

Seminar – Investment Treaty Arbitration in the Middle East and the OIC Investment Agreement



Event description and registration:

During the webinar, the speakers will cover the following topics:

Part 1 – Investment Treaty Arbitration in the Middle East

- An overview of the legal status of the international law of foreign investment protection
- A brief history of investment disputes in the Middle East
- Investment treaties: jurisdictional thresholds; substantive protections; dispute resolution
- The current era of investment treaty arbitration in the Middle East
- What does the future hold for investment treaty arbitration in the Middle East

Part 2 – The OIC Investment Agreement and the Settlement of Investment Disputes

- An overview of the OIC Investment Agreement
- Particular jurisdictional aspects
- Particular substantive aspects
- Future of the OIC Investment Agreement arbitration

The discussion will be followed by Q&A.

For registration, please [click here](#)



Welcome Address
Nurul Sabri FCI Arb

Ciarb Qatar Branch
Board Members (Events)



Closing remarks
Dr. Nasser Al-Adba

Chair of Ciarb Qatar Branch



Moderator
Andrew Symms

Partner, Head of Construction
Al Tamimi & Company, Qatar



Speaker
Professor Robert G Volterra

Partner, Volterra Fietta, UK
Visiting Prof. of Law at UCL



Speaker
Professor Martins Paporinskis

Professor of Public
International Law at UCL

Speakers profile:

Robert G Volterra

Partner at Volterra Fietta and Visiting Professor of Law at University College London

Professor Volterra advises and represents governments, international organisations and private clients on the full spectrum of public international law issues. He acts as counsel and advocate in international disputes around the world, including cases before the International Court of Justice, Permanent Court of Arbitration tribunals and investor–State arbitration tribunals.

In relation to BIT arbitrations, Robert has advised and represented parties in BIT cases for thirty years. He acts for both investors and governments in equal measure. He is also regularly appointed by both investors and governments to sit as an arbitrator at ICSID, the PCA and other major international arbitration institutions. Robert’s cases as counsel and arbitrator are amongst the best-known BIT awards, taught in classrooms around the world and relied upon as precedents by other lawyers, courts and tribunals.

The global legal directories have ranked Professor Volterra and his practice consistently in the top tier, since they began ranking practices more than 25 years ago. In its 2022 edition, Chambers and Partners stated: “Robert Volterra is probably the best public international lawyer on the planet” and Legal Business called him “[A] star of international investment treaty arbitration.”

Professor Martins Paporinskis

Professor of Public International Law at University College London

Professor Martins Paporinskis is a Professor of Public International Law at University College London. He is a public international lawyer with a variety of specialisms, including international investment law and international dispute settlement. Martins has published widely, including in leading journals, such as the American Journal of International Law, British Year Book of International Law, Journal of International Dispute Settlement, Journal of World Investment and Trade, and ICSID Review—Foreign Investment Law Journal.

His work is regularly cited on issues of international law by domestic courts and international tribunals, e.g., recently in *Vento Motorcycles, Inc v Mexico*; *OOO Manolium Processing v Belarus*; *Lion Mexico Consolidated v Mexico*; *Westbridge Ventures II Investment Holdings v Anupam Mittal*; *Trustees for the time being of Burmilla Trust and Another v President of RSA and Another*; *Gramercy Funds Management LLC and Or v Peru*.

Martins is recognised by his peers in the field of public international law and particularly investment law. He is a member of the United Nations International Law Commission (2023–), a member of the Permanent Court of Arbitration (since 2017) and a conciliator of the OSCE Court of Conciliation and Arbitration (since 2019). In the field of investment law, Martins is a member of the ICSID Panels of Arbitrators and of Conciliators, a member of the Beijing Arbitration Commission / Beijing International Arbitration Center’s Panel of Arbitrators for International Investment Arbitration, and a member of CIETAC (China International Economic and Trade Arbitration Commission) Panel of Arbitrators. Martins is an editor of the *Journal of World Investment and Trade* and of the *Journal of International Economic Law*.

Andrew Symms**Partner, Head of Construction****Al Tamimi & Company, Qatar**

For over 30 years Andrew has specialised in all aspects of construction and engineering law, both in relation contentious matters as well as project and procurement documentation. He has worked across many different jurisdictions, has worked in-house and has broad commercial experience at the highest level across multiple sectors.

Andrew has a wide range of contracting experience, particularly in relation to the legal and commercial issues surrounding the delivery of large projects on time and to cost. These projects have ranged from residential and commercial buildings to international sporting venues to roads, power stations, transmission lines, water treatment facilities and process plants. His clients include construction and engineering companies, energy companies, airports, airlines, property developers, consultants, public authorities, governments and sports organisations. Andrew has extensive experience in respect of all forms of international dispute resolution, specifically arbitration.

He is identified in Chambers & Partners and the Legal 500 legal directories as a leading individual for construction law, projects law and energy law.

Dr. Nasser Al-Adba**Managing Partner, Omani & Partners LLP****Assistant Professor, Qatar University****Chair of Ciarb Qatar Branch**

Dr. Nasser Al-Adba is an accomplished and highly recognized lawyer in Qatar and MENA region, having practiced law extensively throughout the world. He specializes of major Corporate and Construction matters both litigation and ADR. Dr. Al-Adba practices also the fields of International Investment Law and International Trade, having been chosen for the World Trade Organization roster of panelists (WTO).

He is full time assistant Professor teaching the areas of Public International Law, ADR and Investment Arbitration at Qatar University (QU). Recently, Dr. Al-Adba is elected as the Chair of Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (Ciarb) Qatar Branch.

Academics:

- Ph.D. in International Investment Arbitration from University of Manchester, UK
- G.D.L. in International Negotiation, Mediation and Dispute settlement from Harvard Law School, USA
- L.L.M. from Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Geneva, Switzerland • L.L.B. Qatar University, Qatar.

Nurul Sabri FCI Arb**Associate Director, HKA, Qatar****Qatar Branch Board Members (Events)**

Nurul Sabri is a dual-qualified quantity surveyor with a law degree (LLB) with over 14 years of experience in the construction industry. She has significant experience in the alternative dispute resolution procedures and the delivery of quantity surveying practices for both pre- and post-contract. She has provided commercial and contractual advice, evaluated quantum for delay and disruption, prepared and defended claims for disputed variations, prolongations, disruptions and final accounts. This combination of skills, combined with the RICS Registered Expert Witness and Expert Determination certifications, constitutes a sound basis for Nurul to become a specialist in contracts, claims and dispute resolution.

Nurul has worked on international arbitration proceedings and is experienced in acting as an Assistant to the Arbitral Tribunal and appointed quantum Expert. Her experience portfolio includes many large scale and complex projects across various sectors throughout the Middle East, South Africa and South East Asia, including infrastructure, power and utilities, mixed-use developments and oil & gas facilities and installations. Other project experience includes residential buildings, offices, sports facilities, libraries, hospitals and military camps.