



Maria Chedid

Partner

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Areas of Focus

- International Arbitration
- Commercial Arbitration
- Investor-State Arbitration

Education

- JD, New York University School of Law, Editor, *Journal of International Law and Politics*
- BA, Barnard College, *with distinction in Philosophy*
- Fellow, New York University School of Law, Center for International Studies

Admissions

- California
- New York

A globally recognized international arbitration practitioner, Maria Chedid regularly serves as lead counsel in both commercial and investment arbitrations, and has extensive experience with arbitrations administered by all major arbitral institutions including the ICC, ICDR, SIAC, LCIA, ICSID, DIAC, CPR, JAMS, AAA, UNCC, and the Iran-United States Claims Tribunal. Ms. Chedid also handles arbitral award enforcement proceedings in the courts, and regularly sits as an arbitrator.

Ms. Chedid brings a wealth of arbitration experience involving diverse subject matter and expansive geographical reach, having worked on disputes around the globe relating to foreign investment, licensing, distribution, taxation, technology, intellectual property, energy, cryptocurrency, construction, infrastructure, government contracts, political risk insurance, administrative law, environmental regulation, joint ventures, pharmaceutical products, biotech, biometrics, shipping, real estate, internet domain names, and claims of corruption.

Ms. Chedid has twice been a recipient of California's Top Women Lawyers of the Year award in recognition of her exemplary advocacy on behalf of clients as well as her trailblazing work in international arbitration, and consistently has been named to the Silicon Valley Arbitration & Mediation Center's "*Tech List*" of the World's Leading Technology Arbitrators.

Ms. Chedid also has been recognized for her arbitration expertise in *Chambers USA*, *Chambers Global*, *The Legal 500 US*, *Who's Who Legal*, *Super Lawyers*, *Lawdragon 500 Global*, and *Euromoney's Guide to the World's Leading Experts*. In these and other publications, clients "commend her handling of complex disputes," "praise her 'highly effective advocacy,'" and "describe her client relationship skills as 'outstanding,'" while peers note that she is "superbly prepared," "exceptionally talented," "relentless," "very thorough," "expert in damages issues," and "largely unflappable." In addition, Ms. Chedid is "particularly noted for her capabilities in IP disputes," her "expertise in Middle Eastern disputes," and "matters involving Asian and Latin American parties." She is highly regarded as "an excellent lawyer and a pleasure to work with."

Ms. Chedid is one of two US counsel appointed as members of the International Court of Arbitration of the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC). She also is co-chair of the AAA/ICDR Global Working Group on Technology and Life Sciences Arbitration, co-chair of the AAA/ICDR California Advisory Committee, a US member of the National Committee for the Singapore International Arbitration Centre (SIAC) Users Council, an Officer of the London Court of International Arbitration (LCIA) North American Users' Council, and the founding president and co-chair of the Board of Directors of the California International Arbitration Council (CIAC).

Ms. Chedid is a regular speaker on international dispute resolution and advocacy at conferences worldwide and has guest-lectured at numerous law schools, including Stanford Law School, UC Berkeley School of Law, Columbia Law School and the Straus Institute for Dispute Resolution at Pepperdine Law School, where she has taught as an adjunct professor. Ms. Chedid is originally from Lebanon and is a native Arabic speaker.

Representative Arbitration Experience

- Contract and technology licensing dispute between German engineering and equipment manufacturer and California solar panel producer (ICC)
- Contract dispute between Peruvian construction company and Peruvian Ethanol Plant (ICC)
- Multi-billion dollar regulatory and tax dispute between Republic of Korea and US private equity firm (ICSID)
- Dispute between Japanese company and US company arising out of a buy-sell agreement (ICDR)
- Dispute between Bermuda political risk insurer and insured investor arising from power plant project in the Republic of Colombia (ICDR)
- Contract and IP dispute between Korean ATM manufacturer and California distributor (ICDR)
- Contract and technology licensing dispute between Korean and US energy companies (ICC)
- Multi-billion dollar investor-state dispute between Turkish electricity powership company and Government of Pakistan (ICSID)
- Contract dispute between Executor of Saipan Estate and Chinese investor (ICC)
- Shareholder dispute between Executor of Saipan Estate and international courier company (ICC)
- US company in dispute with Georgian parties arising from medical device distribution agreement (ICC)
- US company in dispute with Ecuadorian parties arising from medical device distribution agreement (ICC)

