



United Nations  
Commission on International Trade Law



MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION



# 2020 MGIMO UNCITRAL Days

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INTERNATIONAL TRADE LAW  
IN AN ERA OF TRANSFORMATION



United Nations  
Commission on International Trade Law



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## PROGRAM

# MGIMO UNCITRAL Days 2026

### Short program

**Plenary Session:** Current State of International Trade Law

**Session 1:** Work of UNCITRAL Working Group II (Dispute Settlement)

**Session 2:** Work of UNCITRAL Working Group III (ISDS Reform)

**Session 3:** Work of UNCITRAL Working Group IV (Electronic Commerce)

**Session 4:** Work of UNCITRAL Working Group V (Insolvency Law)

**Session 5:** UNCITRAL: A Young Perspective

May 25, 2026

### **Opening of the conference (10:00 – 10:15)**

- Welcome Address by Anatoly V. Torkunov, Rector of MGIMO University, Full Member of the Russian Academy of Sciences
- Representatives of UNCITRAL
- Representatives of the Russian Ministry of Economic Development

### **Plenary Session “Current State of International Trade Law” (10:15 – 12:15)**

The session provides a high-level overview of the modern global trade law landscape. Key discussion points will include the evolution of UNCITRAL's work and its key trends today, Russia's engagement with the Commission. The discussion will also cover the broader UN economic agenda and the significance of ongoing efforts to reform the investor-state dispute settlement (ISDS) system. Special tribute will be paid to the academic legacy of Professor Sergey Lebedev, who represented the USSR and Russia at UNCITRAL for many years.

**Moderator:**

**Nikita Molchakov** – Dean, International Law Faculty, MGIMO University

**Speakers:**

- **Anna Joubin-Bret** – Secretary, UNCITRAL;
- **Lev Gershanok** – Director, Legal Department, Ministry of Economic Development of the Russian Federation;
- **Alexey Kostin** – Professor, Sergey Lebedev Department of Private International and Civil Law, MGIMO University; Chairman, International Commercial Arbitration Court at the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of the Russian Federation;
- **Maria Andrianova** – Head, Sergey Lebedev Department of Private International and Civil Law, MGIMO University; Arbitrator, International Commercial Arbitration Court at the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of the Russian Federation;
- **Lidia Mikheeva** – Chair of the Council (Head), Private Law Research Centre under the President of the Russian Federation named after S.S. Alexeev;
- **Zoya Usoltseva** – Deputy Head of a Department – Head of a Division, General Department of International Legal Cooperation, Prosecutor General's Office of the Russian Federation;
- **Yulia Dragunova** – Commercial Counsellor, Russian Mission to the United Nations in New York;
- **Yulia Mullina** – CEO, International and Comparative Law Research Center;
- **Gustaf Möller** – Representative of Finland in UNCITRAL Working Group II.

## **Session 1**

### **Work of UNCITRAL Working Group II (Dispute Settlement)**

(12:45 – 13:50)

The Working Group is focusing on the problem of international commercial dispute settlement and the creation of procedural rules and model provisions for various conciliation and adversarial procedures – from arbitration and mediation to adjudication. The work on UNCITRAL Notes on Organizing Arbitral Proceedings regarding arbitral awards in electronic form and consideration of electronic notices of arbitration has been finished, and the Working Group is now discussing the new agenda. A decision is needed on what issues would be reasonable to address at the next Working Group Session, for instance, the use of AI in dispute resolution, or the development of procedural guidance on remote hearings in arbitration and the conduct of mediation, or other issues?

***Moderator:***

**Natalia Gaidaenko Schaer** – Associate Professor, Sergey Lebedev Department of Private International and Civil Law, MGIMO University

***Speakers:***

- **Neale Bergman** – Senior Legal Officer, UNCITRAL Secretariat (online);
- **Alexey Kostin** – Professor, Sergey Lebedev Department of Private International and Civil Law, MGIMO University; Chairman, International Commercial Arbitration Court at the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of the Russian Federation;
- **Valeria Senatorova** – CEO, Russian Arbitration Center;
- **Abdulkadir Gadzhiemenov** – Deputy Head of Division, Legal Department, Ministry of Economic Development;
- **Vladislav Koval** – Leading Advisor, Department of International Law and Cooperation, Ministry of Justice of the Russian Federation;
- **Ekaterina Rezchikova** – Leading Expert, International Arbitration Department, Arbitration Centre at the Russian Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs;
- **Elena Nosyreva** – Head, Department of Civil Law and Procedure, Voronezh State University.

## **Session 2**

### **Work of UNCITRAL Working Group III (ISDS Reform)**

(14:10 – 15:30)

The Working Group is discussing the possibility of creating a new ISDS mechanism, which would involve the establishment of a supranational judicial body for resolving disputes between investors and states, an appellate mechanism, and an advisory center. Also proposed for discussion are new procedural rules, including additions to the UNCITRAL Arbitration Rules, guidance on the use of mediation for ISDS, as well as model provisions on dispute settlement for bilateral investment treaties (BITs).

