arbitra™



Lara Hammoud

lara@hammoudarbitration.com

Nationality: French and Lebanese
Languages: English, French, Arabic (Fluent).
Italian (Conversational)

Lara Hammoud is a globally sought-after arbitrator, recognised for her extensive expertise in international arbitration. She is a qualified French lawyer and has over twenty years' experience in international arbitration. Prior to becoming a full-time arbitrator in July 2024, Lara spent a decade as in-house counsel heading the Disputes team at Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC). Prior to ADNOC, Lara started her career in Paris at the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) before moving to private practice with a Magic Circle law firm in Paris and Abu Dhabi.

Lara has acted as tribunal chair, sole and party-appointed arbitrator in both common and civil law jurisdictions under UNCITRAL, DIAC, DIFC-LCIA, SIAC, BCDR, ADCCAC, ArbitrateAD and ICC arbitration rules seated in Europe, Asia and the Middle-East.

Lara is the co-founder of the highly successful Civil Law Conference in Abu Dhabi. She is the writer and editor of numerous articles and books relating to international arbitration and regularly appears as a speaker at international conferences and arbitration workshops.

Lara is regularly recognized in the directories including most recently Who's Who Legal, Arbitration 2025 and Chambers & Partners, Most In Demand Arbitrators, UAE 2025.

Lara speaks fluent Arabic, English and French and is proficient in Italian. She is a member of the ArbitrateAD Court of Arbitration, SIAC Court of Arbitration and the ICC Commission on Arbitration & ADR.

Sector Expertise

- Banking & Finance
- Energy, Oil & Gas
- Construction, Engineering & Infrastructure
- Commercial Dispute Resolution
- Technology & Telecommunications

Banking & Finance

Lara has handled cases involving bank guarantees in commercial and infrastructure projects as well as financial advisory services relating to the sale of shares. Lara has also acted as arbitrator in corporate disputes involving issues related to bank loans, corporate debts and guarantees.

Energy, Oil & Gas

Lara has experience in the Energy, Oil & Gas sector including concession agreements, supply agreements, drilling agreements and EPC agreements related to oil and gas projects. Lara has handled disputes involving, among other projects, the construction of a refinery, design and construction of artificial islands and land reclamation, construction of waste heat recovery units, construction of pipelines, onshore and offshore gas developments as well as oil fields developments.

Construction, Engineering & Infrastructure

Lara has extensive experience as arbitrator and counsel/in-house counsel in construction and engineering disputes involving nuclear energy facilities, complex industrial plants and facilities, oil and gas facilities, ships and vessels and urban developments.

Commercial Dispute Resolution

Lara has extensive experience in general commercial disputes both as counsel and arbitrator. She has been involved in cases dealing with distribution, joint ventures, real estate and sales and purchases agreements.

Technology & Telecommunications

Lara has been involved in disputes over software development and IT services involving telecommunication companies.

Experience

Recent arbitration appointments include:

- Appointed as Presiding Arbitrator in a LCIA case seated in Kingdom of Saudi Arabia regarding a road network construction, governed by Saudi Law
- Appointed as Sole Arbitrator in a LCIA case seated in London regarding a supply agreement, governed by English law
- Appointed as Presiding Arbitrator in a SIAC case seated in Singapore regarding an energy project, governed by English law
- Appointed as Sole Arbitrator in an ICC case seated in Geneva regarding a petrochemical project, governed by Iranian law
- Appointed as Co-arbitrator in an ICC case seated in Qatar regarding a construction contract, governed by Qatari law
- Appointed as Presiding Arbitrator in an ICC case seated in Qatar regarding a construction contract, governed by Qatari law
- Appointed as Sole Arbitrator in a SIAC case seated in Singapore regarding a construction contract, governed by Sri Lankan law
- Appointed as Presiding Arbitrator in an ADCCAC case seated in Abu Dhabi regarding an agreement for the hiring of construction materials, governed by UAE law
- Appointed as Co-arbitrator in an *adhoc* dispute under UNCITRAL rules seated in Kuala Lumpur regarding the construction of an energy project, governed by Malaysian law
- Appointed as Presiding Arbitrator in a DIAC case seated in Dubai regarding a supply agreement of a gas insulated switchgear, governed by Kuwait law
- Appointed as Presiding Arbitrator in a DIAC case seated in Dubai regarding two construction contracts, governed by UAE law
- Appointed as Presiding Arbitrator in an ICC case seated in DIFC regarding an insurance portfolio transfer agreement, governed by UAE law
- Appointed as Co-Arbitrator seated in Dubai concerning the construction of residential buildings, governed by UAE law
- Appointed as Presiding Arbitrator in a DIAC case seated in Dubai regarding a construction project, governed by UAE law
- Appointed as Sole Arbitrator in an *adhoc* case seated in Dubai regarding a construction contract, governed by UAE law
- Appointed as Presiding Arbitrator in an *adhoc* case seated in Qatar regarding a design, engineering, fabrication, assembly and supply agreement, governed by Qatari law
- Appointed as Sole Arbitrator in a DIAC case seated in Dubai regarding an MEP works agreement, governed by UAE law
- Appointed as Presiding Arbitrator in an ADCCAC case seated in Abu Dhabi regarding an agreement for the hiring of construction materials governed by UAE law
- Appointed as Presiding Arbitrator in a DIFC-LCIA case seated in Dubai regarding sale and purchase agreements, governed by UAE law
- Appointed as Sole Arbitrator in an *adhoc* case seated in Dubai regarding a shareholders' agreement governed by UAE law

- Appointed as Presiding Arbitrator in a DIAC case seated in Dubai regarding a construction contract (FIDIC), governed by Jordanian law
- Appointed as Presiding Arbitrator in two related DIAC cases seated in Dubai regarding construction contracts (FIDIC), governed by UAE law
- Appointed as Presiding Arbitrator in a DIFC-LCIA case seated in DIFC regarding a distribution agreement, governed by UAE law
- Appointed as Presiding Arbitrator in a DIAC case seated in Dubai regarding a shipbuilding agreement, governed by UAE law
- Appointed as Presiding Arbitrator in an ICC case seated in Doha regarding a consultancy services agreement, governed by Qatari law
- Appointed as Presiding Arbitrator in a DIAC case seated in Dubai regarding an IT services agreement, governed by UAE law
- Appointed as Co-arbitrator in an ICC case seated in London regarding a design, engineering, manufacture and supply agreement, governed by English law
- Appointed as Sole Arbitrator in an ICC case seated in Dubai regarding a financial services agreement, governed by UAE law
- Appointed as Presiding Arbitrator in a DIAC case seated in Dubai regarding an agreement for electrical and street lighting works, governed by UAE law
- Appointed as Presiding Arbitrator in a case administered under the UNCITRAL Arbitration Rules 1976 seated in Bahrain regarding a dredging, reclamation and shore protection agreement, governed by Bahraini law
- Appointed as Sole Arbitrator in an ICC case seated in Abu Dhabi regarding a purchase agreement governed by UAE law

As Counsel

Arbitrations in which Lara Hammoud has appeared as Counsel include the representation of:

- A European consortium as claimants in ICC arbitration arising out of the construction of a nuclear power plant in Finland. Stockholm seat, Finnish law
- A Middle Eastern individual as claimant in a Dubai corporation in a DIAC arbitration in relation to a real estate development dispute in Dubai. Dubai seat, UAE law
- An owner of an iron and steel plant in an ICC arbitration in relation to a dispute arising from a gas supply agreement in Oman. Muscat seat, Omani law
- A Middle Eastern owner of a salt plant in an LCIA arbitration in relation to a construction contract dispute. Muscat seat, Omani law
- An Abu Dhabi government-owned entity in defending appeals before the Abu Dhabi Court of Appeal brought by a shipbuilding company
- A US multinational Company in an ICC arbitration in relation to a dispute arising from the cancellation of a joint venture agreement. London seat, English law
- A construction contractor in a multibillion-dollar dispute against the owner of the project in Dubai

