



ADR VIETNAM CHAMBERS LLC
— INDEPENDENT ARBITRATORS & MEDIATORS —

ADR VIETNAM CHAMBERS'

NEWSLETTER

QUARTER II/2025

INTRODUCTION



ADR VIETNAM CHAMBERS LLC
— INDEPENDENT ARBITRATORS & MEDIATORS —

ADR Vietnam Chambers is honored to publish **the second ADR Vietnam Newsletter**, aiming to bring readers the latest highlights of ADR Vietnam Chambers as well as notable upcoming activities related to arbitration and others alternative dispute resolution in Vietnam and globally from April to June 2025.

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DISPUTE RESOLUTION ACTIVITIES

1. Issuance of Award in the 58th Arbitration Case Concerning Mergers and Acquisitions (M&A) Dispute

Arbitrator Nguyen Manh Dzung has issued an award in an international M&A (mergers and acquisitions) dispute between two parties, with the seat of arbitration in Singapore. The arbitration was conducted under the SIAC Rules, with Vietnamese law as the applicable law.

The differences between the SIAC Arbitration Rules and the procedural regulations in Vietnam also resulted in significant procedural distinctions, particularly in handling expedited proceedings in Singapore as compared to those with a seat of arbitration in Vietnam. This case marks the beginning of a series of three investment disputes in Vietnam in which **Mr. Nguyen Manh Dzung** continues to serve as the sole arbitrator.

While this is not **Mr. Dzung**'s first international arbitration case, it marks the first M&A dispute he has resolved under the SIAC Expedited Procedure in the capacity of sole arbitrator. The case was also procedurally complex, with the challenge of having to issue the final award within six months from the constitution of the Arbitral Tribunal.

As a practicing arbitrator from a developing jurisdiction, **Arbitrator Nguyen Manh Dzung** carefully studied procedural rules and practices at the seat of arbitration, including principles such as natural justice and the need to avoid a situation where "justice hurried risks justice buried." As such, he had to conduct the proceedings in an efficient manner that complied with the requirements of the expedited procedure, while ensuring that both parties had a reasonable and fair opportunity to present their case.

LAWYER AND ARBITRATOR
NGUYEN MANH DZUNG



I.

DISPUTE RESOLUTION ACTIVITIES

2. Issuance of Arbitral Awards in various sectors

Arbitrator Nguyen Manh Dzung, in his capacity as a member of the Arbitral Tribunal, has participated in issuing arbitral awards in disputes across various sectors such as construction, M&A, and more. The disputes are not only diverse in terms of subject matter but also differ significantly in terms of procedures and substantive issues in each case. In the second quarter of 2025, a total of 04 arbitral awards were issued.

3. Resolution of Cross-Border Disputes

Arbitrator Nguyen Manh Dzung continues to be trusted and appointed as a member and Chair of the Arbitral Tribunal in disputes involving foreign elements, in which the disputing parties hold different nationalities, such as Singapore, HongKong, etc. According to statistics, in the second quarter of 2025, **Arbitrator Nguyen Manh Dzung** was appointed in 02 disputes involving parties.

4. Typical types of Disputes

In this quarter, most of the disputes settled by **Arbitrator Nguyen Manh Dzung** arose from multiple contracts, each containing its own arbitration agreement, or were multi-party disputes. This indicates an increasing level of complexity in the nature of disputes.



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

1. Ho Chi Minh City International Construction Arbitration Conference – HICAC 2025, co-organized by the Society of Construction Law Vietnam (SCLVN) and the Vietnam International Arbitration Centre (VIAC)

On April 10 - 11/4/2025, **Mr. Pham Duong Hoang Phuc** and **Ms. Dao Linh Chi**, Arbitral Assistants/Researchers at ADR Vietnam Chambers, were selected to present at the HICAC 2025 Conference. This year's event focuses on the theme: *"Raising the Bar: Enhancing the Quality in Dispute Resolution for Vietnam's Construction Projects – Bridging International expertise and Domestic Practice"*.

These contributions aim to promote the improvement of Vietnam's legal framework for resolving construction disputes.

