MÉLANIE RIOFRIO PICHÉ

Independent arbitrator with experience in commercial and investment arbitration
Adjunct Professor at Université de Sherbrooke and IE Law School
Member of the ICSID Panel of Arbitrators, designated by the Republic of Ecuador (2021-2027)
Nationalities: Canadian and Ecuadorian
Languages: Spanish (native), French (native), English (bilingual)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2023-present	Partner, Riofrio IDR (International Dispute Resolution), Madrid
2020-2022	Secretary General, Centro Internacional e Iberoamericano de Arbitraje de Madrid (CIIAM), Madrid
2012-2020	Associate, Armesto & Asociados Árbitros, Madrid
2012	Intern, Permanent Court of Arbitration (PCA), The Hague
2012	Intern, ICC International Court of Arbitration, Paris
2010-2011	Fasken Martineau Dumoulin, Montreal
2009-2010	Peñaherrera, Ponce & Salvador Abogados, Quito
2008-2009	Serrano Puig Abogados, Quito

LIST OF ARBITRATIONS

APPOINTMENTS AS ARBITRATOR

1. **Argentine company v. Chinese company**, presiding arbitrator (co-arbitrators: Ricardo Barreiro Deymonnaz and Ignacio Anzorena), ICC, construction dispute, Argentine law, Spanish language.
2. **Peruvian company v. Peruvian companies**, presiding arbitrator (co-arbitrators: Elina Mereminskaya and Andrés Moreno), CCL – Lima Chamber of Commerce Arbitration Center, insurance dispute, Peruvian law, Spanish language.
3. **Argentine company v. Argentine company and Brazilian company**, sole arbitrator, ICC, contractual dispute in the construction and hydraulic infrastructure sector, Argentine law, Spanish language.
4. **Mexican company v. Mexican company**, presiding arbitrator (co-arbitrators: Jorge Ogarrio and Elena Gutiérrez), ICC, services agreement for power generation, Mexican law, Spanish language.
5. **Mexican company v. Spanish company**, sole arbitrator, ICC, construction contract in the power generation sector, Spanish law and language.
6. **US company v. Spanish company**, emergency arbitrator, CIIAM, Spanish law, English language.
7. **Mota-Engil Engenharia e Construção v. Republic of Paraguay**, presiding arbitrator (co-arbitrators: Deva Villanúa and Alexis Mourre), ICSID Case No. ARB/25/31, BIT between the Portuguese Republic and the Republic of Paraguay, Spanish language.
8. **José Alejandro Hernández Contreras v. Republic of Costa Rica**, presiding arbitrator (co-arbitrators: José Carlos Fernández Rozas and Luis González García), ICSID Case No. ARB(AF)/25/3, telecommunications, BIT between the Republic of Costa Rica and the Republic of Venezuela, Spanish language.
9. **Eastern European company v. Eastern European companies**, privilege master, ICC, English language.

