



# CHARTING THE WAY

Diversity in Arbitration Week 2021

5<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup>  
July 2021

Aside from the COVID-19 pandemic, a turning point in 2020 was the enhanced focus on diversity issues in international arbitration. What became apparent through the discourse was that although significant strides have been taken to raise awareness of the gender, age, professional, racial, and ethnic issues inherent in international arbitration, we are still a while away as a global community from closing the diversity gap.

Join the AIAC as we delve into our second 'Diversity in Arbitration Week' from the 5<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> July 2021. Throughout the week, we will feature interviews with arbitration practitioners of varying genders, ages, professions, jurisdictions, races, and ethnicities to learn about their personal journeys in international arbitration, and to understand how their diversity impacted and influenced their careers.

The week's events will also feature a live debate on a topical aspect of diversity in international arbitration.

For more information, please contact  
[events@aiac.world](mailto:events@aiac.world) / +603 2271 1000

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 Asian International Arbitration Centre

 Asian International Arbitration Centre

## Supporting Organisations





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5<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup>  
July 2021

Diversity in Arbitration Week 2021

**MONDAY**  
**5<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2021**

## ADVENTURES OF THE CAPTAIN MARVELS OF INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATION

Female arbitrators are no longer mythical creatures in the world of international arbitration. Indeed, many female arbitration practitioners have shattered the proverbial glass and bamboo ceilings during the course of their careers. However, the path to such success would have not been smooth sailing across the board given that issues such as unconscious bias in the appointment process and the pipeline leak continue to prevail globally. Join us as we showcase the journeys of three female arbitration practitioners, in collaboration with ArbitralWomen, to address these topics alongside the need for gender diversity in international arbitration.

### INTERVIEW I

9.30 a.m.

#### INTERVIEWEE



**Dr. Affef Ben Mansour**  
Affef Ben Mansour



**Tope Adeyemi**  
33 Bedford Row



**Michelle Sunita Kummar**  
AIAC

### INTERVIEW II

11.30 a.m.



**Sitpah Selvaratnam**  
Tommy Thomas



**Cherine Foty**  
Jones Day



**Anran Zhang**  
AIAC

### INTERVIEW III

2.30 p.m.



**Jelita Pandjaitan**  
Linklaters Singapore Pte. Ltd.



**Dr. Annabelle Möckesch**  
Schellenberg Wittmer Ltd



**Nivvy Venkatraman**  
AIAC

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**TUESDAY**  
**6<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2021**

## THE WORLD IS YOUR OYSTER – A REFLECTION ON PROFESSIONAL DIVERSITY

One of the cornerstones of arbitration is the ability to appoint a subject-matter expert as opposed to a lawyer as the arbitrator of a dispute. Such theoretical flexibility, however, often does not translate into practice and where it does, the story of a non-lawyer's road to success in the field of international arbitration is unique. Join us as we showcase the journeys of four arbitration practitioners of different professional backgrounds, in collaboration with the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (CIArb) Malaysia Branch, to understand the hurdles they faced in forging their arbitration careers whilst absorbing their wisdom on the benefits of professional diversity in international arbitration.

### INTERVIEWEE

#### INTERVIEW I

9.30 a.m.



**Dr. Christopher To**  
Gilt Chambers



**Shanti Abraham**  
Shanti Abraham & Associates



**Ahmad Haniffitri**  
AIAC

#### INTERVIEW II

11.30 a.m.



**Michael Peer**  
PwC Singapore



**Crystal Wong Wai Chin**  
Lee Hishammuddin Allen  
& Gledhill



**Shazrin Shafiqi Shahizan**  
AIAC

#### INTERVIEW III

2.30 p.m.



**Capt. Milind J. Karkhanis**  
KVH



**Choon Hon Leng**  
Raja, Darryl & Loh



**Sharifah Shazuwin**  
AIAC

#### INTERVIEW IV

4.30 p.m.



**Suzanne Rattray**  
Rankin Engineering Consultants



**Ar. David Cheah Ming Yew**  
DCDA Architect



**Chelsea Pollard**  
AIAC

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WEDNESDAY  
7<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2021

## THE RISE OF THE YOUNG ARBITRATOR - A TALE OF TRIALS AND TRIUMPHS

A career in international arbitration is an attractive option for many young practitioners, most of whom have the ultimate goal of becoming successful international arbitrators. But what does it take to establish a career in the competitive field of international arbitration and secure that coveted first appointment as a young arbitrator? Join us as we showcase the journeys of four rising arbitration practitioners, in collaboration with the Rising Arbitrators Initiative, and explore these questions along with the promise of age diversity in international arbitration.

### INTERVIEWEE

#### INTERVIEW I

9.30 a.m.



Céline Greenberg  
Mayer Greenberg



Alexander Leventhal  
Quinn Emanuel Urquhart  
& Sullivan LLP



Abinash Barik  
AIAC

#### INTERVIEW II

11.30 a.m.



James Ding Tse Wen  
C.H. Tay & Partners



Baptiste Rigaudeau  
Lalive



Nur Nadhirah Syahmi  
AIAC

#### INTERVIEW III

2.30 p.m.



Dr. Ana Carolina Weber  
Eizirik Advogados



Orlando Cabrera  
Hogan Lovells



Prissilla John  
AIAC

#### INTERVIEW IV

4.30 p.m.



Seguimundo Navarro Jiménez  
Seguimundo Navarro Abogados



Rocío Digon  
White & Case



Tharshini Sivadass  
AIAC

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**THURSDAY**  
**8<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2021**  
**7.00 P.M.**

## ARE WE STILL #CHARTINGTHEWAY? – A LIVE DEBATE

The proliferation of discourse on diversity can, at times, make us wonder whether the diversity and inclusion goal in international arbitration is a fanciful ideal or a realistic and measurable target. This further begs the question: are we there yet or are we still navigating the way to achieve diversity and inclusion across the board? Join the AIAC Young Practitioners' Group (YPG) and the ICCA Cross-Institutional Taskforce on Gender Diversity as we host a live debate on the proposition:

*This House believes that the international arbitration community is still #ChartingtheWay to achieve diversity and that more collective efforts are required in the years to come to achieve these goals.*

### AFFIRMATIVE TEAM



**Jennifer Ivers**  
White & Case LLP



**Lilien Wong**  
Shearn Delamore & Co.

### MODERATOR



**Louise Barrington**  
Independent Arbitrator  
and Mediator

### NEGATIVE TEAM



**Ashley Jones**  
Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer



**Daniel Chua**  
Herbert Smith Freehills LLP



#letsgetREAL!  
**REAL**  
Racial Equality for  
Arbitration Lawyers

# CHARTING THE WAY

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FRIDAY

9<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2021

## TACKLING INTERSECTIONALITY AND BEYOND - #LETSGETREAL!

The dynamic nature of a career in international arbitration necessitates the intersection of individuals of various races, cultures and legal traditions, who may also have divergent language skills, given the cross-border nature of many disputes. Despite this dynamism, it has often been observed that those from under-represented backgrounds face distinct hurdles in shaping their arbitration careers, both within their home jurisdictions as well as when they seek to establish themselves in a jurisdiction outside their home ground. Join us as we showcase the journeys of three arbitration practitioners of different racial and cultural backgrounds, in collaboration with Racial Equality for Arbitration Lawyers (REAL), as they share insights on how they shaped their careers and discuss issues of intersectionality and racial and cultural diversity in international arbitration.

### INTERVIEW I

9.30 a.m.

### INTERVIEWEE



**Christopher Campbell**  
Baker Hughes



**Rekha Rangachari, Esq.**  
New York International  
Arbitration Centre



**Diana Rahman**  
AIAC

### INTERVIEW II

11.30 a.m.



**Earl J. Rivera-Dolera**  
Fraser's Law Company



**Dr. Crina Baltag**  
Stockholm University



**Teoh Shu Ling**  
AIAC

### INTERVIEW III

2.30 p.m.



**Sara Koleilat-Aranjo**  
Al Tamimi & Company



**Dr. Kabir Duggal**  
Arnold & Porter



**Irene Mira**  
AIAC

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