“They’re head and shoulders above the competition.”

CHAMBERS GLOBAL, 2020
Introduction

International arbitration is an increasingly attractive option for resolving disputes because of its confidential nature and the global enforceability of arbitral awards.

From our offices around the world, Charles Russell Speechlys’ award winning international arbitration team advises clients on international arbitration conducted under both civil and common law systems, in many different languages and under the rules of all of the major international arbitration institutions. We have extensive experience of conducting arbitration in all of the world’s major centres of arbitration and particularly in London, Paris, Geneva, Dubai and Hong Kong. We also have experience of acting in statutory and inter-state arbitrations.

Our dedicated arbitration specialists across the world assist our clients with every aspect of arbitration, from drafting complex arbitration clauses, advising and representing in disputes to helping clients locate assets and enforcing arbitral awards under the New York Convention and other international treaties.

The team consists of specialist arbitration lawyers, who have experience in a variety of key industry sectors including IT, telecoms, banking (both Islamic and conventional), sport, real estate, construction and engineering, mining, infrastructure and transport, manufacturing, shipping, aviation and insurance.

Members of our international arbitration group also regularly sit as arbitrators. This experience provides our clients with valuable insight into the arbitral process from the perspective of those that judge it. Whether you are a government, a sovereign wealth fund, a multinational organisation or a private business, we combine legal and sector knowledge with a proven track record of successful resolutions of high value and complex disputes.

Our clients use us because they trust our skill, experience, tenacity and reputation to achieve the best possible outcome, and because our partners personally handle their cases.

Throughout the arbitration process our focus is on providing a confidential, swift and cost-effective service – and, of course, achieving the right result for our clients.
“The Charles Russell Speechlys team is focused on client service. They do not chase fees. They advise on the basis of what they believe to be in the best interests of the client.”

CENTRAL BANK OF BAHRAIN
Our relevant experience

Inter-state and statutory arbitrations
- Successfully acted for the Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago in the UNCLOS arbitration against the Government of Barbados, relating to the delimitation of the Exclusive Economic Zone and Continental Shelf between the two countries.
- Acted for the Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago in arbitration proceedings brought against them by BAES, after they terminated the contract for alleged breaches in relation to the purchase of 3 OPVs.
- Successfully advised Oxus Gold on the English law aspects of the investor–state arbitration against The Republic of Uzbekistan succeeding in staying the claim in England.
- Advised Telecommunications Regulatory Authority of Bahrain in a landmark statutory arbitration case against the incumbent mobile operator, which was the first arbitration under the Telecommunications Act in the Kingdom of Bahrain.
- Advising in a statutory arbitration brought against our client in relation to an appeal of the largest telecommunications regulatory fine handed out in the region (BHD 1.7 million) and the revocation of the claimant’s telecommunication Licences.
- Advising on an arbitration, heard in the Broadcasting and Publications Standards Tribunal, regarding a claim by the Dubai Technology and Media Free Zone Authority relating to media content and alleged breach of local regulations.

United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL)
- Successfully acted for the claimant, a technology company, in respect of a UNCITRAL arbitration relating to the non-payment of 2 loan agreements with the defendant company.
- Acting for the English claimant in a UNCITRAL arbitration against a state owned Ukrainian entity in a dispute regarding the development of a marina in Kiev.
- Advising the Irish manufacturer of wind farm technology in a class of claims by consumers in a number of Renewable Energy Association arbitral proceedings and appeals under The Independent Arbitration Service for Domestic Consumers scheme.

Bahrain Chamber for Dispute Resolution (BCDR-AAA)
- Advising NEH, a modern design and projects company owned by Sheika Noor Al Khalifa, on the design and build of a mixed-use development in the Seef District of Bahrain.
- Advising on a USD 13 million claim by a Bahrain wholesale conventional bank and against a Bahrain wholesale Islamic bank arising out of Unrestricted Wakalah (Agency) Investment agreement.
- Successfully acted for a Sovereign development entity in the Kingdom of Bahrain, defending claims with an aggregate value of USD 6 million by contractors and subcontractors for non-payment in relation to a 3 phase luxury residential tower project.

Shanghai International Arbitration Centre (SHIAC)
- Advising a private individual in arbitration proceedings with a claim value of RMB29 million administered by the SHIAC in connection with the sale and purchase of shares of a Hong Kong company.

Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre (HKIAC)
- Acting for a Hong Kong company in a HK$68 million fire insurance claim at the HKIAC against Bank of China Group Insurance Company Limited.
- Successfully obtained a final award of HK$3.5 million from the HKIAC on behalf of a Hong Kong businesswoman against two overseas companies in relation to unpaid debts arising out of a loan agreement and a guarantee agreement, together with interest and costs.

Dubai International Arbitration Centre (DIAC)
- Acting for an international healthcare company in an arbitration under DIAC rules against an inward investor and joint venture partner.
- Acting for a local project developer in a dispute with a master developer arising out of a multi-billion leisure park project.
- Advising on a final account dispute in relation to mechanical and electrical design and installation works carried out on various construction projects in Dubai by our subcontractor client.
- Acting for a UAE high net worth individual in respect of a partnership dispute with a global logistics company subject to DIAC arbitration proceedings. This matter has involved various related proceedings before the onshore Dubai Courts as the supervisory courts, and related proceedings in the DIFC Court to compel production of banking records under Norwich Pharmacal principles.
International Chamber of Commerce (ICC)
- Acting on behalf of an English distribution Company against a Czech industrial group in a commercial dispute (Czech law applicable).
- Acting on behalf of a French Company against a Dutch group in a dispute regarding the construction of a Hospital in Chad (French law applicable).
- Advising a German investor in a major agricultural project in Zambia against the English founders in an ICC arbitration involving complex issues of valuation of Zambian assets, currency rates and exchange.
- Successfully acted in a complex USD 100 million construction / engineering arbitration case seated in Doha, Qatar, originally before the ICC, before continuing as an ad hoc arbitration in Doha after successfully contesting the jurisdiction of the ICC proceedings.
- Advising a Saudi Arabian client in relation to an appeal of an arbitral award of USD 6.5 million by a Nasdaq listed American multinational corporation to the Permanent Court of Arbitration in the Hague heard under the ICC Rules.
- Representing our client on two subcontractor claims arising out of its €700 million contract to construct a steel fabrication facility in Algeria.
- Acting for a long established major Qatari trading and contracting group in an ICC arbitration relating to a dispute concerning a subcontract for piping works in Qatar, with claim value of USD 43 million.
- Securing an arbitral award of USD 14 million for a Middle East based Greek Contractor, in its ICC arbitration against a Bahrain based developer regarding the construction of 700 affordable villas in the Kingdom of Bahrain.
- Advising on a complex commission structure claim in the oil industry with issues arising in Italy, Cyprus and England.
- Advising one of the largest process engineering EPC contractors in the world in respect of a large process engineering project based in Egypt worth over £1 billion.
- Acting for a client in relation to a multi-million dollar claim brought by a sub-contractor concerning the development of a world renowned international airport in the Middle East.

Centre de Médiation et d’arbitrage de Paris (CMAP)
- Acting in a CMAP arbitration on behalf of shareholders of a French group of companies in the context of a shareholders dispute relating to the enforcement of a share purchase agreement and warranties (French law applicable).
- Representing a client in proceedings brought against them for their alleged failure to accept large scaled electroplating equipment at a price of several million USD and for losses suffered as a result.

London Court of International Arbitration (LCIA)
- Successfully acted for a major Qatari telecommunications provider in a USD 600 million LCIA arbitration claim brought against them by a minority shareholder, with all claims dismissed and our client awarded the entire costs of the arbitration.
- Acting for the operator of a data centre in London against a US corporation in an arbitration involving highly complex issues of technology together with alleged fraud.
- Advising a Middle Eastern client in an arbitration under the LCIA rules relating to a USD 50 million claim concerning a Term Loan Facility Agreement and Bank Floating Rate Note transaction.
- Acting for the Bahraini claimant in an arbitration relating to a multi-million dollar contract between the Ministry of Defence and the Saudi government relating to a satellite telephone network.
- Acting for Middle Eastern joint venture members in DIFC – LCIA arbitration concerning breach of warranty and misrepresentation arising out of the sale of a retail business across three jurisdictions.
- Successfully defended an Isle of Man shipping company in LCIA arbitration proceedings concerning a multi-million USD West African shipping dispute.
- Acting for a world famous Formula 1 Racing team in relation to a multi-million USD sponsorship dispute under LCIA rules.
- Acting for a Dubai-based real estate developer in two parallel LCIA arbitration proceedings subject to UAE law and with a Singapore seat. The claims have a combined value of AED 1.3 billion arising from a partnership dispute between the client and its NSE and BSE listed joint venture partner.
- Acting for a Kazakh law firm in respect of a global claim for fraud and breach of fiduciary duty against a syndicate of former employees with multi-jurisdiction concurrent proceedings, including LCIA arbitration in London.
Dubai International Financial Centre (DIFC)

- Acting in an arbitration relating to a multi-million US Dollar dispute concerning the operation of a well-known five star hotel in Dubai.
- Acting for the Dubai branch of a Bahrain top tier contractor in their DIFC and Abu Dhabi based arbitrations regarding prime utility infrastructure power, water and sewage projects with an aggregate claim value of USD 22 million.
- Acting for an English PLC in a USD 12 million DIFC-LCIA arbitration claim against a KSA citizen for alleged fraudulent misrepresentations made in an SPA agreement in respect of the sale of his KSA business to the PLC.
- Advising a UAE bank in multiple parallel DIFC-LCIA arbitration claims for negative declaratory relief under a series of payment bonds totalling in excess of AED 160 million following the collapse of a prominent UAE contractor.
- Advising a UAE entity in respect of a c. USD 20 million claim, to be brought in a DIFC-LCIA arbitration, for losses arising under a UAE law governed fuel supply contract with a GCC national carrier.

Swiss Chambers Arbitration Institution (SCAI)

- Acted for a commodities trading company against a Swiss company in a brokerage commission dispute.
- Acted for an Italian sportswear company against a motorsport team in relation with the termination of a partnership agreement.
- Acting for a Swiss IT company in relation to software development agreements.
- Acting for a leisure and travel services company against a company providing investment banking advisory services.
Key contacts

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“Provided us with exemplary support in a recent arbitration. We are very pleased with their professional, proactive service.”

GENERAL COUNSEL OF OOREDOO Q.S.C