

# Key Concepts of International Arbitration

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# Agenda

- 1. Evolution of international arbitration
- 2. Geography of international arbitration
- 3. Jurisdiction of arbitral tribunals
- 4. Consent and arbitration agreement
- 5. Key procedural elements: seat, interim measures, expedited proceedings
- 6. Arbitrators
- 7. Applicable law
- 8. Awards and review mechanisms
- 9. Enforcement
- 10. Relationship between arbitration tribunals and courts



### **Evolution of International Arbitration**



#### Medieval & Renaissance periods

- Traders used local trade associations
  - The Hanseatic League arbitration system to resolve disputes among its members

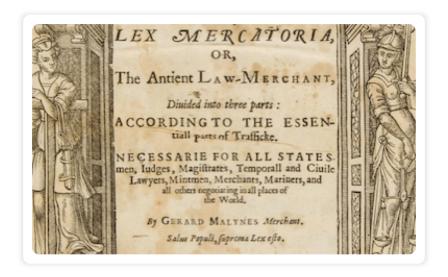


#### State-State arbitration

- Jay Treaty between the United States and Great Britain (1794)
- Creation of the Permanent Court of Arbitration (PCA) in 1899



## **Evolution of Applicable Law**





- Merchants accept judgements of fellow merchants; the role of reputation
  - No supervision or intervention of domestic courts



#### Domestic law

- States bacame bigger and 'nationalised' dispute settlement procedures
- National law and courts play a key role



# Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR)

Non-binding ADR Processes without Third- party Intervention	Non- Binding ADR Processes with Third-party Intervention	Binding ADR Processes
<ul> <li>Negotiation (including diplomatic)</li> <li>Cooling off periods</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Mediation</li> <li>Mini-trial</li> <li>Conciliation</li> <li>Stakeholder dialogue</li> <li>Early neutral evaluation</li> <li>Judicial settlement conference</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Expert determination</li> <li>Arbitration</li> <li>Med-arb (hybrid process)</li> </ul>



### Why ADR is Widely Used?



Can be quick and inexpensive



inexpensive



But can be difficult if the parties and the mediator/conciliator do not share a similar cultural background



Can be less confrontational: instead of arbitration in some cultures people prefer face-saving, mutually agreeable compromises to awards proclaiming one party's rights

If other ADR procedures fail, parties may have to refer to arbitration (ad hoc or institutional)



### Mediation and Conciliation

#### Mediation

persuade the parties to focus on their real interests, mediator does not assume sole responsibility for generating solutions but facilitates the parties' own discussion and representation of their own interests

- Singapore Mediation Convention
- WIPO Mediation Rules
- UNCITRAL Model Law on International Commercial Mediation

#### Conciliation

the main role is to make a proposal for settlement, the conciliator plays a relatively direct role in the actual resolution of a dispute and even advises the parties on certain solutions by making proposals for settlement

- UNCITRAL Conciliation Rules
- ICSID Conciliation Rules
- United Nations Model Rules for the Conciliation of Disputes between States





# Expert Determination & Dispute Review Boards

#### **Expert Determination**

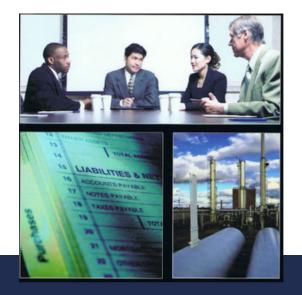
an independent third party who is an expert in the subject to be considered appointed to decide the dispute. The expert's decision is binding on the parties, unless agreed otherwise at the outset

Particularly suited to valuation disputes and technical issues rather than detailed legal issues

#### **Dispute Review Boards**

an independent panel of impartial professionals providing guidance to resolve project issues and mitigate their impact For example, the Channel Tunnel Project any dispute had

first to be referred to the Panel of experts and them to ICC arbitration. Similar to expert determination.





