

# Georges Affaki

Justice of the Qatar International Court

International Arbitrator | Professor of Law | Avocat à la Cour

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## PRINCIPAL APPOINTMENTS AND DISTINCTIONS

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- Justice of the Qatar International Court (selected judgments available [online](#)).
- Chartered Arbitrator and Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators.
- ICSID Panels of Arbitrators and of Conciliators.
- Board of Directors of the Saudi Center for Commercial Arbitration.
- ICCA Judiciary Committee.
- ICC International Court of Arbitration (served two terms ending in June 2021).
- Financial Expert to the Shanghai High People’s Court.
- Fellow of the Australian Centre for International Commercial Arbitration (ACICA) and member of the ACICA Practice & Procedures Board.
- Foreign Trade Counsellor of France, appointed by Decree of the Prime Minister, and constantly renewed.

## PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

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- International arbitrator and avocat à la Cour, practising in Paris and as a member of Des Voeux Chambers’ Neutrals in Hong Kong.
- Professor of Law at SciencesPo.
- Empaneled with the leading international arbitral institutions on five continents (list available on request).
- Recognised by Chambers and Partners amongst the Most-in-Demand Arbitrators in France and globally.
- Fluent in **Arabic**, **English**, and **French**, with the ability to conduct proceedings and draft decisions and awards in all three languages.

## **ARBITRAL APPOINTMENTS**

Over the past 20 years, Professor Dr Hab. Georges Affaki has served in over 180 cases as president, sole arbitrator and co-arbitrator in commercial and investor-State disputes under most of the world's leading *ad hoc* and institutional rules. He is a member of various panels on five continents, including ICSID.

Some cases are confidential and not in the public domain. Of those which can be mentioned, the following may be considered as representative.

### **Investment Treaty cases**

- ICSID Case No. ARB/16/16, *Global Telecom Holding S.A.E. v. Canada*. President: Prof. Georges Affaki, Party Nominee: Gary Born, Party Nominee: Prof. Vaughan Lowe.
- ICSID Case No. ARB/20/47, *Mitsui & Co., Ltd. v. Kingdom of Spain*. President: Prof. Georges Affaki, Party Nominee: Prof. John Gotanda, Party Nominee: Sir William Blair.
- PCA Case No. 2023-13, under the Agreement between the Swiss Confederation and the United Republic of Tanzania. President: Prof. Georges Affaki, Party Nominee: Reza Mohtashami KC, Party Nominee: Makhdoom Ali Khan.
- PCA Case N° 2019-31, under the Accord entre le Gouvernement de la République française et la Grande Jamahiriya arabe libyenne populaire et socialiste sur l'encouragement et la protection réciproques des investissements. President: Ian Binnie, Party Nominee: Prof. Georges Affaki, Party Nominee: Prof. Brigitte Stern.
- PCA Case N° 2019-41, under the Organisation of the Islamic Conference Investment Agreement. President: Samaa Haridi, Party Nominee: Prof. Georges Affaki, Party Nominee: Prof. Eduardo Silva Romero.
- PCA Case No. 2024-46, under the Organisation of the Islamic Conference Investment Agreement. President: Dr Veijo A. Heiskanen, Party Nominee: Prof. Georges Affaki, Party Nominee: Prof. Jorge Viñuales.
- PCA Case N° 2025-09, under the Agreement Between the Government of Canada and the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics for the Promotion and Reciprocal Protection of Investments. President: Prof. Lawrence Boo, Party Nominee: Prof. Georges Affaki, Party Nominee: Jean Kalicki.
- ICSID Case No. ARB/25/21, under the Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Angola and the Government of the United Arab Emirates on the Promotion and Reciprocal Protection of Investments. President: Pierre Bienvenu, Party Nominee: Prof. Georges Affaki, Party Nominee: Mr. Hugo Perezcano Díaz.

### **Construction, Projects, and Property Development**

- President of the arbitral tribunal in an ICC case in relation to a major water desalination project (applicable law: UAE, seat: Dubai).
- President of the arbitral tribunal in an ICC case in relation to consolidated arbitrations arising under a multi-contract dispute in the construction sector (applicable law: UAE, seat: Abu Dhabi).
- President of the arbitral tribunal in an ICC case in relation to an iconic infrastructure project dispute in the tourism sector (applicable law: UAE, seat: Dubai).
- President of the arbitral tribunal in a DIAC case in relation to a dispute relating to a series of property development and construction agreements (Arabic-English bilingual proceedings – applicable law: UAE, seat: Dubai).

