



John Savage

MANAGING PARTNER-SIN

PROFILE

John Savage is a partner in King & Spalding's International Arbitration group, and leads the firm's arbitration practice in Asia. He has represented governments, corporations and high-net-worth individuals in over 120 international arbitrations, both institutional and *ad hoc*, including many corporate, construction, energy and investment treaty disputes. These arbitrations have involved a variety of applicable laws, venues, rules and subject matters. Mr. Savage has worked in Asia for over 10 years and has deep experience of disputes with a centre of gravity in the Asia-Pacific region.

In addition to his work as counsel, Mr. Savage has been appointed chairman of the tribunal, sole arbitrator and co-arbitrator in ICC, ICDR, ICSID, JCAA, KLRCA, LCIA, SIAC, Swiss Chambers and *ad hoc* arbitrations. He is a director of the SIAC and a member of its Executive Committee.

Selected Professional & Business Activities

- Director and Executive Committee member, Singapore International Arbitration Centre (SIAC)
- Expert Adviser to the Singapore Government Delegation to the UNCITRAL Working Group on Arbitration
- Member of arbitrator panels of ACICA, BAC, CIETAC, HKIAC, ICDR, KCAB and SIAC
- Professorial Lecturer on the Law of International Commercial Arbitration, George Washington University, Washington, D.C. (2010)
- Speaker or panel chair at dozens of seminars and conferences on international arbitration

Selected Publications

- Co-author, *International Arbitration and Mediation: A Practical Guide*, Kluwer (2010)
- Co-editor, *Fouchard Gaillard Goldman On International Commercial Arbitration*, Kluwer (1999)
- "Chinese Investment Treaties and the Opportunities Offered by Most-Favoured-Nation Provisions", N. Rubins (ed.), *Investment Arbitration Decisions*, Juris Publishing, 2011 (previously published in *Stockholm International Arbitration Review*, 2008/3) (co-author)
- "Chapter 17 – Investment Treaty Arbitration", in *Asian Leading Arbitrators' Guide to International Arbitration*, M. Pryles and M.J. Moser, Eds., Juris Net (2007)
- "Investment Treaty Arbitration and Asia: Review of Developments in 2005 and 2006", 3 *Asian International Arbitration Journal* 1 (2007)
- "The New Generation of China BITs: Will More Investor Protection Mean More Arbitration?", *The Asia Pacific Arbitration Review* 2007 (co-author)
- "Family Ties: When Arbitration Agreements Bind Non-Signatory Affiliate Companies", *Asian Dispute Review* 16 (2003) (co-author)
- "Investment Treaty Arbitration and Asia: Survey and Comment", 1 *Asian International Arbitration Journal* 3 (2005)

CONTACT

SINGAPORE

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PRACTICES

Commercial Disputes
Energy & Natural Resources
International Arbitration
Middle East Arbitration
Asian Practice
LNG

LANGUAGES

English
French

EDUCATION

Final Examination of the Law Society,
First Class Honours, Guildhall University,
London
Maîtrise en droit privé, Université Paris I
Panthéon-Sorbonne
LL.B., King's College, University of
London, UK

ADMISSIONS

England & Wales
France (inactive)

- “ICSID Ad Hoc Committee Conditions Stay of Enforcement on Posting of Security”, 18 *Mealey’s International Arbitration Report* (October 2003)
- Contributing author, Kluwer Arbitration Blog

