English, Filipino

Jacques S. Lynn is a partner in Cruz Marcelo & Tenefrancia's litigation and dispute resolution department. Jacques is also a part of the firm's arbitration and alternative dispute resolution practice group as well as the trade practice group. Jacques has extensive experience in dispute resolution, including banking, tax, commercial and criminal litigation, as well as commercial and construction arbitration. Jacques is an accredited alternative dispute resolution provider for arbitration by the Philippine Office of Alternative Dispute Resolution and acts as speaker and resource person for its arbitration seminars and trainings. Jacques is a member of the panel of arbitrators of the Philippine International Center for Conflict Resolution, an alternative ADR centre set up by the Integrated Bar of the Philippines to provide arbitration and ADR services and facilities, and currently serves as the assistant corporate secretary thereof. Jacques also serves as vice president of the Philippine Institute of Arbitrators, the first learned society in the Philippines dedicated to promoting private dispute resolution within the country. Jacques is additionally a trained arbitrator of the Philippine Dispute Resolution Center. Jacques has acted as arbitration counsel or adviser in institutional and ad-hoc arbitrations involving commercial, construction and infrastructure, information technology and mining disputes, including court proceedings and judicial recourse involving interim measures and enforcement of and resisting arbitral awards, at all relevant court levels.



**Carla S. Pingul**  
Cruz Marcelo & Tenefrancia

Job title: Partner

Location: Philippines

Number of years in practice: 11

Admissions: Philippine Bar

Main sectors covered: Construction, banking, mining, energy, transportation, public utilities, commercial disputes

Geographical area of focus: Southeast Asia

Languages: English, Filipino

Carla S. Pingul is a partner of the dispute resolution group at Cruz Marcelo & Tenefrancia.

Carla has represented clients before the Permanent Court of Arbitration (PCA) and the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) for disputes involving government infrastructure projects and energy contracts. Likewise, Carla has been involved in several ad-hoc arbitration cases involving mining, transportation, government contracts and projects. In 2021, Carla was invited as a faculty member for the Singapore International Arbitration Center Academy. In 2022 and 2023, she was cited as a future star for commercial litigation in the Philippines by Benchmark Litigation. Currently, Carla is a senior lecturer at the University of the Philippines, College of Law, where she teaches Persons and Family Relations, Agency and Partnership, and Civil Procedure.



## K. Minh Dang

YKVN

Job title: Senior partner

Location: Singapore

Number of years in practice: 40+

Admissions: California, Singapore

Main sectors covered: Energy, shareholder disputes in connection with investment projects (inbound and outbound), real property development disputes

Geographical area of focus: Vietnam

Languages: Vietnamese, English, French

K. Minh Dang is the senior partner of YKVN and the head of its international arbitration practice. Minh has over 40 years of international practice experience and has been active in Vietnam-related matters since 1993.

Minh has been co-lead counsel in many major Vietnam-related international arbitration matters over the last decade, working closely with international arbitration co-lead counsel to develop and implement strategies – partly based on YKVN's expertise – on substantive and procedural Vietnamese law issues.

He has been co-lead counsel in several commercial arbitrations relating to petroleum exploration and production activities. His experience also includes Singapore International Arbitration Centre (SIAC) arbitrations relating to shareholder disputes in investment projects in Vietnam and Africa as well as Vietnam property development disputes.

Minh is serving his second term on the Court of Arbitration of the SIAC and his first term on the International Arbitration Committee of KCAB International.





## K. Nguyen Do

YKVN

Job title: Partner

Location: Singapore

Number of years in practice: 16

Number of years as an arbitrator: One

Current number of arbitrator appointments: One as sole arbitrator

Admissions: Washington State Bar Association, Vietnam Bar Federation, Singapore

Main sectors covered: Construction, international trade, oil and gas

Geographical area of focus: Vietnam

Languages: English and Vietnamese

K. Nguyen Do's international arbitration practice encompasses construction, international trade, oil and gas, investment, real estate and professional liability disputes. Nguyen's experience also includes Vietnamese law governed high-profile and high-value international arbitration matters in which YKVN teamed up with top international arbitration firms including Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr, Shearman & Sterling, Gaillard Banifatemi Shelbaya Disputes and Drew & Napier.

Nguyen's articles on Vietnam-related arbitration have been published in the *International Arbitration Review* and the *International Comparative Legal Guide to International Arbitration*, among others. He was the co-editor-in-chief of the FIDIC Second Edition suite, which comprises three principal FIDIC Conditions of Contract (Red, Yellow and Silver books).



**Elodie Dulac**  
King & Spalding

Job title: Partner

Location: Singapore

Number of years in practice: 18

Number of years as an arbitrator: Eight

Current number of arbitrator appointments: 26

Admissions: Paris, France, solicitor advocate for England and Wales, registered foreign lawyer, Singapore International Commercial Court

Main sectors covered: Energy, mining, joint venture and shareholder disputes, investor-state disputes

Geographical areas of focus: Asia, East Africa

Languages: French, English



**Simon Dunbar**  
Gateway Law Corporation

Job title: Director

Location: Singapore

Number of years in practice: 18

Number of years as an arbitrator: 13

Admissions: Singapore, England and Wales, New York State and Federal Courts (SDNY and EDNY)

Main sectors covered: Joint venture, energy, hospitality, technology, infrastructure, investor-state

Geographical areas of focus: Asia Pacific

Languages: English, German

Simon Dunbar is a director at Gateway and co-head of the firm's international arbitration practice. He is an experienced international dispute resolution lawyer, who specialises in international arbitration and acts as both advocate and arbitrator. Based in Singapore for over 17 years, Simon has been involved in some of Asia's most complex and high-value disputes.

Simon is admitted to practice in England and Wales, Singapore, and New York, and has experience of both common law and civil law systems. He has represented clients in international arbitrations under most of the major institutional rules, focusing on joint venture, energy, technology, infrastructure and investment disputes.

In addition to his work as counsel, Simon regularly sits as arbitrator, and has served as sole or presiding arbitrator in ICC, SIAC and ad hoc arbitrations. He is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (FCI Arb), is listed on the arbitrator panels of various arbitral institutions and is an accredited mediator.

Simon currently serves on the international relations committee of the Law Society of Singapore and the core committee of the ICC Singapore Arbitration Group.



## Nils Eliasson

King & Spalding

Job title: Partner

Location: Singapore

Number of years in practice: 22

Number of years as an arbitrator: 12

Current number of arbitrator appointments: Six as chair, one as sole arbitrator

Admissions: Hong Kong, Sweden

Main sectors covered: Energy, oil and gas, power and renewables, construction, private equity, telecommunications

Geographical areas of focus: Asia, Middle East, North America, China, Hong Kong, Africa, Europe

Languages: English, German, Swedish

Nils Eliasson leads King & Spalding's disputes practice in Asia. Nils has been based in Asia for 15 years and is widely recognised as a leading practitioner for Asia-related disputes. He has acted as counsel or arbitrator in more than 100 arbitrations encompassing M&A, private equity investments, joint ventures, shareholders disputes, banking and finance, construction and infrastructure, energy, natural resources, licence disputes, and other areas. He has also acted as counsel in a dozen investment treaty arbitrations.

Nils holds several leadership positions at the Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre (HKIAC) (vice-chair of the HKIAC, member of the HKIAC Executive Committee and member of the HKIAC Council) and regularly sits as an arbitrator in high-value disputes. He is also a member of the ICC Commission on Arbitration and ADR.

Nils has been presiding arbitrator, sole arbitrator, co-arbitrator and emergency arbitrator in international arbitration proceedings under the rules of the ICC, HKIAC, SIAC, SCC, KCAB, CIETAC, and UNCITRAL in disputes arising from construction contracts, supply agreements, joint ventures, asset transfer agreements, share subscription and share purchase agreements, shareholder agreements, licence agreements and ship building contracts.





**Foo Yuet Min**  
Drew & Napier

Job title: Director, dispute resolution

Location: Singapore

Number of years in practice: 15

Number of years as an arbitrator: 12

Current number of arbitrator appointments: One as sole arbitrator, one as chair of tribunal

Admissions: Singapore

Main sectors covered: Arbitration and international arbitration, litigation, mediation, sports law, hotels and leisure, financial services disputes, oil and gas, infrastructure, investigations, competition law and regulatory practice, SICC expertise

Geographical areas of focus: Worldwide, with focus on Greater China, India and Southeast Asia, especially Malaysia, Thailand, Indonesia and the Philippines

Languages: English, Mandarin and Hokkien dialects, Malay

Yuet Min Foo is a director of Drew & Napier's dispute resolution department. Prior to joining the firm in 2008, she was a justices' law clerk at the Supreme Court of Singapore.

Yuet Min acts as lead counsel in court litigation, international arbitrations and arbitration-related court proceedings. Many of her matters involve SIAC and ICC arbitrations. She has particular experience and interest in dealing with multilingual proceedings – both in court and arbitrations – and has conducted a bilingual international arbitration under the UNCITRAL Arbitration Rules.

She has successfully obtained Mareva injunctions in aid of foreign arbitrations and stayed court proceedings in favour of arbitration, among others. She successfully represented a group of Indonesian companies in the landmark Singapore Court of Appeal decision in *PT Perusahaan Gas Negara (Persero) TBK v CRW Joint Operation* [2015] SGCA 30 regarding the recognition and enforcement of interim awards.

Yuet Min and her team are dedicated to solving their clients' legal problems, whether big or small, through a myriad of dispute resolution methods. She has also been involved in major sports and media rights disputes involving cricket and football.



**Tomas Furlong**  
Herbert Smith Freehills

Job title: Partner

Location: Singapore

Admissions: Hong Kong, England and Wales

Main sectors covered: Private equity, energy, technology and telecommunications

Geographical areas of focus: China, India and Southeast Asia



**Judith Gill KC**  
Gill Arbitration Services

**Job title:** Arbitrator

**Location:** Singapore

**Number of years in practice:** 40

**Number of years as an arbitrator:** 15

**Current number of arbitrator appointments:** Six

**Admissions:** Law Society of England and Wales, English Bar

**Main sectors covered:** Commercial and investment disputes including joint ventures, shareholder issues, treaty claims, IP, construction and manufacturing

**Geographical areas of focus:** Worldwide, with focus on Asia

**Languages:** English, German



**Peter Godwin**  
Herbert Smith Freehills

**Job title:** Managing partner

**Location:** Malaysia

**Number of years in practice:** 30

**Number of years as an arbitrator:** Eleven

**Current number of arbitrator appointments:** One as sole arbitrator

**Admissions:** Solicitor of England and Wales, solicitor of Hong Kong

**Main sectors covered:** Construction and infrastructure, energy, telecommunications, media and technology, pharmaceuticals, international trade, and banking

**Geographical areas of focus:** Middle East, Europe and Asia, with particular focus on Malaysia and Japan

**Languages:** English

Peter Godwin is a specialist in crisis management, investigations, litigation, arbitration and other forms of dispute resolution. He has practised in Asia for the past 26 years and has particular expertise acting for Japanese clients.

Peter also possesses experience in practising in the Middle East, Africa and Europe. He was the first-ever emergency arbitrator appointed by the KCAB.



## Alastair Henderson

Herbert Smith Freehills

Job title: Managing partner

Location: Singapore

Number of years in practice: 33

Number of years as an arbitrator: 14

Current number of arbitrator appointments: Six as chair, seven as co-arbitrator, 13 as sole arbitrator

Admissions: England and Wales

Main sectors covered: Construction and engineering, major infrastructure projects, shareholder and joint venture disputes, international trade and commercial contracts

Geographical areas of focus: Global, with particular focus on Asia

Languages: English

With nearly 25 years in Southeast Asia, including nine in Bangkok and over a decade in Singapore, Alastair Henderson has become very well known in his field, heading Herbert Smith Freehills' arbitration practice in the region.

Alastair is a panel arbitrator of the SIAC, HKIAC, ACIA and THAC, and an arbitrator under ICC and UNCITRAL rules, possessing extensive experience as counsel under other rules. He is recognised as a 'top-notch and efficient arbitrator' with 'very sound judgment and very commercially sophisticated'. As counsel, 'Alastair is truly one of the best solicitor arbitration practitioners' and 'one of the guys who developed Singapore arbitration in a big way'.





**Chalid Heyder**  
Hogan Lovells DNFP

Job title: Partner

Location: Indonesia

Number of years in practice: 26

Admissions: England and Wales, Indonesia

Main sectors covered: Energy and natural resources, construction and engineering, commercial disputes, corporate (shareholders) disputes, employment disputes, corporate investigations, bankruptcy and court-debt sanctioned restructuring litigation

Geographical area of focus: Indonesia

Languages: Bahasa Indonesia, English

Chalid Heyder is a partner at Hogan Lovells DNFP's Jakarta office. He represents clients in complex arbitration and litigation in oil and gas, infrastructure, construction and engineering disputes as well as contentious employment matters and corporate investigation.

Chalid has more than 25 years of experience and has acted as counsel in arbitrations, including BANI, SIAC, ICC, and ad hoc arbitrations. He is widely recognised for his responsiveness and dedication to being available to his clients. Chalid has also been lauded for his expertise, and the innovative strategies he uses to win a case.



