



PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

Arif Hyder Ali, FCIArb, is an independent international arbitrator sitting as presiding, sole and party-appointed arbitrator in international commercial, construction, investor-State, and State-State disputes. He is the founder of AHALI Dispute Resolution and an independent arbitrator member of Arbitra International.

His practice is grounded in more than 35 years of international arbitration as lead counsel and arbitrator in more than 100 complex commercial and investor-State disputes, and as adviser to sovereign governments and corporate clients on matters of public international law, including treaty obligations, state responsibility, human rights, sanctions, law reform, and maritime and territorial boundaries. The proceedings in which he has acted range in value from tens of millions to multiple billions of dollars. He works across common-law and civil-law systems, public international law, European Union law, and Shari'a commercial law.

His primary specialization is in the energy and extractives industries — oil and gas, LNG, power generation and transmission, energy-sector infrastructure, and mining and minerals. In addition, he has had significant engagements in construction disputes, technology and intellectual property proceedings, and matters in which commercial, regulatory, and public-law considerations intersect — often in settings where linguistic, cultural, or geopolitical factors shaped how the dispute arose and how the case is understood and managed.

Arif's professional background in private practice, two international organizations and academia affords him a perspective that spans the full arc of international dispute resolution — from within its institutions, at counsel's table, at the professorial lectern, and now from the tribunal. Colleagues and describe him as the consummate legal technician and "Global Citizen."

APPROACH AND METHOD

Arif's approach to case management balances active tribunal engagement with party autonomy, and efficiency with fairness. Working with the parties to define procedural frameworks calibrated to the case and attuned to their legal cultures and institutional settings, he focuses proceedings through early identification of the determinative issues, disciplined marshalling of documentary, testimonial, and expert evidence, and the use of decision trees to concentrate deliberations on what matters. Awards are issued promptly after final submissions.

He works in English and Spanish, has professional reading proficiency in French and Portuguese legal materials, and is conversant in those languages as well as Urdu, Hindi, and Bengali.

CAREER BACKGROUND

Arif has spent more than three decades at the forefront of international dispute resolution. His career began in Washington, D.C., following graduation from New York University School of Law in 1990. In 1993, he moved to Geneva to join the United Nations Compensation Commission (UNCC) — a subsidiary organ of the UN Security Council established to resolve claims arising from Iraq's 1990 invasion of Kuwait — where he served as Legal Officer and then Section Chief, developing an early grounding in the intersection of rigorous legal analysis and the institutional and political realities of multilateral settings.

In 1996, Arif joined the international arbitration group of Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer (Paris; Bahrain). He returned to Geneva at the end of 2000 to serve as Senior Counsel at WIPO's Arbitration and Mediation Centre, where his work focused on dispute resolution systems design and rules development for the arbitration of intellectual property, information technology and domain name disputes. In 2001, he joined Fulbright & Jaworski LLP (Houston, Texas; Washington, D.C.), and then led the international arbitration and public international law practices of three AmLaw 100 firms: Crowell & Moring LLP (Washington, D.C., 2007–2012), Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP (Washington, D.C., 2012–2015), and Dechert LLP (Washington, D.C., 2015–2024). He established AHALI Dispute Resolution LLC in January 2025 to focus on serving as a neutral.

RECOGNITION AND AWARDS

For over twenty years, Arif has been consistently ranked in all leading professional directories, including Legal 500, Chambers and Partners (USA, Global, and Latin America), Global Arbitration Review, Lexology, Who's Who Legal: Arbitration, Lawdragon, The International Who's Who of Commercial Arbitration Lawyers, and Washington Super Lawyers.

Testimonials from Fellow Tribunal Members

"An enormously talented lawyer and a star of the international arbitration community. Serving on tribunals alongside him, I can attest to his diligence, common sense, and collegiality."

"The consummate professional: well-prepared, knowledgeable, diligent, with a keen ability to listen — to witnesses, counsel, and colleagues — and possessing the utmost integrity. He is also a delight to work with on tribunals."

"All who have had the good fortune to serve on a tribunal with Arif have benefited from his brilliance in analysing legal issues and his generosity in working with tribunal colleagues."

"The arbitrator marketplace is in need of more professionals like Arif — multicultural, multilingual, and adept at handling disputes across multiple jurisdictions. His ability to seamlessly transition from presiding over a Latin American dispute in Spanish to navigating an English or New York law arbitration in Singapore is unparalleled."

