



AIJA LEJNIECE

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EDUCATION

Harvard Law School
LL.M. / 2010–2011
University of Latvia
LL.M. / 2008–2010
Utrecht University
LL.M., Erasmus / 2009
University of Latvia
LL.B. / 2005–2008

BAR ADMISSIONS

New York State Bar / 2013
Barreau de Paris / 2014

NATIONALITY

Latvian

LANGUAGES

English & Latvian (bilingual)
French & Russian (fluent)
Spanish (professional grasp)
Italian & German (notions)

PROFESSIONAL INTERESTS

Fintech
Moot courts
Teaching & training
Women's Rights
Mentoring junior practitioners

PASSIONS

Equestrian sports
Art, antiques & literature
Social media

PROFILE & EXPERIENCE

10+ years experience working in international disputes

Specialization: Investment Treaty Arbitration | International Commercial Arbitration | PIL | Cross-Border Disputes | French Enforcement & Annulment Proceedings | EU Law | ADR

Areas of Expertise: Litigation | Pre-Dispute Advice | Investment Corporate Structuring Advice | Regulatory Advice | Strategy | Securing Funding | Settlement Negotiations | Contracts

Sectors: Oil & Gas | Renewable Energy | Mining | Banking | Fintech | Crypto | Construction | Insolvency | Taxation | Sovereign Debt | Tourism | Consumer Protection

Rules & Institutions: ICSID | SCC | HKIAC | LCIA | ICC | UNCITRAL | PCA

Select State Representations

- Russian Federation in an UNCITRAL arbitration concerning the bankruptcy of one of the largest national banks following the 2014 Russian financial crisis
- Republic of Colombia in multiple ICSID arbitrations against North American gold miners
- Russian Federation in multiple UNCITRAL arbitrations relating to the bankruptcy of Yukos Oil Company
- Hellenic Republic in an ICSID arbitration against a Cypriot bank arising out of government bond restructuring in the context of the Greek financial crisis
- Arab Republic of Egypt in an ICSID arbitration relating to an investment in the tourism sector

Select Investor Representations

- Eastern European investor against Belarus in an ICSID arbitration arising out of the host State's interference with an infrastructure project in the Minsk Airport vicinity
- Photovoltaic investor Novenergia in an Energy Charter Treaty-based SCC arbitration against the Kingdom of Spain concerning the national renewable energy scheme, and the consequent dealings with the European Commission and annulment proceedings before the Svea Court of Appeal in Sweden
- Russian State-owned energy company Gazprom against Lithuania in an UNCITRAL arbitration regarding the unbundling of the national gas sector
- Russian oil & gas company Tatneft against Ukraine in an UNCITRAL arbitration concerning the forced takeover of the investor's company, as well as in subsequent annulment proceedings before the Paris Court of Appeal

Select Commercial Arbitrations & Others

- Crypto traders in a dispute against the world's largest cryptocurrency trading platform Binance
- A LATAM State-owned oil & gas company in two LCIA arbitrations in connection with a dispute relating to Health & Safety and arising out of a Unit Operating Agreement
- A Ukrainian construction company in ICC award enforcement and annulment proceedings in France
- The family of a high-ranking international organization representative in a dispute against the organization
- Various fintech actors in matters relating to their ventures

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Independent Counsel & Arbitrator | May 2021–Present

Latham & Watkins LLP, Paris, France

Senior Associate, International Arbitration, Litigation & Trial Practice | April 2016–April 2021

Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton LLP, Paris, France

Associate, International Arbitration and PIL Practice Group | November 2012–February 2016

Shearman & Sterling LLP, Paris, France

Trainee Lawyer | April 2012–July 2012

White & Case LLP, Paris, France

Trainee Lawyer | September 2011–February 2012