MATTERS

Current and Recent Experience as Counsel

- Currently representing Dow Chemical in an ICC arbitration in London against Petrochemical Industries Company, which is wholly-owned by the State of Kuwait, arising out of a wide-ranging joint venture agreement. English law governs. The tribunal has already awarded our client damages of over USD 2.1 billion – one of the largest arbitration awards in history.
- Currently representing a group of production sharing contractors in disputes against other production sharing contractors subject to ICC arbitration in Paris arising out of the supply of LNG in a South East Asian country. Hundreds of millions of dollars are at stake.
- Currently representing an Asian production sharing contractor in multiple disputes against a host government all subject to *ad hoc* arbitration in Asia. Billions of dollars are at stake.
- Currently representing a large Russian industrial concern in an LCIA arbitration in London against a European investment bank. USD 90 million is in dispute.
- Currently representing one of the world’s largest multinationals as claimant in an HKIAC arbitration in Hong Kong against a publicly-traded Chinese joint venture party in the renewable energy sector. New York law governs and over USD 300 million is at stake.
- Currently representing an oil major in two SIAC arbitrations in Singapore against an independent gas producer and its parent company. The dispute concerns coalbed methane assets in East Asia. English law governs.
- Currently representing a European industrial company in an ICC arbitration in Zurich against a Korean company concerning a joint venture in China. Korean law governs.
- Currently representing two Vietnamese textile companies in an ICC arbitration in Singapore against a North American company concerning a joint venture in Vietnam. Vietnamese law governs.
- Currently representing an independent oil company in an UNCITRAL arbitration in Singapore against a national oil company. The dispute concerns a farm-in agreement in respect of offshore petroleum blocks in South East Asia. The opponent’s local law governs.
- Currently representing a Russian industrial company in an ICC arbitration in Istanbul against a French company, arising out of the opposing party’s failure to close the sale of a business. Over USD 70 million is in dispute. Turkish law governs.
- Recently represented a multinational consortium of construction contractors in disputes concerning one of the world’s highest profile construction projects.
- Recently represented an oil major in connection with claims of *force majeure* under LNG supply agreements in the Asia-Pacific region.
- Recently represented an Asian construction contractor in an ICC arbitration in Seoul in a dispute with a subcontractor concerning a port project. Korean law governed. The client obtained the dismissal of all claims and the award of its costs.
- Recently represented Malaysian Historical Salvors in its successful action to annul an ICSID award made in favour of Malaysia.
- Recently represented SGS as claimant in its ICSID arbitration against the Republic of the Philippines, resulting in a settlement of CHF 150 million (of CHF 174 million claimed).
- Recently represented a downstream subsidiary of an oil major in an ICC arbitration in Singapore against one of its Indonesian distributors. Indonesian law governed. The client obtained the dismissal of all claims and an award of most of its costs.

RECOGNITION

Selected Professional Accolades

- Leading individual in international arbitration — *Chambers Global*, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011

- "Very thorough, strategic in his thinking and extremely well connected in Asia" and "a standard setter" — *Chambers Asia Pacific 2012*
- John Savage "commands universal respect and acclaim from all his peers" — *Chambers Singapore 2012*
- "One of the finest practitioners in Asia" — *Who's Who Legal, Commercial Arbitration, 2012*
- "Clients appreciate his strategic thinking, cultural awareness and ability to read the other side" — *Asia Pacific Legal 500, 2011*
- "Not only an excellent advocate but also a good strategic thinker with commercial sense and an eye on the big picture" — *Who's Who Legal, Commercial Arbitration, 2010*
- "The best in Asia", *Who's Who Legal, Dispute Resolution, 2008*
- "Incisive, imaginative and tough if need arises ... excellent in strategic advice and indispensable when it comes to conducting the arbitration hearings" — *Chambers Asia, 2008*
- Selected as one of "45 under 45" leading global international arbitration lawyers — *Global Arbitration Review 2006*
- "A terrific strategic thinker" — *Chambers Global, 2005-2006*
- "Excellent and original litigator with a remarkable courtroom presence" — *Chambers Global, 2002-2003*

NEWS & INSIGHTS

NEWS

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| <i>25 May 2012</i> | King & Spalding Earns Significant Arbitration Win for The Dow Chemical Company |
| <i>24 Feb 2012</i> | Chambers Counts King & Spalding Among Asia-Pacific's Elite Law Firms |
| <i>01 Mar 2011</i> | Southeast Asia – An Attractive Investment Destination |
| <i>01 Mar 2011</i> | King & Spalding Gains Instant Recognition in Chambers Asia-Pacific Guide |
| <i>03 Feb 2011</i> | King & Spalding Advises On Innovative Modular LNG Project |
| <i>21 Sep 2010</i> | King & Spalding Opens Singapore Office |
| <i>09 Aug 2010</i> | King & Spalding to Open Singapore Office Focused on Commercial Arbitration and Energy Transactions |

PUBLICATIONS

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| <i>17 May 2011</i> | Crisis in Libya: What Legal Options are Available to Oil and Gas Companies? |
| <i>01 Dec 2010</i> | Navigating The Pitfalls Of Arbitration With Chinese Parties |