"He has a unique appeal to parties from the Global South and is the go-to arbitrator for those seeking both expertise and cultural sensitivity."

Awards and Distinctions

- **Order of Bahrain (II)** — awarded for his role in Bahrain's representation before the International Court of Justice in Bahrain's maritime and territorial boundary dispute with Qatar.
- **Financial Times Award for Most Innovative Legal Practitioner in North America (2021)** — awarded for achieving a string of successful client outcomes in high-value complex international arbitrations.
- **Law360 MVP Award for International Arbitration** — awarded to a select group of lawyers who have distinguished themselves by securing hard-earned successes in high-stakes disputes and complex global matters.
- **BTI Client Service All-Star Award** — recognizing lawyers singled out by corporate counsel for delivering exceptional client service, based solely on unprompted client feedback.
- **Minority Corporate Counsel Association Rainmaker Award** — awarded to those who have achieved sustained success through innovation and demonstrated a deep commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion.

EXPERIENCE

Sector and Industry Experience

Arif's sector and industry experience includes energy (oil, gas, coal, nuclear, and renewables including wind and hydro), power (generation, transmission, and distribution), mining and quarrying (coal, metallic ores, non-metallic minerals, precious stones and metals), construction and infrastructure, life sciences, telecommunications, hospitality, textiles, retail, information technology, and banking and finance.

In construction disputes, he has served as arbitrator and counsel in matters involving procurement; non-payment and payment delays; scope of work; design errors, omissions, and defects; scheduling errors and delay; defective and substantial performance; breach of performance guarantees; site interference; change orders; project sequencing; site conditions and access; sub-contractor responsibility; liquidated damages; and retainage.

He has served in disputes arising under bilateral and multilateral investment treaties, foreign investment laws, and a wide variety of contractual instruments, including EPC, EPCM, FIDIC, and other construction contracts; power purchase agreements; oilfield services agreements; LNG and LPG supply and transportation agreements; production sharing agreements; joint operating agreements; private equity and M&A agreements; tax and legal stability agreements; intellectual property licensing agreements; joint venture agreements; and hotel management agreements.

Jurisdictional Experience

Arif has arbitrated and argued disputes under the laws of civil-law and common-law jurisdictions across six continents, and is well-versed in the analytical, substantive, and jurisprudential differences between the two systems. He has also arbitrated cases subject to Shari'a law, international law, lex mercatoria, and EU law (including State aid issues). His jurisdictional experience includes:

Argentina, Bangladesh, Bahrain, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, China, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, France, Germany, Guatemala, Hungary, India, Iraq, Ireland, Japan, Kuwait, Lebanon,

Libya, Malaysia, Mexico, Mauritius, Mongolia, the Netherlands, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Qatar, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, South Korea, Spain, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom (England and Wales), and the United States (New York, California, District of Columbia, Delaware, Massachusetts, Texas, Virginia, and Maryland).

Arbitral Regimes

Arif has arbitrated and served as counsel in disputes under all major arbitral regimes, including:

- American Arbitration Association / International Centre for Dispute Resolution (AAA/ICDR)
- International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID)
- ICSID Additional Facility
- International Chamber of Commerce (ICC)
- Singapore International Arbitration Centre (SIAC)
- London Court of International Arbitration (LCIA)
- Dubai International Arbitration Centre (DIAC)
- Stockholm Chamber of Commerce (SCC)
- World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)
- UNCITRAL (*ad hoc* and administered)

SELECT ARBITRATOR CASES

Arif is sought out as an arbitrator for the breadth of his industry and jurisdictional experience, his knowledge of civil and common law, his detail-oriented case preparation, his multicultural awareness, and his use of procedural tools to promote the efficient resolution of disputes.

Presiding Arbitrator	Ad hoc arbitration under Saudi Arabian law between European and Saudi parties relating to a pipeline construction project. (Construction)
Presiding Arbitrator	Singapore-seated SIAC arbitration under Saudi Arabian law between Saudi Arabian parties relating to various mega-project construction contracts. (Construction)
Presiding Arbitrator	São Paulo-seated ICC arbitration under Brazilian law relating to the design and construction of a gas pipeline. (Oil & Gas; Construction)
Presiding Arbitrator	London-seated ICC arbitration under New York law relating to a distributorship agreement for agricultural equipment. (Agriculture)
Party-Appointed Arbitrator	Singapore-seated SIAC arbitration under Bangladeshi law between Japanese and Bangladeshi parties arising out of a

