

# DR. ALIA AL-GAZZAR



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## EDUCATION

**March. 2020** **Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in International Law** (International Investment and Arbitration Law)  
*University of Geneva & the Graduate Institute of International & Development Studies, Geneva, Switzerland.*

**Thesis:** *The Repercussions of Armed Conflicts and Occupation on Investment Treaty Protection Standards: A Balanced Investor-State Relationship.*

**Thesis Director:** Prof. Zachary Douglas

**Second Reader:** Prof. Marcelo Kohen.

**Jan. - June 2017** **Visiting Doctoral Student**  
*University of California Law School, Los Angeles, California, United States.*

### **Courses**

- International Human Rights Law.
- Legal Drafting and Research.

**Aug. 2014** **Master of Laws (LL.M) in International Dispute Settlement**  
*University of Geneva & the Graduate Institute of International & Development Studies, Geneva, Switzerland.*

**Thesis:** *Political Upheavals in Investment Treaty Arbitration: Future Implications on the International Responsibility of the Host-State.*

**Thesis Director:** Prof. Zachary Douglas.

- May 2011**      **Master of Laws (LL.M) in International Maritime Law - Distinction & Best Overall Performance Prize**  
*International Maritime Organization (IMO), International Maritime Law Institute (IMO-IMLI), Malta.*
- Dissertation:** *An Analysis of the Relationship between the LLMC Convention and the Conventions relating to Carriage of Goods by Sea.*  
**Thesis Director:** Prof. Norman Martinez.
- Drafting Project:** *Law on the Incorporation of 2010 the Protocol to the International Convention on Liability and Compensation for Damage in Connection with the Carriage of Hazardous and Noxious Substances by Sea, 1996 into the Egyptian Law (the 2010 HNS Convention).*  
**Project Director:** Prof. Norman Martinez.
- Jul. 2009**      **Diploma in Maritime Law with Distinction**  
*The Arab Academy for Science and Technology (AASTMT), Egypt.*  
**Supervisor:** Dr. Nader Ibrahim.
- Jul. 2008**      **Bachelor of Law (English department)**  
*Faculty of Law, Alexandria University, Egypt.*

## CURRENT EMPLOYMENT

- Jul. 2020 - present**      **Counsel** in International Arbitration & Dispute Settlement.  
*Zulficar & Partners Law Firm, Cairo, Egypt.*
- Handling complex and mass institutional and *ad hoc* arbitration cases involving state and non-state parties from the Middle East, Europe, and the United States under the ICSID, CRCICA, ICC, DIAC, DIFC- LCIA, and UNCITRAL arbitration rules.
- Sept.2024 - present**      **Adjunct Professor** at the School of Business Administration.  
*Nile University, Cairo, Egypt.*
- Teaching Courses:**  
English Contracts & Company Law
- Sept. 2021- present**      **Adjunct Professor** at the School of Global Affairs and Public Policy (GAPP).  
*American University in Cairo (AUC), Egypt.*
- Teaching Courses:**  
-International Investment and Arbitration Law (*LL.M. in International & Comparative Law*).  
-Public International Law (*Bachelor in Political Science*).

- Aug. 2023 - present **Instructor on the Amicable Settlement of Investor-State Disputes**; a training course tailored to Public Officials in charge of the Contracting Process with Foreign Parties.  
*National Training Academy, established under the auspicious of the Presidential Leadership School (PLS).*
- Aug. 2023 - present **Managing Editor**  
*BRILL - The Arab Yearbook of Public and Private International Law*  
Website: <https://arabyearbook.com/homepage/call-for-papers/>
- Nov. 2024 **ITA Board of Reporters (Reporter for Egypt & OHADA (Organisation pour l'Harmonisation en Afrique du Droit des Affaires) )**  
*Institute for Transnational Arbitration*
- Nov. 2024 **Contributor of the Survey for the Yearbook of Islamic and Middle Eastern Law**  
*BRILL - Yearbook of Islamic and Middle Eastern Law*

