



John Willems

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Biography

Overview

John Willems is an experienced international arbitration lawyer, who advises clients in a wide variety of disputes.

He is experienced with international arbitration proceedings before the International Centre for the Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID), the Permanent Court of Arbitration (PCA), the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC), the Arbitration Institute of the Stockholm Chamber of Commerce (SCC), the American Arbitration Association (AAA/ICDR), and various ad hoc tribunals, including those conducted under UNCITRAL Rules.

John has successfully represented sovereigns, investors, banks and other parties, and his varied sector experience includes banking, construction, oil and gas and telecommunications.

Bars and Courts

US Court of Appeals for the Second and Federal Circuits

US District Courts for the Southern, Eastern and Western Districts of New York

New York State Bar

Education

JD, University of Virginia School of Law, Executive Editor of Virginia Journal of International Law

BA, History, Brown University

Languages

English

French

Latvian

Experience

Commercial Litigation

Bilateral Investment Treaty arbitrations:

Hungary

Representation in the successful defense of the claims in 'Vigotop Ltd. v. Hungary', an ICSID arbitration arising under the Hungary-Cyprus Bilateral Investment Treaty relating to the alleged expropriation of the concession to a "mega casino" project.

The State of Ukraine

Representation in the successful defense of the claims brought by Global Trading Resources and Globex International, both US investors. The case represented the first occasion where a State was able to obtain a summary dismissal on the merits of an ICSID claim under ICSID Rule 41(5).

Indian Investor

Representation in a pending UNICTRAL Rules arbitration against Poland in a claim arising under the Poland-Indian BIT.

The State of Ukraine

Representation in 'Bosh International Inc. and B&P Foreign Investments Enterprise v. Ukraine', regarding the successful defense of an ICSID arbitration brought by a US investor in relation to the termination of an agreement for the development and operation of a hotel and science complex.

German Investor

Representation in an UNCITRAL Rules arbitration brought under the Germany-Poland BIT. This case concerned a privatization dispute and involved sugar quotas in the European Union.

Other commercial arbitrations:

The National Environmental Investment Agency of Ukraine

Representation of the National Environmental Investment Agency of Ukraine in the successful defense of an arbitration brought by a Cypriot company under the PCA Environmental Rules.

Romanian Bank

Representation in the successful defense of an English law arbitration governed by the UNCITRAL Rules against two Cyprus-based companies.

Purchaser

Representation of the purchaser in a New York law AAA arbitration involving a claim by a seller under the "earn out" provision.

Korean Electronics Company

Representation in an ICC arbitration against a Turkish company arising out of the establishment of a manufacturing operation for color television sets.