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10. **APM Terminals Callao S.A. v. Republic of Peru**, member of the annulment committee (president: Manuel Conthe, member of the annulment committee: Milton Argueta Pinto), ICSID Case No. ARB/21/28, annulment proceeding in investment arbitration, Spanish language.
11. **Itochu Corporation v. Kingdom of Spain**, member of the annulment committee (president: Quentin Loh, member of the annulment committee: Mika Savola), ICSID Case No. ARB/18/25, annulment proceeding in investment arbitration, English and Spanish languages.
12. **Telefónica, S.A. v. Republic of Colombia**, member of the annulment committee (president: Dário Moura Vicente, member of the annulment committee: José Antonio Moreno), ICSID Case No. ARB/18/3, annulment proceeding in investment arbitration, Spanish language.
13. **AVAX v. Lebanese Republic**, member of the annulment committee (president: Tina M. Cicchetti, member of the annulment committee: Joongi Kim), ICSID Case No. ARB/16/29, annulment proceeding in investment arbitration, power generation project, English language.
14. **Spanish company v. Saudi company**, sole arbitrator, CIAM-CIAR, Spanish law, English language.
15. **Peruvian company v. Peruvian company**, presiding arbitrator (co-arbitrators: Elina Mereminskaya and Patricia Saiz), CCL – Lima Chamber of Commerce Arbitration Center, construction contract in the mining sector, Peruvian law, Spanish language.
16. **Peruvian company v. Peruvian company**, presiding arbitrator (co-arbitrators: Pilar Perales and Roxana Jiménez Vargas Machuca), CCL – Lima Chamber of Commerce Arbitration Center, real estate contract, Peruvian law, Spanish language.
17. **Colombian company v. Colombian companies**, sole arbitrator, ICC, transport, logistics and storage, Colombian law, English language.
18. **Mexican company v. Mexican construction companies**, emergency arbitrator, ICC, Mexican law, Spanish language.
19. **Central American company v. Spanish construction company**, sole arbitrator, CAM – Madrid Court of Arbitration, construction contract for a photovoltaic plant, Spanish law and language.
20. **Comercializadora Mediterránea de Viviendas S.L. v. Kingdom of Morocco**, presiding arbitrator (co-arbitrators: Fernando Piérola Castro and Attila Tanzi), ICSID Case No. ARB/22/17, investment arbitration concerning urban development projects, BIT between the Kingdom of Spain and the Kingdom of Morocco, French and Spanish languages.
21. **Mexican company v. Swiss company**, presiding arbitrator (co-arbitrators: Rodrigo Zamora Etcharren and Carlos Loperena Ruiz), CAM – Centro de Arbitraje de México, sale and purchase of environmental credits, Mexican law, Spanish language.
22. **Saudi company v. Spanish company**, co-arbitrator (presiding arbitrator: Karim Nassif, co-arbitrator: Adli Ali Hammad), ICC, construction, Saudi law, English language.
23. **Autopista del Norte S.A.C. v. Republic of Peru**, member of the annulment committee (president: Dário Moura Vicente, member of the annulment committee: Álvaro Castellanos Howell), ICSID Case No. ARB/18/17, annulment proceeding in investment arbitration, highway construction contract, Spanish language.
24. **Sun-Flower Olmeda GmbH & Co. KG and others v. Kingdom of Spain**, member of the annulment committee (president: Dyalá Jiménez, member of the annulment committee: Fausto de Quadros), ICSID Case No. ARB/16/17, annulment proceeding in investment arbitration, Energy Charter Treaty, English and Spanish languages.
25. **Colombian waste treatment company v. Uruguayan energy equipment and services company**, presiding arbitrator (co-arbitrators: Antonio Pabón and Fernando del Castillo), ICC, commercial dispute, Colombian law, Spanish language.

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26. **Spanish company v. Spanish financial institution**, presiding arbitrator (co-arbitrators: Miguel Ángel Serrano and Francisco Roldán), CAM – Madrid Court of Arbitration, financial derivatives contract, Spanish law and language.
27. **Spanish company v. Pakistani company**, sole arbitrator, ICC, distribution agreement, Spanish law, English language.
28. **Spanish company v. Spanish financial institution**, sole arbitrator, CAM – Madrid Court of Arbitration, financial derivatives contract, Spanish law and language.

APPOINTMENTS AS TRIBUNAL SECRETARY

1. **US construction company v. Central American office of an international organisation**, tribunal secretary, UNCITRAL Arbitration Rules, construction contract, *lex mercatoria*, Spanish language.
2. **International construction company v. Central American public agency II**, tribunal secretary, ICC, construction contract, Panamanian law, Spanish language.
3. **Mexican construction company v. Mexican petrochemical company**, tribunal secretary, ICC, construction contract, Mexican law, Spanish language.
4. **Pawlowski AG and Project Sever s.r.o. v. Czech Republic**, assistant to the tribunal (from December 2017 to December 2019), ICSID Case No. ARB/17/11, investment arbitration under a bilateral investment treaty, English language.
5. **Chilean company v. Chilean and Italian companies**, tribunal secretary, ICC, dam construction contract, Chilean law, Spanish language.
6. **French distillery v. Spanish distillery**, tribunal secretary, CAM – Madrid Court of Arbitration, *ex aequo et bono*, commercial dispute, Spanish law, Spanish language.
7. **International construction company v. Central American public agency I**, tribunal secretary, ICC, construction contract, Panamanian law, Spanish language.
8. **Álvarez y Marín Corporación S.A. and others v. Republic of Panama**, assistant to the tribunal, ICSID Case No. ARB/15/14, investment arbitration under a bilateral investment treaty, Spanish language.
9. **Peruvian company v. Peruvian and Colombian companies**, tribunal secretary, ICC, turnkey construction contract, Peruvian law, Spanish language.
10. **European companies v. European State entities and European companies**, tribunal secretary, UNCITRAL Arbitration Rules, share purchase agreement in the aluminium sector, Montenegrin law, English language.
11. **Spanish company v. Portuguese company**, tribunal secretary, CAM – Madrid Court of Arbitration, sale and purchase in the solar energy sector, Spanish law and language.
12. **Tenaris S.A. and Talta – Trading E Marketing Sociedade Unipessoal Lda. v. Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela**, assistant to the tribunal, ICSID Case No. ARB/12/23, investment arbitration under a bilateral investment treaty, English and Spanish languages.
13. **US investor v. Public entity of a Central American State**, tribunal secretary, ICC, joint venture in the electricity sector, Spanish language.
14. **Eastern European distributor v. Spanish automotive company**, assistant to the presiding arbitrator, VIAC, distribution agreement, Spanish law, English language.
15. **Bolivian company v. Mexican company and Mexican parent company**, assistant to the presiding arbitrator, IACAC-CIAC, shareholders' agreement, Bolivian law, Spanish language.
16. **Caratube International Oil Company LLP v. Republic of Kazakhstan**, assistant to the president of the annulment committee, ICSID Case No. ARB/08/12, annulment proceeding in investment arbitration, English language.

