

# PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Regional Conference on Arbitration and ADR

Construction Projects Disputes

6-7 October 2025 | Dubrovnik



### DAY 1: Monday 6 October 2025

9:00 – 9:30

Registration

9:30 – 9:45

#### Welcome Address by Conference host

- **Marina Rožić**, LLM, Secretary General, Croatian Chamber of Economy, and ICC Croatia, Zagreb, Croatia
- representative of the ICC International Court of Arbitration, Paris, France (tbc)

9:45 – 10:15

#### Keynote Address: Cracks in the Concrete – Is Construction Arbitration still ‘Fit for Purpose’?

- **Prof. Dr. Mohamed Abdel Wahab**, C.Arb FCiarb, Professor of International Arbitration, Private International Law and English Contract Law, Cairo University, Egypt; Chair, ICC Governing Body for Dispute Resolution

10:15 – 11:45

#### Panel Discussion 1: Hot Topics in Construction – Issues in Practice

- Public procurement and third country contractors (advantages and disadvantages, consortium, qualifications)
- FIDIC form of contract and public procurement issues
- Technology and its implications
- ESG and construction

Panellists:

- **Mirjana Čagalj**, Vice-President for Construction and Transport, Croatian Chamber of Economy, Zagreb, Croatia
- **Simon Elliot**, Partner, Three Crowns, Singapore
- (tbc)
- (tbc)

Moderator:

- **Nicholas Gould**, Partner, Fenwick Elliott LLP, Visiting Professor, King’s College London, UK

11:45 – 12:05

Coffee break

12:05 – 13:35

#### Panel Discussion 2: Construction Contracts and Dispute Avoidance – Risk Allocation and Management for Project Success

- Risk management:

- By contract: risk allocation
- By management: managing contract adjustments while avoiding dispute
  - Programme adjustments
  - Evaluation of direct and indirect cost adjustments
  - Hardship and obligation to perform
- The role of the Engineer and the DB in dispute avoidance

Panellists:

- **Edward Corbett**, International Construction Adjudicator and Arbitrator, Consultant with International Construction team at Howard Kennedy, London, UK
- **Hrvoje Markovinović**, PhD, Professor, Faculty of Law, University of Zagreb, Croatia
- **Christopher R. Seppälä**, Independent Arbitrator, Expert and Legal Consultant, Paris, France
- **Almir Smajlović**, Managing Director, Fortis Disputes & Consulting LLC, Houston, USA

Moderator:

- **Jasminka Čorda Truhar**, MSc, Partner, Hanžeković & Partners; President of the ICC Croatia Commission on Arbitration and ADR, Zagreb, Croatia; Member of the ICC Court of Arbitration for Croatia

**13:35 – 15:05**

Lunch

**15:05 – 16:35**

### **Panel Discussion 3: Managing the Contraction Disputes – Navigating the Use of Dispute Boards, Settlement and Arbitration**

- Internal company policies and procedures for early dispute management
- In house lawyer's role in dispute resolution
- Can Dispute Boards represent an effective dispute resolution tool?
- Pre-action risk assessment
- Role of the Engineer to agree or determine a claim or a matter
- Informal assistance by the dispute boards and its decision making
- Parties' compliance with DB decisions
- Impact of DB decisions and opinions on amicable settlement and arbitration

Panellists:

- **Charles Blamire-Brown**, Partner, Pinsent Masons LLP, London, UK
- **Shelly L. Ewald**, Senior Partner, Watt, Tieder, Hoffar & Fitzgerald, Virginia, USA
- **Luka Krištović-Blažević**, Partner, Dispute Resolution – Head of ME Arbitration, Baker McKenzie LLP, Dubai, UAE
- **Taner Šan**, MCE, MSc, Senior Contract and Claim Expert, "ENOVA" Društvo za inženjering i konzalting d.o.o. Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina

Moderator:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Aisha Nadar</b>, Senior Consultant, Runeland Law AB, Sweden; Member, Dispute Board Chambers, Switzerland; Vice Chair of ICC Commission on Arbitration and ADR</li> </ul>
<b>16:35 – 16:55</b>	Coffee break
<b>16:55 – 18:25</b>	<p><b>Panel Discussion 4: Construction Arbitration</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ICC Court's scrutiny of arbitral awards</li> <li>• Non-signatory parties to the arbitration agreement – piercing the corporate veil</li> <li>• Case management best practices in construction arbitration</li> <li>• Role of fact witnesses in construction arbitration</li> <li>• Non-participating respondent in arbitration</li> </ul> <p>Panellists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Davor Babić</b>, PhD, Professor, Faculty of Law, University of Zagreb, Croatia</li> <li>• <b>Armela Ramić</b>, Attorney at Law; Co-founder and President, Association ARBITRI, Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina</li> <li>• <b>Dominic Pellew</b>, Partner, Dentons UK &amp; Middle East LLP</li> <li>• (tbc)</li> </ul> <p>Moderator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• (tbc)</li> </ul>
<b>18:25 – 18:40</b>	Closing remarks
<b>19:00 – 20:30</b>	Cocktail reception

## DAY 2: Tuesday 7 October 2025

<b>9:30 – 9:40</b>	<p><b>Welcome address by Conference host</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Marina Rožić</b>, LLM, Secretary General, Croatian Chamber of Economy, and ICC Croatia, Zagreb, Croatia</li> </ul>
<b>9:40 – 10:55</b>	<p><b>Working Session: Dispute Adjudication Board (DAB) and Dispute Avoidance and Adjudication Board (DAAB)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Procedural issues, decision</li> <li>• Parties' role</li> <li>• DAB members' role</li> </ul> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Aisha Nadar</b>, Senior Consultant, Runeland Law AB, Sweden; Member, Dispute Board Chambers, Switzerland; Vice Chair of ICC Commission on Arbitration and ADR</li> <li>• <b>James Perry</b>, Esq., Partner, PS Consulting, Paris, France</li> <li>• (tbc)</li> </ul>
<b>10:55 – 11:15</b>	Coffee break
<b>11:15 – 11:45</b>	<b>Working session Session</b> ( <i>Continuation</i> )
<b>11:45 – 12:00</b>	Closing Session and lessons learned