

# ANÍBAL MARTÍN SABATER

## PARTNER

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Aníbal Sabater is an international arbitration specialist with over 25 years of experience in complex contractual and investment cases involving projects or transactions in Latin America, North America, Europe, North Africa, the Middle East, and Asia.

Licensed in several US jurisdictions, England and Wales (solicitor), and Spain, Aníbal devotes most of his time to the representation of clients in international arbitration cases, but also takes about three arbitrator appointments every year. As of 2022, he has arbitrated over 90 multi-million dollar disputes in English or Spanish and has ample experience as emergency arbitrator, sole arbitrator, co-arbitrator, and chairman of the Tribunal. As an arbitrator, he has acted under the AAA, CIAC/IACAC, ICC, ICDR, LCIA, SIAC, and UNCITRAL Arbitration Rules, as well as under the Rules of the Houston Maritime Arbitrators Association and in entirely ad hoc cases.

Aníbal is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators, the President of the UIA Commission on the Future of the Lawyer, and the immediate past President of the International Law Committee of the Association of Bar of the City of New York. He is a member of several panels of arbitrators, including those from the ICDR, SIAC, DR-CAFTA Chapter 20, the Houston Maritime Arbitrators Association, and the Central America – Chile Free Trade Agreement.

Chambers ranks Aníbal in Band 1 for most-in-demand arbitrators for Latin America and Band 3 for most in demand arbitrators for the US. Client- and peer-review-based publications say Aníbal is *“a really terrific arbitrator and can conduct proceedings in both English and Spanish. He is extremely knowledgeable, has great judgment and is very fair.”* (Chambers USA 2022.) In 2015, Global Arbitration Review shortlisted him for its award in the Best Prepared/Most Responsive Arbitrator category; and in 2017, Global Arbitration Review shortlisted the decision of an ICANN panel on which Aníbal sat (GCC v ICANN) for its award in the Most Important Reported or Published Decision category.

Details of Aníbal’s representative experience as counsel can be found online [here](#).

### EDUCATION

- Universidad Complutense, Madrid, Ph.D., *cum laude*
- Universidad Complutense, Madrid, law degree, *first in the class*

### ADMISSIONS

- Spain (1997)
- California (2005)
- Roll of Solicitors in England and Wales (2008)
- District of Columbia (2011)
- Registered Foreign Legal Consultant, New York (2012)

### LANGUAGES

- English and Spanish
- Reads French and German

## PREVIOUS CAREER

Aníbal joined Chaffetz Lindsey in January 2015 and was previously a partner at Norton Rose Fulbright, having spent 11 years with the firm in its Houston and New York offices. Prior to that, Aníbal practiced for six years at Gómez-Acebo & Pombo in Madrid.

## RECENT ARBITRATOR APPOINTMENTS

Significant recent arbitrator appointments he has received include:

- Presidente de Tribunal Arbitral CIAC/IACAC en un arbitraje relativo a un contrato de concesión para la construcción y operación de una autopista en Colombia.
- Chair in ICDR arbitration concerning impact of trade sanctions on a transaction (Vienna seat);
- Co-arbitrator in LCIA arbitration concerning oil exploration and production services in Africa (London seat and English law);
- Emergency arbitrator in ICC case concerning infrastructure project (Mexican seat and law);
- Co-arbitrator in post-M&A ICC arbitration (New York seat and law);
- Emergency arbitrator in ICC arbitration over LNG supply contracts (New York seat; Peruvian law);
- Co-arbitrator in post-M&A ICC arbitration (Spanish seat and law);
- Co-arbitrator in ICC arbitration over put option (Madrid seat; Spanish law; approximately US\$1 billion in dispute);
- Chair in ICDR construction case brought against a Colombian sovereign entity (Colombian law and seat);
- Chair in two IACAC cases brought against a Central American sovereign involving an infrastructure project (Central American law and seat);
- Presiding arbitrator in ICC construction arbitration (Miami seat; Florida and Latin American applicable laws);
- Sole arbitrator in ICDR arbitration over sale of sale of military equipment in the Middle East (New Jersey seat and law);
- Sole arbitrator in AAA case against a European state (confidential);
- Co-arbitrator in ICC construction arbitration (Santiago de Chile seat; Chilean law; approximately US\$1.5 billion in dispute);
- Sole arbitrator in ICDR maritime dispute (Miami seat; Florida law);
- Sole arbitrator in ICC case brought against an African state involving a construction project in that state (confidential)
- Co-arbitrator in UNCITRAL contractual dispute (New York seat and law);
- Co-arbitrator in ICC construction arbitration (Houston seat; New York law);
- Co-arbitrator in ICC arbitration over power purchase agreement involving a state-owned company (Central American seat and law)
- Co-arbitrator in post M&A ad hoc arbitration (i.e., no administered and not governed by any specific set of rules) (New York seat; New York and Mexican laws);

## RECENT ARBITRATOR APPOINTMENTS (continued)

- Co-arbitrator in ICC arbitration concerning commodities trading company (Miami seat; Florida law);
- Presiding arbitrator in ICC construction arbitration (Paris seat; Chilean law);
- Co-adjudicator in ICANN top level domain name dispute (Gulf Cooperation Council v. ICANN) [the panel's determination is available at [icann.org](http://icann.org)];
- Co-arbitrator in *Ranger Offshore Mexico v. Tradeco Infraestructura and Grupo Tradeco*, an arbitration concerning a bareboat agreement conducted under the Rules of the Houston Maritime Arbitrators' Association (Houston seat; U.S. maritime laws) [award is available at [pacer.gov](http://pacer.gov)].

## SELECT PUBLICATIONS

- ["The Decalogue to Work with Cocounsel,"](#) in "Surviving in the Field of International Arbitration: War Stories and Lessons Learned (English & Spanish-Bilingual Book)," *Wolters Kluwer* (September 2020).
- ["International Arbitration Pre-Hearing Checklist"](#) New York International Arbitration Center (May 2020).
- ["What covid-19 means for Latin American arbitration,"](#) *Latin Lawyer* (April 2020).
- "Tracing the Evolution of International Investment Law Through the Catalyst of Energy Disputes" *OGEL Journal in International Investment Law* (March 2018), Co-Authored with Mark D. Stadnyk.
- ["An Arbitrator's Obligation to Use Reasonable Efforts to Issue an Enforceable Award and Its Interaction with the New York Convention,"](#) 60 Years of the New York Convention: Key Issues and Future Challenges, *Wolters Kluwer* (2019), co-Authored with Lidia Rezende.
- ["Optional Appellate Arbitration Rules: Are They Good For Your Case?"](#) (with Practical Law Arbitration), *Thomson Reuters* (September 2015).
- ["ICDR arbitration—the lawyers' perspective"](#) *LexisPSL* (August 2015).

## SELECT SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- "The Overhaul of ISDS – Issues and Trends," *Tulane Energy Conference – The Changing Landscape of Cross-Border Energy Transactions*, *Tulane Center for Energy Law*, Speaker (New Orleans, March 2019).
- "An Arbitrator's Obligation to (try to) Issue an Enforceable Award: Achmea and Beyond," *New York International Arbitration Club*, Speaker (New York, February 2019)
- "Recalcitrant Parties: Balancing Legitimacy and Due Process," *8th Investment Treaty Arbitration Conference*, Panelist (Prague, October 2018).
- "The Impact of Sanctions on International Arbitration," *7th Annual GAR Live New York*, Panelist (New York, September 2018).
- "Would you recommend Miami as the seat for international arbitration?" *Latin Lawyer-GAR Arbitration Summit*, Panelist (Miami, April 2018).

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