



Navigating the Future of Investment and Commercial Arbitration: 20 Years of State Perspectives and Emerging Challenges

20th Anniversary Conference of the Office of the General Counsel to the Republic of Poland

15 September 2026

Conference Programme

8:15 – 9:00	Registration
9:00 – 9:20	Opening of the Conference and Welcome Remarks • Artur Woźnicki, Vice President of the General Counsel to the Republic of Poland • Maciej Martyński, Director of the Department of International and European Law of the General Counsel to the Republic of Poland
9:20 – 10:00	Keynote Lectures • prof. Zachary Douglas KC, Professor of International Law, Geneva Graduate Institute and Full Professor of Law, LUISS, Rome <i>“How Investment Law Is Failing”</i> • Anna Joubin-Bret, Secretary of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) <i>“60 Years of UNCITRAL: From Arbitration Rules to ISDS Reform – strengthening trust in international investment dispute resolution”</i>
10:00 – 11:30	SESSION 1 MODELS OF STATE REPRESENTATION IN INVESTMENT ARBITRATION
	MODERATOR: Joanna Jackowska-Majeranowska , Deputy Director of the Department of International and European Law of the General Counsel to the Republic of Poland

	PANELISTS: • Jaroslav Kudrna, Ministry of Finance, Czech Republic <i>"Counting the Cost: The Evolution of Czech ISDS Representation"</i> • Lourdes Martínez de Victoria Gómez, General State Attorney's Office - Ministry of the Presidency, Justice and Relations with Parliament, Kingdom of Spain <i>"Representation of the Kingdom of Spain in investment arbitration"</i> • Peter Matuska, Ministry of Finance, Slovak Republic <i>"State in investment arbitration: The case of the Slovak Republic"</i> • David Bigge, Wordstone Dispute Resolution, Washington <i>"Representation of the United States in ISDS"</i> • Maciej Martyński, Department of International and European Law of the General Counsel to the Republic of Poland <i>"The General Counsel to the Republic of Poland in investment arbitration"</i>
11:30 – 11:45	Coffee break
11:45 – 13:15	SESSION 2 BALANCING INVESTOR PROTECTION, STATE SOVEREIGNTY AND ISDS REFORM: NAVIGATING FRAGMENTATION AND POLICY MODERATOR: dr Dominik Horodyski, Department of International and European Law of the General Counsel to the Republic of Poland PANELISTS: • Rafał Bobkiewicz, Department of International and European Law of the General Counsel to the Republic of Poland <i>"The Concept of Investment: A Long and Winding Road Toward Coherent Understanding in Investment Jurisprudence"</i> • dr hab. Beata Gessel-Kalinowska vel Kalisz, prof. INP PAN, Gessel, Kozirowski, Warsaw <i>"The evolution of valuation methods in measuring compensation for expropriation of the non-going concern"</i> • Mariia Puchyna, ICC International Court of Arbitration, Paris <i>"The Institutional View: How arbitral practice is shaping ISDS Reform"</i> • prof. Eduardo Silva Romero, Wordstone Dispute Resolution, Paris <i>"The resurrection of investment contracts: a solution to ISDS decline"</i> • Bartosz Krużewski, Clifford Chance, Warsaw

	<i>"Investment Court System – a future or a mirage?"</i>
13:15 – 14:15	<i>Lunch break</i>
14:15 – 15:45	SESSION 3 ADAPTING ARBITRATION TO GEOPOLITICAL CHALLENGES AND SANCTIONS
	MODERATOR: dr Karolina Panfil, Department of International and European Law of the General Counsel to the Republic of Poland PANELISTS: • dr Henryka Mościcka-Dendys, Head of the Foreign Service and Director General, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Republic of Poland <i>"Foreign Policy Objectives and Access to Arbitration"</i> • prof. Eric de Brabandere, Leiden University, DMDB Law, Netherlands <i>"The current state of unilateral sanctions in public international law and the impact on international arbitration"</i> • Josephine Norris, European Commission <i>"Arbitration and EU Restrictive Measures. Recent developments"</i> • Damroka Kościelak, Department of International and European Law of the General Counsel to the Republic of Poland <i>"Geopolitical Risk and International Arbitration: Lessons from Emergofin and Velbay v. Ukraine and Other Cases"</i> • dr hab. Marcin Czepelak, Secretary-General of the Permanent Court of Arbitration, the Hague <i>"The role of arbitration institutions and arbitral tribunals in managing disputes with geopolitical implications"</i>
15:45 – 16:00	<i>Coffee break</i>
16:00 – 17:30	SESSION 4 THE EU LAW'S APPROACH TO INVESTMENT ARBITRATION
	MODERATOR: Agnieszka Kilanowska-Świerczyńska, Department of International and European Law of the General Counsel to the Republic of Poland PANELISTS: • prof. dr hab. Maciej Szpunar, First Advocate General of the European Court of Justice, Luxembourg <i>"Is the Court of Justice afraid of international arbitration?"</i>

	• André Bouquet, European Commission <i>"Current Challenges in Defending the EU's Position Before International Tribunals and National Courts"</i> • dr hab. Łukasz Kułaga, prof. UKSW, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Republic of Poland <i>"Agreement on the interpretation and application of the Energy Charter Treaty from the perspective of international law"</i> • Dorieke Overduin, Sovereign Arbitration Advisors, Washington <i>"Across the Atlantic: How Washington Sees EU Law"</i> • dr hab. Marcin Kałduński, prof. UMK, Department of International and European Law of the General Counsel to the Republic of Poland <i>"The EU Objection in post-arbitration proceedings outside the EU (Singapore, Israel, Australia)"</i>
17:30 – 17:45	Coffee break
17:45 – 18:15	Closing of the Conference and Summary Remarks • Artur Woźnicki, Vice President of the General Counsel to the Republic of Poland • dr hab. Marcin Kałduński, prof. UMK, Deputy Director of the Department of International and European Law of the General Counsel to the Republic of Poland
18:30	Reception