

# Durham Summer Programme on International Arbitration

18-22 August, 2025



**hosted by**  
**the Durham International Dispute Resolution Institute**

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# Overview

This Programme will cover “International Commercial Arbitration” (ICA), “Investment Treaty Arbitration” (ITA), contracts, and commercial agreements.

ICA is essentially a private resolution forum between private parties (or States acting in a private capacity, *jure gestionis*), where the subject-matter of the dispute often stems from a “commercial” contract or undertaking of some sort. When studying ICA, we will largely focus on the process of arbitration and not on the subject matter. This Programme includes lectures on:

- Introduction to international arbitration
- The arbitration agreement
- The arbitrators
- The arbitration procedure
- The arbitral award
- Post-award proceedings

ITA, on the other hand, is a form of arbitration between foreign investors and host States regarding foreign direct investment (FDI). The subject-matter is arbitrated under public international law, more specifically international investment law.

International investment law is a sub-specie of international economic law. The investor requests arbitration against the host State pursuant to alleged violations of international investment law as found in various international investment agreements (IIAs) or foreign direct investment laws.

The field of investment treaty arbitration has grown exponentially the last century. This Programme includes lectures on:

- Introduction to investment treaty arbitration
- Basics of international investment law
- Jurisdictional features of investment treaty arbitration
- Enforcing arbitral awards against host States

Finally, this Programme includes lectures on:

- Introduction to English contract law
- Introduction to US contract law
- United Nations Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods (CISG)

**Upon conclusion of the Summer Programme, all participants shall receive a Certificate of Attendance.**

# Presenters Biography

## **Professor Lei Chen**

Lei Chen is Chair in International Arbitration and Chinese Law and Director of Durham International Dispute Resolution Institute at Durham University, UK. Professor Chen's research areas are comparative private and commercial law and international arbitration. Prof Chen is a Titular Member of the International Academy of Comparative Law and a Fellow of the European Academy of Sciences and Arts.

He is on the panel of arbitrators and mediators such as LCIA, LMAA, ICC UK, HKIAC, DIAC, SIMC, SCIA, KCAB, CIETAC, BAC, SHIAC, AIAC, CAA, etc. Prof Chen is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators and a Fellow of the Hong Kong Institute of Arbitrators. He is called to the Bar of England and Wales in 2025. He frequently provides expert opinions on Chinese law across multiple arbitration institutions and courts in Hong Kong, PCA (Hague), Washington DC, Singapore, and England. He is a member of Newmans Row, a hub of independent arbitrators in London.

In October 2025, he will be a scholar-in-residence at Wilmer Hale London Office.

## **Dr Ylli Dautaj**

Ylli Dautaj currently teaches as an Associate Professor in Commercial Law and Commercial Arbitration at Durham Law School. He was previously an Associate Professor with Penn State Law and before that a lecturer in commercial law at Brunel University London. Meanwhile, he teaches as an adjunct professor at Uppsala University.

Ylli graduated with a PhD from University of Edinburgh (UK) as a stipendiary scholar of the Scottish Graduate School for Arts & Humanities.

Ylli practices out of Stockholm, Sweden, at DER Disputes. He represents clients in both litigation and arbitration, domestic and international, investment and commercial. He represents individuals, private enterprises, State-owned enterprises, and States in various litigation matters and international arbitrations, including matters incidental or ancillary to arbitration.

Ylli has published extensively with various leading law journals, books, and book chapters; for example, with Kluwer International, Brill Research Perspectives, Northwestern Journal of International Law and Business, Fordham International Law Journal, Cornell International Law Journal, The International Lawyer, Manchester Journal of International Law, American Review of International Arbitration, Cardozo Journal of Conflict Resolution, Indiana Journal of Global Legal Studies, etc.



**Dr Can  
Eken**

Can Eken currently serves as an assistant professor at Durham Law School. He is a triple-qualified lawyer, admitted in California, Turkey, and England and Wales. He is also a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators. He was a visiting scholar at Stanford University and the Max Planck Institute in Luxembourg for Procedural Law.

