

Eighth Intersessional Meeting of UNCITRAL Working Group III Investor-State Dispute Settlement Reform

CONFERENCE GUIDE

Co-Hosts



联合国
贸易法委员会



中华人民共和国商务部
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE, P.R.C.

Co-Organizers



四川省人民政府
The People's Government of Sichuan Province



中国国际经济贸易仲裁委员会
CHINA INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC AND
TRADE ARBITRATION COMMISSION

Co-Hosts:

United Nations Commission On International Trade Law (UNCITRAL)
Ministry of Commerce of the People's Republic of China

Co-Organizers:

The People's Government of Sichuan Province
China International Economic and Trade Arbitration Commission

CHENGDU, CHINA
2024.10.24-10.25



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About

The Eighth Intersessional Meeting of Working Group III of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law will be held from October 24 to 25, 2024 at Shangri-La Hotel, Chengdu, China. Key issues concerning an appellate mechanism and a multilateral instrument on investor-State dispute settlement (ISDS) reform will be discussed at this intersessional meeting.

Venue:

Grand Ballroom (2nd floor) of Shangri-La Hotel.

Simultaneous interpretation between English and Chinese will be provided at the meeting.

Agenda

© Thursday, October 24, 2024 (Beijing Time)

08:30-09:00	Registration
09:00-09:30	Welcome Remarks
09:30-09:45	Group Photo
09:45-11:00	Panel I: An Appellate Mechanism for ISDS: Rationale and Implications
11:00-11:15	Tea/Coffee Break
11:15-12:30	Panel II: Structuring an Appellate Mechanism
12:30-14:30	Lunch and side event: Asian Academy of International Law - Assessment of damages and compensation
14:30-15:45	Panel III: Key components of an Appellate Mechanism
15:45-16:00	Tea/Coffee Break
16:00-17:30	Panel IV: Impact of an appeal on the first-tier proceeding and award as well as on other proceedings
17:40-19:00	Reception hosted by the Government of the People's Republic of China

© Friday, October 25, 2024

09:00-09:30	Welcome tea/coffee
09:30-10:50	Panel V: Standing Mechanism and issues relating to an Appellate Mechanism
10:50-11:05	Tea/Coffee Break
11:05-12:25	Panel VI: Multilateral instrument on ISDS Reform and issues relating to an Appellate Mechanism
12:25-14:30	Lunch and side event: Law School, Sichuan University; Sichuan University Collaborative Training Innovative Base for Foreign-related Legal Talents - ISDS Reform: Practical Dilemma and Institutional Reconstruction
14:30-16:00	Roundtable Discussion I (For WG III Delegates Only)
16:00-16:15	Tea/Coffee Break
16:15-17:45	Roundtable Discussion II (For WG III Delegates Only)
17:45-18:00	Closing Remarks

Panel Composition

Panel I: An Appellate Mechanism for ISDS: Rationale and Implications

Moderator

JI Wenhua

Professor of School of Law, University of International Business and Economics (UIBE)

Panelists

Anna Joubin-Bret

Secretary, United Nations Commission On International Trade Law (UNCITRAL)

Michael Imran Kanu

Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Sierra Leone to the United Nations

Peter van den Bossche

Former Director of Studies, World Trade Institute (WTI)

Teresa CHENG

Founding Member, Asian Academy of International Law (AAIL)

Panel II: Structuring an Appellate Mechanism

Moderator

LIANG Danni

Associate Professor of School of Law, Sun Yat-Sen University

Panelists

Chin Heng ONG

Senior Director / Senior State Counsel of International Affairs Division,
Attorney-General's Chambers, Singapore

Margie-Lys Jaime

Head of Investment Arbitration Office, Ministry of Finance and Economy,
Republic of Panama

Seung Wha Chang

Chairman, Korean Commercial Arbitration Board (KCAB) INTERNATIONAL

Evgeniya Goriatcheva

Senior Legal Counsel, Permanent Court of Arbitration (PCA)

Panel III: Key components of an Appellate Mechanism

Moderator

ZHU Ying

Assistant Professor at Faculty of Law, University of Hong Kong

Panelists

Aurélia Antonietti

Senior Legal Adviser, International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID)

Lai Thi Van Anh

Deputy Director General of Department of International Law, Ministry of Justice of Viet Nam

SHI Jingxia

Wu Yuzhang Chair Professor of School of Law, Renmin University of China (RUC)

Nora Bellec

Legal Officer at Directorate General for Trade, European Commission

Eduardo Cagnoni

Counselor of Legal Advisor's Office, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Worship,
Argentine Republic

Panel IV: Impact of an appeal on the first-tier proceeding and award as well as on other proceedings

Moderator

SUN Huawei

Partner, Zhong Lun Law Firm

Panelists

Michele Potestà

Partner, Lévy Kaufmann-Kohler (Switzerland)

Joost Pauwelyn

Professor of International Law, Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies
Co-founder of European Office, Cassidy Levy Kent (Europe)

David Bigge

Chief of Investment Arbitration, Department of State, United States

Simon Batifort

Partner, Curtis, Mallet-Prevost, Colt & Mosle LLP

SUN Zhao

Director of Investment Law Division in the Department of Treaty and Law, Ministry of
Commerce of China (MOFCOM)

Panel V: Standing Mechanism and issues relating to an Appellate Mechanism

Moderator

SHAN Wenhua

Assistant President, Senior Professor in Humanities and Social Sciences,
Dean of Law School, Xi'an Jiaotong University

Panelists

Alexis Choquet

Deputy Head of International Trade and Investment Unit, French Treasury

Dafina Atanasova

Economic Affairs Officer, UN Trade and Development (UNCTAD)

Moritz Lumma

Head of the Foreign Investment Division, Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action, Germany

Deborah Aba Aikins

First Secretary and Legal Advisor of Embassy and Permanent Mission of Ghana to the United Nations and other International Organizations in Vienna

Panel VI: Multilateral instrument on ISDS Reform and issues relating to an Appellate Mechanism

Moderator

Jae Sung LEE

Senior Legal Officer, Secretariat of United Nations Commission On International Trade Law (UNCITRAL)

Panelists

Colin Brown

Head of Unit, Legal Aspects of Trade and Sustainable Development and Investment at Directorate General for Trade, European Commission

Kraijakr Thiratayakinant

Counsellor at Department of Treaties and Legal Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Thailand

Mariana Pinto Schmidt

Legal Advisor to the Investment, Services and Digital Economy Department, Undersecretariat of International Economic Affairs of Chile

Taylor ST JOHN

Researcher at PluriCourts, University of Oslo

CHI Manjiao

Professor and Founding Director of Center for International Economic Law and Policy of School of Law, University of International Business and Economics (UIBE)

Notes for In-person Participation

Registration

Please register for the event by October 11th, 2024.

For general public, please use the following link:
(www.chengduintersessionalmeeting.com/d/baoming/post.html)

Delegates to Working Group III should have received a separate link to register, please use that link to ensure that your registration is approved and that you are able to take part in the roundtable discussion. If you have not received the registration link, please contact the UNCITRAL Secretariat (corentin.basle@un.org).

Please fill in your name, title, nationality, organization name, position, phone number, email and upload your ID photo (if attending in person) to complete the registration. You will receive a confirmation email.