### Characteristics of Arbitration

No official definition

Dispute settlement

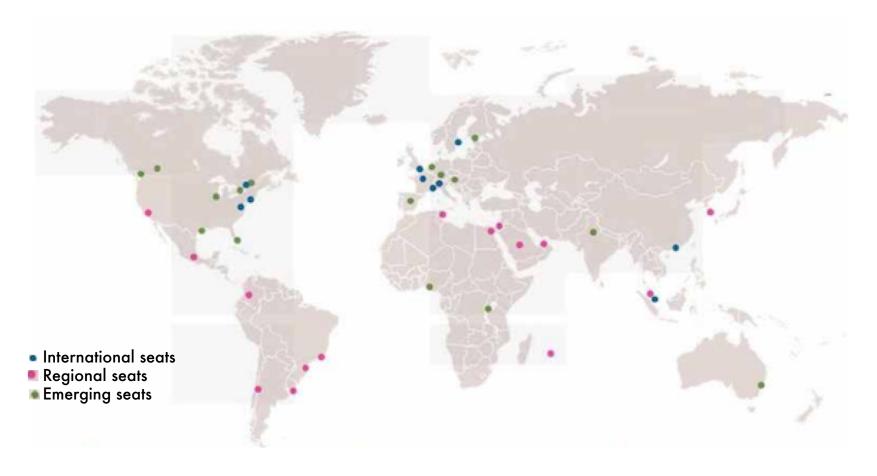
Binding nature

Consensual nature (jurisdiction, withdrawal)

Out of domestic courts



### **International Arbitration Seats**



<u>Source: International Bar Association, The Current State and Future of International Arbitration:</u>
<u>Regional Perspectives IBA Arb 40 Subcommittee (2015)</u>



### **Top-10 Arbitration Rules**

	Arbitration rules	Cases administered in 2022
1.	American Arbitration Association (AAA)	10,273
2.	China International Economic and Trade Arbitration Commission (CIETAC)	4,086
3.	■London Maritime Arbitrators Association (LMAA)	1,807
4.	■International Chamber of Commerce (ICC)	710
5.	Singapore International Arbitration Centre (SIAC)	357
6.	■International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID)	346
7	Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre	344
8.	™The London Court of International Arbitration (LCIA)	327
9.	Permanent Court of Arbitration (PCA)	204
10.	Stockholm Chamber of Commerce (SCC)	143









### Pros and Cons of Arbitration

#### **Pros**

- Allows expert analysis of complex issues
- Less formal and tailored proceedings
- Sometimes faster (particularly with expedited procedure)
- Almost always in a "neutral" country
- Confidential
- Greater finality

#### Cons

- Very limited judicial review (no "appeal")
- Harder to delay results
- Uncertain rules and procedures
- Limited checks on arbitrator's powers
- Experience of arbitrators often differs widely



### The Agreement to Arbitrate

- Arbitration clause ("model clauses")
- Submission agreement (agreement after a dispute has actually arisen)
- Should in "in writing" under the New York Convention
- Once agreed the parties may not unilaterally withdraw
- Enforcement of arbitration agreement





## Arbitrability

#### **Arbitrability**

- The need to have a genuine dispute
- A real disagreement rather than a fake dispute



#### Examples of non-arbitrable disputes:

- Competition (antitrust) law
- Securities law
- Criminal law
- The rationale: to benefit not only the parties but society at large



### **Arbitration Clause Elements**

- Choice of procedural rules
- Governing law
- The seat of arbitration
- Language
- Arbitral tribunal formation and composition
- Confidentiality

#### Recommended Clauses

#### Future disputes

For contracting parties who wish to have future disputes referred to arbitration under the LCIA Rules, the following clause is recommended. Words/spaces in square brackets should be deleted/completed as appropriate.

"Any dispute arising out of or in connection with this contract, including any question regarding its existence, validity or termination, shall be referred to and finally resolved by arbitration under the LCIA Rules, which Rules are deemed to be incorporated by reference into this clause.

The number of arbitrators shall be [one/three].

The seat, or legal place, of arbitration shall be (City and/or Country).

The language to be used in the arbitral proceedings shall be [ ].

The governing law of the contract shall be the substantive law of [ ]."