HICAC 2025
HO CHI MINH CITY INTERNATIONAL CONSTRUCTION ARBITRATION CONFERENCE
HỘI THẢO TRỌNG TÀI XÂY DỰNG QUỐC TẾ THÀNH PHỐ HỒ CHÍ MINH

Mr./Ông PHẠM DƯƠNG HOÀNG PHÚC
Arbitral Assistant at ADR Vietnam Chambers LLC
Trợ lý Trọng tài tại ADR Vietnam Chambers

Raising the Bar:
Enhancing Quality in Dispute resolution for Vietnam's Construction projects
- Bridging International expertise with Domestic practice

Nâng cao chuẩn mực:
Tăng tầm Chất lượng Giải quyết Tranh chấp trong các Dự án Xây dựng tại Việt Nam - Kết nối Kinh nghiệm Quốc tế với Thực tiễn trong nước

10 - 11/4 April 2025

REX SAIGON HOTEL
Số 10 Nguyễn Huệ, Quận 1, TP. Hồ Chí Minh
KHÁCH SẠN REX SÀI GÒN
Số Nguyễn Huệ, Quận 1, TP. Hồ Chí Minh

Scan the QR Code for more details & registration
<https://bit.ly/hicac2025en>

Quét mã QR để xem thông tin & đăng ký
<https://bit.ly/hicac2025vn>

In parallel, **Arbitral Assistant/Researcher Dao Linh Chi** presented on *"Expert evidence in Vietnam-seated construction arbitrations: a comparative and procedural analysis"*. This presentation examined Vietnam's legal framework for the use of expert evidence in construction arbitration, comparing it with relevant international regulations. It highlighted limitations in the party-appointed experts mechanism and potential legal implications in practice.

As part of the conference's thematic sessions, **Arbitral Assistant/Researcher Pham Duong Hoang Phuc** presented on: *"The Enforcement of Expert Determination in Construction Disputes: What happens if an Expert goes wrong? Perspectives from Vietnam, the United Kingdom, and Australia"*. The presentation introduced Expert Determination - an alternative dispute resolution mechanism commonly used in complex construction and M&A disputes involving technical issues; and suggested considerations for Vietnam, where this mechanism is not yet clearly regulated under domestic law.

HICAC 2025
HO CHI MINH CITY INTERNATIONAL CONSTRUCTION ARBITRATION CONFERENCE
HỘI THẢO TRỌNG TÀI XÂY DỰNG QUỐC TẾ THÀNH PHỐ HỒ CHÍ MINH

Ms./Bà ĐÀO LINH CHI
Arbitral Assistant at ADR Vietnam Chambers LLC
Trợ lý Trọng tài tại ADR Vietnam Chambers

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<https://bit.ly/hicac2025vn>

II. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

2. Workshop on Sharing Experience and Legal Practicing Skills Specializing in International Trade



On April 10, 2025, in Ho Chi Minh City, the Department of Judicial Support – Ministry of Justice organized a workshop on sharing experience and Legal practicing Skills specializing in international trade, with a focus on disputes related to contracts for purchase and sale of goods by Sea. The workshop featured the participation of highly experienced speakers, including: **Lawyer Nguyen Manh Dzung** – Director of Independent Legal Consulting LLC; **Lawyer Tran Ha Han** – Head of Maritime Department, Independent Legal Consulting LLC; and **Master Pham Duong Hoang Phuc**. The event served as a practical forum to enhance the professional qualifications and practical skills of Vietnamese lawyers in the field of international legal affairs.

3. Meeting Between Representatives of the Singapore International Arbitration Centre (SIAC), Dzungsrt & Associates LLC, and ADR Vietnam Chambers

On April 16, 2025, a meeting was held at the office of Dzungsrt & Associates LLC in Ho Chi Minh City, gathering representatives from the Singapore International Arbitration Centre (SIAC), Dzungsrt & Associates LLC, and ADR Vietnam Chambers. The discussion focused on the arbitration market in Singapore and SIAC, highlighting key updates to the SIAC Arbitration Rules 2025, including the introduction of Streamlined Procedure-EP. In addition, **Arbitrator Nguyen Manh Dzung** delivered a presentation on the Streamlined Procedure (EP) and SP under the SIAC 2025 Rules.



4. Seminar on the Court's Supervisory and Supportive Role in Arbitration

On April 24, 2025, **Arbitrator Nguyen Manh Dzung** delivered a presentation at a roundtable discussion on “*The Court's Supervisory and Supportive Role in Arbitration Proceedings*”, co-organised by the Vietnam International Arbitration Center (VIAC) and Ho Chi Minh City University of Law. During the event, **Mr. Dzung** contributed in-depth perspectives to the discussion, particularly in relation to the draft resolution on establishing an international financial center.