- Contract dispute between US construction company and the Islamic Republic of Iran (IUSCT)
- Internet domain name dispute between Ireland-based company and ICANN (ICDR)
- Distribution contract dispute between US company and Korean distributor (ICDR)
- Licensing and IP ownership dispute between US biometrics company and affiliated Korean company (ICDR)
- Licensing and patent dispute between European manufacturer and US chip maker (ICDR)
- Tax and environmental dispute between US party and Eastern European government (ICSID)
- Investment dispute involving US shareholder and Mauritian and Indian companies (LCIA)
- Contract dispute between Gibraltar, Singapore, Seychelles, and Cayman entities relating to IT security services agreement (SIAC)
- Dispute between a Bermuda political risk insurer and an insured investor relating to investment in the Argentine Republic (LCIA)
- Biotech/patent dispute between US and Austrian joint venture partners (CPR)
- Franchise and trademark dispute between US and Kuwaiti parties (ICDR)
- Contract dispute between U.S. and U.K. founders of an investment management fund (ICDR)
- Contract dispute between French IT services corporation and US software development company (JAMS)
- Cross-licensing and patent infringement dispute between Chinese manufacturer and US furniture company (AAA)
- Real estate syndication and fraud dispute between Hong Kong investor and California company (AAA)
- Enforcement proceedings of Russian claimant seeking to enforce \$93 million arbitration award against assets in California (LCIA)
- Post-arbitration award proceedings involving Mexican and Korean companies in relation to a dealer agreement (AAA)
- Dispute between US and Yemeni companies in relation to a distribution contract (UNCITRAL/DIFC-LCIA)
- Contract dispute between Executor of Saipan Estate and Saudi Arabian investor (ICC)
- Contract and IP dispute between Canadian manufacturer of environmental water treatment systems and US waste disposal company (ICC)
- Contract dispute between U.K. digital music solutions company and U.S. wireless communications provider for breach of an API License Agreement (ICC)

- Dispute between the Arab Republic of Egypt and the Republic of Iraq regarding the claims of Egyptian workers for unpaid wages (UNCC)
- Proceedings to enforce USD 800 million investment arbitration award in the national courts of multiple jurisdictions

Rankings

- *Chambers Global*
International Arbitration (2016-2021)
- *Chambers USA*
International Arbitration (2010-2011, 2015-2020)
- *The Legal 500 US*
International Arbitration (2015, 2017-2020)
- *Who's Who Legal - Arbitration*
- *Lawdragon 500 Global*
- *Northern California Super Lawyers*
Top Rated International Lawyer (2016-2021)
- *Daily Journal*
California's Top Women Lawyers of the Year (2014, 2019)
- *Silicon Valley Arbitration & Mediation Center*
World's Leading Technology Neutrals "The Tech List" (2015-2021)
- *Euromoney's* Expert Guides
Commercial Arbitration (2015-2021)

Client and Peer Recognition

- "Maria Chedid has a respected practice spanning both commercial and investment treaty arbitrations. 'Maria provided excellent strategic advice, kept us well informed, was highly responsive, and was extremely adept at reaching the best result for the client's business. She was able to provide sound, strategic advice with calmness even in a highly stressful situation,' reports one interviewee." (Chambers USA 2020)
- "Sources emphasize the quality of her written and oral presentation, with one peer remarking that she is 'superbly prepared and relentless.'" (Chambers USA/Chambers Global Guide 2015)
- "She appears as lead counsel in an impressive range of commercial and investor-state proceedings." (Chambers USA 2016)
- "Maria Chedid has particular expertise in Middle Eastern disputes, in addition to handling matters involving Asian and Latin American parties." (Chambers USA/Chambers Global Guide 2015)
- "Maria Chedid attracts praise for her expert advocacy in arbitrations: 'She was very impressive during hearings - her choice of words was perfect and she was very convincing.'" (Chambers USA/Chambers Global Guide 2016)

