

AN ARMENIAN ARBITRATION WEEK EVENT INAUGURAL ARMENIA ARBITRATION CONFERENCE

*Increasing Business Confidence in a Globalized Economy
Through a State-of-the-Art International Commercial Arbitration Disputes Regime*

4 September 2023
Armenia Marriott Hotel Yerevan



Pre-Conference Booklet



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Khor Virap is located on the hills of Ararat Plain in Armenia. The Armenian monastery is a known pilgrimage site because of the imprisonment of St. Gregory the Illuminator in its dungeons until he became the religious mentor of King Tiridates (photo by Eric Sales/ADB, some rights reserved).

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The Iron Fountain, Gyumri, Armenia (photo by Gor Davtyan on Unsplash).



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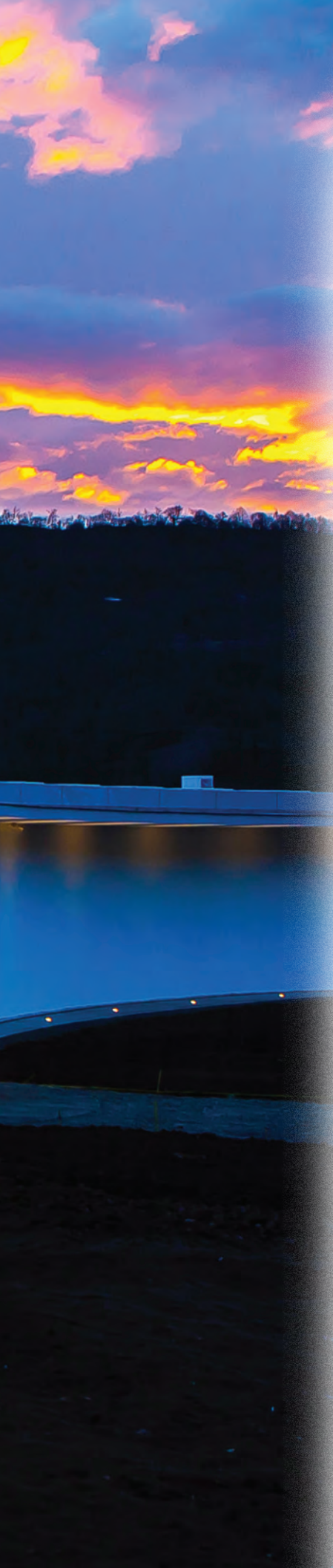
6 Es of International Arbitration—**Efficient, Expeditious, Expert, Even-handed, Electronic and Enforceable**

Why is it that parties agree to arbitrate? There are several reasons why arbitration has become the preferred means of settling international disputes all around the world. First, arbitration is efficient and expeditious. The process is quicker and cheaper as compared to the alternatives, usually litigation before national courts. Second, arbitration is expert. One of the critical features of arbitration is that parties are able to choose their arbitrators, who may have particular commercial experience or specialized experience in specific industries, for example construction or commodities or international law. Third, arbitrators are also particularly expert in terms of procedures, and can manage the process to ensure the arbitration proceedings proceed both expeditiously and fairly. Fourth, arbitration is even-handed and perceived as neutral, meaning that the arbitrators are independent of the parties and will hear the dispute impartially. Fifth, beginning in the COVID-19 era, arbitration moved on-line and became more electronic than most court proceedings. Finally, arbitration is enforceable. Arbitral awards have an enforceability premium, particularly under the New York Convention, which I will discuss in greater detail later, which allows the enforcement of arbitral awards in over 165 different countries. This makes arbitration superior to the available alternatives, being national court litigation, because judgments are not as easily enforced. There is no real equivalent to the New York Convention for court judgments. These are what I call the 6 Es.

Source: **Gary Born**, *Chair, International Arbitration Practice Group, Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr LLP*

COAF Smart Center, Lori, Armenia (photo by Nerses Khachatryan on Unsplash).





01

CONFERENCE AGENDA

4 September 2023
Tigran the Great Hall,
Armenia Marriott Hotel Yerevan

OPENING CEREMONY

REGISTRATION AND WELCOME COFFEE

9:30–10:00

WELCOME AND PRESENTATION OF THE PROGRAM

10:00–10:10

MASTERS OF CEREMONIES

Davit Gharibyan, Deputy Director, Center for Legislation Development

Christina Pak, Principal Counsel and Team Leader, Law and Policy Reform, Asian Development Bank (ADB)

OPENING REMARKS

10:10–10:30

Mher Grigoryan, Deputy Prime Minister, Republic of Armenia

Grigor Minasyan, Minister of Justice of the Republic of Armenia

Martin Galstyan, Governor, Central Bank of the Republic of Armenia

Don Lambert, Country Director, Armenia Resident Mission, ADB

Frank Hess, Head of Cooperation, Delegation of the European Union to Armenia

Anna Joubin-Bret, The Secretary, United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) (video address)

GROUP PHOTO

10:30–10:40

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

10:40–11:00

Gary Born, Chair, International Arbitration Practice Group, Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr LLP

PLENARY SESSIONS

SESSION 1

ARMENIA AS AN INVESTMENT HUB: PROMOTING INVESTOR CONFIDENCE THROUGH ARBITRATION

11:00–12:00

- **Robust Arbitration System and Foreign Direct Investment**
– Presentation by **Jordi Paniagua**, *Professor of Economics, University of Valencia*
- **Private Sector Development and Investment Climate of Armenia**
- **New Trends and Directions in International Arbitration**
- **Arbitration in Armenia and the Region—Progressive Evolution**

MODERATOR

Damien Eastman, *Deputy General Counsel, ADB*

PANELISTS

Aida Avanesian, *Lecturer, American University of Armenia and French University of Armenia*

Galina Zukova, *Partner, ZUKOVA Legal*

George Svanadze, *Partner, MG Law / Managing Partner, Andersen Georgia, Head of Litigation Practice*

Hovsep Patvakanyan, *Head, Investment Council of Armenia*

Narine Avetisyan, *Senior Investment Officer, ADB Armenia Resident Mission*

Sergey Brutyan, *Managing Partner, Schultze, Brutyan and Partners*

Yeghishe Kirakosyan, *Representative of the Republic of Armenia on International Legal Issues*

SESSION 2

LAUNCH OF THE ARBITRATION AND MEDIATION CENTER OF ARMENIA (AMCA)

12:00–13:00

- **Impetus and Institutional Set-up of AMCA**
- **AMCA's Development Journey**
- **AMCA Arbitration Rules and Its Innovative Features**
- **Futures & Foresight and Resilience of AMCA**
- **The Role and Operation of AMCA and How It Will Serve the Needs of Business**

MODERATOR

Tigran Dadunts, *Director, Center for Legislation Development*

PANELISTS

Andrea Carlevaris, Partner, BonelliErede

Annette Magnusson, Co-Founder, Climate Change Counsel

Ara Khzmalyan, Partner, ADWISE Business and Legal Consulting

Gary Born, Chair, International Arbitration Practice Group, Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr LLP

Harout Samra, Representative of Armenian General Benevolent Union, AMCA Co-Founder

Levon Golendukhin, Representative of Armenian Bar Association, AMCA Co-Founder

Narine Avetisyan, Senior Investment Officer, ADB Armenia Resident Mission

Patricia Shaughnessy, Associate Professor, Law Department, Stockholm University

Rafik Grigoryan, Founder and Managing Director, Sigma Law Group

Tatevik Matinyan, Director-Secretary General, AMCA

LUNCH BREAK

13:00–14:00 • Armenia Marriott Hotel Yerevan (sponsored by organizers)

SESSION 3

CONSTRUCTION AND MINING DISPUTES

14:00–15:00

- **Construction Developments in Armenia and Beyond**
- **Types of Construction Disputes**
- **Features of Construction Dispute Resolution**
- **Practice in Construction Disputes in Armenia**
- **Key Issues in Mining Arbitration and Applicable Substantive Principles**

MODERATOR

Franz T. Schwarz, Vice Chair, International Arbitration Practice Group, Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr LLP

PANELISTS

Aisha Nadar, Vice Chair of ICC Commission on Arbitration and ADR, Advokatfirman Runeland

Andrey Artyushenko, Managing Partner, Artyushenko & Partners

Artyom Geghamyan, Managing Partner, TABIA Legal Solutions

Gurgen Grigoryan, Chairman, “Armenian Association of Developers” NGO

Hayk Hovhannisyan, Managing Partner, HAP Law Firm

Hranush Aghayan, Co-Founder, Luyser Property Developer

Julian Cohen, Head of Chambers, Resolution Chambers

Karen Arustamyan, *FIDIC Certified Contract Manager - Construction Contract Management and Tender Expert, Technocrat Legal*

Marina Weiss, *Partner, Bredin Prat*

Vanik Margaryan, *Partner, AM Law Firm*

SESSION 4

ENERGY AND CLIMATE CHANGE DISPUTES

15:00–15:45

- **Developments in the Energy Sector of Armenia and Beyond**
- **Recent Developments in Energy Disputes: Commercial and Investment Treaty Arbitration**
- **Legislative Framework and Energy Disputes**
- **Types of Emerging Climate Change-Related Disputes and Suitability of International Arbitration as a Dispute Mechanism**

MODERATOR

Christina Pak, *Principal Counsel and Team Leader, Law and Policy Reform, ADB*

PANELISTS

Abgar Budaghyan, *Chief of Party, USAID Energy Secure Armenia Program at Tetra Tech*

Annette Magnusson, *Co-Founder, Climate Change Counsel*

Arik Aslanyan, *Partner, Fieldfisher*

Johannes P. Willheim, *Partner, Jones Day*

Seda Shahinyan, *Commissioner, Public Services Regulatory Commission of Armenia*

COFFEE BREAK

15:45–16:00

SESSION 5

FINANCIAL DISPUTES

16:00–16:45

- **Types of Disputes Arising from the Financial Sector**
- **Use of ADR in the Financial System of Armenia**
- **Increasing Use of International Arbitration for Financial Transactions**
- **Consumer Protection in Financial Disputes: Financial System Ombudsman as an ADR Mechanism**

MODERATOR

Patricia Shaughnessy, *Associate Professor, Law Department, Stockholm University*

PANELISTS

Arman Aloyan, *Head of Legal Department, Central Bank of Armenia*

Franz T. Schwarz, *Vice Chair, International Arbitration Practice Group, Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr LLP*

Gor Margaryan, *Managing Partner, Legelata Law Firm*

Jirayr Habibian, *Managing Partner, Matouk Bassiouny*

Piruz Sargsyan, *Financial System Ombudsperson of Armenia*

SESSION 6

NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN DISPUTE RESOLUTION

16:45–17:45

- **Virtual Hearings and the Use of Technology in Arbitration**
- **Expedited Arbitration Measures**
- **Cross-Institutional Arbitration Rules and MOUs**
- **Third-Party Funding and Ground Rules**
- **Ethics in Institutional Arbitration**
- **Unlocking Opportunities: The Power of Mediation—Bridging Gaps in Commercial, Investment, and Illicit Property Disputes in Armenia**

MODERATOR

Galina Zukova, *Partner, ZUKOVA Legal*

PANELISTS

Hon. Justice Anselmo Reyes, *Singapore International Commercial Court*

Catherine Rogers, *Professor of Law, Bocconi University*

Diana Bayzakova, *Director, Tashkent International Arbitration Center*

Kevin Nash, *Registrar, Singapore International Arbitration Center*

Mushegh Manukyan, *International Mediator*

Natalia Petrik, *Deputy Secretary General, Stockholm Chamber of Commerce Arbitration Institute*

Neeti Sachdeva, *Secretary General and Registrar, Mumbai Centre for International Arbitration*

Thomas Snider, *Partner and Head of International Arbitration, Charles Russell Speechlys*

SESSION 7

CONCLUDING SESSION

17:45–18:00

- Closing Remarks
- Q & A from the Audience

CONFERENCE RAPPORTEURS

Maria Cecilia T. Sicangco, *Senior Legal Officer, Law and Policy Reform, ADB*

Kristina P. Castaneda, *Knowledge Management Specialist (Resource Person), Law and Policy Development for Private Sector and Public-Private Partnerships Technical Assistance, Law and Policy Reform Program, ADB*

END OF CONFERENCE

COCKTAIL RECEPTION



The Yerevan Cascade Complex (photo by Sanasar Tovmasyan on Unsplash).