**Benjamin Hughes**  
Fountain Court Chambers

Job title: Independent arbitrator

Location: Singapore

Number of years in practice: 21

Number of years as an arbitrator: Ten

Admissions: Member of SIAC Court as well as numerous international arbitration institutions and arbitrator panels

Main sectors covered: Construction, energy, hospitality, infrastructure, medical, shipping, technology

Geographical areas of focus: Australia, China, Dubai, France, Germany, Hong Kong, India, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Nepal, Philippines, Singapore, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, UK, United Arab Emirates, US, Vietnam

Languages: English, Korean, Spanish, Mandarin



**Stuart Isaacs KC**  
Wilberforce Chambers

**Job title:** Barrister

**Location:** Singapore

**Number of years in practice:** 30+

**Number of years as an arbitrator:** 30

**Admissions:** England and Wales, Singapore International Commercial Court

**Main sectors covered:** International commercial arbitration and litigation, ICSID and BIT arbitration, corporate disputes, particularly relating to shareholder disputes and joint venture agreements, contract disputes in the financial and related sectors

**Geographical areas of focus:** Southeast Asia, particularly Singapore, Hong Kong and India, various Caribbean jurisdictions

**Languages:** English, French, Spanish, German

Stuart Isaacs KC is the first King's Counsel to be licensed to practise foreign law in Singapore. He sits as a deputy judge of the High Court in England and Wales and is a member of numerous arbitrator panels such as the SIAC (Singapore International Arbitration Centre), HKIAC (Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre), ICC (International Chamber of Commerce) and LCIA (London Court of International Arbitration), among others.



**Sapna Jhangiani KC**  
Attorney General's Chambers

**Job title:** International legal counsel

**Location:** Singapore

**Number of years in practice:** 23

**Number of years as an arbitrator:** 13

**Current number of arbitrator appointments:** Six

**Admissions:** Barrister, England and Wales, solicitor and advocate, Supreme Court of Singapore

**Main sectors covered:** Shareholder, M&A and joint venture disputes (including private equity disputes), distribution, licensing and consultancy agreements, commodities, shipbuilding, hospitality

**Geographical areas of focus:** London, Middle East (particularly Dubai), Singapore, Hong Kong and surrounding regions, India

**Languages:** English, French, Hindi



**Andi Y. Kadir**  
Baker McKenzie

**Job title:** Partner

**Location:** Indonesia

**Number of years in practice:** 22

**Number of years as an arbitrator:** Five

**Current number of arbitrator appointments:** Four as a member of tribunal at SIAC and BANI

**Admissions:** Indonesian Advocates Association (PERADI)

**Main sectors covered:** Construction, energy and infrastructure, shipping and logistics, banks and financial institutions, consumer goods and retail, healthcare and life sciences, technology, media and telecom

**Geographical areas of focus:** Indonesia, Singapore

**Languages:** Indonesian, English

Andi Kadir is a senior partner and the head of the dispute resolution and restructuring and insolvency practice groups. With over 22 years of experience under his belt, he has extensively represented clients in domestic and international arbitration, complex litigation proceedings, bankruptcy and insolvency matters, compliance, anti-corruption, and regulatory issues in the context of investigation and corporate crime matters.

Currently, Andi is a co-chairman of the arbitration and ADR commission of the ICC Indonesia, and a court member of the ICC International Court of Arbitration. He is a registered arbitrator at the Badan Arbitrase Nasional Indonesia (BANI) and the Shanghai Arbitration Commissions (SHAC) and has recently been appointed as arbitrator and mediator at the Lembaga Alternatif Penyelesaian Sengketa Sektor Jasa Keuangan (LAPS-SJK) and invite-only member at the International Insolvency Institute (III). Andi has served a member of tribunal in SIAC arbitration cases involving Indonesian businesses and has been called as an expert witness in the ICC, SIAC, KCAB, Singapore courts and BVI courts, giving opinions on various contractual and Indonesian company law issues.



**Kumar Kanagasingam**  
Lee Hishammuddin Allan & Gledhill

**Job title:** Partner

**Location:** Malaysia

**Number of years in practice:** 39

**Admissions:** England and Wales (Honourable Society of Middle Temple), advocate and solicitor of the High Court of Malaya

**Main sectors covered:** Banking and insolvency, corporate and commercial, contractual, breach of fiduciary duty and fraud disputes

**Languages:** English, Malay





## Swee Yen Koh SC

WongPartnership

Job title: Partner

Location: Singapore

Number of years in practice: 17

Number of years as an arbitrator: Seven

Current number of arbitrator appointments: One as presiding arbitrator, one as sole arbitrator and two as co-arbitrator

Admissions: Singapore Bar

Main sectors covered: Commercial dispute resolution, investment treaty disputes, energy, international sales, trade, transport, technology and investment

Geographical areas of focus: Global

Languages: English, Mandarin

Koh Swee Yen, SC is the head of the international arbitration practice and a partner in the commercial and corporate disputes practice at WongPartnership.

Her practice has a particular focus on complex, high-value and cross-border disputes across a wide spectrum of matters from commercial, energy, international sales, trade, transport and technology to investment. She regularly appears before the Singapore Court and in international arbitrations under the major institutional rules. She also has rights of audience before the DIFC Courts.

Swee Yen is recognised as a leading practitioner in resolving complex international disputes by *The Legal 500*, winning the award for Litigation Lawyer of the Year, and is widely recognised for her expertise, strategic mindset, foresight and dedication to providing quality client services.

She has sat as an arbitrator in ICC, LCIA and SIAC administered arbitrations, and is on the panel of arbitrators of the Asian International Arbitration Centre, Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre, and Korean Commercial Arbitration Board. Swee Yen is the co-chair of the IPBA Dispute Resolution and Arbitration Committee, and a member of the ICCA-ASIL Task Force on Damages. She is currently a board member of the Swiss Arbitration Association, a member of the governing board for the Centre of International Law, NUS, and the president of the Singapore branch of the International Law Association. She has also been appointed to the executive committee of the Foundation for International Arbitration Advocacy.



**Kwan Will Sen**  
Lim Chee Wee Partnership

**Job title:** Partner

**Location:** Malaysia

**Number of years in practice:** Ten

**Admissions:** Malaysian Bar, advocate and solicitor of the High Court of Malaya

**Main sectors covered:** Corporate and commercial disputes, energy, oil and gas, shipping and aviation, and competition law disputes

**Geographical areas of focus:** Southeast Asia, particularly Malaysia, Singapore and Thailand

**Languages:** English, Malay, Mandarin and Chinese dialects

Kwan Will Sen and the firm's arbitration practice are dynamic, strategic, and known for their strength in skilled advocacy. As advocates and counsel, the practice's members make it their business to know and deploy arguments and strategies that tick and stick with the arbitral tribunal or judges in arbitration-related court proceedings.

The arbitration practice regularly works with top advocates from the region and other jurisdictions as well, such as Singapore, Hong Kong, Thailand and the UK (including King's Counsel). Clients entrust the firm to package solutions and arbitration teams, as well as lead on advocacy, to fight their corner.



**Toby Landau KC**  
Duxton Hill Chambers

**Job title:** Barrister, advocate and arbitrator

**Location:** Singapore

**Number of years in practice:** 30

**Number of years as an arbitrator:** 25

**Current number of arbitrator appointments:** 15

**Admissions:** England and Wales (King's Counsel), Singapore, New York, British Virgin Islands, Northern Ireland, Dubai International Finance Centre

**Main sectors covered:** Foreign investment, international trade, joint ventures, power and other large-scale infrastructure projects, oil and gas, telecommunications, shipping, agency and distribution (including commercial agency), conflict of laws, company law, public international law

**Geographical areas of focus:** Global

**Languages:** English

Toby Landau KC practises in London as a sole practitioner and in Singapore from Duxton Hill Chambers. He has a broad commercial and international practice in London and Singapore since 2017, and has argued hundreds of major international commercial, investor-state and inter-state arbitrations, as well as ground-breaking cases in the highest courts of England, Singapore, Hong Kong, Pakistan and the Caribbean.

He was the first KC to be permanently called to the Singapore Bar, and since April 2012, has been a member of the panel of advisers to the Attorney-General of Singapore.

As arbitrator, Toby possesses extensive experience as chairman, co-arbitrator and sole arbitrator in commercial and investor-state disputes under most of the world's leading ad hoc and institutional rules, and is a member of various panels, including ICSID.

In 2020 he was appointed as one of 25 people to serve on the arbitration panel under the Agreement on the Withdrawal of the United Kingdom from the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community.

Toby is a visiting professor at King's College London, the vice president of the SIAC Court of Arbitration, among others, and a draftsman of the English Arbitration Act 1996, as well as many institutional rules.



**Michael Lee**  
Twenty Essex

**Job title:** Barrister

**Location:** Singapore, London

**Number of years in practice:** 50+

**Number of years as an arbitrator:** 22

**Admissions:** Barrister, former solicitor of England and Wales

**Main sectors covered:** Energy, joint ventures, engineering and construction, infrastructure, M&A, banking disputes

**Geographical areas of focus:** Europe, Southeast Asia

**Languages:** English, French

Michael Lee has a wide-ranging practice as an international arbitrator. He has served as a member of the tribunal in over 150 international arbitrations administered under the rules of various international arbitration institutions. These have included the SIAC, HKIAC, ICC, LCIA, ICSID and AAA as well as ad-hoc arbitrations and those under UNCITRAL rules.

Arbitrations in which he has been appointed have included disputes in the fields of energy supply, oil and gas, agency, joint ventures, expropriation and engineering, as well as finance and banking, involving a variety of national laws and jurisdictions. Michael is on the panel of international arbitrators of the AAA, SIAC, HKIAC, Beijing Arbitration Commission, Asian International Arbitration Centre (formerly Kuala Lumpur Regional Centre for Arbitration) and Indian Council of Arbitration.



**Amanda Lees**  
King & Wood Malleons

**Job title:** Partner

**Location:** Singapore

**Number of years in practice:** 22

**Number of years as an arbitrator:** Ten

**Current number of arbitrator appointments:** Three current appointments, two as sole arbitrator and one as co-arbitrator

**Admissions:** High Court, Federal Court and Supreme Court of New South Wales, registered foreign lawyer in Singapore

**Main sectors covered:** Energy and resources, commodities, construction, TMT, post-M&A disputes, joint ventures and investment

**Geographical areas of focus:** Asia Pacific, Europe

**Languages:** English

Amanda Lees leads the dispute resolution practice for Southeast Asia at King & Wood Malleons. Based in Singapore for over ten years, and with 22 years of experience in cross-border dispute resolution, she helps her clients resolve disputes better through early resolution.

Amanda has broad experience in both commercial and investment treaty arbitration. She has acted as counsel in arbitrations under the ICC, LCIA, SIAC, HKIAC, UNCITRAL (including PCA administered treaty arbitration), DIFC-LCIA and LMAA rules.

She possesses over ten years of experience as an arbitrator, and 22 appointments by the SIAC, ICC and LCIA as sole arbitrator, presiding arbitrator, co-arbitrator and emergency arbitrator. Amanda is listed on the SIAC, HKIAC, ICDR (AAA), AIAC and JCAA panels.

Amanda is an active member of the arbitration community. She is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (CI Arb) and Singapore Institute of Arbitrators, a director of the Singapore Branch of CI Arb, member of the SIAC Users Council and ACICA Legislative Committee, and vice chair of the ICC Australia Nomination Commission.

Amanda has taught international arbitration law and practice to hundreds of practitioners across Asia for CI Arb, SIAC, ICC, Young ICCA and Delos. She is a Young ICCA mentor.





## Christopher Leong

Chooi & Company and Cheang & Ariff

Job title: Partner

Location: Malaysia

Number of years in practice: 33

Number of years as an arbitrator: Nine

Current number of arbitrator appointments: Two as sole arbitrator

Admissions: Bar of England and Wales, High Court of Malaya

Main sectors covered: Construction, energy, banking and finance, and general commercial, including shares and equities, joint ventures and partnerships

Geographical areas of focus: Southeast Asia

Languages: English, Bahasa Malaysia

Christopher Leong has over 30 years of experience conducting litigation and arbitration across a broad spectrum of corporate and commercial disputes, including disputes relating to banking and securities instruments, commercial fraud, joint ventures and related shareholders claims.

Christopher is also an experienced arbitration practitioner who frequently acts as counsel in domestic and international arbitrations administered under the ICC, SIAC, AIAC and UNCITRAL rules, and arbitration-related court applications. His familiarity with the cultures and practices of international arbitration distinguishes him as a leading arbitration practitioner in the region.

Christopher has been empanelled as an arbitrator with the Asian International Arbitration Centre since 2015 and has been appointed as sole or presiding arbitrator in arbitrations involving construction, financial and commercial disputes.

His notable experiences in arbitration-related matters include:

- advising and acting as counsel for an international telecommunications company and its nominated directors in an arbitration proceeding at the International Court of Arbitration involving allegations of breach of fiduciary duties and conspiracy to injure and cause loss in respect of a strategic investment in a Malaysian telecommunications company where the amount in dispute is approximately \$250m;
- advising and acting for an automotive conglomerate in international arbitrations regarding issues relating to its overseas joint ventures; and
- advising and acting as counsel for a prominent ship management company in an arbitration regarding disputes over shares in a joint venture company awarded a contract worth over \$50m.