- “Maria Chedid wins praise from clients who describe her as “very knowledgeable” and “very thorough and always on top of matters.” She regularly appears as counsel in commercial and investment treaty arbitrations, spanning a wide variety of sectors in her expert practice.” (Chambers USA/Chambers Global Guide 2019)
- “Chedid is well-versed in international arbitration, very thorough and largely unflappable.” (Law360 2016)
- “She has developed deep expertise in damages issues - which is not every practitioner’s favorite subject, but a key component of most international arbitration cases.” (Law360 2016)
- “Maria Chedid regularly serves as counsel in commercial and investment treaty arbitration proceedings. Clients praise her as ‘an excellent lawyer and a pleasure to work with,’ drawing particular attention to her ‘ability to grasp the issues’ and her ability to ‘present the case in an eloquent way.’” (Chambers USA/Chambers Global Guide 2018)
- “Interviewees commend her handling of complex disputes and describe her client relationship skills as ‘outstanding.’” (Chambers USA/Chambers Global Guide 2017)
- “Maria Chedid . . . is praised for her ‘highly effective advocacy and dedication to the needs of the client.’ She is particularly noted for her capabilities in IP disputes.” (Chambers USA 2010)
- Her practice “includ[es] a notable focus on disputes involving Asian parties and technological concerns.” (Chambers USA 2017)
- “Maria is an exceptionally capable attorney.” (GAR 2015)

Professional and Community Activities

- United States Representative, ICC Court of International Arbitration (appointed for 2018-2021 term)
- “Tech List” Appointee, “World’s Leading Technology Neutrals Panel,” Silicon Valley Arbitration & Mediation Center (2015-2021)
- Co-Chair, ICDR Global Working Group on Technology and Life Sciences Arbitration
- Founding President and Co-Chair of the Board of Directors, California International Arbitration Council (CIAC)
- Co-Chair, ICDR California Advisory Committee
- Council Officer, London Court of International Arbitration (LCIA) North American Users’ Council
- National Committee Member, SIAC Users Council Committee for the United States
- Member, California Supreme Court Working Group, Foreign Attorney Practice in International Arbitration (2017)

- Advisory Board Member, American Review of International Arbitration (ARIA) (2019-2024)
- Member, International Council for Commercial Arbitration (ICCA)
- Advisory Board Member, USC Gould School of Law ADR Program
- Advisory Board Member, Institute for Transnational Arbitration
- Member, Fellowship Program, Chartered Institute of Arbitrators
- President, Northern California International Arbitration Club (2014-2017)
- Executive Committee Member, California State Bar International Law Section (2014-2016)
- Member, American Bar Association, Section of International Law
- Adjunct Professor, Straus Institute for Dispute Resolution, Pepperdine Law School (2015)

Select Speaking Engagements and Publications

- Arbitration of International IP Disputes, *Chapter I and III*, Juris Publishing (forthcoming in 2021)
- International Arbitration (USA) 2020, *Chambers Global Practice Guide* (August 19, 2020)
- Contemporary Views on Virtual Arbitration Hearings, SIAC (July 1, 2020)
- ICC Arbitration of Climate Change Related Disputes, American Bar Association, International Law Section (June 22, 2020)
- The Restatement of US Law on International Arbitration, *Moderator, Pepperdine Law School*, Malibu, CA (February 28, 2020)
- Hot Topics in International Arbitration, *Conference Co-Chair and Moderator, ICDR California International Arbitration Summit*, San Francisco, CA (December 10, 2020)
- International Arbitration in California, *Royal Courts of Justice*, London, England (October 2, 2019)
- Confidentiality in Commercial Arbitration, *Presentation Judge, GAR Live Singapore* (August 26, 2019)
- International Arbitration (USA) 2019, *Chambers Global Practice Guide* (August 19, 2019)
- Denial of Justice and Effective Means, *Columbia Center on Sustainable Investment*, New York, NY (June 21, 2019)
- Arbitrability in International Arbitration, *Columbia Law School Executive LLM*, New York, NY (June 20, 2019)
- Non Signatories in International Arbitration, *Columbia Law School Executive LLM*, New York, NY (June 20, 2019)

