

Vanessa Alarcon Duvanel

Counsel

*Trial and Global Disputes / International
Arbitration and Litigation*



Geneva: +41 22 591 0813
valarcon@kslaw.com



Vanessa Alarcon Duvanel specializes in international commercial disputes across a wide range of industry sectors. She has advised and represented clients in multiple arbitration proceedings under various rules and procedures. Vanessa is based in our Geneva Office.

Vanessa has represented clients in disputes arising in many jurisdictions (USA, Western Europe, Africa, China, Australia) and relating to different industries, in particular construction, pharmaceuticals/life sciences, manufacturing, trading, banking, and sports.

She has experience in arbitration under the leading institutional rules (ICC, Swiss Rules, SCC, LCIA, AAA/ICDR, CAS) and *ad hoc* arbitrations. Admitted to practice in Geneva/Switzerland and New York, Vanessa combines a perfect understanding of both civil and common law and different legal cultures. In addition to her counsel work, Vanessa frequently sits as arbitrator.

Vanessa is recognized in Legal 500, 2019 as an "*excellent*" attorney who "*always stays on top of things and is a joy to work with*".

Vanessa is an active member of several arbitration associations and institutions (ArbitratlWomen, ASA, LCIA, CPR). She is a member of the European Advisory Board of the International Institute for Conflict Prevention and Resolution (CPR) and serves on the Program Committee of NYIAC.

Publications

"Direct and Re-Direct Examination", in: Stephen Jagusch QC and Philippe Pinsolle (eds.), GAR's *The Guide to Advocacy*, Law Business Research Ltd, 4th edition 2019, co-authored with Anne Véronique Schlaepfer

"A Report on the 2019 CPR European Congress on Business Dispute Management (Part I and Part II)", 2019, in *CPR Speaks* (co-authored with Kathleen Fadden).

"A Report on the CPR European Congress on Business Dispute Management (Part I and Part II)", 2018, in *CPR Speaks*.

"Jurisprudencia de la Corte Suprema de Suiza en el Arbitraje Internacional" en 2014 – Resumen de un nuevo año de un enfoque de alto nivel respetuoso al arbitraje" *Revista de arbitraje comercial y*

de inversiones, ©KluwerLaw International; IproLex 2015, Volume 8, Issue 2, pp.589-600

"Bifurcación", in Jorge Luis Collantes González, *Enciclopedia jurídica del Arbitraje*, Volumen 47 Biblioteca del Arbitraje del Estudio Mario Castillo Freyre, (Primera Parte), Lima 2018, pp. 189-190

"Review of the Recent Case Law of the Swiss Supreme Court in International Arbitration", in: Müller/Rigozzi/Besson (eds.), *New Developments in International Commercial Arbitration 2013*, pp. 112-171. Schulthess Juristische Medien AG, 2013.

Speaking Engagements

"Cybersecurity and Data Protection in the Resolution of Transatlantic Disputes", CPR Y-ADR/DIS40 joint seminar, March 2019: Frankfurt (Germany)

"Confidentiality and Ethics in ADR", CPR Annual Meeting, March 2019: Washington, DC (USA)

"Cybersecurity in International Arbitration", moderator and co-organizer, October 2018: CPR, ICCA and NYCBA Working Group, Geneva (Switzerland)

"Optimizing the Successful and Efficient Resolution of Commercial Disputes", April 2018: SCC & CPR joint conference, Stockholm (Sweden) (co-organizer)

"Effective Dispute Resolution Clauses: Perspectives on Drafting Do's and Don'ts", March 2018: CPR Annual Meeting, Atlanta (USA)

"The Swiss Arbitration Perspective" ASA at the 2017 Casablanca Arbitration Days, November 2017: Casablanca (Morocco)

"How do in-house counsel view their role in international arbitration?" CPR Y-ADR Seminar, moderator, April 2017: Geneva (Switzerland)

"Skills-Building Training Session", CPR Annual Meeting, panelist, March 2017: Miami, FL (USA)

"A Mock Procedural Hearing under CPR Rules for Administered Arbitration of International Disputes"; acting as counsel for Claimant, February 2016: New York, NY (USA)

"Franchise Agreements: Legal Risks and their Management", at Legal Risk Management Conference organized by Akademik Conferences, 22 October 2014: Alexander Palace Hotel Skopje, (Macedonia)

