



Miriam K. Harwood

Partner and Chair, International Arbitration

International Arbitration

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Miriam Harwood is a recognized leader in international arbitration, with decades of experience handling high-profile, high-stakes disputes in commercial and investment treaty arbitrations, as well as litigation in US courts. She has represented sovereign states, state-owned entities and private corporations in a broad array of cases, including matters involving construction and infrastructure projects, renewable energy, telecommunications, mining, oil and gas projects and other commercial disputes.

An international arbitration powerhouse

Miriam has been recognized by *Chambers Global*, *Chambers USA*, *Who's Who Legal*, *Lexology*, *The Legal 500 USA*, *Benchmark Litigation*, and many other industry publications. Clients have deep respect and admiration for her skills and experience on the international stage, observing that she is “absolutely outstanding under fire from the other side” (*Chambers USA*, 2020), “continually delivers and has an ethic that strives for excellence” (*Legal 500 USA*, 2020), and is “a leading light in international arbitration” (*Chambers Global*, 2023).

Miriam has served as lead counsel in dozens of international arbitrations, with experience at the major arbitral organizations, including the World Bank’s International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID), the International Court of Arbitration of the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC), the Permanent Court of Arbitration (PCA), the Stockholm Chamber of Commerce (SCC), the Singapore International Arbitration Center (SIAC) and under the rules of the United Nations Commission on International Trade and Law (UNCITRAL). She has also advised states on the drafting of investment treaties and domestic investment laws, and taught courses on international law and arbitration. In 2020, Miriam was appointed to the prestigious ICSID Panel of Arbitrators for a six-year term.

Practices

- International Arbitration
- International
- Commercial Litigation

Education

- JD, Fordham University School of Law
- BA, Barnard College, Columbia University, *cum laude*

Bar Admissions

- New York

Court Admissions

- US District Court, Southern District of New York

Community Involvements

- American Arbitration Association, Roster of Arbitrators
- International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes, Panel of Arbitrators
- *Law360*, International Arbitration Editorial Board, 2024
- New York City Bar Association, International Commercial Disputes Committee
- New York International Arbitration Center, Board of Directors, Directors (2019-2023), Program Committee (2024-present)
- *The American Review of International Arbitration*, Columbia Law School, Advisory Board

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Before focusing her practice on international arbitration, Miriam honed her skills as a commercial litigator in US courts in cases involving securities fraud, intellectual property, bankruptcy and contract disputes. She continues to appear in US courts, particularly in cases involving enforcement of arbitral awards and matters of sovereign immunity.

Miriam is a regularly featured speaker at professional conferences and training programs around the world, lecturing on topics of international law and arbitration, investment treaties and quantification of damages, including conferences sponsored by the American Bar Association, the Institute for Transnational Arbitration, Global Arbitration Review, Juris Conferences, New York International Arbitration Center, the Czech Republic and Columbia Law School. She has also served on the faculty at the International Law Institute in Washington, DC, and Columbia University Law School's Executive Training Program for Government Officials on Investment Treaty Arbitration.

Representative Experience

- Represented a Central Asian country in over a dozen ICSID arbitrations and other cases under ICC, SCC and UNCITRAL/PCA rules, involving claims under bilateral investment treaties with Turkey, Russia, Germany and the United Kingdom, and in contract disputes, including billion-dollar claims regarding telecommunications, mining, construction, infrastructure and agriculture projects.*
- Represented a South American country and its state-owned oil company, in over a dozen arbitrations and court proceedings involving disputes in the oil and gas, maritime and telecommunications industries.*
- Represented a Central Asian country in connection with cost recovery disputes with international oil companies operating major oil production projects under long-term production sharing agreements.*
- Represented a European country in an ICSID annulment proceeding, winning a historic annulment of a €128 million award in a dispute regarding renewable energy regulations, and in US court proceedings relating to enforcement of arbitral awards.*
- Represented an Eastern European country in three ICSID arbitrations brought under the Energy Charter Treaty and intra-EU BITs in disputes regarding renewable energy regulations.*
- Represented an Eastern European country in an ICSID arbitration brought by a German national in a dispute concerning ownership of real property allegedly purchased during the war of independence in the 1990s.*

“

“Miriam Harwood is my favorite lawyer of all time. She has the WOW factor and with her brilliant legal mind, when she talks, people stop and listen immediately.”