## Types of Jurisdiction

Jurisdiction: the authority to hear and decide

type of jurisdiction	definition	examples
Subject matter jurisdiction	disputes based on the specific issues or topics outlined in the arbitration agreement	disputes arising out of a contract, disputes arising out of an investment
Personal jurisdiction	parties bound by the arbitration agreement (typically those named in the agreement)	specific states, investors, individuals
Temporal jurisdiction	the arbitration agreement must have been valid and in effect at the time the dispute arose	Specific limits in the arbitration clause, limitation periods, post-termination





## Two Types of Arbitration



Ad hoc



Institutional



### Applicable Law in Arbitration

#### Law which governs

- The agreement to arbitrate
- Provisional measures
- The actual arbitration proceedings
- Law applicable to substance of the dispute
- Law applicable to international recognition and enforcement of awards

#### The role of domestic law

- Enforce an agreement to arbitrate
- Provisional measures
- Challenging awards
- Recognition and enforcement of awards



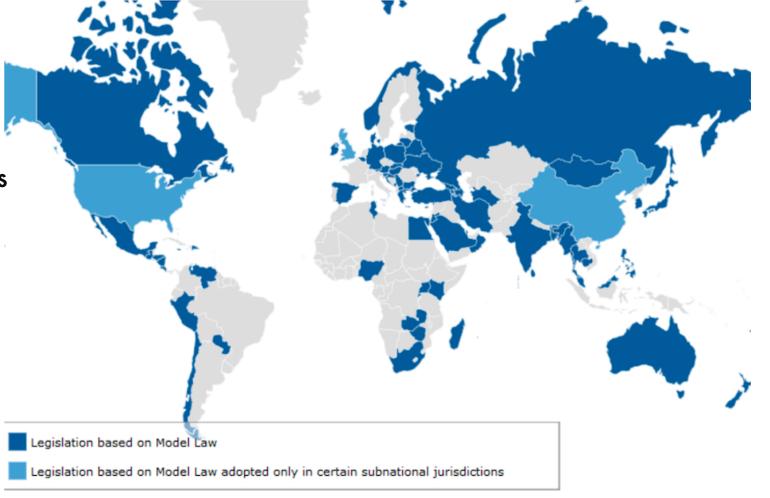


# Model Law on International Commercial Arbitration (1985)

Harmonization of arbitration laws

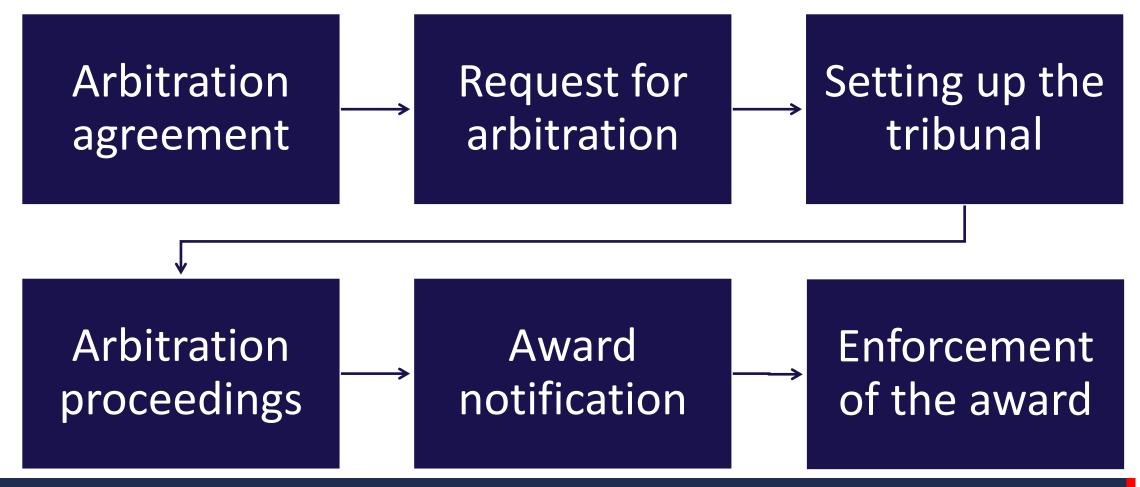
Modernization of arbitration practices

- Flexibility and party autonomy
- Encouragement of arbitrationfriendly legal environment
- Adaptability



