



Dutch Arbitration Day 2025

Mind over Matter(s): the Tribunal's Take

Thursday 12 June 2025

H'ART Museum Amsterdam, The Netherlands

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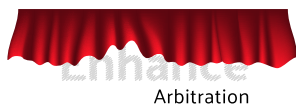


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Dutch Arbitration Day 2025

Today, we step away from our day-to-day practices, put **mind over matter** and delve into the **tribunal's take** on arbitration.

The Organising Committee is delighted to welcome you to the 2025 edition of the Dutch Arbitration Day ('DAD'). This year, we break new ground by embarking on a journey into the fascinating world of cognitive science to explore the inner workings of the arbitrator's mind.

Throughout today's programme, leading experts from the fields of arbitration, psychology, and neuroscience will share their insights, challenging us to reflect on our own practices and to consider how a deeper awareness of cognitive processes can enhance arbitral proceedings. By inquiring into the science of the brain, we aim to shed light on the dynamics that underpin persuasion, reasoning, decision-making and the search for just dispute resolution.

As always, there is more to the DAD than inspiring panels and presentations. Today is an excellent opportunity to (re)connect with other members from the Dutch and international arbitration community – be it over a cup of coffee, during the morning walk, on the Amsterdam canals during lunch and/or over drinks and dinner in the H'ART Museum's beautiful courtyard and Grand Café. We are delighted to have you with us and are excited for what promises to be an inspiring and memorable day.

Yours sincerely,

The 2025 DAD Organising Committee,

Lisanne Berends (A&O Shearman)

David den Blaauwen (NautaDutilh)

Elodie Fortin (Avizor)

Sebastian Hinse (De Brauw Blackstone Westbroek)

Sebastian Renshof (Loyens & Loeff)



Word of Welcome by the DAA President

Stan Putter

Partner at HBN Law & Tax



Dear DAA members and distinguished guests,

It is a pleasure to welcome you to the 2025 Dutch Arbitration Day (DAD). This year, we turn our attention inward to the cognitive processes that influence how we reason, decide, and persuade. By focusing on the human mind, we open the door to a deeper understanding of the forces that shape arbitration from within.

Under the theme **‘Mind over Matter(s): the Tribunal’s Take’**, we explore how cognitive science can enrich our understanding of arbitration. Decision-making, persuasion, bias and reasoning are not merely theoretical notions but everyday realities that shape the way arbitrators and counsel approach their work. By examining how our brains process information and form judgments, the aim is to gain valuable insights into the dynamics that shape arbitral proceedings.

Throughout the day you will hear from leading voices in arbitration, psychology and neuroscience. Their perspectives will invite us to examine our own assumptions and habits, and to consider how a deeper understanding of cognitive processes can enhance the way we approach arbitration. By drawing on insights from neuroscience and psychology, we can refine our methods and contribute to more deliberate, balanced, and effective decision-making in arbitral practice.

I encourage you to make the most of today not only by listening but by engaging with the content and with one another. Just as neurons strengthen their connections through interaction, our community grows when we share perspectives, challenge assumptions and build relationships. Take the time to connect, and let the exchanges enrich both your experience at the DAD and your practice in the future.

On behalf of the Dutch Arbitration Association, thank you for joining us. I wish you an inspiring and thought-provoking day.

Mr. S.N.J. (Stan) Putter
Amsterdam, 10 June 2025



Programme

Speakers dinner *Kindly sponsored by FTI Consulting and NautaDutilh*
Pre-DAD Young Practitioners Event *Kindly sponsored by Diales*
H'ART Museum *Kindly sponsored by A&O Shearman*

Time	Item	Speakers
08.30 – 08.45	Registration for the Morning Walk	
08.45 – 09.45	Morning Walk	<i>To start the DAD and to celebrate Amsterdam's 750th anniversary, we invite participants to join us for a leisurely walk along the Amstel River.</i> <i>Kindly sponsored by Enhance Arbitration</i>
09.30 – 10.00	Registration and Coffee	
10.00 – 10.15	Welcome and Introduction	Stan Putter Partner at HBN Law & Tax, The Hague
10.15 – 10.45	Keynote Influences on the Human Brain: How It Works	Margriet Sitskoorn Professor of Clinical Neuropsychology at Tilburg University <i>Kindly sponsored by De Brauw Blackstone Westbroek</i>
10.45 – 11.00	Coffee break	
11.00 – 11.45	Panel Discussion 1 Inside the Arbitrator's Mind: Navigating Biases	Niek Strohmaier Assistant Professor at Leiden University and Attorney-at-Law at RESOR, Amsterdam Jacomijn van Haersolte-van Hof Professor Civil Law at Leiden University and Independent Arbitrator Independent Arbitrator Fountain Court Chambers, London Hilde van der Baan Partner at A&O Shearman, Amsterdam Sophie Goldman Partner at Tossens Goldman Gonne, Brussels Georgios Fasfalis Managing Associate at Linklaters, Amsterdam (Moderator) <i>Kindly sponsored by Loyens & Loeff</i>