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17. **OI European Group B.V. v. Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela**, assistant to the presiding arbitrator, ICSID Case No. ARB/11/25, investment arbitration under a bilateral investment treaty, English and Spanish languages.
18. **UAE companies v. UAE company**, tribunal secretary, DIAC, racecourse construction contract, UAE law, English language.

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

2026-present	Professor, Intensive Course for Arbitral Secretaries, CIIAM, Spain, Spanish language
2026-present	Professor, Diploma in International Commercial Arbitration, Facultad Libre de Derecho de Monterrey and Centro de Arbitraje de México, Mexico, Spanish language
2026-present	Adjunct Professor, Master of Laws (LL.M.), Litigation Skills, IE Law School, Spain, English language
2024-present	Professor, Advanced Practice Course for Arbitrators, CIIAM, Chile, Spanish language
2024-present	Adjunct Professor, Common Law and Transnational Law Program, Transnational Law, Université de Sherbrooke, Canada, French language
2019-present	Adjunct Professor, Master of Laws (LL.M.), Oral Advocacy in International Arbitration, IE Law School, Spain, English language
2018-2020	Guest Lecturer, Master of Laws (LL.M.), Arbitration, University of Navarra, Spain, Spanish language
2017-2019	Adjunct Professor, Master of Laws (LL.M.), International Commercial Arbitration, ESADE Law School, Spain, English language
2016-2022	Co-founder and Director, International Arbitration Seminars & Courses (IASC) association

EDUCATION

Université Panthéon-Assas (Paris 2), Certificate in French and European Business Law
Université de Montréal, Master of Laws (LL.M.), Business Law and International Trade
Pontificia Universidad Católica del Ecuador, Law Degree (Licenciatura en Derecho)

MEMBERSHIPS AND PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

2026-present	Arbitrator, International Centre for Dispute Resolution (ICDR) of the American Arbitration Association
2026-present	Co-chair of Mute Off Thursdays
2025-present	Member of the Court of AMCHAM Peru
2025-present	Member of the Scientific Committee of the Club Español e Iberoamericano del Arbitraje (CEIA)
2024-present	Member of the Global ACC of DELOS Dispute Resolution
2024-present	Member of the Award Scrutiny Commission of the Centro Internacional e Iberoamericano de Arbitraje de Madrid (CIIAM)
2023	Co-chair of the Drafting Committee of the ALARB Arbitration Glossary
2021-present	Member of the ICSID Panel of Arbitrators, designated by the Republic of Ecuador
2020-2022	Participant in the ICC Advanced Arbitration Academy for Latin America
2020-2022	Group Advisor of the Young ICCA Mentoring Programme
2020-2022	Observer to UNCITRAL Working Group II (Dispute Settlement)
2019	Member of the committee responsible for drafting the Code of Best Practices in Arbitration of the Club Español del Arbitraje (CEA), section on Arbitral Institutions
2017-2019	ICC Young Arbitration Forum (ICC YAF) Representative for Europe

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2017-present	Member of the ICC Canadian National Committee
2013	Member of the committee for the revision of the ICC Rules as Appointing Authority in UNCITRAL and other *ad hoc* proceedings
2013-present	Member of the Club Español e Iberoamericano del Arbitraje (CEIA)
2010	Member of the Bar of the Republic of Ecuador (Foro de Abogados)

For a list of publications, conferences and lectures, visit https://riofrio-idr.com/en/academic/

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