For those interested in the topic of financial arbitration and the supporting role of courts in arbitration, the following reference materials are recommended:

- A summary research on the resolution of international financial disputes through arbitration outlines the comprehensive research report of the **ICC Commission on Arbitration and ADR**, a global think tank of the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC), which conducted a study in 2016 on Financial Institutions and International Financial Disputes Arbitration.
- The 2021 doctoral dissertation by **Ms. Nguyen Thi Thu Trang**, Special Arbitration Counsel at Dzungsr & Associates. The thesis offers a comprehensive legal analysis of the Vietnamese courts' supervisory and supportive authority over arbitration proceedings.



II. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

5. Conference “Skills Development for Commercial Arbitrators in Ho Chi Minh City in 2025”

On May 9, 2025, **Arbitrator Nguyen Manh Dzung**, Director of ADR Vietnam Chambers, delivered a presentation at the Conference on “Skills Development for Commercial Arbitrators in Ho Chi Minh City in 2025,” co-organized by the Ho Chi Minh City Commercial Arbitration Association and the Department of Justice of Ho Chi Minh City. At the conference, **Arbitrator Nguyen Manh Dzung** delivered an in-depth presentation on “*Practical Experience and Notes in Arbitration Proceedings to Avoid Annulment of Arbitral Awards*.” His insights not only offered practical value but also contributed to enhancing the capacity of arbitrators, aligning with the goal of positioning Vietnam as an international arbitration hub.



6. Conference on "Legal Training and Addressing Challenges in Commercial Arbitration and Mediation in Vietnam", organized by the Department of Judicial Support – Ministry of Justice



On May 28, 2025, at Guest House No. 8, Chu Van An Street, Hanoi, **Arbitrator Nguyen Manh Dzung** Director of ADR Vietnam Chambers, delivered a presentation at the Conference on “Legal Training and Addressing Challenges in Commercial Arbitration and Mediation in Vietnam”, organized by the Department of Judicial Support – Ministry of Justice. In detail, **Arbitrator Nguyen Manh Dzung** presented the topic: “*Practical Experience and Notes in Arbitration Proceedings to Avoid Annulment of Arbitral Awards*,” addressing the reality of annulment in Vietnam, potential risks, and lessons learned from case law and practice.

7. VIAC & Lawyers Roundtable – Consultation on Revisions to VIAC's Arbitration Rules

On May 22 and 29, 2025, the Vietnam International Arbitration Centre (VIAC) successfully held the VIAC & Lawyers Roundtable in Ho Chi Minh City and Hanoi, under the topic “*Consultation on Revisions to VIAC's Arbitration Rules regarding the Establishment of Arbitral Tribunals and Case Management on the VIAC.eCase Platform*.” During the event, **Arbitrator Nguyen Manh Dzung**, Vice Chairman of VIAC's Scientific Council, gave insightful comments focusing on enhancing fairness, effectiveness, and practicality of the proposed revisions. With extensive expertise in law and arbitration, **Arbitrator Nguyen Manh Dzung** emphasized the importance of improving procedural systems to align with international integration and competition requirements. The event reflected VIAC's continued efforts to enhance the quality of arbitration services in Vietnam.



8. Workshop “Research on establishing the institution of Public Lawyers within the Socialist Rule-of-Law State of Vietnam”



Lawyer Nguyen Manh Dzung had the honour of speaking at a workshop organised by the Ministry of Justice on the afternoon of 9 June 2025 in Hanoi. He delivered a paper contributing to the Draft Proposal “Research on establishing the institution of Public Lawyers within the Socialist Rule-of-Law State of Vietnam.”

In his presentation, **Mr. Dzung** analysed the model of Public Lawyers also referred to in various jurisdictions as Government Lawyers or State Attorneys as implemented in many countries under both common law systems (including the United States, the United Kingdom, Australia, Singapore, Hong Kong, and Canada) and civil law systems (such as France, China, Japan, South Korea, among others).

Mr. Dzung emphasised that building a modern rule-of-law state and an effective system of public governance is not possible without the institution of Public Lawyers, operating in accordance with the fundamental international standards issued by the International Bar Association (IBA) since 2011.





RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

ADR VIETNAM CHAMBERS

1. Research on the Phenomenon of “Due Process Paranoia” and the Role of Courts in Arbitral Proceedings

In many cases, court intervention is necessary to protect the legitimate rights and interests of the parties involved in arbitral proceedings. However, excessive judicial interference may undermine the independence and autonomy of arbitral tribunals, thereby reducing the efficiency and viability of arbitration as a dispute resolution mechanism. In Vietnam, courts tend to intervene more deeply in the substance of disputes compared to those in other jurisdictions, particularly when there are serious procedural violations. Therefore, exploring the phenomenon of “Due Process Paranoia” and the principle of “Due Process” can provide a clearer perspective on the appropriate role of the courts in arbitral proceedings.