### EMPLOYMENT HISTORY & PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- Sept. 2020 – June 2021 **Adjunct Professor** at the Faculty of Law.  
*Helwan University, Cairo, Egypt.*  
**Teaching Courses:**  
International Commercial Arbitration
- April 2021 – Sept. 2021 **Adjunct Professor** at the Faculty of Law.  
*The British University in Cairo (BUE), Egypt.*  
**Teaching Courses:**  
International Human Rights Law.
- Sept. 2020 – June 2021 **Adjunct Professor** at the Program of Law and Legal Studies.  
*The German University in Cairo (GUC), Egypt.*  
**Teaching Courses:**  
International Trade Law and WTO  
International Maritime and Aviation Law
- Dec. 2018 – Jan. 2020 **Legal Consultant** in International Investment and Arbitration Law.  
*Froiep Legal SA - Geneva, Switzerland.*
- Nov. - Dec. 2015 **Legal Consultant.**  
*CMS Law & Tax Law Firm - Geneva, Switzerland.*
- June 2014 - June 2015 **Training Officer** on Human Rights Law.

*Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF), International Security Sector Advisory Team - Geneva, Switzerland.*

- June 2017 - Sept. 2017**    **Trainee** in the International Arbitration Department.  
*Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer, Dubai, United Arab Emirates.*
- May - Nov. 2016**        **Trainee** in the International Arbitration Department.  
*Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton LLP - Paris, France.*
- Jan. - Mar. 2016**        **Trainee** in the International Arbitration Department.  
*Shearman & Sterling LLP, Paris, France.*
- Jul. - Aug. 2013**        **Trainee** in the International Arbitration Department.  
*Hafez Law Firm, Cairo, Egypt.*
- Sept. 2009 – Sept.2021**    **Assistant Professor** of Law.  
*The Arab Academy for Science and Technology (AASTMT), Cairo, Egypt.*
- Teaching Courses:**
- Introduction to Law
  - Human Rights Law.
  - International Dispute Settlement.
  - Public International Law.
  - Legal Drafting.
  - Legal Terminology.
  - Moot Courts.

## TRAINING AND COURSES

- June 2022- October 2022**    **Training on Oral Advocacy & Cross Examination**  
*Remote Oral Advocacy Programme (ROAP), Delos, Paris, France.*
- April-May 2021**        **Training on Online Arbitration (ODR)**  
*Cairo Regional Center for International Commercial Arbitration (CRCICA), Cairo, Egypt.*
- Sept. 2013**        **Training on Investment Treaty Arbitration**  
*The African International Legal Awareness (AILA), London, United Kingdom.*
- Aug. 2012**        **Summer Course on Private International Law**  
*The Hague Academy for International Law, the Hague, the Netherlands.*
- Jul. 2012**        **Summer Course on International Arbitration**  
*International Academy for Arbitration Law, Paris, France.*
- Essay Article:** Rule versus No Rule of Law in Enforcement of Arbitral Awards - For participation in the 2012 Laureate of the Arbitration Academy Prize Essay - Paris, France.

**Sept. 2011 Summer Course on International Commercial Arbitration**  
*The Cologne Academies Master Classes of Arbitration and Mediation, Cologne, Germany.*

Cologne Summer Academy on International Commercial Arbitration organized by the Center for Transnational Law (CENTRAL) in cooperation with the German Institution of Arbitration (DIS) - Cologne, Germany.

## **DISPUTES PORTFOLIO:**

### **EXPERIENCE AS COUNSEL INCLUDES REPRESENTATION OF:**

#### **COMMERCIAL DISPUTES**

A Saudi subcontractor against a leading construction company (main contractor) in the Kingdom of KSA in a SIAC arbitration seated in Singapore relating to a giant maritime construction project. The Dispute arose from the main contractor's failure to comply with its obligations under the subcontract. The law of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. (Maritime Construction Industry).