02

BACKGROUND PAPER

What is International Arbitration?

International arbitration is a private dispute resolution mechanism that involves parties from different countries submitting their dispute to a neutral arbitrator or a panel of neutral arbitrators, who then render a decision in the form of an arbitral award that is capable of enforcement in 172 countries under the New York Convention (as of January 2023).

Advantages of International Arbitration

In recent decades, international arbitration has become the preferred means of resolving international commercial disputes all over the world. International arbitration is preferred over litigation in the national courts because it offers certainty for commercial parties and allows parties greater autonomy to manage the risks involved in cross-border transactions. In particular, international arbitration provides parties with major advantages, such as: (i) flexibility and ability to choose a neutral forum, impartial arbitrators with subject matter expertise, procedure, and governing law; (ii) confidentiality and privacy; (iii) cost-effectiveness; and (iv) finality and ability to enforce a foreign arbitral award in 172 countries, pursuant to the New York Convention, as summarized in Table 1.

Table 1: State Parties to the New York Convention

Afghanistan	Albania	Algeria	Andorra
Angola	Antigua and Barbuda	Argentina	Armenia
Australia	Austria	Azerbaijan	Bahamas
Bahrain	Bangladesh	Barbados	Belarus
Belgium	Belize	Benin	Bhutan
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Botswana	Brazil
Brunei Darussalam	Bulgaria	Burkina Faso	Burundi
Cabo Verde	Cambodia	Cameroon	Canada
Central African Republic	Chile	China (People's Republic of)	Colombia
Comoros	Cook Islands	Costa Rica	Côte d'Ivoire
Croatia	Cuba	Cyprus	Czech Republic
Democratic Republic of the Congo	Denmark	Djibouti	Dominica
Dominican Republic	Ecuador	Egypt	El Salvador
Estonia	Ethiopia	Fiji	Finland
France	Gabon	Georgia	Germany
Ghana	Greece	Guatemala	Guinea
Guyana	Haiti	Holy See	Honduras
Hungary	Iceland	India	Indonesia

continued on next page

Table 1 *continued*

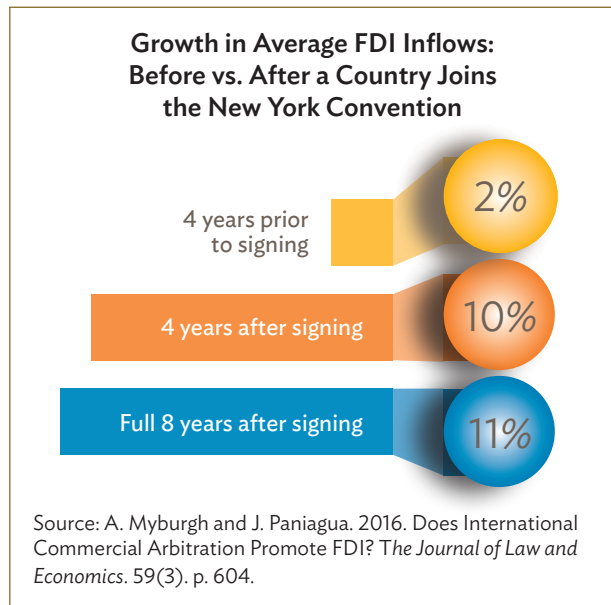
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Iraq	Ireland	Israel
Italy	Jamaica	Japan	Jordan
Kazakhstan	Kenya	Kuwait	Kyrgyzstan
Lao People's Democratic Republic	Latvia	Lebanon	Lesotho
Liberia	Liechtenstein	Lithuania	Luxembourg
Madagascar	Malawi	Malaysia	Maldives
Mali	Malta	Marshall Islands	Mauritania
Mauritius	Mexico	Monaco	Mongolia
Montenegro	Morocco	Mozambique	Myanmar
Nepal	Netherlands (Kingdom of the)	New Zealand	Nicaragua
Niger	Nigeria	North Macedonia	Norway
Oman	Pakistan	Palau	Panama
Papua New Guinea	Paraguay	Peru	Philippines
Poland	Portugal	Qatar	Republic of Korea
Republic of Moldova	Romania	Russian Federation	Rwanda
San Marino	Sao Tome and Principe	Saudi Arabia	Senegal
Serbia	Seychelles	Sierra Leone	Singapore
Slovakia	Slovenia	South Africa	Spain
Sri Lanka	St. Vincent and the Grenadines	State of Palestine	Sudan
Suriname	Sweden	Switzerland	Syrian Arab Republic
Tajikistan	Thailand	Timor-Leste	Tonga
Trinidad and Tobago	Tunisia	Türkiye	Turkmenistan
Uganda	Ukraine	United Arab Emirates	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
United Republic of Tanzania	United States of America	Uruguay	Uzbekistan
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	Viet Nam	Zambia	Zimbabwe

Source: [Contracting States](#). New York Convention (last accessed on 17 August 2023).

Further, international arbitration is fundamental to economic development. The absence of an international arbitration framework increases the risks and cost of doing business and can stifle the economic growth potential of a country. Studies have shown that ratification of or accession to the New York Convention is associated with positive economic impacts, such as increased trade flows,¹ and net foreign direct investment (FDI) inflows.²

Legal Framework for International Arbitration

There is already a well-established legal infrastructure in place for international arbitration, namely (i) the New York Convention, and (ii) the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law Model Law on International Commercial Arbitration (“UNCITRAL Model Law”). Both these instruments are relatively easy to adopt and have potentially outsized benefits for countries that do incorporate them in their national legal frameworks. By adopting these two instruments, such countries can quickly establish a framework for resolving international commercial disputes by arbitration (or reform any existing frameworks in accordance with accepted international practices) and reap the corresponding benefits.



Current Status in Armenia

Armenia acceded to the New York Convention on 29 December 1997. Its national arbitration legislation, the Law on Commercial Arbitration, was adopted on 25 December 2006 and amended on 19 June 2015, 27 October 2016, 21 December 2017, 23 December 2022, and 3 May 2023. The law complies with the 1985 UNCITRAL Model Law, with amendments as adopted in 2006. The procedure for enforcement and recognition of arbitral awards is regulated by the Civil Code of the Republic of Armenia.

Recent amendments to the Law on Commercial Arbitration were mostly directed at increasing the attractiveness of arbitration. For instance, an out-of-court enforcement procedure was provided for some domestic disputes, and timelines for court procedures regarding enforcement and recognition of arbitral awards were reduced.

Meanwhile, the Government of Armenia made promotion of alternative dispute resolution a goal both in its Program for 2021–2026 and its 2022–2026 Strategy for Judicial and Legal Reforms. As such, a new institution, the Arbitration and Mediation Center of Armenia (AMCA), was established in May 2023. AMCA is an independent non-governmental organization mandated to administer arbitral and mediation proceedings, as well as promote the uptake of ADR mechanisms in the country. The center is governed by a Board of Trustees representing relevant business areas, an Arbitration Council composed of national and international specialists, and a Director serving as the organization’s executive officer. The Director also acts as the Secretary General in regard to arbitration proceedings.

¹ D. Berkowitz, J. Moenius and K. Pistor. 2004. Legal Institutions and International Trade Flows. *Michigan Journal of International Law*. 26(1). pp. 163–198.

² A. Myburgh and J. Paniagua. 2016. Does International Commercial Arbitration Promote FDI? *The Journal of Law and Economics*. 59(3). pp. 597–627.

Inaugural Armenia Arbitration Conference: Increasing Business Confidence in a Globalized Economy through a State-of-the-Art International Commercial Arbitration Disputes Regime

4 September 2023

Armenia Marriott Hotel Yerevan

To increase business confidence by promoting a state-of-the-art international commercial arbitration disputes regime in Armenia, the Asian Development Bank, in conjunction with the Arbitration and Mediation Center of Armenia (AMCA), the European Union (EU), the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL), the Center for Legislation Development, Counterpart International, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), and *Ambiente Risorse Sviluppo (A.R.S.) Progetti S.P.A.*, will host the Inaugural Armenia Arbitration Conference. The Conference will be attended by key government officials, policymakers, development partners, judges, law practitioners, and private sector participants from Armenia and around the world.

The Conference will give a background on recent developments in international commercial arbitration, as well as provide in-depth discussions on the practical aspects of different types of disputes in the region and globally. In addition, the Conference will delve into the relationship between a robust arbitration system and foreign direct investment, highlighting Armenia's potential as an investment hub. The Arbitration and Mediation Center of Armenia will likewise be launched during the Conference, with esteemed speakers discussing AMCA's development journey, its role in serving the needs of business, and the innovative features of its arbitration rules. Lastly, the Conference will discuss the use of international commercial arbitration in resolving specialized disputes involving energy and climate change, construction and mining, and finance and technology.



People enjoying the fountains at a public park in Yerevan, Armenia (photo by Eric Sales/ADB).



03

**INAUGURAL
SESSION
SPEAKERS**

Inaugural Session Speakers



MHER GRIGORYAN

Deputy Prime Minister, Republic of Armenia

Mher Grigoryan is the current Deputy Prime Minister of Armenia. He started his career in the Central Bank of Armenia (CBA) as Head of the Legal Department. He then continued his career in Armimpexbank (now Ameriabank), World Bank, Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation (HSBC), Inecobank, VTB Bank Armenia, and Ardshinbank. Mr. Grigoryan also served as the Chairman of the Board of Armenia Insurance Company from 2012 to 2018.

Mr. Grigoryan studied law at Moscow State University and at Yerevan State University. He also took a qualification course at Leeds University Business School.



GRIGOR MINASYAN

Minister of Justice of the Republic of Armenia

Grigor Minasyan is the current Minister of Justice of Armenia. He previously served as Managing Partner of AM Law Firm and Director of the European Public Law Organization's (EPLO) Yerevan branch. He was also a Member of the Chamber of Advocates and practiced advocacy from 2012-2022.

Dr. Minasyan holds degrees from the Armenian-Russian Slavonic University and the Public Administration Academy of Armenia.



MARTIN GALSTYAN

Governor, Central Bank of the Republic of Armenia

Martin Galstyan is the Governor of the Central Bank of Armenia. Before joining the Board, he held numerous executive positions at the Bank, including Director of the research and training center in Dilijan, Head of the Statistics Department, and Head of Reserves Management.

Mr. Galstyan also teaches numerous courses at the American University of Armenia. The flagship course, “Microeconomics of Competitiveness,” is taught in affiliation with Harvard Business School. He is the first recipient of the Excellence in Teaching Award at the American University of Armenia.

Mr. Galstyan holds a postgraduate degree from John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University.