**Lim Chee Wee**  
Lim Chee Wee Partnership

**Job title:** Senior partner

**Location:** Malaysia

**Number of years in practice:** 30

**Number of years as an arbitrator:** 15

**Admissions:** Malaysian Bar, advocate and solicitor of the High Court of Malaya

**Main sectors covered:** Corporate and commercial disputes, energy, oil and gas, shipping and aviation, and competition law

**Geographical areas of focus:** Southeast Asia, particularly Malaysia, Singapore, and Thailand

**Languages:** English, Malay, Mandarin and Chinese dialects

Lim Chee Wee is the senior partner of Lim Chee Wee Partnership and has been in practice for more than 27 years. He has broad commercial, corporate, public law and regulatory disputes practice experience in a wide variety of high-value and high-profile cases including international arbitrations in Asia and Europe.

He is the former president of the Malaysian Bar, a former member of the National Unity Consultative Council and the Operations Review Panel of the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission, and is also involved in the 1MDB Task Force for investigations, prosecution and asset recovery.



**Steven Y. H. Lim**  
39 Essex Chambers

**Job title:** Arbitrator and barrister

**Location:** Singapore

**Number of years in practice:** 29

**Number of years as an arbitrator:** 14

**Current number of arbitrator appointments:** Five

**Admissions:** England and Wales, Singapore

**Main sectors covered:** Private equity investments, mergers and acquisitions, joint ventures, share options, finance, agency, internet gaming, licensing, hotel management, coal, mineral, agricultural commodities and trading contracts, oil and gas, energy, offshore engineering, ship and rig building, construction

**Geographical areas of focus:** Singapore, England, US, India, South Korea, Thailand, Vietnam, France, PRC, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Japan, Cambodia, Myanmar, Philippines, Indonesia, Malaysia, Brunei, Mongolia, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Saudi Arabia, Rwanda, Peru, Italy, Germany, Switzerland, Netherlands, Denmark, Hungary, Russia and Australia

**Languages:** English, Mandarin

Steven Y. H. Lim has over 100 appointments as arbitrator – including as presiding, sole, co-arbitrator and emergency arbitrator – under the SIAC, ICC, ICDR, SCMA, KCAB, LMAA and UNCITRAL rules and ad hoc cases seated in Singapore, England, US, India, South Korea, Thailand and Vietnam.

He is a panel arbitrator with the SIAC, HKIAC, ICDR, Qingdao Arbitration Commission and IDRC (India), and a member of the LCIA, among others. Steven is also a Fellow at the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators, Singapore Institute of Arbitrators and the Asian Institute of ADR.



**Wendy Lin**  
WongPartnership

Job title: Partner

Location: Singapore

Number of years in practice: 16

Number of years as an arbitrator: Seven

Current number of arbitrator appointments: Ten as sole arbitrator and two as co-arbitrator

Admissions: Singapore Bar

Main sectors covered: Commercial, corporate and investment disputes, energy and renewable disputes, arbitration-related court proceedings including challenges to and enforcement of awards

Geographical areas of focus: Thailand, Philippines, South Korea and clients worldwide with dispute resolution clauses in Singapore, or disputes with a Singapore connection

Languages: English and Mandarin



**Nicholas Lingard**  
Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer

Job title: Partner

Location: Singapore

Number of years in practice: 17

Number of years as an arbitrator: Eight

Admissions: New York, England and Wales, New South Wales

Main sectors covered: Commercial, investor-state and construction arbitration

Geographical areas of focus: Global, Northeast Asia, Southeast Asia, South Asia, Central Asia

Languages: English, Japanese

Nicholas Lingard is a partner at Freshfields in Singapore and heads the firm's international arbitration practice in Asia.

Nick leads one of Asia's most active treaty arbitration practices, representing investors and states in high-profile, politically complex cases in the region and the world. He represents clients in commercial and construction disputes across a variety of industries, under all the major arbitral rules and all major systems of law.

A former law clerk to the Chief Justice of Australia, Nick was educated at the University of Queensland and Harvard Law School, and is qualified to practise in New York, England and Wales and New South Wales.





**Christopher Mainwaring-Taylor**  
Allen & Overy

Job title: Partner

Location: Singapore

Number of years in practice: 20

Number of years as an arbitrator: Ten

Admissions: Solicitor, England and Wales

Main sectors covered: Construction, energy, oil and gas, infrastructure, projects

Geographical areas of focus: Singapore,

Southeast Asia and the Middle East

Languages: English, French



**Loretta Malintoppi**  
39 Essex Chambers

Job title: Arbitrator

Location: Singapore

Number of years in practice: 20

Number of years as an arbitrator: 30

Current number of arbitrator appointments: Five

Admissions: Rome, Paris, registered foreign lawyer in Singapore

Main sectors covered: Public international law, investment law, agency, international transactions, construction, oil and gas, pharmaceuticals

Geographical areas of focus: Italy, France, UK, Singapore, Korea, Indonesia, Eastern Europe

Languages: Italian, English, French, Spanish

Loretta Malintoppi sits as arbitrator in commercial and treaty cases and advises or acts as counsel and advocate in inter-state arbitration and litigation. Recent examples of her practice in this field are the application of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (*Qatar v United Arab Emirates*) and the appeal relating to the jurisdiction of the ICAO Council under Article 84 of the Convention on International Civil Aviation (*Bahrain, Egypt, Saudi Arabia and United Arab Emirates v Qatar*). Loretta was part of Qatar's legal teams in those cases.

She has been appointed as an arbitrator in internal commercial disputes under the ICC, LCIA, SIAC, UNCITRAL, DIAC and CAM rules and in ad hoc arbitrations.

As to treaty cases, Loretta has been appointed in arbitrations under the ICSID, UNCITRAL and SCC rules and the PCA Arbitration Rules 2012.



## Mark Mangan

Dechert LLP

Job title: Partner

Location: Singapore

Number of years in practice: 23

Number of years as an arbitrator: 18

Current number of arbitrator appointments: Over 25

Admissions: England and Wales, High Court of Australia, Supreme Court of New South Wales, Australia

Main sectors covered: Oil and gas, mining, nuclear energy, renewables, high technology, construction, life sciences, private equity, cryptocurrencies, food and beverage, telecommunications, shareholders disputes, post-M&A disputes, investment treaty disputes, sports

Geographical areas of focus: Asia Pacific, Middle East, Europe, Africa

Languages: English, French

Mark Mangan is currently ranked as a Leading Individual by *The Legal 500* for international arbitration in Singapore, and his team was awarded International Arbitration Team of the Year at the *Legal 500* Southeast Asia Awards for 2020 and 2021.

Mark was appointed as the inaugural chairman of the ICC Australia Arbitration Committee in October 2022. He is a vice chair of the Inter-Pacific Bar Association's (IPBA) Dispute Resolution and Arbitration Committee; a Fellow of the Singapore Institute of Arbitrators; a Fellow of the Australian Centre for International Commercial Arbitration (ACICA) and a member of its Practice and Procedure Board; and a member of various arbitral institutions, including the SIAC, LCIA, KCAB and HKIAC.

He is also a published writer, with academic contributions in over 50 articles, book chapters and commentaries, including:

- *A Guide to the SIAC Arbitration Rules* published by Oxford University Press, 1st and 2nd editions.
- *The Guide to Investment Treaty Protection and Enforcement* published by Global Arbitration Review, 1st edition (Mark Mangan is a co-author and co-editor).



**Gavin Margetson**  
Mishcon de Reya

Job title: Partner

Location: Singapore

Number of years in practice: 23

Number of years as an arbitrator: Eight

Admissions: England and Wales

Main sectors covered: Energy, technology, media, telecommunications, shareholder disputes, international trade, fintech, cryptocurrencies

Geographical areas of focus: Indonesia, Japan, Myanmar, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam, France, UK, Switzerland

Languages: English, Japanese

Described as 'an outstanding practitioner who combines excellent strategic judgement with close attention to detail and strong client-handling skills', Gavin Margetson is regarded as 'a key name to note' particularly for energy and telecoms sector disputes.

Gavin began his dispute resolution career with Herbert Smith Freehills in London. He moved to Asia in 2004 and he has been based in Southeast Asia since 2014. He has almost two decades of experience advising on Indonesia-related matters, most recently acting as lead counsel in a landmark arbitration concerning Indonesian ministerial regulations in the oil and gas sector. He spent two years overseeing a market-leading practice in Thailand and has led teams on a series of arbitrations and advisory matters involving Myanmar and Vietnam.

For his first ten years in Asia, Gavin was a registered foreign lawyer in Tokyo. He spent two years working in-house at a leading Japanese trading company. After returning to private practice, he helped to resolve disputes for a range of Japanese corporates in connection with their overseas investments and transactions. Regular clients included several major Japanese trading companies, various Japanese state-owned energy companies and Japanese manufacturers in the telecoms, technology, healthcare and automobile sectors.



**Albert Marsman**  
De Brauw Blackstone Westbroek

Job title: Partner

Location: Singapore

Number of years in practice: 16

Admissions: New York, Netherlands

Main sectors covered: Energy and mining, financial services, technology

Geographical areas of focus: Indonesia, China, Vietnam, Philippines, Singapore

Languages: Dutch, English





**Nahendran Navaratnam**  
Navaratnam Chambers

**Job title:** Senior partner

**Location:** Malaysia

**Number of years in practice:** 35

**Number of years as an arbitrator:** 18

**Current number of arbitrator appointments:** Six

**Main sectors covered:** Dispute resolution, energy, insurance, project finance, commercial contracts, technology and telecommunications, company law

**Languages:** English, Malay

Nahendran Navaratnam is a chartered arbitrator, the principal partner at Navaratnam Chambers and a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators and the Malaysian Institute of Arbitrators. He is listed on the panel of arbitrators of the Asian International Arbitration Centre (AIAC), Singapore International Arbitration Centre (SIAC) and numerous other arbitral institutions.

Nahendran is also a vice chair of the Malaysia branch of the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) Arbitration Committee. He receives appointments as arbitrator and acts as counsel in complex commercial arbitration. He is highly regarded as a leading individual for dispute resolution and is recognised in many major legal directories and was recently inducted into *The Legal 500* Hall of Fame. Nahendran also holds a degree in Materials Science – an added advantage for technical disputes.



**Nguyen Ngoc Minh**  
Dzungst & Associates LLC

**Job title:** Partner

**Location:** Vietnam

**Number of years in practice:** More than 13 years

**Number of years as an arbitrator:** Two

**Admissions:** Bar Association of Hanoi, Vietnam

**Main sectors covered:** Banking and finance, energy and natural resources, infrastructure and construction, insurance and reinsurance, investment, logistic and supply chain, marine, real estate, trading and commodities

**Geographical areas of focus:** Vietnam, Singapore, Hong Kong

**Languages:** Vietnamese and English

Nguyen Ngoc Minh is a CEDR-accredited mediator, an AIAC arbitration panellist, and VICMC mediator. His prowess as an arbitrator has garnered praise, and he has been lauded as an accessible lawyer who provides thorough, sound and practical advice. Minh has been recognised by *The Legal 500* as a lawyer of utmost professional integrity, with him and his team being viewed as one of Vietnam's top-class counsels.



## Nguyen Thi Thu Trang

Dzungst & Associates LLC

Job title: Special arbitration counsel

Location: Vietnam

Number of years in practice: 12

Admissions: Hanoi Bar Association

Main sectors covered: International commercial arbitration, investment arbitration, construction, sales of goods, enforcement litigation

Geographical areas of focus: Asia, Russia, US

Languages: Vietnamese, English

Dr Nguyen Thi Thu Trang has been a special arbitration counsel in Dzungst & Associates LLC – Hanoi Office for over 12 years. Her practice focuses on commercial and investment arbitration, commercial and enforcement litigation, and international business law. For four consecutive years, Trang has been recognised as one of the 'Next Generation Partners' in dispute resolution in Vietnam in 2019 and 2020 and 'Leading Individual' in 2021 and 2022 by *The Legal 500 Asia Pacific*. She was also listed in the *Arbitration Powerlist: Southeast Asia 2022*.

Trang obtained her LLM degree in International Arbitration and Business Law at Erasmus School of Law – Erasmus University Rotterdam. In 2021, she successfully defended her PhD thesis on the judicial support of Vietnamese courts in arbitration at the Graduate Academy of Social Sciences in Vietnam.

As a key member of the arbitration and ADR group in Dzungst & Associates LLC, Trang has extensive experience in many arbitrations with a total value of millions of dollars conducted at the ICC, SIAC, HKIAC and VIAC.



**Colin Ong KC**  
Dr Colin Ong Legal Services

**Job title:** Senior partner

**Location:** Brunei

**Number of years in practice:** 30

**Number of years as an arbitrator:** 24

**Current number of arbitrator appointments:** Three as chair arbitrator, one as sole arbitrator

**Admissions:** England and Wales, Singapore, Brunei

**Main sectors covered:** Banking and finance, company, construction, energy disputes, electricity, oil and gas, information technology, intellectual property, post M&A, and shipping

**Geographical areas of focus:** Asia Pacific, Middle East, London, Paris

**Languages:** Chinese, English, Malay, Bahasa Indonesia

Dr Colin Ong KC is an international arbitrator and lead counsel with broad experience in diverse areas and involvement in over 380 arbitrations globally. He is a chartered arbitrator and a bencher of the Inner Temple. He holds several memberships and certifications, including FCI Arb, SCI Arb, SIME, Dipl Arb and a PhD, among others.