- A Middle Eastern conglomerate in a multibillion-dollar dispute including litigation and arbitration proceedings

Academic & Professional Qualifications

Education

- Maitrise, Droit Privé (Honours), Université Paris X (France) (1998)
- LL.M in Commercial Law, University of Bristol, (England) (1999)
- Postgraduate Diploma (DESS) in International Commercial Law (Honours), Université Paris X (France) (2000)
- Ecole de Formation du Barreau (Versailles Bar School) (France) (2001)

Bar Admissions

- Avocat, admitted to the Paris Bar (France) (2002)

Professional Experience

- Independent Arbitrator, Arbitra International (2022 – Current)
- Assistant General Counsel, Group Disputes & ADR, ADNOC, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates (2013 – July 2024)
- Shearman & Sterling LLP, Senior Associate, International Arbitration Group, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates (2008 – 2013)
- International Chamber of Commerce, Secretary to the ICC Commission on Arbitration, Paris, France (2006 – 2008)
- International Chamber of Commerce, Deputy Counsel, Secretariat of the International Court of Arbitration, Paris, France (2002 – 2004)

Professional Associations & Recognitions

- Member of the ICCA Governing Board
- Member of the ASA Board
- Member of the ICC Commission on Arbitration & ADR
- Member of the Court of Arbitration of ArbitrateAD
- Abu Dhabi Global Market (ADGM), Panel of Arbitrators
- Dubai International Arbitration Centre (DIAC), Panel of Arbitrators
- Saudi Centre Commercial Arbitration (SCCA), Panel of Arbitrators
- Shanghai Arbitration Commission (SHAC), Panel of Arbitrators
- Singapore International Arbitration Centre (SIAC), Panel of Arbitrators
- Japan Centre Commercial Arbitration (JCCA), Panel of Arbitrators

- Accredited Mediator (CEDR)
- Councillor of the LCIA Arab Users' Council
- Council Member of the Mumbai Centre of International Arbitration (MCIA)
- Member of the Court of the Singapore International Arbitration Centre (SIAC)
- Member of Francarbi Board

Publications, Articles & Thought Leadership

Articles

- Interest in ICC Arbitral Awards, 15(1) ICC Bull. 53 (2004) (co-author)
- ICC Arbitration in the Arab World, 25 J. Int. Arb. 2 (2008) (co-author)
- The New ICC Rules of Arbitration: a summary of the most relevant changes to the 1998 rules of arbitration, Concerto arbitral en trois mouvements pour Pierre Tercier: Hammoud, von Wunscheim, Zen-Ruffinen (eds), Schulthess, p.67 (2013)

Books

- Concerto arbitral en trois mouvements pour Pierre Tercier: Hammoud, von Wunscheim, Zen-Ruffinen (eds), Schulthess (2013)
- Summaries of UAE courts' decisions on arbitration, Arab, Hammoud, Lovett, ICC Publication No. 746E (2013)
- Summaries of UAE courts' decisions on arbitration, Second Edition, Arab, Hammoud, Lovett, ICC Publication No. 789E (2017)

Directory & Client Quotes

Chambers Global Wide: Most in Demand Arbitrators

"One of the few quality next gen female arbitrators in the middle east".

"Lara has excellent experience in arbitration and dispute resolution and is highly regarded in the UAE".

"She is truly trilingual (English, Arabic & French)".

"She is brilliant - a great mind who is highly respected and adds value."

"Lara Hammoud is a prominent arbitrator with a depth of knowledge in construction, energy and technology disputes. She is well known in the market and has extensive experience acting on a wide variety of disputes."