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Practice Areas

International Arbitration > Energy and Natural Resources > Litigation >

Maria Claudia Procopiak focuses her practice on international commercial and investment arbitration, with a particular focus on cases involving Latin America.

Prior to joining Dechert, she was an associate at a leading law firm in Curitiba, Brazil. She also previously served as Deputy Counsel of the Latin American/Iberian Peninsula team for the ICC International Court of Arbitration in Paris, where she administered hundreds of arbitrations - mainly involving Brazilian and Portuguese private and state-owned entities - from various industrial sectors under the ICC Rules of Arbitration.

Ms. Procopiak is regularly recognized by *Chambers Latin America*, *The Legal 500 Latin America* and *Latinvex* for her international arbitration practice. Every year since 2016, she has been listed among the Future Leaders of Arbitration by *The International Who's Who Legal*.

Ms. Procopiak also served as arbitrator and acted as administrative secretary to arbitral tribunals on several arbitrations conducted under the auspices of the ICC, the LCIA as well as in *ad-hoc* proceedings under the UNCITRAL Arbitration Rules.

In 2017, she was nominated an ICC Young Arbitrators Forum (YAF) representative for the United Kingdom and Portugal.

EXPERIENCE

- **A South American State** in two ICSID investment arbitrations and one ad-hoc PCA-UNCITRAL arbitration against major foreign oil companies.
- **A South American State and one of its state entities** in two ICC arbitrations arising from the by-laws of two electricity-generation companies.
- **A Finnish and an American company** against several multinational electronics corporation in two ICC arbitrations arising from antitrust claims in connection with the sale and purchase of batteries for mobile devices.
- **A South America State** in an ad-hoc PCA-UNCITRAL arbitration against a major mining company arising from the nationalisation of a mining concession.
- **A South America state entity** in an ICC arbitration arising from the termination of a contract for the joint exploitation of a mining concession.

EDUCATION

- Pontifícia Universidade Católica do Paraná
- Université Paris 2 Panthéon-Assas, DEA, Private International Law

ADMISSIONS

- Paris

LANGUAGES

- Portuguese
- English
- French
- Spanish

MEMBERSHIPS

- **ICC** Commission on Arbitration and ADR
- **ICC** Latin American Arbitration Group
- **Comitê Brasileiro de Arbitragem (CBAr)**
- **Latin American Arbitration Association (ALARB)**
- **ICC** Young Arbitration Forum (YAF) United Kingdom and Portugal Representative

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- **Conferencia Women Arbitration** — Instituto Peruano de Arbitraje, Lima, Peru (January 31, 2019)
- **Early Morning Talk with Counsel of the Secretariat: Everything You Ever Wanted to Know About the Work of the ICC Court** — ICC YAF, Miami, Florida (November 12, 2018)
- **Training for Tribunal Secretaries** — ICC Institute, Miami, Florida (November 12, 2018)
- **Brazilian Arbitration Forum in Paris** — Sciences Po Law School, Paris, France (September 24-25, 2018)
- **The Application of the New York Convention in Latin America: International Versus Domestic standards** — NYU School of Law (September 13, 2018)
- **Greater Diversification or Collaboration** — ICC Arbitration Conference, London (September 12, 2018)

Speaker, "Debate: A Diverse Tribunal Does it Better," panel discussed how diversity in a tribunal contributes to the quality of decision-making.

- **Protecting Arbitration for Generation Y**— ICC UK Annual Arbitration Conference, London (December 5, 2017)
- **The impartiality of the arbitrator** — XVI CBAr International Arbitration Conference, Porto Alegre (September 24, 2017)

Speaker, "The impartiality of the arbitrator" panel at the Brazilian Committee on Arbitration (CBAr) conference.

- **There's Something About Arbitration** — 6th ICC YAF Global Conference, New York (June 9, 2017)

Speaker, "There's Something About Arbitration" panel of the 6th ICC YAF Global Conference in New York.

- **Towards more Efficiency and Transparency – The New ICC Rules of Arbitration** — ICC Young Arbitrators Forum, Lisbon (April 5, 2017)

Speaker, "Towards more Efficiency and Transparency – The New ICC Rules of Arbitration" panel at the International Chamber of Commerce Young Arbitrators Forum (ICC YAF).

- **Procedural and Jurisdictional Challenges - The State as a Party to Arbitration Proceedings** — QMUL and CBAr Arbitration Days, London (April 3, 2017)

Speaker, "Procedural and Jurisdictional Challenges - The State as a Party to Arbitration Proceedings" panel. Topics discussed were: Representing a state and procedural challenges; Confidentiality v transparency; Evidence gathering; State lawyers or outside counsel?; and Attribution and third parties.

- **Damages in International Arbitration** — 8th ICC YAF-YAAP Joint Conference, Vienna (March 19, 2016)

Speaker, "Damages in International Arbitration" panel.

- **Hot topics on the Application of the CISG and on the Jurisdiction of the Arbitrators** — ICC Young Arbitrators Forum, Curitiba, Brazil (March 5, 2015)
- **The Constitution of the Arbitral Tribunal and the Role of the Secretariat and the Court throughout the Process** — Advanced ICC PIDA Training on International Commercial Arbitration, Lisbon (November 28, 2013)

Speaker, "The Constitution of the Arbitral Tribunal and the Role of the Secretariat and the Court throughout the Process" panel that regarded the constitution of the Arbitral Tribunal pursuant to the ICC Rules of Arbitration.

- **The Arbitrator and His/Her Economic Relations** — Economic Aspects of Arbitration: 11th International Arbitration Congress of the Brazilian Arbitration Committee, Porto Alegre (September 13-15, 2012)

Speaker, "The Arbitrator and His/Her Economic Relations" panel. The 11th Congress addressed issues of great relevance such as costs of arbitration, fees of the arbitrators, the financing of arbitration by a third party, and assessment of damages.

- **Confêrencia de Lançamento do Novo Regulamento de Arbitragem da ICC 2012** — Organised by ICC, Rio de Janeiro (March 21, 2012)