DON LAMBERT

Country Director, Armenia Resident Mission, Asian Development Bank



Don Lambert is the country director for the Asian Development Bank’s (ADB) Armenia Resident Mission.

Mr. Lambert previously led the Private Sector Development Unit within ADB’s Viet Nam Resident Mission. He also worked on financial sector development in India and Sri Lanka. He served as head of ADB’s Corporate Recovery Unit, and was a credit risk management specialist covering ADB’s financial institutions portfolio.

Prior to joining ADB, Mr. Lambert worked with the United States of America (US) Federal Reserve. He also served as a US Army officer.

Mr. Lambert holds a master’s degree from Harvard University, a bachelor’s degree from Princeton University, and is a Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA®) charterholder.

Inaugural Session Speakers



FRANK HESS

Head of Cooperation, Delegation of the European Union to Armenia

Mr. Frank Hess is an official of the European Commission (EC). He joined the EC in 1997 after having worked in the German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ), Germany's Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, the International Trade Centre (a joint cooperation agency of the United Nations Cooperation on Trade and Development and the World Trade Organization), and as a teacher in vocational schools in Germany.

Since joining the European Union, Mr. Hess has worked in the Directorate-General for the Environment (DG Environment), in the Directorate-General for Development and International Cooperation, and in the EU Delegations in the Cape Verde, Pakistan, the Philippines, and Sri Lanka. He joined the EU Delegation to Armenia as Minister-Counselor and Head of Development Cooperation in September 2021.

Frank has a Masters Degree in Business Administration from the University of Erlangen Nuremberg in Germany, a Certificate in International Relations from the Institut d'Etudes Politiques in Strasbourg in France, and a postgraduate degree in Development Studies from the German Institute for Development Policy In Berlin.

ANNA JOUBIN-BRET

*The Secretary, United Nations Commission on International Trade Law
(UNCITRAL)*



Ms. Anna Joubin-Bret is the Secretary of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) and the Director of the International Trade Law Division in the Office of Legal Affairs of the United Nations, which functions as the substantive secretariat for UNCITRAL. She is the ninth Secretary of the Commission since it was established by the General Assembly in 1966.

Prior to her appointment on 24 November 2017, Ms. Joubin-Bret practiced law in Paris, specializing in international investment law and investment dispute resolution. She focused on serving as counsel, arbitrator, mediator and conciliator in international investment disputes. She served as arbitrator in several International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes

Anna Joubin-Bret *(continued)*

(ICSID), International Chamber of Commerce (ICC), and UNCITRAL disputes. Prior to 2011 and for 15 years, Ms. Joubin-Bret was the Senior Legal Adviser for the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD). She edited and authored seminal research and publications on international investment law, notably the Sequels to UNCTAD IIA Series and co-edited with Jean Kalicki a book on Reform of Investor-State Dispute Settlement in 2015.

Ms. Joubin-Bret holds a post-graduate degree (DEA) in Private International Law from the University of Paris I, Panthéon-Sorbonne; a Masters Degree in International Economic Law from University Paris I; and in Political Science from Institut d'Etudes Politiques. She was Legal Counsel in the legal department of the Schneider Group, General Counsel of the KIS Group, and Director- Export of Pomagalski S.A. She was appointed judge at the Commercial Court in Grenoble (France) and was elected Regional Counsellor of the Rhône-Alpes Region in 1998.



Vanadzor Technological Center, Vanadzor, Armenia (photo by Karine Avetisyan on Unsplash).

A vertical strip on the left side of the page shows a bright yellow wall with dark grey structural beams and windows. The rest of the page is a solid dark grey background.

04

**KEYNOTE
SPEAKER**

Keynote Speaker



PROFESSOR GARY BORN

Chair, International Arbitration Practice Group, Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr LLP

Mr. Gary Born is chair of the International Arbitration Practice Group at Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr LLP. He is widely recognized as the world's leading authority on international arbitration and litigation. He has served as counsel in over 675 arbitrations, including several of the largest arbitrations in International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) and ad hoc history, and has sat as arbitrator in more than 250 institutional and ad hoc arbitrations. He has served as president of the Singapore International Arbitration Centre (SIAC) Court of Arbitration.

He is the author of *International Commercial Arbitration* (Kluwer, 3rd ed. 2021), the preeminent treatise in the field, as well as *International Arbitration: Law and Practice* (3rd ed. 2021), and a number of other notable works on international dispute resolution. He is an honorary professor of law at the University of St. Gallen in Switzerland and the Tsinghua University in Beijing. He also teaches regularly in law schools in Asia, Europe, and North and South America.



Republic Square, Yerevan, Armenia (photo by Arthur Harutyunyan on Unsplash).



The Cafesjian Sculpture Garden at the base of the Cascade in Yerevan, Armenia. It is designed to give a modern setting for large-scale sculptures (photo by Eric Sales/ADB, some rights reserved).



05

MASTERS OF CEREMONIES

in alphabetical order, by surname

Masters of Ceremonies



DAVIT GHARIBYAN

Deputy Director, Center for Legislation Development

Davit Gharibyan is the Deputy Director of the Center for Legislation Development of the Ministry of Justice of Armenia, where he supports the development of the country's regulatory policy in the field of judicial and legal reforms, including arbitration and mediation.

Davit obtained his LLB and LLM from Yerevan State University, Faculty of Law. Currently, Davit is doing his PhD in the same university on the theme "Public Policy in International Private Law: Definition, Criteria and Features of Implementation in Armenia."

He started his professional career with the Central Bank of Armenia in 2019. He joined the Center for Legislation Development in 2020. Davit is also an advocate acting in the field of Civil Law since the end of 2021. For several years, Davit has participated in the Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot, both as a national team member and the team coach.



CHRISTINA PAK

*Principal Counsel and Team Leader, Law and Policy Reform,
Asian Development Bank (ADB)*

Ms. Christina Pak specializes in international development finance and law and policy reform. She is currently a Principal Counsel of the Asian Development Bank and is responsible for managing the Office of General Counsel's Law and Policy Reform Program which designs, processes, and implements technical assistance projects directly to developing member countries relating to legal and judicial reforms. She oversees a diverse portfolio in the areas of environment protection and climate change, gender equality, private sector development, public-private partnerships and digital economy. Christina also serves as ADB's Accountability Mechanism Policy Counsel and the Office of the General Counsel's technical assistance, partnerships and knowledge focal point and is a member of ADB's Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management, Environment, Gender and Governance Thematic Groups. In her previous role as a project counsel at ADB, she worked on complex multi-sector projects across the Central West, Southeast and East Asia regions.

Christina Pak *(continued)*

Christina specializes in international arbitration reform and has been assisting various countries in the South Pacific region accede to the New York Convention and put in place implementing arbitration law, including Fiji, Palau, Papua New Guinea and Tonga and assisted Uzbekistan with its new Law on International Commercial Arbitration.

Prior to joining ADB, she was a legal counsel and vice president for markets and international banking at a major UK bank in Singapore and a finance associate at a large law firm in New York City.

Christina is a Steering Committee Member of the IUCN World Commission on Environmental Law and a Member of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators. She is a US-qualified lawyer, admitted in the States of New York and New Jersey.



A street in Yerevan, Armenia (photo by Levon Vardanyan on Unsplash).



06

MODERATORS

in alphabetical order, by surname

Moderators



TIGRAN DADUNTS

Director, Center for Legislation Development

Tigran Dadunts is the Director of the Center for Legislation Development of the Ministry of Justice of Armenia, where he manages the process of supporting the development of the country's regulatory policy in the field of judicial and legal reforms, including arbitration and mediation. He joined the Center for Legislation Development in late 2017.

Tigran is likewise a chairperson of the Board of Trustees of the Arbitration and Mediation Center of Armenia (AMCA). He serves as a representative of one of the co-founders of the organization.

Tigran holds an LLB and LLM from Yerevan State University, Faculty of Law. He is currently doing his PhD and lectures in the same university.

Tigran started his professional career in 2015 in the banking sector. He was also engaged as a legal expert on a part-time basis by different local and international organizations. For several years, Tigran participated in various international arbitration moot competitions, both as a national team member and the team coach, including the Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot and the Frankfurt Investment Arbitration Moot Court.

DAMIEN J. EASTMAN

Deputy General Counsel, ADB



Mr. Damien J. Eastman is the Deputy General Counsel in the Office of the General Counsel at the Asian Development Bank (ADB). Mr. Eastman joined ADB in 2014 as Assistant General Counsel for Institutional and Administrative Affairs, providing legal advice and support on a wide variety of institutional, operational and administrative matters, including advice on ADB's institutional governance and its legal framework; ADB's privileges and immunities, external litigation and arbitration; government relations; and staff grievances, disciplinary procedures, HR policies, and staff rules and regulations.

Prior to joining ADB, Mr. Eastman spent over 10 years in the Legal Department at the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in Washington, DC, where he advised on the Fund's legal

Damien J. Eastman *(continued)*

relations with its member countries and other international organizations and was responsible for the oversight of the Legal Department’s internal governance advisory group. He was the Fund’s lawyer for a number of European crisis programs, various debt relief operations for IMF member countries in the African and Asian regions, and was involved in developing the Fund’s policies in the area of sovereign debt restructuring.

Before the IMF, Mr. Eastman practiced law with Allens-Linklaters in Sydney, and Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer in London. An Australian national, Mr. Eastman holds a Master of Laws (LL.M) from Harvard Law School, and degrees in Arts (BA) and Law (LL.B, 1st Class Honors) from the University of Sydney and the University of Technology, Sydney. He is admitted to practice law in Australia and the United Kingdom.

**CHRISTINA PAK**

Principal Counsel and Team Leader, Law and Policy Reform, ADB

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FRANZ T. SCHWARZ

*Vice Chair, International Arbitration Practice Group,
Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr LLP*



Franz Schwarz is the Vice Chair of the International Arbitration Practice Group at Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr LLP, based in London. Mr. Schwarz has been involved in over 250 arbitrations, and has extensive experience with arbitral practice, procedure, and advocacy both in civil and common law systems. He has been described by Chambers and the Global Arbitration Review (GAR) as “one of the best advocates in the world,” “a real leader in the field,” and a “a superstar.”

Mr. Schwarz has lectured on international arbitration at the European Institute in Saarbrücken/Germany, Harvard Law School, Johns Hopkins in Bologna, the London School of Economics, the Vienna School of Economics, Vienna University Law School, and Zurich University. He also frequently speaks and publishes on topical issues of international arbitration.

Moderators

Franz T. Schwarz *(continued)*

Mr. Schwarz currently serves as Vice-President of the International Arbitral Centre in Vienna, as a member of the board of the Swiss Arbitration Association (ASA), and on the Panel of Conciliators at the International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID).



PATRICIA SHAUGHNESSY

Associate Professor, Law Department, Stockholm University

Dr. Patricia Shaughnessy, a professor at Stockholm University, specializes in international disputes and commercial law. She is a member of the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) Court of Arbitration and the ICC Commission, and formerly the Vice-Chair and board member of the Stockholm Chamber of Commerce (SCC) Arbitration Institute (2006–2018).

Dr. Shaughnessy is also a council/board member of other international arbitration institutions and holds leadership positions in a number of organizations, including as President of the Willem C Vis Moot Organization. She was a government-appointed expert for the 2019 revisions to the Swedish Arbitration Act. She serves as an arbitrator and expert, and as a senior expert, in legal development projects.

Dr. Shaughnessy previously practiced law for ten years in the United States of America (US) and has served as a US Supreme Court judicial fellow.

