



## Dr. Mahmood Hussain

Founding Partner

Adjunct Professor at the University of East Anglia, UK  
Adjunct Professor at Pantheon-Assas University Paris II  
Member of the Advisory Board at Panthéon-Assas University Paris II, Dubai  
Member of the Advisory Board at The British University in Dubai  
Internationally accredited as a qualified Mediator  
Chair of ICC-UAE Commission on Arbitration and ADR Steering Committee  
ICC International Court of Arbitration Member  
ICC Commission on Arbitration and ADR Ex Officio Member  
ICC-UAE Board Member  
Member of the International Advisory Council of the ADGM Dispute Resolution Hearing Centre (ADGM DRHC)  
Member of the Tashkent International Arbitration Centre (TIAC) Supervisory Board

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## Areas of Practice

- Dispute Resolution and International Commercial Arbitrations
- Civil and Commercial Litigation
- Corporate Governance

## Education

- PhD of Law (Research) University of East Anglia, UK, 2020
- International Diploma in Compliance from International Compliance Association, UK, 2012
- Director Certificate exam from UCLA Anderson School of

## Summary Profile

Dr. Mahmood Hussain is the Founding Partner at M&CO Legal and has amassed over 20 years of experience in the public and private sectors. He serves as a professor at the University of East Anglia, UK, where he teaches about the UAE Sharia law – Islamic Arbitration, and at Pantheon-Assas University Paris II, where he educates his students about the UAE Labour and Employment law. As a litigator at Dubai Courts, Dr. Mahmood has achieved many favorable judgments in several high-profile cases. His niche practice of being an arguing Counsel before the Honorable Judges at the UAE Courts has set up a benchmark for effective representation involving complex legal issues. A Client testimonial obtained from Whos Who Legal (WWL) stated that Dr. Mahmood has an *"excellent understanding of multinational concerns and perfect explanation of local laws"*.

Dr. Mahmood is a Part II registered practitioner at the DIFC Courts and has the rights of audience before the DIFC courts. He has also led the corporate team of M&CO Legal in dealing with DIFC corporate financial agreements and syndicate loans. Additionally, Dr. Mahmood has the rights of audience before The Federal Supreme Court of UAE.

The Legal 500 has mentioned Dr. Mahmood Hussain as "a standout litigator and lawyer and demonstrates a mixture between legal academic and excellent experience" and "a good strategist for local litigation." Dr. Mahmood has also

Management,  
California, 2008

- Master Degree in Digital Economy law from Monash University, Australia 2004
- LLB of Shari'a and Law (First Class Hons with Distinction) of the United Arab Emirates University, 2001

## Languages

- English
- Arabic

been mentioned as a key lawyer for Dispute Resolution: Domestic Litigation in 2022 and 2023.

He has been accredited as an International Arbitrator by both DIAC (Dubai International Arbitration Centre) and Abu Dhabi Commercial Conciliation and Arbitration Center. Dr. Mahmood has successfully acted in more than 50 International Arbitration proceedings under the ICC, LCIA, ADCCAC, and DIAC rules. He is frequently appointed as sole arbitrator, co-arbitrator, or chairman of arbitral tribunals in International Arbitration proceedings. Dr. Mahmood has also recently joined the Saudi Center for Commercial Arbitration (SCCA) Roster as an Arbitrator.

He is a member of both the ICC-UAE and currently, the Chair of ICC-UAE Commission in Arbitration and ADR. Recently, Dr. Mahmood was appointed to the prestigious and renowned ICC Commission in Paris on Arbitration and ADR which is responsible for rule-making and research in the field of International Dispute Resolution. The commission produces reports and guidelines on legal, procedural, and practical aspects of dispute resolution, including International Arbitration. Dr. Mahmood has been a member of the ICC Task Force on Arbitration of Climate Change-Related Disputes, which concluded in April 2019. He has also recently become a member of a newly formed ICC Task Force on Addressing Issues of Corruption in International Arbitration.

He also played a key role in establishing the Dubai International Financial Centre (DIFC) Courts in his capacity as a member of the Committee that established the DIFC Courts and later as its first Deputy Registrar and participated in the development of various DIFC legislations of DIFC courts.

In 2007, Dr. Mahmood was appointed by a Ministerial Decree as a member of the Special Committee responsible for the Rehabilitation and Compensation of former Camel Jockeys. Mahmood was also a representative of the Special Committee in a Judicial Tribunal established by the government of UAE and the government of Pakistan to compensate former camel jockeys.

