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OLGA BOLTENKO FCIArb

Admissions

2025	Fellow, Chartered Institute of Arbitrators
2024	Barrister, Hong Kong
2022	Registered foreign lawyer, Singapore International Commercial Court
2020	Solicitor, Hong Kong
2009	Advocate, the Russian Federation

Academic

2006	Master of Laws, Paris-1 Pantheon-Sorbonne
2005	Bachelor and specialist of Public International Law, Moscow State Institute (University) of International Relations

Rankings

"Olga is one of the most resilient lawyers I know - she's hardworking, intellectually curious and a pleasure to deal with"

"She has a very deep knowledge of investment treaty arbitration, a very rare and valuable skillset"

"Olga is always meticulously prepared"

- Lexology, 2026

Practice profile

Ms. Boltenko is a barrister, arbitrator, and mediator with over a decade of experience in cross-border dispute resolution and international arbitration. Most recently with Fangda Partners in Hong Kong, Ms. Boltenko has also practised with leading arbitration teams in Paris and Singapore.

With a particular focus on public international law, investor-State dispute resolution, and commercial arbitration, Ms Boltenko has acted as legal counsel in investor-State disputes under the auspices of the Permanent Court of Arbitration, the ICSID, the SCC, the ICC, the LCIA, and in various capacities in dozens of commercial disputes in a wide array of industries including oil and gas, mining, infrastructure, construction, telecommunications and pharmaceuticals, across Asia and beyond.

Ms. Boltenko teaches a master of laws degree in arbitration and ADR with a focus on Belt & Road investment law at The University of Hong Kong, where she is a deputy executive director. She is also a professor of law at the Royal University of Law and Economics in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, where she teaches a course in investment law at the dual degree program with the Free University of Brussels.

Ms. Boltenko has been consistently recognized in legal rankings, including by Who's Who Legal, where she has been ranked over the years as a National Leader for Hong Kong and a Thought Leader Global Elite - Under 45. She is described as a "highly motivated and hard-working practitioner who stands out as an excellent choice for investor-state disputes".

Arbitrator panel memberships

Ms Boltenko is a board member of the Russian Arbitration Center at the Russian Institute of Modern Arbitration. She is empanelled with major global and regional arbitral institutions:

- Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre (HKIAC)
- Singapore International Arbitration Centre (SIAC)
- Australian Centre for International Commercial Arbitration (ACICA)
- Asia International Arbitration Centre (AIAC)
- China International Economic and Trade Arbitration Commission (CIETAC)
- Arbitration Foundation of Southern Africa (AFSA)
- Xi'An Arbitration Commission (XAAC)
- Russian Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs (RSPP)
- Shenzhen Court of International Arbitration (SCIA)
- Tashkent International Arbitration Center (TIAC)
- Thai Arbitration Institute (TAI)
- Thailand Arbitration Center (THAC)
- British Virgin Islands International Arbitration Centre (BVIAC)
- Beihai Asia International Arbitration Centre (BAIAC)
- Brunei Darussalam Arbitration Centre (BDAC)
- Korean Commercial Arbitration Board (KCAB)
- South China International Arbitration Center HK (SCIAHK)
- Dubai International Arbitration Centre (DIAC)
- Hong Kong Bar Association Arbitrator List

Arbitrator work

- Sole arbitrator in an emergency arbitration under the KCAB rules arising out of a manufacturing and distribution agreement governed by Korean law with a seat in Seoul
- Co-arbitrator in a high stakes SIAC arbitration arising out of a set of Russian law governed contracts for manufacturing and supply of vessels
- Sole arbitrator in an SIAC dispute arising out of a contentious construction project in Mongolia, governed by Mongolian law with a seat in Singapore (emergency)
- Sole arbitrator in a construction dispute governed by Mongolian law over a construction project located in Ulaanbaatar, conducted under the 2024 HKIAC Administered Arbitration Rules (expedited procedure)
- Sole arbitrator in a Hong Kong-seated HKIAC arbitration arising out of a services agreement with respect to ERP processes between a Singaporean and a Vietnamese party
- Sole arbitrator in an HKIAC arbitration with a seat in Hong Kong arising out of a set of promissory notes governed by Hong Kong law

