



# Joint UNCITRAL-LAC Conference on Dispute Settlement

Ljubljana, 9 April 2019



United Nations  
UNCITRAL



LJUBLJANA  
ARBITRATION CENTRE  
AT THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
AND INDUSTRY OF SLOVENIA

The Secretariat of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) is the core legal body of the United Nations system in the field of international trade law. A legal body with universal membership specializing in commercial law reform worldwide for over 40 years, UNCITRAL's business is the modernization and harmonization of rules on international business.

Trade means faster growth, higher living standards, and new opportunities through commerce. In order to increase these opportunities worldwide, UNCITRAL is formulating modern, fair, and harmonized rules on commercial transactions. These include:

- Conventions, model laws and rules which are acceptable worldwide;
- Legal and legislative guides and recommendations of great practical value;
- Updated information on case law and enactments of uniform commercial law;
- Technical assistance in law reform projects;
- Regional and national seminars on uniform commercial law.



The Ljubljana Arbitration Centre at the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Slovenia (LAC) is an autonomous and independent arbitration centre providing administrative services for the resolution of disputes between parties through arbitration, mediation, conciliation and other forms of alternative dispute resolution.

The LAC has been administering fast and efficient resolution of domestic and international disputes since 1928, thus representing the central arbitration institution in Slovenia.

Slovenia is an arbitration-friendly environment. The country's geostrategic position and modern legislative framework allow the LAC to serve as a trustworthy forum for settling disputes in the region.

[www.sloarbitration.eu](http://www.sloarbitration.eu)

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## **SESSION I: Breaking new ground: New instruments for the enforcement of settlement agreements reached through international mediation**

In 2018, UNCITRAL adopted two new instruments for enforcing international commercial settlement agreements resulting from mediation: an amendment of the UNCITRAL Model Law on International Commercial Mediation and The United Nations Convention on International Settlement Agreements Resulting from Mediation. This is a fundamental step towards a clear and uniform framework for the recognition of settlement agreements resulting from mediation, akin to what the New York Convention (1958) has been for arbitration. The new Convention and the amended Model Law will increase the predictability of settlements achieved through international mediation.

## **SESSION II: Back to the roots: Are expedited proceedings the answer to the often complex and lengthy arbitrations?**

Just like international transactions, arbitrations have become increasingly complex and lengthy. Straight-forward cases concerning lower amounts are often ill-served by such complex proceedings. Can expedited proceedings be the answer to such criticisms? We will host practitioners with various roles in international arbitrations (in-house counsel, external counsel, an arbitrator and a representative of an institution) who will help us strike the delicate balance between the need for an expedited decision of the dispute and the right to be heard.

## **SESSION III: Building bridges: Dispute avoidance and dispute resolution in construction industry**

Complex construction projects are rarely completed without disputes, the bulk of which are dealt with in alternative dispute resolution proceedings and, ultimately, arbitration. The uniqueness of issues for parties, counsel and arbitrators derives from the sophistication and specialization of the construction industry. This panel will showcase salient issues that emerge in various stages of a construction dispute by sharing the speakers' experience on different instruments and techniques for dispute avoidance and dispute resolution.

## **SESSION IV: Much ado about everything: Damages in International Arbitration**

Damages are sought in virtually all arbitrations. Quantification of damages is thus integral to the whole arbitral process and is usually the issue of the outmost relevance to the parties. However, assessment of damages can prove to be a daunting task for the arbitral tribunal, owing to its high complexity both in legal and factual terms..

### **WHEN:**

9. April 2019

### **WHERE:**

Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Slovenia,  
Dimičeva 13, Ljubljana, Slovenia

### **WHO:**

Arbitrators, lawyers representing parties in arbitrations, state officials dealing with investor-state arbitration, in-house counsel and globally operating businesses

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9.00-9.30 Registration

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9.30-9.40 **Welcome addresses**

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9.40-10.00 **Keynote address**

**Pierre Tercier** (*Professor Emeritus at the University of Fribourg and Honorary Chairman of the ICC International Court of Arbitration, Paris*)

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**SESSION I**

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10.00-11.10 **Roundtable: Breaking new ground: New instruments for the enforcement of settlement agreements reached through international mediation**

**Singapore convention as the new groundbreaking framework for mediation**

**Judith Knieper** (*UNCITRAL*)

Moderator: **Judith Knieper** (*UNCITRAL*)

Speakers:

**Mark E. Appel** (*ArbDB Chambers, London*)

**Davor Babić** (*Faculty of Law, University of Zagreb, Zagreb*)

**Jean-Christophe Boulet** (*SPF Justice, Brussels*)

**Barbara Helene Steindl** (*Heger & Partner Rechtsanwälte, Vienna*)

**Natascha Tunkel** (*knoetzl, Vienna*)

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**SESSION II**

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11.10-12.30 **Roundtable: Back to the roots: Are expedited proceedings the answer to the often complex and lengthy arbitrations?**

Moderator: **Franz T. Schwarz** (*Wilmer Hale, London*)

Speakers:

**Leon Kopecky** (*Schoenherr, Vienna*)

**Maja Menard** (*Fatur Menard, Ljubljana*)

**Michael Nueber** (*Gasser Partners, Vaduz*)

**Jan K. Schäfer** (*King & Spalding, Frankfurt*)

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12.30-12.50 Coffee/Tea Break/Networking

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**SESSION III**

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12.50-14.10 **Panel: Building bridges: Dispute avoidance and dispute resolution in construction industry**

moderator: **Pierre Michel Genton** (*PMG Consulting Engineers and Economists Prevention and Resolution of Disputes, Lausanne*)

Speakers:

**Živa Filipič** (*ICC Court, Paris*)

**Hans Liebel** (*Porr Bau GmbH*)

**Bartosz Krużewski** (*Clifford Chance, Warsaw*)

**David Premelč** (*Rojs, Peljhan, Prelesnik & partners, Ljubljana*)

**Venus Valentina Wong** (*Wolf Theiss, Vienna*)

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14.10-15.10 Buffet lunch/Networking

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**SESSION IV**

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15.10-17.00 **Panel: Much ado about everything: Damages in International Arbitration**

moderator: **Manuel Conthe** (*Independent Arbitrator, Madrid*)

Speakers:

**Daniela Karollus-Bruner** (*CMS, Vienna*)

**Minu Gvardjančič** (*Karanovic & Partners, Ljubljana*)

**Jure Levovnik** (*Jadek & Pensa, Ljubljana*)

**Yuri Sidorovich** (*Deloitte, Ljubljana*)

**Sylvia Tonova** (*Jones Day, London*)

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17.00 Cocktail reception/Networking

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**Ljubljana Arbitration Centre at  
the Chamber of Commerce and  
Industry of Slovenia**

Dimičeva ulica 13  
1000 Ljubljana  
Slovenia

T: +386 1 5898 180  
F: +386 1 5898 400  
E: arbitraza.lj@gzs.si