

Professor Elijah Putilin FCIArb

Nationality: Russian

Languages: English, Russian



Elijah Putilin is a leading independent arbitrator experienced in civil, common, and international law.

He regularly sits as a Sole-Arbitrator, Presiding Arbitrator, and co-arbitrator in cases administered by AIFC IAC, DIAC, DIFC-LCIA, ICC, IAC (Kyrgyzstan), ICAC (Russia), ICAC (Uzbekistan), TIAC, TRAC, SCC, SIAC, RAC and VIAC (Vietnam). His expertise spans a variety of industries, including oil & gas, banking & finance, TMT, construction, and agriculture.

In addition to sitting as arbitrator, Elijah is counsel at Putilin Dispute Management (PDM) where he has been involved in hundreds of disputes before SCAI, SCC, LCIA, ICC, ICDR, and ICAC (Russia) tribunals, foreign and domestic courts of all levels, international trade tribunals and sporting bodies.

Elijah lectures on international commercial and investment arbitration at the Tashkent State University of Law and is an Adjunct Professor of international dispute resolution and business law at other leading universities in Central and South-East Asia.

He is a member of the Supervisory Board of the IAC (Kyrgyzstan), past member of the SCC Arbitrators' Council and TIAC's Court of Arbitration, and also a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators.

Sector Expertise

- Energy, Oil & Gas
- Banking & Finance
- TMT
- Construction, Engineering & Infrastructure
- Agriculture

Energy, Oil & Gas

- Co-Arbitrator under ICC Rules in a dispute between a subsidiary of Kazakhstan's sovereign wealth fund and UK & UAE investors in relation to the construction of a solar power plant in the Republic. Applicable law: Kazakh law. Seat: Vienna, Austria. The amount in dispute: ~ USD 7,2 mln;
- Presiding Arbitrator under ICAC (Uzbekistan) Rules in a dispute between a Kyrgyz seller and an Uzbek buyer arising out of an LNG supply agreement. Applicable law(s): CISG and Kyrgyz law. Seat: Tashkent, Uzbekistan. The amount in dispute: ~ USD 1 mln;
- Co-Arbitrator under SIAC Rules in a dispute between a Kazakhstani buyer and an Uzbek-Korean JV seller of certain products of oil refining under a long-term supply contract. Seat: Singapore. Applicable law: English law. The contract value: > USD 190 mln;
- Sole Arbitrator under ICAC (Uzbekistan) Rules in a dispute between an Uzbek buyer and a Russian seller arising out of an agreement to supply certain products of oil refining. Seat: Tashkent, Uzbekistan. Applicable law(s): CISG and Russian law;
- Co-Arbitrator under IAC (Kyrgyzstan) Rules in a dispute between a Kyrgyz trader and an Uzbek buyer of crude oil and gas condensate. Seat: Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan. Applicable law(s): CISG and Russian law. The contract value: ~ USD 52 mln;
- Co-Arbitrator under DIAC Rules in a dispute between a Dubai-incorporated oil trader and a Russian individual arising out of a surety agreement. Seat: Dubai. Applicable law: Russian law. The amount in dispute: ~ USD 1,5 mln;
- Sole Arbitrator under TRAC Rules in a dispute between an Iranian buyer and an Indian seller arising out of an agreement to deliver certain products of oil refining. Seat: Tehran, Iran. Applicable law(s): the laws of Iran and India. The amount in dispute:
- Co-Arbitrator under ICAC (Uzbekistan) Rules between a Bulgarian distributor of petroleum products and an Uzbek company. Seat: Tashkent, Uzbekistan.

Banking & Finance

- Co-Arbitrator under DIFC-LCIA Rules in a dispute between two African financial institutions arising out of an English law-governed facility agreement. Seat: DIFC. The amount in dispute: > EUR 140 mln;
- Co-Arbitrator in two related arbitrations under ICAC (Russia) Rules in a dispute between Russian financial institutions and a Belgian borrower arising out of the Russian law-governed export facility agreement. Seat: Moscow, Russia. The amount in dispute: ~ USD 9,5 mln;
- Co-Arbitrator under IAC (Kyrgyzstan) Rules in a dispute between a Kyrgyz bank with foreign investments, a Kyrgyz borrower and several individuals arising out of a facility agreement, mortgage and guarantee agreements. Seat: Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan. Applicable law(s): Kyrgyz law. The amount in dispute: ~ USD 1 mln;
- Co-Arbitrator (reserve) in two related arbitrations under ICAC (Russia) Rules in a dispute between Russian financial institutions and a Belgian borrower arising out of the Russian law-

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governed export facility agreement. Seat: Moscow, Russia. The amount in dispute: ~ USD 21 mln.