GALINA ZUKOVA

Partner, ZUKOVA Legal



Dually qualified in Paris and Latvia, Dr. Galina Zukova from ZUKOVA Legal is a leading arbitration practitioner with 20 years of legal experience. She has served as an arbitrator in approximately 70 cases conducted under major institutional rules, including the German Arbitration Institute (DIS), International Chamber of Commerce (ICC), Milan Chamber of Arbitration, Stockholm Chamber of Commerce (SCC), The London Court of International

Galina Zukova *(continued)*

Arbitration (LCIA), the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL), and Vienna International Arbitral Centre (VIAC). She also regularly represents clients (individuals, corporates, and state entities) and acts as expert in international arbitration proceedings.

Dr. Zukova is a Member of the ICC International Court of Arbitration, a Member of the Permanent Court of Arbitration, a Vice-Chair of the Arbitration Council of the Georgian International Arbitration Centre (GIAC), and a Steering Committee Member of the Armenian International Arbitration Centre. She is a Council Member of the ICC Institute of World Business Law, and a Member of the ICC Commission on Arbitration and ADR. In 2022, Dr. Zukova was included in the European Commission's List of Candidates Suitable for Appointment as Arbitrators in European Union (EU) trade and investment agreements with third states. She is also an Associate Professor at the University of Versailles Saint-Quentin (Paris-Saclay) and the Riga Graduate School of Law.

A Latvian lawyer by training (LLB, University of Latvia), Dr. Zukova has a PhD from the European University Institute (Florence, Italy) and an LLM from the University of Exeter (United Kingdom). She was also a Visiting Scholar at Yale University (United States of America).

Dr. Zukova is fluent in English, French, Italian, Latvian, Russian, and Spanish. She has a working knowledge of German.

Dr. Zukova is ranked in Legal 500 Who's Who Legal as Thought Leader, Global Leader, and National Leader for France (Powerlist Arbitration France); The Best Lawyers in France; and Euromoney's ExpertGuides Commercial Arbitration. In 2018, ArbitralWomen included Dr. Zukova in its publication "Women Pioneers in Dispute Resolution."



The Republic Square in Yerevan, Armenia. It is the central town square of Armenia's capital. It is composed of two sections—the oval roundabout and the trapezoid with the musical fountains (photo by Eric Sales/ADB, some rights reserved).



07

SPEAKERS

in alphabetical order, by surname

Speakers



HRANUSH AGHAYAN

Co-Founder, Luyser Property Developer

Hranush Aghayan has over 15 years of experience in alternative dispute resolution (ADR). She headed the Case Handling and Investigating Group at the Office of Financial System Mediator of Armenia, and has been engaged as an international consultant to share her experience about consumer ADR schemes, mediation, and adjudication.

Currently, Hranush is a co-founder of Luyser Closed Joint Stock Company (CJSC), which specializes in residential and commercial development, construction, and property management.

ARMAN ALOYAN

Head of Legal Department, Central Bank of Armenia



Arman Aloyan is the Head of the Legal Department of the Central Bank of Armenia. He began his career at the Central Bank of Armenia as the Head of European Integration Division, then as Head of the Legal Advice Division, and then as Deputy Head of the Legal Department.

Before joining the Central Bank of Armenia, Mr. Aloyan held various positions at the Ministry of Justice. He was one of those who initiated the creation of a new structural unit within the Ministry of Justice responsible for relations with the European Court of Human Rights, and was likewise appointed as Head of the ECHR Relations Department.



ANDREY ARTYUSHENKO

Managing Partner, Artyushenko & Partners

Andrey is a managing partner and a founder of Artyushenko & Partners, a boutique law firm based in Kazakhstan. He has accumulated more than 23 years of experience in contract law and real estate construction (EPC, EPCM, and *Fédération Internationale Des Ingénieurs-Conseils* [FIDIC; English: International Federation of Consulting Engineers]).

Andrey is a FIDIC-certified trainer, a member of the FIDIC Task Group 9 (developing subcontracts), and an expert in the Almaty Public Counsel.

KAREN ARUSTAMYAN

FIDIC Certified Contract Manager—Construction Contract Management and Tender Expert, Technorat Legal



Mr. Karen Arustamyan is a *Fédération Internationale Des Ingénieurs-Conseils* (FIDIC; English: International Federation of Consulting Engineers) Certified Contract Manager. He holds a Master's degree in Science from Yerevan State University and a Master's degree in Law from the American University of Armenia. He is the President of the Union of Construction Consultants of Armenia (UCCA) and a member of the Georgian Association of Consulting Engineers (ACEG).

Karen currently works as a Construction Contract Management and Tender Expert at Technocrat Legal (Armenia). He also serves as an Independent FIDIC expert at Artyushenko & Partners (Kazakhstan).

Since 2006, Karen has been involved in the construction of major infrastructure projects as a Contract Manager. His experience spans across several countries, including Armenia, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Libya, Russia, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan.

Speakers



ARIK ASLANYAN

Partner, Fieldfisher

Arik Aslanyan is a partner at Fieldfisher, a multinational law firm headquartered in London with 26 offices in Asia, Europe, and North America. Arik heads the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) Group at Fieldfisher, the largest such practice group in London. The CIS Group is composed of over 100 experienced specialists drawn from key practice areas, of which more than 30 are native speakers from various countries of the CIS region.

Arik has built close relationships with a number of key clients and contacts from the CIS, Russia, and Ukraine. He now manages the firm's significant portfolio of CIS-related work across a number of departments and practice areas. He regularly advises clients on high-value commercial disputes, including English High Court proceedings, international commercial arbitration, and international investment treaty disputes under the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC), International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID), London Court of International Arbitration (LCIA), Stockholm Chamber of Commerce (SCC), and United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) Arbitration Rules.

AIDA B. AVANESSIAN

Lecturer, American University of Armenia and French University of Armenia



Aida B. Avanesian was born in Tabriz, Iran. She received her LLB and LLM degrees (in private law) from University of Tehran, and her PhD from Kings College, University of London. Dr. Avanesian's experience in arbitration started with acting as counsel in arbitrations conducted through the Iran-United States Claims Tribunal, and continued through her professional career as a private practitioner, covering also other fields such as project contracts and international financing.

Her publications include: (i) A. Avanesian. 1993. *Iran-United States Claims Tribunal in Action*. London, England; (ii) A. Avanesian. 2019. *Project Finance*. Yerevan, Armenia; and (iii) A. Avanesian. 2021. *Arbitration (National and International)*. Yerevan, Armenia.

Dr. Avanesian is a lecturer at the American University of Armenia, where she has taught Project Financing and alternative dispute resolution (ADR) Arbitration since 2015. She is also a lecturer at the French University of Armenia, teaching ADR-Mediation and Arbitration since 2018.



NARINE AVETISYAN

Senior Investment Officer, ADB Armenia Resident Mission

Narine Avetisyan is a Senior Investment Officer in the Armenia Resident Mission of the Asian Development Bank (ADB). She works on promoting an enabling environment for private-sector led growth through direct investments in Armenia. She also works with key stakeholders on various measures to strengthen the country's business climate and regulatory framework.

As a Knowledge Management and Innovation Coordinator, Narine explores different means of interventions in ADB projects to bring in institutional knowledge management thinking and maximize the value-added in the projects' outcome.

Narine is a strategic thinker. She is innovative and committed, as demonstrated by numerous negotiations on complex and multilayer projects throughout her career. She is a strong communicator and passionate towards the development angle of every intervention. She has proven her leadership skills in managing diverse and multi-disciplinary teams throughout her career.

DIANA BAYZAKOVA

Director, Tashkent International Arbitration Centre



Diana Bayzakova is the Director of the Tashkent International Arbitration Centre (TIAC), the Uzbekistan-based arbitral institution delivering zero admin fee state-of-the-art arbitration services under the unique conflict-free operational framework.

In 2020, Diana was appointed to the International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID) Panel of Arbitrators. As a multilingual dispute resolution expert, Diana has acted both as a sole arbitrator and on a panel of arbitrators. She has also acted as counsel in international arbitral proceedings under a variety of arbitration rules, including the rules of the Abu Dhabi Commercial Conciliation and Arbitration Centre (ADCCAC), Dubai International Arbitration Centre (DIAC), Dubai International Financial Centre–London Court of International Arbitration (DIFC-LCIA), International Chamber of Commerce (ICC), and Stockholm Chamber of Commerce (SCC).

She is the founder of the Nikonov Tech Moot, the forum where students, academics, arbitrators, and the legal practitioners in the field of advanced technologies meet, plead, and network.

Speakers



GARY BORN

Chair, International Arbitration Practice Group, Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr LLP

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SERGEY BRUTYAN

Managing Partner, Schulze, Brutyan and Partners

Sergey Brutyan is an Honorary Lawyer of Russia and is a member of the board of the World Association of Armenian Lawyers. He is also the Vice President of the Association of European Attorneys (AEA); a member of the European lawyers' association EuroCollectNet International Debt Recovery; and a trusted attorney of the German Embassy, both in Moscow and Yerevan.

Sergey has attended more than 100 case hearings in various Russian and foreign courts. He has represented various companies in arbitration courts in Russia—such as the International Commercial Arbitration Court (ICAC) at the Russian Federation (RF) Chamber of Commerce and Industry—and in Sweden, at the International Arbitration Commission in Stockholm.



ABGAR BUDAGHYAN

Chief of Party, USAID Energy Secure Armenia Program at Tetra Tech

Abgar Budaghyan is one of Armenia's leading energy sector strategy, market, and regulatory experts with over 25 years of professional experience. Throughout his extensive experience, Mr. Budaghyan has assumed leadership positions in numerous complex energy sector and economic development projects funded by organizations such as United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the World Bank. He has worked in ten different countries across Eurasia and Central Asia, focusing on bolstering energy security, promoting

Abgar Budaghyan *(continued)*

diversification, fostering the growth of clean energy resources, and creating and facilitating the integration of energy markets at a regional level.

In recent years, Mr. Budaghyan has also contributed his valuable insights and guidance as an Energy Policy and Strategy Adviser to the Deputy Prime Minister of Armenia on a voluntary basis. Currently, he serves as Chief of Party for USAID-funded Energy Secure Armenia Activity.

ANDREA CARLEVARIS

Partner, BonelliErede



Dr. Andrea Carlevaris is a partner at BonelliErede and an adjunct professor of international law. Between September 2012 and May 2017, Dr. Carlevaris was the Secretary General of the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) International Court of Arbitration and the Director of the ICC Dispute Resolution Services.

Dr. Carlevaris is currently the President of the Italian Arbitration Association (AIA). He is also a member of the board of the Stockholm Chamber of Commerce (SCC) Arbitration Institute. Likewise, Dr. Carlevaris is a member of the board of Francarbi; a member of the Advisory Board of the European Forum of International Law and Investment (EFILA); a founding member and member of the Advisory Board of the Italian Forum for International Arbitration and ADR (Arblt); and a member of the Steering Committee of the International Arbitration Commission of UIA (Union International des Avocats) and of the ICC Commission on Arbitration and ADR.

Between 2009 and 2012, he was a member of the ICC International Court of Arbitration.

Dr. Carlevaris is the author of a monograph on conservatory and provisional measures in international arbitration and of numerous articles on international law, conflict of laws, and international arbitration. He regularly contributes to several journals, serving on the Board of Directors of *Diritto del commercio internazionale*, the *European International Arbitration Review*, *Giustizia civile*, and *Rivista dell'arbitrato*.



