



# Which Seat to Choose?

## Contrast and compare Litigation and Commercial Arbitration in your Jurisdiction

### Introduction

The Franco British Lawyers Society has been holding this particular event since 1995 in Edinburgh, London and Paris. The Choice of the seat of Arbitration is an important one, any many jurisdictions seek to attract arbitrations to their shore. This panel of experienced practitioners will highlight the differences and advantages of their particular jurisdictions.



**Chair:**  
Justice David Barnville

David Barnville was appointed a judge of the High Court of Ireland in December 2017. He is currently the judge in charge of the Commercial Division of that Court.

He is also designated as the Arbitration Judge to hear all arbitration related matters in the High Court. In July 2018 he was appointed as a member of Ireland's National Group on the Permanent Court of Arbitration in The Hague.

He was recently appointed as a member of the Board of Trustees of the Academy of European Law and is a Governor and member of the Board of the National Maternity Hospital.

**6th February 2020**

Dublin Dispute Resolution Centre, Distillery Building, Dublin 7

**5.00pm - 7.00pm (Registration 4.30pm)**

Arrival teas/coffees from 4.30pm

Wine/canapés reception in the Sheds after the event

**Free to attend - 2 CPD Points**

To reserve a place, please email the Administrator at [katie.dempsey@lawlibrary.ie](mailto:katie.dempsey@lawlibrary.ie). Numbers are limited and registration will be on a first-come first-served basis



**England:**  
Robert J.D Stevenson

Robert J.D Stevenson has worked in Hong Kong where he qualified as a Solicitor in 1991, France and Dubai. He is now based in London. He became a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators in 1990 and a Chartered Arbitrator in 2008. He has represented parties in Arbitrations in all of the above jurisdictions, and is on the RIBA, CI Arb DCCI and Law Society Panels of Arbitrators. He has been appointed to ICC Arbitrations as a party appointee in the field of construction. As well as taking appointments as an Arbitrator he also acts as an adjudicator, and is on the CIC RIBA and TeCSa appointing panels. He appears regularly in court on Adjudication and Arbitration applications.



**Northern Ireland**  
David Sharpe BL

Dr David Sharpe BL is a graduate of Queen's University of Belfast, Cambridge University and UWE Bristol. He was Called to the Bar of Northern Ireland in 1999 and is also admitted to the Bars of Ireland, England & Wales, BVI and St Vincent.

He is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators and a certified Mediator and Adjudicator. David has an established practice in civil, commercial and public law. He has acted in arbitrations as Counsel and Arbitrator relating to sports, construction and commercial matters both domestically and internationally and has a developing interest in investor-state arbitration. He is a member of several arbitral panels and also undertakes litigation arising from arbitration. He is to be admitted as a QC and Called to the Inner Bar on the 7th February 2020.



**Ireland:**  
Peggy O'Rourke SC

Peggy O'Rourke SC is a graduate of Trinity College, Dublin, the King's Inns and Harvard Law School.

She commenced practice in 2000 and was called to the Inner Bar in 2019 practising in the areas of civil, commercial and administrative law and has acted in many arbitrations.

Peggy is member of the Executive Committee of Arbitration Ireland.



**France:**  
Alexandre Reynaud

Alexandre Reynaud is a partner at BETTO PERBEN PRADEL FILHOL, a boutique law firm specialized in international dispute resolution. He is dually qualified in New York and Paris and specializes in international commercial arbitration, with a particular focus on the aerospace, defense, hospitality and energy industries. He has acted as counsel in numerous arbitrations under the rules of the most prominent arbitral institutions. Alexandre also handles post-arbitration litigation, including annulment and enforcement proceedings before French courts and abroad.

Alexandre was the Regional Representative for Europe of the Young International Arbitration Group (YIAG) of the London Court of International Arbitration from 2016 to 2019.



**Scotland:**  
Gillian Carmichael Lemaire

Gillian Carmichael Lemaire is a dual-qualified lawyer working in International Disputes. She practises in London at Carmichael Lemaire Ltd as a Member of the Paris Bar. She is also a solicitor, a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators, an Ambassador to the Scottish Arbitration Centre and a trained mediator.

She acts as counsel, arbitrator and mediator in commercial and investor-state cases in the construction, infrastructure and general commercial sectors. She is a member of Pinsent Masons' Vario panel and has worked extensively with them on investment treaty arbitrations. Gillian enjoys opportunities to promote management and resolution of conflict through walking.



**Switzerland:**  
David Guerra Bonifacio

David Guerra Bonifacio specialises in international arbitration, both commercial and investor-state, and in international commercial contracts in a range of industries, including mining, energy, and telecommunications.

He has acted and acts as counsel in more than twenty international arbitrations conducted under the auspices of the ICSID Convention and Arbitration Rules, the UNCITRAL Arbitration Rules, the International Chamber of Commerce Arbitration Rules, the Arbitration Rules of the Arbitration Institute of the Stockholm Chamber of Commerce and the Swiss Rules of International Arbitration. He also advises and represents clients from Portuguese and Spanish speaking countries as well as on public international law matters.