Programme

Time	Item	Speakers
11.45 – 12.30	Panel Discussion 2 Meeting of Different Minds: How Diversity Shapes Arbitration Proceedings	Alexandra Schluep Partner at Avizor, Amsterdam Ndanga Kamau Independent Arbitrator, Grenoble Tim Robbins Independent Arbitrator, The Hague and Hong Kong Paschalis Paschalidis Counsel at Arendt & Medernach, Luxembourg Annette Scholten Associate at Three Crowns, London (Moderator)
12.30 – 14.30	Lunch on canal boats in Amsterdam	<i>Kindly sponsored by HKA</i>
14.30 – 14.45	Go to divided group lectures	
14.45 – 15.30	Group Lecture A Mind Games in Cross-Examination: How to Influence Delivery	Matthias Kuscher Partner at De Brauw Blackstone Westbroek, Amsterdam Nora Fredstie Partner at DAC Beachcroft, London <i>Kindly sponsored by PwC</i>
	Group Lecture B Ethical Dilemmas: Conflicts, Confidentiality and Independence	Piotr Wilinski Assistant Professor International Commercial Arbitration & Investment Arbitration at the Erasmus University and Senior Associate (Knowledge) at Linklaters, Amsterdam Irina Buga Senior Associate at De Brauw Blackstone Westbroek, Amsterdam <i>Kindly sponsored by Linklaters</i>
	Group Lecture C Credible or Not: Selecting Your Witnesses	Emily Fox Partner at Herbert Smith Freehills, Paris Ragnar Harbst Partner at Baker McKenzie, Frankfurt <i>Kindly sponsored by Clifford Chance</i>
	Group Lecture D Effective Visual Arguments: Dos and Don'ts	Maurits Fornier Founder at Patroon Legal Design, Amsterdam Michael Arch Senior Managing Director at FTI Consulting, London



Programme

Time	Item	Speakers
15.30 – 16.00	Coffee Break	
16.00 – 16.45	Panel Discussion 3 Inside the Tribunal: The Art of Decision-Making	Bas van Zelst Professor of Dispute Resolution & Arbitration at Maastricht University and Partner at Van Doorne, Amsterdam Fenna Poletiek Assistant Professor at the Cognitive Psychology Department at Leiden University and Senior Investigator at the Max Planck Institute of Psycholinguistics Willem van Baren Independent Arbitrator, Amsterdam Annet van Hooft Independent Arbitrator, Paris Simona Valkova Independent Tribunal Secretary and Teaching Fellow at Queen Mary University of London (Moderator)
16.45 – 17.00	Wrap-up and Closing Remarks	Rufus Abeln Partner at Lemstra Van der Korst, Amsterdam
17.00 onwards	Pre-dinner drinks	<i>Kindly sponsored by Avizor and Lemstra Van der Korst</i>
Around 18.30	Conference Dinner	<i>Kindly sponsored by Kroll, Ysquare and Habraken Rutten</i>



Background information about the locations



CONFERENCE – H'ART Museum, Amsterdam

H'ART Museum present exhibitions of famous works of art and stories from around the world as never before. Plan your visit to our historical Amstelhof 17th Century building, located alongside the Amstel River. A cultural oasis – with a unique inner courtyard and a bustling Grand Café. Collaboration with world-renowned museum partners: Centre Pompidou (Paris), British Museum (London), and Smithsonian American Art Museum (Washington DC). H'ART Museum, Amsterdam Museum and Museum of the Mind| Outsider Art are gathered under one roof.

The Hermitage will be given a different name, H'art Museum, to emphasize that it has taken a different course after the break with Russia, which made cooperation with the Hermitage St. Petersburg impossible. "We want to touch people's hearts with our stories", explains director Annabelle Birnie. 'H'art with an apostrophe, because we want to emphasize the art from the heart.'

More information:

www.hartmuseum.nl



Kindly sponsored by A&O Shearman



Background information about the locations



LUNCH – on canal boats, Amstel, Amsterdam

The lunch will take place on the river Amstel, from which Amsterdam gets its name. The journey will begin just outside the H'ART Museum, where we will board charming boats to embark on a scenic adventure. As we enjoy a delicious meal on the water, you will have the opportunity to take in the picturesque views of Amsterdam's historic downtown.

Kindly sponsored by HKA



Background information about the locations



PRE-DAD YOUNG PRACTITIONERS EVENT –

Vergulden Eenhoorn, Amsterdam

The Vergulden Eenhoorn (Gilded Unicorn) is an old city farmhouse dating back to 1702. While the transition from the bustling streets of Amsterdam to this 18th-century time capsule surrounded by greenery can be somewhat jarring, that feeling will quickly fade thanks to the *zen* and *gezellig* (convivial) atmosphere of this urban farm.

The gardens and farmhouses provide the perfect setting to meet, greet, and (re)connect with the under-40s Dutch arbitration community.

More information:

www.verguldeneenhoorn.nl

Kindly sponsored by Diales



**VERGULDEN
EENHOORN**

STADSBOERDERIJ



Background information about the locations



SPEAKERS DINNER – Pulitzer, Amsterdam

Stretching through 25 connecting 17th & 18th century canal houses, Pulitzer Amsterdam is a unique blend of traditional and modern Dutch craftsmanship hidden amongst the city's iconic canals. Inspired by the rich history of the Golden Age canal houses in which the hotel is housed, the décor is modern and comfortable but unmistakably Dutch, making you feel at the same time at home and immersed in the city's culture.

