

# Drew Holiner

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## Arbitrator CV

### PROFILE

International arbitrator with extensive experience sitting as chair, sole and party-appointed arbitrator in complex cross-border commercial disputes. Qualified in jurisdictions across the UK, US, EU, CIS and UAE, Drew has presided over and participated in arbitrations involving sanctions, energy, infrastructure, finance, corporate matters and technology disputes worldwide.

Drew is regularly appointed by leading arbitral institutions, co-arbitrators and parties in high-value disputes involving parties from different jurisdictions and legal traditions. His appointments span major arbitration centers and reflect the confidence placed in his procedural management, substantive expertise and impartiality.

Drew's practice as counsel and expert witness in international arbitrations complements his work as arbitrator, providing deep understanding of advocacy, procedure, evidence management and substantive expertise across diverse legal systems. His combination of qualifications and cross-system expertise uniquely positions him for disputes requiring knowledge of both common law and civil law traditions, particularly those involving sanctions, geopolitical risk and high-risk jurisdictions.

### ADMISSIONS

- UK: England and Wales; British Virgin Islands
- US: California; Washington state
- EU: Ireland
- CIS: Russia; Kazakhstan (AIFC Court)
- UAE: Dubai (DIFC Courts)

### LANGUAGES

English (native); Russian (fluent); German (intermediate); Mandarin, Arabic (beginner).

### EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

- Moscow University for the Humanities – Jurist (Russian law)
- BPP Law School – GDL, BVC (English law)
- Graduate, ICC Advanced Arbitration Academy for North America
- Fellow, Chartered Institute of Arbitrators

## ARBITRATOR EXPERIENCE

Drew sits as chair, sole and party-appointed arbitrator in commercial, energy, finance and technology disputes across Europe, the Middle East and Asia-Pacific. His arbitrator experience includes matters seated in London (LCIA, ICC, UNCITRAL), Dubai (DIAC), Hong Kong (HKIAC), Central Asia (AIFC IAC) and Geneva (PCA, UNCITRAL).

He is frequently appointed in matters involving sanctions, corporate governance, cross-border finance and regulatory issues, energy supply chains, and disputes involving corporate groups, state-related entities, private parties, financial institutions and investors. His experience in the additional roles of counsel and expert witness ensures a procedural, commercially focused approach valued by parties and co-arbitrators.

Drew has been recognised in Legal500 for his work as arbitrator, with colleagues highlighting his impartiality, sound judgment and knowledge of arbitration procedure.

Representative appointments include:

- UNCITRAL arbitration (PCA-supported) (2024-) – Government railway supply dispute (China-Turkmenistan).
- ICC (2023-) – Party-appointed arbitrator in dispute over sanctions-impacted exit from energy project (US-Russia).
- DIAC (2025) – Presiding arbitrator in dispute concerning guarantees for delivery of oil supplies to West Africa (UAE-Russia).
- AIFC IAC (2023-2025) – Presiding arbitrator in dispute over supply of drilling equipment for Caspian Sea exploration project, including sanctions-related issues (Russia-Kazakhstan).\*
- LCIA (2021-2025) – LCIA-appointed arbitrator in 27 consolidated agricultural trade finance arbitrations alleging sanctions impact (US-Ukraine/Poland).
- LCIA (2024) – Presiding arbitrator in cross-border mining finance dispute (Singapore-Switzerland).\*
- LCIA (2023) – Sole arbitrator in food and beverage distribution dispute governed by Belarusian law (Ukraine-Belarus).\*
- LCIA (2020-2022) – Sole arbitrator in freight forwarding dispute (Switzerland-Russia).\*
- LCIA (2019-2022) – Sole arbitrator in retail jewellery finance dispute involving parallel High Court proceedings (UK-Russia).
- HKIAC (2018-2020) – Sole arbitrator in cross-border film industry dispute involving internationally renowned actors (China-Russia).

\*Arbitration conducted in the Russian language.

## ARBITRATOR APPROACH

Drew's approach as arbitrator emphasizes:

- Procedural efficiency and proactive case management
- Clear, timely rulings on evidence and procedure

- Deep engagement with substantive legal and factual issues
- Reasoned awards that are clear and enforceable
- Cultural sensitivity and experience across common law and civil law traditions
- Management of hearings conducted in English and Russian

Drew's experience in dual roles as counsel and expert witness ensures practical understanding of party and tribunal needs, effective management of expert evidence, and sensitivity to cross-border procedural and cultural issues.

