

CHARIS TAN

Partner
LLB (Hons)



Bar admission : Singapore, 2008; New York, 2010; Solicitor, England & Wales, 2011
Nationality : Singaporean
Languages : English, Mandarin

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AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- > Arbitration
- > Public International Law
- > Private International Law
- > Investment Law

INDUSTRY SECTORS

- > Oil & Gas
- > Energy & Resources
- > Joint Ventures

PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE

Charis specialises in international commercial and investment treaty arbitration and public international law.

She is admitted in three jurisdictions (Singapore, England & Wales and New York), and she advises States, State-owned companies and leading companies in a wide range of complex disputes and public international law issues, including in high profile State-to-State disputes before the International Court of Justice.

Charis' experience includes investment and commercial arbitrations under the rules of major arbitration institutions, including ICSID, ICC, SIAC and SCC, as well as *ad hoc* proceedings under UNCITRAL Rules. Charis is appointed as Counsel and she also sits as an Arbitrator in both commercial arbitration and State-to-State cases.

She also acts for National Oil Companies (NOCs) and International Oil Companies (IOCs) in both contentious and non-contentious upstream oil and gas matters. A unique area of her specialisation is where the practice of oil and gas crosses into the public international law sphere, such as where oil blocks straddle disputed boundaries.

Charis has been recommended by *Asia Pacific Legal 500* for international arbitration and named a Future Leader in arbitration by *Who's Who Legal* and *GAR*. She has also been listed as an expert in arbitration in *Who's Who Legal* and an initiative she spearheaded for the training of Government officials was awarded the *Asia Pacific FT Innovative Lawyers* (social responsibility) award.

She is currently a member of the Core Committee of the ICC's Singapore Arbitration Group and on the Council of the International Law Association (ILA) Singapore branch. She also serves on the Singapore Law Society's committee for Public and International Law. Previously, Charis was an ICC YAF representative and events coordinator with Young ICCA; she was also an adjunct tutor at the National University of Singapore between 2008 and 2015.

Charis is co-editor of the first and only book on *Investment Protection in Southeast Asia, A Country-by-Country Guide on Arbitration Laws and Bilateral Investment Treaties* (Brill, 2017).

RANKING

- > Who's Who Legal (WWL) and Global Arbitration Review (GAR): Future Leaders in Arbitration, 2019 and 2020
- > Who's Who Legal (WWL): Arbitration, 2018
- > Who's Who Legal (WWL): Future Leaders in Arbitration, 2017
- > Asia Pacific FT Innovative Lawyers Award, 2017
- > Asia Pacific Legal 500, 2016

CAREER

- > Partner, Peter & Kim, Singapore (2020 to Present)
- > Director, DWF LLP, Singapore (2017 to 2019)
- > Of Counsel, Senior Associate and Associate, Eversheds Sutherland, Singapore and Paris (2009 to 2017)
- > Associate and Pupil, Michael Hwang Chambers, Singapore (2007 to 2009)

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EDUCATION

- > Bachelor of Laws (Honours), National University of Singapore (2007)

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

- > WTO Panellist, World Trade Organization
- > Singapore International Arbitration Centre (SIAC), Reserve Panel of Arbitrators
- > Core Committee member, ICC Singapore Arbitration Group
- > Council member, International Law Association (ILA), Singapore branch
- > Committee member, Public and International Law Committee, Singapore Law Society

REPRESENTATIVE CASES

- > Appointed on a WTO Panel to determine a trade dispute between the European Union (EU) and the United States (US) relating to anti-dumping and countervailing duties;
- > Acting for an Eastern European State in a high-profile commercial arbitration under UNCITRAL Rules arising out of the construction of a trans-border highway, a project worth €1.4 billion;
- > Acting for a South Asian State in an *ad hoc* UNCITRAL commercial arbitration between an investor and a State in relation to a concession over an airport, in a claim worth more than US\$1 billion;
- > Representing an Indonesian oil company in an ICC arbitration for failure to supply gas under a significant contract, resulting in a claim for more than US\$500 million;
- > Appointed as a Sole Arbitrator in a SIAC arbitration under the expedited procedure, relating to an exclusive distributorship agreement concerning video games between South Korean and Hong Kong parties;
- > Lead Counsel in an ICC arbitration in a claim brought by a Vietnam-based French investor against an investment company based in Vietnam;
- > Lead Counsel in a SIAC arbitration between a Chinese company and Singapore-based private equity fund relating to investments in the food sector;
- > Acting for a Chinese State-owned entity in a SCC arbitration concerning a consultancy agreement against a Middle Eastern management company in relation to a petrochemical project worth US\$750 million;
- > On the Counsel team for Peru in the International Court of Justice (ICJ) case of *Peru v. Chile* relating to maritime delimitation;
- > On the Counsel team for Colombia in two ICJ cases brought by Nicaragua relating to delimitation of the outer continental shelf and alleged violations of sovereign rights and maritime spaces;
- > Represented a Middle Eastern State in three inter-related ICSID arbitrations relating to investments in ports and customs systems; and
- > Acting as Counsel for an Eastern European State in an ICSID arbitration involving a longstanding investment in a motorway in Europe.

PUBLICATIONS

Charis is co-editor of *Investment Protection in Southeast Asia, A Country-by-Country Guide on Arbitration Laws and Bilateral Investment Treaties* (Brill, 2017).

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