	joint venture agreement relating to bridge construction projects. (Construction)
Party-Appointed Arbitrator	New York-seated ICC arbitration under New York law between a Middle Eastern and American party relating to a raw minerals offtake contract. (Mining)
Party-Appointed Arbitrator	New York-seated ICDR arbitration under New York law between Colombian and Costa Rican parties arising out of contracts relating to a telecommunications towers program. (Telecommunications)
Party-Appointed Arbitrator	Singapore-seated SIAC arbitration under English law between Mongolian and Russian state-owned parties relating to a Share Purchase Agreement. (Mining)
Party-Appointed Arbitrator	Madrid-seated LCIA arbitration under New York law between Spanish and Irish parties relating to LNG shipments. Languages: English and Spanish. (Oil & Gas)
Party-Appointed Arbitrator	New York-seated ICC arbitration under New York law between Singaporean and Brazilian parties concerning the consequences of changes in Brazilian tax legislation. (Construction; Oil & Gas)
Party-Appointed Arbitrator	New York-seated ICC arbitration under New York law between Dutch, Singaporean, and Brazilian parties relating to a project in Brazil. (Energy; Construction)
Party-Appointed Arbitrator	New York-seated ICC arbitration under Argentine and New York law between Argentine and Brazilian parties involving claims of fraud and breach of contract arising out of a multi-million dollar acquisition. (Chemicals)
Party-Appointed Arbitrator	Washington, D.C.-seated ICDR arbitration under D.C. and federal contracting law between U.S. and Nigerian parties relating to the performance of a supply contract. (Government Contracting; Pharmaceuticals)
Party-Appointed Arbitrator	New York-seated ICDR arbitration under English law relating to intellectual property and contractual issues in the energy sector. (Energy; Oil & Gas)
Party-Appointed Arbitrator	Geneva-seated ICC arbitration between Bangladeshi and Spanish parties under Bangladeshi law relating to a telecommunications towers construction project. (Energy; Construction)

Party-Appointed Arbitrator	Cairo-seated ICC arbitration under Saudi Arabian law relating to an airport construction project in Saudi Arabia. (Construction)
Party-Appointed Arbitrator	Erich Utsch Aktiengesellschaft and others v. Arab Republic of Egypt, ICSID Case No. ARB/13/37. (Transportation; Logistics)
Party-Appointed Arbitrator	Arbitration between an Egyptian party and a Middle Eastern State under the OIC Investment Agreement. (Real Estate; Tourism)
Party-Appointed Arbitrator	Dubai-seated ICC arbitration under Qatari law relating to the construction of an oil platform. (Oil & Gas; Construction)
Party-Appointed Arbitrator	New York-seated ICC arbitration under New York law relating to the design and commissioning of gas turbines for a combined-cycle power plant. (Energy; Oil & Gas; Construction)
Party-Appointed Arbitrator	Washington, D.C.-seated ICDR arbitration under Texas law relating to a refinery construction project in Guatemala. (Energy; Oil & Gas; Construction)
Sole Arbitrator	San Francisco-seated ICDR arbitration under Delaware law relating to the dissolution of a general partnership. (Information Technology; Private Equity)
Sole Arbitrator	Dubai-seated DIAC arbitration under UAE law relating to a real estate project. (Real Estate; Construction)

SELECT COUNSEL CASES

The following are representative matters in which Arif served as lead counsel, provided as background context demonstrating the depth and complexity of his dispute resolution experience.

Investor-State

- A Middle Eastern financial institution in a dispute with an Arabian Gulf State under the OIC Investment Agreement.
- A Hungarian private equity investor in SCC arbitration proceedings against the Kingdom of Spain under the Energy Charter Treaty.
- A Hungarian oil and gas company in a dispute with the Republic of Croatia under the Energy Charter Treaty. MOL Hungarian Oil and Gas Public Limited Company v. Republic of Croatia, ICSID Case No. ARB/24/19.
- A Singaporean mining company in a dispute with the People's Republic of China under the Singapore–China BIT. AsiaPhos Limited and Norwest Chemicals Pte Ltd v. People's Republic of China, ICSID Case No. ADM/21/1.

