



## Leonora Riesenburg

**BA HONS (LAW) (SOC) PG DIP.LAW LLM DIP.ARB FCIARB CP (AIADR)**

Chartered Arbitrator  
Accredited Mediator  
Certified Adr Practitioner  
Trainer in Adr

**NATIONALITY: UK**

### Profile

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- Independent Chartered Arbitrator, Accredited Commercial Mediator, Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (CI Arb), Certified ADR Practitioner and Fellow of the Asian Institute of Alternative Dispute Resolution (AIADR). Registered with Arbitral institutions worldwide including AIAC, CRCICA, DIAC, LCIA, ICC, MIAC, SCCA and SIAC.
- International Tenant at 4-5 Grays Inn Square, London, Arbitrators
- Member of Governing Council, Hyderabad Arbitration Centre (HAC) India.
- Member of Global Advisory Board of ADR Practitioners, Musaliha International Centre for Arbitration & Dispute Resolution (MICADR) Pakistan.
- Member of DIFC Courts Arbitration Division (DIFCC-Arb) Working Group, Dubai International Financial Center, UAE.
- Member of London Court of International Arbitration (LCIA) Arab Users' Council.
- Part Chairman of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators UAE Branch; Past Independent Member of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators Board of Management in the UK.
- UK Qualified Lawyer (called to the Bar of England & Wales, admitted as a Solicitor of the Supreme Court of England & Wales).
- Trainer/ Assessor for the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators in International Arbitration and Commercial Mediation (all courses), UK, MENA, and developing markets.
- Trainer/ Assessor with the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors (RICS) in the Expert Witness Testimony Certificate, UK and MENA.
- Arbitrated cross practice sectors (Chairman, Co-arbitrator, and Sole Arbitrator), including in highly complex high value arbitrations upwards of AED 1bn.
- Mediated disputes of various order and complexity, including multiple party disputes, investment, commercial and workplace disputes.
- Leading female figurehead and household name in the world of private dispute resolution; recognized as a safe pair of hands, legally and technically excellent.
- Professional contributions marked by honorary and voluntary roles, prestigious awards, authorships and publications.
- Frequent speaker at conferences, seminars and events in Europe, Middle East, Asia and Australasia on arbitration and mediation; since 2020, globally via webinars.

## Positions Held in UAE

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- Currently, Independent Chartered Arbitrator, Accredited Commercial Mediator at INTADR DMCC, Dubai, privately owned independent ADR practice.
- Previously, Group Head of Legal/ Group GC at GGICO, listed public investment conglomerate.
- Previously, Advocate and Senior Legal Consultant, Galadari Advocates & Legal Consultants – Projects and Construction (Disputes – Arbitration and Litigation).

## Practice Sectors

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*Sector specific representative matters available on request.*

Infrastructure and Development	Investment disputes
Construction and Real Estate (commercial, residential, retail)	Partnering and Shareholder disputes
Retail and Facilities Management	Corporate and Commercial disputes
MEP and Fit-Out Works	Finance and Banking, Facilities and Security
Hospitality and Entertainment	Shipping, Transport and Logistics
Distribution and Franchising	Insurance and Re-Insurance

## Selection of Arbitration Cases – As Arbitrator, Advocate or Party Representative

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- ADCCAC Case no. 49/2022 Supply & installation of temporary gantries to utility, plant, Abu Dhabi (Chair, 3 member Tribunal)
- DIAC Arbitration No. 132/2021 Supply of substations (fixed and mobile) involving a UAE and French company (Chair, 3 member Tribunal)
- DIAC Arbitration No. 1/2021 Piling Works dispute on an island development in Sharjah (Co-Arbitrator, 3 member Tribunal)
- DIAC Arbitration No. 59/2020 Fit-out dispute in respect of a hotel in Business Bay, Dubai (Chairman, 3 member Tribunal)
- DIFC-LCIA Arbitration No. DL20238 Construction, management and design of a supply pipeline in KSA (Co-arbitrator, 3 member tribunal). Value: approx. SAR 4.2m
- ICC Arbitration No. 25361/AYZ Engineering, procurement, construction and commissioning dispute on a new tank storage terminal, Al Hamriyah Freezone, UAE (Co-arbitrator, 3 member tribunal). Value: over USD \$17m
- DIAC Arbitration No. 6/2020 Sale and purchase dispute concerning multiple residential real estate units, Dubai Sports City (Sole Arbitrator)
- DIAC Arbitration No. 144/2019 Construction dispute concerning two residential towers in TECOM involving the employer and main contractor (Co-arbitrator, 3 member tribunal). Global claim value: approx. AED 250m
- LCIA Arbitration No. 204897 Highly Complex Investment Dispute involving Local and Foreign Public Entities (Land and Monetary Holdings) with parallel proceeding in DIFC Courts. Value: est. AED 823m
- LCIA Arbitration No. 184133 Highly Complex Investment Dispute involving Local and Foreign

Public Entities (Land and Monetary Holdings) with parallel proceeding in DIFC Courts. Value: est. AED 93m