- Presiding arbitrator in an HKIAC arbitration with a seat in Hong Kong arising out of a set of oil logging agreements
- Co-arbitrator in an SCC arbitration with a seat in Stockholm arising out of a set of licensing agreements for manufacturing and distribution of beverages, governed by Danish law
- Co-arbitrator in a high stakes ICC dispute arising out of a supply transaction between Eastern European and Germany entities with respect to a seaport
- Presiding arbitrator in a dispute between a Chinese and a Central Asian entity arising out of a freight forwarding contract, with a seat in Tashkent, Uzbekistan, administered by the International Commercial Court at the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of the Republic of Uzbekistan
- Re-appointment: sole arbitrator in a construction dispute arising out of a residential premises construction project in Mongolia, conducted under the arbitration rules of the Mongolian International Arbitration Centre
- Sole arbitrator in a construction dispute between a Russian sub-contractor and an Italian contractor, seated in Moscow and conducted under the Arbitration Rules of the Russian Arbitration Centre at the Russian Institute of Modern Arbitration
- Sole arbitrator in an ICC dispute arising out of a set of supply arrangements between a South Korean manufacturer and a Brazilian supplier, under Hong Kong law with a legal seat in Hong Kong
- Sole arbitrator in a construction dispute under the Mongolian Arbitration Centre Rules arising out of a construction project in Ulaan Batar, under Mongolian law with a legal seat in Ulaan Batar
- Sole arbitrator in an ad hoc arbitration arising out of a set of supply arrangements between a French party and a Malaysian party, with a seat in Kuala Lumpur
- Co-arbitrator in a CIETAC dispute arising out of a set of manufacturing-related arrangements between a Russian party and a Belorussian party, under PRC law with a legal seat in Beijing
- Sole arbitrator in a Russian Arbitration Centre dispute arising under a set of supply arrangements between two Russian parties, under Russian law with a legal seat in Moscow

Counsel and registrar work

- Representing a Dubai-based investment company in an HKIAC arbitration against an Indonesian trader in a dispute arising out of a set of assignment and repayment agreements governed by Hong Kong law
- Representing a PRC company in an UNCITRAL arbitration arising out of a set of bitmining-related agreements under Kazakhstan and PRC law with a seat in Hong Kong
- Advising a global video games manufacturer on licensing arrangements and on a potential dispute arising therefrom
- Advising a US investor in a dispute involving enforcement of a commercial arbitral award via treaty arbitration, in Southeast Asia
- Advising a group of companies (Singapore, Hong Kong, and PRC) on Singapore-seated complex multi-party arbitration under the SIAC rules with respect to manufacturing and distribution of certain retail goods in the PRC
- Advising a Chinese manufacturer on a multi-million USD distribution dispute under SIAC Rules with a seat in Singapore
- Advising an Eastern European shipbuilder on a contentious situation arising out of a blocked vessel in the PRC
- Advising an Italian contractor in a large-scale infrastructure dispute in South Asia

- Representing a major international agricultural business in a large-scale funds recovery effort in Hong Kong
- Advising an Eastern European client on regulatory matters relating to trading gold in Hong Kong
- Representing a party in a contentious situation involving blocked credit limits with respect to an agricultural trade transaction
- Acting for a buyer in a potentially contentious acquisition of a substantial stock in a Hong Kong listed company
- Advising an Eastern European bank on acquisition of a stake in a Hong Kong listed company
- Advising Russian shareholders of a Hong Kong incorporated holding company on a shareholders' dispute in Hong Kong with accompanying winding-up proceedings
- Advising a Paraguayan entity in recovering amounts defrauded from the company in a large-scale email scam
- Advising a Chinese shareholder in a shareholders' dispute relating to a JV in Hong Kong with main assets in the mainland China
- Advising a Chinese shareholder in a shareholders' dispute relating to an acquisition of a technology business in Europe
- Representing a Chinese State-owned enterprise in investor-State negotiations of a dispute arising out of a large-scale nationalisation of an infrastructure investment project in Africa
- Representing a European investor against a sovereign State in set aside proceedings before Hong Kong courts with respect to a Hong Kong-seated treaty arbitration
- Representing a Russian individual in a dispute over bitminers and other cryptocurrency equipment in Hong Kong
- Representing Armenia against a US national in an ICSID dispute under the US-Armenia BIT arising out of Armenia's alleged breach of the BIT's full protection and security standard
- Representing AFK Sistema an ICSID arbitration against Turkmenistan arising out of Turkmenistan cancellation of mobile telecommunication licences
- Representing Ukraine in ICSID Case ARB/06/18 *Joseph Charles Lemire v Ukraine*
- Representing Ukraine in ICSID Case ARB/09/11 *Global Trading Resources Corp. and Globex International, Inc. v Ukraine*
- Representing a Ukrainian state agency in a dispute under the PCA Environmental Rules over the implementation of the Kyoto Protocol in Ukraine
- Acting as a PCA legal counsel in a set of ECT arbitrations against the Russian Federation over the expropriation of the Yukos Oil Company
- Advising a major Russian bank on strategic issues of a large-scale transnational debt recovery effort
- Representing a Japanese vehicle manufacturing company in a Brussels based ICC arbitration in a dispute arising out of a FIDIC construction contract
- Representing a French construction company in a Stockholm based ICC arbitration in a dispute over a FIDIC construction contract
- Representing a French Michelin star restaurant group in an IP dispute against a Hong Kong entity over multiple breaches of a licensing agreement

