

Alexander A. Yanos

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As co-leader of Alston & Bird's International Arbitration & Dispute Resolution Team, Alex Yanos focuses on complex international disputes in court and before arbitral tribunals.

Alex's arbitration practice includes commercial, financial, and treaty-based disputes, particularly in the energy and mining sectors and in Latin America. He obtained a finding of unlawful expropriation in one of the largest investment treaty cases ever filed before the International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID) in an arbitration against Venezuela. In another decision against a sovereign state, the U.S. Supreme Court reinstated the award of a British multinational oil and gas company client against Argentina. He has also obtained results for clients in disputes involving governments around the world. He has advocated for his clients before nearly every international arbitration tribunal, including the ICSID, International Chamber of Commerce, London Court of International Arbitration, American Arbitration Association, Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre, Inter-American Commercial Arbitration Commission, International Court of Justice, and Stockholm Chamber of Commerce.

Alex also has considerable experience representing clients in the securities, banking, antitrust, and insurance industries facing multijurisdictional disputes. He is fluent in six languages.

He has been ranked as one of the top international arbitration lawyers by *Chambers USA*, *Chambers Global*, and *Chambers Latin America* and recognized by *The Legal 500 United States*.

Representative Experience

- Obtained a finding of unlawful expropriation in a \$1.2 billion ICSID arbitration on behalf of a Canadian mining company against Venezuela following the nationalization of the company's mining investments. The case was one of the largest investment treaty cases ever filed.
- Obtained a partial award in favor of one of the world's largest energy companies and its downstream subsidiary in an ICC arbitration brought by Venezuela's state-owned energy company.
- Obtained a decision of the U.S. Supreme Court reinstating his client's award against Argentina involving a breach of a bilateral investment treaty.
- Obtained a decision holding that Venezuela unlawfully expropriated the oil investments of one of the world's largest energy companies.
- Obtained a decision holding that Ecuador unlawfully expropriated the investments of a U.S. retailer following Ecuador's imposition of a 99% tax on its revenues.
- Obtained an award in favor of an international energy company in an ICSID arbitration against Argentina involving violation of the France–Argentina bilateral investment treaty.
- Represented Lithuania in an ICSID arbitration involving concession claims.

Publications & Presentations

Publications

- “Intra-EU Investment Treaty Disputes in US Courts: Achmea, Micula and Beyond,” *The Arbitration Review of the Americas 2021: Global Arbitration Review*, August 2020.
- “Corruption as a Defense in Investment Treaty Arbitration,” *New York Law Journal*, August 3, 2018.
- “Emerging Trends in International Arbitration,” *Law 360*, June 2013.
- “The COMMISA Decision: A U.S. Federal District Court Confirms an Arbitral Award Annulled at Its Seat,” *Mealey’s International Arbitration Report*, Vol. 119, 2013.
- “Mass Claims in International Investment Arbitration,” *The Deal*, January 18, 2012.

Presentations

- “Session Two: Experience Sharing of International Arbitration Facing Enterprises from Mainland China,” Second Annual Conference of China Forum of Financial & Investment Disputes, November 8, 2019., Beijing, November 8, 2019.
- “Session Four: State Investment Disputes,” 2019 Dispute Resolution in the International Oil & Gas Business, October 25, 2019, Houston, TX, October 24, 2019 - October 25, 2019.
- “A Guide to Third Party Litigation/Arbitration Funding and Investing,” U.S. Endowment Consortium Webinar on Litigation Funds, webinar, October 3, 2018.

Professional & Community Engagement

- U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit
- U.S. Supreme Court

Education

- Columbia University (J.D., 1993)
- Princeton University (B.A., 1989)

Languages

- French
- German
- Greek
- Russian
- Spanish

Admitted to Practice

- New York
- District of Columbia (Not Admitted)

Related Services

International Arbitration & Dispute Resolution | Litigation | Commercial Construction | Energy & EPC Matters | Manufacturing | Public Private Partnerships | Transportation Construction