With canal houses originally constructed in the 17th and 18th centuries, a stay at Pulitzer Amsterdam is a historical discovery of a long and illustrious heritage dating back to the Golden Age. Centrally located, Pulitzer Amsterdam overlooks the picturesque waters of Amsterdam's historic central canal belt that has been the centre of the city's social and cultural life for centuries. The canal hotel sits in the heart of the city's UNESCO world heritage site.

More information:

www.pulitzeramsterdam.com

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Speaker Keynote

Margriet Sitskoorn

Tilburg University



Prof. dr. Margriet Sitskoorn is a Full Professor of Clinical Neuropsychology at Tilburg University in the Netherlands. She is head of the Cognitive Neuropsychology department and director of the Zero Poverty Lab. Her research focuses on how behavior and environment affect the brain, and how we can use this knowledge to prevent diseases and enhance functioning. Sitskoorn is an acclaimed public speaker and consultant. She is the author of several bestsellers, and her work has been translated into various languages.



Speaker Panel Discussion 1

Niek Strohmaier

Leiden University / RESOR



Niek Strohmaier is an attorney with RESOR, an Amsterdam-based law firm specializing in restructuring and corporate litigation, and he combines his work in legal practice with his academic role as an assistant professor at Leiden University's law school. He holds cum laude master's degrees in Psychology and in Law (valedictorian) and earned his PhD on the psychology of financial and legal decision-making, completing an interdisciplinary study of how cognitive biases shape legal and commercial outcomes.

At Leiden University, he teaches the flagship course 'Psychology for Lawyers', supervises research on bias, risk perception and decision architecture, and publishes on cognitive bias, noise and moral intuitions in directors' liability, valuation disputes and open-norm adjudication. His current work proposes practical debiasing safeguards for courts and tribunals.

In practice, Niek acts in complex restructurings and liability cases, integrating behavioral insights to steer strategy and settlement. He also trains judges, arbitral institutions and law-firm teams across Europe to recognize and mitigate unconscious bias, and is launching the *Behavioral Science in Law Academy*, whose first online certificate course will equip legal professionals with a full behavioral toolkit – from diagnosing bias and designing choice architecture to evidence-based advocacy and negotiation – opening for enrolment later this year.



Speaker Panel Discussion 1

Jacomijn van Haersolte-van Hof

Leiden University / Fountain Court Chambers



Jacomijn (Jackie) van Haersolte-van Hof is an independent arbitrator and a professor of law at Leiden University. From 2014-2024 she was the Director General of the London Court of Arbitration.

She has continued to sit as arbitrator in commercial and investment arbitrations. Recent experience includes sitting as president in two ICSID annulment proceedings and as co-arbitrator and as presiding arbitrator in two international NAI arbitrations in a post M&A dispute.

As a Dutch lawyer, Jackie has extensive experience in other civil as well as common law legal systems. She has been involved in many cases involving States and state-owned entities and cases involving sales and general contract law, post-Merger & Acquisition disputes; energy law (including gas price review disputes); private international law; international law (investment law; immunity law); transport and commodities, shipbuilding, including off-shore; insurance.

As Director General of the LCIA, she guided the institution through challenges including Brexit, the COVID-19 pandemic and the rise of hostile international relations and associated issues, such as the impact of international sanctions on arbitration.

Jackie has also overseen the professionalisation and internationalisation of the LCIA; a huge growth of cases, turnover and staff; and strides in diversity (especially gender diversity).



Speaker Panel Discussion 1

Hilde van der Baan

A&O Shearman



Hilde advises on a wide range of commercial disputes, specialising in international arbitration and corporate and commercial litigation. She has a particular focus on projects, energy and construction disputes. Her practice covers the full range of dispute resolution, with an emphasis on contractual and M&A-related disputes. She has represented clients in numerous national and international arbitrations under various institutional rules. In addition to acting as counsel, Hilde also regularly sits as arbitrator.

Hilde is a board member of the Netherlands Arbitration Institute. She was formerly a board member of the DAA and the chair of the NAI's Raad van Advies.



Speaker Panel Discussion 1

Sophie Goldman

Tossens Goldman Gonne



Sophie Goldman is one of the founding partners of Tossens Goldman Gonne, a dispute resolution law firm based in Brussels, Belgium.

She has been practicing for nearly 20 years and specializes in complex civil and commercial litigation, particularly in the areas of corporate and post-M&A disputes, service agreements, construction, and distribution.

Sophie has a strong focus on arbitration and frequently serves as an arbitrator under various institutional rules as well as in ad hoc proceedings. Her experience and expertise in the field are recognized by international rankings such as *Chambers & Partners*, *Lexology*, and *Leaders League*.

She also has a strong academic and scholarly background.

Sophie was a teaching assistant at the Université libre de Bruxelles (ULB) for over 10 years, where she taught corporate law, the law of obligations, and contract law. She also lectured on 'International Commercial Law and International Dispute Resolution' at ICHEC Brussels Management School for several years.

She is currently Co-Editor-in-Chief of *b-Arbitra*, the Belgian Journal of International Arbitration, and a member of the editorial board of the *Belgian Commercial Law Review (R.D.C.)*. She is also the author of numerous publications.

Sophie is a board member of CEPANI (the Belgian Centre for Arbitration and Mediation) and part of its delegation to the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL). She is also a delegate to the ICC Commission on Arbitration and ADR.



