

THREE CROWNS



Gaëtan Verhoosel QC

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Gaëtan is a founding partner of Three Crowns. He has served as advocate and as arbitrator in a large number of both commercial and investment treaty arbitrations.

Gaëtan is a past Senior Co-Chair of the Arbitration Committee of the International Bar Association – a leading standard-setter for the practice of international arbitration. He is a member of the SIAC Court of Arbitration and was appointed to the ICSID Panel of Arbitrators by the Kingdom of Belgium. He teaches at King’s College School of Law in London.

Before entering private practice, he served as a Legal Advisor at the World Trade Organization in Geneva, where he advised dispute settlement panels adjudicating disputes between sovereigns across a range of industry sectors.

Gaëtan has been ranked as a leading international arbitration practitioner in all major publications, including *Chambers*, *The Legal 500*, *The Legal 500’s Arbitration Powerlist 2019*, and *Who’s Who Legal*. Gaëtan has been described in *Chambers* as having “a phenomenal reputation” and is praised for “articulating his arguments well and being good at devising the right legal strategy while also convincing the tribunal during his submissions”. *Who’s Who Legal* has noted that Gaëtan is recognised by his clients, peers, and opponents as “the number-one person I have ever encountered on the other side”, “impressive and thorough oral advocate”, and that “he is liked by peers for his style and presence; he definitely deserves to be on any list of the best”.

Gaëtan is admitted to practice in England & Wales, where he was appointed Queen’s Counsel in December 2021, as well as France and Spain. He was educated at Columbia Law School, the Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies, and the Catholic University of Leuven.

Selected Recent Experience

Counsel

- Successfully defending the Sultanate of Oman against a US\$200 million claim in connection with an investment dispute relating to an oil and gas engineering and construction contract.
- Reducing a US\$430 million claim against an Asian national oil company to \$10 in nominal damages in an ICC arbitration arising from the client’s withdrawal from a production sharing contract in Central Asia.
- Securing a US\$175 million damages award including interest for a Trafigura subsidiary in an UNCITRAL arbitration against the Government of Ghana arising from a power purchase agreement.
- Representing a European wind farm manufacturer in an ICC arbitration relating to a cross-licensing agreement for wind turbine patents.
- Securing a \$150 million award for an Asian national oil company in an ICC arbitration arising from a production sharing agreement with another Asian national oil company, while defeating a \$140 million counterclaim in the same proceeding.
- Representing an Asian national oil company in a US\$490 million ICC arbitration arising from a gas transportation agreement.

- Representing a group of ExxonMobil subsidiaries in a US\$1 billion+ investment treaty arbitration against Venezuela arising from the expropriation of ExxonMobil's projects investments.
- Securing a US\$30 million damages award plus interest for a European renewable energy fund in an investment treaty arbitration against the Kingdom of Spain.
- Representing the Republic of Chile in a US\$200+ million investment treaty arbitration relating to an electricity transmission project.
- Representing Sacyr in a US\$1+ billion investment treaty arbitration relating to the Panama Canal Third Set of Locks Project.

Admissions

- Senior Courts of England & Wales (Solicitor-Advocate)
- Paris
- Madrid

Languages

- English
- Spanish
- Dutch
- French

Education

- JSD, Columbia Law School (2001)
- LLM, Columbia Law School (2000)
- Graduate Diploma (International Relations), Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies (1997)
- Lic. Jur, University of Leuven, magna cum laude (1996)
- Cand. Jur, University of Antwerp, cum laude (1993)

Professional Affiliations

- Court Member, SIAC Court of Arbitration (2021)
- Former Senior Co-Chair of the Arbitration Committee of the International Bar Association (2019 – 2020)
- Former Vice-Chair of the IBA International Arbitration Committee
- Former Chair of the IBA Subcommittee on Investment Arbitration

Speaking Engagements and Publications

Speaking Engagements

- “Applicable law and evidence” webinar, The British Institute of International and Comparative Law’s (BIICL) Thirty Fifth ITF Public Conference: Evidence in Investor-State Arbitration (April 2021)
- “IBA Rules on the Practice of Evidence in International Arbitration”, interview, IBA Arbitration Committee (April 2021)

- “Townhall with Arbitration Committee,” and “Mining for Damages: why, when, and how to determine damages for pre-operational mining projects,” webinar, IBA 2020 – Virtually Together Conference (November 2020)
- “Investment Treaty Planning, Protection and Key Threshold Issues,” webinar, Mumbai Centre for International Arbitration and FTI Consulting, The Knowledge Series on Investment Arbitration (September 2020)
- Keynote Address, “International Arbitration in Asia Pacific: Adapting to New Normal and Beyond,” webinar, 2nd IBA Asia Pacific Conference (September 2020)
- “Interim Measures during COVID 19: Practical Considerations for Counsel and Arbitrators,” webinar, Singapore International Arbitration Centre (SIAC) (April 2020)
- “Debate: Where Should the Line be Drawn?” ITA Annual Workshop 2019 - Expect the Unexpected: Adjudicating Changed Circumstances in Commercial and Treaty Arbitration, Dallas, TX (June 2019)
- Keynote Address, “Uncanny: Investment Arbitration’s Three Tales of Trouble,” *Aria*, Volume 30, No. 30 (July 2020)

Publications

- *Written and Oral Procedures in The ICSID Convention, Regulations and Rules* (ed. J Fouret & R Gerbay), Elgar (2019)
- Uncanny: Investment Arbitration’s Three Tales of Trouble, *American Review of International Arbitration*, Volume 3, No. 3 (2019)
- Annulment and Enforcement Review of Treaty Awards: To ICSID or Not to ICSID, *ICSID Review, Foreign Investment Law Journal*, Volume 23, Issue 1 (Spring 2008)
- The Use of Investor-State Arbitration Under Bilateral Investment Treaties to Seek Relief for Breaches of WTO Law, *Journal of International Economic Law* 6(2), OUP (2003)
- *National Treatment and WTO Dispute Settlement: Adjudicating the Boundaries of Regulatory Autonomy* (Bloomsbury, 2002)