Colin is co-chair of the IBA Asia-Pacific Arbitration Group, a visiting professor at civil law jurisdictions, and the first English Silk to be appointed by the Chief Justice of China to sit on China's International Commercial Court ICEC.

He is also the president of the Arbitration Association Brunei Darussalam and the international advisory board chairman of both the Thailand Arbitration Center and Japan's JIIART, and sits on the appointments committee of the Chinese European Arbitration Centre (Germany) among others. Colin's other functions include – but are not limited to – that of the appointing authority for the Chinese-European Arbitration Centre; adviser at the China-ASEAN Legal Research Center; and a council member of the Hong Kong Centre of International Commercial Arbitration. He also sat as arbitrator and acted as counsel in arbitrations under the AAA, BANI, CIETAC, ICC, KCAB, KLRCA, LCIA, LMAA, SIAC, SCMA, TAI, UNCITRAL, and WIPO rules.



**Kent Phillips**  
Hogan Lovells Lee & Lee

**Job title:** Partner

**Location:** Singapore

**Number of years in practice:** 26

**Number of years as an arbitrator:** Nine

**Current number of arbitrator appointments:** One

**Admissions:** England and Wales, New Zealand, Singapore International Commercial Court

**Main sectors covered:** Resources, energy, oil and gas, construction, joint venture and investment

**Geographical areas of focus:** Singapore, London, Japan, Korea, US, Europe, Vietnam, Indonesia, Philippines, India

**Languages:** English

Kent Phillips' extensive trial experience as an international arbitration specialist includes high-value commercial disputes across several sectors and jurisdictions. He has conducted arbitrations under leading institutional rules in most major seats, under both civil and common applicable laws.

For many years, Kent has been recognised by major directories as a leading individual for international arbitration. He has extensive experience as an arbitrator and is a director of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators, Singapore branch. Kent also sits as co-chair of the International Bar Association's Asia Pacific Arbitration Group.





**Prakash Pillai**  
Clyde & Co

**Job title:** Partner

**Location:** Singapore

**Number of years in practice:** 25

**Number of years as an arbitrator:** Ten

**Admissions:** Qualified as an advocate and solicitor in Singapore, called to the Bar at the Middle Temple in London (non-practising)

**Main sectors covered:** General corporate and commercial disputes, investment and shareholder disputes, investment treaty disputes, employment disputes, construction and engineering, insurance and reinsurance, trade and commodities

**Geographical areas of focus:** Singapore, Southeast Asia, India, Asia Pacific

**Languages:** English

Prakash Pillai focuses on dispute resolution and international commercial arbitration across a multitude of areas, including corporate and commercial, trade and commodities, construction and engineering, and employment. He has appeared before various arbitral tribunals in both ad-hoc arbitrations and arbitrations governed by the leading institutional rules. As the managing director of Clasis LLC, he also represents clients in commercial litigation matters before the Singapore courts.

Prakash has over 20 years of experience in representing major local and international companies and high-net-worth individuals in high-value, complex arbitration and litigation proceedings in Singapore. He regularly represents clients in litigation involving shareholder disputes, medical negligence, professional liability, product liability, fraud, personal injury, employee compensation and tort. He also regularly appears before various arbitral tribunals in both ad-hoc arbitrations and arbitrations governed by the leading institutional rules.

Prakash's experience also includes insolvency work, focusing mainly on contentious insolvency matters including court challenges to rehabilitation and liquidation proceedings, and claims by liquidators against directors of the insolvent company or third parties.



**Mohan Pillay**  
Pinsent Masons MPillay

**Job title:** Founding partner

**Location:** Singapore

**Number of years in practice:** 37

**Number of years as an arbitrator:** 11

**Admissions:** Singapore, England and Wales

**Main sectors covered:** Infrastructure, international trade, commodities

**Geographical areas of focus:** Asia Pacific

**Languages:** English

Mohan Pillay is a chartered arbitrator, a Fellow of the International Academy of Construction Lawyers and a Singapore and UK qualified disputes lawyer with over 35 years' experience in commercial litigation and regional arbitration.

He is the founding partner of Pinsent Masons MPillay. Following a career of over three decades as counsel, he currently practises as a full-time arbitrator. He is regularly appointed sole and presiding arbitrator in domestic and international matters.

Mohan is a Singapore member of the ICC Commission on Arbitration and ADR. His past appointments include president, Singapore Institute of Arbitrators and chairman, Society of Construction Law (Singapore), with past teaching appointments as adjunct associate professor, Faculty of Law, National University of Singapore (2003-11) and visiting professor, Centre of Construction Law and Dispute Resolution, King's College London (2005-11).



## Jesus Paolo U Protacio

Gatmaytan Yap Patacsil  
Gutierrez & Protacio (C&G Law)

Job title: Founding partner

Location: Philippines

Number of years in practice: 22

Admissions: Philippine Bar

Main sectors covered: Construction,  
energy, banking, mining

Geographical area of focus: Philippines

Languages: English, Filipino

Jesus Paolo U Protacio was chosen by the  
Philippine Supreme Court as a Bar examiner for  
the 2022 Philippine Bar Examinations.



## Andrew Pullen

Fountain Court Chambers

Job title: Barrister

Location: Singapore

Number of years in practice: 21

Number of years as an arbitrator: Six

Admissions: England and Wales

Main sectors covered: Automotive,  
aviation, construction, energy, financial  
services, manufacturing, media,  
pharmaceuticals, technology

Geographical areas of focus: Asia Pacific,  
UK

Languages: English



## Chau Huy Quang

Rajah & Tann LCT Lawyers

Job title: Managing partner

Location: Vietnam

Number of years in practice: 20+

Number of years as an arbitrator: 17

Languages: English





**Ramon Quisumbing**  
Quisumbing Torres

**Job title:** Partner

**Location:** Philippines

**Number of years in practice:** 44

**Admissions:** Philippines, New York, Virginia and District of Columbia, US

**Main sectors covered:** Industrials, manufacturing and transportation, technology, financial institutions

**Geographical areas of focus:** Philippines, Asia Pacific, US, EMEA

**Languages:** English, Filipino, Tagalog

Ramon Quisumbing is the managing partner of Quisumbing Torres and a member of its dispute resolution practice group. He is also a member of the firm's industrials, manufacturing and transportation industry group, and has represented numerous multinational companies, including AT&T, The Dow Chemical Company, Cisco, Budget Rental, Occidental Chemical, Taisei, TeleTech, Agilent, Steelcase and Intel, among others.

Ramon's practice focuses on litigation, alternative dispute resolution, and international arbitration. He handles commercial, civil and appellate litigation, and frequently handles the settlement of estates of high-net-worth individuals.



**Mahesh Rai**  
Drew & Napier

**Job title:** Deputy head, construction and engineering; director, dispute resolution

**Location:** Singapore

**Number of years in practice:** 13

**Number of years as an arbitrator:** Five

**Current number of arbitrator appointments:** One

**Bar and court admissions:** Singapore, England and Wales, New York, Cambodia (International)

**Main sectors covered:** Construction, energy, infrastructure, telecommunications, IT, financial technology and commodities

**Geographical areas of focus:** UK, Asia Pacific, South Asia, US, Middle East

**Languages:** English, Hindi, Bahasa Melayu, Mandarin

Mahesh Rai is a director at Drew & Napier, one of the youngest to be admitted as an equity director at 34. As counsel, Mahesh is regularly instructed on complex disputes in the infrastructure, construction, telecommunications, IT, shipping, energy, financial technology and commodities sectors.

In addition to court litigation matters, Mahesh has represented clients in over 50 arbitrations. His successful matters have included high-profile arbitrations against the governments of Maldives and Indonesia as well as a nine-year arbitration involving one of Asia's largest petrochemical plants. He is also currently representing hundreds of claimants in a cryptocurrency-related representative action before the Singapore courts.

He is regarded as 'a first-rate litigator'. In 2021, he won the prestigious The Joseph Grimberg Outstanding Young Advocate Award for professional excellence, service to the profession and community, and upholding ethical standards.

Mahesh is a director of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (Singapore branch), sits as an arbitrator and recently conducted a hearing involving Indian parties in Hindi. He is on the panel of the SIAC (Reserve), HKIAC List of Arbitrators and THAC. He is frequently invited to speak at international conferences and panels on international arbitration and dispute resolution.





**V. K. Rajah SC**  
Duxton Hill Chambers

Job title: International arbitrator

Location: Singapore

Number of years in practice: 36

Number of years as an arbitrator: 11

Current number of arbitrator appointments: Ten

Admissions: Supreme Court, Singapore

Main sectors covered: Corporate law, employment, energy and natural resources, finance and banking, information and communication technologies, insurance, investment and public international law, joint ventures, consortia, co-operation, sales, purchases

Geographical areas of focus: Asia, UK, US

Languages: English

VK Rajah SC was appointed as the vice president of the ICC International Court of Arbitration from 1 July 2021 for a term of three years. He was also re-appointed as chairman of Singapore's Advisory Council on the Ethical Use of AI and Data from 1 March 2022 for a further three-year period.



**Lambert Rasa Ratnam**  
Lee Hishammuddin Allan & Gledhill

Job title: Partner

Location: Malaysia

Number of years in practice: 39

Number of years as an arbitrator: About ten

Current number of arbitrator appointments: One

Admissions: Bar of England and Wales, High Court of Malaya

Main sectors covered: Civil, commercial and corporate law

Geographical areas of focus: Malaysia, Singapore

Languages: English



**Don Rojanapenkul**  
DLA Piper

Job title: Partner

Location: Thailand

Number of years in practice: 27

Admissions: Lawyers Council of Thailand, notarial services attorney, Thai Bar Association

Main sectors covered: Construction, energy, insurance, financial services, telecommunications, retail, real estate

Geographical area of focus: Thailand

Languages: Thai, English

## Rosli Dahlan Saravana Partnership (RDS)

### Powerlist inclusions

- **Datuk D. P. Naban** (*p80*)
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### Key individuals

- **Nagarajah Muttiah** (*p82*)
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- **Stephanie Chong** (*p89*)

### Business message

Rosli Dahlan Saravana Partnership (RDS) is an award-winning, full-service commercial law firm with diverse experience among the firm's partners, who are consistently ranked as leading lawyers in Malaysia by notable legal rankers.

The sophistication, size and geographic reach of RDS's practice allows it to offer an unsurpassed range of legal knowledge and experience in both civil and commercial disputes. The dispute resolution practice advises and represents leading multinational corporations, conglomerates, local corporations and government-linked companies in resolving contentious matters involving a full spectrum of issues.

RDS understands the customs and industry practices of this field thoroughly due to experience derived from working knowledge and deep expertise in advising and representing clients in intricate and high-end disputes. Coupled together with RDS's substantive knowledge of all facets of contractual disputes, it is able to hit the ground running and provide clients with specifically tailored strategic advice and innovative solutions with a view to obtaining the best possible outcome.

RDS partners are widely regarded as among the best in the region. They command industry prestige and respect and are favoured by clients for the most complex and significant matters. When litigation is the best course, RDS possesses highly experienced trial lawyers, and will ensure that its client's rights are protected to the best extent possible. Whether at the negotiation table, in the courtroom, or before an international arbitration tribunal, RDS's lawyers will deliver accurate and holistic advice with an extraordinary track record of success.

RDS works closely with clients to manage actual and potential risks. It is focused on offering the most effective solutions that are practical, commercially oriented and aligned with business objectives. The practical experience, technical strength and strategic insight of RDS's lawyers will ensure any business is positioned to overcome its toughest challenges.

RDS has the full range of specialist expertise to assess and evaluate every aspect of a civil or commercial dispute, devising legal strategies that deliver results in line with clients' drives and objectives.









## Datuk D.P. Naban

Rosli Dahlan Saravana Partnership (RDS)

**Job title:** Senior partner

**Location:** Malaysia

**Number of years in practice:** 42

**Admissions:** Malaysian Bar

**Main sectors covered:** Appellate counsel work, commercial fraud, corporate debt recovery and insolvency, tax and customs litigation, corporate and commercial litigation, international and cross-border disputes, arbitration

**Geographical area of focus:** Malaysia

**Languages:** English, Malay

Datuk D.P. Naban is a senior partner of Rosli Dahlan Saravana Partnership with more than 40 years of experience in legal practice.

A tenacious, mature, composed and technically-sound legal strategist and a highly experienced practitioner, Datuk has a strong reputation in the Malaysian legal market. He offers a broad practice including civil and commercial litigation, advisory work and arbitration. He regularly sits as arbitrator, and he is regularly appointed as counsel in appellate matters and in arbitrations.

Datuk is recognised by clients for his litigation, advocacy and cross-examination skills that are par excellence. He has appeared as counsel in Malaysia's most significant commercial and tax disputes, where clients describe him as 'outstanding' and often recommend him for his 'superb' advocacy skills.