A leading Egyptian automotive dealer in a CRCICA arbitration seated in Cairo under a dealer agreement. The Dispute arose from an unlawful termination of the dealer agreement. The amount in dispute was USD 50 million. The law of the Arab Republic of Egypt applies. (Automotive Industry)

A leading Egyptian paper company for the manufacture of corrugated boxes (an Employer) in an ICC arbitration seated in Cairo against an Indian company (a Contractor) under an agreement for the manufacturing of a paper manufacturing plant. The dispute arose from a breach of the agreement. The amount in dispute was USD 7 million. The law of the Arab Republic of Egypt applies. (Paper manufacturing & construction Industries)

A leading Egyptian cement engineering company (a Contractor) in a CRCICA arbitration seated in Cairo against a cement manufacturing company (an Employer) under an agreement for the operation and management of a cement factory. The amount in dispute was EGP 200 million. The law of the Arab Republic of Egypt applies. (Cement & construction Industries)

A Saudi subcontractor in a SIAC arbitration seated in Singapore against a Saudi contractor under a subcontract for the construction of the maritime work fronts in the King Salman International Complex for Maritime Industries and Services in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The amount in dispute was SAR 393,282,475. The law of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia applies (Construction Industry).

#### **INVESTMENT DISPUTES**

A Jordanian investor in an ICSID arbitration against the Arab Republic of Egypt. The claims were brought under the Egypt-Jordan bilateral investment treaty. The dispute arose from an

interference by the Government with the claimant's investments in a bulk liquids terminal project (Construction Industry).

The Arab Republic of Egypt in an ICSID arbitration initiated by a Spanish investor. The claims were brought under the Egypt-Spain bilateral investment treaty. The dispute arose from an alleged suspension of gas supplies by an Egyptian State-owned enterprise to the claimant's liquefied natural gas plant in contravention of the gas purchase agreement (Energy, Oil and Gas Industry).

A Dutch investor in an ICSID arbitration against the Arab Republic of Egypt. The claims were brought under the Egypt-Netherlands BIT. The dispute arose from the Government's alleged expropriation of the claimant's investment in a pipe manufacturing enterprise (Construction Industry).

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in an Arab Investment Court (AIC) case initiated by a Kuwaiti investor. The claim was brought under the Unified Agreement for the Investment of Arab Capital in the Arab States. The dispute arose from an alleged interference with the claimant's retail business (Retail Industry).

#### INTER-STATE DISPUTES

The Federal Republic of Iraq in an ICC arbitration. The claim was brought by the Federal Republic of Iraq against the Republic of Turkey under the Iraq-Tukey Pipeline Agreement (ITP Agreement). The dispute arose from the use of crude oil in the Kurdistan Regional Government in violation of the exclusive use clause set out in the ITP Agreement (Energy, Oil, and Gas Industry).

#### ADVISORY WORK

An investor-state arbitration to be filed by Turkish investors against the State of Libya either under the Turkey-Libya BIT or the OIC Agreement. The dispute arose out of the destruction of the claimants' assets comprising of machinery and equipment during the uprisings and civil wars that took place in Libya starting from February 2011 (Construction Industry).

A dispute between the Hiers of a Saudi King before Swiss Courts in relation to real estates located in Switzerland.

An ICC arbitration seated in the State of Qatar and filed by a Qatari company (a Subcontractor) against a Japanese company (a Contractor) under a subcontract agreement for the construction of a metro railway project. The law of the State of Qatar applies (Construction Industry).

A potential ICC arbitration to be filed by an Angolan company against the Angolan State in relation to a concession agreement. The laws of the Republic of Angola are applicable. (Construction Industry).

A potential investor-state arbitration to be filed by a leading Egyptian tobacco company against the Arab Republic of Egypt in relation to a tax dispute with the Egyptian authorities. Two bilateral investment treaties were potentially applicable (the UK-Egypt BIT and the Switzerland-Egypt BIT) (Tobacco Industry).

An ICC arbitration seated in Paris and filed by a leading French cement company against a leading Egyptian construction company under a settlement agreement. The law of the Arab Republic of Egypt applies (Construction Industry).

A potential CRCICA arbitration to be filed by a Brazilian automotive supplier and manufacturer against an Egyptian engineering automotive manufacturing company under a contract for the supply of mechanical and electrical engineering, assembly supervision services, and commissioning services. The law of the Arab Republic of Egypt applies (Automotive Industry).