Dr. Mahmood was appointed as a Board Member of the Board of Directors of CBC TV Station, Egypt, and a member of the Remuneration and Compensation Committee of the aforesaid Board. He was also the Head of the task force responsible for developing and implementing policies and procedures for corporate governance in the Company on behalf of the Board. He is also a member of the recently formed DIFC Courts Working Group for the DIFC Courts Code of Conduct Complaints Regime.

## Publications

- **Sader Courts Series – Special Edition M&CO Legal (UAE)**  
*Author – Dr. Mahmood Hussain, 2024*  
Contributed to a book publication by M&Co Legal in collaboration with Sader Publications, compiling key arbitration judgments across various sectors. This comprehensive book serves as a valuable resource, offering insights into

precedent arbitration rulings from the DIFC, Dubai Court of Cassation, and Abu Dhabi Court of Cassation in the UAE.

- Mahmood Hussain, Razan Ziklam, 'The Amendment Law on UAE Arbitration Law: An Analytical and Comparative Study with the Federal Law NO. 6/2018 on Arbitration' <[The Amendment Law on UAE Arbitration Law: An Analytical and Comparative Study with the Federal Law No. 6/2018 on Arbitration \[Lexis® Middle East\] \(lexismiddleeast.com\)](#)> dated 18 October 2023
- Mahmood Hussain, Roaa Abou Assy, 'Public Policy and Arbitrability of Real Estate Disputes in the U.A.E <https://mahmoodhussain.net/news/public-policy-and-arbitrability-of-real-estate-disputes-in-the-uae/> published 23 January 2023
- Mahmood Hussain, Nadia Ridwan Simpson, 'Environmental Law and Public Policy in Islam: Whether the Preservation of the Environment Constitutes as Part of the U.A.E's Public Policy and the Issue of Arbitrability of Environmental Disputes' <<https://www.transnational-dispute-management.com/journaladvance-publication-article.asp?key=1950>> published 31 October 2022
- Mahmood Hussain, Roaa Abou Assy, 'English and Dubai Courts Towards Reciprocation in Judgment Enforcement: A Significant Breakthrough' [https://www.lexismiddleeast.com/eJournal/2022-09-30\\_51/](https://www.lexismiddleeast.com/eJournal/2022-09-30_51/) published 30 September 2022
- Mahmood Hussain, Roaa Abou Assy, 'The U.A.E Bankruptcy Law Amendments: Directors' and Managers' Right to Appeal and its Implementation – Update 'Marka's Judgement'' [https://www.lexismiddleeast.com/eJournal/2022-03-24\\_47/](https://www.lexismiddleeast.com/eJournal/2022-03-24_47/) published 24 March 2022
- Mahmood Hussain, Roaa Abou Assy, 'The Ongoing Validity of an Arbitration Agreement under U.A.E Law – A Conundrum' <<https://lnkd.in/gx2kDJqU>> March 2022

Co-authored the book, "*A Guide to Arbitration in the U.A.E*", published by International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) January 2020

## Awards and Recognitions

- Whos Who Legal 2022 & 2023 – Commercial Litigation – Recommended Lawyer
- Highly Recommended Ranked Lawyer in Dispute Resolution: Domestic 2021, 22 & 23 (Band 2) by Chambers and Partners
- Ranked as a Recommended Lawyer in Dispute Resolution: Domestic 2022 and 2023 by Legal 500
- Best Young Arbitrators below 40, Gold Category 2018

### **Professional Memberships / Panel Admissions**

- Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (CI Arb) - Fellow of the Institute
- United Arab Emirates International Chamber of Commerce (ICC-UAE) - Member
- United Arab Emirates International Chamber of Commerce (ICC-UAE) - Member of Commission on Arbitration and ADR
- Member of ICC Commission in Arbitration and ADR
- International Bar Association
- International Compliance Association (MICA), UK - Fellow
- Accredited as International Arbitrator in Abu Dhabi Commercial Conciliation and Arbitration Center
- Accredited as International Arbitrator in Dubai International Arbitration Centre
- CBC TV Station, Egypt - Board Member
- Registered Member of Qatar International Center for Conciliation and Arbitration (QICCA)
- Saudi Center for Commercial Arbitration (SCCA) Roster as an Arbitrator
- Member of the ADGM Arbitration Centre Panel of Arbitrators
- Member of Inter-Pacific Bar Association (IPBA)
- ADR Center International Accreditation for Mediators and IMI International Certification for Qualified Mediators
- Oman Commercial Arbitration Centre Panel of Arbitrators (OAC)
- Singapore International Arbitration Centre Panel of Arbitrators (SIAC)

### **Professional Experience**

- May 2013 to present - Founding Partner at Dr. Mahmood Hussain Advocates and Legal Consultancy LLC (M & CO Legal).
- 2012 to May 2013 - Legal Director at DLA Piper Middle East LLP.