Speaker Panel Discussion 1

Georgios Fasfalis

Linklaters (Moderator)



Georgios is a Managing Associate in the Linklaters Litigation, Arbitration & Investigations practice. He is a dedicated specialist in the field of commercial and investment arbitration and represents multinational companies and states in arbitration proceedings. Georgios' experience includes involvement in numerous arbitrations conducted under, among others, the ICC, ICSID, LCIA, NAI, SIAC and UNCITRAL Rules, and subject to several applicable laws. He also regularly advises clients in relation to investment treaties and public international law matters. Georgios is frequently involved in arbitration-related matters, such as setting aside and enforcement proceedings. His experience also includes acting as assistant to arbitrators in commercial and investment arbitrations.

Georgios regularly publishes and acts as a speaker in relation to international dispute resolution matters. He also serves in the leadership of various international arbitration organisations. Georgios is included in the 2025 Lexology Index (formerly known as Who's Who Legal) as an Arbitration Future Leader in the Netherlands.



Speaker Panel Discussion 2

Alexandra Schluep

Avizor



Alexandra Schluep has been a partner at Avizor Advocates and Arbitrators (formerly known as SSHJ Advocaten), a boutique law firm specialising in international disputes resolution, since 2010. She began her legal practice in 1995 in Switzerland, where she was admitted to the Geneva Bar, before continuing her practice in the Netherlands, following her admission at the Amsterdam Bar in 2002.

Alexandra has an extensive experience as counsel and frequently sits as an arbitrator – whether as sole arbitrator, chair or co-arbitrator – in domestic and international commercial arbitration cases. In her capacity as counsel or arbitrator, she has handled numerous arbitrations conducted under the rules of the ICC, NAI, UNCITRAL, UNUM, CEPANI, and Swiss Rules. Her practice focuses on complex commercial and contractual disputes, with significant experience in the construction, civil engineering, (renewable) energy, and infrastructure sectors.

Beyond her legal practice, Alexandra is actively engaged in professional and academic activities. Since 2009, she has been a part-time lecturer on private international law at the University of Amsterdam. In 2011, she was appointed Honorary-Consul of Switzerland in Amsterdam. Furthermore, she is currently serving her second term as a delegate of the ICC Commission on Arbitration and ADR (2024-2027).

Alexandra's diverse legal background and proficiency in multiple languages have enabled her to work on a wide range of arbitration proceedings. A dual citizen of Switzerland and Belgium, Alexandra works in Dutch, English, French, and German.



Speaker Panel Discussion 2

Ndanga Kamau

Ndanga Kamau Law



Ndanga Kamau is an independent arbitrator. She sits as chair, sole arbitrator, and co-arbitrator in institutional and ad hoc arbitrations. She has more than 15 years' experience in disputes involving private entities, states, state entities, and international organisations; common law and civil law legal systems; private and public international law; a variety of sectors, including energy, oil & gas, mining, finance, technology, and construction.

She has considerable expertise and experience in disputes related to Africa, and is proficient in issues related to compensation, damages, interest, taxation, and costs.

Ndanga is a council member of the ICC Institute of World Business Law, an Honorary Senior Fellow and Trustee of the British Institute of International and Comparative Law (BIICL), a member of the ICCA Governing Board, and a member of the advisory board of the University of Cape Town ADR Unit. She is also a PRIME Finance Expert in Dispute Resolution, and a member of the FIAA Executive Committee. She served two terms as a vice president of the ICC International Court of Arbitration (2018-2024).

Ndanga is ranked in Chambers & Partners Global 2023, 2024, 2025: Dispute Resolution: Arbitrators – Africa-wide and recognised by Who's Who Legal and Lexology Index as a Future Leader in International Arbitration - Partners (2022, 2023, 2024, 2025).

She was Called to the Bar of England & Wales by the Honourable Society of the Middle Temple.



Speaker Panel Discussion 2

Tim Robbins

Independent Arbitrator



Tim Robbins is an independent arbitrator with over 15 years of experience in commercial and investor state disputes, and has acted as arbitrator, tribunal secretary or counsel in over 85 international arbitrations. Tim provides a wide breadth of experience, knowledge and perspective from his work with tribunals, in private practice and at arbitral institutions.

Based in The Hague and Hong Kong, Tim sits as arbitrator and tribunal secretary in matters seated across Europe, North America, Asia and the Middle East. He has worked on matters under the rules of many of the leading arbitral institutions, including the ICC, SCC, SIAC, LCIA, HKIAC, ICDR, ICSID, KCAB, JCAA, and DIAC, as well as numerous ad hoc proceedings under the UNCITRAL Rules. Qualified in England & Wales, New York and Ontario, Tim specializes in a broad array of commercial disputes, including corporate and M&A, joint ventures, finance, distribution, sales and purchases, energy and transport.

Tim is co-founder of Open Arbitration, a grassroots organization for LGBTQIA+ individuals in international arbitration. Tim is also a board member of the SIHC, an member of the arbitration committees of ICC Canada and ICC Australia, and an LCIA Counsel Member. He speaks regularly on a wide variety of topics at arbitration events around the globe, and frequently guest lectures for arbitration related masters programs at leading universities. His full profile can be found at www.robbinsarbitration.com.



Speaker Panel Discussion 2

Paschalis Paschalidis

Arendt & Medernach



Paschalis Paschalidis is counsel at the Dispute Resolution practice of Arendt & Medernach. He specialises in international investment treaty and commercial arbitration as well as EU litigation. He acts as counsel in investment treaty and commercial arbitrations under a variety of arbitral rules (including ICSID, SCC, ICC and UNCITRAL). He also acts as arbitrator, secretary to tribunals and appears before the courts of EU Member States and the Court of Justice of the European Union.

