

THREE CROWNS



Liz Snodgrass

Partner, Washington, DC

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Liz, a partner in the Washington, DC office, has more than twenty-five years of experience as an advocate and adviser in international arbitration matters. She has acted in arbitrations around the world, with notable experience of disputes arising in Africa, India, and Asia. Her practice is a mix of commercial and investment treaty arbitration, with a focus on the upstream energy, power, and mining sectors. Liz has particular expertise handling disputes involving States and State entities, including investment treaty cases, fiscal disputes under long-term contracts, and disputes that implicate both contract and treaty protections.

Liz is recognised in leading legal directories. *The Legal 500* describes her as “the real deal at the elite level of intellectual analysis and experience” who “provides excellent, timely advice, demonstrating a thorough understanding of the business”, and *Who’s Who Legal* notes that she is “a wise and hugely knowledgeable lawyer with excellent written advocacy skills”. She is also ranked in *Chambers*.

Liz is a member of the International Bar Association, the Advisory Board of the Institute for Transnational Arbitration and the North American Users’ Council of the LCIA.

Liz holds degrees from the University of Virginia and the University of Oxford. At Virginia, she was an Articles Editor for the Virginia Law Review. She clerked for the Hon. Judge J.H. Wilkinson, then Chief Judge of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit. Liz has taught courses on international arbitration and global disputes at University College London (2007-2012), American University’s Washington College of Law (2019-2023), and Georgetown University (2021-2023).

Selected Experience

- Representing a subsidiary of an Australian mining company in a dispute with a Central Asian State concerning tax and royalty demands in breach of stability guarantees in a long-term investment agreement relating to one of the world’s largest gold/copper mines.
- Representing Elliott Associates in a pending UNCITRAL arbitration against the Republic of Korea under the investment chapter of a free trade agreement, arising out of alleged governmental corruption and political interference in the activities of a State-controlled entity.
- Representing consortia of oil majors in a series of arbitrations against a West African State-entity arising out certain production sharing contracts.
- Representing the Japanese, Korean, and Taiwanese subsidiaries of a globally diversified mining company, including its Korean subsidiary, in an ICC arbitration with a US glass manufacturer. The dispute arises out a licence agreement and concerns issues of patent infringement.
- Defending an ICC arbitration brought by a counterparty to a technology licensing agreement. Governed by Delaware law, the dispute involves the development of cutting-edge mobile phone technology and a claim of unpaid royalties.

Admissions

- District of Columbia

Languages

- English

Education

- MPhil, University of Oxford (2002)
- BCL, University Oxford (2001)
- JD, University of Virginia (1997)
- BA (Foreign Affairs), University of Virginia (1994)

Professional Affiliations

- Member, Law360 2021 International Arbitration Editorial Advisory Board
- Advisory Board Member, Institute for Transnational Arbitration
- North American Users' Council of the LCIA
- International Bar Association
- ArbitralWomen

Publications and Speaking Engagements

Publications

- “Arbitration Law Over Borders Comparative Guide”, (Global Legal Post) (April 2023) (co-edited)
- Article, “Analysis of 2022 ICSID Rules and Regulations”, (LexisNexis) (May 2022)

Speaking Engagements

- Panellist, “Political Risk Vs. Regulatory Flexibility: Key Contractual Clauses and Other Protections” (ITA Conference) (February 2023)
- Co-chair, 11th ITA-IEL-ICC Joint Conference (January 2023)
- Webinar “Making arbitration work for your client: secrets of success at three key stages”, Three Crowns and The Legal 500 (May 2022)
- Webinar “Current Levels of Representation of Women in Human Rights Organs and Mechanisms: Ensuring gender parity, a discussion on the Report of the Human Rights Council Advisory Committee”, The Experts Speak Series: Addressing Human Rights in Times of Crisis Series” (July 2021)
- Webinar, “International Arbitration Skills Masterclass,” the American Bar Association International Law Section (May 2021)
- Webinar, “Well-being in the Arbitration Community, a Q&A dedicated to ‘People Management’,” MAMG Advogados and Arbitration Channel (March 2021)
- Webinar “International Arbitration, Insolvency, and Third-Party Funding: The Post-Pandemic State of Affairs,” The Center for International Legal Studies (June 2020)
- “New Forms of Resource Nationalism: Decommissioning and Other “Exit” Disputes in the Asian Oil & Gas Patch,” ITA-IEL-ICC Joint Conference on International energy Arbitration, Singapore (September 2019)
- “Breaking [Fake] News about Arbitration,” Columbia International Arbitration Association, New York, NY (October 2018)