- President of the arbitral tribunal in a DIAC case in relation to a series of construction disputes arising in relation to a landmark infrastructure project in Dubai (applicable law: UAE, seat: Dubai).
- President of the arbitral tribunal in PCA Case No. 2020-13 in relation to a sale and property development project in Saudi Arabia (applicable law: Saudi, seat: Geneva).
- President of the arbitral tribunal in an *ad hoc* case concerning a dispute under a hospital construction project (applicable law: Saudi, seat: Riyadh).
- President of the arbitral tribunal in an Oman Arbitration Centre case in relation to a construction dispute (applicable law: Oman, seat: Muscat).
- Sole arbitrator in an ICC case in relation to a dispute arising out of a shipbuilding agreement (applicable law: Bahraini, seat: Manama).
- Sole arbitrator in an ad hoc international arbitration case in relation to a dispute between a contractor and an international relief agency operating in the Middle-East (applicable law: general principles of international law, seat: London).
- Sole arbitrator in an ICC case in relation to a dispute arising out of a series of contracts for the design, construction, expansion and development of several terminals in an international airport (applicable law: Saudi, seat: Dubai).
- Sole arbitrator in an ICC case in relation to a dispute arising from the construction of a ship terminal and grain warehouse construction and operation project (applicable law: Iran, seat: Paris).
- Party-appointed arbitrator nominated by a State instrumentality acting as the employer in PCA Case N° AA695 under the UNCITRAL rules in relation to a dispute under an EBRD-financed bridge construction and road rehabilitation agreement based on the FIDIC Pink Book (applicable law: Moldova, seat: The Hague).
- Party-appointed arbitrator nominated by a State instrumentality acting as the employer in an ICC case in relation to a dispute under an EBRD-financed construction project based on the FIDIC Pink Book (applicable law: Macedonia, seat: Zagreb).
- Party-appointed arbitrator in an Oman Arbitration Centre case in relation to a dispute under a series of FIDIC construction agreements (applicable law: Oman, seat: Muscat).
- Party-appointed arbitrator in an ICC case concerning a dispute under a settlement agreement under a large construction project (applicable law: English law, seat: London).
- Party-appointed arbitrator nominated by the employer in an ICC case concerning a dispute under a complex FIDIC-type industrial dismantling, transfer and construction series of agreements (applicable law: French, seat: Paris).
- Party-appointed arbitrator nominated by the contractor in an ICC case concerning a shipbuilding contract in the oil and gas sector (applicable law: Libyan, seat: Paris).
- Party-appointed arbitrator in an ad hoc case concerning a dispute under a military hospital construction project (applicable law: Saudi, seat: Riyadh).
- Party-appointed arbitrator in an ad hoc case concerning a dispute under a sewerage project (applicable law: Oman, seat: Muscat).
- Party-appointed arbitrator in an ICC case concerning the construction of the Doha metro (applicable law: Qatar, seat: Doha).
- Party-appointed arbitrator in an ICC case concerning a dispute under a settlement agreement and a series of bank guarantees under a large construction project (applicable law: Saudi, seat: London).

## **Energy**

- President of the arbitral tribunal in ICSID Case No. ARB/20/47, conducted under the Energy Charter Treaty (ECT), involving an investment in a concentrated solar power plant in the renewable energy sector.
- President of the arbitral tribunal in a CRCICA case in relation to a dispute relating to an Egyptian law-governed operation license and gas distribution agreement between the State and a foreign-controlled distributor (proceedings conducted and award issued in Arabic – applicable law: Egyptian, seat: Cairo).
- President of the arbitral tribunal in HKIAC consolidated cases in relation to a series of multiparty, multi-contract disputes arising under a private equity investment in the energy sector in PRC (applicable law: Hong Kong, seat: Hong Kong).
- Sole arbitrator in a DIFC-LCIA case in relation to a dispute arising out of a solar power project (applicable law: Egypt, seat: Dubai).
- Arbitrator nominated by a national oil company in an ICC case concerning a price determination dispute under a long-term gas supply contract (applicable law: Algerian, seat: Geneva).
- Party-appointed arbitrator in an SIAC case concerning a dispute under a series of Russian crude oil sale agreements (applicable law: English law, seat: Singapore).
- Party-appointed arbitrator in an SIAC case concerning a dispute under a supply contract of LNG carriers (applicable law: English law, seat: Singapore).
- Party-appointed arbitrator in an ICC case concerning a dispute under a series of consulting agreements in the power sector involving allegations of corruption of a national oil company (applicable law: Swiss, seat: Geneva).
- Party-appointed arbitrator in an ICC case concerning a dispute under a series of agreements in relation to the build-own-operate-transfer of high-value combined-cycle power plants (applicable law: French/Ivory Coast, seat: Paris).