***Moderator:***

**Galina Pakerman** – Associate Professor, Sergey Lebedev Department of Private International and Civil Law, MGIMO University

***Speakers:***

- **Anna Joubin-Bret** – Secretary, UNCITRAL;
- **Corentin Baslé** – Legal Officer, UNCITRAL Secretariat (online);
- **Nikola Kovacikova** – Associate Legal Officer, UNCITRAL Secretariat (online);

- **Ilya Lifshits** – Professor, Department of International Law, Russian Foreign Trade Academy;
- **Oleg Skvortsov** – Professor, Department of Commercial Law, St. Petersburg State University;
- **Sofia Sarenkova** – Head of Public International Law, International and Comparative Law Research Center.

May 26, 2026

### **Session 3**

## **Work of UNCITRAL Working Group IV (Electronic Commerce)**

**(10:00 – 12:00)**

Automated contract conclusion and data supply agreements, cross-border recognition of data management and certification services, and current issues surrounding the use of AI in foreign economic activity. Can the advantages outweigh the risks? And which standards and model solutions might prove useful? What are the prospects for using cryptocurrency in international settlements under unilateral economic restrictions?

#### ***Moderator:***

**Maria Andrianova** – Head, Sergey Lebedev Department of Private International and Civil Law, MGIMO University; Arbitrator, International Commercial Arbitration Court at the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of the Russian Federation

#### ***Speakers:***

- **Nina Vilkova** – Professor, Department of Private International Law, Russian Foreign Trade Academy;
- **Alexander Kunzelmann** – Legal Officer, UNCITRAL Secretariat (online);
- **Arseny Topadze** – Lecturer, Sergey Lebedev Department of Private International and Civil Law, MGIMO University;
- **Anna Arhipova** – Associate Professor, Department of Law of Obligations, Private Law Research Centre under the President of the Russian Federation named after S.S. Alexeev;
- **Ekaterina Abrosimova** – Associate Professor, Sergey Lebedev Department of Private International and Civil Law, MGIMO University;
- **Nikolay Dmitrik** – Expert, International and Comparative Law Research Center.

## **Session 4**

### **Work of UNCITRAL Working Group V (Insolvency Law)**

**(12:30 – 14:30)**

The law applicable to insolvency proceedings, civil law issues of asset tracing and recovery in the context of cross-border insolvency proceedings, and the tools used in this area – what practices have emerged, and what contractual or other instruments are lacking to make cross-border insolvency mechanisms work, and work effectively?

#### ***Moderator:***

**Alexander Kostin** – Associate Professor, Sergey Lebedev Department of Private International and Civil Law, MGIMO University

#### ***Speakers:***

- **Samira Musayeva** – Senior Legal Officer, UNCITRAL Secretariat (online);
- **Elena Mokhova** – Deputy Head, School of Legal Regulation of Business, Higher School of Economics;
- **Rustem Miftahutdinov** – Associate Professor, Department of Commercial Law and Procedure, Private Law Research Centre under the President of the Russian Federation named after S.S. Alexeev;
- **Oleg Zaitsev** – Associate Professor, Department of Law of Obligations, Private Law Research Centre under the President of the Russian Federation named after S.S. Alexeev.

## **Session 5**

### **UNCITRAL: A Young Perspective**

**(15:00 – 16:30)**

At the final session of the conference, the floor will be given to young researchers and practitioners – those who will shape the legal landscape of tomorrow. The participants will present a fresh, unconventional perspective on the work of UNCITRAL and will discuss the key legal challenges that, in their estimation, international trade law will face in the coming decades.

#### • **Nina Pshennichnaya**

“UNCITRAL and Its Influence on the Development of Soft Law and the Lex Constructionis in the Russian Federation”

- **Artem Baboshin**

“The Problem of Unifying Approaches to the Concept of Digital Assets”

- **Natalia Mironova**

“The UN Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods: Uniformity of Application or Adaptability to Different Legal Systems? A Review of Recent National Court Practice on Article 8 of the Convention”

- **Nerses Nikoiev**

“Forum Shopping and Anti Suit Injunctions: Party Strategies in International Economic Disputes”

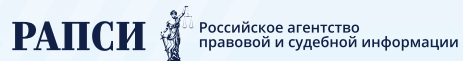
- **Grigory Zasovenko**

“Legal Certainty in International Trade as an Element of the Legal Regime Governing the Activities of Foreign Investors”

- **Andrey Chaika**

“Private Law Relations in Arbitration as a Justification for Award Form Autonomy vis-à-vis State Requirements”

## MEDIA PARTNERS



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