JULIAN COHEN

Head of Chambers, Resolution Chambers

Mr. Julian Cohen has more than 30 years of specialist experience of heavyweight international commercial arbitrations in Hong Kong, and across Asia, Europe, the Middle East, and the Pacific. Sums in dispute in his cases vary from small to in excess of USD 2 billion. He is particularly well known for large scale construction disputes, and is recognized by directories both as one of the leading constructions lawyers in the world and also as a leading construction counsel in Hong Kong.

In addition to acting as counsel, he also regularly sits internationally as an arbitrator in the Asia-Pacific region, and in the Middle East. He has sat both as a sole arbitrator and member of three member tribunals under the Dubai International Arbitration Centre (DIAC), Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre (HKIAC), International Chamber of Commerce (ICC), The London Court of International Arbitration (LCIA), and United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) rules.

He has conducted arbitrations under a variety of common law and civil code legal systems.

In addition to a substantial Hong Kong practice, Mr. Cohen has been involved in disputes in Abu Dhabi (United Arab Emirates), Albania, Belgium, Czech Republic, Dubai, Egypt, Fiji, France, Guam, India, Indonesia, Kuwait, Macau, Mali, Oman, Pakistan, People's Republic of China (PRC), Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Thailand, Turkey, the United Kingdom, Viet Nam, and Yemen.

Mr. Cohen was called to the Bar in England in 1990 and joined the Construction and Engineering Department of Pinsent Masons in 1993. He moved to Hong Kong in 1998 with the firm, eventually leaving as a Partner in 2009. He started his practice at the Hong Kong Bar in 2010.

He writes and teaches regularly on construction law issues, arbitration, and advocacy.

ARTYOM GEGHAMYAN

Managing Partner, TABIA Legal Solutions



Artyom Geghamyan specializes in international commercial arbitration; corporate legal services; and handling issues pertaining to the energy, infrastructure, and mining and metals industry. He advises clients on diverse matters, such as international commodity sales, cross-border transactions, project finance, and dispute resolution.

Artyom is the Managing Partner of TABIA Legal Solutions LLC. He also serves as the Executive Chairman of the International Chamber of Mines of Armenia, an organization that plays a pivotal role in shaping and promoting the growth of the mining industry in Armenia. He served as Deputy Minister of Justice and as a member of the Constitutional Reform Commission of Armenia.

Artyom holds an LL.M. in International and Comparative Law from Indiana University McKinney School of Law, and a Master's in Public Administration (MPA) from Harvard Kennedy School of Government. He is admitted to practice in New York and the Republic of Armenia.



LEVON GOLENDUKHIN

Representative of Armenian Bar Association, AMCA Co-Founder

Levon Golendukhin is co-chair of the Armenia Programs Committee of the Armenian Bar Association and an international dispute resolution attorney at Eversheds Sutherland (US) LLP.

Levon assists clients in all aspects of cross-border disputes with a focus on investment treaty arbitration, international commercial arbitration, and transnational commercial litigation. His clients range from sovereign states to private companies in the agriculture, civil infrastructure, energy, industrial, mining, and transportation sectors. Levon has been recognized by *The Legal 500* as a “key lawyer” in international arbitration and by the Armenian Bar Association as a “Top 20 Under 40 *Rising Star*.”

Levon has experience advising sovereign states on post-conflict transitional justice and on legal reform of commercial law for the promotion of venture technology investment. He authored numerous publications on topics in international investment law and investor-state arbitration. He frequently speaks at law schools and conferences on topics in international law and cross-border dispute resolution. Levon is admitted to practice in the state of New York.

Speakers

GURGEN GRIGORYAN

Chairman, “Armenian Association of Developers” NGO



Gurgen Grigoryan is the President of the non-governmental organization Armenian Developers Association. His main responsibilities include raising the problems of the construction sector, representing legislative initiatives aimed at their solution, and undertaking reforms in the sector.

Gurgen is also the Director of Development of Meghri Region (a charitable foundation), a trustee of the Arbitration and Mediation Center of Armenia Foundation, a member of the Small and Medium-Sized Entrepreneurship Development Council, a trustee of several foundations, and a member of the councils of a number of non-governmental organizations. He is likewise a member of the inter-departmental working group, headed by the Minister of Economy of the Republic of Armenia, tasked to solve existing problems in the country’s construction sector,

Gurgen has a Bachelor’s Degree and a Master’s Degree in law from the Law Faculty of Yerevan State University. He started his professional career in 2016, and worked in state institutions and a private law firm.



RAFIK GRIGORYAN

Founder and Managing Director, Sigma Law Group

Rafik Grigoryan has over 12 years of experience in the legal field, in both private and public services. Currently, he serves as the Managing Partner of Sigma Law Group, which specializes in providing legal consultancy for public and private sector development programs.

Prior to his current role, Rafik served as the First Deputy Minister of Justice in Armenia and was one of the first initiators of the establishment of Arbitration and Mediation Center of Armenia (AMCA).

JIRAYR HABIBIAN

Managing Partner, Matouk Bassiouny



Jirayr Habibian is the Managing Partner of Matouk Bassiouny's United Arab Emirates (UAE) Offices. He brings with him a wealth of experience working in the fields of corporate finance, trade finance, mergers and acquisitions (M&A) transactions, and capital markets across multiple jurisdictions including Armenia, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey, and UAE.

Jirayr is also a founding and board member of the International Chamber of Commerce National Committee Armenia (ICC NCA), and has been appointed as a member of the Court of Arbitration of the International Chamber of Commerce. He acted as Senior Legal Counsel to the undersecretary of the Abu Dhabi Judicial Department, where he was responsible for establishing and running the Court of Arbitration of Sport, Alternate Hearing Centre in Abu Dhabi through 2019. He also helped draft the UAE law on Sports Arbitration, in conjunction with the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Youth and Sports, and the UAE Federal National Council.



HAYK HOVHANNISYAN

Managing Partner, HAP Law Firm

Hayk Hovhannisyán manages HAP Law Firm, specializing in complex legal matters and setups, usually involving cross-border disputes. He has over 25 years of extensive practice in international and local arbitration and litigation.

Speakers

ARA KHZMALYAN

Partner, ADWISE Business and Legal Consulting



Ara Khzmalyan is a lawyer with almost two decades of experience in the legal profession in Armenia. He has a strong combination of in-house, consulting, and academic experience, including seven years in managerial position at the local subsidiaries of Pernod Ricard Group and eight years as partner in charge of legal advisory at ADWISE Consulting, one of the leading law firms in Armenia.

Ara has a deep understanding of specificities and challenges of the legal system and overall regulatory environment in Armenia. He has extensive experience in projects funded by the Asian Development Bank (ADB), Council of Europe (CoE), Eurasia Partnership Foundation (EPF), European Union (EU), German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ), International Labour Organization (ILO), and the United Nations. These projects involved research, analytical reports, quantitative and qualitative analysis, regulatory impact assessments, regulatory reviews, preparation of handbooks, and development of strategy and public policy proposals.

Ara has specific experience in projects dedicated to the development of alternative dispute resolution (ADR) in Armenia, including proposals in relation to the establishment of the Arbitration and Mediation Center of Armenia (AMCA). Ara also has extensive experience in drafting regulations and working on regulatory reform projects, along with experience in advising corporate clients on commercial contracts, corporate matters, mergers and acquisitions (M&A), labor law, tax, financial regulation, and various other areas of law.



YEGHISHE KIRAKOSYAN

Representative of the Republic of Armenia on International Legal Issues

Dr. Yeghishe Kirakosyan holds the position of Representative of Armenia on International Legal Matters. In this capacity Dr. Kirakosyan represents Armenia in pending cases at the European Court of Human Rights (ECHR), the International Court of Justice (ICJ), investment and commercial arbitrations, foreign courts, and mediation. Since 2021, Dr. Kirakosyan is the Agent of Armenia at the ICJ in the *Case Concerning the Application of the International Convention on Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (Armenia v. Azerbaijan)* and the *Case Concerning the Application of the International Convention on Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (Azerbaijan v. Armenia)*.

Yeghishe Kirakosyan *(continued)*

Dr. Kirakosyan has extensive experience of working with the Government of Armenia since 2008, having acted as an Assistant to the Prime Minister, Deputy Minister of Justice, and Adviser to the Prime Minister. Apart from public service, he has been teaching since 2006. Courses taught include Public International Law, Precedent in International Law, and International Courts and Arbitration. His research and academic focus lie in international courts and arbitration, responsibility in international law, and countermeasures and enforcement of international law.

Dr. Kirakosyan obtained his Master of Science of Law (JSM) from Stanford Law School and his Master of Laws in International Legal Studies (LLM) from Georgetown University Law Center. His Ph.D. in International Law, Master's Degree in Jurisprudence (International Law), and Bachelor's Degree in Jurisprudence were all obtained from Yerevan State University.

ANNETTE MAGNUSSON*Co-Founder, Climate Change Counsel*

Annette Magnusson is Co-Founder of Climate Change Counsel, a think-and-do-tank with a mission to mobilize the law and lawyers for climate action.

She holds more than 20 years' experience of international law, including from global law firms. Prior to co-founding Climate Change Counsel, Ms. Magnusson was Secretary General of the Arbitration Institute of the Stockholm Chamber of Commerce (SCC) for more than ten years. In her practice, Ms. Magnusson focuses on leadership and policy advocacy and works with clients and stakeholders to support capacity-building and transition.

Ms. Magnusson is a frequent speaker, including on international arbitration and climate change, and has been listed as a Thought Leader and Global Leader in Who's Who Legal, and "a thought leader and global star" by Global Arbitration Review. She is the author or editor of several publications on international arbitration, including Investment Arbitration and Climate Change (forthcoming 2023), International Arbitration in Sweden—A Practitioner's Guide (2 ed. 2021), and Arbitrating for Peace (2017).

Among the selected leadership roles and recognition Ms. Magnusson received are: Co-chair, ICCA Paris Agreement Conciliation Annex Project (2022-present); Member, Chartered Institute of Arbitrators, ADR and Sustainability Specialist Group (2022-present); Steering Committee Member, Equal Representation in Arbitration (2016-present); Founder, Stockholm Treaty Lab (2016-2019); and FT Innovative Lawyers Award, Rule of Law and Access to Justice, Standout (2017).

Speakers



MUSHEGH MANUKYAN

International Mediator

Mushegh is an international mediator currently working with an international organization. Previously he served as a mediator at the D.C. Court of Appeals and the World Bank Group's Compliance Advisor Ombudsman. He also practiced international dispute resolution at the Washington D.C. office of a leading international arbitration law firm, and was Senior Counsel at a Texas-based high-tech company, managing legal matters of over 10 subsidiaries worldwide. Mushegh was instrumental in establishing Armenia's mediation system and is the author of Armenia's first mediation laws.

Mushegh holds law degrees from Yerevan State University, a Ph.D. in private international law from Russian State Social University in Moscow, and an LL.M. from Harvard Law School.



GOR MARGARYAN

Managing Partner, Legelata Law Firm

Gor Margaryan is the Managing Partner of Legelata Law Firm Closed Joint-Stock Company (CJSC). His professional experience covers banking and finance, mergers and acquisitions, corporate and tax, and foreign investments.

Mr. Margaryan previously worked as the General Counsel of the Fawaz Alhokair Group. He has also worked at the Asian Development Bank and the Central Bank of Armenia.