## **Banking and Finance**

- President of the arbitral tribunal in an LCIA case in relation to the issue of securities (applicable law: English law, seat: London).
- President of the arbitral tribunal in case administered by the Qatar International Center for Conciliation & Arbitration (QICCA) in relation to banking service agreements (applicable law: Qatar, seat: Doha).
- President of the arbitral tribunal in HKIAC consolidated cases in relation to a series of multiparty, multi-contract disputes arising under a private equity investment in the energy sector in PRC (applicable law: Hong Kong, seat: Hong Kong).
- President of the arbitral tribunal in an ICC case in relation to a series of multiparty, multi-contract disputes arising under a private equity investment in the education sector in Morocco (applicable law: French, seat: Paris).
- President of the arbitral tribunal in a DIAC case in relation to a trade refinancing involving a supranational entity and State-owned entities (applicable law: Sudanese, seat: Dubai).
- Party-appointed arbitrator under the Rules of Arbitration of SIX Group in relation to a complaint against a decision of the Sanctions Commission (applicable law: Swiss, seat: Zurich).
- Party-appointed arbitrator under the SCCA Rules of Arbitration in relation to a dispute involving the Saudi exchange (applicable law: Saudi, seat: Riyadh).
- Party-appointed arbitrator in an ICC case concerning a shareholders' dispute in relation to a private equity investment in Morocco (applicable law: Moroccan, seat: Paris).

- Party-appointed arbitrator in an LCIA case concerning the financing of a major airport development project (applicable law: Abu Dhabi, seat: Abu Dhabi).
- Arbitrator nominated by a State-owned entity in an ICC case concerning a dispute under financing agreements in the context of a bank resolution scheme pursuant to the EU Bank Recovery and Resolution Directive (BRRD) (applicable law: France, seat: Paris).
- Party-appointed arbitrator in a DIAC case concerning a shareholders' dispute in relation to the acquisition of a financial institution (applicable law: Saudi, seat: Dubai).
- Party-appointed arbitrator in a DIAC case concerning a shareholders' dispute in relation to a private equity investment in the education sector in Saudi Arabia (applicable law: English law, seat: Dubai).
- Sole arbitrator in a DIFC-LCIA case in relation to a multiparty debt rescheduling dispute (applicable law: Swiss, seat: DIFC (UAE)).
- Sole arbitrator in a BCDR-AAA case in relation to a dispute relating to the building and operation of an electronic securities trading system (applicable law: Bahrain, seat: Manama).
- Sole arbitrator in an ad hoc case in relation to a dispute under a banking service agreement (applicable law: French law and international standard banking practice, seat: Paris).
- Party-appointed arbitrator in an ADCCAC case concerning a dispute under an Islamic banking service agreement (applicable law: UAE, seat: Abu Dhabi).

### **Other Sectors**

- Appointed as Presiding, Sole or Co-arbitrator in multiple administered cases relating to disputes arising in relation to hospitality, IT, construction, and waste management projects linked to the FIFA World Cup in Qatar (applicable law: Qatar law, seat: various).
- President of the arbitral tribunal in ICSID Case No. ARB/16/16 relating to a dispute arising out of an investment in the telecom sector.
- Chairman of the arbitral tribunal in an SCC case arising out of a sale of metals contract, involving the application of economic sanctions (applicable law: English law, seat: Stockholm).
- President of the arbitral tribunal in an ICDR AAA case in relation to a dispute relating to an Italian law-governed distribution agreement (applicable law: Italian, seat: Milan).
- Sole arbitrator in a LCIA case in relation to a dispute arising out of a hotel management agreement in relation to the development and operation of a lifestyle hotel (applicable law: Qatar, seat: Doha).
- Sole arbitrator in a DIAC case in relation to a dispute arising out of military procurement agreements performed in a war zone (applicable law: Dubai, seat: Dubai).
- Sole arbitrator in an ICC case in relation to a dispute arising out of a settlement agreement in relation to a distribution agreement involving the interpretation of a bilateral tax treaty (applicable law: Brazil, seat: Paris).
- Party-appointed arbitrator in an ICC case concerning a shareholder dispute in relation to a sensitive military procurement (applicable law: Saudi, seat: Zurich).
- Party-appointed arbitrator in an LCIA case concerning a multiparty, multi-contract shareholder dispute in the military logistical services sector (applicable law: Saudi, seat: London).
- Party-appointed arbitrator in an ICC case concerning the military logistical services sector (applicable law: French, seat: Paris).
- Party-appointed arbitrator in an HKIAC case concerning a dispute under a distribution agreement (applicable law: Hong Kong, seat: Hong Kong).

- Party-appointed arbitrator in an ICC case concerning a dispute under a seaport operations and services agreement (applicable law: Saudi, seat: Riyadh).
- Party-appointed arbitrator in an LCIA case concerning a commodities contract involving allegations of bribery (applicable law: French, seat: London).