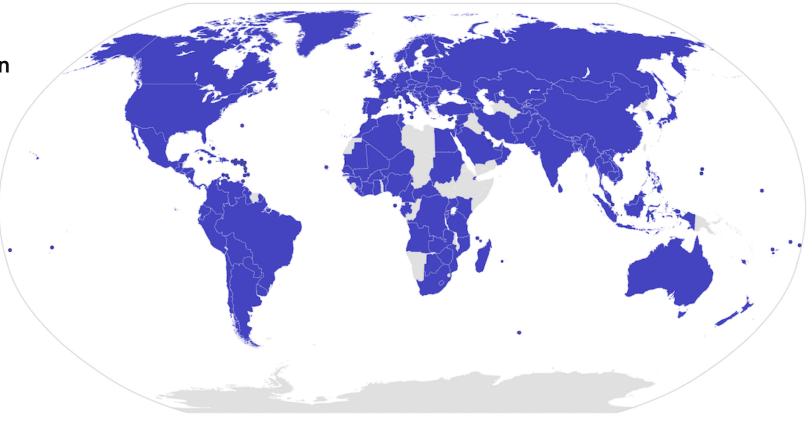


### The Arbitration Process



### New York Convention (1958)

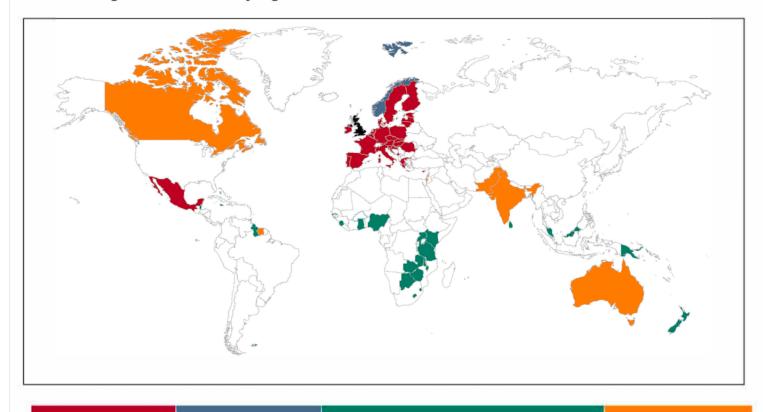
- Enforcement of arbitral awards in different countries
- Ratified by over 170 states
- The backbone of international arbitration
- Limited grounds for refusal of enforcement
- Minimization of local bias





# **Enforcement of English Judgments**

States and territories with which England and Wales have reciprocal enforcement arrangements for court judgments



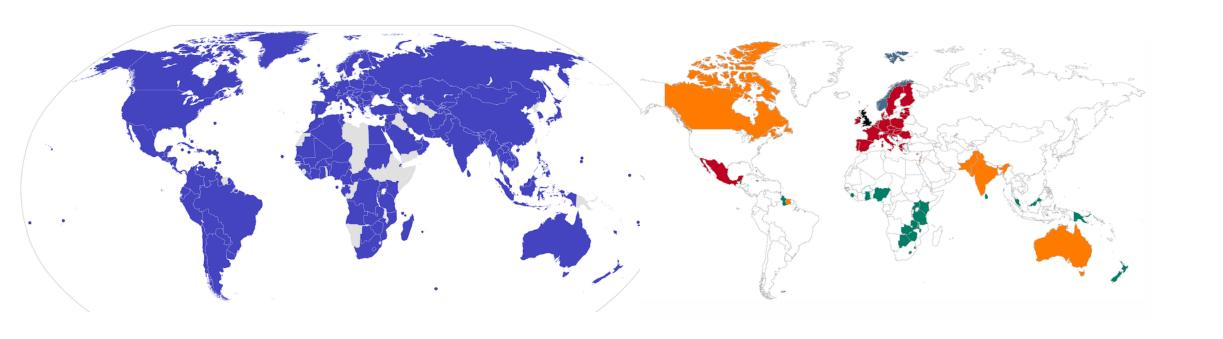
Hague Convention on Choice of Court Agreements

Norway-UK Bilateral Treaty\* Administration of Justice Act 1920 Foreign Judgments (Reciprocal Enforcement) Act 1933

source



# Arbitration Awards v Court Judgements





Recognition and Enforcement of Arbitral Awards

- New York Convention's Role
- Other regimes
- National Implementation
- Challenges and Defenses