### **CLERKSHIP AND ASSISTANCE TO ARBITRATORS/ARBITRAL TRIBUNALS (INCLUDING DRAFTING AND REVIEWING ARBITRAL AWARDS)**

An UNCITRAL arbitration between Italian investors and the Republic of Bulgaria filed under the Bulgaria-Italy BIT in relation to an industrial project (Construction Industry).  
Assistance to **Co-arbitrator**.

An ICSID arbitration between Dutch investors and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela filed under the Netherlands-Venezuela BIT in relation to a gas supply agreement (Energy, Oil, and Gas Industry).  
Assistance to **Presiding Arbitrator**.

An ICSID arbitration between Dutch investors and the Federal Republic of Nigeria filed under the Netherlands-Nigeria BIT in relation to the claimants' mining support service activities (Mining Industry).  
Assistance to **Presiding Arbitrator**.

An ICC arbitration seated in London and filed by an Iraqi oil and gas corporation (an affiliate of a leading American multinational oil and gas corporation) against a fully state-owned upstream oil and gas company headquartered in Iraq under a Technical Services Contract in relation to one of the largest oil fields in the world located in Iraq. The law of the Republic of Iraq applies (Energy, Oil, and Gas Industry).  
Assistance to **Presiding Arbitrator**.

A DIAC (onshore) arbitration seated in Dubai (UAE) and filed by a leading Kuwaiti Islamic bank against a Saudi holding company operating in the construction, energy, manufacturing, hospitality, transport, and consumer businesses under a Murabaha (Credit) Facility Agreement. The law of England and Wales applies (Finance and Banking Industries).  
Assistance to **Presiding Arbitrator**.

A SCC arbitration filed by a Russian development and investment company (Russian Federation) against Ukraine under the Russia-Ukraine BIT.  
Assistance to **Co-arbitrator**.

### **ARBITRATOR WORK**

A CRCICA arbitration seated in Cairo, and filed by an Electromechanical company (the Subcontractor) against a leading contracting, construction, and engineering service company

(the Contractor) under a Subcontract for the construction of copper pipes in relation to a project located in the New Administrative Capital, Egypt. The law of the Arab Republic of Egypt applies (Construction Industry).

### PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

- Sept.2020-  
June 2021**      **Mentor at Women in International Law Program**  
*The American Society of International Law (ASIL),  
Washington, the United States.*
- Sept.2020-  
Jan. 2021**      **Coach of the German University in Cairo Team**  
*Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition,  
Washington, United States.*
- Sept. 2014**      **Member of Working Group on Business & Human Rights at  
the Trade and Investment Law Clinic.**  
*University of Geneva & the Graduate Institute of International  
& Development Studies, Geneva, Switzerland.*
- Sept. 2014**      **Coach of the Graduate Institute of International &  
Development Studies Team**  
*Telder's International Law Moot Court Competition, the  
Hague, the Netherlands.*
- March 2013**      **Coach, Arbitrator, and Memorial Judge**  
*Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot,  
Vienna, Austria.*
- Oct. 2012**      **Member of the Scientific Committee** at the Euro-Arab Investor-  
State Dispute Settlement: Recent Development & Future  
Perspectives.  
*League of Arab States (LAS)-Cairo Regional Center for  
International Commercial Arbitration (CRCICA), Cairo,  
Egypt.*
- Nov. 2011 -  
Sept. 2013**      **Secretary-General**  
*The Arab Society for Commercial and Maritime Law (ASCML),  
Alexandria, Egypt.*

### SCHOLARSHIPS AND PRIZES

- May 2017**      Short-listed out of 4000 applicants for the position of **Law Clerk to  
Judges of the International Court of Justice (ICJ)** (Associate Legal  
Officer)  
*International Court of Justice (ICJ)*  
I was interviewed by the ICJ judges and sat for the written tests at the  
Court in The Hague.



