

Pierre Tercier

— Senior Counsel, Professor Emeritus, Dr. H.C.

Professional practice

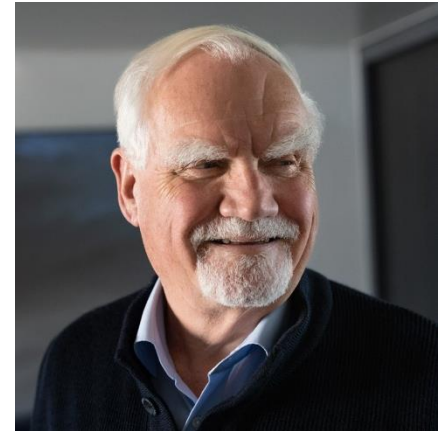
Prof. Dr. Pierre Tercier is a senior counsel at Peter & Kim in Geneva. He is an Emeritus Professor of the University of Fribourg, a Doctor *honoris causa* of the University of Paris II Panthéon-Assas, the honorary President of the ICC International Court of Arbitration, and a prominent international arbitrator with extensive experience in international commercial and investment arbitration. Prof. Tercier has served as party-appointed arbitrator and president in over 150 arbitrations under various rules (ICC, ICSID, LCIA, SIAC, CRCICA, SCC, UNCITRAL) covering a broad range of sectors. He chaired such seminal cases, such as *Abaclat and others v. Argentine Republic* (ICSID Case No. ARB/07/5) and *Desert Line Projects LLC v. Republic of Yemen* (ICSID Case No. ARB/05/17). In addition to his arbitrator practice, Prof. Tercier gives lectures on arbitration in several Universities around the world. He has authored numerous articles on international arbitration as well as authoritative treatises, notably on contract law. He is well-known in Switzerland for his contribution to the study and development of contract, tort, construction and competition law.

Career

- Senior Counsel, Peter & Kim, Geneva (2021-current)
- Independent Arbitrator, Bureau Professeur Pierre Tercier (2008-current)
- Visiting Professor at various schools and universities (1990-current): University of Turin, Georgetown University (Washington), Geneva Centre for International Dispute Settlement (MIDS), Sciences Po (Paris)
- President of the ICC International Court of Arbitration, Paris (2006-2008)
- Professor, University of Fribourg (1973-2008), Dean of the Faculty of Law (1987-1989)
- Visiting Professor at various universities (1990-2004): University of Lausanne, University of Geneva, University of Paris I, II, V.
- Member and Chairman of the Swiss Antitrust Commission (1989-1998)
- Visiting Professor at the École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL) (1988-1998)
- Member of the Swiss Antitrust Commission (1977-1988)
- Chairman of the Experts' Comity for the revision of the Swiss Civil Code (Privacy Law) (1978-1983)
- Research at the University of Cambridge (1972-1973)
- Research at the Max-Planck-Institut für ausländisches und internationales Privatrecht, Hamburg (1971-1972)
- Teaching assistant and visiting lecturer, University of Geneva (1970-1971)
- Teaching assistant, University of Fribourg (1968-1970)
- Trainee, José Ackermann law firm, Fribourg (1966-1968)

Education

- University of Paris II Panthéon-Assas, Dr *honoris causa* (2004)
- University of Fribourg, Ph.D. *summa cum laude* (1968-1970)
- University of Fribourg, Law degree *summa cum laude* (1962-1966)



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ADMISSIONS & COURTS

Fribourg, Switzerland (1969)

LANGUAGES

French, German, English

NATIONALITIES

Swiss

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

Arbitration
Contract law
Tort law
Competition law
International investment law

INDUSTRY SECTORS

Construction & Engineering
Energy
Banking & Finance
Pharmaceutical
Mining

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Representative cases

- President of the tribunal in two related ICC arbitrations, concerning the termination of contracts in the military industry.
- President of the tribunal in an ICC case between a Finnish and a Turkish telecommunication firm, in relation to an exclusive supply contract.
- Co-arbitrator in an ICC arbitration between a French multinational group specializing in renewable energy and a German multinational company, concerning a Finnish nuclear power plant.
- President of the tribunal in an ICC arbitration, with seat in New York (USA), between three oil companies incorporated respectively in Bermuda, the Netherlands and Venezuela, in relation with a concession agreement for oil production.
- Co-arbitrator in an ICC arbitration, with seat in Zurich, between a Ukrainian State company and a Turkish construction company, in relation with the construction of a highway and a railway bridge in Kiev, Ukraine.
- Co-arbitrator in an ICC arbitration, with seat in Paris, between high-end French department stores and French banks, in relation with a shareholding agreement and valuation of an enterprise.
- President of the tribunal in an UNCITRAL arbitration, between a State-owned gas supplier and a Spanish gas company, concerning the construction of a natural gas liquefaction plant.
- President of the tribunal in the ICSID case *Capital Financial Holdings Luxembourg S.A. v. Republic of Cameroon* (Case No. ARB/15/18)
- President of the tribunal in the ICSID case *Baggerwerken Decloedt En Zoon NV v. Republic of the Philippines* (Case No. ARB/11/27)
- President of the tribunal in the ICSID case *Getma International and others v. Republic of Guinea* (Case No. ARB/11/29)
- President of the tribunal in the ICSID case *Malincorp Ltd. v. The Arab Republic of Egypt* (Case No. ARB/08/18)

Publications

- *La recherche et la rédaction juridiques*, 7^e ed., Zurich 2016.
- *Les contrats spéciaux*, 5^e ed., Schulthess, 2016 (with Laurent Bieri and Blaise Carron).
- *Le droit des obligations*, 5^e ed., Schulthess, 2012 (with Pascal Pichonnaz).
- “*Entre nous. A propos des relations entre arbitres*” 2016(4) Rev. arb. 1053.
- “*L’usage des langues dans l’arbitrage*” 2016(3) Rev. arb. 749 (with P.M. Patocchi and J.F. Tossens).
- “*Du choc des cultures en arbitrage international (Quelques réflexions)*” in Festschrift Ahmed Sadek El-Kosheri, From the Arab World to the Globalization of International Law and Arbitration 175, M. Abdel Raouf, P. Leboulanger, N. Ziadé eds., Kluwer, 2016 (with Nhu-Hoàng Tran Thang).
- “*La répartition des frais de l’arbitrage entre les parties*” in *L’argent dans l’arbitrage* 141, W. Ben Hamida, T. Clay eds., Lextenso, 2013.
- “*ADR and Arbitration*” in *ADR in Business - Practice and Issues Across Countries and Cultures* 3, A. Ingen-Housz ed., Vol. II, Kluwer, 2011

QUOTES

According to clients and peers:

“Pierre is one of the grand names of arbitration”

“He is intelligent, hard working and very analytical”

“Pierre is one of the most influential arbitrators in the market”

LEXOLOGY Index: Arbitration, 2025

Pierre Tercier is a favourite among peers and clients who describe him as “the mastermind of arbitration” for his work acting in over 150 arbitrations under a variety of institutional rules.

LEXOLOGY Thought Leaders: Switzerland, 2025

Pierre Tercier of Peter & Kim is one of the top arbitrators in the European market, often acting as president in complex investor-state and commercial arbitration tribunals under ICSID and ICC rules.

Chambers and Partners: Global 2024: Arbitrators

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Accolades/Ranking

- Lexology: Thought Leaders (2015-2025), Lexology Index: Arbitration – Switzerland (2015-2025)
- Chambers & Partners: Senior Statesperson/ Band 2 – Most In Demand Arbitrators (2010-2024)

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