- Relationship Between Contract Claims and Treaty Claims, *Executive Training on Investment Treaties and Arbitration for Government Officials*, Columbia Center on Sustainable Investment, New York, NY (June 19, 2019)
- The Umbrella Clause: Elements, Defenses and New Developments, *Executive Training on Investment Treaties and Arbitration for Government Officials*, Columbia Center on Sustainable Investment, New York, NY (June 19, 2019)
- Key Strategies for International Technology Disputes, *Moderator, ACC/ICDR/SVAMC Technology Dispute Resolution Conference*, New York, NY (November 14, 2018)
- The Challenge of Achieving Diversity in International Arbitration, *New York International Arbitration Center and Chartered Institute of Arbitrators' Young Members Group*, New York, NY (November 12, 2018)
- Executive Training on International Investment Arbitration, *Speaker, Saudi Arabian General Investment Authority (SAGIA), Riyadh, Saudi Arabia* (August 5, 2018)
- Relationship between Contract Claims and Treaty Claims, *Speaker, Executive Training on Investment Treaties and Arbitration for Government Officials*, Columbia Center on Sustainable Investment, New York, NY (August 1, 2018)
- The Umbrella Clause: Elements, Defenses and New Developments, *Speaker, Executive Training on Investment Treaties and Arbitration for Government Officials*, Columbia Center on Sustainable Investment, New York, NY (August 1, 2018)
- GAR Live Inquisition, *Speaker, 4th Annual GAR Live BITs*, Washington, DC (May 16, 2018)
- Report – State of Arbitration in CA, *Speaker, ICC West Coast Conference on International Arbitration*, San Francisco, CA (May 1, 2018)
- State-to-State Arbitration, *Speaker, Harvard Law School*, Cambridge, MA (April 1, 2018)
- International Arbitration of IP Disputes, *Chapter, International Arbitration in the United States*, Kluwer Law International (January 18, 2018)
- Advocacy in International Arbitration, *Speaker, UC Berkeley School of Law*, Berkeley, CA (August 1, 2017)
- Efficiency and Due Process in International Arbitration, *Speaker, Institute for Conflict Prevention and Resolution (CPR) Annual Meeting*, Miami, FL (March 1, 2017)
- International ADR, *Speaker, Global Pound Conference*, San Francisco, CA (February 1, 2017)
- Enforcement of Arbitration Awards in the US, *Dubai International Arbitration Centre*, Dubai, UAE (November 1, 2016)

- Investment Arbitration: An Advocate's Perspective, *Speaker, Columbia Law School Speaker Series, New York, NY* (September 1, 2016)
- A Conversation with Iran-US Claims Tribunal Judge David Caron, *Moderator, Northern California International Arbitration Club, San Francisco, CA* (July 1, 2016)
- Dispute Resolution Clauses I: Whether to Choose Arbitration, *International Arbitration Checklists - Third Edition* (June 1, 2016)
- Crossroads in International Arbitration: Discovery, Developments, and Decision Making, *Keynote Interviewer, ICC West Coast Conference* (May 1, 2016)
- Is Investor-State Arbitration Here to Stay?, *Speaker, Stanford Law School International Arbitration Symposium, Stanford, CA* (April 1, 2016)
- Global Attorney-Client Privilege, *Moderator, Association of Corporate Counsel (ACC), Palo Alto, CA* (January 1, 2016)
- Choosing Litigation or Arbitration, *Chapter, International Arbitration Checklists, Third Edition* (January 1, 2016)
- The Role of Arbitration in Political Settlement, *Moderator, Northern California International Arbitration Club, San Francisco, CA* (December 1, 2015)
- Tech Arbitrations/Courtroom Battles: A View From The Bench, *Speaker, Association of Corporate Counsel (ACC) Conference, Santa Clara, CA* (November 1, 2015)
- The Practice of International Arbitration, *Speaker, Stanford Law School, Stanford, CA* (November 1, 2015)
- International Arbitration of Technology-Related Disputes, *Speaker, Annual Silicon Valley "All Hands" Conference, Santa Clara, CA* (October 1, 2015)