

PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME

3rd Annual Regional Conference on Arbitration and ADR

Construction Projects Disputes

6-7 October 2025 | Dubrovnik



DAY 1: Monday 6 October 2025

9:00 – 9:30

Registration

9:30 – 9:45

Welcome and Introduction

- **Marina Rožić**, LLM, Secretary General, Croatian Chamber of Economy, and ICC Croatia, Zagreb, Croatia
- **Živa Filipič**, Managing Counsel, ICC International Court of Arbitration, Paris, France

9:45 – 10:15

Keynote Address: Cracks in the Concrete – Is Construction Arbitration still ‘Fit for Purpose’?

- **Prof. Dr. Mohamed Abdel Wahab**, C.Arb FCiarb, Professor of International Arbitration, Private International Law and English Contract Law, Cairo University, Egypt; Chair, ICC Governing Body for Dispute Resolution

10:15 – 11:45

Panel Discussion 1: Hot Topics in Construction – Issues in Practice

- Public procurement and third country contractors (advantages and disadvantages, consortium, qualifications)
- FIDIC form of contract and public procurement issues
- Technology and its implications
- ESG and construction

Panellists:

- **Mirjana Čagalj**, Vice-President for Construction and Transport, Croatian Chamber of Economy, Zagreb, Croatia
- **Simon Elliot**, Partner, Three Crowns, Singapore
- **Mislav Mataija**, LLM, PhD, Member of the Legal Service, European Commission
- **Dr. Hélène van Lith**, Secretary to the ICC Commission on Arbitration and ADR, ICC International Court of Arbitration; Associate Professor, University Paris Dauphine, School of Law, Paris, France

Moderator:

- **Nicholas Gould**, Partner, Fenwick Elliott LLP; Visiting Professor, King’s College London, UK

11:45 – 12:05

Coffee break

12:05 – 13:35

Panel Discussion 2: Construction Contracts and Dispute Avoidance – Risk Allocation and Management for Project Success

- Risk management:
 - By contract: risk allocation
 - By management: managing contract adjustments while avoiding dispute
 - Programme adjustments
 - Evaluation of direct and indirect cost adjustments
 - Hardship and obligation to perform
 - The role of the Engineer and the DB in dispute avoidance

Panellists:

- **Edward Corbett**, International Construction Adjudicator and Arbitrator, Consultant with International Construction team at Howard Kennedy, London, UK
- **Hrvoje Markovinović**, PhD, Professor, Faculty of Law, University of Zagreb, Croatia
- **Christopher R. Seppälä**, Independent Arbitrator, Expert and Legal Consultant, Paris, France
- **Almir Smajlović**, Managing Director, Fortis Disputes & Consulting LLC, Houston, USA

Moderator:

- **Jasminka Čorda Truhar**, MSc, Partner, Hanžeković & Partners; President of the ICC Croatia Commission on Arbitration and ADR, Zagreb, Croatia; Member of the ICC Court of Arbitration for Croatia

13:35 – 15:05

Lunch

15:05 – 16:35

Panel Discussion 3: Managing the Construction Disputes – Navigating the Use of Dispute Boards, Settlement and Arbitration

- Internal company policies and procedures for early dispute management
- In house lawyer's role in dispute resolution
- Can Dispute Boards represent an effective dispute resolution tool?
- Pre-action risk assessment
- Role of the Engineer to agree or determine a claim or a matter
- Informal assistance by the dispute boards and its decision making
- Parties' compliance with DB decisions
- Impact of DB decisions and opinions on amicable settlement and arbitration

Panellists:

- **Charles Blamire-Brown**, Partner, Pinsent Masons LLP, London, UK
- **Shelly L. Ewald**, Senior Partner, Watt, Tieder, Hoffar & Fitzgerald, Virginia, USA
- **Luka Krištović-Blažević**, Partner, Dispute Resolution – Head of ME Arbitration, Baker McKenzie LLP, Dubai, UAE
- **Taner Šan**, MEng. (Civil), MSc., LL.M., Head of Projects & Contract Management Sector, „ENOVA“ Društvo za inženjering i konzalting d.o.o., Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina

Moderator:

- **Aisha Nadar**, Senior Consultant, Runeland Law AB, Sweden; Member, Dispute Board Chambers, Switzerland; Vice Chair of ICC Commission on Arbitration and ADR

16:35 – 16:55	Coffee break
16:55 – 18:25	<p>Panel Discussion 4: Construction Arbitration</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ICC Court's scrutiny of arbitral awards • Non-signatory parties to the arbitration agreement – piercing the corporate veil • Case management best practices in construction arbitration • Role of fact witnesses in construction arbitration • Non-participating respondent in arbitration <p>Panellists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Davor Babić, PhD, Professor, Faculty of Law, University of Zagreb, Croatia • Aisha Nadar, Senior Consultant, Runeland Law AB, Sweden; Member, Dispute Board Chambers, Switzerland; Vice Chair of ICC Commission on Arbitration and ADR • Armela Ramić, Attorney at Law; Co-founder and President, Association ARBITRI, Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina • Dominic Pellew, Partner, Dentons Europe LLP, London, UK <p>Moderator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Živa Filipič, Managing Counsel, ICC International Court of Arbitration, Paris, France
18:25 – 18:40	Closing remarks
19:00 – 20:30	Cocktail reception

DAY 2: Tuesday 7 October 2025

9:30 – 9:40	<p>Welcome and Introduction</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marina Rožić, LL.M, Secretary General, Croatian Chamber of Economy, and ICC Croatia, Zagreb, Croatia
9:40 – 10:55	<p>Working Session: Dispute Adjudication Board (DAB) and Dispute Avoidance and Adjudication Board (DAAB)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procedural issues, decision • Parties' role • DAB members' role <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jasminka Čorda Truhar, MSc, Partner, Hanžeković & Partners; President of the ICC Croatia Commission on Arbitration and ADR, Zagreb, Croatia; Member of the ICC Court of Arbitration for Croatia • Aisha Nadar, Senior Consultant, Runeland Law AB, Sweden; Member, Dispute Board Chambers, Switzerland; Vice Chair of ICC Commission on Arbitration and ADR • James Perry, Esq., Partner, PS Consulting, Paris, France
10:55 – 11:15	Coffee break
11:15 – 11:45	Working Session (continuation)
11:45 – 12:00	Closing Session and lessons learned