If you need visa support for participating in person, please contact Mr. Zhao SUN (sunzhao@mofcom.gov.cn) and Mr. Sining ZHAO (zhaosining@mofcom.gov.cn).

◎ Pick Up Your Badge

Please pick up your badge at the sign-in desk of the main conference venue at Shangri-La Hotel at 08:30 on October 24.

Valid ID documents required: ID card (Mainland China), Mainland Travel Permit or passport (outside China). If you lose your badge, please bring the valid ID documents submitted during online registration to apply for a new badge.

◎ Intervention

To make an intervention, please raise your plate. Once called upon, please speak through the desktop microphone. Please turn off the microphone after your intervention. In case of equipment failure, please request a handheld microphone from the staff.

◎ Hotel Information

During the meeting, a service desk will be set up at the Shangri-La Hotel Chengdu. Recommendations for other hotels near the venue are also provided for your preference.

Hotel Name	Telephone	Address	Distance		
			Chengdu Tianfu International Airport	Chengdu Shuangliu International Airport	Shangri-La Hotel
Shangri-La Hotel (venue)	+86-028 88889999	No. 9, Binjiang East Road, Jinjiang District, Chengdu, Sichuan	60 KM (1 hour 6 minutes' drive)	20.7 KM (35 minutes' drive)	
Holiday Inn Chengdu Oriental Plaza (Five stars)	+86-028 61306688	No. 231, Zhiqian Section of Dongdajie Street, Jinjiang District, Chengdu, Sichuan	61.3 KM (1 hour 5 minutes' drive)	19.9 KM (41 minutes' drive)	0.7 KM (about 11 minutes' walk)
Mercure Jiuyanqiao Chengdu (Four stars)	+86-028 84795777	Building 2, Sunshine Xinye Center, No. 87, East 5th Section, 1st Ring Road, Jinjiang District, Chengdu	60.8 KM (1 hour 2 minutes' drive)	19 KM (36 minutes' drive)	0.47 KM (about 7 minutes' walk)
Ji Hotel (Chengdu Taikoo Li Binjiang Road) (Four stars)	+86-028 84783777 +86 19981240425	No. 162, Binjiang East Road, Jinjiang District, Chengdu	60 KM (1 hour 7 minutes' drive)	17.4 KM (39 minutes' drive)	0.83 KM (about 13 minutes' walk)

© Shangri-La Hotel Reservation

Shangri-La Hotel reservation link:

Shangri-La Hotel reservation link:
(http://www.shangrila.com/reservations/booking/en/index.aspx?hid=SLCD&group_code=LHG231024&check_in=20241023&check_out=20241026)

Foreign travelers can make reservations for other hotels on Trip.com, mobile APP or by phone.

Valid ID documents such as passports and ID cards are required for foreigners to check in.

You can choose cash (RMB), bank card, Alipay or WeChat to pay. For payment with credit cards, please check in advance if international cards such as MasterCard and Visa are acceptable. Some hotels accept payment methods such as Apple Pay and PayPal, please consult in advance.

© Catering

On 24 October 2024, a reception will be hosted on the second floor of the hotel for in-person participants. On 24 and 25 October, the side-event organizers may provide a light lunch, pending on the actual arrangement. If you have special dietary needs, there are also various restaurants serving different cuisines near the venue.

© Currency and Payment

Currency

China's currency is Renminbi, which is abbreviated as RMB or CNY. 1 US dollar is roughly RMB 7.1 (as of September 19, 2024).

Overseas visitors can exchange foreign currency for RMB in advance before entering China (RMB 20,000 is allowed per person each entry/exit).

After entry, currency exchange can be done at the counters of commercial banks, foreign currency exchange agencies, self-service exchange machines at international airports, land border crossings, ports, and other entry points. You may also use international bank cards to withdraw RMB cash through ATMs.

Shangri-La Hotel offers US Dollar and Euro exchange for RMB.

Currency exchange service near the Shangri-La Hotel.

Bank of China (Chengdu Jinjiang Sub-Branch Dongdajie Sub-Branch) is located at No. 35, Zidonglou Section, Dongdajie Street, Jinjiang District, Chengdu, 691 meters from Shangri-La Hotel, and about 14 minutes' walk. The office hours are Monday to Friday 09:00-17:00.

The People's Bank of China (Sichuan Branch) is located at No. 15, South Section 2, Second Ring Road, Wuhou District, Chengdu, 4.9 km from Shangri-La Hotel, and office hours from Monday to Friday 08:30-12:00 and 14:00-17:30.

Credit Card

MasterCard and VISA can be used in China (with some exceptions).

Mobile Payment

Foreign participants may wish to set up mobile payment, which is the primary payment method in China. To activate mobile payment, please download and install WeChat or Alipay in your phone, register according to the guidance, and enter foreign or Chinese mobile phone numbers and other information required.

Please click the link for more details.

(<https://en.chengduintersessionalmeeting.com/p/Payment.html>)

© Transportation

There are direct flights to Chengdu airports from major cities in Asia. Delegates can fly to Chengdu Shuangliu International Airport or Chengdu Tianfu International Airport.

High-speed Railways: Chengdu has an high-speed rail network connecting the whole country.

Metro: Chengdu Metro has 13 lines. From Chengdu Tianfu International Airport, you can take Metro Line 18 to South Railway Station and then transfer to Line 1 until Tianfu Square, where you can transfer to Line 2 until Dongmen Bridge, where you can walk from Exit A for 912 meters to the hotel. From Chengdu Shuangliu International Airport, you can take Metro Line 10 to Taipingyuan Station, transfer to Metro Line 3 and get off at Xinnanmen Station. Exit from Exit C and walk 1.3 kilometers to the hotel.

1.You can purchase a single ticket at the ticket window or from one of the vending machines at the metro station. Payments can be made in cash, or via WeChat or Alipay.

2.Use Alipay APP to take the Metro: with Alipay APP, click on "Travel", select the city you are in, and after verifying the identity information, get the QR code for metro ride. After scanning the QR code, you may enter or exit the metro station.

3.Online car-hailing: Upon arrival at the airport, please follow the signs to the designated pick-up area for online car-hailing. Please book a ride online in advance on the car-hailing platform, or book after arriving at the pick-up area.

You can book a car-hailing service online using the Alipay, WeChat, or DiDi APP.

4.Taxi: After arriving at the airport, please follow the signs to the taxi stand. Taxis accept cash payments (in RMB) or payment with WeChat or Alipay by scanning the QR code in the taxi (mobile payment needs to be set up in advance). Please note that credit cards are not accepted for taxi fee.

◎ How to Find the Venue



1. If you arrive by car, please go to the second-floor lobby of the hotel from here.



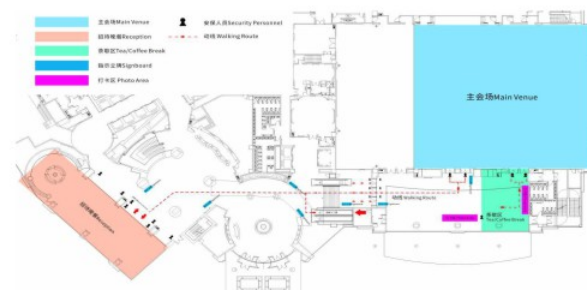
2. Please enter the hotel lobby from here.



