



Yuri Mantilla

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Nationalities: Brazilian and Italian

Avocat à la Cour/Attorney-at-law, part of the international arbitration and public international law groups of Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer LLP. I am based in Paris, and I have worked on shorter periods from the firm's Washington, DC, Madrid, New York, Moscow, Vienna, and Munich offices.

Prior to joining Freshfields, I trained in Geneva with the World Trade Organisation (Legal Affairs Division), United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), and the arbitration group of a leading Swiss law firm.

I am fluent in English, Spanish, Portuguese and French. Since 2022 I have received the *Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch* recognition for my work in international arbitration and since 2023 I have been listed as a *Future Leader* in *Who's Who: Arbitration*.

Professional qualifications

- *Avocat à la Cour*, Paris, France (2018)
- Attorney-at-law, Washington, DC, USA (2012)
- Attorney-at-law, Florida, USA (2010)

Arbitration and public international law experience

I have represented governments and private parties in a broad range of cases, having acted as counsel and assistant to arbitral tribunals in proceedings under the ICC, ICSID, ICSID AF, UNCITRAL, CAM Santiago, and CRCICA rules that involved construction, energy, infrastructure, and natural resources projects in Latin America, Europe, Africa, Asia and the Middle East. I have also accumulated significant experience in State-to-State disputes before the International Court of Justice and World Trade Organisation.

Relevant experiences include:

Oil and gas

- Acting for **Singaporean and Dutch companies** in a multi-million ICSID arbitration with a Middle Eastern State relating to the taking by the State of the companies' import-export natural gas businesses and related assets;

- Advising a **Supermajor oil company** in potential UNCITRAL arbitrations with a state entity of an African country arising from oil and natural gas Production Sharing Agreements;
- Advising a **Supermajor oil company** in potential ICC and investor-State arbitrations with a South American State relating to investments in the hydrocarbons sector;
- Acting for a **consortium of investors** in multi-billion dollar ICSID and UNCITRAL arbitrations against a Middle Eastern State involving the construction of a gas pipeline and termination of a natural gas supply contract;
- Acting for a **Middle Eastern company** in multi-billion dollar ICC, and CRCICA arbitrations against state entities of a Middle Eastern State involving the construction and termination of a natural gas supply contract;
- Acting for a **Supermajor oil company** in a multi-million ICC arbitration arising from a contract to design and build a gas processing plant in South America; and

Renewable and thermal energy

- Advising a **UK company and its subsidiaries** in negotiations and potential investor-State arbitration with a Latin American State relating to their multi-million dollar investment in the State's renewable energy sector;
- Advising a **French investor and its subsidiaries** in negotiations and potential investor-State arbitration with a Latin American State relating to their billion dollar investment in the State's renewable energy sector;
- Advising a **US investor and its subsidiaries** in a potential multi-million dollar ICSID arbitration against a Balkan State relating to the construction and operation of a thermal power plant;
- Acting for a **consortium of investors** in a multi-million dollar ICSID arbitration against an European State relating to their investments in the photovoltaic sector; and
- Acting for an **Asian company** in a multi-million dollar ICSID arbitration against an European State relating to their investments in the Eolic energy sector.

Infrastructure and real estate development

- Acting for a **Russian energy company** in a multi-million CAM Santiago commercial arbitration relating to strategic public works at a South American State;
- Acting for a **Dutch investor and its subsidiaries** in a multi-million dollar ICSID arbitration against an Eastern European State relating to their investment in a sports and recreation centre as well as lodging and associated amenities; and
- Assisting in the representation of a **telecom supplier** in ICC arbitration proceedings against a supplier of submarine fibre optic cables.

Mining

- Acting for a **North American investor** in a UNCITRAL arbitration against a former Soviet Republic involving the termination of a mining license;
- A leading Eastern European mining company in potential investor-State arbitration against Argentina relating to the revocation of a license to mine copper and gold;

- Assisting the **tribunal in an ICC arbitration** under Brazilian law, seated in São Paulo, Brazil, relating to disputes arising out of a joint venture in the Brazilian mining sector; and
- Assisting in the defence of a **South American State** in an UNCITRAL investment arbitration involving the termination of a mining license.