Paschalis is included in the Panels of Arbitrators of the Shenzhen Court of International Arbitration and of the China International Economic and Trade Arbitration Commission, the European Commission's List of Candidates suitable for Appointment as Arbitrators in dispute settlement panels under the EU's trade and investment agreements, as well as the list of arbitrators of the Court of Arbitration for Sport.

Before joining Arendt & Medernach, Paschalis served as *référéndaire* for First Advocate General Melchior Wathelet at the Court of Justice of the European Union, senior associate in the international arbitration practice of Shearman & Sterling, and as counsel in Gaillard Banifatemi Shelbaya Disputes.

He teaches International Investment Arbitration at the LLM in International and European Business Law at the University of Lyon 3 'Jean Moulin'.



Speaker Panel Discussion 2

Annette Scholten

Three Crowns (Moderator)



Annette is an associate at international arbitration firm Three Crowns, based in their London office. She has experience in international commercial and investment arbitrations under several institutional rules and across a range of sectors, including oil and gas, mining, banking, and agriculture. Annette has particular experience in advising sovereign States and State-owned entities. She has also represented States and private corporations in setting aside and enforcement proceedings, and has advised individuals on potential applications to the European Court of Human Rights. Prior to working in international arbitration, she advised companies in private M&A transactions.

Annette holds an LL.M. in International Business Regulation, Litigation and Arbitration from New York University, where she was a Fulbright scholar and Convocation Student Speaker of the LL.M. class. She also holds an LL.M. in European Law from Leiden University (cum laude), where she was awarded several academic awards for her thesis. Annette holds a Diploma in Legal Studies from the University of Oxford (distinction) and an LL.B. from Leiden University (cum laude). Annette speaks English and Dutch and has a working knowledge of Italian and French. She is admitted to the bar in the Netherlands.

Annette is a board member of the Netherlands Arbitration Institute young practitioners' group, NAI40.



Speaker Group Lecture A

Matthias Kucher

De Brauw Blackstone Westbroek



Matthias specialises in international disputes, international commercial and investment arbitration, and multi-jurisdictional litigation. He acts as lead counsel in high-stakes international arbitrations in the energy, infrastructure, construction and intellectual property sectors under the ICC, UNCITRAL, DIS, VIAC, PCA, NAI, ICSID, SCC and Swiss Rules. He also regularly sits as an arbitrator.

Matthias is a seasoned advocate and appears regularly before courts and tribunals around the world. Over the last few years, he has first- or second-chaired more than 50 merits hearings, presenting opening and closing submissions on a wide range of subject matters and cross-examining dozens of fact and expert witnesses (including CEOs of multinational companies, auditors, forensic accountants, economists, commodity traders, physicists, engineers, mathematicians, law professors, and a former judge at the European Court of Justice).

Prior to joining De Brauw, Matthias was Legal Counsel to the Permanent Court of Arbitration (PCA) in The Hague and established the PCA's first overseas mission as the inaugural PCA Representative and Legal Officer in the Republic of Mauritius, and acted as Tribunal Secretary in arbitrations between States or State-owned entities and private parties. He was also the Counsel in charge of the United Kingdom and Commonwealth team at the International Court of Arbitration (ICC) in Paris, supervising hundreds of arbitrations and scrutinising over 100 arbitral awards.



Speaker Group Lecture A

Nora Fredstie

DAC Beachcroft



Nora Fredstie is a Partner at DAC Beachcroft in London, specialising in international arbitration. Dual-qualified in England and New York, she has practised in six civil and common law jurisdictions and has wide-ranging experience as counsel and arbitrator in investment and commercial arbitrations across sectors including life sciences, energy, commodities, and construction.

She is consistently recognised for her advocacy (particularly her cross-examination skills), strategic insight, and deep understanding of cross-border disputes, and was named a Global Elite Thought Leader in Arbitration (2025) by Lexology.

Nora is a member of the ICSID Panel of Conciliators, serves as the Norwegian delegate to the ICC Commission on Arbitration and ADR, chairs Young Arbitration Practitioners Norway, is a member of ICC YAAF, sits on ICC Norway's nominating committee, and is an adjunct professor at Université Paris Nanterre.



Speaker Group Lecture B

Piotr Wilinski

Erasmus University / Linklaters



Dr. Piotr Wilinski is a Senior Managing Associate (Knowledge) in Linklaters' Litigation, Arbitration & Investigations practice group in Amsterdam. He specialises in international commercial and investment arbitration. In his role, Piotr conducts research on complex legal issues and analyses developments relevant to his practice group. He contributes to Linklaters' internal courses, academic publications and organization of external events.

Piotr regularly publishes articles on international arbitration, acts as a mentor to younger generations of arbitration lawyers (Young ICCA Mentorship Programme, MAA Mentorship Programme) and is a member of RAI, Young ICCA, ICC YAF and LCIA YIAG amongst others.

Next to his work at Linklaters, Piotr is an Assistant Professor at the Erasmus University and teaches international commercial arbitration as well as investment arbitration. His research focuses on powers of the arbitral tribunals, intersection between climate change and arbitration as well as intra-EU disputes. Piotr acts as an Academic Coordinator of International Arbitration variation of Commercial Law LLM.



