



Debevoise
& Plimpton

Infrastructure Disputes

Our multidisciplinary Infrastructure Group has an excellent track record of advising on **contract management issues on live projects, backed up by a well-developed and executed litigation strategy.**

If formal proceedings prove necessary, we are leaders in enforcing our clients' rights without losing sight of the bigger picture.



Buildings



Airports



Ports



Rail
projects



Roads



Bridges



Oil & gas
facilities



Pipelines



Mining
facilities



Power
projects



Water
projects



Social
infrastructure

What Others Say About Us

“It is really an all star team. As a client, they would be my number one call, each individual is a star. It really is something to see them in action.”

“It is a first rate law firm. Truly outstanding.”

“They work seamlessly across borders: I have never had a sense we were dealing with another group.”

Chambers Global

“The quality of work offered was excellent in every respect, without exception.”

Benchmark Litigation Europe

“They have terrific legal skills and talent across the board, they identify all the right issues, and give us great advice and counsel.”

Chambers USA

“They are head and shoulders the finest advocacy firm.”

“The team’s work and advice has consistently been of high quality, and their attention to detail and thoroughness has been outstanding.”

Chambers UK

“It really is a fantastic firm.”

“Their work is always outstanding and they are incredibly thorough and precise; everything is always executed to perfection.”

Chambers Latin America

“The contentious construction team at Debevoise & Plimpton contains an unrivalled mix of individuals.”

“Genuine in-depth construction and engineering legal expertise with an international reach.”


The Legal 500 UK

Contract Management


Contract management is at the core of our practice. We draw on a range of disciplines across the firm to offer strategic advice on all aspects of construction law and risk management.

We help clients address claims to avoid, manage and resolve issues effectively and efficiently. We work closely with project teams and liaise with other parties to prevent complications from deteriorating into disputes.

We also provide on-going contract management, legal advice and claims support.




Legal support to project delivery




Education and training to project teams




Development of correspondence strategies



Advising on contract interpretation and potential claims and liabilities




Appearing from an early stage to advocate our clients' positions under contract dispute procedures




Providing tactical assistance in negotiations with counterparties

Early Resolution


Finding ways of early or alternative dispute resolution can be key in keeping a project on course and on budget. We have successfully represented and advised clients across the full range of alternative dispute resolution methods.

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Management
negotiation

A hexagonal icon with a light blue top triangle and a light blue bottom triangle, with a light gray center containing the text "Dispute Advisory Boards".


Dispute Advisory
Boards

A hexagonal icon with a teal top triangle and a teal bottom triangle, with a light gray center containing the text "Adjudication".


Adjudication

A hexagonal icon with a yellow top triangle and a yellow bottom triangle, with a light gray center containing the text "Mediation".

Mediation

A hexagonal icon with a maroon top triangle and a maroon bottom triangle, with a light gray center containing the text "Early neutral evaluation".

Early neutral
evaluation

A hexagonal icon with a pink top triangle and a pink bottom triangle, with a light gray center containing the text "Expert determination".

Expert
determination

Select Contract Management and Early Resolution Experience of our Team



Advising a consortium of international EPC contractors on contract management issues for the **construction of several major structures in an international airport**, including preparation of records and correspondence; assisting in preparation of contractor claims; responding to employer claims; advising on negotiation strategy; and representing clients in meetings and contract dispute resolution processes.



Advising a Peruvian power company on its rights and remedies against a contractor and sub-contractor following the failure of generators installed in a new dual-fuel power plant. Following contractual correspondence and a series of negotiations, **the issues were settled and the power plant was quickly returned to operation.**



Advising and representing the owner of a ship yard on contracts worth \$4.6 billion for the construction of several ship-shape drilling platforms for use in deep water oil and gas exploration, including advising from an early stage on strategies for protecting contract rights, continued performance of the works and potential avenues for re-negotiation. After a change in the circumstances, we advised on strategies for exiting from the contracts, **establishing claims against the counterparty in excess of \$1 billion** and preparing for potential formal arbitration proceedings, eventually leading to a successful settlement.



