
Abby Cohen Smutny

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Bars and Courts

New York State Bar

District of Columbia Bar

US District Court for the District of
Columbia

Education

JD, University of Chicago Law School,
1990

AB, Vassar College, *cum laude*, 1986

Université des Langues et Lettres de
Grenoble, (Certificate), 1986

London School of Economics and
Political Science, (General Course), 1985

Awards and Recognition

Chambers Global, International
Arbitration

*Euromoney Experts Guide to the World's
Leading Experts in International
Commercial Arbitration*

Global Counsel Handbook, PLC Dispute
Resolution, Leading Lawyers Worldwide

Legal 500 USA, International Arbitration

The Best Lawyers in America

Euromoney's Expert Guide to the

*Leading US Lawyers – Best of the Best
USA*

American Lawyer's Fab Fifty, up-and-

coming litigators under the age of 50

Chambers USA, International Arbitration

Asialaw Leading Lawyers

Who's Who in Public International Law

Who's Who in American Law

Who's Who of Commercial Arbitration

Practice Experience

Abby Cohen Smutny co-heads White & Case's International Arbitration Practice in the Americas and heads the Firm's public international law practice.

Over the years, Chambers has described Abby as "a real star" who is "a major force in treaty arbitrations... smart, practical and... both aggressive and diplomatic." Chambers also noted that she is "renowned for her 'thorough and technical' preparation, as well as her 'vigorous and energetic' advocacy", stating "you can't go to a better practitioner, especially on cutting-edge cases."

Quoting a client, Global Arbitration Review described her as "a motivational powerhouse" whose "determination and motivation to succeed was a critical factor in our success." The International Who's Who of Commercial Arbitration noted her "virtually unrivalled knowledge of state responsibility and investment treaty protection", while The Legal 500 has described her as a "powerhouse ... the best."

Abby's experience includes working with clients in a wide range of industries including banking, financial services, oil & gas, mining, electric power, real estate development, water supply, retail, pharmaceuticals, construction, tobacco, railroads, telecommunications and manufacturing.

She has significant experience managing claims arising out of project financing, privatizations, natural resource concessions, contracts with States and state-entities and political risk insurance.

She represents clients in arbitrations before all major arbitral forums including ICSID, the ICC, the Vienna International Arbitral Centre, the LCIA, the ICDR, and the SCC, as well as in ad hoc arbitrations, such as those under the UNCITRAL Rules. She serves as counsel in cases arising under bilateral investment treaties (BITs), the Energy Charter Treaty, the NAFTA, the DR-CAFTA and the ASEAN treaty.

Representative matters include:

□ **Mining company Gold Reserve Inc. investment treaty arbitration**

Representing Gold Reserve Inc. in an ICSID (Additional Facility) arbitration under the Canadian-Venezuelan BIT, relating to one of the largest undeveloped gold/copper deposits in the world, in which Gold Reserve was awarded US\$740 million.

Who's Who of Business Lawyers

Euromoney Guide to Leading Women in Business Law

Benchmark Top 250 Women in Litigation

Formerly listed in Global Arbitration

Review's 45 under 45

Washington DC's Top Lawyers

Washington's Best Lawyers, International Disputes

Languages

English

French

Citizenship

United States

- **European State in an ICC arbitration of a telecommunications dispute**
Representing a European State in an arbitration of a dispute relating to the purchase price of a telecommunications company, in which the State was awarded over US\$100 million.
- **Consortium of investors in tariff dispute relating to water concession**
Representation of a consortium of investors in an arbitration relating to the economic terms of water concession before the International Arbitral Centre of the Austrian Federal Economic Chamber, in which our clients were awarded more than US\$100 million.
- **Kingdom of Jordan in oil production sharing agreement dispute**
Representing the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan in an ICSID arbitration with Trans-Global Petroleum Inc. under the US-Jordan BIT defending against claims of US\$1 billion relating to an oil production sharing agreement in which all claims were released in their entirety in a favorable consent award.
- **Leading bank Československá obchodní banka, a. s. in ICSID arbitration**
Representing one of the leading banks in the Czech Republic in an ICSID arbitration of a dispute with the Slovak Republic, in which the bank was awarded US\$877 million.
- **Republic of Bulgaria in ICSID arbitration relating to oil refinery**
Representing Republic of Bulgaria in an ICSID arbitration with Plama Consortium Ltd., of a dispute arising under the Energy Charter Treaty and the Cyprus-Bulgaria BIT, involving the operation of an oil refinery. The investor's claims were dismissed in their entirety and our client obtained a sizable cost award.
- **Romania in ICSID arbitration relating to duty free concessions**
Representing Romania in an ICSID arbitration brought by EDF (Services) Ltd. under the UK-Romania BIT, relating to concessions to provide duty free and other retail services at Romanian airports. The investor's claims were dismissed in their entirety, and Romania obtained a sizable cost award.

- **Republic of the Philippines in airport concession dispute**
Representing the Republic of the Philippines in ICSID arbitration with Fraport AG Frankfurt Airport Services Worldwide of a dispute arising under the German-Philippines BIT relating to a concession to construct and operate an airport terminal in Manila. The investor's claims were dismissed in their entirety.
- **US oil company in dispute relating to concession contract and production sharing agreement**
Representing a US company in an ICC arbitration of dispute with a North African State and its national oil company relating to concession contract and production sharing agreement.