3. Please go to the lobby and take the escalator or walk upstairs to the main venue.



4. Enter the main venue from here.



5. To reach the reception from the main venue, please follow the yellow route shown in the picture.

Telephone

China's country code is 0086, and Chengdu's area code is 028.

Address of the China Telecom Corporation Limited's outlet at Chengdu Tianfu International Airport: E2507T1, Terminal 1.

Foreigners can apply for mobile phone cards with a foreigner's passport or Foreign Permanent Resident ID Card. The services include 7-day, 15-day and 30-day packages, which will terminate upon expiration.

Weather

Chengdu has a humid subtropical climate. During the meeting, the weather is pleasant with average temperatures ranging from 15°C to 21°C, on average 21°C during the day and 15°C at night.

Time Zone

Chengdu follows Beijing time, which is 8 hours ahead of Coordinated Universal Time (UTC), i.e. UTC + 8.

Voltage

The voltage in Chengdu is AC 220 V, and the hotel rooms are equipped with both two-prong and three-prong sockets. The model for the three-prong socket model is MY-2204.



Visa

All non-Chinese delegates to the meeting should contact Chinese embassies to apply visas in advance; if your country or region is eligible for China's visa-free policy, please double check the details of the policy.

Quick Guide for Working and Living in China

In case of personal injury or property damage, please dial 110.

In case of fire, please dial 119.

For medical emergencies, please dial 120.

If your passport is lost, please report it immediately to the local police station.

Medical Services

Hospitals near the Shangri-La Hotel:

West China Hospital of Sichuan University, 5.1 km from the hotel, approximately 26 minutes' drive.

Sichuan Provincial People's Hospital, 7 km from the hotel, approximately 28 minutes' drive.

Meeting Service Hotline

A service hotline will be available from 08:00 October 23 to 24:00 October 25, 2024. Please feel free to call us.

Service Hours: 08:00 to 20:00

Phone1: Mr.Xiong 18602873831

Phone2: Mrs.Chen 18381033813

Service Hours: 20:00 to 08:00 next day

Phone1: Mr.Xia 13980435395

Phone2: Mrs.Wen 13541399967

Note: During the meeting, if you have any related questions, please inquire at the information desk on the first floor.

Notes for Online Participants

◎ Panel Discussions

It will be possible to participate in the panel discussions remotely. Time: 09:00-17:30 on October 24, 2024, and 09:00-12:25 on October 25, 2024, Beijing time. Please note that remote participation is not available for the side events.

Meeting platform: Zoom is used for online meeting. Please ensure that your computer has the latest version of Zoom, which can be downloaded from <https://zoom.us/download>.

Meeting link: Confirmed online participants will receive a Zoom link in a separate email.

Meeting test: You may log into Zoom between 08:00-20:00 on October 21-22, 2024 (Beijing Time) to test your computer settings and network connection.

Participant identification: For ease of reference, please indicate your name in the following format on Zoom: Name (Country or Organization), for example: Mr. Ming LI (China).

Please submit your questions or comments in the chat, which shall be conveyed to the moderators.

Simultaneous interpretation: Simultaneous interpretation between English and Chinese will be provided.

© Roundtable Discussion

Roundtable discussion is for WG III delegates only and a separate Zoom link will be sent.

Online participants who wish to speak can participate in the discussion through Zoom.

Moderators and speakers



JI Wenhua

Professor of School of Law, University of International Business and Economics (UIBE)

Dr. JI Wenhua is a Professor at the School of Law, University of International Business and Economics (UIBE) in Beijing, China. His research encompasses international economic law, international commercial transactions, dispute resolution, and global economic governance. He has published extensively on these topics in both Chinese and English. Dr. Ji holds several prestigious positions, including Co-Chair of the WTO Chairs Programme at UIBE, UNIDROIT Correspondent for China, and Standing Council Member of the WTO Law Research Society of the Chinese Law Society. Additionally, he has actively participated in the legislative processes for various trade and investment laws in China.



Anna Joubin-Bret

Secretary, United Nations Commission On International Trade Law (UNCITRAL)

Ms. Anna Joubin-Bret is the Secretary of the United Nations Commission On International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) and the Director of the International Trade Law Division in the Office of Legal Affairs of the United Nations, which functions as the substantive secretariat for UNCITRAL. She is the ninth Secretary of the Commission since it was established by the General Assembly in 1966.

Prior to her appointment on 24 November 2017, Ms. Joubin-Bret practiced law in Paris, specializing in International Investment Law and Investment Dispute Resolution. She focused on serving as counsel, arbitrator, mediator and conciliator in international investment disputes. She served as arbitrator in several ICSID, UNCITRAL and ICC disputes. Prior to 2011 and for 15 years, Ms. Joubin-Bret was the Senior Legal Adviser for the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD). She edited and authored seminal research and publications on international investment law, notably the Sequels to UNCTAD IIA Series and co-edited with Jean Kalicki a book on Reform of Investor-State Dispute Settlement in 2015.

Ms. Joubin-Bret holds a post-graduate degree (DEA) in Private International Law from the University of Paris I, Panthéon-Sorbonne, a Masters Degree in International Economic Law from University Paris I and in Political Science from Institut d'Etudes Politiques. She was a Legal Counsel in the legal department of the Schneider Group, General Counsel of the KIS Group and Director-Export of Pomagalski S.A. She was appointed judge at the Commercial Court in Grenoble (France) and was elected Regional Counsellor of the Rhône-Alpes Region in 1998.



Michael Imran Kanu

Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Sierra Leone to the United Nations

Dr. Michael Imran Kanu is an Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Sierra Leone to the United Nations. He also holds concurrent appointments as an Ambassador of Sierra Leone to Argentina, Cuba, Mexico, Uruguay, and Venezuela, as well as a Permanent Representative to the International Seabed Authority (ISA). In August 2024, He presided as President of the UN Security Council, and currently chairs the Council's Sanctions Committees concerning the DRC and South Sudan and leads its Informal Working Group on Criminal Tribunals. He is a member of the Legal and Technical Commission of the ISA and Vice-President of the International Criminal Court Assembly of States Parties, where he co-chairs its Review Mechanism. He previously served as an Ambassador and Deputy Permanent Representative for Legal Affairs of Sierra Leone to the UN from 2018 to 2023., in which role he served as Coordinator of the African Group's Legal Experts on UNCITRAL Working Group III regarding ISDS reform. He holds an SJD and LL.M in International Business Law from Central European University, B.L. from Sierra Leone Law School, and LL.B from Fourah Bay College, University of Sierra Leone. He is an UN International Law Fellow and a Visiting Senior Fellow at the London School of Economics and Political Science.



Peter van den Bossche

Former Director of Studies, World Trade Institute (WTI)

Peter Van den Bossche is a former Member and Chair of the Appellate Body of the World Trade Organization (2009-2019), a former Director of Studies of the World Trade Institute (2016-2024), and Professor of International Economic Law at the University of Bern. Since 2018, he is the President of the Society of International Economic Law (SIEL). Van den Bossche is also a professor emeritus at Maastricht University and a visiting professor at Bocconi University, Milan (since 2023), the Université de Genève (since 2018), LUISS Guido Carli University, Rome, Italy (since 2016), the Universidad San Francisco de Quito, Ecuador (since 2016), and the College of Europe, Bruges (since 2010). Van den Bossche is the author (with Werner Zdouc) of *The Law and Policy of the World Trade Organization*, 5th edition (Cambridge University Press, 2021), 1170 p., and (with Denise Prévost) of *Essentials of WTO Law*, 2nd edition (Cambridge University Press, 2021), 223 p. The Chinese edition (with SHAN Wenhua) of *The Law and Policy of the World Trade Organization* was published in 2020 by Law Press China.



Teresa CHENG

Founding Member, Asian Academy of International Law(AAIL)

Teresa Cheng SC, GBM, GBS, JP is a Senior Counsel, Chartered Engineer, Chartered Arbitrator, and Mediator with a distinguished record of public service in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (SAR). From January 2018 to June 2022, Ms Cheng was the Secretary for Justice of the Hong Kong SAR.

She is one of the founding members of the Asian Academy of International Law, a past Vice President of the International Council for Commercial Arbitration, a past Vice President of the ICC International Court of Arbitration, and a past Chairperson of the HKIAC. In 2008, she became the first Asian woman elected through a global election as President of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators. She served as Deputy Judge/Recorder in the High Court of Hong Kong from 2011 to 2017 and was also a member of the World Bank's Sanctions Board.

Ms. Cheng is a Fellow of King's College London. She serves on the Expert Committee of the China International Commercial Court and the Expert Committee for the Establishment of International Commercial Arbitration Centers, appointed by the Ministry of Justice of PRC. She is currently an adjunct professor, the founder and co-director of the International Arbitration and Dispute Settlement Course at Tsinghua University.



LIANG Danni

Associate Professor of School of Law, Sun Yat-Sen University

LIANG Danni is an associate professor of School of Law, Sun Yat-Sen University. She earned her PhD degree in international law from Wuhan University in 2006 and also obtained a Master of Law (2002) and an LL.B (1999) degrees from Sun Yat-Sen University. She was a visiting scholar in Vermont School of Law in 2008. From 2012 to 2014, she has been a member of delegation group of Chinese government to take part in the consultation of UNCITRAL Transparency Rules and Mauritius Transparency Convention, and the negotiation of the China-US BIT also. From 2020, she has been a member of delegation group of Chinese government to take part in the sessions of UNCITRAL Working Group III (Investor-State Dispute Settlement Reform). In September 2024, She has been the delegate of CIETAC to participate the 49th session of UNCITRAL WG III.



Chin Heng ONG

Senior Director / Senior State Counsel of International Affairs Division,
Attorney-General's Chambers, Singapore

Ong Chin Heng is Senior State Counsel/Senior Director (International Affairs), leading the International Economic Law practice at the Attorney-General's Chambers of Singapore.

His experiences include negotiating Singapore's free trade agreements with the European Union, China, the Eurasian Economic Union, ASEAN, and the Trans-Pacific Partnership (now CPTPP), as well as international investment treaties with various countries.

He has led Singapore's delegation at the International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID) and the UN Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) on reforms to investor-State dispute settlement and investment arbitration rules. He acted as counsel in Singapore's interventions before the World Trade Organization for disputes concerning IT Products, and US tariffs against Chinese goods, and before a CPTPP panel in a dispute concerning dairy measures.

Besides economic law, Chin also served as counsel in the case before the International Court of Justice concerning sovereignty over Pedra Branca, and represented Singapore in international aviation, law of the sea, arms control, counter-proliferation and counter-terrorism matters.

Chin is an alumnus of the National University of Singapore and New York University, and is called to the Bars in Singapore and New York. He was awarded the Public Administration (Bronze) Medal in 2008 and Long Service Medal in 2022.



Margie-Lys Jaime

Head of Investment Arbitration Office, Ministry of Finance and Economy,
Republic of Panama

Dr. Jaime is the Head of the Investment Arbitration Office of the Ministry of Finance and Economy of the Republic of Panama. In this capacity, she participates at UNCITRAL Working Group III on ISDS reform. She is a Professor of Law at the University of Panama, and a qualified arbitrator, mediator, and conciliator. Dr. Jaime has been appointed to the list of Conciliators and Arbitrators of ICSID by the Republic of Panama (2022-2028), and member of the Permanent Court of Arbitration (2024-2030).

Dr. Jaime received her PhD in Law and LLM in International Economic Affairs Law from the University of Paris II (Pantheon-Assas), an LLM in Arbitration and International Business Law from the University of Versailles (France), and an LLM in International Business and Economic Law with a Certificate in WTO Studies from Georgetown University Law Center, Washington D.C. She is admitted to practice law in Panama, the State of New York, U.S.A., and holds the Certificate of Aptitude for the legal profession (CAPA) in Paris, France. She is fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (FCIArb), and a Member of the Board of the National Bar Association of Panama (2021-2025).



Seung Wha Chang

Chairman, Korean Commercial Arbitration Board (KCAB) INTERNATIONAL

Seung Wha Chang is the Chairman of KCAB INTERNATIONAL and a Professor of Seoul National University (SNU) School of Law.

In mid-2000s, Prof.Chang took the lead in founding the Korean international arbitration community. He was the founding Chairman of the Korean Council for International Arbitration (KOCIA) and chaired the drafting committee for the original KCAB International Arbitration Rules and the KCAB Code of Ethics for Arbitrators. Prof.Chang played an active role to promote international arbitration in Asia, while serving as the 3rd President of the Asia-Pacific Regional Arbitration Group (APRAG).

Since late 1990s, Prof.Chang has sat as an adjudicator/arbitrator for international dispute settlement tribunals nearly one hundred times. He has served as an arbitrator (chairman or co-arbitrator) for various arbitral institutions, including the ICC, LCIA, SIAC, HKIAC, VIAC, JCAA and KCAB. He also served as a Member of the ICC International Court of Arbitration.

After serving as one of the most frequently appointed panelists/arbitrators for the WTO dispute settlement, in 2012, he was appointed as a Member (Judge) of the WTO Appellate Body. After returning from Geneva, Prof.Chang also served for the Korean government as the Chairman of the Korea Trade Commission. In 2022, he was appointed, for the first time in history, as an appellate review arbitrator for WTO dispute settlement.

Prof.Chang practiced at Covington & Burling in Washington D.C., and served as a judge for Seoul District Court in his early legal career.

Prof. Chang holds law degrees from SNU (LL.B.) and Harvard Law School (LL.M. & S.J.D.). He has taught international arbitration, investment and trade law courses as a tenured professor at SNU and, as a Visiting Professor, at various renowned law schools including Harvard, Yale, Stanford, NYU, Duke, Georgetown, UCLA, National University of Singapore, Hong Kong University, and Geneva University. In 2007, Harvard Law School granted him an endowed visiting professorial chair title, Nomura Visiting Professor of International Financial Systems.

Prof.Chang is also Editor-in-Chief for Korean Arbitration Review, and an Advisory Board Member for the Journal of International Dispute Settlement (Oxford) and formerly the Journal of International Economic Law (Oxford).



Evgeniya Goriatcheva
Senior Legal Counsel, Permanent Court of Arbitration (PCA)

Evgeniya Goriatcheva is Senior Legal Counsel at the Permanent Court of Arbitration (PCA), an intergovernmental organization established by treaty in 1899 which provides services for the resolution of disputes involving various combinations of states, state entities, intergovernmental organizations and private parties. Since September 2023, she is also Head of the Vienna Office of the PCA.

In her role at the PCA, Evgeniya regularly assists arbitral tribunals, and acts a Tribunal Secretary and/or Registrar in international commercial, investment and inter-state arbitrations, as well as in expert determinations. Evgeniya also assists the PCA Secretary- General in appointing arbitrators and deciding challenges to arbitrators, and represents the PCA in multilateral settings including UNCITRAL Working Group II (Dispute Resolution) and UNCITRAL Working Group III (ISDS Reform), the UNGA Sixth Committee (Legal), the UNCLOS Meeting of States Parties.

She co-authored the Guide to the PCA Arbitration Rules (Oxford University Press, 2014). She is a member of the IBA Investment Arbitration Subcommittee, the Program Committee for the ICCA Congress 2024 and Young ICCA. Evgeniya earned her B.C.L. and LL.B. degrees from the McGill Faculty of Law (2010) and is a qualified lawyer in Quebec, Canada. She is fluent in English, French and Russian.



ZHU Ying
Assistant Professor at Faculty of Law, University of Hong Kong

ZHU Ying is an Assistant Professor at the Faculty of Law of the University of Hong Kong. Her research focuses on how to reform international economic law to promote sustainable development. Her academic interests include international investment law, international trade law and environmental law. She holds LL.M. and J.S.D. degrees from Yale Law School, and a LL.B. degree from China University of Political Science and Law.



Aurélia Antonietti
Senior Legal Adviser, International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID)

Ms. Aurélia Antonietti serves as Senior Legal Adviser at the International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID) and is the Team Leader for the francophone team. She has served as Secretary of the Tribunal in various arbitral proceedings in the field of investment arbitration. She has previously worked in the field of commercial and investment arbitration as an associate with law firms in France and Switzerland. She is admitted to the Paris Bar and to practice law in the State of New York and as solicitor in England and Wales.



Lai Thi Van Anh
Deputy Director General of Department of International Law, Ministry of Justice of Viet Nam

For 25 years working at the Ministry of Justice of Viet Nam, in Legislative drafting, Ms. Van Anh has directly involved in drafting and scrutinizing quite a few pieces of legislations governing investment, trade and commerce, particularly the Law on Investment in the form of Public Private Partnership; Law on Management of Foreign Trade; Law on Bidding etc. In the area of international integration, Ms. Van Anh has participated in negotiation numerous international treaties in investment, economic and trade; particularly Comprehensive Progressive Tran Pacific Partnership Agreement (CPTPP); Viet Nam – EU Free Trade Agreement; Viet Nam - EU Investment Protection Agreement; Viet Nam – UK Free Trade Agreement ... In addition, Ms. Van Anh has also led and participated in various studies on compatibility between Vietnamese Legal System and Its international commitments, particularly, Viet Nam – US Bilateral Trade Agreement; WTO agreements; Comprehensive Progressive Tran Pacific Partnership Agreement (CPTPP); Viet Nam – EU Free Trade Agreement; Viet Nam - EU Investment Protection Agreement. Regarding foreign investments, Ms. Van Anh has participated in establishment of numerous foreign investment projects; handling difficulties of foreign investors; participating in negotiation of investment contracts such as BOT contracts on Power Plants (BOT contracts, Government Guarantee and Undertaking; granting Legal Opinion on BOT project documents ...). In the field of dispute settlement, Ms. Van Anh currently leads a specialized team in the Ministry of Justice to represent the Government, Government Agencies in Investor – State disputes and has directly involved in a number of complicated cases. Beside, Ms. Van Anh currently be assigned to represent Viet Nam in Working Group 2 on Dispute Settlement and Working Group 3 on ISDS Reforms of the UN Commission on International Trade Law.



SHI Jingxia
Wu Yuzhang Chair Professor of School of Law, Renmin University of China (RUC)

Dr. SHI Jingxia is Wu Yuzhang Chair Professor of International Business & Economic Law and the Head of International Law Institute at School of Law, Renmin University of China (RUC). Previously, she was a professor and the Dean (April 2014–September 2019) at the School of Law, China University of International Business & Economics (UIBE). Her research, which covers international investment and trade law, international dispute settlement, and cross-border insolvency, has resulted in numerous publications in both Chinese and English.

Professor SHI earned her B.A. and LL.B. in 1992, and her Ph.D. in International Law in 1998 from Wuhan University, China. She also holds an LL.M. degree (2007) and a J.S.D. degree (2011) from Yale Law School. A member of the New York Bar since June 2011 and the Chinese Bar Association since 1999, she is an appointed conciliator at the International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID), a member of the Expert Committee of the China Court of International Commerce (CCIC) at the Supreme People's Court of China (SPC), and an appointed arbitrator at CIETAC, SIAC, HKIAC, AIAC, KCAB International, BAIC, SAC, among others.



Nora Bellec

Legal Officer at Directorate General for Trade, European Commission

Nora Bellec is a legal officer at the European Commission in DG Trade Unit F.3 which deals with Legal aspects of trade and sustainable development and investment. In particular, Ms. Bellec follows investor-state dispute settlement (ISDS) files, from the negotiation of ISDS provisions in Investment Protection Agreements between the European Union and trade partners, to the participation in UNCITRAL Working Group III to develop ISDS reform. Previous positions of Ms. Bellec included working as a policy advisor at the French Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs in the Directorate of Economic diplomacy, and being a lawyer in international arbitration at Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer LLP in Paris.



Eduardo Cagnoni

Counselor of Legal Advisor's Office, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Worship, Argentine Republic

Counselor Eduardo Alberto Cagnoni is a career diplomat working at the Legal Advisor's Office at the Argentine MFA. He worked there from 2012 till 2015 and has worked there since 2021, when he returned from his post abroad. He provides legal advice on matters concerning the principles and norms of Public International Law. He has been required to issue expert opinions for the Minister or other authorities on issues concerning bilateral investment treaties, ICSID awards, MERCOSUR and ALADI dispute settlement mechanisms, double taxation agreements or treaty law, among many other legal matters. Concerning investment disputes and investment treaties, Counselor Cagnoni has participated in discussions held at the OECD investment Committee (2012-2014) and in the negotiation of an Agreement for the establishment of a Center for the solution of investment disputes under UNASUR (2012-2016). Since mid-2023 he has been involved with UNCITRAL Working Group III. Mr. Cagnoni has a Degree in Law issued in 2008 by the University of Buenos Aires (UBA) and has specialized in Public International Law and Administrative Law. He took postgraduate courses on International Relations at UBA in 2009 and attended to the International Law Seminar organized by the International Law Commission at Geneva in 2013.



SUN Huawei

Partner, Zhong Lun Law Firm

SUN Huawei specialises in international commercial and investment treaty arbitration and has represented Chinese and foreign clients in cases conducted under ICC, UNCITRAL, LCIA, SIAC, HKIAC, CIETAC and ICSID arbitration rules. She has significant experience working as counsel and arbitrator on disputes involving cross-border joint ventures, energy and resources projects, financial products, intellectual property, and construction projects, with governing laws including English law, Hong Kong law, Dutch law, Malaysian law and Chinese law.

Huawei has strong track record in investment treaty arbitration. She defends China in several cases against China and has achieved victory in *Ansung Housing Co., Ltd. v. People's Republic of China* (ICSID Case No. ARB/14/25). Huawei is recognised and recommended by multiple leading international directories such as *Who's Who Legal: Arbitration 2022 - Global Leader*, *Asialaw Profiles 2023: Dispute resolution - Distinguished Practitioner*, *Benchmark Litigation 2022: Top 100 Women in Litigation - Asia Pacific*. Huawei is listed on the HKIAC and CIETAC Panels of Arbitrators and a member of HKIAC's Appointments Committee.



Michele Potestà

Partner, Lévy Kaufmann-Kohler (Switzerland)

Michele Potestà is a partner at Lévy Kaufmann-Kohler, a law firm in Geneva (Switzerland) specialized in international arbitration. Michele Potestà specializes in international commercial and investment arbitration, as well as public international law, acting as counsel, arbitrator and expert in complex investment and commercial matters.

In the last decade, Michele participated in over 50 international investment and commercial arbitrations under all major arbitral rules, and in disputes governed by a variety of procedural and substantive laws. He has specific experience in disputes relating to energy and natural resources (oil, gas, mining and solar energy), real estate and construction, pharmaceuticals, telecommunications, international sales, banking and finance, shareholders disputes, aviation, IT and agency contracts. He frequently acts in arbitrations involving states and state entities.

Michele has advised sovereign states on their investment treaty programs and currently acts as expert advisor to the Swiss Government in the inter-State negotiations on the reform of investor-state dispute settlement in UNCITRAL's Working Group III.

He is a member of the ICSID Panels of Arbitrators and Conciliators.



Joost Pauwelyn

Professor of International Law, Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Co-founder of European Office, Cassidy Levy Kent (Europe)

Joost Pauwelyn is Professor of International Law at the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies in Geneva, where he is also the Director of the Centre for Trade and Economic Integration (CTEI). He is a member of the Brussels bar and co-founder of the European office of Cassidy Levy Kent, a boutique law firm specialized in international trade and investment, with offices also in Washington DC, and Ottawa. He is the Founding President of TradeLab and Founding Co-Director of the Geneva Trade Platform. He is a member of the ICSID Panel of Conciliators (appointed by Belgium). In 2020, he was appointed to the WTO's pool of MPIA appeal arbitrators (proposed by the EU).

Joost was previously the Murase Visiting Professor of Law at Georgetown University (2014-2021), a tenured professor at Duke Law School, served as Senior Advisor with King & Spalding and as legal officer at the WTO (1996-2002). From 2015 to 2020, he was Co-Editor in Chief of the Journal of International Economic Law.

Joost received degrees from the Universities of Namur, Leuven, Oxford and Neuchâtel.



David Bigge

Chief of Investment Arbitration, Department of State, United States

David Bigge is the Chief of Investment Arbitration at the U.S. Department of State. He has also represented the United States at the UN Sixth Committee (Legal) and the UN Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) Working Group III. From 2016 to 2019, he served as the U.S. Agent to the Iran-U.S. Claims Tribunal, and has served as Deputy Agent and counsel in two cases at the International Court of Justice. Mr. Bigge was also the primary U.S. point of contact for the International Criminal Court, the Permanent Court of Arbitration, the UN International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals, and the Hague Conference on Private International Law. Prior to joining the State Department in 2010, Mr. Bigge was an attorney in private practice in New York for nine years, specializing in international arbitration and litigation for and against foreign sovereigns. Mr. Bigge is an adjunct professor at Georgetown University Law Center, where he teaches courses on Interstate Disputes, International Arbitration, and International Responsibility. He also currently serves on the Executive Council of the American Society of International Law.



Simon Batifort

Partner, Curtis, Mallet-Prevost, Colt & Mosle LLP

Simon Batifort is a partner at the international law firm Curtis, Mallet-Prevost, Colt & Mosle LLP based in New York and Brussels. A dual French-U.S. national, he is admitted to the bar in New York, Paris and Brussels. He has acted as counsel and advocate in over forty high-profile commercial and investment treaty arbitrations under various rules, including those of the International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID), the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL), and the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC). He has represented clients in Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America and the Middle East in cases involving a wide range of sectors, including oil and gas, mining, telecommunications, construction, joint ventures, real estate and taxation. He also represents and advises States in inter-State disputes and other public international law matters. Alongside his practice, Mr. Batifort is an Adjunct Professor at Brooklyn Law School and at Université Paris Cité where he teaches advanced courses on investment treaty arbitration. Among other rankings, Who's Who Legal – Arbitration has recognized him as a Global Leader in international arbitration and as a Global Elite Thought Leader under 45, referring to him as a "household name" and a "formidable practitioner when it comes to investment treaty arbitration."



SUN Zhao

Director of Investment Law Division in the Department of Treaty and Law, Ministry of Commerce of China(MOFCOM)

Mr. SUN Zhao, Ph.D., is the Director of Investment Law Division in the Department of Treaty and Law, Ministry of Commerce of China (MOFCOM). He has extensive experience in dealing with international dispute settlement, in particular, the WTO dispute settlement and the investment arbitration. He is also covering investment treaty negotiations and the UNCITRAL Investor-State Dispute Settlement Reform. He previously was a trade remedy case handler in MOFCOM and a legal officer in Chinese Mission to the WTO.



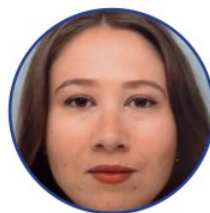
SHAN Wenhua

Assistant President, Senior Professor in Humanities and Social Sciences, Dean of Law School, Xi'an Jiaotong University

Prof. SHAN Wenhua graduated as a PhD from Trinity College, University of Cambridge. His main field is international and comparative law, particularly commercial, investment, trade and arbitration laws. He has published over a dozen books by leading English and Chinese publishers including Oxford University Press, Cambridge University Press and numerous articles in journals such as the European Journal of International Law and American Journal of Comparative Law.

Prof. SHAN is a Titular Member of the International Academy of Comparative Law (IACL, The Hague); a Member of the American Law Institute (ALI). He is the founding Editor-in-Chief of The Chinese Journal of Comparative Law (OUP); Editor-in-General of the "Silk Road Studies in International Economic Law" (Martinus Nijhoff/BRILL); and a Member of the Advisory Editorial Board of the ICSID Review: Foreign Investment Law Journal (OUP).

As an Expert Member of the Supreme People's Court (SPC) International Commercial Expert Committee (first group), Conciliator of the International Centre for the Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID), arbitrator of HKIAC (Hong Kong), ICAC (Moscow), CIICA (Pakistan), CIETAC (Beijing), CMAC (Beijing), BIAC (Beijing), SHIAC (Shanghai) and SCIA (Shenzhen), among others, Professor Shan has practiced international and Chinese laws since 1992. He has led a team to provide comprehensive academic and professional support for the Chinese government on certain key investment treaty negotiations, and for the SPC and CIETAC in the drafting of the SPC Rules on Online Mediation and the CIETAC International Investment Arbitration Rules, respectively.



Alexis Choquet
Deputy Head of International Trade and Investment Unit, French Treasury

Part of the French Delegation in UNCITRAL Working Group III since the 46th session, I have been involved for over a year in the discussions on Investor-State Dispute Settlement Reform. However, as a former International Investment Law and Investment Arbitration student, I have been touching upon the subject for several years. Besides, I worked at the Investment Division of the OECD on Investment treaties analysis.

I joined the French Treasury in 2023, in my current capacity I am also following the discussions on the Future of Investment treaties at the OECD Investment Committee and participating in the EU investment-oriented negotiations as the French delegate in the Council discussions at the technical level.



Dafina Atanasova
Economic Affairs Officer, UN Trade and Development (UNCTAD)

Dafina is an international investment law and policy expert, part of the UN Trade and Development (UNCTAD) International Investment Agreements (IIA) team. In her role, Dafina advises governments on the reform of their investment treaties and approaches to investment dispute settlement; she conducts research and analysis on international investment policies for UN Trade and Development's flagship publications and databases; and she contributes to such forums for consensus-building on sustainable investment policies as the World Investment Forum or the UNCTAD Platform for IIA Reform. Prior to joining UNCTAD, Dafina held advisory, academic and legal practice positions in international commercial and investment law across Europe and in Asia. She is a Bulgarian national and holds a PhD from the University of Geneva.



Moritz Lumma
Head of the Foreign Investment Division, Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action, Germany

Moritz Lumma is a trained lawyer. Before assuming his current position as Head of the Foreign Investment division at the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action, he held various positions at the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action, the Federal Ministry of Finance and the Federal Foreign Office, with three separate postings in Brussels, New Delhi and Beijing lasting more than ten years in total. Among other things, he has been responsible for litigation for the Federal Government at the European Court of Justice, and for a wide variety of portfolios regarding inter alia competition policy, state aid law, financial services, foreign trade and investment policy. In his current position Moritz Lumma is dealing in particular with investment guarantees, i.e. investment insurance covering political and war risks, diplomatic investment protection and investment protection agreements.



Deborah Aikins
First Secretary and Legal Advisor of Embassy and Permanent Mission of Ghana to the United Nations and other International Organizations in Vienna

Ms. Deborah Aikins is a Diplomat, solicitor and barrister of the Supreme Court of Ghana and a member of the Ghana Bar Association. She is currently the First Secretary and Legal Advisor of Embassy and Permanent Mission of Ghana to The United Nations and other International Organizations in Vienna. As part of her current work, she negotiates on behalf of the Republic of Ghana on various UN Bodies including United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL), United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO). She is the Task Force Coordinator of the African Group for UNCITRAL matters. As part of her portfolio, Ms. Aikins is responsible for Ghana-Austria Bilateral Relations, Trade, Investment and Economic Cooperation and Diaspora Affairs. She offers advice and makes recommendations on policy and international law issues for the consideration of Government. Prior to taking up her duty tour in Vienna, she worked as an Assistant Director at the Legal, Treaties and Consular Bureaus of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Regional Integration of the Republic of Ghana.



Jae Sung LEE
Senior Legal Officer, Secretariat of United Nations Commission On International Trade Law (UNCITRAL)

Jae Sung LEE is a senior legal officer at the International Trade Law Division of the United Nations Office of Legal Affairs, which functions as the substantive secretariat for UNCITRAL. He currently functions as the secretary of Working Group III on Investor-State Dispute Settlement Reform and has served as secretary of working groups on dispute settlement, secured transactions and electronic commerce. Before joining the United Nations in 2007, Jae Sung served in the Korean Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Jae Sung is a graduate of Seoul National University College of Law, holds LL.M. degrees from Seoul National University Graduate School of International Studies and NYU School of Law as well as a Ph.D. in Law from Seoul National University.



Colin Brown

Head of Unit, Legal Aspects of Trade and Sustainable Development and Investment at Directorate General for Trade, European Commission

Colin Brown is an international trade and investment lawyer. Since November 2020 he is Head of Unit Legal aspects of trade and sustainable development and investment in the Directorate General for Trade of the European Commission. From 2013 to 2020 he was Deputy Head of Unit of Dispute Settlement and Legal Aspects of Trade Policy. He leads the team of lawyers working on investor-state dispute settlement in the trade and investment policy of the European Union, in particular the Investment Court System and now the work on the Multilateral Investment Court project. He is the head of the EU Delegation to UNCITRAL Working group III on ISDS reform. He also leads the teams providing legal advice on EU FTAs and on Trade and Sustainable Development.

Before joining the Directorate General for Trade in October 2006 he worked for 6 years for the Legal Service of the European Commission, where he litigated WTO and EU law cases. He has been chair of the Legal Advisory Committee of the Energy Charter Treaty between 2004 and 2017. He is guest lecturer in EU External Economic Relations Law at the Law School of the University of Edinburgh and the Academy of Internal Economic Law and Policy (Athens).

He holds an LLB (first class Honours) from the Law School of the University of Edinburgh, Scotland, a Diploma in International Relations from the Bologna Center of the School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS), Johns Hopkins University, Bologna, Italy and an LLM in European Law from the College of Europe, Bruges.



Kraijakr Thiratayakinant

Counsellor at Department of Treaties and Legal Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Thailand

Dr. Kraijakr Thiratayakinant is a counsellor at the Department of Treaties and Legal Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Thailand. He is currently responsible for matters relating to international economic law, including the investor-state dispute settlement (ISDS) reform undertaken by the UNCITRAL Working Group III, WTO law, international investment agreements, as well as trade and investment disputes concerning Thailand. He is also part of Thailand's negotiation team in several trade and economic agreements, such as the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework and the Thailand-EU free trade agreement.

He also regularly gives lectures on WTO law, international investment law and ASEAN economic law at Faculties of law, Chulalongkorn University and Thammasat University, and publishes a legal text book on international trade law on services as well as a number of journal articles.

Before joining the Ministry in 2011, Kraijakr obtained his bachelor and master degrees in law from Cambridge University and a Ph.D. in international economic law from the London School of Economics and Political Science.



Mariana Pinto Schmidt

Legal Advisor to the Investment, Services and Digital Economy Department, Undersecretariat of International Economic Affairs of Chile

Mariana Pinto Schmidt serves as a legal advisor to the Investment, Services and Digital Economy Department at the Undersecretariat of International Economic Affairs (SUBREI) in Chile. In her role as an investment treaty negotiator, she has been actively involved in negotiations such as the EU-Chile Modernization Agreement, UNCITRAL Working Group III and the WTO Agreement on Investment Facilitation for Development. Additionally, she currently represents Chile at the APEC Investment Experts' Group. Before joining SUBREI, Mrs. Pinto Schmidt worked as a researcher in international investment law and as an associate in the area of international commercial law at a law firm.

She holds a law degree from Universidad de Concepción (Chile) and an LLM in International Law from the University of Edinburgh (UK).



Taylor ST JOHN

Researcher at PluriCourts, University of Oslo

Taylor St John is a Lecturer at the University of St Andrews, currently on leave to co-direct the Compliance Politics of International Investment Disputes (COPIID) project at PluriCourts, University of Oslo. She researches the development and design of international institutions, especially institutions related to investment. Her book, *The Rise of Investor-State Arbitration: Politics, Law, and Unintended Consequences*, was published in 2018. She has attended UNCITRAL Working Group III discussions on ISDS reform as an observer since 2018 and co-authored a series of articles and blogs on the process with Professor Anthea Roberts. She received a D.Phil from the University of Oxford and previously worked at the London School of Economics.



CHI Manjiao

Professor and Founding Director of Center for International Economic Law and Policy of School of Law, University of International Business and Economics (UIBE)

CHI Manjiao is a Professor and Founding Director, Center for International Economic Law and Policy, School of Law, University of International Business and Economics (UIBE), Beijing, China. He is or was, among others, Deputy Chair, Academic Forum on ISDS; Deputy Chair, China International Investment Arbitration Forum; Executive Council Member, American Society of International Law; Standing Committee Member, Chinese Society of International Law; Consultant, ITC; Visiting Professor, McGill, Wisconsin, NUS; Visiting Scholar, Columbia Law, Max-Planck Institute, IDOS and UNIDROIT; Founding Editor, Asian Yearbook of International Economic Law; Lecturer, Hague Academy of International Law (2021), and UN Audiovisual Library of International Law (2023). Experienced in WTO dispute settlement and investment arbitration, and investment treaty negotiations; on the panel of Chairperson Candidates of EU Trade and Sustainable Development (TSD) expert panel proceedings, ICSID Panel of Conciliator; Panel Arbitrator of leading international and Chinese arbitration institutions. He holds BA, LLM, and Ph.D. in law degrees, with Chinese and English as working languages and basic knowledge of French and German.

About Chengdu

Overview of Chengdu

Chengdu, also known as "Rong", is the capital of Sichuan Province and a mega city in Central and Western China with solid development foundation, great potential, and strong influence on nearby regions. The city covers an area of 14,300 square kilometers with 20 districts (cities) and counties, as well as the Chengdu Tianfu New Area, Eastern New Area, and Chengdu High-tech Zone.

Chengdu is a renowned historical and cultural city in China, and one of China's "Top Ten Ancient Capitals". It has been eulogized as the "Land of Abundance". World natural and cultural heritage sites such as Mount Qingcheng and Dujiangyan Irrigation System, Sichuan Giant Panda Sanctuaries as well as cultural relics such as Jinsha Site, Wuhou Shrine, and Du Fu Thatched Cottage, are renowned both at home and abroad. Sichuan Opera, Shu Embroidery, and many other intangible cultural heritage items have been passed on for thousands of years.

Intangible Cultural Heritages

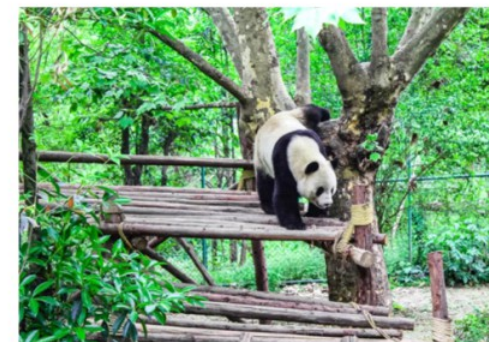
Chengdu's history of more than 4,500 years has given birth to rich and diverse ethnic cultures and folk cultures, providing a breeding ground and cultural nutrients for the thriving intangible cultural heritages. To date, Chengdu has 1 world-class intangible cultural heritage item, 25 national intangible cultural heritage items, and 86 provincial intangible cultural heritage items.

Sichuan Cuisine

Sichuan cuisine, one of the four major Chinese culinary traditions, is renowned for its distinctive spicy and numbing flavor, as well as its diverse cooking techniques. The ingredients primarily consist of mountain delicacies, seafood, fruits, and vegetables from the Sichuan region. Common seasonings include Sichuan sugar, Sichuan pepper and chili, as well as thick broad-bean sauce and fermented bean curd. Sichuan cuisine encompasses 40 cooking techniques, including quick-frying, sautéing, drizzling with oil, deep-frying, etc. The standout flavors of Sichuan cuisine are numbing spiciness (mala), fish-fragrant flavor (yuxiang), and exotic flavor (guaiwei).



Attractions

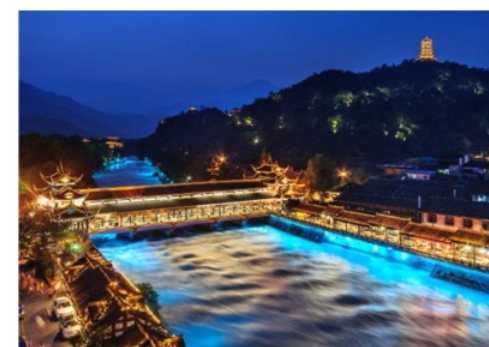
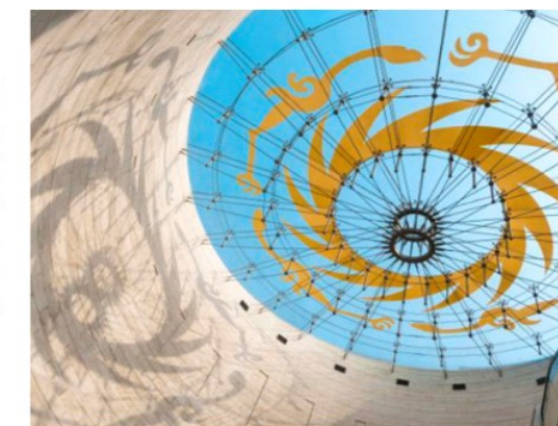


Chengdu Research Base of Giant Panda Breeding

The Chengdu Research Base of Giant Panda Breeding is a world-renowned ex-situ conservation, research and breeding, science education, and cultural tourism base for giant pandas. Covering an area of 3.07 square kilometers, it is one of the most anticipated attractions for tourists worldwide, attracting 9 million visitors annually.

Jinsha Site Museum

Jinsha Site Museum in Chengdu is dedicated to the protection, research, and display of Jinsha culture and ancient Shu civilization. It is a national first-class museum and has been selected as one of China's first national archaeological site parks. The museum houses 2,235 pieces (sets) of cultural relics, such as gold, including 366 pieces (sets) of first grade cultural relics.



Dujiangyan Irrigation System

Built about 2,250 years ago, Dujiangyan Irrigation System is a part of the Mount Qingcheng and Dujiangyan Irrigation System, a world cultural heritage and natural heritage site. It is the world's only surviving water diversion project without a dam and also a world irrigation engineering heritage site.

Anshun Bridge

The Anshun Bridge, located next to the Hejiang Pavilion at the confluence of the Fuhe River and the Nanhe River in Chengdu, has a long history dating back to the Yuan Dynasty. In Marco Polo's travelogue, the Anshun Bridge is one of the four bridges that left a deep impression on him.