- 2007 to April 2012 - Vice President- Board Relations and Corporate Governance and Compliance at Emirates Integrated Telecommunication Company PJSC (du).
- 2006 to 2007 - Consultant at the Executive Office of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice-President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai.
- 2004 to May 2006 - Attorney (DIFC) and Deputy Registrar of DIFC Courts.

### Expert / Legal Opinions

- Legal opinion to an international law firm based in the DIFC, on various legal issues, including laws pertaining to foreign ownership of the UAE companies, the arbitrability of disputes, the applicability of the New York Convention and the relevant grounds thereunder to resist the enforcement of a foreign award in the UAE, given the mutual enforcement framework between DIFC and UAE, the recognition and enforcement of a foreign award in Dubai (mainland) through DIFC, etc
- Expert opinion to the Business and Property Court in England and Wales (London Circuit Commercial Court (KBD)) in relation to the applicable time limitation in respect of a loan advanced by the Client.
- Expert Opinion to the High Court of Singapore in relation to the enforcement of an interim award issued by a tribunal in DIAC arbitration proceedings. In particular, the Expert Opinion dealt with the applicability of Decree No. 34/2021 in circumstances where the parties had agreed to the application of the DIFC-LCIA arbitration rules, however, the Decree required that proceedings be conducted in accordance with the DIAC arbitration rules.
- Expert Opinion on the UAE Laws and regulations pertaining to the foreign summons.
- Expert Opinion on UAE Law with regard to the capacity and authority of an individual to bind a company to an Arbitration Agreement.
- Expert Opinion on UAE Law in a UK Proceeding before High Courts of Justice – Business and Property Courts of England and Wales on the validity and viability of the grounds for setting aside an Arbitral award.
- Expert Opinion on UAE Law and the concept of Gharar before DIFC-LCIA Tribunal.
- Expert Opinion under UAE Law with respect to the validity and effectiveness of pathological arbitration clauses before for arbitration under the DIFC-LCIA rules.
- Legal Opinion on the Liability of Shareholders and Managers of a Limited Liability Company before a Dubai Court Proceeding.
- Expert Declaration on UAE Law in respect to the Validity of the Company's Shareholders Resolution in accordance with the federal and local laws applicable within the UAE for a party in a court proceeding in the Hamm Court of Appeal.

- Expert Declaration on specific issues in respect of the Constitutionality of the Judicial Authority Law and the DIFC Court Law for enforcing a foreign judgment before DIFC Courts.
- Expert Legal Opinion for a Claimant in a DIAC proceeding on the Estimation of the Legal Fees owed for an arbitration proceeding.
- Expert Legal Opinion on UAE Labor Law and Court Proceedings between an Employer (Claimant) and Employees (Respondents) for a matter before the High Court of Justice Queen’s Bench Division.
- Expert Legal Opinion on the Service of Notification under the laws of the UAE for a party to the proceedings before Paris Court of Appeal for setting aside an ICC Arbitration Award.
- Legal Opinion for an Investment Holding Company on the Recognition and Enforceability of Foreign Arbitral Award before the Courts in Dubai, UAE.
- Expert Opinion on Back-to-Back Clauses under UAE Law in an ICC Arbitration instructed by a Contractor, the Claimant for an arbitration proceeding who entered into an agreement with a Sub-Contractor, the Respondent for works of a Project in UAE.
- Affidavit on UAE criminal law, specifically addressing anti-money laundering regulations, submitted before the Cayman Islands Court.
- Expert Opinion on the Annulment of an Arbitral Award before the DIFC Courts addressing complex issues of public international law and arbitration law, including the treaty framework for enforcement of foreign-seated awards in the UAE, judicial discretion under Article V(1)(e) of the New York Convention, the relationship between ratified treaties and UAE public policy, and the interpretation of the Riyadh Arab Agreement for Judicial Cooperation, as well as public policy considerations in recognition and enforcement proceedings
- Expert Opinion on Dubai Decree 34 of 2021 and Res Judicata under UAE Law in DIAC Arbitration (seat Dubai, UAE law), instructed by the Claimant in respect of claims of approximately AED 6.5 million arising from alleged unpaid invoices under a settlement agreement.
- Expert Opinion to the High Court of Justice (King’s Bench Division), UK, on UAE onshore jurisdiction and Labour law matters, including the effect of exclusive jurisdiction clauses and the treatment of foreign law.