## **COUNSEL EXPERIENCE**

Drew's experience as lead and co-counsel in international arbitrations informs his work as arbitrator, providing insight into effective advocacy, case strategy and party needs.

Representative matters include:

- LCIA (2024-2025) – Lead counsel in fintech dispute alleging application of Ukrainian sanctions.
- LCIA (2023-2024) – Lead counsel in sport investment dispute involving enforcement of pledge over shares in premier division Spanish football club.
- LCIA (2022-2024) – Lead counsel in dispute concerning effect of Chinese offtake agreement in Zimbabwean lithium mine.
- LCIA (2018-2021) – Co-counsel in corporate governance dispute in Russian oilfield services.
- LCIA (2010-2014) – Co-counsel in series of arbitrations concerning control of a multi-billion-dollar landmark real-estate project in Moscow.

## **EXPERT EVIDENCE & ADVICE**

Drew's expertise in Russian and CIS legal systems provides substantive knowledge valuable in energy, sanctions and cross-border disputes. He has acted as expert in over 100 matters on Russian, Kazakhstani, Kyrgyz, Ukrainian and Belarusian law before UK, US, European and Asia-Pacific courts and tribunals.

Representative matters: Expert for AerCap in multi-billion-dollar aircraft leasing dispute (England), expert for Russia's Deposit Insurance Agency in USD 2.5bn freezing order (England), expert in USD 1.3bn fiduciary duty claim (New York), expert for Google on countersanctions (California), expert for JPMorgan on banking litigation and countersanctions (England), expert for US DOJ, UK NCA, Irish Revenue Commissioners.

## **PANELS OF ARBITRATORS**

Drew sits on the panels of arbitrators of leading international and regional arbitral institutions worldwide:

### **Asia-Pacific**

- Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre (HKIAC)
- Singapore International Arbitration Centre (SIAC)

- Shenzhen Court of International Arbitration (SCIA)
- Korean Commercial Arbitration Board International (KCAB)
- Asian International Arbitration Centre (AIAC)

### **Middle East & Central Asia**

- Dubai International Arbitration Centre (DIAC)
- Saudi Center for Commercial Arbitration (SCCA)
- Astana International Financial Centre IAC (AIFC IAC)
- Tashkent International Arbitration Centre (TIAC)
- Mongolian International Arbitration Center (MIAC)

### **Europe**

- London Court of International Arbitration (LCIA)\*
- ICC International Court of Arbitration (ICC)\*
- Stockholm Chamber of Commerce Arbitration Institute (SCC)\*
- Russian Arbitration Centre (RAC)
- Vienna International Arbitration Centre (VIAC)

\* Do not operate formal panels or lists, but has substantial experience

### **Americas**

- BVI International Arbitration Centre (BVI IAC)

## **RECENT DIRECTORY QUOTES**

### **Arbitrator**

- "Drew is an excellent arbitrator [...] wise and impartial [and] respected by both sides." – Legal 500, 2025 – Leading Junior in International Arbitration: Arbitrator

### **Counsel**

- "A fantastic asset to have when you're faced with complex [cross-]border disputes." "He's very responsive, and he is very good at explaining things clearly." – Chambers UK, 2026 – Commercial Dispute Resolution
- "It is a pleasure to have Drew Holiner as a representative in the arbitration. He is extremely smart and has an unprecedentedly high ability to quickly absorb and understand matters." – Chambers UK, 2026 – International Arbitration: General Commercial & Insurance

### **Expert**

- "Drew is an absolute expert in Russian law. He probably knows more about the area than anyone else in the UK Bar." "Drew has fantastic language skills. He doesn't overburden you with details. All his comments are economical but always on point." – Chambers Global, 2025 – International Arbitration – The English Bar

## General

- "Drew is responsive, razor-sharp, business-oriented and provides concise and practical advice that is straight to the point." – Chambers UK and Chambers Global, 2025 – Commercial Dispute Resolution
- "Highly responsible. Impressive expertise and knowledge of procedural nuances of international commercial arbitration. Takes care of the client's practical needs." – Legal 500, 2025 – Leading Junior in International Arbitration: Counsel
- "Drew Holiner is adept at putting complex foreign law concepts into terms a judge can easily understand." – Chambers UK, 2024 – Commercial Dispute Resolution

## CONTACT

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