In this research, the arbitral assistants of ADR Vietnam Chambers provide a detailed analysis of the phenomenon of “Due Process Paranoia” as well as interpretations of the “Due Process” principle from an international perspective. The study also examines the role of courts in arbitral proceedings and offers important recommendations for Vietnamese courts in supervising and supporting arbitration, with the aim of enhancing the effectiveness of arbitration as a dispute resolution mechanism in Vietnam.

DUE PROCESS





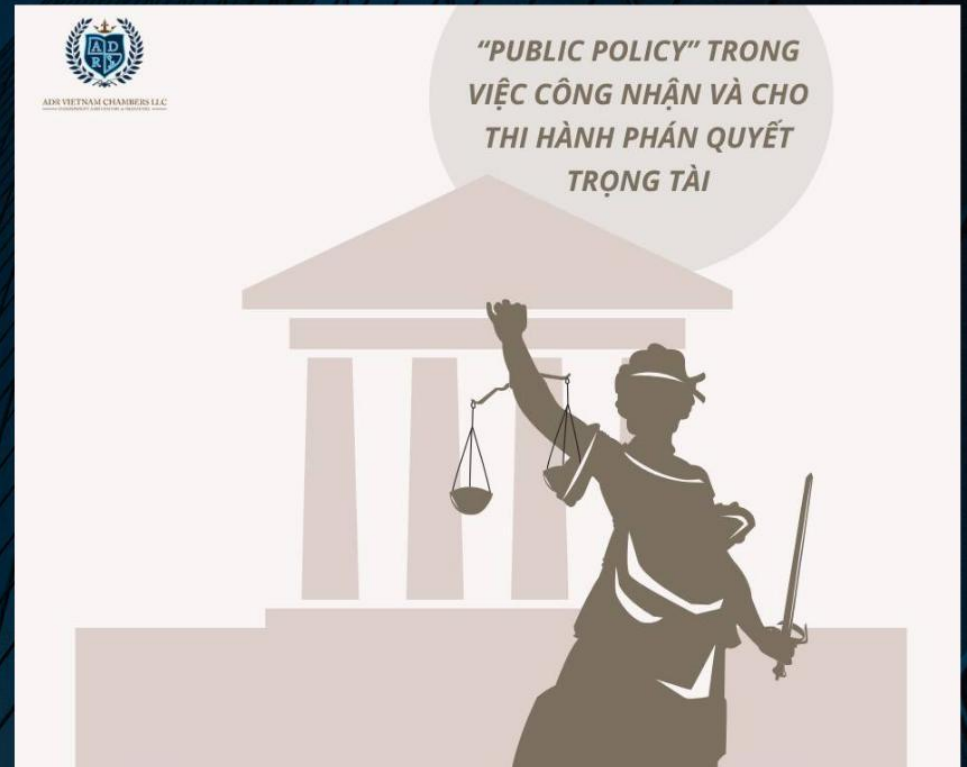
RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

ADR VIETNAM CHAMBERS

2. Research on “Public Policy” in Recognition and Enforcement of Arbitral Awards

“Public policy” is one of the grounds for refusing the recognition and enforcement of foreign arbitral awards under the 1958 New York Convention. However, public policy is not a free ticket that allows any losing party to invoke it in an attempt to annul an unfavorable award. In this research, the arbitral assistants at ADR Vietnam Chambers conducted an in-depth and specific analysis of two landmark cases from Hong Kong and the United Kingdom.

Based on this analysis, the research provides a proper understanding and clarifies the scope of application of the public policy exception. It also highlights how “public policy” is currently regulated in Vietnam, points out limitations in judicial practice, and offers suggestions to enhance the role of arbitration as an effective and reliable dispute resolution mechanism for the business community in Vietnam.





RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

ADR VIETNAM CHAMBERS

3. Translation of the ICC Commission on Arbitration and ADR Report on Reducing the Time and Cost of Arbitration

Time efficiency in proceedings is considered one of the key advantages of arbitration compared to court litigation. Not only disputing parties, but also arbitral institutions and arbitrators themselves face increasing pressure to improve time management skills to ensure both fairness and efficiency throughout the arbitration process. According to the ICC, the rising and sometimes unnecessarily complex procedural requirements appear to be a major reason behind the lengthy duration and high cost of many international arbitration cases. The longer the proceedings, the higher the costs.