Mr. Margaryan earned his license of attorney from the Chamber of Advocates of the Republic of Armenia. He received his LL.M. degrees from the Institute for Law and Finance, Goethe University (Germany) and the University of Essex (United Kingdom), specializing in international trade law. He also earned his MBA from Manchester Business School (United Kingdom) in 2017.



VANIK MARGARYAN

Partner, AM Law Firm

Vanik Margaryan is a partner in AM Law Firm. He also holds the position of an Advocate at the Chamber of Advocates of the Republic of Armenia. Additionally, he serves as a member of the board of the Association of Arbitrators of the Republic of Armenia.

With a professional career spanning 13 years, Vanik has successfully handled numerous significant transactions and licensing processes, providing legal assistance to both local and international investors. He is also recognized for his expertise in representing clients in various disputes.

In 2015, Vanik became a licensed mediator and obtained accreditation from the Centre for Effective Dispute Resolution (CEDR). Since 2016, he has also been a patent attorney specializing in trademarks.

Since 2019, Vanik has been actively involved in teaching at the Academy of Advocates of Armenia (formerly known as the School of Advocates). In addition, he conducts training courses designed for lawyers.

TATEVIK MATINYAN

Director-Secretary General, Arbitration and Mediation Center of Armenia



Tatevik Matinyan is a project management and legal professional with over 16 years of experience in nonprofits and private organizations, including collaboration with state institutions.

Tatevik is a lawyer and a member of the Chamber of Advocates since 2010. In 2022, she graduated from Stanford University's Draper Hills Summer Program. She is the chairperson and project manager of the "Institute of Liberal Politics non-governmental organization" (NGO) since 2022. Since May 2023, she holds the post of the Executive Director of the Arbitration and Mediation Center of Armenia.

Tatevik worked closely with the Ministry of Defense of Armenia (RA Ministry of Defense) through the International and Comparative Law Center, an NGO, on developing tools and methodology in relation to identification of forced labor practices. She has been in charge of the Public Administration Practice at ELL Partnership Law Firm, collaborating with the Ministry

Speakers

Tatevik Matinyan *(continued)*

of Justice, on two large-scale projects: (i) “The Justice Monitoring Project,” which aims to identify public needs and expectations from the justice system of Armenia; and (ii) “Support to Improve the Bankruptcy System in Armenia,” which aims to assess legislative and practical elements of the bankruptcy system and to provide evidence-based proposals for legislation.

Tatevik authored or co-authored over 20 manuals, research studies, and thematic reports.



AISHA NADAR

*Vice Chair of ICC Commission on Arbitration and ADR,
Advokatfirman Runeland*

Aisha Nadar is active in international construction and dispute resolution. For 35 years, she has handled all phases of project implementation of large-scale cross-border infrastructure and defense programs. She advises clients on strategic procurement planning, contract drafting, contract management, and dispute resolution. She acts as arbitrator, mediator and dispute board member.

Aisha is listed on the Panel of Conciliators at the International Center for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID) and is Vice Chair of the Commission on Arbitration and ADR at the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC). She served as a member of the board of *Fédération Internationale Des Ingénieurs-Conseils* (FIDIC; English: International Federation of Consulting Engineers), responsible for the Contracts Committee (2016-2020). She has also carried out assignments related to procurement reform for organizations such as the United States (US) Department of Defense, US Agency for International Development (USAID), and the World Bank,.

Aisha holds a BS in Electrical Engineering (University of Nebraska-Lincoln), an MBA (University of Texas-Austin), an LL.M. in International Commercial Dispute Resolution (Queen Mary, University of London), and a Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (CIArb) Diploma in International Commercial Arbitration (Keble College, Oxford).



KEVIN NASH

Registrar, Singapore International Arbitration Centre

As Registrar of the Singapore International Arbitration Centre (SIAC), Mr. Kevin Nash leads the SIAC Secretariat in the provision of case management services. For more than a decade, Kevin has overseen the administration of thousands of international cases under all versions of the SIAC Rules and the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) Arbitration Rules. Under the Singapore International Arbitration Act 1994, Kevin is gazetted as an appointing authority, serves as the statutory taxation authority, and is empowered to authenticate and certify awards and arbitration agreements.

Kevin worked closely on the last three revisions to the SIAC Rules and leads the SIAC Secretariat on the drafting of the seventh edition of the SIAC Rules. He is an active participant at UNCITRAL Working Group II (Dispute Settlement) and UNCITRAL Working Group III (ISDS). He also frequently speaks, lectures, and conducts training on contemporary issues in arbitration.

Recognised for being *'truly exceptional in his passion for, and knowledge of, international arbitration'*, Kevin is listed by *Who's Who Legal* as a Global Leader and National Leader for Southeast Asia in international arbitration. Described as a *'rock star of arbitration'* and *'a calm presence and a safe pair of hands for the most complex matters'*, peers and clients say that he is *'without equal in the region, in terms of institutional knowledge and expertise in international arbitration'* and that *'no one knows more about arbitration in Singapore.'*

Kevin is qualified as a Barrister and Solicitor with the Law Society of Upper Canada. He speaks English and French.



JORDI PANIAGUA

Professor of Economics, University of Valencia

Jordi Paniagua is Associate Professor at the University of Valencia and Distinguished Research Affiliate at the Kellogg Institute of the University of Notre Dame. He is also a Research Associate at the University of Barcelona and the University Jaume I.

Speakers

Jordi Paniagua *(continued)*

Jordi has an academic and applied specialization in international economics and business. He has worked in the telecom industry and became actively involved in regional development policy-making. His academic research has proven useful to institutions like the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank, United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL), and the United States International Trade Commission (USITC).

Jordi holds a BA and MSc in Telecom Engineering and Economics and a PhD in Economics.

HOVSEP PATVAKANYAN

Head, Investment Council of Armenia



Mr. Hovsep Patvakanyan holds a PhD in Economics and has over 10 years of experience in regulatory reforms, investment management, policy dialogue, and project management. He has worked in four countries with organizations including but not limited to European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), German Federal Foreign Office, Jacobs, Cordova & Associates, Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA), and the United Nations (UN).

Mr. Patvakanyan currently heads the EBRD-supported Investment Council of Armenia and is the CEO of Invest in Armenia. He works closely with the Government of Armenia on investment-favoring reforms, as well as with the foreign investors targeting enhanced foreign direct investment (FDI) into Armenia.



NATALIA PETRIK

*Deputy Secretary General,
Stockholm Chamber of Commerce Arbitration Institute*

Natalia Petrik is the Stockholm Chamber of Commerce (SCC) Deputy Secretary General and Head of Business Development. She began her arbitration career as an associate at prominent Swedish law firms, progressively gaining experience as a legal counsel, and eventually assuming

Natalia Petrik *(continued)*

the role of Deputy Secretary General at the SCC Arbitration Institute. Natalia leads the organizing committee for the Stockholm Chamber of Commerce/Swedish Arbitration Act (SCC/SAA) Diploma Course, a prestigious program designed for international arbitrators. She also represents the SCC in both United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) Working Groups II (WGII) and III (WGIII).

Natalia is a Council member of the International Federation of Commercial Arbitration Institutes (IFCAI), a member of the Solidarity in Arbitration and Mediation Board, and a member of Stockholm International Hearing Center Advisory Board.

HON. JUSTICE ANSELMO REYES

International Judge, Singapore International Commercial Court



Justice Anselmo Reyes practices as an arbitrator. He was Professor of Legal Practice at Hong Kong University from October 2012 to September 2018. Before that, he was a judge of the Hong Kong High Court from September 2003 to September 2012, when he was in charge of the Construction and Arbitration List (2004–2008) and the Commercial and Admiralty Lists (2008–2012). He was Representative of the Hague Conference on Private International Law's Regional Office Asia Pacific from April 2013 to July 2017. He became an International Judge of the Singapore International Commercial Court in January 2015.



CATHERINE ROGERS

Professor of Law, Bocconi University

Catherine Rogers is a professor of law at Bocconi University in Milan, Italy. Catherine teaches and writes on topics relating to international arbitration generally, and to ethics and professional regulation in global legal practice more specifically.

Speakers

Catherine Rogers *(continued)*

She is the founder and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Arbitrator Intelligence, a legal tech startup that aims to increase fairness and transparency in arbitrator selection. Among other appointments, Catherine is a Reporter for the American Law Institute's Restatement of the Law, The U.S. Law of International Commercial and Investor-State Arbitration. She also serves on the international advisory boards of several arbitral institutions; and was a co-chair of the International Council for Commercial Arbitration (ICCA)-Queen Mary Task Force on Third-Party Funding in International Arbitration, together with William W. Park and Stavros Brekoulakis.

NEETI SACHDEVA

Secretary General and Registrar, Mumbai Centre for International Arbitration



Neeti Sachdeva is the Secretary General and Registrar of the Mumbai Centre for International Arbitration (MCIA). Prior to joining MCIA, Neeti extensively worked in the field of international commercial arbitration, both as a private practitioner representing clients, and as an administrator, facilitating the dispute resolution procedure. Neeti's past professional experience includes working with some of the top Indian law firms like Trilegal and Economic Laws Practice. She also worked at the International Arbitration Department of Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer Paris Office and the London Court of International Arbitration (LCIA) India as its First Deputy Registrar.

Neeti served as judicial clerk for Justice Gita Mittal and Justice Muralidhar of the Delhi High Court. She is also active in the academic circle and is an academic advisor at Kalinga Institute of Industrial Technology (KIIT) Law School, Orissa. She is likewise a guest faculty at various law schools in India, such as Hidayatullah National Law University (HNLU) in Raipur; Maharashtra National Law University (MNLU) in Maharashtra; and the National Law University, New Delhi.

Neeti obtained a Masters in International Commercial Arbitration from Stockholm University, and has also undertaken a course in Private International Law from the Hague Academy of International Law, The Hague. She is regularly invited as a speaker at various conferences and conducts workshops in the field of arbitration. She also often sits as an arbitrator, and has served at the International Bar Association (IBA) Arbitration Committee.



HAROUT J. SAMRA

Representative of Armenian General Benevolent Union, AMCA Co-Founder

Harout J. Samra concentrates his practice on international dispute and regulatory matters, with a particular emphasis on international commercial arbitration.

Harout is certified by the Florida Bar as a Specialist in International Law and has represented clients from both the public and private sectors, including foreign governments and clients from the energy, insurance, banking, finance, manufacturing, aviation, and hospitality industries. He has experience as counsel in international arbitrations administered under the rules of the leading institutions around the world. He also served as an arbitrator and expert before the courts on international arbitration issues.

Harout has been recognized for his international practice, including by BTI Consulting Group (which described him as a “proactive, responsive, and smart” attorney who “stands out for his expertise in international law”), Florida Super Lawyers, Florida Trend’s Legal Elite, and Legal 500.

Harout is a graduate of the University of Miami School of Law (*magna cum laude*). He also received B.A. (*cum laude*) and M.B.A. degrees from the University of Miami. He is on the faculty of the University of Miami School of Law, where he teaches as part of the White & Case International Arbitration Program. Harout also frequently writes and lectures on arbitration and litigation topics. He is admitted to practice in the states of Florida and New York.

PIRUZ SARGSYAN

Financial System Ombudsperson of Armenia



Piruz Sargsyan is a distinguished legal professional and holds a Doctor of Law degree. She graduated from the Faculty of Law, Yerevan State University.