Speaker Group Lecture B

Irina Buga

De Brauw Blackstone Westbroek



Irina specialises in international investment and commercial arbitration. She has acted as counsel in arbitration proceedings under the ICC, NAI, ICSID, and PCA rules, as well as in proceedings before Dutch courts.

Before joining De Brauw in 2015, Irina was a Doctoral Fellow at the Netherlands Institute for the Law of the Sea (NILOS). She has also worked as an Associate Legal Officer at the International Court of Justice in The Hague, and as part of the arbitration practice of a major international law firm in Paris.

Irina is the author of numerous articles on international law and dispute settlement, as well as of a book on international law published by Oxford University Press in 2018.

Irina has received various awards, including the Clifford Chance Prize for Best Performance in the MJur Programme and Winter Williams Prize in International Economic Law at Oxford, as well as awards from the Royal Netherlands Society of International Law, the Rhodes Academy of Oceans Law and Policy, and various other organisations.

The European Union recently appointed Irina to the roster of arbitrators - alongside five other individuals - for the settlement of future disputes between the EU and the UK under the EU-UK Trade and Cooperation Agreement (TCA). Irina was also appointed to the pool of arbitrators and trade and sustainable development experts under the EU's trade agreements with third countries.



Speaker Group Lecture C

Emily Fox

Herbert Smith Freehills



Emily Fox is a Partner in the International Arbitration Group at Herbert Smith Freehills Kramer. She is based in Paris and is qualified as both a French Avocat and a Solicitor of England & Wales.

Emily has significant experience of international commercial arbitration and has advised and represented clients in ad hoc commercial arbitrations and proceedings under the auspices of major arbitral institutions, including the ICC, LCIA and SCC, as well as in arbitration-related court proceedings. She also delivers strategic dispute resolution and crisis management advice.

She has broad sector experience, with a specific focus on energy, mining, construction and aviation disputes, and has advised clients in a broad range of jurisdictions, and has particular expertise in Francophone and Anglophone Africa, although she advises clients on matters across the globe.

Emily also sits as an arbitrator and is a regular speaker at arbitration conferences.

Emily has been recognised by Expert Guides as a 'Rising Star' for Commercial Arbitration in France every year since 2018, named as 'One to Watch' for International Arbitration in France in the 2023 and 2024 editions of Best Lawyer and identified as a 'Future Leader' by Who's Who Legal. She is also identified as a 'Next Generation Partner' by Legal 500.



Speaker Group Lecture C

Ragnar Harbst

Baker McKenzie



Ragnar Harbst is a partner in Baker McKenzie's International Dispute Resolution practice. He regularly represents clients in litigation and arbitrations proceedings under the auspices of all major arbitration institutions and also sits as an arbitrator. His practice focus is on infrastructure disputes, mainly power, wind farms and railway projects. He is dually qualified as a Rechtsanwalt (Germany) and Solicitor (England & Wales). The guide books JUVE, Who's Who Legal, Legal500 and Best Lawyers list Ragnar as a recommended lawyer for arbitration. Ragnar is the author of a text book on witness examination in international arbitration, clients praise him for his witness examination skills. He is also is a lecturer on the topic of legal writing at the University of Frankfurt. He co-chaired the ICC Task Force on Witness Evidence in International Arbitration.



Speaker Group Lecture D

Maurits Fornier

Patroon Legal Design



Maurits focuses on information design for legal matters. At Patroon (Dutch for 'pattern'), he develops practical solutions for litigation and arbitration. His work includes creating technical videos for infrastructure disputes, developing summary infographics that highlight key elements of economic reports for arbitrators during quantum phases, and strategic visualization for complex commercial litigation. Background: litigation practice at Freshfields, design skills, information architecture. Focuses on structuring complex case information into clear presentations for tribunals and courts – where clarity can be decisive.



Speaker Group Lecture D

Michael Arch

FTI Consulting



Michael Arch is a Senior Managing Director in the FTI Consulting - Construction, Projects and Assets practice and is based in London. Michael is a Chartered Member of the Institution of Civil Engineers and a Member of the Academy of Experts. He is frequently appointed as a Delay Expert to provide independent analysis and expert evidence for arbitration and litigation proceedings.

Michael has built up over 20 years of experience in the construction industry working on a variety of high-profile international building and infrastructure projects including experience working on Arbitrations in the Netherlands.

He has been appointed as the named Delay Expert on multiple disputes and is experienced in preparing expert reports across a wide range of construction sectors, including recent appointments relating to Industrial Process, Data Centres, Oil & Gas, Renewable Energy and Offshore Projects. He is experienced in the presentation of complex delay and disruption analysis/ conclusions to clients and tribunals, preparing written expert reports and has experience of giving evidence under cross examination and concurrent evidence sessions ('hot tubbing').



Speaker Panel Discussion 3

Bas van Zelst

Maastricht University / Van Doorne



Prof. Bas van Zelst is a partner at Van Doorne and founding partner at Enhance Arbitration; an Amsterdam-based boutique firm that will launch on 1 July 2025 and that is dedicated to (inter)national arbitration and related proceedings before the national courts. Bas has acted, and continues to act, on a number of high-profile matters including under the ICC, NAI, UNCITRAL, SIAC and DIS Rules. He has particular expertise in construction matters; investment arbitration; and (cross-border) attachment and enforcement proceedings. In addition to his counsel and arbitrator work, Bas is a professor of Dispute Resolution & Arbitration at Maastricht University. Bas is also a CEDR-accredited mediator and regularly sits as arbitrator.