TMT

- Co-Arbitrator under ICC Rules in a dispute between an UAE-based software company and its African customer arising out of a series of support, maintenance, and services contracts. Seat: Paris, France. Applicable law: French law. The amount in dispute: ~ EUR 4,5 mln;
- Co-Arbitrator (reserve) under IAC (Belarus) Rules in a dispute between a Russian seller and a Belarussian buyer of certain IT equipment and auxiliary services. Seat: Minsk, Belarus. The amount in dispute: ~ USD 1 mln.

Construction, Engineering & Infrastructure

- Sole Arbitrator under AIFC IAC Rules in a dispute between an Indian manufacturer and Kazakhstani mining company arising out of a contract to supply certain mining equipment. Seat: AIFC. Applicable law: Kazakhstani law. The amount in dispute: ~ USD 11 mln;
- Co-Arbitrator under ICAC (Russia) Rules in a dispute between a Russian metallurgical plant and a Turkish contractor arising out of a design and build contract for a hot-rolling mill. Seat: Moscow, Russia. Applicable law: CISG and Russian law. The amount in dispute: > USD 4,6 mln;
- Co-Arbitrator under IAC (Kyrgyzstan) Rules in a dispute between Kyrgyz construction companies arising out of a partnership agreement to build and manage a residential complex. Applicable law: Kyrgyz law. Seat: Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan. The contract value: ~ USD 1 mln;
- Co-Arbitrator under VIAC (Vietnam) Rules in a dispute between an Indian manufacturer of hydro turbines and a Vietnamese employer arising of a two supply contracts. Applicable law: Vietnamese law, CISG. Seat: HCMC, Vietnam. The contracts value: > USD 2 mln;
- Co-Arbitrator (reserve) under ICAC (Russia) Rules in a dispute between a German seller and an Austrian buyer of complex manufacturing equipment. Seat: Moscow, Russia. Applicable law: CISG. The amount in dispute: > EUR 8 mln;
- Co-Arbitrator under SCC Rules in a dispute between a Singaporean contractor and a Czech seller of complex manufacturing equipment. Seat: Stockholm, Sweden, Applicable law: Swiss law. The amount in dispute: ~ USD 0,5 mln;
- Sole Arbitrator under RAC Rules in a dispute between an Italian contractor and a Russian employer arising out of a contract to design, manufacture and supply certain materials for a construction of an aerospace facility. Seat: Moscow, Russia. Applicable law: Russian law;
- Co-Arbitrator under ICAC (Uzbekistan) Rules in a dispute between an Uzbek sub-contractor and a Singaporean contractor arising out of an Uzbek law-governed agreement to design and lay tracks for an oil refinery. Seat: Tashkent, Uzbekistan;

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- Sole Arbitrator under RAC Rules in a dispute between a contractor and its Russian supplier of certain materials for a construction of a nuclear powerplant in Bangladesh. Seat: Moscow, Russia. Applicable law: Russian Law;
- Co-Arbitrator under IAC (Kyrgyzstan) Rules in a dispute between a Kyrgyz seller and a Kazakh buyer arising out of an agreement to design, manufacture and supply an industrial steam boiler. Seat: Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan.

Agriculture

- Co-Arbitrator under DIAC Rules in a dispute between a Russian seller and an UAE buyer arising out of an agreement to supply corn and barley. Applicable law: English law. Seat: DIFC. The amount in dispute: ~ USD 5 mln;
- Presiding Arbitrator under ICAC (Uzbekistan) Rules in a dispute between an Uzbek buyer and a German seller arising out of an agreement to supply certain crops. Applicable law: CISG & German law. Seat: Tashkent, Uzbekistan. The contract value: ~ USD 1,7 mln;
- Sole Arbitrator under TIAC Rules between an Uzbek buyer and a Chinese seller in relation to a termination of an agreement to design, manufacture and supply seed preparation, solvent extraction, and vegetable oil refinery equipment. Seat: AIFC. Applicable law: CISG & Chinese law. The contract value: ~ USD 1,5 mln;
- Sole Arbitrator under ICAC (Uzbekistan) Rules between a Hungarian seller and an Uzbek buyer arising out of an agreement to supply livestock. Applicable law: CISG & Hungarian law. Seat: Tashkent, Uzbekistan.