Through its Report on Techniques for Controlling Time and Costs in Arbitration, and based on the ICC Arbitration Rules, the ICC introduces practical techniques to assist arbitral tribunals, parties, and counsel in designing a procedure tailored to their specific dispute. These core techniques include: Terms of Reference, Case Management Conference, Timetable, and Procedural Orders. The Report also provides guidance on effective case management across all stages of the proceedings, from written submissions, evidence, correspondence, witnesses, and experts to hearings and post-hearing submissions, with the goal of reducing time and costs.

ADR Vietnam Chambers is pleased to present the Vietnamese translation of the ICC Commission on Arbitration and ADR's Report on Controlling Time and Costs in Arbitration. This translation was prepared by ADR Vietnam Chambers and is intended for reference only. It is not the official translation by the ICC.

Guideline on the Use of AI in Arbitration (2025)



Controlling Time and Costs in Arbitration



4. Translation of CI Arb's Guidance on the Application of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Arbitration

The rapid development of artificial intelligence (AI) presents both opportunities and challenges for the international arbitration community. In this context, the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (CI Arb) has issued the "Guidance on the Use of AI in Arbitration" (2025), aiming to provide a framework of principles for parties, arbitrators, and arbitral institutions to apply AI effectively, transparently, and fairly in the dispute resolution process.

The Guidance emphasizes three core principles: transparency, accountability, and confidentiality, established to ensure that the use of AI does not undermine the openness and fairness of arbitral proceedings. It also addresses the limitations of AI tools and proposes appropriate levels of governance.

Although the application of AI and technology more broadly in arbitration is a relatively new topic internationally, it remains largely unexplored in the Vietnamese context. Therefore, the CI Arb Guidance serves as an important reference for shaping a legal and ethical framework for the use of AI in dispute resolution in Vietnam in the near future. ADR Vietnam Chambers is pleased to present the Vietnamese translation of the CI ARB's Guidance on the Application of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Arbitration.

The translation was conducted by ADR Vietnam Chambers and is provided for reference purposes only. It is not an official translation by CI Arb.

IV. NOTICEABLE INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

1. Paris Arbitration Week 2025 (PAW 2025)



Paris Arbitration Week 2025 (PAW 2025), held from April 7 to 11 in Paris, attracted over 10,000 professionals from 135 countries and hosted more than 180 events. Many sessions were conducted online and offered free access, creating broad opportunities for global arbitration practitioners. Key topics included the use of AI in arbitration; risk management strategies in investment disputes; ESG in arbitration; the role of experts in delay claims in construction disputes; reform of arbitration law in the UK and France; and a toolkit for the next generation of arbitrators.

In the context of globalization, Vietnam shares many concerns with the international arbitration community, such as AI integration, rising construction disputes, and legal reform. Practical lessons from PAW 2025 serve as valuable references for Vietnam to align with global standards.

2. London International Disputes Week (LIDW25) - 6th Edition, Themed “Innovating Dispute Resolution: Navigating Global Risks”

The 6th edition of the London International Disputes Week 2025 (LIDW25), a major global forum on dispute resolution, officially opened on June 2 in London, UK, bringing together thousands of legal professionals worldwide. Under the theme "Innovating Dispute Resolution: Navigating Global Risks," LIDW25 focused on commercial arbitration, international litigation, and modern dispute resolution mechanisms.

The first day featured a range of in-depth discussions, notably a dialogue between lawyers and in-house advisers on the practice of international arbitration. Sessions held on June 2 examined practitioners' perspectives on the strengths and weaknesses of arbitration, views from emerging and established arbitral institutions on ideal seats of arbitration, and input from arbitrators and institutions on whether current procedures are sufficient or require further innovation.

The event laid a critical foundation for future discussions on the evolution of international arbitration in this ever-changing world.



V.

UPCOMING EVENTS

1. The 23rd International Congress of Maritime Arbitrators (ICMA XXIII)

ADR Vietnam Chambers is honored to collaborate with the **Singapore Chamber of Maritime Arbitration (SCMA)** in promoting the 23rd International Congress of Maritime Arbitrators (ICMA XXIII), which will be held in Singapore from March 22 to 27, 2026.

Established in 1972, the International Congress of Maritime Arbitrators (ICMA) provides a forum for maritime arbitrators and lawyers from around the world to exchange views and news of professional interests. It serves as a cornerstone event in the calendar of maritime arbitrators and maritime professionals globally.

