



## Paula Hodges QC Partner

Head of global arbitration practice, London

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### Experience

Paula heads Herbert Smith Freehills' Global Arbitration Practice and has over 25 years' experience of advising on international disputes, particularly in the energy, telecommunications and technology sectors. She specialises in international arbitration and has represented clients in many jurisdictions (including London, Paris, Geneva, Zurich, Stockholm, the US, Canada, Dubai, Africa, Asia, Russia and the CIS) in *ad hoc* arbitration and proceedings under the auspices of the major arbitral institutions. She also sits as an arbitrator.

Paula has been closely involved in several high profile cases before the High Court in London, and has also appeared before the Court of Appeal and House of Lords (now the Supreme Court). She became a QC in 2014. Paula is also a registered foreign lawyer at the Singapore International Commercial Court.

### Professional background

Paula studied law at the University of Cambridge and graduated in 1986 with an M.A. in Law.

### Credentials

- advising an **energy major** on arbitration proceedings brought in Singapore under the SIAC Rules in connection with a dispute arising from a Share Purchase Agreement by which the company acquired an interest in an offshore oil production company with a number of assets in the North Sea
- advising the **United States of America** in various LCIA arbitrations against Canada in respect of softwood lumber imports into the US
- representing **Eastern European telecoms authority** in an ICC arbitration regarding development of an air traffic control system
- advising **US energy major** in relation to an equity redetermination of the participating interests in a Nigerian oil field involving ad hoc arbitration proceedings and litigation before the Nigerian courts
- advising **energy independent** in relation to ICC arbitration regarding joint venture dispute in Papua New Guinea
- representing **Nigerian energy company** in a LCIA arbitration regarding the ownership of an oil mining lease offshore Nigeria and advising in relation to satellite litigation in the UK and Nigeria
- representing **joint venture of international energy companies** in an ICC arbitration regarding the gas supply to an LNG plant in a West African country
- advising **multinational commodities company** in various arbitrations regarding long-term supply of coal and other minerals
- representing **multinational drinks company** in ICC arbitration regarding franchises in Algeria
- representing **Canadian energy company** in ICC arbitration regarding the purchase of oil and gas interests in Kazakhstan
- advising **Russian company** in relation to recognition and enforcement of an arbitral award in Russia and other jurisdictions
- representing **US energy corporation** in LCIA arbitration in a shareholder dispute regarding the application of pre-emption rights to a wind farm project in Europe
- representing a **global travel services provider** in various disputes with airlines and other related entities in a number of different countries including the Middle East
- representing **Korean industrial company** in a LCIA arbitration relating to the supply of aluminium



- representing **multinational defence company** in ICC arbitration regarding a licence granted by an Italian company to manufacture naval weapons
- representing **UK energy company** in shareholder dispute over construction of a LNG facility in the UK
- representing **Telecom Malaysia** in expropriation claim against the Government of Ghana under bilateral investment treaty
- representing **European utilities company** in ICC arbitration against an Indonesian counterparty over a coal supply contract
- representing **European power company** in ICC arbitration with generator in Spain regarding application of CO2 emissions regulations
- representing **energy major** in an ICC arbitration relating to a petrochemicals licence agreement
- advising various **multinational energy companies** regarding upstream and midstream disputes relating to their oil, gas and LNG interests in Africa (including Nigeria and Egypt)
- representing **energy major** in ICC arbitration concerning an LNG project in Iran
- advising **multinational consortium** in various disputes regarding pipeline project in the Caspian
- advising **UK independent** regarding exploration activities in the Yemen and Mauritania
- advising **host state** on potential claim under the Energy Charter Treaty
- advising **US energy major** regarding dispute relating to offshore Canadian project
- advising various **energy companies** on variety of disputes relating to their Caspian interests
- advising **drilling contractor** regarding potential ICC arbitration with energy company in relation to a project in Chad
- representing energy trading arm of **investment bank** in expert determination regarding electricity trading dispute
- representing **international management company** in an ICC arbitration relating to management of the World Trade Centre in Dubai
- advising **UK telecoms company** on potential LCIA arbitration against equipment supplier
- representing **Asian network provider** in various disputes subject to arbitration
- representing **BP Amoco** and others in a dispute with Enron regarding the CATS gas pipeline in the Central North Sea resulting in a damages award from the House of Lords of over £100 million
- representing **Amerada Hess** in the Commercial Court and Court of Appeal in a dispute with the Bluewater Group
- representing **Premier Oil** in a Commercial Court action brought by Bow Valley regarding joint venture in Iran
- advising a number of energy companies following the collapse of Enron
- advising **TXU Europe Energy Trading** following its entry into administration
- representing **IBM United Kingdom Limited** in a highly publicised, multi-million pound dispute regarding the provision of an Automatic Fingerprint Recognition System to a network of 37 UK police forces resulting in a highly satisfactory settlement after 20 days in trial in the Technology and Construction Court in 1998
- representing **MMK (UK) Limited** in a complex telecommunications dispute with BT regarding provision of network services for an on-line lottery system
- representing **APR Limited** before the Commercial Court in defending an expert determination clause in a joint venture agreement with Inmarsat Ventures Plc