Experience

Elijah's other appointments as an arbitrator not described above include:

- Co-Arbitrator under ICAC (Russia) Rules in a dispute between a Chinese seller and a Russian buyer of certain manufacturing equipment. Applicable law: Russian law. Seat: Moscow, Russia. The amount in dispute: ~ USD 0,5 mln;
- Co-Arbitrator under ICAC (Russia) Rules in a dispute between a Cypriot consultant and its Russian client. Applicable law: Russian law. Seat: Moscow, Russia. The amount in dispute: ~ EUR 1,5 mln;
- Sole Arbitrator under ICAC (Uzbekistan) Rules in a dispute between an Indian manufacturer of pharmaceuticals and medical equipment and an Uzbek buyer arising out of a series of supply contracts. Applicable law(s): the laws of India and Uzbekistan. Seat: Tashkent, Uzbekistan;
- Co-Arbitrator under ICAC (Uzbekistan) Rules in a dispute between an Uzbek logistics company and a Singaporean contractor. Seat: Tashkent, Uzbekistan;

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- Presiding Arbitrator under IAC (Kyrgyzstan) Rules in a dispute between a Kyrgyz buyer and Hong Kong seller of automobiles. Applicable law: CISG and Kyrgyz law. Seat: Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan;
- Co-Arbitrator under IAC (Kyrgyzstan) Rules in a dispute between a Russian distributor of electronics and a Kyrgyz seller of warehouse equipment. Seat: Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan;
- Co-Arbitrator under ICAC (Uzbekistan) Rules in a dispute between a Chinese client and an Uzbek logistics company. Seat: Tashkent, Uzbekistan.

Elijah also regularly acts as counsel and expert consultant in high value complex commercial, competition, intellectual property, and compliance disputes. To request a full copy of his previous case experience please email - elijah@putilin.law

Academic & Professional Qualifications

- LLB & LLM (cum laude), Moscow State Institute of International Relations (MGIMO);
- PhD, Tashkent State University of Law (pending).

Professional Associations & Recognitions

- Empanelled Arbitrator, Various Institutions;
- IAC (Kyrgyzstan), Member of the Supervisory Board;
- Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (FCIArb).

Publications, Articles & Thought Leadership

Elijah was one of the youngest practitioners worldwide to be admitted as a full member (fellow) of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (UK) and to complete the Oxford Diploma Course.

He divides his time between his practice, lecturing, and publishing. He is a frequent speaker at international conferences across the globe. The highlights of his academic profile include:

Faculty appointments and visiting lectureships

- Professor, Conflict of Laws, International Commercial Law, International Commercial and Investment Arbitration, Tashkent State University of Law, Uzbekistan;
- Adjunct Faculty, International Commercial Contracts, Foreign Trade University, Vietnam;
- Adjunct Professor, Introduction to Business and Corporate Law, British Management University in Tashkent;

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- Visiting lecturer, 'How "International" and "Commercial" International Commercial Arbitration Truly Is', Tashkent State University of Law;
- Visiting faculty, 'Law, Practice and Procedure of International Commercial Arbitration', American University of Central Asia, Kyrgyzstan;
- Visiting faculty, 'The Essentials of International Investment Law & Arbitration', KAZGUU University, Kazakhstan;
- Visiting lecturer, 'International Commercial Arbitration: Modern Trends', Westminster International University in Tashkent (WIUT), Uzbekistan;
- Visiting lecturer, 'International Commercial Arbitration: The Flavours of Asia', University of World Economy and Diplomacy, Uzbekistan;
- Visiting lecturer, 'Arbitration in Asia: Practical Considerations'; 'Introduction to International Investment Law: Vietnamese International Investment Regime', 'Provisional Measures in Investment Arbitration', Foreign Trade University, Vietnam;
- Visiting lecturer, 'Introduction to Mediation', Taylor's University, Malaysia;
- Visiting lecturer, 'The Art of Resolving Construction Disputes', SEGi University, Malaysia.