Expert witness work

- Issued a legal opinion on the operation of deeds of release of claims under Hong Kong law
- Acted as amicus curiae with respect to access to justice in Hong Kong before the Constitutional Court of the Russian Federation
- Issued a legal opinion with respect to compliance of a complex supply contract with laws and regulations of Hong Kong SAR
- Issued a legal opinion under Hong Kong law on the impact of sanctions imposed by various jurisdictions on contract performance
- Appeared as a Russian law expert witness in set aside proceedings in the Federal Courts of Australia

Publications

- "Hong Kong's foray into sanctions: how contracts are frustrated and what the Hong Kong judiciary thinks about it", Hong Kong Lawyer, March 2025
- "The power of dissent: Hong Kong and Singapore split", Hong Kong Lawyer, October 2024
- "Shareholders' Panacea: Overcoming Reflective Loss Through Treaty Arbitration", Hong Kong Lawyer, January 2023; Olga Boltenko, Prakritee Yonzon, Anna Kozyrieva
- "Balancing the Protection of Foreign Investors and States' Responses in the (Post) Pandemic World: An Introduction", Balancing the Protection of Foreign Investors and States Responses in the Post-Pandemic World, ed. by Y. Levashova, P. Accaoui Lorfing, 2022, Olga Boltenko
- "Umbrella revolution: The umbrella revolution: State Contracts and umbrella clauses in contemporary investment law", Handbook of International Investment Law and Policy, ed. by J. Chaisse, L. Choukroune, S. Jusoh, 2020; Olga Boltenko
- "Setting Aside Jurisdictional Findings by Tribunals and the Ad Hoc Admission of Counsel in Singapore and Hong Kong", Asian Dispute Review, April 2020; Olga Boltenko, Howard Chan, Ziwei Wong
- "Coup d'etat and failed States: investment in crisis", Hong Kong Lawyer, January 2020; Olga Boltenko, Reza Mohtashami QC
- "The Rise of the RCEP: Regional Multilateralism and its impact on the EU-China BIT", Sixty Years of European Integration and Global Power Shifts, ed. by J. Chaisse, February 2020; Olga Boltenko
- "Arbitration in Russia: Investment Law – Inception and Evolution", International Arbitration: Issues, Perspectives and Practice, Liber Amicorum Neil Kaplan, January 2019; Olga Boltenko
- "Court Binds Third Party to Arbitration Agreement", Hong Kong Lawyer, April 2019; Olga Boltenko, Peter Yuen, Matthew Townsend
- "Hong Kong and Mainland China agree upon Bilateral Arrangement Regarding Interim Measures for Arbitration", Kluwer Arbitration Blog, April 2019; Olga Boltenko, Peter Yuen, Helen Shi, Damien McDonald, Matthew Townsend
- "Investment Protection in China's SEZs: Lee Jong Baek Case Study", International Economic Law and the Challenges of the Free Zones, ed. by J. Chaisse and Jiaxiang Hu, 2019; Olga Boltenko
- "Investment Protection in China's Special Economic Zones: Lee Jong Baek Case Study", Hong Kong Lawyer, January 2019; Olga Boltenko
- "The Protection of Foreign Investment in Mongolia: A Bumpy Ride for Overseas Mining Investors?", Asian Dispute Review, 2019; Olga Boltenko

