

# WELCOME TO THE CHARTERED INSTITUTE OF ARBITRATORS NORTH AMERICA BRANCH

The Professional Home of Dispute Resolution in North America

## October 8, 2020 - Smart Contracts and Blockchain Dispute Resolution from International and Institutional Perspectives

We are privileged to have a diverse group of international experts in arbitration law and technology introduce and discuss the latest developments in smart contracts, blockchain arbitration, decentralized justice, and the world's first Robotic Process Automation facility for the creation of arbitration agreements (Simplified Arbitration Reference Facility). Join us on October 8 to find out more!

Panelists:

**Francis Xavier, Senior Counsel, C.Arb, PBM, CI Arb President, Partner and Regional Head of Dispute Resolution Group, Rajah & Tann LLP, Singapore**

**Professor Patricia Shaughnessy, Stockholm University, Former Vice-Chair, Arbitration Institute of the Stockholm Chamber of Commerce, Sweden**

**Adrian Iordache, FCI Arb, BIAC Project Leader, Managing Partner, Iordache Partners, Romania, Principal Solicitor, Consortium Legal, UK**

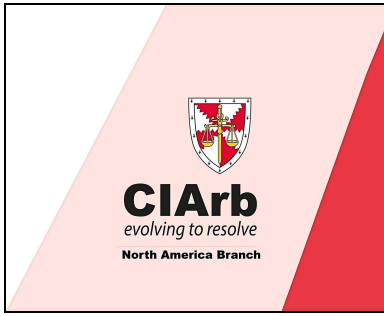
**Adriana Uson, Head (Americas), Singapore International Arbitration Center**

**Mauricio Duarte, Justice Entrepreneur A2J Tech, Co-Founder Legal Hackers Podcast and Guatemala Legal Hackers, Kleros Fellow of Justice in Law and Society, Guatemala**

Co-Moderators:

**Kirsten Teo, MCI Arb, DC Special Legal Consultant, De Almeida Pereira, Singapore Advocate & Solicitor, Arbitrator Intelligence Global Lead Ambassador**

**Diogo Pereira, Partner, De Almeida Pereira, Washington DC**



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**Francis Xavier, Senior Counsel, C.Arb, PBM, CI Arb President** is Partner and Regional Head of the Dispute Resolution Group of Rajah & Tann LLP in Singapore. He was appointed Senior Counsel in January 2009 and practices international commercial and treaty arbitration and litigation.

He is actively involved in cross-border commercial disputes in the areas of corporate banking, property, financial and investment related claims. He is currently acting in several cases before the Singapore International Court including representing an Australian energy entity in a very substantial dispute against an Indonesian conglomerate, being the very first case to be heard before the SICC.

He is currently the global President of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (UK) and the immediate Past President of the Inter-Pacific Bar Association. He is a Chartered Arbitrator and a Past Chairman of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (Singapore).



**Professor Patricia Shaughnessy** specializes in international disputes and commercial law at Stockholm University, where she created the Master of International Commercial Arbitration Law Program. Until 2019, she served as the Vice-Chair of the Board of the SCC Arbitration Institute, having been a Board member since 2005 and been a member of the drafting committees for the SCC Rules in 2007, 2010 and 2017. She was a government-appointed expert on the legislative committee for the revisions to the Swedish Arbitration Act.

Patricia acts as an arbitrator, expert, and consultant, in leading projects related to commercial law and dispute resolution in many countries. She has served as a fellow to the US Supreme Court and prior to her academic career, she practiced law for ten years in the US, specialized in commercial law and litigation. She publishes extensively and is a frequent speaker at leading universities and international conferences.



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**Adrian Iordache FCI Arb** is an international commercial lawyer, arbitration pioneer and founder of Bucharest International Arbitration Court (BIAC). He is Managing Partner at Iordache Partners in Bucharest and Principal Solicitor at Consortium Legal in London. He has demonstrated expertise in corporate and commercial law, corporate financing, and transactional structuring, with a solid aviation transactional portfolio, catering to the wider European market. He is Project Leader of the BIAC Simplified Arbitration Reference Facility (sARF).

He is admitted to practice in England and Wales (Solicitor), New York State, Bucharest (avocat definitiv) and the District of Columbia. Adrian is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators, a Member of ASA, and a Listed Arbitrator of the BIAC (Bucharest), DELOS Arbitrator Network (Paris) and a Listed Arbitrator by Permanent Arbitration at the Chamber of Commerce of Serbia.



As Head (Americas) of the Singapore International Arbitration Centre (SIAC), **Adriana Uson** oversees SIAC's activities in North and South America. She has broad experience as an arbitration practitioner – having acted as arbitrator, international arbitration lawyer, and SIAC Secretariat Counsel. Adriana first joined SIAC as Counsel, during which time she administered over two hundred cases under the SIAC Rules and UNCITRAL Arbitration Rules, with a particular focus on disputes involving States, State controlled entities, and intergovernmental organisations.

Prior to rejoining SIAC, Adriana was a disputes lawyer at a leading international law firm in Singapore, where she advised and represented clients in international commercial and ICSID arbitrations. Adriana is an active member of the Young SIAC Committee and the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (Singapore) Young Members Group.



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**Mauricio Duarte** is a Lawyer from Universidad Francisco Marroquín (Guatemala) with an LL.M. from St. Thomas University (Minnesota). Mauricio worked for 4 years in international arbitration, before devoting himself to issues related to technology and legal innovation.

Mauricio is a Justice Entrepreneur with A2J Tech, a company located in Denver, Colorado (United States), that builds legal tech solutions to improve access to justice. In addition, Mauricio is an Of Counsel Partner of Legal Plus, a law firm focused on advising entrepreneurs and technology startups. Further, Mauricio has served as a Kleros Fellow of Justice and is an Arbitrator Intelligence Ambassador.



**Diogo Pereira** is an international lawyer specializing in International Arbitration, Public International Law, and Investigations relating to corruption, money laundering, sanctions, and terrorist finance. Mr. Pereira is based in Washington D.C. and is admitted to practice in the District of Columbia and Florida. His practice focuses on all aspects of international disputes and investigations with significant experience in Latin America, Europe, the United States and the Middle East. Recently, he advised the World Bank on a legal reform project in Portugal and the Kingdom of Bahrain in relation to an investigation of a bank found to have moved billions of dollars for the purposes of evading sanctions, contributing to terrorist finance, and the financing of Iran's nuclear program.

Prior to founding **De Almeida Pereira**, Mr. Pereira was an associate at leading international law firms in Paris, London, and Washington DC.



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**Kirsten Teo MCI Arb** is an international lawyer specializing in International Arbitration, Public International Law, International Aviation, and Law of the Sea. She is admitted to practice in the District of Columbia as a Special Legal Consultant, Attorney & Counselor, and in Singapore as an Advocate & Solicitor. Her legal practice focuses on all aspects of international disputes with significant experience in Asia, Europe, and the United States.

Kirsten is an active member of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (North America Branch) and the Young SIAC Committee in Singapore. She leads the Ambassadors as Global Lead Ambassador at Arbitrator Intelligence. Prior to joining **De Almeida Pereira** in DC, Kirsten was a Senior Associate at a leading international law firm in Singapore where she was the sole associate practicing in aviation law and the head of the associates' working group in international arbitration in 2018.