			COUNTY
	STATE OF		
		100	
PLAINTIFF		)	
		)	
VS.		) (	Case No
		)	
		. )	
DEFENDANT	rs		
	COMPLAINT TO	DENFORCE ARBITR	ATION AWARD
		Plaintiff, files this Com	aplaint to enforce arbitration awar
			ad would state in support of this
against Defen	dant,	ar ar	id would state in support of this
complaint the	following:		
1.	This Court has jurisdi	ction of this proceeding	pursuant to the Statutes and Cour
Dules of the C			
ranes of the S	tate of		
		50	whose address in
2.	Plaintiff is a resident	50	
2.	Plaintiff is a resident	of County,	County,
2.	Plaintiff is a resident Defendant i whose resident	of County, s a resident of dence address is	County, Defendant may be
2.	Plaintiff is a resident Defendant i whose resident	of County, s a resident of dence address is applicable Court Rules a	County, Defendant may be
served with pr	Plaintiff is a resident Defendant i whose residences pursuant to the a	of County, s a resident of dence address is applicable Court Rules a	County, Defendant may be
served with pr address at	Plaintiff is a resident Defendant i whose residences pursuant to the a	of County, s a resident of dence address is applicable Court Rules a	County, Defendant may be this residence address or business d Defendant agreed to settle a
served with pr address at	Plaintiff is a resident, Defendant i whose resincess pursuant to the a On or about en them by binding art	of County, s a resident of dence address is applicable Court Rules a, Plaintiff an	County, Defendant may be this residence address or business d Defendant agreed to settle a
served with preaddress at	Plaintiff is a resident, Defendant i whose resincess pursuant to the a On or about en them by binding art	of County, s a resident of dence address is applicable Court Rules a, Plaintiff an oitration. The dispute wo	. Defendant may be t his residence address or business d Defendant agreed to settle a as arbitrated by arbitrator,



### Role of National Courts

- Jurisdictional Challenges
- Enforcement of Awards
- Setting Aside Awards





#### INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR SETTLEMENT OF INVESTMENT DISPUTES

### **Arbitration Awards**

- Binding decisions of tribunals
- Interim and final
- Jurisdiction and merits
- Awards on quantum, costs, other procedural aspects
- Final award contents: reasoning, decision, costs

#### WESTWATER RESOURCES, INC.

Claimant

v.

#### THE REPUBLIC OF TÜRKIYE

Respondent

ICSID Case No. ARB/18/46

#### AWARD

Members of the Tribunal

Honourable Ian Binnie, C.C., K.C. Professor Robert G. Volterra, Co-Arbitrator Professor Brigitte Stem, Co-Arbitrator

> Secretary to the Tribunal Anneliese Fleckenstein

Date of dispatch to the Parties: 3 March 2023



# Public and Private Adjudication

Procedural and substantive aspects of adjudication:

Ownership and funding

Appointment and tenure of adjudicators

Requirement on diversity of adjudicators

Adjudicators' background

Transparency and confidentiality

Applicable law

Setting precedents

Internal review mechanisms

External review mechanisms



# Transparency

Institution	Commencement of proceedings	Publication of key documents	Submission by a third party	Submission by a non-disputing party	Hearings	Disclosing the votes of the sitting panels	Publication of separate opinions
ICJ	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
ECtHR	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
ICSID	varies	varies	varies	varies	varies	varies	varies
ICC	no	no	no	no	no	no	no
SIAC	no	no	no	no	no	no	no



# Ownership and Funding of Institutions

public adjudication	hybrid adjudication	private adjudication
ICJ EC†HR	ICSID	ICC SIAC
Institutions are established by and funded by states with no or nominal fees for the disputing parties	Institution established by states, funded primarily by fees of parties (states and investors) but subsidized by an intergovernmental organization	Institutions are established by and funded by private actors with significant fees for the parties



# Adjudicators

hybrid adjudication	private adjudication
ICSID	ICC SIAC
Adjudicators appointed by parties or the institution for each case	Adjudicators appointed by parties or the institution for each case
No requirements on diversity of adjudicators on geographic and development level of the country of origin	No requirements on diversity of adjudicators on geographic and development level of the country of origin
Adjudicators public private law and/or private practice	Adjudicators primarily have private law and private practice background
	Adjudicators appointed by parties or the institution for each case  No requirements on diversity of adjudicators on geographic and development level of the country of origin  Adjudicators public private



### Applicable Law & Role of Precedent

public adjudication	hybrid adjudication	private adjudication
ICJ EC+HR	ICSID	ICC SIAC
Disputes are resolved primarily on the basis of pubic law with open-ended principles playing the most important role	Disputes are resolved on the basis of public and private national and international law with open-ended principles playing the most important	Disputes are resolved primarily on the basis of private national law rules playing the most important role
Decisions in earlier cases often serve as guidance for future cases	Decisions in earlier cases often serve as guidance for future cases	Decisions in earlier cases do not serve as guidance for future cases





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