Advising and representing Transport for London as owner on the contracts for the extension and upgrade of the East London Line and North London Line. Assisting in negotiations for the contracts when they were first executed, and continued through two years of advising on contract management including five adjudication, two mediations and one English High Court litigation. **Ultimately all of the claims were settled and the project was completed successfully.**



Advising Hong Kong and China Gas on **contract management and contractual interpretation issues** for the Guangdong LNG project; the construction of a twin gas submarine pipeline; and the construction of the permanent aircraft fuel facility (PAFF) serving Hong Kong International Airport.



Advising a major international EPC contract on contract interpretation and management issues relating to the **construction of a railway project in the Middle East**, including advising on and drafting correspondence, advising on potential force majeure issues, preparation of contractor claims and advising on negotiation strategy.



Our World-Beating Arbitration and Litigation Practice

Debevoise's disputes practice has long been at the forefront of firms involved in litigation and international arbitration work. We are regularly and repeatedly recognized by legal directories and clients for our exceptionally strong track record advising and representing our clients in the most complicated and strategically significant disputes.



International arbitration
under all major procedural
rules



International litigation
before courts, tribunals,
and administrative bodies



Investor-state disputes
arising under bilateral and
multilateral investment
treaties



Advising on corporate
responsibility and other
business integrity risks



All aspects of **public international law**, including treaty interpretation and enforcement, boundary disputes, privileges and immunities, international human rights and humanitarian law, and international environmental law



Select Arbitration and Litigation Experience of our Team



A leading global engineering and project management company in an UNCITRAL arbitration arising out of the construction of a multibillion dollar LNG plant.



An engineering and commissioning contractor in an AUS\$3 billion ICC Singapore arbitration concerning the disputed termination of an EPC subcontract to build a captive Combined Cycle power station on an LNG facility.



A construction company in its \$600 million ICC arbitration with a major oil company over delays and additional costs in a project for the construction of a FPSO platform.



A major infrastructure and engineering company in an ICC arbitration relating to the construction of a fertilizer plant in the USA.



Petrolera Ameriven (a joint venture owned by PdVSA of Venezuela, Phillips Conoco and Chevron Texaco) in five ICC arbitrations involving a petrochemical “upgrader” facility in Venezuela, with over \$900 million at stake.



A South American power company in a dispute arising out of delays and defects in the construction of a hydroelectric power plant.



A Chinese EPC contractor in an ICC arbitration concerning the construction of a coal-fired power generation facility in Central America, with more than \$1 billion at stake.



Hess Corporation in its English High Court dispute with a contractor over defects in the construction of two offshore drilling platforms.



Global Reach

Our practice spans the globe. Our lawyers are qualified in common law and civil law systems, speak more than 30 languages, and work in ten offices across three continents.

Our global prominence allows us to maintain a network of best-in-market local and regional law firms. Rather than being tied to individual firms through “best-friend” relationships, we collaborate with the best firm for the client and the case.