Bas obtained his doctorate with a dissertation on the creation of European private law. In 2006 and 2007, he was a visiting researcher at Harvard Law School. In 2017, Bas was a visiting professor at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver, Canada. Bas is on the editorial board of the *Tijdschrift voor Arbitrage*; the Dutch Journal on Arbitration Law.



Speaker Panel Discussion 3

Fenna Poletiek

Leiden University /
Max Planck Institute of Psycholinguistics



Fenna Poletiek, PhD. is (emerita) Assistant Professor in Cognitive Psychology at Leiden University, Senior Researcher at the Max Planck Institute of Psycholinguistics. She was holder of the ILCB – Iméra Chair (2023-2024) (Institute for Language Communication and the Brain and the Institute for Advanced Studies) at the University of Aix-Marseille, (co-funded by France 2030 and the Excellence Initiative of Aix-Marseille University). And visiting professor at the University of Newcastle, from 2020 to 2024. Her expertise is on Decision Making and Psychology of Language.

Her research as well as her teaching is on cognitive decision making, with focus on decision making biases like the ‘confirmation bias’, and formal theories of decision making like Bayesian reasoning and Utility Theory. In her research, but also in her work as an expert witness (Legal Psychology) she focuses on the interface between cognitive and legal decision making. Examples are: the reliability of eye witness reports, expert decision making, and she recently designed and tested in the lab a memory test procedure that aims at eliciting unintended recall of memories for visual experiences.



Speaker Panel Discussion 3

Willem van Baren

Van Baren Arbitration



Willem van Baren practices since 2016 as independent international arbitrator. He has been actively involved in more than 100 arbitration cases as party-appointed arbitrator, chairman, sole arbitrator, emergency arbitrator and expert under the major arbitral institutions and arbitration rules (ICC, LCIA, NAI, SIAC, CEPANI, UNUM, WIPO) and governed by various procedural and substantive laws. Until his retirement, he was a partner in Allen & Overy's dispute resolution practice. In 2009, he became a CEDR accredited mediator.

Willem has been involved in arbitrations concerning State-entities and private entities, often multi-party, and spanning a multitude of sectors, such as banking, corporate transactions, finance, energy, construction, infrastructure, insurance, shipbuilding, offshore, oil & gas, industrial manufacturing, pharmaceuticals, transportation (aviation, marine), solar power plants and wind parks and relating to diverse legal issues, such as investment, distributorship, joint ventures, partnerships, construction, contract termination, post-M&A, sales of goods and shareholdings. He conducts arbitrations in English and Dutch and has working knowledge of German.



Speaker Panel Discussion 3

Annet van Hooft

van Hooft



Annet van Hooft is an independent arbitrator based in Paris. After having practiced for more than 20 years at major U.S. and U.K. law firms in Brussels, New York, and Paris, and having been a Counsel at the ICC Court of Arbitration, she decided to set up her own law firm, focusing on international arbitration.

Annet has acted in more than 100 arbitrations either as counsel or arbitrator. She has sat as arbitrator in proceedings subject to various arbitration rules (AFA, CEPANI, CMAP, DIA, DIS, HCC, ICC, NAI, SCC, SIAC, Swiss Rules, UNCITRAL, VIAC, WIPO).

Annet is admitted to practice in both common and civil law jurisdictions and has a broad range of experience, both as counsel and as arbitrator, handling international arbitrations under various applicable laws and in a wide variety of sectors and fields, including construction & energy, IP related disputes (e.g., pharmaceuticals, life sciences, technology, and communication) and corporate law related disputes (e.g., joint-ventures, mergers & acquisitions).

Annet is a former Vice-Chair of the ICC Commission on Arbitration and ADR and a former co-chair of the Paris Bar Commission on International Arbitration. She is the co-author of 'Arbitrating under the 2012 ICC Rules: An Introductory User's Guide' (published by Kluwer Law International).



Speaker Panel Discussion 3

Simona Valkova

Valkova Arbitration /
Queen Mary University of London (Moderator)



Simona Valkova is an independent Tribunal Secretary based in London with extensive experience supporting tribunals in international commercial and investment arbitrations, conducted under all major institutional rules, including the LCIA, SCC, ICC, SIAC, HKIAC, and ICSID.

She previously served as a full-time arbitral assistant to Professor Julian D. M. Lew KC, an arbitrator member of Twenty Essex, and gained further international experience as a visiting foreign lawyer at a leading international arbitration law firm in London.

In addition to her practice, Simona is a Teaching Fellow in international commercial and investment arbitration at the School of International Arbitration, Queen Mary University of London. She is admitted as a Solicitor in England and Wales.



Speaker Wrap-up and closing remarks

Rufus Abeln

Lemstra Van der Korst



Rufus Abeln is a partner with Lemstra Van der Korst, a leading disputes firm based in Amsterdam with a team of 25 lawyers (and growing).

Rufus acts for clients in corporate and commercial disputes in (international) arbitration proceedings, as well as in related court litigation on enforcement, annulment and interim relief. He often acts as counsel in M&A disputes and joint venture/shareholder disputes, and in cases on complex commercial contracts and investments. Rufus has extensive experience in international arbitration under a variety of rules, including ICC, SIAC, LCIA, CEPANI, NAI, and WIPO.