- "China's Rising Trade Multilateralism: Hong Kong to shield China's Greater Bay Area", Hong Kong Lawyer, August 2018; Olga Boltenko
- "Hong Kong's Role in Contemporary Treaty-Making Practice, Treaty-based Environmental Carve-outs", Hong Kong Lawyer, June 2018; Olga Boltenko
- "The Rise of the RCEP: Regional Multilateralism and its Impact on the EU-China BIT", March 2018; Olga Boltenko
- "Political Risk Insurance on the Rise along the Belt & Road: A viable alternative to investment arbitration?", Hong Kong Lawyer, October 2017; Olga Boltenko
- "Political Risk Insurance along Belt & Road", Asian Dispute Review, December 2017; Olga Boltenko
- "A Russian roulette: the future of Russian investment law", Offshore Investment, October 2017; Olga Boltenko
- "Resolving Disputes Along the Belt and Road: Are the Battle Lines Drawn?" Asian Dispute Review, November 2017; Olga Boltenko
- "Risky business: political risk insurance in the OBOR jurisdictions – Report on the 4th CMS-HKIAC Investment Law Lecture", Kluwer Arbitration Blog, July 2017; Olga Boltenko, Nanxi Ding
- "PCA Award Trapped in the Confines of the Singapore State Immunity Act", Kluwer Arbitration Blog, May 2017; Olga Boltenko, Nanxi Ding, Lakshanthi Fernando
- "'Mercantile Adventurers' Making Their Way to Hong Kong and Singapore: A Blessing or a Curse?" Hong Kong Lawyer, September 2016; Olga Boltenko, Sam Luttrell
- "Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement (TPP): Final text released", November 2015, Client Briefing
- "The TPP of the Iceberg - TPP Signals New Approach to Trade Liberalisation", October 2015, Client Briefing
- "Worldwide Mareva injunctions in Singapore: Issues to consider following Bouvier v Accent Delight", October 2015, Client Briefing
- "Prakash J of the Singapore High Court decides the arbitration 'chicken and egg' dilemma", Kluwer Arbitration Blog, September 2015; Olga Boltenko, Priscilla Lua
- "Enforcement of Treaty Awards against Russia in Asia: A safe Haven for Russian Assets?", Kluwer Arbitration Blog, September 2015; Olga Boltenko, Kabir Singh
- "A secret tool for winning an arbitration case", Asian Dispute Review, July 2015; Olga Boltenko, Neil Kaplan CBE QC SBS
- "The Rise of Russia's Far East is Likely to Prompt Changes in Arbitration Geography", Kluwer Arbitration Blog, July 2015; Olga Boltenko
- "Cambodia's Arbitration Centre sets off on its First Flight", Kluwer Arbitration Blog, June 2015; Olga Boltenko
- "Arbitrating with Russia – ways to minimize sanctions-related risks", Corporate Disputes, April 2015; Olga Boltenko, Karen Tan
- "The dangers of neglect: governing law of arbitration agreements", Chartered Institute of Arbitrators Liber Amicorum; Olga Boltenko, Neil Kaplan CBE QC SBS
- "Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards in Russia and China", Asian Dispute Review, January 2015; Olga Boltenko
- "Hong Kong: Lord Hoffmann's rule of law musings", Global Arbitration Review, December 2014; Olga Boltenko

- "Hong Kong emerges as Russia's Refuge while the EU Sanction Cripple Major Russian Businesses", Kluwer Arbitration Blog, November 2014; Olga Boltenko
- "Hong Kong – 'Trouver le pot aux roses'", Asian Dispute Review, October 2014; Olga Boltenko, Yves Fortier
- "Stop ignoring the Elephant in the Room!", Kluwer Arbitration Blog, June 2014; Olga Boltenko
- "The Permanent Court of Arbitration: Procedural Rules and the Importance of Early Procedural Agreement", Asian Dispute Review, April 2013; Olga Boltenko