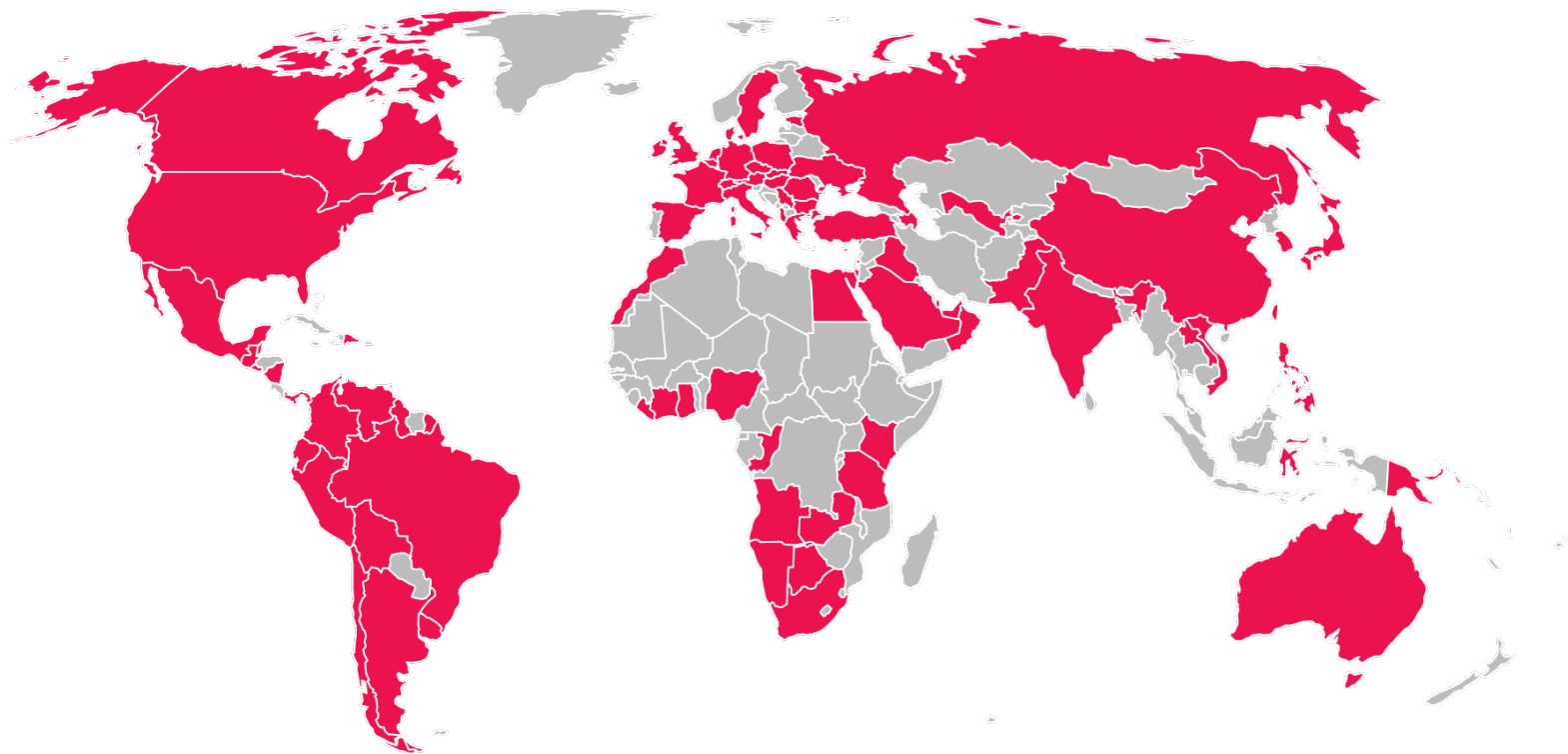
In 2019 alone

Over
120
international matters

Over
30
countries

Over
US\$77BN
total value

In recent years, our team has handled matters across the globe



“They are tremendously strong globally.”

The team “very obviously stands out as being one of the best. It understands how to do things internationally and create a team that works well together.”

Chambers Global

Client Dedication

We know our clients have a choice in who advises on their most critical matters. That's why we constantly explore new ways to dedicate ourselves to client service.


Our **Debevoise Business Integrity Screen**, launched in 2019, is designed to provide in-house counsel, sustainability leaders and compliance departments with a tool to help navigate the increasingly complex area of business integrity risk and its potential reputational, financial and political consequences.

Our **Protocol to Promote Cybersecurity in International Arbitration**, launched in 2017, our **Efficiency Protocol**, and our **International Arbitration Clause Handbook**, each revised in 2018, are recognized as industry standards and exemplify our continuing commitment to innovation, efficiency, and client service.

Most law firms have a compensation structure that encourages lawyers to protect individual relationships and discourages sharing of work. At Debevoise, we do things differently. **Collaboration** is a key part of how we deliver the very best in client service.

We also provide cutting-edge and creative fee arrangements. We pride ourselves on our market-leading commitment to **client value**.

To serve our clients best, we must lead the field in our area of practice. We not only know today's law, we are shaping tomorrow's. We hold **leadership roles** with virtually every major arbitration body in the world and leading public international law groups. We deploy our experience and prominence in the field to lead innovation for the benefit of our clients.



“The quality of service is undoubtedly outstanding. They have superior knowledge of substantive and procedural aspects of international arbitration, a great strategic view and analytical capacity, profound commitment to the case and a great attitude towards their client.”

