

THREE CROWNS



Georgios Petrochilos QC

Partner

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Georgios, one of the founding partners of Three Crowns, based in our Paris office, has a broad practice spanning more than two decades and covering inter-State, investment, and commercial disputes. He has represented States, international organisations, and private parties in more than 70 disputes, many of which are in the public domain, including several appearances in the International Court of Justice.

In addition to counsel work, Georgios is regularly sought out to act as co-arbitrator or presiding arbitrator and has experience administering cases heard under ICC, SCC, ICSID, UNCITRAL, and LCIA rules.

Georgios is recognised by *The Legal 500* as a “Leading Individual” for Public International Law. Client feedback in *Chambers* notes he “has superb advocacy skills”, who has “first-rate knowledge of international law”, and *Who’s Who Legal*, in which Georgios is recognised as a “Thought Leader”, says he is an “one of the most impressive orators and more knowledgeable lawyers”.

He has published extensively on international law and international arbitration, including the well-known monograph *Procedural Law in International Arbitration*, the leading commentary, *UNCITRAL Rules*.

Georgios has represented a Member State at UNCITRAL since 2007, is a visiting professor at the Universities of Bern and Fribourg in Switzerland, and is the current rapporteur of the International Law Association International Arbitration Committee.

Georgios is qualified as a barrister in England, an avocat in France, and an advocate in Greece. He holds graduate degrees, including a doctorate, from Oxford, as well as degrees from Strasbourg and Athens.

Selected Experience

Counsel

- Securing a landmark award representing DEPA (the Public Gas Corporation of Greece) against the Turkish State-entity BOTAŞ in an ICC arbitration arising out of the interpretation of a price revision formula in the parties’ long-term contract. The award resets the pricing formula in the parties’ agreement and has already led to a payment of \$220 million.
- Representing the Kingdom of Bahrain before the International Court of Justice in two parallel appeals from decisions of the International Civil Aviation Council in cases brought by Qatar against Egypt, Saudi Arabia, the UAE, and Bahrain under the Convention on International Civil Aviation and the International Air Services Transit Agreement.
- Representing a leading independent Middle Eastern oil and gas company relating to non-payments by the KRG for natural gas and associated petroleum liquids produced from the Khor Mor field in northern Iraq. We obtained a number of successful awards in the dispute, which settled on favourable terms for our client.
- Representing a defence company in a dispute against a State arising from a contract for the supply of helicopters.

- Representing a European contractor in a dispute against a West African State over the construction of a road.
- Representing a leading Spanish utilities company in a series of disputes arising from a mid-stream gas marketing joint venture.
- Representing a partially-State-owned entity against another State-entity in a dispute arising out of the interpretation of a price revision formula in the parties' contract.
- Representing a subsidiary of SNC-Lavalin and Mubadala against a State-owned utility company in charge of electricity and natural gas distribution in an African State. The dispute arises from an energy conversion agreement (natural gas to electricity) and concerns the price to be paid for electricity capacity and production under the agreement.
- Representing a refining branch of an energy company in a dispute pertaining to a refinery conversion project. The dispute arises from an agreement whereby our client contracted with the counterparty to convert our client's oil refinery.
- Representing an energy company in a dispute arising from a long-term gas contract concerning the pricing of long-term LNG supplies delivered by our client to a buyer in Europe.
- Representing a leading gaming company on a potential treaty claim and a series of commercial arbitrations against the Hellenic Republic arising out of the expropriation of its assets in the region.
- Representing Cypriot investors in a dispute, heard under UNCITRAL rules and administered by the PCA, arising from the Czech Republic's cancellation of licenses relating to our clients' investments in gaming devices.
- Representing Total against the Argentine Republic in a dispute brought under the France-Argentina BIT. The dispute arose following measures taken by the State in relation to certain domestic and international tariffs.
- Representing a Greek investor in a UNCITRAL arbitration against the Republic of Serbia in relation to the latter's expropriation of an investment in one of the largest copper mines in Europe.
- Representing the Republic of Estonia in an ICSID arbitration brought by Finnish banks concerning the debts of the Soviet-era commercial fleet.
- Representing the Republic of Romania in an ICSID arbitration brought by Swedish investors concerning the abolition of State aid on account of Romania's accession to the EU.
- Representing the Republic of South Africa in an ICSID arbitration where claimants challenged the State's mining legislation and claimed in excess of \$375m. All claims against the State were dismissed.
- Representing BG in a UNCITRAL arbitration against the Republic of Argentina arising out of the expropriation of its assets.
- Representing Marfin Investment Holdings in an ICSID arbitration against the Republic of Cyprus in proceedings arising out of measures taken by the State in the context of a financial crisis.

- Representing the Republic of Chile in the largest maritime-delimitation case to date in the International Court of Justice. It involved claims raised by Peru to maritime areas equal to the size of the territories of Belgium and Ireland combined concerning the interpretation of foundational treaties in the international law of the sea dating from the 1950s.
- Representing Barbados in a maritime-delimitation dispute with the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago before an arbitral tribunal constituted under Article 287 and Annex VII of the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea.
- Representing Belize in relation to a long-standing claim by Guatemala to Belize's entire land territory and islands and a delimitation of maritime entitlements.

Arbitrator

- Arbitrator in CAS 2020/A/7294 - Aleksander Shustov v. World Athletics (WA) & Russian Athletics Federation (RusAF).
- President in a CAS arbitration involving an athlete.
- Sole Arbitrator in a CAS arbitration involving a sports club.
- Arbitrator in a CAS arbitration regarding a contractual dispute with respect to services provided by the Claimant.
- Sole Arbitrator in a CAS arbitration relating to a contractual dispute resulting from an intermediary agreement.
- Sole Arbitrator in PCA Case 2014-25 regarding the construction of inter-State infrastructure.
- President in SCC Case 2016/083 regarding a commercial missile programme.
- President in SCC Case 2016/144 regarding the development of gas fields.
- Emergency Arbitrator in SCC Cases 2016/083 and 2014/183, brought under bilateral investment treaties, regarding the measures in respect of shareholders of a bank and re-annulment of titles to real estate holdings, respectively.
- President in ad hoc arbitration between a major European gas producer vs. a European utility.
- President in ICC Case No 21845, a claim under a BIT in respect of harm caused by war-like events and hostilities.

Admissions

- Paris (Avocat à la Cour)
- Greece (Supreme Court)
- England & Wales (RFL; Higher Courts Rights)

Languages

- English
- French
- Greek

Education

- Doctorate of Philosophy, University of Oxford (2000)

- Magister Juris, Oxford University (1996)
- Degree in Law, Athens University (1995)
- Diplôme (Maitrise) International and European Law, University of Strasbourg III (1993)

Professional Affiliations

- Rapporteur of the International Law Association International Arbitration Committee

Publications

- *International Chamber of Commerce Arbitration*, 4th ed., with W. L. Craig, W. W. Park, J. Paulsson, and E. S. Romero, Oxford University Press (Forthcoming 2021)
- *Social License and Dispute Resolution in the Extractive Industries*, edited by C. H. Kent, S. Lalani, G. Petrochilos and A. R. Ziegler, Brill (2021)
- *UNCITRAL Arbitration*, with J. Paulsson, Kluwer (2017)
- *Revision of the UNCITRAL Arbitration Rules* (Preliminary Report, March 2006; Final Report, September 2006)
- “ICSID Convention” and “ICSID Arbitration Rules,” *Concise Commentary on International Arbitration*, Loukis Mistelis ed. with S. Noury and D. Kalderimis, Kluwer (2009)
- *Procedural Law in International Arbitration*, Oxford University Press (2004)