Rufus represents clients that are active in various industries and include (multinational) corporates, private equity firms and investors.

Prior to joining Lemstra Van der Korst, Rufus was a partner at a boutique firm for 5 years and before that he was with De Brauw Blackstone Westbroek in Amsterdam and Singapore.

Rufus also sits as arbitrator in (international) arbitration cases. He is a Board Member of the Dutch Arbitration Association.



The DAD 2025 Organising Committee

David den Blaauwen

NautaDutilh



David den Blaauwen is a member of NautaDutilh's Dispute Resolution group. He specialises in international arbitration, complex court proceedings concerning the enforcement and setting aside of arbitral awards and supreme court litigation. Before joining the Dispute Resolution team, he was based in NautaDutilh's New York office, where he advised clients in cross-border matters involving Dutch corporate law and Dutch law aspects of international finance transactions.



The DAD 2025 Organising Committee

Lisanne Berends

A&O Shearman



Lisanne is an associate in the Litigation and Investigations practice group in Amsterdam, focusing on international commercial arbitration. She has advised and represented both national and international clients in complex, cross-border commercial arbitration proceedings under the NAI Rules and the ICC Rules. Her experience also includes acting as counsel in arbitration-related litigation before the Dutch courts, as well as serving as secretary in proceedings under the Swiss Rules.



The DAD 2025 Organising Committee

Elodie Fortin

Avizor



Elodie Fortin is a foreign associate at Avizor Advocates & Arbitrators, where she specialises in international commercial arbitration. She has advised States and corporate entities and served as tribunal secretary, engaging in proceedings governed by various institutional arbitration rules. Elodie is admitted to the New York State Bar and successfully passed the French Article 100 Examination for non-EU lawyers. She holds a double law degree in Civil and Common Law (LL.B. and B.C.L.) from McGill University and earned her LL.M. in international law from the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE).

An active member of the arbitration community, Elodie serves as an assistant editor for the Kluwer Arbitration Blog and is a participant in the 10th cycle of the Young ICCA Mentoring Programme. As Canadian national, she is fluent in both English and French.



The DAD 2025 Organising Committee

Sebastian Hinse

De Brauw Blackstone Westbroek



Sebastian Hinse is a senior associate at De Brauw. As an expert in international commercial arbitration and cross-border litigation, he represents major corporations in arbitral and Dutch court proceedings. He advises clients on sustainability and climate legislation, and frequently lectures at Erasmus University Rotterdam on corporate governance, sustainability reporting and related responsibilities. Sebastian also holds a UNEP FI certification in climate risk. Further, as part of De Brauw's Restructuring team, he also advises clients on restructuring litigation and international debt restructuring.



The DAD 2024 Organising Committee

Sebastian Renshof

Loyens & Loeff



Sebastian Renshof is an attorney at law and a member of the Dispute Resolution practice group at Loyens & Loeff in Amsterdam. His practice focuses on corporate and securities litigation, both before the Dutch courts and in arbitration.

He advises and represents public and private companies in high-profile, multi-jurisdictional proceedings involving complex corporate and securities law matters. Sebastian also regularly publishes on corporate law, corporate governance, and arbitration.



The Netherlands Very Young Arbitration Practitioners (NL VYAP)

The Netherlands Very Young Arbitration Practitioners (NL VYAP) provides a platform for networking among young arbitration practitioners with up to 8 years of experience in arbitration.



NL VYAP regularly organises gatherings and academic events in the Netherlands for young arbitration practitioners.

NL VYAP also cooperates with different arbitration institutions and organisations in the Netherlands such as the DAA, the NAI, and the PCA.

NL VYAP is part of the international VYAP community which now counts many organisations around the world in the Americas, Asia, Africa and Europe.

Members of the executive committee are Joey Oetomo (Linklaters), Eleonora Di Pangrazio (Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer), Caroline Deves (Houthoff), Sebastian King (Permanent Court of Arbitration) and Thomas de Bekker (Avizor).

More information:



[linkedin.com/company/nl-vyap-netherlands-very-young-arbitration-practitioners](https://www.linkedin.com/company/nl-vyap-netherlands-very-young-arbitration-practitioners)



Sign up for a DAA Membership

Membership of the DAA is open to all (Dutch and non-Dutch) practitioners, inhouse lawyers, academics and students, arbitrators and staff members of arbitration institutes with an interest in arbitration in the Netherlands.

The annual membership fee for non-student members is **EUR 50**

The annual membership fee for student members is **EUR 25**

If you wish to apply for membership of the DAA, please fill in the form on our website:

dutcharbitrationassociation.nl/membership



The DAA LinkedIn-group is open to members of this association. It is a platform for members to connect and a forum for the exchange of information. In order to facilitate an open exchange of information, the so-called 'Chatham Rules' apply in this group, which means that participants are free to use the information received, but neither the identity nor the affiliation of contributors to discussions may be revealed. Acceptance of membership of this LinkedIn group entails agreement to the application of these Chatham Rules.

Join us at our LinkedIn group:

linkedin.com/company/dutch-arbitration-association



Overview of Participants

Name	Company / organisation
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Lennart Baijer	Eversheds Sutherland
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Overview of Participants

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