

COLLOQUE

CURRENT INSTITUTIONAL ISSUES IN INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATION

Programme

Vendredi 30 Janvier 2026

9h00-17h15

Amphithéâtre Saint-François de Sales

UcLy
Campus Alpes-Europe
25 rue de la Cité

74 000 ANNECY



Summary

The symposium entitled 'Current Institutional Issues in International Arbitration' will be held on 30 January 2026 in Annecy. On this occasion, academics, practitioners and experts from various jurisdictions will discuss major institutional developments affecting both international commercial arbitration and international investment arbitration.

The main objective of the symposium is to analyse the institutional agitation currently affecting international arbitration and to discuss the paradigm shifts underway in this field. Presentations will focus on recent developments and their practical implications, with particular attention paid to the reform of investor-state dispute settlement (ISDS). The speakers will address two broad themes: the implications on ISDS of the creation of an appeal mechanism in investment arbitration; and the how the issue of impartiality and ethics of arbitrators in international arbitration is developing.

The event will be available to follow online upon registration.

Abstract

International arbitration is undergoing a period of change, marked by profound institutional transformations that are impacting both commercial and investment arbitration. The symposium 'Current Institutional Issues in International Arbitration' aims to provide a forum for collective reflection on these developments.

The first area of discussion is the now crucial issue of establishing an appeal mechanism for international investment arbitration. This issue is currently one of the topics of in-depth work within UNCITRAL Working Group III (Investor-State Dispute Settlement Reform). The UNCITRAL Working Group III is exploring new models to improve the predictability, efficiency and legitimacy of investor-state dispute settlement. Following a major initiative by the European Union in 2015, discussions are now focusing on the institutional feasibility and creation of such an appellate jurisdiction, its impact on stakeholders, and its possible links with other mechanisms such as the WTO Appellate Body or the ACWL.

The second theme addresses issues of impartiality, arbitrators' disclosure obligations and professional ethics that are particularly acute for arbitrators in the context of the increasing judicialization of arbitration. The development and adoption by UNCITRAL of an International Code of Conduct (UNCITRAL WG III) and the dissemination of the IBA Guidelines on Conflicts of Interest demonstrate the arbitration community's sensitivity to these issues. The symposium will analyse the practical scope and limitations of these normative initiatives, while comparing doctrinal points of view and feedback from international practice.

The one-day conference will be organised around two panels, each bringing together academics, experts and practitioners. With half a day devoted to each theme, there will be an emphasis on interactive discussions. The event will be open to academics, legal professionals and students.

Symposium programme

9h00-10h | Welcome
(coffee & croissants)

10h-10h30 | Opening words

Christophe Hadjur Vice Rector for Research, Enterprise and Innovation, **Michel Cannarsa**, Professor, Dean of the Faculty of Law, **Marjolaine Monot-Fouletier**, Professor, Head of the UCLy Research Groupe #6

10.00-10.30 - Introduction

Louis BERTIER Associate Professor, Lyon Catholic University and **Noam ZAMIR**, and **Noam Zamir**, Associate Professor, Lyon Catholic University.

10.30-13.00 - Morning session
AN APPEAL MECHANISM FOR
INTERNATIONAL INVESTMENT
ARBITRATION VESTISSEMENT

Chairperson: **Krista Nadakavukaren**, Vice-Director of the Swiss Institute of Comparative Law

- **Carlo Gamberal**, World Trade Organisation Jurisdiction, scope and standard of review by the WTO Appellate Body
- **Fernando Pierola**, Advisory Centre on WTO Law. An Arbitration Court for ISDS ? Lesson from WTO Dispute Settlement ?
- **Nikos Lavranos**, European Federation for Investment Law and Arbitration. Which lessons should the MIC learn from the WTO dispute settlement system ?
- **Diana Rosert**, Economic Affairs Officer, UNCTAD. A policy perspective on ISDS reform within UNCTAD's work on investment treaties

Discussions and Q&A

13.00-14h30 - Lunch break

**14.30-16.30 - Afternoon session
IMPARTIALITY AND ETHICS OF
ARBITRATORS (AVAILABLE TO FOLLOW
ONLINE UPON REGISTRATION)**

***Chairperson:* Nathalie Potin**, Associate
Professor, Lyon Catholic University

• **Nicole Cleis**, Swiss State Secretariat of
Economic Affairs

Arbitrator Ethics in Investor-State Arbitration:
Select Recent Case Law in light of the ICSID/
UNCITRAL Code of Conduct for Arbitrators

• **Denis Mouralis**, Full Professor of Law at Aix
Marseille University, Attorney at the Paris Bar,
Arbitrator

Arbitrators' Ethics: a Few Basic Principles
Based on the Law, Practice and Morality

• **Tunde Ogunseitan**, Ogunseitan Arbitration
Arbitrator ethics: whose subjective or
objective ethical considerations?

• **Philip Landolt**, Landolt & Kock

Title to add

Discussions and Q&A

16.30-16.45 - Conclusions

Gabriele Ruscalla, Le 16 Law

Direction scientifique

Dr Nathalie POTIN
Maître de conférences de l'UCly

Dr Louis BERTIER
Maître de conférences de l'UCly

Informations pratiques

Tarif

Gratuit pour les étudiants et les universitaires.

50€ pour les professionnels.

Inscription obligatoire

En ligne sur : <https://www.ucly.fr/l-ucly/agenda/un-constitutionnalisme-chretien/>

Lieu

Université Catholique de Lyon (UCly)
Campus Alpes-Europe
25 rue de la Cité, 74000 Annecy
Amphithéâtre Saint-François de Sales

Contact

lbertyer@univ-catholyon.fr
npotin@univ-catholyon.fr