Publications: Books & Book Chapters

- Author, 'Private International Law in Uzbekistan', (Hart, 2026);
- Author, 'AIAC Arbitration Rules: A Practical Guide', (Kluwer Law International, 2026);
- Co-editor/co-author 'International Investment Law & Investment Dispute Settlement in Central Asia: Emerging Issues', (Kluwer Law International, 2023);
- Author, '2119: An Arbitral Odyssey or Proliferation of International Arbitration of Space-Related Disputes' in 'A Brand New World: The Evolution and Future of Arbitration', CIARB, (2020);
- Contributor, S. Rajoo, WSW Davidson, 'The Arbitration Act 2005: the UNCITRAL Model Law as applied in Malaysia', (Sweet & Maxwell Asia) (2018);
- Co-author, Chapter on Russia in 'International Agency and Distribution Law', 2nd ed, D. Campbell, (2013).

Publications: Selected Articles and Blog Posts

- Author, 'Arbitration in Uzbekistan', Legal500, (2022-2023);
- Author, 'International Commercial Arbitration in Uzbekistan', GTDT, (2022-2025);
- Author, 'Investment Treaty Arbitration: Uzbekistan', GTDT, (2022-2025);
- Author, 'A Golden Age of International Commercial Arbitration in Central Asia: Quo Vadis Kyrgyzstan?', ICAC Kyrgyzstan, (2021);
- Author, 'Resolving Potential Disputes Between Belorussian and Central-Asian Companies Through Arbitration', Chamber of Arbitrators, (2021);
- Co-author, 'Immunities and Privileges in Practice: A Tale of How to (Not) Apply Them in Practice', Czech Yearbook of International Law, (2020);
- Co-author, 'Bishkek Arbitration Days: Dispute Resolution in Times of Pandemic', Arbitration.ru, No. 6(20), (2020);

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- Author, 'Security of Payment Legislation: An Answer to Resolving Construction Disputes in Times of Pandemic?', Arbitration.ru, No. 4(19), (2020);
- Author, 'Book Review: Arbitration in Malaysia by Thaya Baskaran', Malaysian Arbitration Forum, (2020);
- Author, 'Construction Industry Payment & Adjudication Act: A Call for Amendments?', Malaysian Arbitration Forum, (2020);
- Author, 'Third Party Funding in Malaysia', Malaysian Arbitration Forum, (2020);
- Author, 'AIAC Arbitration Rules: A Commentary – Parts I & II', Malaysian Arbitration Forum, (2020);
- Author, 'Strike the Iron While Its Hot: SG HC Refused to Extend the Set Aside Period in Case of Fraud', Malaysian Arbitration Forum, (2020);
- Author, '1MDB Saga Continues before English Courts', Malaysian Arbitration Forum, (2019);
- Author, 'The Great Equaliser or Reflections on the Use of Mediation in Investor-State Dispute Settlement', Asian Pacific Mediation Journal, Vol. 1, No. 2 (2019);
- Co-author, 'CPTPP and the Tale of Two Tigers: How May the Ratification of the CPTPP Affect Malaysia's International Investment Regime?', Transnational Dispute Management, Special Issue on the CPTPP (2019);
- Author, 'On the Notion of Economic Regionalism in International Law', Moscow Journal of International Law, No. 4 (2015);
- Author, 'Dispute Resolution in Russia', Faces of Dispute Resolution 2012, Financier Worldwide, (2012).

Thought Leadership

- Expert appointed by the Uzbek Institute of Law & Policy as part of the Civil Code reform;
- Advising the Uzbek Chamber of Commerce on the revision of the Uzbek Arbitration Act;
- Advising the Kyrgyz Chamber of Commerce on alternative dispute resolution in the Republic;
- Advising the AIAC and the Government of Malaysia on the revision of the Malaysian Arbitration Act 2005, the Construction Industry Payment and Adjudication Act 2012.

Directories & Client Quotes

Elijah is consistently ranked Client Choice and Global Leader in Lexology Index (formerly WWL Arbitration) and a Next Generation Partner in Legal500 EMEA.

He has been praised for his “extensive specialist knowledge of oil and gas as well as investment treaty disputes” and ability “to present even the most complex concepts in a simple and understandable manner, which tribunals appreciate”.

“The papers prepared by Mr Putilin are always concise with a precision and clarity that is rarely evidenced in the works of other legal experts in the field”

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“Elijah Putilin is a strategic thinker with great attention to details and second to none oral and written advocacy. Elijah is capable of mastering even the most complex cases in a short time frame and advise the client on a winning strategy”.

“Elijah proves to be extremely well-prepared and he was excellent at ensuring that our arbitration would keep moving”.

“highly able, keen, and very efficient”

“great for CIS related disputes”

“a world class practitioner”

“always two steps ahead”