Chambers Global

“All of the lawyers I work with bring their best to the table, they are professional, highly responsive, and a pleasure to work with.”

Benchmark Litigation US

Key Contacts

Donald Francis Donovan



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Mr. Donovan serves as counsel in international disputes before international courts, international arbitration tribunals, and courts in the United States.

Based on surveys of others in the field, Mr. Donovan is widely regarded as one of the leading international arbitration practitioners, international lawyers, and international advocates in the world.

Tony Dymond



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Mr. Dymond has advised clients in a wide range of jurisdictions, having spent the last 25 years in London, Hong Kong and Seoul. He is widely acknowledged as a leading lawyer in high value construction and engineering disputes arising from large scale infrastructure and energy projects. He has appeared in arbitrations under the principal arbitration rules and in the English and Hong Kong courts. Recent highlights include a series of arbitrations relating to the construction of oil and gas platforms for use in deep-water operations, as well as disputes relating to airport, rail, and LNG projects.

Mark W. Friedman



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Mark Friedman focuses on international arbitration and litigation, and he also has broad experience in civil and criminal matters.

Mr. Friedman has represented clients in a wide variety of complex commercial and Investor-State disputes across many industry sectors, including energy, mining, finance, insurance, construction, shareholder relationships, joint ventures, media, telecommunications and manufacturing. He has acted as counsel or arbitrator in disputes under the rules of the ICC, LCIA, AAA, ICDR, CPR, UNCITRAL and ICSID.

Among other leadership positions, Mr. Friedman is a Vice President of the ICC Court of Arbitration and is a former Chair of the International Bar Association's Arbitration Committee. He was previously a member of the court of the London Court of International Arbitration, Vice-Chair of the International Dispute Resolution Committee of the International Section of the American Bar Association, and co-rapporteur of the International Law Association's Commercial Arbitration Committee. Mr. Friedman is a member of the editorial board of *Dispute Resolution International*. Mr. Friedman regularly speaks and publishes on international arbitration topics.

Dietmar W. Prager



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Dietmar W. Prager focuses on international arbitration and litigation with a particular emphasis on Latin America. He co-leads the firm's Latin America Practice Group.

Dr. Prager has represented parties in numerous arbitrations throughout the world under the auspices of the ICC, ICSID, LCIA, AAA, ICDR and the PCA as well as in ad hoc arbitration proceedings. He was also one of the youngest lawyers ever to argue before the International Court of Justice.

Dr. Prager's recent representations include disputes involving complex infrastructure projects, shareholder disputes, investment treaties, energy and mining projects, oil & gas projects, the retail sector, the finance sector, sovereign debt, and distribution agreements. Dr. Prager also regularly sits as arbitrator.

Samantha J. Rowe



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Samantha J. Rowe focuses on international arbitration and public international law. She has represented private clients and States across multiple jurisdictions in arbitrations governed by various substantive laws and conducted under the rules of the ICC, LCIA, ICSID, UNCITRAL and SIAC.

Ms. Rowe has experience across a broad range of industries and sectors, including energy, mining, construction, financial services and pharmaceuticals. She advises clients on a broad range of international law issues, including the international protection of investments, and represents her clients in associated disputes.

Gavin Chesney



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Gavin Chesney focuses on international commercial disputes, both in international arbitration and in court litigation.

Mr. Chesney represents a wide variety of clients including major corporations, high net worth individuals and sovereign states in a range of complex, high-value disputes across sectors including mining, power, oil and gas, defense and financial services.

He has appeared in proceedings under the auspices of ICSID, UNCITRAL, the ICC, the LCIA, the SIAC and the AAA, as well as in ad hoc arbitrations and litigation proceedings in the English courts.

Robert Hoose



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Robert Hoose focuses on international commercial arbitration and commercial litigation, particularly in the construction and engineering sectors.

Mr. Hoose has experience of representing companies in litigation in the UK and related jurisdictions; of domestic and international arbitration before major institutions including the ICC, LCIA, and SIAC; as well as ad hoc and informal proceedings such as domestic UK construction adjudication, pre-arbitral processes and mediation.

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