From 1995 to 2008, Mrs. Sargsyan dedicated her expertise to the Central Bank of Armenia, where she initially served as a Specialist and later as a Head of the Legal Department. Thereafter, she was appointed General Legal Counsel of the Central Bank of Armenia. During this period, she was in charge of the legal reforms carried out by the Central Bank in the

Speakers

Piruz Sargsyan *(continued)*

financial sector. Notably, she played a key role in drafting several laws in the field, such as the Law on Banks and Banking Regulation, and Bankruptcy of Banks. She has delivered lectures at several educational institutions, such as the French University of Armenia and the State Academy of Management of Armenia.

In 22 December 2008, Mrs. Sargsyan was appointed as Financial System Mediator of Armenia. She has been actively involved in numerous projects organized by the World Bank, focusing on consumer protection and the establishment of financial ombudsmen across countries in the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) and Western Europe.



FRANZ T. SCHWARZ

*Vice Chair, International Arbitration Practice Group,
Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr LLP*

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SEDA SHAHINYAN

Commissioner, Public Services Regulatory Commission of Armenia



Seda Shahinyan is an experienced Commissioner with a proven track record in the regulatory sphere of public services, encompassing energy, water, telecommunications, and more. She is a lawyer with over 18 years of regulatory experience. For more than a decade, Seda occupied management positions at the Public Services Regulatory Commission.

Seda has extensive experience in drafting and developing institutional reforms in various sectors in Armenia; and strengthening the institutional, organizational, and financial independence of the national regulatory authority. She has participated in significant expansions and improvements in strategic planning, legislative reforms, and market opening.

Seda regularly participates in working groups, trainings, exchange programs, seminars, and conferences in Armenia and abroad.



PATRICIA SHAUGHNESSY

Associate Professor, Law Department, Stockholm University

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THOMAS R. SNIDER

Partner and Head of International Arbitration, Charles Russell Speechlys

Thomas R. Snider is a Partner and the Head of International Arbitration at Charles Russell Speechlys. He is also a board member of the Dubai International Arbitration Centre (DIAC).

Tom is the lead international arbitration expert for the Asian Development Bank in the provision of technical advice to the Republic of Uzbekistan on the adoption of its national arbitration law. He regularly acts as counsel in arbitration matters, has sat as an arbitrator, and is on the panel of arbitrators of several arbitral institutions around the world. He is also a member of the Court of Arbitration of the Singapore International Arbitration Centre (SIAC), the Arbitration Committee of the Lagos Court of Arbitration (LCA), and the International Arbitration Committee of KCAB International (an independent division of the Korean Commercial Arbitration Board).

Prior to relocating to Dubai, he was a professorial lecturer in law at the George Washington University Law School in Washington, DC.

Speakers



GEORGE SVANADZE

*Partner, MG Law/Managing Partner, Andersen Georgia,
Head of Litigation Practice*

George Svanadze is a Partner at MG Law (Member Firm of Andersen Global) and Managing Partner and Co-founder of Andersen Georgia. He has over 18 years of experience working in the judicial field. He advises clients on general corporate issues and on cross-border transactions of local and foreign companies.

Mr. Svanadze also specializes in international commercial and investment contract drafting, legal due diligence procedures, conflict of laws, commercial arbitration, mediation and litigation, licensing regulations, competition law, free industrial zones, banking and financial transactions, labor and employment, and migration issues.

MARINA WEISS

Partner, Bredin Prat



Marina Weiss advises private clients as well as states and state entities in commercial and investment arbitrations conducted under the major rules (i.e., International Chamber of Commerce [ICC], International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes [ICSID], London Court of International Arbitration [LCIA], Stockholm Chamber of Commerce [SCC], and United Nations Commission on International Trade Law [UNCITRAL]), as well as in ad hoc arbitrations in a variety of industries and regions. She also advises clients in arbitration-related litigations and on issues of public international law. Marina also acts as arbitrator.



JOHANNES P. WILLHEIM

Partner, Jones Day

Dr. Johannes P. Willheim is a partner in the Global Disputes and Energy Practices at Jones Day. His practice focuses on representing energy companies active at all levels of the value chain in international arbitration proceedings. He has handled a great variety of disputes for energy clients, such as engineering and construction disputes arising under infrastructure projects and commercial disputes arising under energy supply agreements.

Johannes is recognized as an authority in commodity pricing disputes. Currently, he is assisting clients in navigating the opportunities and risks associated from the paradigm change in the regulation of European Union (EU) energy markets stemming from REPowerEU; the energy transition; and environment, social, and governance (ESG) obligations.

Johannes is an adjunct professor at the Strauss Institute for Dispute Resolution at the Law School of Pepperdine University and a guest lecturer in international arbitration at The University of Chicago Law School and the University of Stockholm.

GALINA ZUKOVA

Partner, ZUKOVA Legal



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Wall of ceramic plates in Armenia (photo by Hasmik Ghazaryan Olson on Unsplash).



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**CONFERENCE
ORGANIZERS
AND
SECRETARIAT**

A. A.R.S. Progetti S.P.A.



HALYNA KOVALCHUK

Coordinator, Framework Contracts Unit, A.R.S Progetti S.P.A.

Ms. Halyna Kovalchuk has 10 years of professional experience in international development, including 6 years as a project director/manager. She currently works at A.R.S Progetti S.P.A as unit coordinator, responsible for Framework Unit Team coordination, contract acquisition, and implementation (EU-funded framework projects/contracts' management).

The last 3 years of Halyna's career have been strongly focused on framework projects in the areas of justice, monitoring and evaluation, human rights, rule of law, gender, environment, civil society, communication, peace and security, and alternative dispute resolution (ADR). Halyna has been working in Armenia within the framework of an EU-funded program for Eastern Partnership countries. She was also involved as a legal advisor in a project financed by the German Environmental Agency UBA. She has proven experience in crisis management and conflict resolution (Fulbright Certificate in ADR).

Halyna holds a Master of Laws degree (LLM with focus on ADR). She is native in Ukrainian and Russian, fluent in English and Italian, and has a working knowledge of French, Spanish and Mandarin Chinese.

B. Asian Development Bank



CHRISTINA PAK

Principal Counsel and Team Leader, Law and Policy Reform, ADB

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NARINE AVETISYAN

Senior Investment Officer, Armenia Resident Mission, ADB

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MARIA CECILIA T. SICANGCO

Senior Legal Officer, ADB

Maria Cecilia T. Sicangco is currently a senior legal officer at the Asian Development Bank (ADB). She is involved in the design, processing, and implementation of the Law and Policy Reform Program portfolio, which covers key areas such as environment and climate change law, international arbitration, gender-based violence and access to justice, commercial law and private sector development, digital economy, and Islamic finance.

Cecille works with development partners across Asia and the Pacific to promote the rule of law and establish an enabling environment for sustainable development. She has in-country experience in Afghanistan, Bhutan, Cambodia, Fiji, India, Myanmar, Pakistan, the Philippines, Samoa, and Timor-Leste. Her work has been published in the *Yearbook of International Environmental Law* (Oxford University Press) and the *Human Rights Education in Asia-Pacific Journal*. She authored the *International Climate Change Legal Frameworks* volume of the *Climate Change, Coming Soon to a Court Near You* report series. She also co-authored the *National Climate Change Legal Frameworks* volume, which synthesized the climate legal and policy frameworks of 32 countries in the region and analyzed key legislative trends and climate-relevant constitutional rights. Under ADB's Legal Literacy for Women and Promotion of Gender-Responsive Judicial Systems technical assistance projects, Cecille put together knowledge resources for judges and prosecutors handling gender-based violence cases in Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Timor-Leste. She contributed to and was the secondary editor of the *Court Companion on Gender-Based Violence Cases*, which guides justice sector stakeholders in making justice more accessible to gender-based violence victims.

Cecille holds a Bachelor of Applied Economics and Accountancy double degree (*cum laude*) from De La Salle University and a Bachelor of Laws degree (*cum laude, salutatorian*) from the University of the Philippines. Thereafter, she pursued a Master of Laws in International Legal Studies degree at New York University, where she was the Starr Foundation Global Scholar, Hauser Scholar, and Thomas M. Franck Scholar in International Law. She holds a Certificate in

Conference Organizers and Secretariat

Maria Cecilia T. Sicangco *(continued)*

Sustainable Finance from the University of Cambridge Institute for Sustainability Leadership and an Associate Qualification in Islamic Finance from the Islamic Banking and Finance Institute Malaysia.

Cecille is a Philippine- and US-qualified lawyer (admitted to the bar in the State of New York), and a certified public accountant. She is a member of the World Commission on Environmental Law.



THEINGI SOE

Senior Legal Operations Assistant, ADB



Theingi, a national of Myanmar, received her Bachelor of Pharmacy from the University of Pharmacy in Yangon in 2008, and her Master of Public Administration from the University of Economics in Meikhtila in 2020. She brings with her more than 15 years of work experience in finance and administrative support, including more than four years at ADB's Myanmar Resident Mission Office under the Southeast Asia Department (SERD). In January 2023, she joined the Office of the General Counsel's Law and Policy Reform (LPR) team as a Senior Legal Operations Assistant on a short-term assignment from SERD.

She provides technical, analytical and administrative support for the LPR Program, specifically in the processing and administration of technical assistance projects. She also provides administrative and logistical support for LPR events such as meetings, stakeholder consultations, workshops, regional conferences, capacity building programs, and webinars.



ROXANNE INGRID T. ALCALA

Legal Operations Coordinator (Consultant), ADB

Roxanne Alcala is currently a legal operations coordinator (consultant) for the Office of the General Counsel's Law and Policy Reform Program at the Asian Development Bank.

For almost 6 years, she worked in well-known companies in the Philippines as supervisor and manager, overseeing operations to achieve corporate targets. She has also been engaged in various ADB technical assistance projects on a short-term, intermittent resource person basis, including stints as a Senior Events and Communications Officer with the Islamic Finance Technical Assistance and the Law and Policy Development for Private Sector and Public-Private Partnerships Technical Assistance.

Ms. Alcala holds a Bachelor's degree in Hospitality Management (Major in Hotel, Restaurant and Resort Management) from San Sebastian College-Recoletos in Manila, the Philippines.

KARINE MINASYAN

*Project Implementation and Investment Consultant,
Armenia Resident Mission, ADB*



Karine Minasyan is an experienced Project Implementation and Investment Consultant at the Asian Development Bank (ADB). With over 9 years of expertise in both public and private organizations, she has collaborated with esteemed organizations, delivering strategic guidance and implementing transformative solutions to drive success.

Karine collaborates closely with the private sector to drive inclusive and sustainable development. Her role includes assessing investment opportunities, conducting due diligence, and working on structuring deals that contribute to economic growth and improve livelihoods. Through her work with the private sector, Karine aims to foster innovation, create employment opportunities, and promote environmentally sustainable practices, ultimately driving positive change and advancing development goals.

Within her role at ADB, Karine actively contributes to projects focused on creating a conducive environment for private sector growth. She collaborates closely with stakeholders, including government agencies, industry associations, and businesses, to identify and address barriers that hinder business development.

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KRISTINA P. CASTAÑEDA

*Knowledge Management Specialist (Resource Person),
Law and Policy Development for Private Sector and Public-Private
Partnerships Technical Assistance, ADB*

Kristina P. Castañeda is a resource person for the Law and Policy Development for Private Sector and Public-Private Partnerships Technical Assistance, under the Law and Policy Reform Program of the Asian Development Bank.

Kristina is the General Counsel of a leading integrated aquaculture company in the Philippines. She exercises general supervision over legal issues surrounding the company's various activities, which range from manufacturing, intensive aquaculture, seafood processing, and retail. Her practice includes general corporate law, litigation, labor law, intellectual property, and property acquisition.

