



**The Nineteenth Annual Investment Treaty Arbitration  
Conference: A Debate & Discussion**



**Friday, 31 October 2025**  
**Hosted at DLA Piper LLP**  
**Toronto, ON, Canada**

Join leading arbitrators, scholars, and practitioners from around the world for a day of debate and discussion on the most pressing issues in investment arbitration. This all-day conference will continue its nearly two-decade tradition of dynamic, interactive panels and thought-provoking exchanges.

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**Program**

Our conference brings together leading figures and emerging practitioners in international arbitration. Eight rising stars will present papers on four key investment arbitration issues, followed by expert panels debating their arguments and exploring broader themes. Featuring over 25 speakers from around the world and Q&A sessions with each panel.

Registration includes refreshments, lunch, reception, and a digital copy of the upcoming Volume 19 from the *Investment Arbitration and International Law* series.

## **Program Schedule:**

**Keynote Address** "*The Trials and Tribulations of Treaty Arbitration*" by [Andrea Bjorklund](#) – McGill University Faculty of Law (Montreal)

### **Panel 1 True or False: Arbitrator challenges that are based upon issue conflicts have gone off the rails?**

Moderator: **J. Brian Casey** – Bay Street Chambers (Toronto), Arbitra International (London)

Author Positions:

*True:* **Peter Schmidt** – Arnold & Porter (Washington, DC)

*False:* **Dina Prokic** – Woods (Montreal)

Panelists:

**Anthony Daimsis** – University of Ottawa (Canada)

**Domenico di Pietro** – Independent Arbitration (Miami & London)

**Miriam Harwood** – Katten (New York)

**Martin J. Valasek** – Bennett Jones (Montreal & Toronto)

### **Panel 2 True or False: The red flag approach to identifying corruption in ISDS has outlived its usefulness?**

Moderator: **Ian Laird** – Crowell & Moring (Washington DC)

Author Positions:

*True:* **Kevin Gray** – Peking University

*False:* **Natalia Giraldo** – Arnold & Porter (New York)

Panelists:

**Mohannad El Murtadi** – Curtis (Dubai, Riyadh, New York)

**Karan Joseph** – Shardul Amarchand Mangaldas (Bengaluru)

**Amanda Lee** – Costigan King & LML Arbitration

**Parveen Sindhu** – EKAAS Law Corporation (Vancouver)

### **Panel 3 Yes or No: By the end of its term, the Trump Administration will have overthrown eight decades worth of foreign investment policy, heretofore based upon the twin pillars of liberalization and promoting the rule of law?**

Moderator: **Todd Weiler** – Independent Arbitrator & IIDS Expert (London, Ontario)

Author Positions:

*Yes:* **Olivia Kaye** – Outer Temple (London)

*No:* **Aphiwan Natasha King** – 4 Pump Court (London)

Panelists:

**Charles Brower** – Wayne State University Law School (Detroit, MI)  
**Timothy Ellam** – McCarthy Tétrault (Calgary & London, UK)  
**Geneviève Helleringer** – University of Oxford & Essex Business School (UK)  
**Myriam Seers** – Agora (Toronto)

## **Panel 4 True or False: International investment law and arbitration are ill-equipped to address climate change related disputes?**

Moderator: **Martha Harrison** – McCarthy Tétrault (Toronto)

Author Positions:

*True:* **Dianne Lake** – Arnold & Porter (New York)

*False:* **Ryan Pistorius** – Weintraub Huang LLP (Toronto)

Panelists:

**Jessica Crow** – Arbitra International

**Ylli Dautaj** – Penn State Dickinson Law School

**Eric Ives** – Attorney Advisor, Commercial Law Development Program (CLDP), U.S. Department of Commerce

**Janet Walker** – Toronto Arbitration Chambers

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