He has authored numerous publications on international commercial arbitration, investment law, third-party funding, and online dispute resolution. He is the recipient of the 2021 Postgraduate Research Output Award from the Chinese University of Hong Kong.

Can is regularly invited to speak in international conferences and offer consultancy services to law firms on international arbitration as well as law matters in California and Turkey.

Prior to joining the faculty at Durham, he was a practising lawyer in Turkey. He completed a PhD degree at the Faculty of Law at the Chinese University of Hong Kong. He also completed the two LLM degrees, one from the London School of Economics and Political Science and another from Dokuz Eylul University, where he also obtained a bachelor's degree in law with high honours.

**Dr John  
Fellas**

John Fellas is an honorary professor at Durham Law School and an adjunct professor of international commercial arbitration at New York University School of Law. John received a B.A. (Hons.) in law from the University of Durham (1983), and both an LL.M. (1985) and an S.J.D. (1989) from Harvard Law School.

John is currently a full-time arbitrator at Fellas Arbitration. He has over three decades of experience in international dispute resolution, and has acted as counsel and has served as co-arbitrator, chair or sole arbitrator in arbitrations all over the world, under all the major arbitration rules, and across a range of sectors. John is recognized as a leading international arbitrator by all the major legal directories, including Chambers USA where he is identified as “one of the best—his reputation is phenomenal and deserved” and Who's Who Legal where he is described as being “in massive demand as an independent arbitrator.”

He was recognized by Best Lawyers as the Best Lawyer in New York for International Commercial Arbitration in 2019, and the Best Lawyer in New York for International Governmental Arbitration in 2022. In 2025, John received the Global Arbitration Review annual award for being the Best Prepared/Most Responsive Arbitrator.

**Professor  
Geneviève  
Helleringer**

Geneviève Helleringer (JD Columbia, MSc Oxford, PhD Sorbonne, MBA Essec, Sciences Po Paris) is a law professor at Oxford University and deputy director of the Institute for European and Comparative Law. She is a Fellow of Reuben College, Oxford. Geneviève is also a visiting professor at Paris-Panthéon-Assas and Columbia Law Schools.

Her research is comparative (UK, US, France and EU) and interdisciplinary (law & behavioural economics). It focuses on commercial contracts, transnational commercial law and dispute resolution as well as corporate and financial governance: how people and organisations structure their relations, set their own rules, and solve their disputes.

Geneviève is an elected member of the American Law Institute and vice-chair of ECGL. Geneviève has practical corporate and transactional experience in New York, Paris and Tokyo (member of the New York and Paris Bars). She acts as an international expert, as well as a mediator and arbitrator.

**Professor Kaj  
Hobér**

Kaj Hobér is a leading and distinguished figure in the field of international arbitration (commercial and investment). He has been the chair, sole arbitrator, and party-appointed arbitrator in over 200 arbitration matters pursuant to various rules and ad hoc matters. He was previously a partner with the leading Nordic law firm, Mannheimer Swartling and is an Associate Member with 3 Verulam Buildings Gray's Inn, London. He has acted as counsel in several hundreds of international arbitration matters, commercial and investment.

As a scholar, professor Hobér not only taught at Uppsala University for many years, where he also established the LLM programme on ITA. Kaj has published extensively – including seminal scholarship such as “Res Judicata and Lis Pendens in International Arbitration” (Brill, The Hague Academy Collected Courses), “International Commercial Arbitration in Sweden” (Oxford), “The Energy Charter Treaty – A Commentary” (Oxford), and “Investment Treaty Arbitration – Problems and Exercises” (Edgar).

**Mr Samuel  
Pape**

Samuel Pape is a leading international dispute resolution lawyer. As a strategic advisor and trial advocate, he handles bet-the-company cases in international commercial and investment treaty arbitration, as well as in litigation.

Drawing on 15 years of experience, he represents multinational companies, private equity funds, State parties, and financial institutions in disputes across a range of sectors including energy, mining, banking, and technology. His experience includes acting in M&A, shareholder, commercial and financial disputes, as well as in transnational tort class actions.

Widely recognized as a leading dispute resolution lawyer of his generation, Samuel has acted in over 50 international arbitration and litigation proceedings. He is ranked as a Next Generation Partner by The Legal 500 UK 2025 and a Future Leader in Arbitration by Who's Who Legal / Lexology 2025.

Samuel is bilingual in English and French and also speaks Spanish and Portuguese. He frequently handles disputes in francophone jurisdictions as well as in Latin America, and is noted for having "a fine record in the region" by The Legal 500 Latin America.

An active member of the international arbitration community, Samuel serves on the executive board of the Institute for Transnational Arbitration and the editorial board of the European Investment Law and Arbitration Review. He is frequently invited to lecture at universities and to speak on panels on international arbitration.

Through his pro bono efforts, Samuel is committed to advancing access to justice, serving as a trustee of the Free Representation Unit, a London-based charity providing free legal representation to those in need.

**Justice  
Anselmo  
Reyes**

Anselmo Reyes practises as an arbitrator. He was Professor of Legal Practice at Hong Kong University from 2012 to 2018. Before that, he was a judge of the Hong Kong High Court from 2003 to 2012, when he oversaw the Construction and Arbitration List (2004 to 2008) and the Commercial and Admiralty Lists (2008 to 2012).

He was Representative of the Hague Conference on Private International Law's Regional Office for the Asia Pacific from 2013 to 2017. He became an International Judge of the Singapore International Commercial Court in 2015 and a member of the International Commercial Expert Committee of the China International Commercial Court in 2018. He is an Overseas Benchers of the Inner Temple.

He is an honorary professor with Durham Law School.

# Audience

Government officials

Lawyers in private practice

Lawyers, case officers and economists working for the government, municipality, State organs or other equivalent authorities

In-house lawyers working in international businesses, banks, NGO:s, IO:s, State-Owned Entities, etc

Consultants and advisors on international investment law and international arbitration

Academics

Policy-makers

Journalists

Students



# Schedule

**\*\*The readings will be provided for through a cloud sharing, to be made available to all participants prior to commencing the summer programme\*\***

## Monday 18 August International Commercial Arbitration

**09:00 – 09:30: Coffee/Tea**

**9:30am – 10:00am: Introduction to The Program**

Professor: Professor Lei Chen

**10.15am – 11:30am: Why, What, and How of International Commercial Arbitration**

Professor: Dr Ylli Dautaj

Reading list:

1. W. Fox & Y. Dautaj, Chapter 9 in International Commercial Agreements, Kluwer International 2023 (International Commercial Arbitration: Commencing Arbitration, the Hearing, and the Award)
2. M. Moses, Chapter 1, *Introduction to International Commercial Arbitration*

**11.45am – 12:45pm: The Sources, Laws, and Rules**

Professor: Dr Ylli Dautaj

Reading list:

1. Enka Insaat Ve Sanayi A.S. (Respondent) v OOO Insurance Company Chubb (Appellant), UKSC 2020

**12:45 – 14:30: Lunch**

**14:30pm – 15.45 pm: The arbitral Agreement**

Professor: Professor Geneviève Helleringer

Reading list:

1. UNCITRAL, Dispute Settlement – 5.2 The Arbitration Agreement, pp 1-27, 33-39

**15:45 – 16:00: Coffee/Tea**

**16:00pm – 17.00 pm: The Arbitrators**

Professor: Professor Geneviève Helleringer

Reading list:

1. IBA Guidelines on Conflicts of Interest in International Arbitration (2024)

# Tuesday 19 August 2025

## Investment Treaty Arbitration

**09:00 – 09:30: Coffee/Tea**

**9:30am – 11:00am: The Why, What, and How of Investment Treaty Arbitration**

Professor: Dr Ylli Dautaj

Reading list:

1. W. Fox & Y. Dautaj, Chapter 13 in International Commercial Agreements, Kluwer International 2023 (FDI, IIL, and ISDS)
2. Anthony Vanduzer & Patrick Leblond (eds), Promoting and Managing International Investment: Towards an Integrated Policy, Routledge, 2020

**11.15am – 12:30am: Jurisdiction in Investment Treaty Arbitration – Ratione Personae (Investor)**

Professor: Dr Ylli Dautaj

Reading list:

1. Tokios Tokelés v. Ukraine, ICSID 2004
2. Beijing Construction v Yemen, ICSID 2017

**12:30 – 13:30: Lunch**

**13.30am – 14:30am: Jurisdiction in Investment Treaty Arbitration – Ratione Materiae (Investment)**

Professor: Mr Samuel Pape

Reading list:

1. UNCITRAL, Dispute Settlement – 2.5 Requirements Ratione Materiae, pp 1-27

**14.45am – 15:45pm: Substantive Treatment (I) – Non-Discrimination, NTS, MFN**

Professor: Mr Samuel Pape

Reading list:

1. C. Schreuer, Chapter 10 Protection against Arbitrary or Discriminatory Measures (2023)
2. UNCTAD, Most-Favoured Nation Treatment 2010, pp iv-xiii, 1-33

**15:45 – 16:00: Coffee/Tea**

## **16.00am - 17:00pm: Reforming ISDS: Lessons from the International Commercial Court**

Professor: Justice Anselmo Reyes

Reading list:

1. A Reyes, International Commercial Courts and Investor-State Dispute Settlement

# Wednesday 20 August 2025

## International Commercial Arbitration, Contracts & Commercial Law

**09:00 – 09:30: Coffee/Tea**

**9:30am – 10.30 am: The Arbitration Process (I)**

Professor: Dr John Fellas

Reading list:

1. ICC Arbitration Rules: <https://iccwbo.org/dispute-resolution/dispute-resolution-services/arbitration/rules-procedure/2021-arbitration-rules/>
2. UNCITRAL Arbitration Rules: <https://uncitral.un.org/en/texts/arbitration/contractualtexts/arbitration>

**10:45 am – 12.00 pm: The Arbitration Process (II)**

Professor: Dr John Fellas

Reading list:

1. Ibid from previous class

**12:00 – 13:00: Lunch**

**13:00pm – 14:00pm: English Contract Law**

Professor: Professor Lei Chen

Reading list:

1. McKendrick, E. Contract Law: Text, Cases and Materials. Oxford: Oxford University Press. Part IV Remedies for Breach

**14:15pm – 15:15pm: US Contract Law & CISG**

Professor: Dr Ylli Dautaj

Reading list:

1. 1980 United Nations Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods (CISG) ahead of class

**18:00: College dinner at Castle**

# Thursday 21 August 2025

## Investment Treaty Arbitration & Post-Award Proceedings

**08:30 – 09:00: Coffee/Tea**

**09:00am – 10:30pm: Substantive Treatment (II) – Expropriation and FET**

Professor: Professor Kaj Hobér

Reading list:

1. J Sicard-Mirabal & Y Derains, Introduction to Investor-State Arbitration, Kluwer International 2018, chapter 5, pp 116-132, chapter 6, pp 135-145

**11.00pm – 12:00pm: State Responsibility and Admissibility**

Professor: Professor Kaj Hobér

Reading list:

1. M. Waibel, Investment Arbitration: Jurisdiction and Admissibility, Cambridge Legal Studies Research Paper Series 2014, pp 65-80

**12:00 – 13:00: Lunch**

**13:00am – 14:00pm: Corruption and Illegality in ISDS**

Professor: Justice Anselmo Reyes

Reading list:

1. A Reyes, The Use of Domestic Law to Regulate the Conduct of Individuals, Corporations and Governments Extraterritorially, 2024, 441 Hague Academy of International Law Recueil des cours 357-495 <https://brill.com/display/title/71753>

**14:00 – 15:30: Coffee/Tea**

**15:30pm – 17:00pm: Post-Award Proceedings: Challenges & Enforcement**

Professor: Justice Anselmo Reyes

Reading list:



1. A Reyes, Chapter 5, Judicial support of international commercial arbitration under the Model Law: a précis of available options for judges, 2023, in Gulati, John, and Köhler eds, *The Elgar Companion to UNCITRAL* (Elgar, 2023) · A Reyes, *Sovereign Immunity, Domestic Immunity and State-Owned Enterprises* 2019 to be discussed in light of more recent decisions in [2023] SGHC(I) 7; [2023] SGCA(I) 10; and [2025] SGHC(I) 9

# Friday 22 August 2025

## Practical Arbitration Skills

### ***For non-Chuo participants (mock-arbitration)***

Professor: Justice Anselmo Reyes

Reading list:

1. 2025 DLS Summer Programme on International Arbitration Moot Problem
2. UNCITRAL Arbitration Rules (1985, revised 2010)

**09:00 – 09:30: Coffee/Tea**

**09:30am – 10.15am: Mini Moot in divided groups**

**10:30am – 12:00am: Mini Moot in divided groups**

**12:00am – 13:00pm: Lunch**

**13:30pm - 15:00pm: Mini-Moot in groups**

**15:30 pm - Organized Tour**

### ***Chuo University Students (presentations)***

Professor: Dr Can Eken

**09:00 – 09:30: Coffee/Tea**

**09:30am – 10.15am: Presentation in divided groups**

**10:30am – 12:00am: Presentations in divided groups**

**12:00am – 13:00pm: Lunch**

**13:30pm - 15:00pm: Presentation in groups**

**15:30pm: Organized Tour in Durham**

# Price

Please see the below pricing for our Summer School 2025:

- £650 GBP – DLS students and alumni
- £850 GBP – Non-DLS students
- £950 GBP – Professionals

## About Durham International Dispute Resolution Institute

The Durham International Dispute Resolution Institute (DIDRI) contributes to the University's goal of producing world-leading and world-changing research. It strives to become the premier research Centre in international dispute resolution. The Centre disseminates research findings through executive education, providing a platform for knowledge exchange among leading scholars and practitioners, while cultivating a cooperative research culture.

Through its summer courses and LLM in International Dispute Resolution, DIDRI provides intellectually challenging, cohesive, hands-on training in dispute resolution. DIDRI is committed to improving society by researching dispute resolution from policy, historical, doctrinal, theoretical, cultural, and comparative perspectives. The centre fosters knowledge exchange between legal practice and research, and undertakes consultancy and policy studies to inform governments, legislatures, and other stakeholders, generating impact beyond academia.

# Travelling to Durham

Durham is easily accessible by rail (regular direct train services from London Kings Cross and Edinburgh) and by road (and, by air, via Newcastle Airport).

## Accommodation

You can book accommodation, subject to availability, at, amongst other venues:

- [St Chad's College \(venue for the Gala Dinner\)](#),
- [Other University Colleges](#),
- [Travelodge](#),
- [Premier Inn](#),
- [Radisson Blu](#),
- [Durham Royal County \(Marriott Delta\)](#),
- [Hotel Indigo](#)

## Explore Durham

There are lots of things to do for a weekend in Durham: [Explore Durham](#)

They include visiting:

- [The Magna Carta Exhibition](#),
- [Durham Cathedral and Cloister](#),
- [Durham Castle](#),
- [The Oriental Museum](#),
- [Auckland Palace in Bishop Auckland](#)
- [The Botanic Gardens](#)
- [Visit the Historic Libraries](#)

Durham is also a train ride away from major cities such as Newcastle, Edinburgh, Manchester and London.

# Contact us

**For course information and enquiries, please contact either:**

- Professor Lei Chen

E: [lei.chen@durham.ac.uk](mailto:lei.chen@durham.ac.uk)

or

- Dr Ylli Dautaj:

E: [ylli.dautaj@durham.ac.uk](mailto:ylli.dautaj@durham.ac.uk)

**For all other enquiries, please contact either:**

- Jessica Banks, Business Development Manager

E: [jessica.banks@durham.ac.uk](mailto:jessica.banks@durham.ac.uk)

or

- Hayley Wharton, Operations Administrator

E: [law.operations@durham.ac.uk](mailto:law.operations@durham.ac.uk)