Aside from her role as General Counsel, Kristina serves as Corporate Secretary and Legal Counsel of other corporations engaged in agriculture, retail, restaurant operations, and construction.

Kristina holds a Management Economics degree from Ateneo de Manila University and a Bachelor of Laws degree from the University of the Philippines.

C. Arbitration and Mediation Center of Armenia



TATEVIK MATINYAN

Director, Arbitration and Mediation Center of Armenia

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LILIT PETROSYAN

Deputy Director, Arbitration and Mediation Center of Armenia



Lilit Petrosyan is the Deputy Director of the Arbitration and Mediation Center of Armenia. She has substantial experience in the judiciary and justice system. Lilit holds a bachelor's degree, LLM, and PhD from Yerevan State University.

In 2022, Lilit received an LLM degree from Queen Mary University of London. Her dissertation involved the criteria for granting provisional measures under the new International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID) Arbitration Rules of 2022.

Lilit has worked at the Cassation Court of Armenia, the Center for Legislative Development of the Ministry of Justice, and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) in London delving into issues related to the judiciary, arbitration, and mediation.

D. Center for Legislation Development



TIGRAN DADUNTS

Director, Center for Legislation Development

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DAVIT GHARIBYAN

Deputy Director, Center for Legislation Development



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Conference Organizers and Secretariat



MARIA PETROSYAN

Legal Expert, Center for Legislation Development

Ms. Maria Petrosyan is a legal expert at the Center for Legislation Development within the Ministry of Justice of Armenia. Her primary focus is supporting the development of regulatory policy of the Republic of Armenia in the realm of judicial and legal reforms, specifically in the areas of arbitration and mediation.

Maria obtained her LLB and LLM degrees from the Faculty of Law at Yerevan State University. She embarked on her professional journey in 2019, initially specializing in corporate law and litigation, before joining the Center for Legislation Development in 2023.

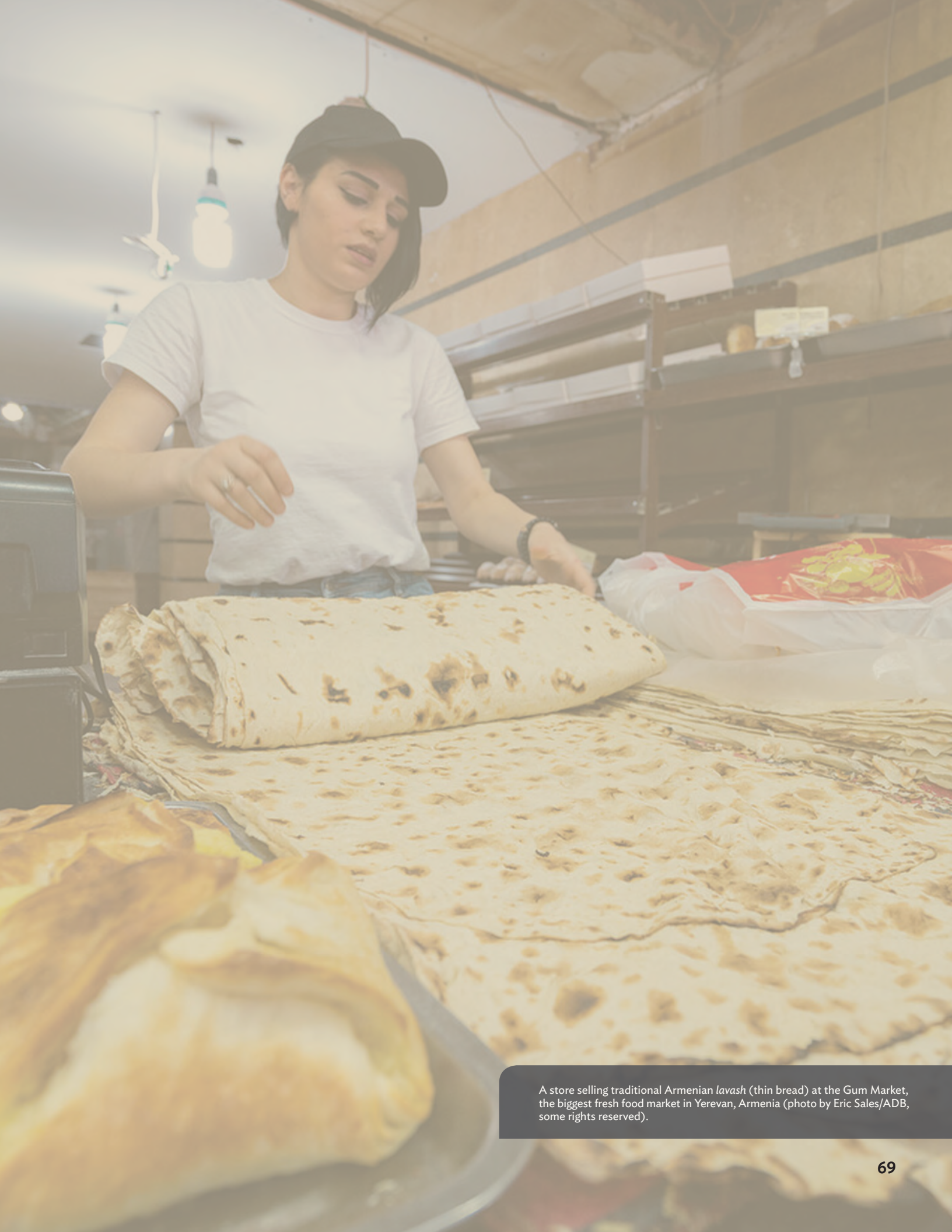
Maria is a licensed attorney-at-law at the Chamber of Advocates of the Republic of Armenia. She has participated in various international moot competitions, such as the American Moot Court Association's tournament and the Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot.

NUNE PEPANYAN

Office Manager, Center for Legislation Development



Nune Pepanyan has been serving as the Office Manager at the Center for Legislation Development within the Ministry of Justice since 2017. She comes with an impressive background, having previously held expert positions in various esteemed organizations, including the "NGO Center" Civil Society Development Non-Governmental Organization (NGO), Council of Europe, Tetra Tech Associates in Rural Development (ARD), the United States Agency for International Development (USAID)-funded Support to the Armenian National Assembly Program (SANAP), and Counterpart International. Her diverse experience also encompasses successful management roles at the "Independent Life" Centre of "Full Life" NGO and the Social Partnership and International Cooperation Unit of the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Armenia. Nune specializes in social work and social policy and in management and law.



A store selling traditional Armenian *lavash* (thin bread) at the Gum Market, the biggest fresh food market in Yerevan, Armenia (photo by Eric Sales/ADB, some rights reserved).



Tamanyan Street in Yerevan, Armenia (photo by Mostafa Meraji on Unsplash).



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CONFERENCE RAPPORTEURS

Conference Rapporteurs



MARIA CECILIA T. SICANGCO

Senior Legal Officer, ADB

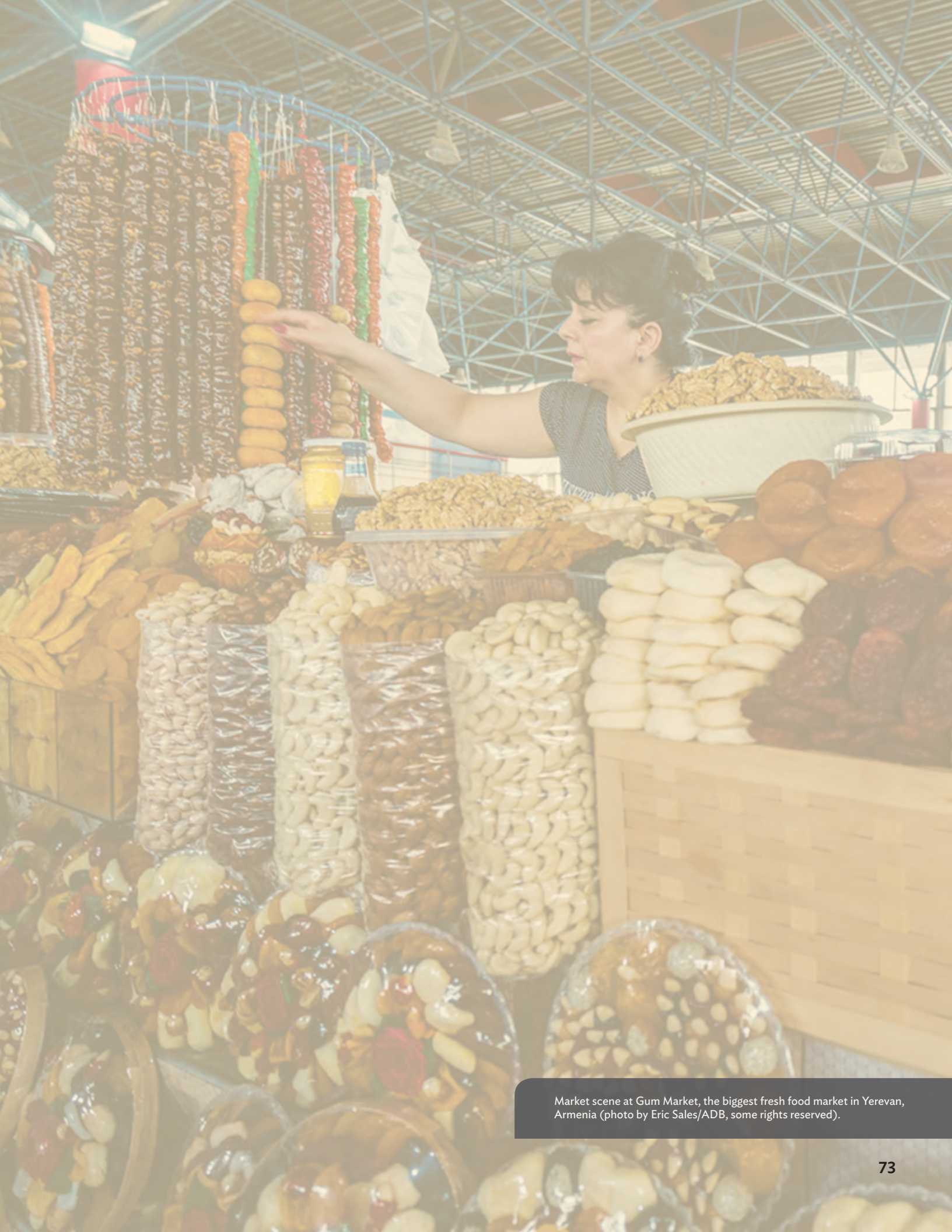
Please see page 63.



KRISTINA P. CASTAÑEDA

*Knowledge Management Specialist (Resource Person),
Law and Policy Development for Private Sector and Public-Private
Partnerships Technical Assistance, ADB*

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Market scene at Gum Market, the biggest fresh food market in Yerevan, Armenia (photo by Eric Sales/ADB, some rights reserved).



Hydroelectric power plant in Tsovinar Lake, Hrazdan, Armenia
(photo by Danil Zakhvatkin on Unsplash).

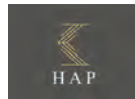


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ADB is committed to achieving a prosperous, inclusive, resilient, and sustainable Asia and the Pacific, while sustaining its efforts to eradicate extreme poverty. Established in 1966, it is owned by 68 members —49 from the region. Its main instruments for helping its developing member countries are policy dialogue, loans, equity investments, guarantees, grants, and technical assistance.



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