### Accolades

- Paula Hodges QC heads the firm's global arbitration practice. She is "absolutely first class" according to market sources, who go on to say: "She's a phenomenal advocate – so well prepared, a really hard worker and passionate about her clients' cases. She will go the extra mile ten times over."  
*Chambers UK 2017*
- Paula Hodges QC is a highly respected advocate, with one peer deeming her the "most complete arbitration practitioner in London."  
*Chambers UK 2016*



- Clients recognise that Paula has "the experience to really understand and anticipate the position that the other party will take."  
*Chambers UK 2015*
- "Paula is a really good advocate – she's scary because she's so good."  
*Chambers UK 2014*
- Clients enthuse that Paula Hodges is a "consummate lawyer who is great to work with and integrates well into the in-house team." She is "really a very, very impressive head of arbitration with a prodigious work output."  
*Chambers UK 2013*
- The "*absolutely superb*" Paula Hodges is a robust advocate who "*doesn't suffer fools gladly*."  
*Chambers UK 2012*
- Shortlisted for "Advocate of the Year".  
*Global Arbitration Review Awards March 2011*
- Sources praise her "integrity, capability and deserved reputation."  
*Chambers UK 2011*
- Market sources view Paula Hodges as a real driving force in the HSF disputes team, with clients enthusing: "She is a charming lawyer who, when needed, has no qualms about destroying her opponent to show them that they have no case and should run away."  
*Chambers UK 2010*

### Recent publications

- "**Austrian Yearbook on International Arbitration 2015**" – contributed chapter entitled "**The proliferation of 'Soft Laws' in International Arbitration: Time to Draw the Line?**".
- "**Arbitration in England**" 2013 – contributed chapter entitled "**Duties of Arbitrators**".
- "**Drive for Efficiency and the Risks for Procedural Neutrality – Another Tale of the Hare and the Tortoise?**" October 2012 – *Dispute Resolution International*.
- "**The perils of complete transparency in international arbitration – should parties be exposed to the glare of publicity?**" July 2012 – *The Paris Journal of International Arbitration*.
- "**Liquefied Natural Gas – The Law and Business of LNG – Second Edition**" 2012 – contributed chapter entitled "**LNG – a minefield for disputes?**".
- "**Arbitration World**" 2010 – contributed ICC chapter.
- "**The Relevance of Article 6 of the European Convention on Human Rights in the context of Arbitration Proceedings**" – *International Arbitration Law Review* 2007.
- "**Arbitration World**" 2006 – contributed ICC chapter.
- "**PLC Legal Risk Management**" 2005 – contributed chapter entitled "**Minimising the risk of litigation**".
- "**Reflections on International Law**" 2004 – contributed chapter entitled "**Arbitrating International Energy Disputes**".

### Memberships

- LCIA (London Court of International Arbitration) – Member of the LCIA Board and Vice President of the LCIA Court
- IDRC – Director
- ICC London (International Chamber of Commerce)
- IBA (International Bar Association)
- Member of the PLC Arbitration Consultation Board
- Member of Board of Advisers to *The Gravitas Review of Business & Property Law*, Nigeria
- BIICL (British Institute of International Comparative Law)
- ASA (Association Suisse de l'arbitrage)
- ILA (International Law Association)
- AIA (Association for International Arbitration)