A client remarked to *The Legal 500* that 'despite many years at the Bar, Naban still exudes a fresh and tireless enthusiasm, for the law, which translates to immaculate service'.



## Rosli Dahlan

Rosli Dahlan Saravana Partnership (RDS)

Job title: Partner

Location: Malaysia

Number of years in practice: 35

Admissions: Malaysian Bar

Main sectors covered: Appellate counsel work, commercial fraud, corporate debt recovery and insolvency, corporate and commercial litigation, international and cross-border disputes, land disputes and land acquisition, arbitration

Geographical area of focus: Malaysia

Languages: English, Malay

Rosli Dahlan is conversant in both civil and shariah law. His wide network of regional and international contacts has enabled him to resolve contentious cross-border issues in the Asian region and internationally including successfully securing the release of Malaysians detained in neighbouring countries.

With more than 30 years of experience in civil and commercial disputes, Rosli has a pre-eminent reputation in the resolution of complex, high-value and high-profile disputes for every type of client, locally and internationally. He has won landmark cases that made inroads against the abuses by public authorities and government agencies in land acquisition, human rights, illegal deportations, fundamental liberties and prosecutorial misfeasance.

Rosli has appeared in several high-profile judicial review cases – against the registrar of societies to reinstate the deregistration of a political party from contesting in the general election which eventually formed the government; against various state governments for wrongful acquisition of private land; and against enforcement agencies for abuse of the Anti-Money Laundering, Anti-Terrorist Financing and Proceeds of Unlawful Activities Act 2001. He has also acted against the Speaker of Parliament for tabling laws contrary to the Federal Constitution. Rosli was the lead counsel in the 1MDB Asset Recovery Task Force which comprised of the Attorney General's Chambers, Bank Negara Malaysia, National Anti-Financial Crime Centre, Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission and Royal Malaysian Police.



## Nagarajah Muttiah

Rosli Dahlan Saravana Partnership (RDS)

Job title: Partner

Location: Malaysia

Number of years in practice: 43

Admissions: Malaysian Bar, Bar of England and Wales

Main sectors covered: Building and construction disputes, general and civil litigation, insurance, shipping and aviation, employment and intellectual property

Geographical area of focus: Malaysia

Languages: English, Malay

Nagarajah Muttiah has vast experience in shipping litigation and maritime insurance. He regularly acts as counsel in shipping disputes in court and in arbitration. He is also actively involved in other practice areas such as aviation, building and construction as well as general and civil litigation.

Nagarajah was called to the Bar of England and Wales in 1979 and the Malaysian Bar in 1980. He has been in active practice for more than 40 years. He has appeared and acted in numerous landmark litigation cases.

Nagarajah was the former president of the Malaysian Maritime Law Association and a former member of the International Pacific Bar Association where he has presented a number of papers over the years.





## Shaun Tan

Rosli Dahlan Saravana Partnership (RDS)

Job title: Partner

Location: Malaysia

Number of years in practice: Eight

Admissions: Malaysian Bar, Bar of England and Wales

Main sectors covered: Construction and engineering disputes, energy disputes, commercial disputes

Geographical area of focus: Malaysia

Languages: English, Malay

Shaun Tan is a partner with the firm's construction and arbitration practice. Shaun has been called to the Malaysian Bar and the Bar of England and Wales. Shaun specialises in construction disputes which encompasses dispute resolution via court proceedings, statutory adjudication under the Construction Industry Payment and Adjudication Act 2012, mediation and arbitration. His construction portfolio covers a wide array of major infrastructure works including mass rapid transit (MRT), light rail transit (LRT), utilities, refineries, power plants and highways. Shaun also has extensive experience in commercial disputes involving fraud and land matters.

Shaun regularly appears as counsel or co-counsel at the Malaysian High Court and appellate courts, and in arbitrations, both domestic and international. Shaun has handled arbitrations governed by the Asian International Arbitration Centre (AIAC), Singapore International Arbitration Centre (SIAC), International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) and Malaysian Institute of Architects (PAM). He has also handled several ad-hoc arbitrations and he has also sat as an arbitrator in ad-hoc arbitrations.

Shaun is empanelled as an arbitrator with the AIAC and Thailand Arbitration Center. He is also empanelled as mediator at the AIAC and he holds the AIAC Certificate in Adjudication.

Shaun's clients have described him as 'very responsive. He is always able to provide comprehensive advice which is not only legally sound but practical'; 'one of the better trial lawyers that I have seen' and 'Shaun's ability to navigate through legal complexities with finesse and provide coherent and practical advice instantaneously is something which we greatly value'.



## **Kenny Lam**

Rosli Dahlan Saravana Partnership (RDS)

Job title: Partner

Location: Malaysia

Number of years in practice: Eight

Admissions: Malaysian Bar

Main sectors covered: Intellectual property, manufacturing, IT and software development

Geographical areas of focus: Malaysia, Japan

Languages: English, Malay

Kenny is a partner in Rosli Dahlan Saravana Partnership's (RDS) dispute resolution department.

Kenny graduated from the National University of Malaysia (UKM) in 2014. He was admitted as an advocate and solicitor of the High Court of Malaya in 2015.

Kenny is an active practitioner in civil, corporate and commercial disputes across various industries, including oil and gas; aviation; construction; manufacturing; IT and software development, and his clients include Fortune 500 companies, individuals, and small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs). He has appeared as counsel at all levels of court and arbitration proceedings.

Kenny's practice also focuses on the protection of intellectual property rights. He has advised clients on various intellectual property issues, including intellectual property ownership, licensing and assignment, global and domestic brand management, and infringement and enforcement of IP rights.

He also has an extensive network of foreign intellectual property lawyers and agents who are necessary to assist clients in obtaining global IP protection.



## Bahari Yeow

Rosli Dahlan Saravana Partnership (RDS)

Job title: Partner

Location: Malaysia

Number of years in practice: 23

Admissions: Malaysian Bar

Main sectors covered: Intellectual property, corporate litigation, technology, media and telecommunications, healthcare and life sciences

Geographical area of focus: Malaysia

Languages: English, Mandarin, Malay

With over 20 years of experience in the fields of intellectual property law and general litigation, Bahari Yeow heads the intellectual property and technology, media and telecommunications practice. He has been ranked as a leading Tier 1 intellectual property lawyer in Malaysia by *The Legal 500*, where he was acknowledged as 'undoubtedly very knowledgeable in his field of practice – his commitment, passion and enthusiasm are commendable'.

Bahari is a qualified patent, trade mark and industrial design agent. He also sits as a panellist at the Asian International Arbitration Centre (Domain Name Dispute Resolution). He served as a member of the Group Standing Committee for Copyright (2015-18) of the Asian Patent Attorney Association (APAA) Malaysia.





## Kooy Wei Nee

Rosli Dahlan Saravana Partnership (RDS)

Job title: Senior associate

Location: Malaysia

Number of years in practice: Five

Admissions: Malaysian Bar

Main sectors covered: Construction and engineering disputes, energy disputes, commercial disputes, shareholder disputes

Geographical area of focus: Malaysia

Languages: English, Mandarin, Malay

Kooy Wei Nee is a senior associate with the firm's construction and arbitration practice. She specialises in the field of dispute resolution, arbitration and adjudication, particularly construction disputes. Her construction portfolio covers a wide array of major infrastructure works including mass rapid transit (MRT), light rail transit (LRT), utilities, refineries, power plants and solar PV plants.

Wei Nee appears regularly as counsel or co-counsel at all tiers of the Malaysian courts and in arbitrations, both domestic and international. Wei Nee has handled arbitrations governed by the Asian International Arbitration Centre (AIAC), Singapore International Arbitration Centre (SIAC), International Chamber of Commerce (ICC), Malaysian Institute of Architects (PAM) and the United Nations Commission on international Trade Law (UNCITRAL) rules. She has also handled several ad-hoc arbitrations. Besides this, she frequently advises and acts in arbitration-related litigation including the enforcement or setting aside of arbitral awards and the stay of court proceedings in favour of arbitration.

In addition, Wei Nee has extensive experience in commercial disputes and shareholder disputes, primarily involving oppressions, fraud, conspiracy and breach of statutory duties. She has also been involved in other areas of law including trespass and nuisance disputes, tax disputes and defamation disputes.

Wei Nee read Law at the University of Liverpool. She was admitted as an advocate and solicitor of the High Court of Malaya in 2018. She is also a committee member of the Society of Construction Law Malaysia.



## Hayden Tan

Rosli Dahlan Saravana Partnership (RDS)

Job title: Senior associate

Location: Malaysia

Number of years in practice: Five

Admissions: Malaysian Bar

Main sectors covered: Commercial disputes, contractual disputes, appellate cases, defamation

Geographical area of focus: Malaysia

Languages: English, Mandarin, Malay

Hayden Tan is a senior associate with the firm's dispute resolution practice. His primary areas of practice include commercial law, public law and defamation, with a particular focus on business contractual disputes. He regularly appears in the High Court and appellate courts.

Hayden has acted in urgent court applications to preserve the status quo of disputes pending referral of disputes to arbitration. Notably, he was involved in an injunction and stay application involving Tealive and Chatime pending the resolution of the dispute via arbitration.

Hayden has advised and acted in various high-profile commercial disputes. He has acted for a corporate plaintiff against AirAsia Berhad, which is one of the most successful budget airlines, as well as for a share purchaser against MYSJ Sdn Bhd, which is the operator of the mobile application 'MySejahtera' used by the government of Malaysia in its fight against Covid-19. He also acted as co-counsel for a Russian entity in a complex civil litigation, involving claims of defamation, breach of contract, copyright infringement and breach of confidential information.

Hayden regularly acts as junior counsel to Datuk DP Naban for complex commercial disputes involving claims worth more than RM100m. He is prized for his ability to identify issues quickly, to provide early assessment of liability and to develop pre-trial strategies.



## Lisa Yong

Rosli Dahlan Saravana Partnership (RDS)

**Job title:** Senior associate

**Location:** Malaysia

**Number of years in practice:** Four

**Admissions:** Malaysian Bar, Bar of England and Wales

**Main sectors covered:** Civil and commercial disputes, contractual disputes, fraud and asset recovery, land disputes and land acquisition

**Geographical area of focus:** Malaysia

**Languages:** English, Mandarin, Malay

Lisa Yong is a senior associate with the firm's dispute resolution practice. Her diverse portfolio includes clientele ranging from multinational corporations to public-listed entities, large private corporations, foreign enterprises, government-linked entities and foreign individuals.

Her legal practice transcends a broad spectrum, including corporate and commercial fraud, asset recovery, international cross-border disputes, corporate and commercial disputes, and various aspects of land-related matters, appearing regularly in Malaysian courts. Lisa acts as junior counsel to esteemed figures in the appellate courts, such as Datuk Naban, Rosli Dahlan and Nagarajah Muttiah.

Lisa manages complex, high-value, high-profile commercial and corporate disputes. She played a pivotal role in orchestrating the multijurisdictional recovery efforts related to the world's largest financial scandal involving the 1Malaysia Development Berhad (1MDB) and SRC International Sdn Bhd (SRC). This includes the worldwide Mareva Injunction Order against the former premier of Malaysia, navigating through numerous multibillion-dollar disputes, including successfully resisting a stay of proceedings application in a \$1.18bn suit against the former premier of Malaysia.

In the realm of arbitration, Lisa has obtained a stay of proceedings for a Fortune Global 500 company to preserve the status quo of the matter, pending referral to arbitration. She has also acted in several Malaysia-seated AIAC arbitral proceedings including a notable hundred-million-dollar claim involving a Fortune 500 Global company and its subcontractor. In addition to this, she has provided essential support to UK counsel in a London-seated LCIA arbitration, along with ancillary court proceedings in the Commercial Court and Supreme Court.





## Stephanie Chong

Rosli Dahlan Saravana Partnership (RDS)

Job title: Associate

Location: Malaysia

Number of years in practice: Two

Admissions: Advocate and solicitor of the High Court of Malaya

Main sectors covered: Civil and commercial litigation, corporate insolvency, construction arbitration, adjudication

Geographical area of focus: Malaysia

Languages: English, Mandarin, Malay

Stephanie Chong is an associate with the litigation department of Rosli Dahlan Saravana Partnership, assisting senior partner Datuk DP Naban and partner Nagarajah Muttiah.

Stephanie holds a Bachelor of Laws (LLB) from Queen's University of Belfast. She is admitted as an advocate and solicitor of the High Court of Malaya in 2021.

Stephanie's area of practice mainly covers civil and commercial litigation. Stephanie had also assisted in arbitration concerning port handling and inland transportation agreement, bespoke construction contracts and palm oil commodities contracts. Aside from litigation, she advises on contractual entitlement and dispute resolution on a regularly basis.

Stephanie is also developing a practice in shipping and maritime under the guidance of partner Nagarajah Muttiah. She has acted for several clients in respect of a claim for wrongful release of bills of lading. She has also successfully acted for clients in transactions where buyers have denied acceptance of goods contracted on free on-board shipping terms.

With her dedication and passion, Stephanie strives to deliver practical and economical solutions to her clients.