## Arbitration Cases as an Arbitrator

DIAC ***/2025 Co-Arbitrator	A Canadian-based food and beverage franchise company vs. a UAE-based franchise operator – The applicable law will be Ontario, Canada	A dispute of AED 150,000 arising out of an alleged breaches of UAE and Dubai franchise agreements and wrongful registration of the agreements.
DIAC Case *****/2025 Chairman	A UAE-based Architectural and Engineering Consultant vs A UAE-based Construction company – The applicable law will be UAE Law	A dispute of AED 1,364,047 arising out of an alleged breach of contract for engineering design consultancy services for the project in Dubai.

DIAC Case *****/2025 Chairman	A UAE-based oil trading entity vs A UAE-based Commodity Trader entity – The applicable law will be English Law	A dispute of AED 128 million over a breach of contract for the supply and delivery of ultra-low sulfur diesel
HKIAC*****/2025 Co-Arbitrator	A UAE-based oil trading entity vs. a UAE-based international trade and distribution entity – The applicable law will be the laws of Hong Kong	A US\$ 419 million dispute over a breach of multiple contracts involving the delivery of all the goods including crude oil.
DIAC ***/2025 Co-Arbitrator	A UAE-based landscaping and infrastructure maintenance entity vs A UAE-based Property management entity	A AED 14 Million dispute over breach of Supplementary Agreements and Variation Order.
ISTAC Case No. 2024/**** Sole Arbitrator	A Middle East-based entity vs a China Based entity and a China national	A claim for breach of an Agreement to purchase products.
DIAC Ad Hoc ***/2024 Chairman	A UAE-based entity and an Indian National vs a UAE national	An ad hoc arbitration in respect of a dispute between shareholders of a UAE-based entity
Dubai Ad Hoc 2024 Co-Arbitrator	A UAE-based Engineering and Contracting Company vs a UAE-based Property Development Company	An ad hoc arbitration proceeding for a project involving the construction of a villa under the UAE Federal Arbitration Law.
DIAC ****12 Sole Arbitrator	A UAE-based energy commodity trading company vs a UAE-based management investment company	A claim for a breach of an Agency Fee Agreement
Bahrain Ad Hoc 2024 Chairman	A Bahrain-based telecommunications company vs a Bahrain-based technologies and telecom operator – The applicable law will be Bahraini Law	An appeal of an order issued by a telecommunications authority
IICRA **/2024 Chairman	A UAE-based financial solutions & services company vs a Bahrain-based financial services	A claim for a breach of a Master Service Agreement
Omani Case *****/2023 Emergency Arbitrator	Omani-based holding entity vs Omani-based investment entity	A request for an emergency interim relief was made by the claimant to prevent the respondent from encashing a performance guarantee valued at OMR 980,960
CRCICA case ****/2023 Co-Arbitrator	An Egyptian-based brokerage company vs a KSA national	A USD 1.2 Million dispute over a breach of a brokerage account agreement

