

Clémence Bernard

— Senior Associate

Professional practice

Clémence is a Senior Associate in the Sydney office of Peter & Kim. Clémence Bernard is a Senior Associate in Peter & Kim's Sydney office specialising in international arbitration and cross-border disputes. She has acted in investment arbitrations and commercial arbitrations under the UNCITRAL, SIAC, ICC and LMAA rules across the construction, energy, shipping, technology and manufacturing sectors. Her experience spans proceedings seated in Singapore and London and matters involving Australian, Singaporean, English and Indonesian law.

Prior to joining Peter & Kim, she practised at King & Wood Mallesons in Singapore, during which she completed a secondment with BHP for over a year. Prior to moving to Singapore, she worked as Deputy Counsel at the ICC in Paris and trained at White & Case and LALIVE.

Career

- Senior Associate, Peter & Kim (2026 -)
- Associate, King & Wood Mallesons (2022-2026)
- Legal Marketing Specialist, BHP Group Limited Singapore (Secondment) (2023-2024)
- International Arbitration Trainee, LALIVE, Geneva (2022)
- Deputy Counsel, ICC, Paris (2021)
- International Arbitration Trainee, White & Case, Paris (2020)
- International Arbitration Intern, Peter & Kim, Sydney (2020)
- Associate, Australian Centre for International Commercial Arbitration (ACICA), Sydney (2018-2019)

Education

- LLM in Transnational Arbitration and Dispute Settlement (*cum laude*), Sciences Po, Paris (2020)
- JD, University of Sydney (2019)
- BA in Political Science & Literature (Dean's List), Cornell University (2015)

Professional associations

- ACICA Rules Committee, Secretary

Representative cases

Representative experience includes:

- Represented a Chinese contractor in a USD 1.4 billion *ad hoc* arbitration in relation to the construction of a blast furnace (UNCITRAL Rules, Indonesian law, Singapore seat)
- Represented an Australian company in cement supply arbitration (SIAC Rules, Australian law).
- Represented a South Korean shipping company in a shipbuilding (LMAA Terms, English law, London seat).
- Advised a technology company on an AI hardware manufacturing dispute (SIAC Rules, Singapore seat).
- Advised a French subcontractor on a potential construction dispute and settlement negotiations with contractor in Vietnam (Singapore law.)



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ADMISSIONS & COURTS

- New South Wales, 2006

LANGUAGE

- English (native)
- French (native)
- Spanish (elementary)

NATIONALITIES

- Australian
- French

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

International Commercial Arbitration
Investment Arbitration

INDUSTRY SECTOR

Energy & Resources
Construction & Engineering
Mining & Commodities
Shipping & Maritime
Technology
Manufacturing

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- Advised a US cloud computing company on enforcement actions against cryptocurrency mining in Vietnam.
- In-house legal counsel at BHP for over a year, advising on the sale, purchase and transport of commodities and all aspects of a USD10 million energy arbitration.
- Deputy Counsel at the ICC in Paris.

Publications

- Paul Starr, Maanda Lees and Clémence Bernard, “The Tribunal didn’t hear me: challenges to an arbitral award for the Tribunal’s failure to consider all the issues”. KMW Pulse Blog (June 2025) [See other co-authorised articles [here](#)]
- James Morrison and Clémence Bernard, “Amendments to the International Arbitration Act 1974 (Cth), ACICA Review (December 2018)

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