## Paul Sandosham

Clifford Chance

**Job title:** Partner

**Location:** Singapore

**Number of years in practice:** 27

**Number of years as an arbitrator:** 15

**Current number of arbitrator appointments:** Six as sole arbitrator, one as chair arbitrator

**Admissions:** England and Wales, Singapore, Dubai International Arbitration Centre Courts

**Main sectors covered:** Energy, power, oil and gas, infrastructure, construction, engineering, rail, transport, utilities, natural resources, international trade, insurance, commodities

**Geographical areas of focus:** Asia Pacific, with experience in disputes from India, UAE, Qatar, Bahrain, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Mauritius, Maldives, Tanzania, Nigeria, Pakistan, Turkey, China, Mongolia and Papua New Guinea

**Languages:** English, Malay

Paul Sandosham is a partner in the litigation and dispute resolution practice and heads the energy, infrastructure and resources (disputes) practice for Southeast Asia. He is described by clients as exceptional and impressively strategic and is widely recognised as a leading dispute resolution and construction lawyer.

He is admitted to practice in England and Wales and Singapore, registered in the Dubai International Financial Centre Courts' register of practitioners and qualified as a chartered arbitrator. He is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators and Singapore Institute of Arbitrators, and an accredited mediator with the Centre for Effective Dispute Resolution.

Paul acts as counsel in court and international arbitration proceedings under the ICC, SIAC, DIAC, LCIA, ADCCAC, UNCITRAL, LMAA, SCMA and ICSID rules for various parties in disputes arising out of large-scale construction, infrastructure and engineering projects, among others. He sits as sole arbitrator and tribunal chairman in international arbitrations relating to several types of disputes.

Paul has advised on a multitude of projects and disputes that have arisen across numerous jurisdictions including in Singapore, Malaysia, India, Indonesia and Papua New Guinea. He also has extensive experience in international trade, commodities and insurance disputes.

He is on the Faculty of CIArb where he teaches arbitration courses and a member of the Singapore Academy of Law, Law Reform Sub-Committee for construction. Paul is also a member of the ICC Singapore Nomination Commission, the ICC Singapore Arbitration Group, and a general editor of the *Practical Guide to the SIAC Rules*.

## Somboon Sangrungjang

Kudun & Partners

Job title: Partner

Location: Thailand

Number of years in practice: 19+

Number of years as an arbitrator: Ten

Admissions: Barrister-at-law, the Thai Bar Association

Main sectors covered: Petrochemicals and energy, telecommunications, banking and finance, automotive and property development

Geographical area of focus: Thailand

Languages: Thai

With decades of experience advising both local and international clients on a wide range of litigation and arbitration disputes including labour law, bankruptcy and corporate rehabilitation, administrative law, procurement law, corporate and commercial, M&As, insurance law, intellectual property law and consumer protection law, Somboon Sangrungjang is a highly sought-after lawyer in the industry. His expertise extends across multiple industries including telecommunications, consumer finance and leasing, banking and financial services, petrochemicals and renewable energy, automotive and property development.

Somboon is also one of the few exceptional lawyers in Thailand with extensive experience in all day-to-day legal issues arising in connection with the consumer finance business due to his working experience with Toyota Leasing.





## Malik Imtiaz Sarwar

Malik Imtiaz Sarwar Advocates & Solicitors

Job title: Managing partner

Location: Malaysia

Number of years in practice: 29

Number of years as an arbitrator: Seven

Admissions: High Court of Malaya, Malaysia

Main sectors covered: Corporate commercial disputes, defamation, information technology and telecommunications, negligence, tort, trust, energy, mining and oil, gas, power and natural resources, real estate, public law

Geographical area of focus: Asia

Languages: English, Bahasa Malaysia

Dato' Malik Imtiaz Sarwar is a leading counsel, well recognised for his standing as an advocate and solicitor. He has over 29 years of practice experience in civil and commercial, constitutional and administrative litigation. He practises at Messrs Malik Imtiaz Sarwar – a leading dispute resolution practice established in December 1997 – which is regularly consulted and briefed on a diverse range of practice areas. The firm was established in December 1997.

He has advised and represented, among others, the state governments of Penang and Selangor, several government-linked corporations including the Malaysian national petroleum company (PETRONAS), Federal Land Development Authority (FELDA), UEM Group, RHB Bank, the Malaysian Bar, YTL Communications, Celcom Axiata, Digi Telecommunications, Maxi, Sapura Energy, Football Association of Malaysia (FAM), J.P. Morgan (Switzerland), and various public listed corporations. He appears regularly in the Malaysian Federal Court and Court of Appeal, and in international and domestic arbitrations.

Dato' Malik has been involved as counsel in over 350 reported decisions, a significant number of which concerned appeals at the Federal Court and the Court of Appeal on important points of law in various practice areas. He has also been empanelled with the Asian International Arbitration Centre (AIAC) as arbitrator.



## Gitta Satryani

Herbert Smith Freehills

Job title: Partner

Location: Singapore

Number of years in practice: 16

Number of years as an arbitrator: Six

Admissions: Supreme Court of Singapore

Main sectors covered: Energy, infrastructure, mining and commodities, financial institutions, and private capital

Geographical areas of focus: Asia Pacific, with focus on Singapore, Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, Philippines, South Asia, Japan and South Korea

Languages: English, Bahasa Indonesia, Malay

Gitta Satryani specialises in complex cross-border disputes with expertise in international commercial arbitration, investment treaty arbitration and public international law. She advises commercial entities, states and state-owned enterprises on a broad range of issues relating to cross-border projects, including dispute avoidance strategies and investment structuring.

Gitta has a particular focus on disputes involving Indonesia and works closely with Herbert Smith Freehills' associated firm, Hiswara Bunjamin & Tandjung, to advise Indonesian and international clients on disputes and dispute-related aspects of transactional work relating to their investments.

## Matthew Secomb

White & Case

Job title: Partner

Location: Singapore

Number of years in practice: 23

Number of years as an arbitrator: 17

Admissions: England and Wales, France (Paris) and Australia (Victoria)

Main sectors covered: Energy, construction, investment and general commercial disputes

Geographical areas of focus: Asia, with particular focus on Japan, India and Korea

Languages: English, French



**Peter Shelford**  
DLA Piper

Job title: Senior consultant

Location: Thailand

Number of years in practice: 48

Number of years as an arbitrator: 26

Admissions: High Court of Hong Kong,  
Senior Courts of England and Wales

Main sectors covered: Insurance,  
construction, energy, commercial disputes

Geographical areas of focus: Singapore,  
Hong Kong, Thailand, Myanmar

Languages: English



**Nish Shetty**  
Clifford Chance

Job title: Partner

Location: Singapore

Number of years in practice: 29

Number of years as an arbitrator: 15+

Current number of arbitrator appointments: Three as chair arbitrator, over 20 as sole arbitrator  
till date

Admissions: England and Wales, Singapore Bar

Main sectors covered: All sectors

Geographical areas of focus: Asia Pacific, Europe and the US

Languages: English, Tamil, Hindi, Gujarati

Nish Shetty is the head of Clifford Chance's international arbitration and dispute resolution practice in Asia Pacific and is widely recognised as one of the leading arbitration practitioners in Asia. He has advised on many complex cross-jurisdictional disputes for 29 years, including litigation and arbitrations across the US, Europe and Asia.

Nish is on the panel of arbitrators of the key arbitral institutions. He is the founder and ex-chairman of the SIAC's Users Council; the co-chair of the Council of Arbitration of MCIA and the first in Asia to be appointed as a judge of appeal on the FIA International Court of Appeal in Paris.

Nish is in the Hall of Fame for international arbitration in Singapore by *The Legal 500 2023* and is also widely recognised as a prominent practitioner in his field by other directories. He is qualified in both England and Wales and Singapore.





## Kabir Singh

Clifford Chance

Job title: Partner

Location: Singapore

Number of years in practice: 20

Number of years as an arbitrator: Ten

Current number of arbitrator appointments: Four appointments as sole arbitrator

Admissions: England and Wales, Singapore

Main sectors covered: Banking, mining and metals, oil and gas, power and energy networks, aerospace and defence, automotive, capital goods, materials

Geographical areas of focus: Asia Pacific, India

Languages: English, Malay, Bahasa Indonesia, Hindi, Punjabi

Kabir Singh is a partner in the international arbitration and dispute resolution practice at Clifford Chance in Singapore. He specialises in complex, cross-border disputes with a focus on Indonesia, Thailand, India and the rest of Southeast Asia. His impressive clientele includes large multinational corporations, international banks, and financial institutions with a presence across Asia Pacific.

With almost 20 years of experience as an international arbitration lawyer, Kabir is valued for his excellent knowledge of the law and arbitral procedure, and deep strategic insight on the most complex cases. He has acted as counsel and arbitrator on numerous international arbitrations under the rules of the SIAC, ICC, LCIA, HKIAC, MCIA and AAA, and has developed an active practice as arbitrator. Significantly, he has attained the title of a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators and has been appointed as an alternate member of the International Court of Arbitration of the International Chamber of Commerce (the 'ICC Court'), for a three-year term.

Kabir is a market leader who is consistently recognised for his expertise in international arbitration and has built a far-reaching reputation as a leading arbitration lawyer both in the region and globally. He is qualified in both Singapore and England and Wales.

## Harald Sippel

Skrine

Job title: Head of European and North Asian desk

Location: Malaysia

Number of years in practice: 15

Number of years as an arbitrator: Ten

Current number of arbitrator appointments: Three

Admissions: Austria, Malaysia

Main sectors covered: Trade and commercial, shareholder disputes, energy, construction, commodities

Geographical areas of focus: East to West disputes, where one company is from Europe or the US

Languages: German, English, French, Italian, Korean, Mandarin Chinese, Norwegian, Indonesian

Dr Harald Sippel is one of three foreign lawyers admitted to the Malaysian Bar and the first lawyer to be admitted from a civil law country. He heads the European desk at Skrine and splits his time between counsel work and arbitrator appointments.

Harald has acted in multiple high-stake matters, with disputes worth up to \$22.1bn, and complex procedural issues under the rules of all major arbitral institutions, conducted in English, French, German and Italian.

He has been relied upon as an arbitrator in disputes related to Asia with a Western nexus and acted as wing and sole arbitrator, replacement arbitrator and president of the tribunal.

Previously, Harald acted as the AIAC's head of legal services, and oversaw the administration of over 2,000 arbitrations, adjudications, mediations, domain name dispute proceedings and other ADR proceedings, giving him a unique perspective on international arbitration and making him one of the few people in the arbitration industry with experience at an institution, as counsel and as arbitrator.

A frequent publisher of books and articles, Dr Sippel is also a visiting professor at Keio University, Tokyo, where he co-runs the course Arbitration Practices in Northeast Asia, held in conjunction with BAC, JCAA and the KCAB.



## Raja Eileen Soraya

Raja Darryl & Loh

Job title: Partner

Location: Malaysia

Number of years in practice: 26

Admissions: Bar of England and Wales, Malaysian Bar

Main sectors covered: Healthcare, media law, civil litigation, commercial litigation

Geographical areas of focus: Malaysia, including international clients with disputes involving Malaysian entities

Languages: English, Malay

Raja Eileen Soraya practises civil and commercial litigation. Her work includes tortious and contractual claims in the courts and in arbitration. She has appeared as counsel in the superior courts in Malaysia and has many reported cases in law journals. Eileen successfully co-represented The Edge in judicial review proceedings against the Malaysian government arising from the suspension of the publications due to the articles on the 1MDB scandal. She also participated in the Sunway Medical Centre case, an action brought by a patient on claims of vicarious liability and breach of a non-delegable duty of care allegedly owed to patients.

Eileen contributed to the *Malaysian Annotated Statutes* on the Defamation Act 1957 and the Sediton Act 1948 published by LexisNexis, and to the Defamation chapter of the Malaysian *Atkin's Court Forms*. The firm was consequently ranked as the market leader in media law in Malaysia from 2016 to 2021.

Eileen's longstanding court experience and dealings with regulators have enabled her to provide strategic advice on the innovation and digitalisation of healthcare services. She is the immediate past president of the Medico-legal Society of Malaysia.

She currently serves as chairperson of the Bar Council's Advocacy Training Committee.





**Anisha Sud**  
King & Spalding

Job title: Partner

Location: Singapore

Number of years in practice: 11

Admissions: State Bar of Texas

Main sectors covered: Investment and commercial international arbitration in the energy and pharmaceutical sectors

Geographical areas of focus: Asia, North America, South America, Europe and Asia Pacific (Southeast Asia and Australia)

Languages: English



**Debby Sulaiman**  
Herbert Smith Freehills,  
Hiswara Bunjamin & Tandjung

Job title: Partner

Location: Indonesia

Number of years in practice: 20

Admissions: Indonesian Bar Association

Main sectors covered: Banks and other financial institutions, private capital, energy, mining, construction, aviation

Geographical area of focus: Indonesia

Languages: English, Indonesian

Debby Sulaiman leads the firm's Indonesian disputes and restructuring practices. She specialises in arbitration, commercial disputes, corporate restructuring and insolvency, representing international clients in transnational and complex commercial disputes before Indonesian courts, and in domestic and international arbitrations.



**Paul Tan**  
Gibson Dunn & Crutcher

Job title: Partner

Location: Singapore

Number of years in practice: 18

Number of years as an arbitrator: Five

Admissions: Singapore, England and Wales (Middle Temple, non-practising)

Main sectors covered: Telecommunications, natural resources, technology and media, oil and gas, construction and real estate, private equity, banking and financial institutions and environmental, social and corporate governance

Geographical area of focus: Asia

Languages: English



**Samantha Tan**  
Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer

Job title: Partner

Location: Singapore

Number of years in practice: 11

Number of years as an arbitrator: Two

Current number of arbitrator appointments: One

Admissions: Singapore Mediation Centre

Main sectors covered: Energy (renewables and oil and gas exploration and development), private capital, post-M&A and M&A-related issues, joint ventures, shareholder disputes, investment treaty arbitration, international commercial arbitration

Geographical areas of focus: Singapore, Northeast Asia, Southeast Asia, US

Languages: English, Mandarin

Samantha Tan is a partner at Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer's international arbitration practice group, based in its Singapore office. She represents clients in international commercial and construction disputes, and also represents both investors and states in investor-state dispute settlements.

She has represented and advised clients in commercial and treaty arbitration under a wide range of arbitral rules, including ICSID, UNCITRAL, ICC, SIAC, AIAC, and HKIAC. These have arisen from private and public M&A, investments, joint ventures and shareholder disputes, and have involved the energy, financial, life sciences, technology, real estate, automotive and consumer goods sectors, among others.

Samantha also has years of experience practising in commercial litigation before the Singapore High Court and Court of Appeal, with a top-tier Singapore disputes practice. She also regularly acts as a mediator.

Samantha speaks English and Mandarin.



**Robert Tang**  
DLA Piper

Job title: Partner

Location: Thailand

Number of years in practice: 14+

Admissions: Senior Courts of England and Wales

Main sectors covered: Commercial disputes, construction, energy, financial services, insurance and reinsurance, technology

Geographical areas of focus: Thailand, Singapore, Cambodia, Myanmar, Laos, Vietnam, Philippines, South Korea, Hong Kong

Languages: English, Cantonese



**Yu-Jin Tay**  
Mayer Brown

**Job title:** Partner

**Location:** Singapore

**Geographical areas of focus:** Worldwide

Yu-Jin Tay is the Singapore managing partner and Asia practice head for international arbitration at Mayer Brown. He has garnered widespread praise and recognition as a leading practitioner in his field and is among very few Asian lawyers of his generation designated to the World Bank ICSID panels of arbitrators and conciliators.

He has a long history of serving in leadership positions within the Singapore arbitration community, currently as elected president of the Singapore Institute of Arbitrators and chair of the Arbitration Bar Committee for circa ten consecutive years. He also served as the course director of the Seoul Arbitration Academy and is a steering committee member for KCAB:Next. Yu-Jin was also appointed to the global advisory board of the Court of Arbitration for Art (CAfA).

Yu-Jin was a principal drafter of the recently published Seoul Protocol on Video Conferencing in International Arbitration. He currently advises the Singapore Ministry of Law on upcoming reforms to the International Arbitration Act. He sits on the newly formed Arbitration Users' Committees of the General Division of the Singapore High Court and the Singapore International Commercial Court.

In 2019, Yu-Jin was accredited and admitted to the Singapore International Mediation Centre's specialist mediators panel.





**Kelvin Teo**  
Drew & Napier

Job title: Director, dispute resolution

Location: Singapore

Number of years in practice: 18

Number of years as an arbitrator: Three

Current number of arbitrator appointments: One as sole arbitrator

Admissions: Singapore

Main sectors covered: Arbitration, commercial litigation, construction and engineering, corporate restructuring and workouts, energy, government, infrastructure, international arbitration, international trade, mediation, natural resources, private client disputes, projects and project finance, energy and infrastructure, real estate

Geographical areas of focus: Korea, Middle East, UAE, Greater China including Hong Kong, Mongolia, Taiwan, Laos, Philippines, Indonesia, Italy, Thailand, Vietnam, US, Italy, Malaysia, Singapore

Languages: English, Chinese

Kelvin Teo is a specialist in resolving complicated infrastructure, energy and resource disputes, many of which lead to mega-disputes resolved through arbitration. His practice focuses on renewable energy projects and sustainability, with sector experience in renewable projects such as solar, offshore wind, hydropower and geothermal projects. He also covers nuclear power plants and more traditional infrastructure projects such as refineries, mines, railways and expressways; civil works such as buildings, factories, soil remediation and foundation works; and even giant Ferris wheels.

Kelvin is experienced in carrying out his own advocacy in international arbitrations (institutional and ad hoc) seated within and outside of Singapore, such as arbitrations involving nuclear power plants, hydropower, geothermal and other complex infrastructure projects. He also argues in satellite litigation that arises out of arbitration, such as applications before the Singapore courts (where he has rights of audience) to set aside or remit arbitration awards seated in Singapore.

Kelvin works closely with the clients through the entire life cycle of a project, advising them on the day-to-day management of complex projects during the construction phase and managing disputes before they escalate.

He is also a Fellow of the Singapore Institute of Arbitrators and sits as arbitrator.

## The Arbitration Chambers

### Powerlist inclusions

- Christine Artero (*p104*)

### Business message

The Arbitration Chambers is a set of chambers dedicated to independent full-time professional arbitrators and mediators.

It was created in 1996 by Professor Lawrence Boo and it was then Singapore's first independent firm of professional arbitrators. In order to maintain the highest level of independence and neutrality, our residents operate independently from one another and do not accept instruction as counsel. They sit in both international commercial arbitrations and investor-state arbitrations seated around the globe and administered by all major arbitral institutions, including SIAC, ICC, LCIA, HKIAC, CIETAC, AIAC, AAA, PCA and ICSID.

Frequently appointed in high-stakes cases and widely sought after as speakers at conferences, our residents have been regularly recognised for their outstanding

work, and some identified as the region's most in-demand arbitrators.

Our residents are also well-published in journals of international arbitration, including the *Journal of International Arbitration*, *Asian International Arbitration Journal* and *Asia Business Law Review*. They are also authors and contributors of books, including *Halsbury's Laws of Singapore Volume 1(2) – Arbitration* (Lexis-Nexis) and chapters to books such as *Dispute Resolution in Asia* (Kluwer) among others.

Several of our residents hold academic positions at various universities, including the National University of Singapore, Bond University, ESSEC Business School and Toulouse University.

The Arbitration Chambers' residents are supported by a team of legally qualified arbitration lawyers who may provide administrative assistance as required.



THE  
ARBITRATION  
CHAMBERS  
SINGAPORE

*Professional Arbitrators And Mediators*



## Christine Artero

### The Arbitration Chambers

**Job title:** Arbitrator

**Location:** Singapore

**Number of years in practice:** 17

**Number of years as an arbitrator:** Eight

**Admissions:** Paris, England and Wales

**Main sectors covered:** Joint venture and shareholder disputes, fraud cases, construction and infrastructure projects, shipping, shipbuilding, heavy machinery manufacturing, agency and distributorship agreements, pharmaceuticals, LNG, hotel services, employment, sale of goods, general contractual disputes

**Geographical areas of focus:** Worldwide

**Languages:** English, French

Christine Artero is a full-time, independent arbitrator with The Arbitration Chambers in Singapore and with Fountain Court in London.

A dual-qualified lawyer, she is educated in both the civil law and the common law traditions, and she is admitted to the Paris Bar and as a solicitor in England and Wales. Christine has extensive experience in international arbitration, and a substantial practice in Asia and in Europe. She is also a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators and of the Singapore Institute of Arbitrators.

Christine has served as arbitrator in arbitrations administered by the ICC, SIAC, LCIA, HKIAC,

KCAB, AIAC, JCAA and PCA as well as in ad-hoc arbitrations. She has also acted as sole arbitrator in expedited proceedings and is on the panel of numerous arbitral institutions.

Her experience spans a broad range of commercial disputes, including joint venture and shareholder disputes, fraud cases, construction and infrastructure projects, shipping, shipbuilding, heavy machinery manufacturing, agency and distributorship agreements, pharmaceuticals, LNG, hotel services, employment, sale of goods and general contractual disputes.

Christine has been appointed as arbitrator in cases seated in Hanoi, Hong Kong, Kuala Lumpur, London, Mexico, Seoul, Singapore and Tokyo, and she has heard cases governed by the laws of Cambodia, England and Wales, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, New York, Singapore and Taiwan, as well as cases under the UNIDROIT Principles and the CISG.

She has also handled conflict of law and jurisdictional issues, questions of admissibility, concurrent and consolidated cases, joinders, disputes involving multiple contracts and applicable laws, summary dismissal applications and security for costs applications.

Prior to launching her career as independent arbitrator, Christine practised international arbitration at Shearman & Sterling in London. Thereafter, she joined the London Court of International Arbitration (LCIA) as counsel

where she oversaw the administration of over 200 arbitrations. In 2014, Christine moved to Singapore where she joined The Arbitration Chambers and was appointed tribunal secretary to over 80 arbitral tribunals under all major arbitral institutions.

As adjunct professor, Christine teaches International Arbitration at the University of Toulouse 1, and regularly lectures at other leading institutions. She also regularly speaks at international arbitration conferences.

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## In conversation with...

### What are the most challenging cases you have worked on as arbitrator?

I am fortunate to have a varied and interesting practice as arbitrator in Asia and Europe. Every year brings with it new challenging and inspiring cases, as well as the opportunity to sit with brilliant colleagues and to see the work of talented counsel from all over the world. My ongoing cases are therefore always my most interesting ones.

### What are some of the most important attributes of a good and effective arbitrator?

In my view, arbitrators must be fair, efficient and commercially sensible. Availability and proper dedication are also important attributes, as well

as flexibility and adaptability to the needs of each case.

In that respect, as arbitrators, we need to be aware of cultural differences and have strong listening skills, combined with a certain degree of empathy and diplomacy.

When it comes to the award, I think it is important that arbitrators reason their awards in a way that enables the unsuccessful party to understand the reasons for its loss and to see that its case was fully and fairly considered.

**What do you think are the most important qualities or skills you bring to an arbitration?**

I first studied law and qualified as a lawyer in France and thereafter also qualified as a solicitor in England and Wales. I then worked at Shearman & Sterling, at the LCIA, and with Singaporean arbitrators. From these experiences, I was exposed to diverse cultures and professional practices, which certainly helped me acquire a truly global understanding of best practices in international arbitration.

My years in an arbitral institution, administering a high volume of cases, enabled me to see the work of numerous law firms and arbitrators, see the dos and don'ts, and enhanced my work as an arbitrator considerably, particularly in terms of navigating all kinds of procedural issues.

Serving as secretary to dozens of tribunals then gave me a different perspective on cases, and I got tremendous exposure to the

work of arbitral tribunals, including dealing with complex cases, managing hearings, tribunals' deliberations and award drafting.

I believe that my civil law background and almost 20 years of experiences working in common law jurisdictions helped me develop my own style as arbitrator, at a crossroad between civil and common law traditions, and prepared me to deal with all kinds of procedural issues and complex substantive matters.

**When you look back at your career and the knowledge you have gained, what advice would you give to those who are about to embark on a career practising arbitration?**

One good advice would be that it is fundamental to step out of your comfort zone during the early days of building up your career. In order to do this, try to surround yourself with talented and passionate practitioners, and ideally, find yourself a mentor. Someone who you trust, on whom you can rely to ask questions and who will be able to guide you and advise you on your career decisions.

Another key element is to keep in mind the importance of each case in the eyes of the parties who brought it to arbitration. As such, be it as counsel or arbitrator, you should treat every case with an equal level of dedication and importance.

Finally, something I learnt later, during my years sitting as a full-time arbitrator, is not to over-commit and that it is fine to turn down a case. ■





## Chinnawat Thongpakdee

Herbert Smith Freehills

Job title: Partner

Location: Thailand

Number of years in practice: About 40 years

Admissions: Thai Bar Association, Lawyers Council of Thailand

Main sectors covered: Energy, banking and finance, construction, telecommunications

Geographical area of focus: Southeast Asia

Languages: English, Thai

Chinnawat Thongpakdee is a litigation and arbitration specialist with around 40 years of experience in dispute resolution. He is a former secretary to the director general of the legal counsel department and a former senior state attorney of the legal counsel department, Attorney General's Office of Thailand.

He works with clients on administrative law, antitrust, white-collar crime, telecommunications, corporate activities (with an emphasis on corporate governance), bankruptcy and rehabilitation, administrative law, litigation and arbitration and leads cases to successful outcomes.

Chinnawat also works as a counsel for large domestic Thai companies and international clients on their disputes in Thailand. He acts for a broad range of commercial and government clients, including contentious and regulatory advisory work and representing clients in litigation, alternative dispute processes and regulatory inquiries, on a variety of issues.

His expertise in dispute resolution and international arbitration is widely recognised, and he has garnered praise for his thorough legal knowledge and client service. He has a broad disputes practice covering civil, criminal and commercial litigation at a high level and is thoroughly experienced at representing a range of high-profile clients.