- Sept. 2014 - June 2018**      **Kathryn and Shelby Cullom Davis Foundation Scholarship**  
 PhD Degree in International Law  
*University of Geneva & the Graduate Institute of International & Development Studies, Geneva, Switzerland.*
- Sept. 2013**      **African International Legal Awareness (AILA) Scholarship**  
 Training in Investment Treaty and Arbitration  
*African International Legal Awareness (AILA), London, United Kingdom.*
- Apr. 2013 - June 2014**      **Hans Wilsdorf Foundation Scholarship**  
 LL.M in International Dispute Settlement  
*University of Geneva & the Graduate Institute of International & Development Studies, Geneva, Switzerland.*
- Jul. - Aug. 2012**      **Rabbani Foundation Scholarship**  
 Summer Course in Private International Law  
*The Hague Academy for International Law, the Hague, the Netherlands.*
- Jul. 2012**      **Arbitration Academy Scholarship**  
 Summer Course in International Arbitration  
*International Academy for Arbitration Law, Paris, France.*
- May 2011**      **Best Overall Performance Prize** - Presented by the Secretary-General of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) H.E Mr. Efthimios E. Mitopoulos and Professor Patrick Griggs  
 Master's Degree in Public International Law & International Maritime Law.  
*Neptune Orient Lines Prize.*
- Sept. 2010 - May 2011**      **SAFEMED II Project-REMPEC Scholarship**  
 LL.M in Public International Law & International Maritime Law Malta.  
*SAFEMED, European Maritime Safety Agency.*  
**SafeMed Project** on maritime safety and prevention of pollution from ships is a European Union (EU) funded regional project run by the **Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Response Centre for the Mediterranean Sea (REMPEC)** on behalf of the **International Maritime Organization (IMO)**.

## SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS & CONFERENCES

**6-7 Feb 2024**      **Sovereign & States Disputes and Enforcement Summit 2024**

*Thought Leaders Disputes: The Law Society, 113 Chancery Lane, London.*

**Panel:** *Around the World: Latest Disputes' Developments from the Middle East*

**Title:** *The Duty of 'Due Diligence' to Protect Foreign Investments in Armed Conflicts under the Full Protection & Security (FPS) Standard – Still Locked in an Ivory Tower?*

**Website:**

<https://thoughtleaders4.com/disputes/disputes-event/sovereign-states-litigation/agenda>

29 Sept.2023

**The 4rth Arab Conference on Arbitration**

*International Academy for Mediation and Arbitration, Cairo.*

**Title:** *Facilitating Settlement in International Arbitration (in Arabic)*

ورقة بحثية بعنوان: تسهيل التسوية في التحكيم الدولي

**Website:**

<https://iamaeg.net/ar/events/conferences/the-fourth-professional-arbitration-conference>

18 Nov. 2022

**2nd MIDS Alumni Association Annual Event**

*Geneva Center for International Dispute Settlement (CIDS), Graduate Institute of International & Development Studies, Geneva, Switzerland.*

**Title:** *“Good Faith in Contract Interpretation / Conduct of Arbitral Proceedings”*

**Website:**

<https://www.cids.ch/events/2nd-mids-alumni-association-annual-event>

29-30 Oct. 2021

**10th Annual Conference**

*African Society of International Law (AfSIL), Virtual Conference.*

**Title:** *“Aligning Socio-Economic Development & Human Rights with Trade”*

**Website:**

[https://www.afsilsadi.org/files/ugd/7fa7d6\\_fd692882247a4d7eb5bc147d5da697a4.pdf](https://www.afsilsadi.org/files/ugd/7fa7d6_fd692882247a4d7eb5bc147d5da697a4.pdf)

5-6 Oct. 2017

**Colloquium International Investment Law & the Law of Armed Conflict**

*National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Athens, Greece.*

**Title:** “*Jus in Bello in Investment Treaty Disputes: A Rising Moon in the Twilight Zone of Investment Protections in Times of Armed Conflict*”

**Website:**

[https://www.athenspil.law.uoa.gr/fileadmin/depts/law.uoa.gr/athenspil/uploads/Colloquium\\_armed\\_conflict\\_Programme.pdf](https://www.athenspil.law.uoa.gr/fileadmin/depts/law.uoa.gr/athenspil/uploads/Colloquium_armed_conflict_Programme.pdf)