ICMA has expanded significantly since its first Congress, typically hosting delegates from an average of 26 countries and featuring approximately 100 or more presented papers. Beyond its role as a forum for discussions and scholarly paper presentations, the Congress also includes a social programme for delegates and accompanying partners. A black-tie dinner is a cherished tradition, as are one or two cocktail parties fostering networking and camaraderie.

The next ICMA shall be its 23rd edition. ICMA returns to Singapore after almost 20 years! ICMA XXIII will be hosted by Singapore from 22-27 March 2026.



V.

UPCOMING EVENTS

2. Singapore Convention Week 2025

The Singapore Convention Week (SC Week) has been a signature event in Singapore since 2019, focusing on dispute resolution, arbitration, mediation and litigation. It serves as a key platform for thought leaders, experts, practitioners and policy makers, to discuss emerging trends, address common issues, deliberate on new innovations, and drive change.

This year's SC Week will be held from 25 August to 29 August 2025. Organised by the Singapore Ministry of Law (MinLaw) in partnership with various organisations, the week will feature a rich and exciting line-up of keynotes, panel discussions, debate, workshops, and networking events. The events attracted legal practitioners, arbitrators, mediators, corporate counsels, business professionals, academics and government officials from more than 100 countries, who attended both in-person in Singapore and virtually, and shared their perspectives and vision for the evolving landscape of global dispute resolution.



VI. OTHER NOTICEABLE NEWS

BÁO CÁO THƯỜNG NIÊN

20
24

VIAC vmc Trung tâm
hòa giải
Việt Nam VIART
Hội đồng Arbitration Quốc tế Việt Nam

1. VIAC's Annual Report 2024

Recently, Vietnam International Arbitration Centre (VIAC) released its annual report summarizing the activities of 2024. This report is a comprehensive document covering VIAC's activities throughout the year, including:

- Dispute resolution through arbitration and mediation at VIAC;
- Domestic and international cooperation activities;
- Initiatives aimed at businesses and the ADR community in Vietnam.

Additionally, the 2024 Annual Report highlights significant achievements of VIAC in contributing to the development of a transparent and efficient business environment in Vietnam. Some notable figures include:

- 478 new dispute cases
- 490 dispute resolution meetings/hearings
- 79% of cases involved legal counsel
- 93 domestic and international partner organizations
- 65 events organized or co-organized
- 39 digital publications and e-newsletters

The report not only provides transparent and clear information about VIAC's key achievements and operational effectiveness but also outlines its development strategy, challenges faced, and future directions. It is an important document that helps partners, clients, and other stakeholders gain a comprehensive understanding and accurate assessment of VIAC's status, while strengthening trust and fostering sustainable cooperation.

VI. OTHER NOTICEABLE NEWS

2. 2025 International Arbitration Survey: 'The Path Forward: Realities and Opportunities in Arbitration'

2025 International Arbitration Survey The path forward: Realities and opportunities in arbitration

WHITE & CASE



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School of International Arbitration,
Queen Mary University of London

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White & Case International Arbitration Practice

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Truly global

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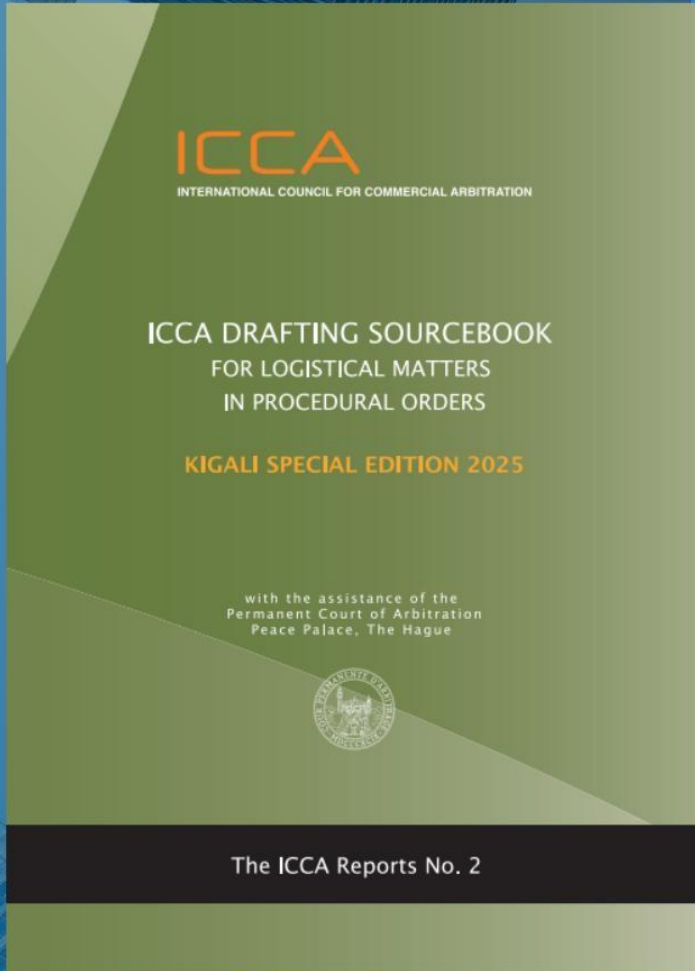
Every two years, the International Arbitration Survey conducted by Queen Mary University of London (QMUL) in collaboration with White & Case LLP offers a comprehensive overview, not only reflecting the current state of the arbitration field but also revealing major shifts that are shaping its future. The survey investigates current trends in user preferences and perceptions, and opportunities to shape the future innovation and development of the practice of international arbitration. It explores how users of international arbitration view pressing issues such as how to tackle inefficiencies, the competing interests of confidentiality and transparency in relation to disputes involving public interest issues, trends in enforcement of awards and the transformative potential of technology.

