

John Templeman (US)

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Year of Call: 2005

T: 020 7405 9471

PRACTICE AREAS

Banking and Finance

Commercial

International Arbitration

PROFILE

John specialises in international dispute resolution, with a focus on commercial and investor-state arbitration. Qualified in New York, England & Wales and Western Australia, he has spent more than two decades serving as counsel and arbitrator in cases around the world.

John has particular expertise in aerospace, energy, mining, finance, technology and sovereign-related matters. He has handled international arbitrations under all major arbitral rules, including the ICC, ICDR, ICSID, LCIA, SIAC, SCC and UNCITRAL, as well as multi-jurisdictional litigation before the U.S., U.K. and Australian courts.

Prior to establishing Gryphon Law in 2024, John practised at King & Spalding and White & Case in the U.S. and Allen & Overy in London. He has been recognized by the leading legal directories, including *Legal 500*, *Lexology*, *Who's Who Legal* and *Expert Guides*, which describe him as a “top-class practitioner who works tirelessly,” is “great with clients,” “stands out in the international market” and “garners plaudits for his immense knowledge and expertise in international arbitration.”

Banking and Finance

John has significant expertise in banking and finance disputes. He has handled many cases involving financial institutions, including representing several large investment banks in high-value, multi-jurisdictional actions spanning many years. In 2011, John was admitted to the panel of arbitrators of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA).

Representative cases:

- International financial litigation defending a U.S. investment bank against civil and criminal claims brought by an Italian conglomerate in the U.K., Italy and Brazil.
- Multi-jurisdictional shareholder actions representing a Dutch investment bank in vast claims spanning the U.K., Russia and the Netherlands.
- UNCITRAL arbitration representing a U.S. financial company in a dispute against a Latin American technology company.
- Representing an Australian company in a dispute against a U.S. private equity company under Delaware law.

Commercial

John has extensive experience in commercial-related matters across a broad array of sectors, including aerospace, energy, mining, finance, technology and sovereign-related disputes.

Representative cases:

- Arbitrator in an ICC arbitration between a Guatemalan company and a Dominican energy company involving the sale of a 200+ MW solar power project in the Dominican Republic.
- Arbitrator in an ICC arbitration between a Canadian seafood distributor and a U.S. fisheries company involving the supply of seafood products.
- ICC arbitration representing a major Brazilian airline in a multibillion-dollar IT dispute with a U.S. technology company.
- ICC arbitration representing an Australian oil major against a West African State concerning oil concession rights under a Production Sharing Contract.
- LCIA arbitration representing an English / Namibian energy company against a Brazilian technology company involving exploration services.
- LCIA arbitration representing a British gas company against its joint venture partner involving rights to a gas concession in North Africa.

International Arbitration

John's practice focuses on international arbitration, where he serves as both counsel and arbitrator. He has

handled international arbitrations around the world under all major arbitral rules, including the ICC, ICDR, ICSID, LCIA, SIAC, SCC and UNCITRAL.

Representative cases:

- Arbitrator in an ICC arbitration between a U.S. technology company and a Canadian energy company involving the licensing of kinetic energy storage systems.
- Ad hoc arbitration representing two oil and gas companies in a dispute with a West African State concerning the award of offshore oil and gas blocks.
- ICC arbitration representing a European joint venture against an Egyptian State entity involving the construction of a natural gas terminal at a port in Egypt.
- Investment treaty claim representing a Canadian mining company against a West African State under a bilateral investment treaty concerning the expropriation of gold and iron ore concessions.
- Investment treaty claim representing a Scandinavian infrastructure company against a Baltic State under a bilateral investment treaty concerning the development of an airport.
- UNCITRAL arbitration representing a U.S. oil major against a Latin American State under a bilateral investment treaty concerning an oil concession and related environmental claims.

SIGNIFICANT CASES

ICC Arbitration No. 28956

Presiding arbitrator in an ICC arbitration between a Singaporean energy company and two Colombian energy companies involving a joint venture dispute over the purchase of solar energy panels.

Azpetrol International Holdings B.V. et al. v. Republic of Azerbaijan (ICSID Case No. ARB/06/15)

Representing the Republic of Azerbaijan in an ICSID arbitration against a Dutch energy company involving the alleged expropriation of an oil and gas business (complete victory).

Fondel Metal Participations B.V. v. Republic of Azerbaijan (ICSID Case No. ARB/07/1)

Representing the Republic of Azerbaijan in an ICSID arbitration against a Dutch metallurgy company involving the alleged expropriation of an aluminum business (complete victory).

Royal & Sunalliance Insurance v. BAE Systems and others (LCIA Arbitration)

Representing British aerospace corporation BAE Systems in a multibillion dollar LCIA arbitration and related High Court litigation against several reinsurance companies relating to the failure of a commercial aircraft business (complete victory).

Global Industrial Conglomerate (UNCITRAL Arbitration)

Representing a global industrial conglomerate in an UNCITRAL arbitration seated in Geneva against a major Italian fashion house involving the supply of a well-known fragrance (favourable settlement).

U.S. Aerospace Company (ICC Arbitration)

Representing a U.S. aerospace company in an ICC arbitration against a European aerospace company involving rights to a satellite orbiting the earth (complete victory).

U.S. Retail Giant (Ad Hoc Arbitration)

Representing one of the world's largest retailers in an ad hoc construction arbitration against a Bermudan insurance company involving claims to remediate a large retail store in New York (favourable settlement).

CAREER AND ASSOCIATIONS

Partner, Gryphon Law, New York (2024-present)
Counsel, King & Spalding, New York and Miami (2018-2024)
Counsel & Global Manager, White & Case, New York (2010-2018)
Senior Associate, Allen & Overy, London (2006-2010)
Associate, Ashurst, Perth (2003-2005)

Bar Admissions

New York, Attorney (2012)
England & Wales, Solicitor and Solicitor Advocate (2007)
Western Australia, Barrister and Solicitor (2005)

Education

MBA (Dist.), Queen Mary University of London (2019)
FCIArb, Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (2010)
Dip. Int'l Arb. (Dist.), Queen Mary University of London (2009)
LLB, University of Western Australia (2003)
BEc, University of Western Australia (2003)

PUBLICATIONS

The Revised ICDR International Arbitration Rules, LexisNexis Arbitration, 2014

Towards a Truly International Court of Arbitration, Journal of International Arbitration, Vol. 30, 2013

Current and Preferred Practices in the Arbitral Process, NYSBA Dispute Resolution Journal, 2012

Looking Behind the Closed Doors of International Arbitration, PLC Arbitration, 2012

2012 Queen Mary / White & Case International Arbitration Survey, Kluwer Arbitration Blog, 2012

The Battle of the Seats: Paris, London or New York? PLC Arbitration, 2011

Beyond the Survey: The 2010 International Arbitration Survey on Choices in International Arbitration, Mealey's International Arbitration Report, 2010

Arbitral Advocacy: A New Foundation for an Emerging Art Form, International Arbitration News, 2009

House of Lords Upholds Breadth and Autonomy of Arbitration Agreements, International Arbitration News, 2007



LONDON

9 Old Square
Lincoln's Inn
London
WC2A 3SR

T 020 7405 9471

E london@enterprisechambers.com

BRISTOL

60 Queen Square
Bristol
BS1 4JZ

T 0117 450 7920

E bristol@enterprisechambers.com

LEEDS

Fountain House
4 South Parade
Leeds
LS1 5QX

T 0113 246 0391

E leeds@enterprisechambers.com

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