20-23 Sept. 2012

**1st Annual World Congress of Ocean  
BIT Congress Inc., Dalian, China.**

**Title:** “The Legal Regime of the Suez Canal: Innocent Passage”

**Website:**

<https://www.eco-business.com/events/1st-annual-world-congress-of-ocean/>

## MEMBERSHIPS

- **Membership** - MENA Sub-Committee – Campaign for Greener Arbitrations
- **Ambassador** - Arbitration Academy, Paris.
- **Membership** - College of Arbitrators of the Foreign Direct Investment International Arbitration Moot Competition.
- **Membership** - Swiss Arbitration Association (ASA), American Arbitration Association (AAA), Youth International Arbitration Group – London Court of International Arbitration (YIAG-LCIA).
- **Associate** - Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (ACI Arb).
- **Former Board Member and Former Secretary General** - the Arab Society for Commercial & Maritime Law (ASCML).

## LANGUAGES

<b>Arabic</b>	Mother Tongue.
<b>English</b>	Fluent.
<b>French</b>	Professional Working Proficiency.
<b>Spanish</b>	Limited Working Proficiency.

## PUBLICATION LIST

- Article on “*Guerilla Tactics and How-to-Counter Them in National Litigation: Experiences from Arabic Islamic Legal System*” in Horvath G. & Wilske S (eds.), *Guerilla Tactics in International Arbitration* (Kluwer Law International, 2013).
- Summary article on “*Devising a Legal Regime for the Protection of Foreign Investments During Armed Conflicts and Occupation*”, Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies News (12 December 2019).

Available at: <[https://graduateinstitute.ch/communications/news/devising-legal-regime-protection-foreign-investments-during-armed-conflicts-and?fbclid=IwAR0mhesL\\_ry0gQ9YqgqkGKNARsXUD4fsjc7LVAw4iDi2CebY9iyxghh5BNo](https://graduateinstitute.ch/communications/news/devising-legal-regime-protection-foreign-investments-during-armed-conflicts-and?fbclid=IwAR0mhesL_ry0gQ9YqgqkGKNARsXUD4fsjc7LVAw4iDi2CebY9iyxghh5BNo)>.

- Article on “*The Quest for Protecting Investments Under Occupation: The Inception of the Notion of De Facto Host-State in Investment Treaty Arbitration*” Dhaka Law Review Blog (20 February 2020)  
Available at: <<http://www.dhakalawreview.org/blog/2020/02/the-quest-for-protecting-investments-under-occupation-the-inception-of-the-notion-of-de-facto-host-state-in-investment-treaty-arbitration-4538>>.
- Legal Note on “*Similarity/In like circumstances*” in Investment Treaty Arbitration - *Jus Mundi Wiki* on Investment Law and Arbitration (9 June 2023).  
Available at: <<https://jusmundi.com/en/document/publication/en-similarity-in-like-circumstances>>.
- Legal Note on «*Urgency in Application for Provisional Measures*» in Investment Treaty Arbitration - *Jus Mundi Wiki* on Investment Law and Arbitration (21 August 2023).  
Available at: <<https://jusmundi.com/en/document/publication/en-urgency-in-provisional-measures>>.

### ASSISTANCE TO AUTHORS

-Mohamed S Abdel Wahab, ‘Counterclaims: Trends and Perspectives’ in Katia Fach Gómez & Catharine Titi (eds.), *The Award in International Investment Arbitration*, (OUP, 2024).

Available at: <<https://academic.oup.com/book/58103/chapter-abstract/479287104?redirectedFrom=fulltext>>.

**Scope:** Assistance with the research, compilation of the reviewed decisions, and preparation of the first draft.

-Amr Omran, ‘The Appearance of Foreign Counsel in International Arbitration: The Case of Egypt’, (2017), 34, *Journal of International Arbitration*, Issue 5, pp. 901-920.

Available at: <<https://kluwerlawonline.com/journalarticle/Journal+of+International+Arbitration/34.5/JOIA2017041>>.

**Scope:** Peer review, comments, and suggestions to the draft.