**Other Alternative Dispute Resolution Appointments include:**

- Nominated as Appointing Authority by the Secretary General of the PCA in UNCITRAL arbitral proceedings.
- President or member of ICC adjudicatory panels in multiple international banking dispute resolution mechanism DOCDEX cases under international standard banking practice.
- Representative mediator, counsel, and expert appointments in international proceedings which are in the public domain are available at [www.affaki.fr](http://www.affaki.fr) or upon request.

Other international dispute resolution-related mandates include:

- Appointed to the International Financial Legal Experts body to the Shanghai High People’s Court.
- Chair of the Drafting Group for the revision of the PRIME Finance Arbitration Rules.
- Co-chair of the ICC Task Force on Financial Institutions and International Arbitration (Final report adopted on 17 September 2016).
- Delegate of ICC to FIDIC on the introduction of the Uniform Rules for Demand Guarantees into the FIDIC model Construction Contract, Plant and Design-Build Contract, and EPC Turnkey Contract.
- Chair of the Working Group on Applicable Law and Dispute Resolution in Islamic Finance. The Group delivered its report in June 2009.
- Appointed to the Practice & Procedures Board of the Australian Centre for International Commercial Arbitration (ACICA).
- Member of the Arbitration Rules Revision Committee of the Asian International Arbitration Centre (AIAC).

**ACADEMIC POSITIONS**

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- Professor of Law at SciencesPo, teaching Dispute Resolution and International Banking Law.
- Member of the Advisory Board of the Queen Mary-UNIDROIT Institute of Transnational Commercial Law (ITCL).
- Previous academic appointments: University of Paris Panthéon-Assas (2000 – 2024), teaching Banking Law, Private International Law, Contracts and Secured Transactions.
- Visiting professorships and guest lectures at Queen Mary University of London on international commercial law; University Panthéon-Sorbonne on comparative Arab law, and University Paris Dauphine on Islamic finance, Brasenose College University of Oxford, the University of Geneva, and Prince Sultan University in Riyadh, on international commercial law.

**CAREER**

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- AFFAKI, Partner, Paris.  
Avocat before the Court of Appeal of Paris, Practising in international arbitration and litigation, international banking law and regulation, and consulting on law reforms in transition economies.

- 1997 – 2014: BNP Paribas, Paris.  
Managing director. Member of the Executive Committee of the Corporate and Investment Bank Legal Department. Global Coordinator for Corporate Banking and Global Transaction Banking.
- Earlier professional appointments included:
  - 1995 – 1997: S. G. Archibald, Paris.  
Lawyer specializing in international arbitration and banking law. Also acting as dedicated counsel to the Arthur Andersen Emerging Markets team.
  - 1993: United Nations Compensation Commission (UNCC), Geneva.  
Legal officer participating in the implementation of the Provisional Rules for Claims Procedure and the processing of individual claims for damages arising out of the first Gulf war.
  - 1986 – 1989: Practiced law as a trainee at the Syrian Bar, Aleppo.

### **Bar Admissions**

- Paris • Aleppo (currently unregistered).

### **EDUCATION**

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- Doctorate of Laws and Habilitation to Direct Research (HDR), University of Paris Panthéon-Assas. C.V. Starr scholar, Calouste Gulbenkian scholar.
- *Diplôme d'études approfondies* (Postgraduate doctoral research degree) in commercial law, University of Paris Panthéon-Assas. C.V. Starr scholar.
- Bachelor of Laws, University of Aleppo.

### **PUBLICATIONS AND CONFERENCES**

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- Author or editor of several books, including “Trade Finance”, ITC Publ. (awarded the European Prize on Interdisciplinary Research); “Cross-border insolvency and conflict of jurisdictions”, Bruylant; “Increasing Access to Credit – Reforming Secured Transaction Law”, ITC Publ.; “The Guide to ICC Uniform Rules for Demand Guarantees” (with Sir Roy Goode), second edition, ICC Publ. No. 818 (No. 702 for the first edition); “Jurisdictional Choices” (with Horacio Grigera Naon), ICC Publ. No. 755, “Overriding mandatory rules and compliance in international arbitration” (with Vladimir Khvalei), ICC Publ. No. 808, and over 80 articles and case notes on international banking, international arbitration and litigation, economic sanctions, cross-border insolvency and Islamic finance.

⇒ **List of publications available for download at [www.affaki.fr](http://www.affaki.fr).**

- Regular chair, moderator and speaker at international fora on dispute resolution, international banking, comparative Arab law, cross-border insolvency, and economic sanctions. Selected lectures are available on the web and on [www.affaki.fr](http://www.affaki.fr). Press interviews file and list of citations in the press available.

### **Personal details**

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