This edition saw the widest ever pool of participants (2,402 questionnaire responses received and 117 interviews conducted), almost double the number who participated in our previous survey. Views were sought from a diverse pool of participants, including in-house counsel from both public and private sectors, arbitrators, private practitioners, representatives of arbitral institutions and interest groups, academics, tribunal secretaries, experts and third-party funders.

The survey provides a breakdown of some results by categories of respondents, such as by their primary role or the geographic regions in which they principally practise or operate, providing unique insight into the range of views expressed by different stakeholders across the international arbitration community.

VI. OTHER NOTICEABLE NEWS

3. The ICCA Reports No. 2: ICCA Drafting Sourcebook for Logistical Matters in Procedural Orders



The ICCA Drafting Sourcebook for Logistical Matters in Procedural Orders – Kigali Edition 2025 is a practical guide compiled by the International Council for Commercial Arbitration (ICCA). It is designed to assist arbitrators, lawyers, and disputing parties in drafting procedural directions or decisions in international arbitration proceedings, with a focus on logistical matters, issues that are often not clearly addressed in arbitration laws or institutional rules. This edition represents a comprehensive revision, released ten years after the first edition in 2015, reflecting the rapidly evolving practice of international arbitration.

Objectives of the Sourcebook:

- To provide sample clauses that can be copied or adapted for use in procedural orders;
- To help save time and effort in handling common logistical issues;
- To assist practitioners, particularly those new to arbitration, in becoming familiar with the language and scope of initial procedural orders;
- Not to prescribe “best practices,” but rather to offer a flexible resource for reference and adaptation.

With ICCA’s latest publication, the full arbitration process from the regulation of communications, through the exchange of evidence, to procedures before, during, and after the hearing is now guided with model clauses. These help arbitrators draft procedural orders (POs) that align with current international standards.

VI. OTHER NOTICEABLE NEWS

4. Draft Resolution on the Establishment of an International Financial Center in Vietnam

The Draft Resolution on the establishment of an International Financial Center in Vietnam, currently under review by the National Assembly following a proposal from the Government, is a strategic move aimed at creating a modern, globally integrated, and competitive financial environment, with Ho Chi Minh City as the pilot location. This draft reflects Vietnam's strong commitment to attracting international investment and positioning itself as an appealing destination within the regional financial ecosystem.

A key highlight in the second draft is **Article 30**, on the dispute resolution mechanism within the Financial Center. In addition to the traditional court system, Article 30 encourages the use of alternative dispute resolution (ADR) methods such as arbitration and mediation. Particularly remarkable is the proposal to establish a new institution — an **International Arbitration Center** under the **International Financial Center**. This specialized organizational model aligns with international practices and is designed specifically to handle financial disputes, offering the potential to become an effective and professional dispute resolution mechanism in Vietnam.

In connection with this issue, **ADR Vietnam Chambers** has released a thematic research titled: *“Research on Resolving Financial Disputes through Arbitration.”* The report analyzes international experience in applying arbitration to financial dispute resolution and offers valuable suggestions for developing a financial arbitration institution in Vietnam in the near future.