Professional Associations

Institute for Transnational Arbitration; Executive Committee, Vice-Chair; Advisory Board, Member

American Law Institute, Adviser, US Restatement on International Commercial Arbitration

London Court of International Arbitration (LCIA), Vice President of North American User's Council

American Arbitration Association, Member, Advisory Board

American Society of International Law, former Vice-President, Member of the Executive Committee, Member of the Executive Council

International Bar Association, Arbitration Committee, former Vice Chair; Investment Treaty Subcommittee, former Chair

World Arbitration and Mediation Review, former Co-Editor in Chief

Global Arbitration Review, Editorial Board, Member

Journal of International Arbitration, Editorial Board, Member

Yearbook on International Investment Law and Policy, Editorial Board, Member

Selected Publications

"Enforcement of ICSID Convention Arbitral Awards in U.S. Courts," Vol. 43 *Pepperdine Law Review* 649 (2016) (co-authored with Anne Smith)

and McCoy Pitt)

Practicing Virtue: Inside International Arbitration, Caron, Schill, Smutny, and Triantafyllou (eds.), Oxford University Press (2015)

"Compensation Due in the Event of an Unlawful Expropriation: The 'Simple Scheme' Presented by Chorzow Factory and its Relevance to Investment Treaty Disputes," in Caron et al. (eds.), *Practicing Virtue*, Oxford University Press (2015)

"Arbitral Institutions," in Golden and Lamm (eds.), *International Financial Disputes*, Oxford University Press (2015) (co-authored with Petr Polášek)

"Investment Treaty Protections, Political Risk, and Tribunal Decision-Making," in A. Rovine (ed.) *Contemporary Issues in International Arbitration and Mediation: The Fordham Papers 2013* Brill (2014)

"Unlawful or Bad Faith Conduct as a Bar to Claims in Investment Arbitration" in J. Werner et al. (eds.), *A Liber Amicorum: Thomas Wälde – Law Beyond Conventional Thought*, Cameron May (2009) (co-authored with Petr Polášek)

"The MFN Clause: What are its Limits" in *Arbitration under International Investment Agreements: An analysis of the key procedural, jurisdictional and substantive issues*, Oxford University Press (2009) (co-authored with Lee A. Steven)

"The Use of Experts in Investment Treaty Arbitration" in *Les Experts: Auxiliaires ou Substituts de Juge? Centre Français de Droit Comparé* (2009) (co-authored with Daniel R. Gilbert)

"Claims of Shareholders in International Investment Law" in C. Binder et al. (eds.), *International Investment Law, Liber Amicorum* Christopher Schreuer, Oxford University Press (2009)

"Confidentiality in Relation to States," ICC International Court of Arbitration Bulletin (Special Supplement) (co-authored with Kristen Young)

"Enforcing Foreign Arbitral Awards in the United States: The Non-Arbitrable Subject Matter Defense," *Journal of International Arbitration* vol. 25(6) (2008) (co-authored with Hansel T. Pham)

"Foreign Investment and Political Risk: What You Should Know About Investment Protection Treaties (Parts I & II)," *Bloomberg European Law Journal*, Vol. 2, Nos. 6 & 7, June 2008 & July 2008 (co-authored with

Stephen T. Ostrowski)

"Principles of Compensation in Investment Treaty Arbitration," *ICSID Review Foreign Investment Law Journal*, Vol. 22, No. 1, Spring 2007

"The 2006 Amendments to ICSID's Arbitration Rules," *Global Arbitration Review*, Vol. 1, Issue 4, August 2006 (co-authored with Erika M. Serran)

"ICSID Annulment," *Investment Treaty Law: Current Issues*, Vol. 1, BIICL, 2006

"State Responsibility and Attribution: When Is a State Responsible for the Acts of State Enterprises?," *International Investment Law and Arbitration: Leading Cases from the ICSID, NAFTA, Bilateral Treaties and Customary International Law*, Cameron May, 2005

"ICSID Arbitration: Procedural Review," *Transnational Dispute Management*, Vol. II, Issue 2, April 2005

"Arbitration Before the International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes," *2002 Business Law International*, 367, September 2002

"How to Commence an International Arbitration," *Practitioner's Guide to International Arbitration and Mediation*, Juris Publishing, 2001 (co-authored with Stephen Bond)

"The International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes: Responses to Problems and Changing Requirements," *Mealey's International Arbitration Report*, 1, Vol. 12, November 1997 (co-authored with Carolyn B. Lamm)

"Arbitration Agreements versus Forum Selection Clauses: Legal and Practical Considerations," *International Dispute Resolution: The Regulation of Forum Selection [Fourteenth Sokol Colloquium]*, J.L. Goldsmith, ed. 1997 (co-authored with Charles N. Brower)

"The Effect of Independence of Quebec Upon Treaties and Agreements with the United States of America," *The American Review of Canadian Studies*, 57, Vol. 27, Spring 1997 (co-authored with Charles N. Brower)

"Enforcing ICSID Arbitration Agreements," *ICSID Review Foreign Investment Law Journal*, 64, Vol. 11, 1996 (co-authored with Carolyn B. Lamm)