- DIAC Arbitration No. 115/2019 Fit-out dispute concerning building project serviced apartments in Business Bay, Dubai, involving a renowned local developer and fit out provider (Chairman, 3 member tribunal). Claim value: approx. AED 40m
- DIFC-LCIA Arbitration No. DL19258 Major construction dispute concerning the design, construction, completion and maintenance of a hotel in Tecom, Dubai, with local and foreign parties in the UAE and KSA (Co-arbitrator, 3 member tribunal). Claim value: over 1Bn
- DIFC-LCIA Arbitration No. DL19216 Shareholder dispute concerning share sale and purchase arrangements involving local and foreign holdings in the UAE and Qatar (Co-Arbitrator, 3 member tribunal). Claim value: approx. USD \$ 9m
- DIFC-LCIA Arbitration No. DL18155 Major construction dispute in Dubai concerning the design, construction, completion and maintenance of a hotel in Tecom, Dubai, with local and foreign parties in the UAE and KSA (Co-arbitrator, 3 member tribunal). Claim value: approx. AED 900m
- DIFC-LCIA Arbitration No. DL17128 Multiple shareholder disputes concerning multiple companies, local and foreign holdings in the UAE and BVI (Sole Arbitrator). Claim value: AED 35m
- DIFC-LCIA Arbitration No. DL17088 Real estate investor dispute in Dubai involving a well known local developer and Kuwaiti investor (Chair, 3 member tribunal)
- DIAC Case No. 150/2017 Multi-party investment dispute, hostile takeover of investment holdings and assets, local and foreign elements (UAE, Bahrain, Netherlands, USA) (3 member tribunal)
- ADCCAC Case No. 42/2017 Banking and securities dispute involving a leading onshore Abu Dhabi bank (Co-Arbitrator, 3 member tribunal). Global claim value: approx. AED 278m
- DIAC Case No. 2/2017 Sale of land for development dispute involving the master developer/ seller and developer/purchaser, in Dubai (3 member tribunal)
- DIAC Case No. 142/ 2016 Sale of land for development dispute involving the master developer/ seller and developer/purchaser, in Dubai (3 member tribunal)
- DIAC Case No. 139/ 2016 Sale of land for development dispute involving the master developer/ seller and developer/purchaser, in Dubai (3 member tribunal)
- Dubai Court Supervised Arbitration Case No. 881/2016 Fit-Out works dispute in respect of high end luxury furniture showroom in Dubai (court appointed arbitrator)
- ICC Case No. 20555, 2015 Data center MEP works dispute involving the main contractor and MEP contractor, Dubai (3 member tribunal)
- DIAC Case Nos. 146/2011 & 393/2011 (consol.) High rise building/ major construction dispute involving the employer and main contractor, in Dubai (3 member tribunal)
- LCIA Arbitration No. 101769, 2010 Service level dispute, seated in London
- LCIA Arbitration No. 101754, 2010 Service level dispute, seated in London
- DIAC Case No. 348/2010 Sale of land for development dispute- mixed use involving the master developer/ seller and developer/ purchaser, Dubai (3 member tribunal)
- DIAC Case No. 65/2008 Mega framework and master development dispute involving the

framework developer and master developer, Dubai (3 member tribunal)

## **Accolades & Professional Contributions**

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### **Accolades**

- UAE Business Awards 2023: ADR Practitioner of the Year 2023 (Dubai)
- Acquisition International 2021 Legal Awards: ADR Specialist of the Year 2021 (Middle East)
- Acquisition International 2020 Legal Awards: Best Female Adr Specialist (Middle East)
- International Arbitrators & Experts in Engineering Sector (IAEE UAE), 2019 Award for Outstanding Woman of the Year
- Acquisition International 2019 Legal Awards: Most Influential Woman in Adr (Middle East)
- AI Global 2018 Leading Adviser Awards: Leading Investment Management Consultant of the Year (UAE)
- Acquisition International 2018 Dispute Resolution Awards: Mediator of the Year (UAE)
- Acquisition International 2017 Dispute Resolution Awards: Arbitrator of the Year (UAE)
- Acquisition International 2016 Global Excellence Awards: Recognised for Global Excellence in Middle East Investment Disputes
- Acquisition International 2016 Dispute Resolution Awards: Recognised for Sustained Excellence in Middle East Investment Disputes
- Acquisition International 2015 Dispute Resolution Awards: Best in Investment Disputes (UAE)
- Global Legal 500, 2014: Leading Individual in Dispute Resolution – Construction
- Global Legal 500, 2014: Leading Individual in Banking & Finance
- Global Legal 500, 2013: Leading Individual in Dispute Resolution – Construction

### **Honourary Appointments & Professional Contributions**

- Member, Governing Council, HAC India (2022 onwards)
- Member, Global Advisory Panel, MICADR Pakistan (2022 onwards)
- Independent Member, DIFCC-Arb Working Group (2020 onwards)
- Independent Member, CIArb Board of Management (2019-2021)
- Chairman, CIArb UAE Branch (2017 -2020)
- Honourary Secretary, CIArb UAE Branch (2015- 2017)
- CIArb Regional Pathway Leader in the International Arbitration and Commercial Mediation
- CIArb Course Director/ Tutor/ Examiner/ Assessor on the International Arbitration Faculty
- CIArb Course Director/ Tutor/ Assessor on the Mediation Faculty
- RICS DRS Training Faculty Member

## **Professional Qualifications & Memberships**

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### **Qualifications**

- Diploma in International Arbitration, CIArb Dubai (July 2015)
- Accredited Certification, Commercial Mediator, CIArb London (December 2014)
- Masters of Law International Dispute Resolution, Queen Mary/ University of London (December 2011)
- Postgraduate Diploma Corporate and Commercial Law, Queen Mary/ University of London (August 2011)
- Qualified Lawyers Transfer Certification, BPP Law School, London (2007)
- Postgraduate Diploma in Vocational Training for the Bar, BPP Law School, London (June 2005)
- Bachelor of Arts Joint Honours in Law and Sociology, University of Warwick, UK (July 2004)

### **Memberships**

- Chartered Institute of Arbitrators
- Asian Institute of Alternative Dispute Resolution
- Arab International Arbitration Group
- Law Society of England & Wales
- Lincoln's Inn, London Inns of Court

### **Languages**

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English – native language; French – business proficient