5. Discuss on the Proposed Change in Jurisdiction over Arbitral Award Annulment

A recent proposal to transfer the jurisdiction to hear petitions for annulment of arbitral awards from provincial-level courts to regional-level courts has attracted widespread threads of debate among legal professionals. Some support the change, arguing that granting authority to regional courts would **enhance decentralization, improve access to justice for businesses**, and align with ongoing judicial reform trends. Proponents also believe that, if with rigorous training and oversight mechanisms, this model could help reduce the burden on provincial courts while still ensuring effective dispute resolution.

However, critics have expressed concern that the annulment of arbitral awards, which are typically final and binding, requires a high level of expertise and should remain within the jurisdiction of more experienced institutions such as provincial or specialized courts. They concern that over-decentralization could lead to inconsistent legal interpretations, thereby undermining the stability and reliability of arbitration - a cornerstone of investment environment.

In the face of these opposing views, some experts have proposed maintaining the current jurisdiction but focusing on enhancing the professional capacity of the courts. Additionally, they suggest considering the establishment of specialized arbitration units in key localities to ensure both professional quality and alignment with judicial reform objectives.



VI.

OTHER NOTICEABLE NEWS

6. CIARB Robuck Lecture 2025

As part of CIARB's annual event series, the Roebuck Lecture 2025 was held on June 18 in London, featuring a keynote presentation by Sir Robin Knowles CBE, Judge of the Commercial Court of the High Court of England and Wales. This year's lecture, titled "Damages and Remedies – Responsibilities and Reputation", focused on the challenges and implications of large-scale damages in international arbitration, with the P&ID v. Nigeria case serving as a key example. Sir Robin emphasized that beyond legal validity, arbitrators and all parties involved, including lawyers, experts, and litigation funders must pay close attention to professional responsibility and ethical reputation at every stage of dispute resolution.

Notably, he urged the ADR community to reflect seriously on the role and limits of experts in damage assessment, as well as whether arbitral tribunals should take a more proactive stance by asking questions, requesting clarifications, or inviting additional independent experts. The lecture was highly praised by the international legal community, sparking fresh discussions on transparency and accountability in arbitration, both considered essential for maintaining confidence in this dispute resolution mechanism in an era of globalization.

Importantly, in addition to paid in-person attendance, CIARB also offered free online access to the Roebuck Lecture, allowing participants from across the global arbitration community to join.

Don't miss
Sir Robin Knowles CBE
Damages and Remedies –
Responsibilities and Reputation

Roebuck Lecture 2025
18 June, London
18:00 – 21:00 GMT+1

In-person tickets just
£15.00 for Ciarb members

ciarb.



1. The Trend of Applying AI in Arbitration

The rapid development of artificial intelligence (AI) presents both opportunities and challenges for the international arbitration community. Numerous guidelines, seminars, and articles have been introduced within the arbitration field with the aim of optimizing the use of this tool, striving for an effective, transparent, and fair application of AI in the dispute resolution process.

2. Continuing the Reform of Vietnam's Arbitration Legal Framework to Compete with Leading Regional Arbitration Centers

In line with the trend of numerous arbitration institutions (such as SIAC, HKIAC, and CIETAC) and countries (such as the UK and India) reforming their arbitration legal frameworks to better reflect the evolving dispute resolution landscape, where education is seen as a key to advancing the field, VIAC is also in the process of soliciting feedback to revise its 2017 Arbitration Rules. This comes at a time when the 2010 Law on Commercial Arbitration is also under review. VIAC's upcoming amendments are expected to enhance the efficiency and modernize the arbitral proceedings conducted under its auspices.

3. Arbitration Disputes in Vietnam Increasing in Number, Scale, and Complexity

VIAC's 2024 report and practical experiences in arbitration proceedings reflect the growing development of arbitration in Vietnam, with disputes increasing not only in number but also in scale and complexity. This signals a positive trend, indicating that arbitration in Vietnam is a promising field. Accordingly, Vietnam in general and VIAC in particular must implement measures to enhance the efficiency and fairness of the arbitration process, thereby meeting the expectations of both domestic and international business communities for a reliable dispute resolution method.

VII.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE NEWSLETTER

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invites our valued readers to attend
the 2025 Online Meeting with
Arbitrators, an opportunity to reflect
on arbitration activities and market
developments in the first half of 2025,
as well as to discuss upcoming
initiatives and future directions.

THE MEETING DETAILS

Time:

3:00 – 4:00 PM Friday, 04 July 2025

Format:

Online via Zoom

Meeting ID:

Passcode:

Meeting Link: