

AGENDA

(All times below are displayed in local time)

9 October 2024

09:00-09:30

Welcome coffee and registration

09:30-09:40

Co-chairs' opening remarks

Carmen Martinez Lopez, partner, Three Crowns

Philippe Pinsolle, head of international arbitration for continental Europe, Quinn

Emanuel Urquhart & Sullivan

Eduardo Silva Romero, founding partner, Wordstone Dispute Resolution

09:40-10:10

Fireside chat

10:10-11:10

Some aspects of civil law's contribution to international arbitration

By its nature, international arbitration has had to embrace elements of both common and civil law systems, with aspects of both converging into practice over time. But has too much of the civil law input been forgotten? This session will bring together leading practitioners to discuss the often-overlooked civil law techniques that have been incorporated into arbitration practice, and what more can be learned.

Panellists are expected to discuss:

- Methodology and theory: civil law input on structuring a claim
- Pleadings: the art of the civil law oral argument
- Statement of claim: telling the story of your dispute from the start

11:10-11:40

Coffee break kindly sponsored by HKA

11:40-12:40

Good faith: the elephant in the room

While traditionally associated with civil law jurisdictions, good faith is not entirely foreign to common law systems. This session will explore the nuanced role of good faith in both contexts. Our panel will delve into how these legal traditions approach good faith, its impact on contractual relationships, and the potential for convergence or divergence between civil law and common law perspectives.

12:40-14:00

Networking lunch

14:00-15:00

GAR Live Symposium

Our espresso version of Tylney Hall. Delegates will submit questions in advance on topical themes and will then be invited to present their question on the day, whereupon the expert moderators and members of the audience are invited to respond.

15:00-15:30

Coffee break kindly sponsored by HKA

15:30-16:30

Diverging approaches to disclosures and conflict of interest

Are issues of conflict of interest being treated differently across common and civil law systems, and even among civil law systems? Take for example, the difference between France and Switzerland's approach. With arbitrator conflicts increasingly in the spotlight, and an ever-growing soft law toolkit to refer to, this session will bring together leading practitioners to discuss divergences between common and civil law practices.

Panellists are expected to discuss:

- Are civil law courts tougher? Their approach to disclosure, arbitrator behaviour etc.

16:30-17:30

GAR Live Horizons: A spotlight on Saudi Arabia

For our last session of the day, we spotlight leading practitioners from a particular region and ask them to share their experiences and challenges. This year, GAR is pleased to welcome practitioners from across the Middle East to share their views on topics discussing the impact and challenges arising out of the region.

17:30-17:35

Co-chairs' round-up of day one

17:35-19:35

All delegates are invited to a networking drinks reception kindly hosted by Greenberg Traurig

10 October 2024

09:00-09:30

Welcome coffee and registration

09:30-09:35

Co-chairs' opening remarks

09:35-10:35

Does civil law have the key to cutting costs?

Skyrocketing costs have emerged again as the topic du jour for arbitration, with little being offered to solve the issue. This session will examine whether any existing measures in the civil law toolkit could be utilised to cut costs in international arbitration.

10:35-11:00

Coffee break kindly sponsored by HKA

11:00-12:00

The GAR Live Debate

In Oxford Union style, we will hear teams of debaters argue in favour of, or against, a motion. A panel of judges will then voice opinions on what has been heard, before choosing which side to support and giving reasons for their decisions.

Motion: This house believes that the real distinction is not common law/civil law, but between true arbitration specialists and passers-by.

12:00-12:10

Co-chairs' closing remarks

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In-house counsel and government representatives are welcome on a complimentary basis.