The Legal 500 - U.S. (2022)

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- Represented an Eastern European country and the state-owned oil company in an ICC arbitration brought by a Canadian company in a dispute concerning the operations of the country's largest oilfield.*
- Represented a Middle Eastern country in its first-ever ICSID arbitration regarding a US\$1 billion highway and infrastructure construction project.*
- Represented a North African country in an ICSID arbitration brought by an Austrian construction company involving highway and infrastructure projects.*

*Experience prior to Katten

Recognitions

Recognized or listed in the following:

- *Benchmark Litigation*
 - Litigation Star, 2023
 - Top 250 Women in Litigation, 2022–2023
- *Best Lawyers in America*
 - International Arbitration – Commercial, 2025
- *Chambers Global*
 - International Arbitration: Counsel, USA, 2021–2025
- *Chambers USA*
 - International Arbitration: Counsel, 2019–2024
- *Crain's New York Business*
 - Notable Women in Law, 2022
- *Expert Guides: Women in Business Law*
 - Commercial Arbitration: Leading Lawyers, 2020–2022
- *Global Guide to Women Arbitrators*
 - Compendium of Unicorns, 2022
- *Latinvex*
 - Latin America's Top 100 Female Lawyers, 2016–2020
- Lexology Index
 - International Arbitration (Recommended), 2025
 - Arbitration, 2024

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- Arbitration – USA: Arbitrator and Counsel, Global Leader, 2021–2023
- *New York Law Journal*
 - Distinguished Leaders, 2020
- *The Legal 500 United States*
 - Dispute Resolution/International Arbitration: Recommended Attorney, 2018–2023

News

- Katten Scores High Marks in *Chambers Global 2025 Guide* (February 13, 2025)
- Katten Attorneys Recognized as *Best Lawyers®* and *Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch®* Award Recipients (August 15, 2024)
- Katten Receives High Marks in *Chambers USA Guide* 2024 (June 6, 2024)
- Multiple Katten Partners Selected to Serve on 2024 *Law360* Editorial Advisory Boards (March 22, 2024)
- Katten Ranked as Leader in *Chambers Global Guide* 2024 (February 15, 2024)
- Miriam Harwood's Arrival at Katten Draws Media Buzz (August 7, 2023)
- Leading International Arbitration Attorney Miriam Harwood Joins Katten (July 26, 2023)

Publications

- Author, "Advisory Board Manual on Universal Citation in International Arbitration," *Global Arbitration Review*, 2d ed., 2023, 1st ed., 2018 (2023)
- Co-author, "Papers and Proceedings of the 14th Annual Juris Conference on Investment Treaty Arbitration," *Investment Treaty Arbitration and International Law*, Volume 14, 2021 (2021)
- Co-author, "Papers and Proceedings of the 13th Annual Juris Conference on Investment Treaty Arbitration," *Investment Treaty Arbitration and International Law*, Volume 13, 2019. (2019)
- Author, "Handbook on Third-Party Funding in International Arbitration," *Conflicts of Interest*, November 2018 (November 2018)

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- Author, "Third-Party Funding in Investment Disputes," *Business Guide to Trade and Investment*, Volume 2, October 2018 (October 2018)
- Co-author, "Third-Party Funding: Security for Costs and Other Key Issues," *The Investment Treaty Arbitration Review*, 2nd Edition, 2017 (2017)
- Co-author, "Third-Party Funding: Security for Costs and Other Key Issues," *The Investment Treaty Arbitration Review*, 1st Edition, 2016 (2016)
- Co-author, "Investment Arbitration: Jurisdiction and Procedure," *The International Arbitration Review* 1, 6th Edition, 2015 (2015)
- Author, "Calculating Damages in Energy Disputes," *Investment Treaty Arbitration and International Law*, Volume 7, 2014 (2014)
- Co-author, "Jurisdiction and Procedure in Investment Arbitration – New Developments," *The International Arbitration Review* 1, 5th Edition, 2014 (2014)
- Co-author, "Recent Trends in Investment Arbitration," *The International Arbitration Review* 1, 4th Edition, 2013 (2013)

Presentations and Events

- New York Arbitration Week (November 21, 2024) | *Panelist* | *Emerging Standards and Expectations in International Arbitration: Codes of Conduct, Conflicts and Disqualification*
- Columbia Law School, Center for International Commercial and Investment Arbitration (November 19, 2024) | *Panelist* | *Reform of Investor-State Arbitration: Where are We Headed?*
- 18th Annual Investment Treaty Arbitration: A Debate & Discussion (November 18, 2024) | *Panelist* | *True or false: The recent decision of the Paris Court of Appeal, in DIT v. Port Autonome de Douala, calls into question the continuing relevance of the IBA Rules on Conflict of Interest?*
- Grand Central Forum | Presented by the New York International Arbitration Center (September 24, 2024) | *Panelist* | *This House Believes that Preliminary Dispositions are Essential*
- GAR Live North America Conference | Presented by the Global Arbitration Review (September 24, 2024) | *Panelist* | *The Impact of the U.S. Elections on International Arbitration*
- 9th Annual Sarajevo Arbitration Day (November 8, 2023) | *Panelist* | *Should Western Balkan Countries Withdraw from the Energy Charter Treaty?*