"Everything You Wanted To Know From Corporate Counsel But Were Afraid To Ask", CPR Annual Meeting, moderator of Y-ADR panel, February 2014: San Diego, CA (USA)

"Review of the Recent Case Law of the Swiss Supreme Court in International Arbitration", Conference on New Developments in International Arbitration organized by CEMAJ (French for Research Center on Alternative and Judicial Dispute Resolution Methods) a group of the Faculty of Law of the University of Neuchâtel, 15 November 2013: Neuchâtel (Switzerland)

"How are corporations addressing the high cost of litigation", moderator and organizer of CPR Y-ADR Seminar, September 2013: Geneva (Switzerland)

"The potential of bifurcation or "summary judgment" in arbitration", ASA Below 40 Fall Seminar, November 2012: Zurich (Switzerland)

Matters

Advising a **European energy company** in a gas price reopener dispute with an African gas producer.

Representing a **French company** in a dispute under the France-Peru Bilateral Investment Treaty.

Representing **Linea Amarilla S.A.C.** (a VINCI Highways subsidiary) in a high profile dispute against the City of Lima relating to allegations of nullity of a concession agreement for a toll road construction project. The matter also involves several construction counterclaims against the City of Lima and criminal proceedings against former mayors and government officials.

Representation of a **French multinational railway company** acting as the lead partner of an international consortium of contractors in an ICC arbitration relating to consequences of the termination of a FIDIC Silver Book contract relating to the construction of a commuter railway.

Representation of the **Kingdom of Jordan** in a Zurich-based ICC arbitration and a parallel ICSID arbitration brought by a railway company and its Kuwaiti shareholders relating to a failed construction project (successful award recognized in June 2013).

Representation of a subsidiary of a **leading hydro engineering company** in an ICC arbitration relating to delay in the construction of a large hydraulic pumping storage plant in Europe.

Representation of a **leading surveillance company** in an ICC dispute relating to the performance of a collateral management agreement.

Representation of the **world's leading fast food restaurant company** in a Geneva-based ICC arbitration relating to the termination of franchise agreements in Eastern Europe.

Representing a **major US pharmaceutical company** and some of its affiliates in several ICC arbitration and mediation proceedings relating to breaches of distribution and license agreements and intellectual property matters.

Representing a **luxury jeweler and watch maker** in a domain name arbitration under the WIPO Arbitration Rules.

Advise and representation of parties in setting aside applications against arbitral awards before the Swiss Federal Tribunal.

Advising clients, including a **Nigerian oil trading company and an Eastern European sovereign state**, in connection with enforcement of arbitral awards and freezing applications before Swiss and foreign courts.

Credentials

EDUCATION

LL.M., New York University

Licence en Droit, University of Neuchatel, Switzerland, mention bien

ADMISSIONS

New York

Geneva/Switzerland

ASSOCIATIONS

ArbitralWomen
ASA - Swiss Arbitration Association
ODA - Ordre des avocats de Genève
CPR- International Institute for Conflict Prevention and Resolution

LANGUAGES

English
French
German
Spanish

Recognition

"excellent" attorney who "always stays on top of things and is a joy to work with".
LEGAL 500 SWITZERLAND, 2019

Insights

ARTICLE

January 20, 2021 • Source: Thomson Reuters: Practical Law Arbitration Blog
Updated PILA: Switzerland Revamps Arbitration Law

CLIENT ALERT

March 3, 2021
The Spanish Constitutional Court Bolsters Arbitration in Spain

THOUGHT LEADERSHIP

May 7, 2021
Vanessa Alarcon Duvanel Appointed to the Pool of Arbitrators of the Court of Arbitration for Art

[VIEW ALL ON KSLAW.COM](#)

Events

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENT

April 15, 2021
Vanessa Alarcon Duvanel to Speak at Harvard International Arbitration Law Students Association Workshop

News

IN THE NEWS

November 21, 2019 • Source: Global Arbitration Review
Vanessa Alarcon Duvanel joins K&S as counsel to launch the firm's international arbitration practice in Geneva

RECOGNITION

July 10, 2020
King & Spalding Earns Top Spot on Global Arbitration Review's GAR 30 Ranking