



Karim Ghaly KC

Year of call: 2001 | Silk: 2017

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“Karim combines incandescent intelligence with an unparalleled work ethic, and he is often said to be one of the very top talents of his generation.”

The Legal 500 2022

Karim Ghaly KC specialises in the litigation and arbitration of substantial commercial disputes in the fields of construction and engineering, energy and natural resources, infrastructure, insurance, and PPP/PFI.

He has acted as counsel or arbitrator in complex disputes arising out of projects in Africa, Asia, the Caribbean, Europe, the Middle East, North America, South America and the UK.

Karim is recognised as one of the leading advocates in his areas of practice. He is recommended for Commercial Dispute Resolution, Construction, Energy and Natural Resources, International Arbitration, PPP/PFI and Professional Negligence by Chambers and Partners, Chambers Global, The Legal 500, The Legal 500 Middle East and Who’s Who Legal.

Areas of expertise

Construction, Engineering and Infrastructure Disputes

Energy and Natural Resources

Insurance and Reinsurance

International Arbitration

PPP/PFI

International Arbitration

*“A joy to work with: able to cut straight to the key issues and distil these down for any arbitral tribunal.”*The Legal 500 2022: International Arbitration.

The majority of Karim’s work over the past 20 years has involved the resolution of substantial and complex international commercial disputes. He has acted as counsel or arbitrator in disputes arising out of contracts governed by, or subject to, the laws of Abu Dhabi, Bahrain, Canada, Chile, Cyprus, Dubai, England, Germany, Ghana, Israel, New York, Nigeria, Oman, Qatar, Scotland, Singapore, Switzerland and Trinidad.

Cases of note

- **ICC Arbitration** – represented the employer in a US\$120m dispute arising out of a contract for the provision of development management services.
- **ICC Arbitration** – party-nominated arbitrator in a dispute arising out of the construction of a major residential development in Qatar.
- **SCMA Arbitration** – represented a shipyard in a US\$50m dispute concerning the construction of a semi-submersible platform in Indonesia.
- **ICC Arbitration** – represented the main contractor in a US\$500m termination dispute arising out of the construction of a landmark sports and civil infrastructure project in the Middle East.
- **DIAC Arbitration** – acted for the main contractor in a US\$70m dispute arising out of the construction of two mixed-use towers in Dubai.

Recommendations

Karim is recommended for Commercial Dispute Resolution, Construction, Energy and Natural Resources, International Arbitration, PPP/PFI and Professional Negligence by Chambers & Partners, Chambers Global, the Legal 500, the Legal 500 Middle East and Who's Who Legal.

Recent quotes from clients, as reported by these directories, include:

"Very hard-working and a brilliant strategist, he's a proper legal chess player who out manoeuvres the opposition"; "He just exudes confidence and ability so clients are happy to listen to him." Chambers and Partners 2022.

"Extremely effective in cross-examination, fantastic on his feet." Chambers and Partners 2021.

"An extremely talented oral advocate and a brutally effective cross-examiner." The Legal 500 2021.

"Commercially astute and great to work with." Who's Who Legal 2021.

Memberships

Member of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators.

Member of the London Court of International Arbitration.

Member of the International Council for Commercial Arbitration.

Member of the Society of Construction Law.

Fellow of the Society for Advanced Legal Studies, University of London.

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