Public international law disputes

- Acting for the **Republic of Chile** before the International Court of Justice in a case brought by Bolivia claiming that Chile was under an obligation to negotiate with it concerning granting it sovereign access to the Pacific Ocean;
- Advising an **international mining company** with operations in a South American State on measures affecting the maritime service sector and trade in coal and on potential trade disputes that the home State of this company could bring against the South American State under trade agreements within the framework of the World Trade Organization (GATT and GATS) and other multilateral trade agreements; and
- Assisted **World Trade Organization Legal Officers** with administrative tasks relating to trade disputes before WTO Panels as well as drafted legal memoranda analysing WTO agreements, jurisprudence, and other sources of international law.

Other disputes

- Acting for subsidiaries of a **US healthcare provider** in a multi-million ICC arbitration with the government of an European State in relation to a concession to rehabilitate and operate hospitals;
- Acting for a **leading internet and technology company** in ICC arbitration with an Israeli service provider in relation to the breach of several contracts concerning provision of ride hailing services in Israel;
- Acting for a **UK aerospace company** against the space agency of an African country in an ICC arbitration seated in Geneva that arose from a partnership agreement to boost the African State's space technology by developing space systems and a microsatellite launching technology for national security purposes;
- Acting for a **Croatian shipbuilding company and vessel operator** in respect of a dispute with a UK cruise company that arose out of a shipbuilding contract and an adverse arbitral award rendered in Rotterdam under the auspices of the UNUM Transport Arbitration & Mediation centre;
- Acted for an **NGO** in an ICC arbitration with a local partner in an Eastern European State; and
- Assisted in the representation of a **Central-American State** and a **Middle Eastern State** in ICSID annulment proceedings.

University education

- LLM — International Dispute Settlement (MIDS), Institut de Hautes Etudes Internationales et du Développement & University of Geneva (Switzerland) (2012)
- JD/LLB — Nova Southeastern University (USA) /University of Barcelona (Spain) (2011)
- MBA — University of South Florida (USA) (2007)

- BS Finance — Florida Gulf Coast University (USA) (2004)

Publications

- *Jurisdiction* *ratione temporis in the context of ISDS*, ELGAR ENCYCLOPEDIA OF INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC LAW (2024)
- *O uso de doutrinas de equitável estoppel por não signatários de convenções de arbitragem: análise da recente Decisão da Suprema Corte dos Estados Unidos da América* *Estados Unidos da América*, REVISTA BRASILEIRA DE ARBITRAGEM, CBAR (Volume 18, Issue 70 (2021) pp. 134 – 154)
- Case report: *Quiborax SA and Non Metallic Minerals SA v Bolivia*, ICSID Case No ARB/06/2, ICSID REPORTS, Volume 18 (2021)
- *La Cour d’appel de Paris desestima cinco demandas de anulación interpuestas contra cinco laudos, basadas en una supuesta falta de revelación por el árbitro*, LA LEY MEDIACIÓN Y ARBITRAJE NO 2, WOLTERS KLUWER ESPAÑA (June 2020)
- *Arbitrators’ duty to disclose: developments from new International Chamber of Paris Court of Appeal*, INTERNATIONAL LAW OFFICE (ILO) (April 2020)
- *Paris Court of Appeal may revisit definition of “investment” under Energy Charter Treaty*, INTERNATIONAL LAW OFFICE (ILO) (January 2019)
- *Energy Transit Disputes in the World Trade Organization: Analysis of GAAT Article V and Identification of Possible Claims and Defences*, WTO LAW No 1 (July 2014)
- *The Survival of the United States Ethanol Subsidies and Tariff: Are There Further Reasons to Keep Them on the Books?*, ILSA JOURNAL OF INT’L & COMP. LAW, Volume 15.1 (2008)

Certificates and recognitions

- Listed as a *Future Leader* in the legal market analysis publication *Who’s Who: Arbitration* 2023 and 2024
- From 2022-2024, recognized as a *Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch* by The Best Lawyers™ in France for work in the field of international arbitration
- Workshop on “Questioning of Fact Witness in International Arbitration” (Foundation for International Arbitration Advocacy, Switzerland; 2012)
- International Legal Practice (Nova Southeastern University, USA; 2010)
- Advanced Finance and International Business (University of South Florida, USA; 2007)