ICC case *****/KFH Sole Arbitrator	UAE Engineering Company vs UAE Trading LLC	A USD 1.2 Million dispute over the non-return of cheque guarantees
DIAC ***/2022 Co-Arbitrator	UAE Engineering Services vs Engineering & Contracting Company	An AED 1.1 Million dispute arising out of a subcontract in respect of a UAE hotel
DIAC **/2021 Co-Arbitrator (3-Member Tribunal)	A Saudi Individual vs A GCC Pharmaceutical Corporation	A claim for the nullification of an agreement
DIAC **/2020 Co-Arbitrator (3-Member Tribunal)	A UAE based public transport service company vs A Facilities Management Company based in Middle East	A 1 Million AED dispute over a breach of the agreement
DIAC **/2020 Co-Arbitrator (3-Member Tribunal)	A limited offshore company vs a UAE based Real Estate Development Company	A 19.4 Million AED dispute over a breach of an agreement
DIAC **/2020 Co-Arbitrator (3-Member Tribunal)	A limited offshore company vs a UAE based Real Estate Development Company	An 18.2 Million AED dispute over a breach of an agreement
ICC *****/MK Co-Arbitrator (3-Member Tribunal)	A Financial Institution based in France vs UAE & Bahrain Based Financial Institution	A 33 Million USD dispute for unpaid dues as per agreement
ICC Case *****/AYZ Co-Arbitrator (3-Member Tribunal)	A Manufacturing Company vs Investment Development Group	A 27 Million AED dispute over a breach of an agreement
DIAC */2020 Sole Arbitrator	A UAE based Construction company vs a Real Estate Investment & Development Company LLC	A claim for a breach of agreement dispute
ADCCAC */2020 Co-Arbitrator (3-Member Tribunal)	A UAE based construction consulting company vs an Offshore Construction company	A Construction dispute for unpaid dues
DIAC ***/2019 Co-Arbitrator (3-Member Tribunal)	A UAE based sub-contractor Company vs A UAE based Main Contractor	A 15 Million AED dispute for unpaid dues and delay damages
DIAC ***/2019 Chairman (3-Member Tribunal)	A UAE Real Estate Company vs A UAE government organization	A 213 Million AED dispute over a breach of a Sale and Purchase Agreement of a plot of land
ICC Case *****/AYZ Chairman (3-Member Tribunal)	An Iraqi Company vs a BVI Company	A USD 6.5 Million dispute over a franchise agreement between franchisor and franchisee

DIAC Case **/2019 Co-Arbitrator (3-member Tribunal)	UAE based Contracting Company vs UAE Contracting Company	A construction dispute for breach of subcontract agreement
DIAC Case ***/2018 Sole Arbitrator	UAE based Construction Company vs UAE Contracting Company	A 1.5 Million dispute over a sub- contract agreement
DIAC Case **/2018 Sole Arbitrator	UAE based Manufacturing & Suppliers Company vs UAE Manufacturing Company, Individual UAE National	A 5.5 Million commercial dispute
ICC *****/AYZ Co-Arbitrator (3-member Tribunal)	UAE based Joint Stock Company vs UAE Engineering & Contracting Company	A USD 1.8 Million dispute over a sub- contract agreement
DIAC Case **/2017 Co – Arbitrator (3-member Tribunal)	UAE based Construction Company vs UAE Contracting Company	A 30 Million dispute over a sub- contract agreement
DIAC Case ***/2017 Co – Arbitrator (3-member Tribunal)	IT Company (UAE Branch) vs Singapore based Telecommunications Company	A 14 Million claim in Commercial Dispute
DIAC Case ***/2016 Sole Arbitrator	Purchaser vs UAE Developer	AED 2 Million claim in the Sale and Purchase Agreement for property in Dubai
DIAC Case ***/2016 Sole Arbitrator	UAE-based Company vs UAE National	AED 6 Million claim in relation to the Management and Lease Agreement for a hotel in Dubai
DIAC Case No. **/2016 Chairman (3-member Tribunal)	Qatar-based branch of a company vs a Qatari Company	Claims related to business agreement for implementation of certain system for a medical Centre. The applicable substantive law is State of Missouri, USA.
DIAC Case No. **/2016 Sole Arbitrator	UAE National vs UAE based company	Claims related to lease and management agreement for hotel apartment building
DIAC Case No. **/2015 Sole Arbitrator	Government entity vs UAE-based company	Claims related to payments of rents for media boards
DIAC Case No. **/2014 Sole Arbitrator	UAE Investor vs UAE Developer	Claims related to construction delays in a development project in Dubai
ADCCAC Case No. **/2014 Chairman (3-member Tribunal)	UAE Investor vs UAE developer	Claims related to construction delays in a development project in Abu Dhabi

DIAC Case No. \*\*/2014  
Sole Arbitrator

UAE-based company vs UAE  
Developer

Claims related to sale of plot in Dubai

ADCCAC Case No.\*\* /2013  
Sole Arbitrator

UAE Investor vs UAE developer

Claims related to construction  
delays in a development project in  
Abu Dhabi

ADCCAC Case No.\*\*/2013  
Sole Arbitrator

UAE Investor vs UAE developer

Claims related to construction  
delays in a development project in  
Abu Dhabi