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- Seventeenth Annual Investment Treaty Arbitration Symposium (October 12, 2023) | *Panelist* | *Will investor-state mediation emerge as the preferred mechanism to resolve investor-state disputes? What are the pros and cons as opposed to investor-state arbitration?*
- GAR Live: New York 2023 (September 19, 2023) | *Panelist* | *A new era of enforcement*
- Paris Arbitration Week (March 2023) | *Presenter* | *News from Across the Pond: Recent Vital Developments in US Arbitration*
- Columbia International Arbitration Association, New York (March 2023) | *Presenter* | *Navigating Third-Party Funding in International Arbitration: Benefits, Implications and the Future*
- New York International Arbitration Center, New York (January 2023) | *Presenter* | *Damages and Quantum Experts in International Arbitration*
- Juris Conferences, 16th Annual Conference on Investment Treaty Arbitration, Washington DC (October 2022) | *Presenter* | *UNCITRAL Working Group Proposals on Arbitrator Conflict Rules*
- 10th Annual Investment Treaty Arbitration Conference, hosted by the Czech Republic Ministry of Finance, Prague (October 2020) | *Presenter* | *Attribution of Harm*
- Juris Conferences, 14th Annual Conference on Investment Treaty Arbitration, Washington DC (June 2020) | *Presenter* | *Security for Costs*
- 9th Annual Investment Treaty Arbitration Conference, hosted by the Czech Republic Ministry of Finance, Prague (October 2019) | *Presenter* | *The Perennial Problem of Legitimate Expectations*
- Juris Conferences, 13th Annual Conference on Investment Treaty Arbitration, Washington DC (May 2019) | *Presenter* | *Energy Charter Treaty Arbitrations after Achmea*
- 8th Annual Investment Treaty Arbitration Conference, hosted by the Czech Republic Ministry of Finance, Prague (October 2018)
- 7th Annual Investment Treaty Arbitration Conference, hosted by the Czech Republic Ministry of Finance, Prague (October 2017)
- Global Arbitration Review GAR Live, New York (September 2017)
- Columbia Law School, Center on Sustainable Investment (CCSI), New York (February 2017)
- 6th Annual Investment Treaty Arbitration Conference, hosted by the Czech Republic Ministry of Finance, Prague (October 2016)

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- Global Arbitration Review GAR Live, New York (September 2016)
- Juris Conferences, Fifth Annual Conference on Damages in International Arbitration, Washington DC (September 2016)
- University of Houston Law Center, Third Annual Houston Conference on Oil and Gas Investment, Houston, Texas (September 2016)
- Young ICCA, Tirana Albania (September 2016)
- 5th Annual Investment Treaty Arbitration Conference, hosted by the Czech Republic Ministry of Finance, Prague (October 2015)
- International Law Institute, Washington DC (December 2014)
- 4th Annual Investment Treaty Arbitration Conference, hosted by the Czech Republic Ministry of Finance, Prague (October 2014)
- Juris Conferences, Third Annual Damages in International Arbitration, New York (October 2014)
- Global Arbitration Review GAR Live, New York (September 2014) | *Presenter | The Year in Review: Developments in International Arbitration*
- Institute for Transnational Arbitration, ITA-IEL Joint Winter Forum, International Energy Arbitration, Houston, Texas (February 2014) | *Presenter | Energy Arbitrations with State Enterprises*
- International Law Institute, Washington DC (December 2013) | *Faculty | Expropriation and Compensation in International Arbitration*
- Juris Conferences, Second Annual Conference on Damages in International Arbitration, Washington DC (November 2013) | *Presenter | Perspectives on Advocacy*
- 3rd Annual Investment Treaty Arbitration Conference, hosted by the Czech Republic Ministry of Finance, Prague (October 2013) | *Presenter*
- Juris Conferences, 7th Annual Conference on Investment Treaty Arbitration, Washington DC (April 2013) | *Presenter | Calculating Damages in Energy Disputes*
- Global Arbitration Review GAR Live, London (November 2012) | *Presenter | Third-Party Funding in International Arbitration*
- 2nd Annual Investment Treaty Arbitration Conference, hosted by the Czech Republic Ministry of Finance, Prague (October 2012) | *Presenter | Fair and Equitable Treatment Standards under Bilateral Investment Treaties*

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- Juris Conferences, Damages in International Arbitration, New York (October 2012) | *Presenter* | *Legal Principles and Burden of Proof for Damages*
- International Law Institute, Washington DC (November 2011) | *Faculty* | *Program on Investment Treaties and Investor State Arbitration*
- ABA Third Annual Conference on the Resolution of CIS-Related Business Disputes, Moscow, Russia (September 2011) | *Presenter* | *States and State Entities as Parties to Arbitration*
- Juris Conferences, 5th Annual Conference on Investment Treaty Arbitration, Washington DC (April 2011) | *Presenter* | *The Future of ICSID Arbitrations*
- Columbia Law School (November 2010) | *Presenter* | *Foreign Investors vs. Host States: Shifting Trends in Investment Arbitration*
- American University Washington College of Law's Seventh Annual Seminar on International Commercial Arbitration, Washington DC (October 2010) | *Presenter* | *How to Handle Competition Issues*