## Truong Trong Nghia

YKVN

Job title: Partner

Location: Vietnam

Number of years in practice: 40+

Number of years as an arbitrator: 29

Admissions: Vietnam Bar Association

Main sectors covered: Corporate, M&A, construction, foreign investment, international sales

Geographical area of focus: Vietnam

Languages: Vietnamese, English, German

Truong Trong Nghia is a co-chair of the dispute resolution practice at YKVN and is well recognised as one of Vietnam's most experienced lawyers with over 30 years of legal practice and arbitration experience. After earning his LLB at Leipzig University, Nghia started his legal career at the State Economic Arbitration of Vietnam where he presided over 400 economic cases. He also practised law as one of the government's appointed people's counsel before legal practice was permitted as a profession in Vietnam.

Nghia earned his Master of Laws at NYU School of Law and returned to Vietnam, working as deputy director and later director of the ITPC, a government agency specialising in promoting foreign trade and supporting foreign investors in Vietnam. He also joined the Ho Chi Minh City Bar Association and practised part-time as counsel to YKVN. In 2008, Nghia resigned from the ITPC and became a full-time partner, co-heading YKVN's disputes resolution practice.

Nghia, a senior arbitrator of the Vietnam International Arbitration Center (VIAC), has arbitrated over 30 cases as co-arbitrator or chair of the arbitral tribunal. As one of the first 11 mediators of the VIAC Mediation Center, Nghia successfully handled two mediation cases.

As co-chair of the litigation and arbitration practice at YKVN, Nghia has advised clients in domestic and international litigation and cross-border arbitration. He also regularly advises domestic and foreign companies on corporate, trade, foreign investment and M&A matters. Nghia's clients are major Vietnamese corporations and foreign-invested enterprises and multinationals based in the region and globally.



**Baiju Vasani**  
Twenty Essex

**Job title:** Arbitrator

**Location:** London – Prominent practice in Southeast Asia

**Number of years in practice:** 20

**Number of years as an arbitrator:** Ten

**Current number of arbitrator appointments:** Three

**Admissions:** District of Columbia, US, England and Wales

**Main sectors covered:** Public international law, commercial and contract law

**Geographical areas of focus:** Russia CIS, Eastern Europe, Africa, Middle East, West and South Asia

**Languages:** English

Baiju Vasani is a renowned leader in the international commercial arbitration and public international law fields, in which he has practised for the last 20 years. Until February 2022 he split his time between Moscow and London. Prior to that he led the international arbitration practice as a partner in a major American law firm in the US and London. He has acted as counsel and sat as arbitrator under the rules of every major international arbitration institution worldwide and is a senior Fellow at SOAS, University of London, where he teaches international arbitration.



**Daniel Waldek**  
Herbert Smith Freehills

**Job title:** Partner

**Location:** Singapore

**Number of years in practice:** 16

**Number of years as an arbitrator:** Five

**Admissions:** England and Wales, Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court

**Main sectors covered:** Construction, infrastructure, energy

**Geographical areas of focus:** Asia, particularly Vietnam, Indonesia, Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand, Philippines

**Languages:** English

Daniel Waldek regularly acts as counsel in arbitrations under a range of institutional rules, including those of the ICC, LCIA, and SIAC – where he has been appointed as an arbitrator – and in ad hoc arbitrations, as an advocate for both interim applications and substantive merits hearings. He also advises on arbitration-related court proceedings, including jurisdictional challenges, set aside applications and enforcement proceedings.

Daniel specialises in construction, energy, and infrastructure disputes. He has acted as counsel in arbitrations relating to onshore and offshore oil and gas projects, pipelines, major petrochemical developments, and renewable and conventional power projects, as well as road, rail, water, airport and urban development projects. He has advised on complex claims under a broad range of construction contracts (both bespoke and standard form) covering design and build, turnkey, EPCIC and EPCM arrangements, as well as production sharing contracts, offtake and feedstock supply agreements, and concession agreements.

His practice also involves a significant advisory component, working closely with transactional teams on risk avoidance and mitigation strategies. Daniel places emphasis on his clients' needs for realistic, practical advice in a commercial context.



**Michael Weatherley**  
Ashurst

Job title: Partner

Location: Singapore

Number of years in practice: 11

Number of years as an arbitrator: Three

Admissions: New South Wales, Australia, England and Wales

Main sectors covered: Energy (renewable and conventional), construction and infrastructure, engineering, mining and resources, M&A and private equity

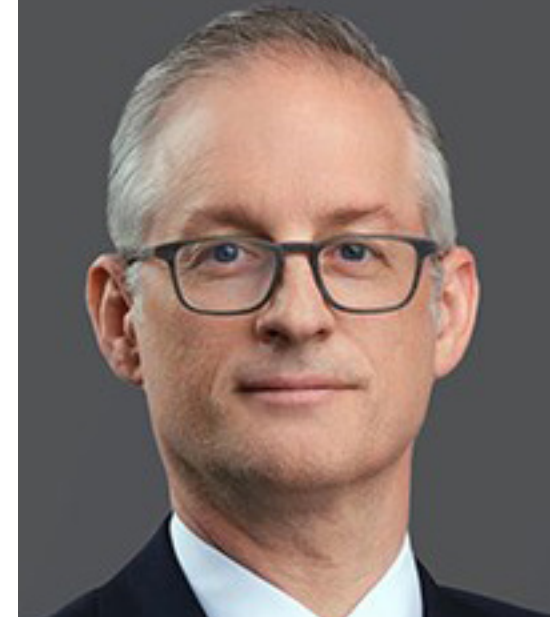
Geographical areas of focus: Asia Pacific, with particular focus on Southeast Asia and Australia

Languages: English

Michael Weatherley is a partner in Ashurst's global international arbitration team. A commercial arbitration specialist, Michael possesses expertise in several industry sectors, including renewable energy, gas, power, construction and infrastructure, engineering, mining and resources, and international sale of goods. He also has a burgeoning practice in post-M&A disputes.

Throughout his time in Ashurst's Brisbane, London and Singapore offices, Michael represented clients in arbitrations under all the major rules and in many of the major seats of arbitration. He also assisted clients in managing cross-border litigation, including before the English, Australian, Singaporean, Bruneian, Malaysian and Indonesian courts.

Michael is singled out in directories for his commercial and advocacy skills and incisive, responsive client service. He regularly speaks at arbitration events and conferences throughout the Asia Pacific and contributes arbitration insights to various publications. He is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators and, in addition to his counsel work, takes appointments as arbitrator.



**Kay-Jannes Wegner**  
Mayer Brown

Job title: Partner

Location: Singapore

Main sectors covered: Construction, power projects, telecommunications, pharmaceuticals, and joint ventures

Geographical areas of focus: Worldwide

Languages: German, English

Kay-Jannes Wegner is a partner in Mayer Brown's Singapore office and is a member of Mayer Brown's international arbitration practice. He has extensive experience in representing clients in cross-border disputes arising out of a wide range of sectors including construction, power projects, telecommunications, pharmaceuticals and joint ventures.

Kay-Jannes is both German and English qualified and has experience sitting as arbitrator. Prior to joining Mayer Brown, he practised international arbitration at leading international firms in London, South Korea and Singapore.





## Henry Winter

Mishcon de Reya

Job title: Partner

Location: Singapore

Number of years in practice: 13

Number of years as an arbitrator: Six

Admissions: NSW, SA, High and Federal Court, Australia

Main sectors covered: International trade, energy (renewable and conventional), resources, financial services, fintech and cryptocurrency, projects and construction, technology, media and telecommunication, and white-collar crime and fraud

Geographical areas of focus: Singapore, Australia, Europe, Japan, Philippines, Vietnam, Indonesia, Malaysia

Languages: English

Henry Winter specialises in cross-border dispute resolution, including international commercial and investor-state arbitration, litigation and investigations. He also has considerable experience dealing with regulators throughout the Asia-Pacific.

Henry's extensive experience includes representing multinational corporates, foreign investors and governments in complex litigation and arbitrations under the SIAC, ICC, UNCITRAL and ICSID rules. He is a member of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators and has been ranked as a 'Rising Star' by *The Legal 500*.

He has also published widely in the area of international arbitration, including a chapter titled 'Multilateral Rule-Making in Asia on Trade and Investment: From ASEAN to the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership' in *The Asian Turn in Foreign Investment* (Cambridge University Press, 2021).



## Warathorn Wongsawangsi

Herbert Smith Freehills

Job title: Managing partner

Location: Thailand

Number of years in practice: 18

Number of years as an arbitrator: Three

Current number of arbitrator appointments: One as sole arbitrator, seven as chair arbitrator

Admissions: Thai Bar Association, Lawyers Council of Thailand, ICC Thailand Commission on Arbitration & ADR, Singapore International Arbitration Centre, Young SIAC (YSIAC) Committee at the Singapore International Arbitration Centre

Main sectors covered: Hospitality, oil and gas, technology, media and telecommunications, energy, industrials and manufacturing, real estate, insurance, construction and engineering, food and beverage

Geographical areas of focus: Southeast Asia

Languages: English, Thai

Warathorn Wongsawangsi is regarded as one of the market's leading and most talented advocates with experience in Thailand and other Asian regions. Widely recognised for his excellence as a commercial litigator, practitioner and arbitrator, Warathorn has developed a strong reputation for advising and representing major corporations and conglomerates in many of the country's most complex and high-profile commercial dispute matters.

He has worked extensively with clients throughout entire dispute resolution processes including Thai court litigation, domestic and international arbitration (TAI, THAC, ICC, SIAC and HKIAC) and mediation. He has also advised clients on administrative law, bankruptcy and rehabilitation, class action, corporate and commercial, corporate governance and director liability, corporate investigations and compliance projects, concession, shareholders disputes and product liability matters.

Warathorn's expertise spans across a broad spectrum of industries, including aviation, banking and finance, construction and engineering, consumer product, energy (oil and gas and renewable), government and public sector, healthcare, hospitality and real estate, insurance, transportation and logistics, telecommunications and media technology. His experience also includes the role of arbitrator, in which he has been appointed by various institutions (SIAC, THAC and TAI) as a sole or co-arbitrator.

Warathorn has been consistently ranked as one of the most recommended and highly regarded dispute resolution lawyers in Thailand, in both the areas of litigation and arbitration.



**Francis Xavier SC**  
Rajah & Tann Singapore

**Job title:** Regional head, dispute resolution group

**Location:** Singapore

**Number of years in practice:** 35

**Number of years as an arbitrator:** 25

**Current number of arbitrator appointments:** Four as sole arbitrator, five as party appointed and six as presiding arbitrator

**Admissions:** Singapore

**Main sectors covered:** Corporate commercial, energy, oil and gas, aviation

**Geographical areas of focus:** Southeast Asia, India, China, Middle East, Russia

**Languages:** English, Malay



**Ben Dominic R Yap**  
Gatmaytan Yap Patacsil Gutierrez & Protacio (C&G Law)

**Job title:** Managing partner

**Location:** Philippines

**Number of years in practice:** 26

**Admissions:** Philippine Bar, Integrated Bar of the Philippines

**Main sectors covered:** Construction, energy, infrastructure, oil and gas, mining, real estate

**Geographical areas of focus:** Philippines, Hong Kong, Singapore

**Languages:** English, Filipino

Ben Dominic R Yap is a member of several professional bodies and associations, including:

- list of arbitrators, Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre (2019-present);
- panel of arbitrators, Singapore International Arbitration Centre (2019-present);
- member, Philippine Dispute Resolution Center, Inc. (2015-present);
- member, Philippine Institute of Arbitrators (PIArb) (2017-present); and
- accredited arbitrator, Philippine International Center for Conflict Resolution (2019-present).





## Jimmy Yim SC

Drew & Napier

Job title: Chairman

Location: Singapore

Number of years in practice: 40

Number of years as an arbitrator: 16

Current number of arbitrator appointments: Three

Admissions: Singapore, England and Wales

Main sectors covered: International commercial arbitration, commercial litigation, construction and engineering, corporate litigation, hotels and leisure, international trade, projects, energy and infrastructure, IT and telecommunication, real estate litigation

Geographical areas of focus: Singapore, South Korea, People's Republic of China including Hong Kong, Japan, Indonesia, Thailand, Malaysia, Philippines, India, Vietnam, Switzerland

Languages: English, Chinese

Jimmy Yim, SC is the chairman of Drew & Napier LLC and the past managing director of Singapore's most celebrated dispute resolution practice. He has four decades of experience in civil and commercial litigation and international arbitration in high-stakes disputes in multiple jurisdictions. His experience in trials and international arbitration spreads across disputes in energy projects, building and construction, joint ventures, infrastructure, telecommunications and technology.

Jimmy has appeared on numerous occasions before the Supreme Court, SICC and international arbitration tribunals. He is familiar with arbitrations under the rules of the SIAC, ICC, LCIA and UNCITRAL.

He has consistently been referred to as 'a phenomenal advocate' and 'an outstanding and respected lawyer, at court and outside', with praise for his oral advocacy – 'he is eloquent and very persuasive and has a certain presence in the tribunal hearing room. He is clearly well respected by tribunals and opposing counsel.'

Jimmy was appointed senior counsel in 1998, with the honour of being one of the youngest senior counsel below 40 years of age.

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