- A Kuwaiti telecommunications company in a dispute with the Democratic Republic of Congo under the DRC foreign investment law. AAN Digital Services Holding Company (Kuwait) v. The Democratic Republic of Congo, ICSID Case No. ARB/19/24.
- The State in Chevron Overseas Finance GmbH v. The Republic of the Philippines, PCA Case No. 2019-25, under the Philippines–Switzerland BIT (Singapore-seated).
- A Hungarian oil and gas company in PCA Case No. 2014-15, an UNCITRAL arbitration brought by the Republic of Croatia to terminate shareholder and gas master agreements based on allegations of corruption (The Hague-seated).
- The State in WNC Factoring Limited v. The Czech Republic, PCA Case No. 2014-34-UNCITRAL, under the UK–Czech and Slovak Federal Republic BIT (The Hague-seated).
- The State in EDF International v. Hungary, PCA Case No. 2009-13, under the Energy Charter Treaty (The Hague-seated).
- A consortium of oil and gas companies in Pluspetrol Perú Corporation and others v. Perupetro S.A., ICSID Case No. ARB/12/28. Language: Spanish.
- The investor in annulment proceedings in Duke Energy International Peru Investments No. 1 Ltd v. The Republic of Peru, ICSID Case No. ARB/03/28.
- A U.S. energy company in Duke Energy International Peru Investments No. 1 Ltd v. The Republic of Peru, ICSID Case No. ARB/03/28, concerning breach of legal stabilization investment agreements.
- A U.S. energy company in Duke Energy Electroquil Partners and Electroquil S.A. v. The Republic of Ecuador, ICSID Case No. ARB/04/19, under the US–Ecuador BIT.
- A U.S. mining company in Pac Rim Cayman LLC v. Republic of El Salvador, ICSID Case No. ARB/09/12, under CAFTA-DR and El Salvador’s foreign investment law.
- A U.S. mining company in Adel A Hamadi Al Tamimi v. Sultanate of Oman, ICSID Case No. ARB/11/33, under the US–Oman Free Trade Agreement.
- A U.S. hospitality company in H&H Enterprises Investment Inc. v. Arab Republic of Egypt, ICSID Case No. ARB/09/15, under the US–Egypt BIT.

Commercial/Construction

- Geneva-seated UNCITRAL arbitration under Croatian law relating to royalties under a gas master agreement.
- London-seated LCIA arbitration under Mauritian law relating to the termination of a private equity fund management agreement.
- Islamabad-seated arbitration under Pakistani law regarding a technology licensing agreement.
- Paris-seated ICC arbitration under English law relating to a mining concession in Guinea.
- New York-seated JAMS arbitration under New York law relating to a post-acquisition price adjustment clause.

- Paris-seated ICC arbitration under Brazilian law arising out of a power purchase agreement.
- Zurich-seated ICC arbitration under Greek law relating to the refurbishment of a refinery, arising under an EPCM contract.
- Washington, D.C.-seated ICC arbitration under New York law arising out of a hotel management agreement.
- Paris-seated ICC arbitration under Lebanese and Maryland laws arising out of a hotel management agreement.
- London-seated ICC arbitration under UAE law arising out of a hotel management agreement.
- Houston-seated ICC arbitration under Texas law relating to the construction and commissioning of a gas processing facility.
- Montevideo-seated ICC arbitration under Uruguayan law relating to the construction of a gas pipeline.
- Dublin-seated ICDR arbitration under Irish law arising out of a hotel management agreement.
- Miami-seated ICDR arbitration under Guatemalan law arising out of a power purchase agreement.
- New York-seated UNCITRAL arbitration under lex mercatoria relating to a procurement debarment dispute.
- London-seated LCIA arbitration under Chinese law arising out of the breach of a steel supply contract.
- Singapore-seated SIAC arbitration under Indian law relating to the termination of a licensing agreement.
- Dubai-seated DIAC arbitration under UAE law relating to a shareholder dispute.
- Series of ICDR and ICC arbitrations against ICANN relating to top-level domain disputes, including on behalf of Amazon.com, Afiliac plc, Altanovo Domains, DotConnect Africa, Dot Registry LLC, Employ Media LLC, and ICM Registry.

PUBLICATIONS

Books

- *International Investment Law Protections in Global Banking and Finance — Empirical Study*. British Institute of International and Comparative Law, 2025.
- *International Investment Protection for Global Banking and Finance: Legal Principles and Arbitral Practice*. Wolters Kluwer, 2021.
- *The International Arbitration Rulebook: A Guide to Arbitral Regimes*. Wolters Kluwer, 2019.
- *Inversiones Españolas en el Extranjero: Mecanismos de Protección*. Thomson Reuters Aranzadi, 2017.
- *A Liber Amicorum: Thomas Waelde — Law Beyond Conventional Thought*. Cameron May, 2009.

Selected Articles — Investor-State Arbitration and Public International Law

- “The Interaction Between Administrative Courts and Investment Tribunals in Egypt.” Arab Law Quarterly, 2024.
- “Mining Arbitration in Latin America: Social and Environmental Issues in Investment Arbitration,” in The Guide to Mining Arbitration, Global Arbitration Review, 2019.
- “The Arbitration of Corruption Allegations.” International Comparative Legal Guide to Investor State Arbitration, 2018.
- “Adverse Inferences: A Proposed Methodology in the Light of Investment Arbitrations Involving Middle Eastern States.” Journal of the Bahrain Centre for Dispute Resolution, 2017.
- “The Energy Charter Treaty and Related Jurisprudence,” in The Leading Practitioners’ Guide to International Oil & Gas Arbitrations, 2015.
- “Principles of Valuation Taken from the UNCC Perspective,” in War Reparations and the UN Compensation Commission, 2015.
- “Improving the Process and Institutions of Investment Arbitration,” in Essays in Honor of Kamal Hossain, 2014.
- “In the Eye of the Storm: Spain’s Nexus to Investment Disputes.” Spain Arbitration Review, No. 18, 2013.
- “The Effect of BITs on the International Body of Investment Law,” in The Future of Investment Arbitration, 2009.
- “ICSID Arbitration in the Americas.” The Arbitration Review of the Americas 2008, Global Arbitration Review, 2007.

Selected Articles — Commercial Arbitration

- “Corruption Allegations and the Evolution of International Arbitral Procedures,” in The Law and Practice of International Arbitration: Essays in Honor of John Fellas, JurisNet, 2026.
- “Gas Pricing Disputes: Final and Binding Uncertainty,” in Contemporary Issues in International Arbitration and Mediation: The Fordham Papers 2013, 2015.
- “La responsabilidad civil de los árbitros y las instituciones arbitrales,” in Arbitraje Internacional — Libro Homenaje a Bernardo Cremades e Yves Derains, 2013.
- “Shari’a Law Approaches to Arbitration,” in International Commercial Arbitration in Practice: 21st Century Perspectives, 2010.
- “Anti-Suit Injunctions in Support of International Arbitration in the United States and the United Kingdom.” International Arbitration Law Review, 2008.
- “Best Practices in Drafting International Arbitration Clauses.” UNITAR Best Practices Series No. 7, 2003.
- “Considerations in Negotiating Arbitration Clauses with Certain Arab League States and Iran.” Rocky Mountain Law Institute, 2002.

SPEECHES AND LECTURES

Arif has delivered over 200 lectures and speeches on topics including substantive, procedural, and evidentiary issues in international commercial and investment arbitration; dispute resolution in the energy, power, and extractive industries; evidence before international courts and tribunals; enforcement of arbitral awards; EU law and arbitration; cultural psychology and persuasion before international tribunals; State responsibility; and the Rule of Law in the global economic order.

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

2025–present

Adjunct Professor of Law, IE University, Madrid — teaches International Dispute Resolution and the Law of Economic Development and Investor-State Dispute Resolution.

2004–2009

Honorary Lecturer, University of Dundee's Centre for Energy, Mining and Petroleum Law and Policy — courses on dispute resolution in the oil, gas, and energy industries.

2003–2007

Adjunct Faculty, Georgetown University Law Center — taught international commercial arbitration.

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Arif actively participates in the international law and arbitration communities. He has held leadership positions in the American Society of International Law, the European Foreign Investment Law Association, the International Bar Association, and the American Bar Association, and has served as an advisor to or board member of several arbitral institutions. He is an Advisory Board Member of the Tulane Center for Energy Law.

ADMISSIONS AND LANGUAGES

Bar Admissions

New York; District of Columbia; Registered Foreign Lawyer, England and Wales

Languages

English and Spanish (working languages); French and Portuguese (professional reading proficiency, including legal documentation); Urdu, Hindi, and Bengali (conversant)

Citizenship

United States of America

EDUCATION

1990

Juris Doctor, New York University School of Law

1986

Bachelor of Arts in Political Science, *Summa Cum Laude*, *Phi Beta Kappa*, Columbia College, Columbia University