



SLOVENIAN ARBITRATION CONFERENCE 2025

Evolving Trends in International Arbitration:
From State Involvement to Construction Dispute Management

November 26, 2025

Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Slovenia
Dimičeva 13, Ljubljana, Slovenia



Ljubljana
Arbitration Centre

PROGRAMME

9.00 – 9.30 **Registration**

9.30 – 9.45 **Welcoming remarks and Opening of the Conference**

mag. Marko Djinović, M.Sc., Executive Director of Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Slovenia

Prof. Dr. Aleš Galič, University of Ljubljana – Faculty of Law; President of Ljubljana Arbitration Centre

9.45 – 10.15 **Opening lecture**

Emerging Challenges and Opportunities in International Commercial Arbitration, Arbitration and EU competition law

Jean – Françoise Bellis, Van Bael & Bellis, Brussels, Belgium

10.15 – 11.15 **Panel /Session 1: State Enterprises & State in International Arbitration**

Moderator: Peter Rižnik, Independent Arbitrator, Rižnik Disputes, Vienna, Austria

State in International Arbitration – experience and challenges of State Attorney

Nataša Pintar Gosenca, M.Sc., Senior State Attorney, Head of International Section, State Attorney's Office, Ljubljana, Slovenia

Post Achmea Era in Intra-EU Investment Arbitration: what has changed?

David Premelč – Attorney at Law, Senior Partner, Law Firm Rojs, Peljhan, Prelesnik & partners, Ljubljana, Slovenia

The State as a Client: Legal and Strategic Nuances in International Arbitration

Alptuğ (Alp) Tokeşer, LL.M., Alp Arbitration, Zurich, Switzerland

Managing Parallel Proceedings: Arbitration vs. Domestic Litigation Against States

Matija Urankar, LL.M. (USF), partner, Law Firm Senica & Partners, Ltd., Ljubljana, Slovenia

11.15 – 11.30 **COFFEE BREAK**

11.30 – 12.45	Panel / Session 2: Multi-tiered Dispute Resolution Clauses Moderator: Dr. Petra Rihar, Arbitrator & Counsel at RIHAR & THOUVENIN DISPUTE RESOLUTION, Zurich, Switzerland Dispute Avoidance as Contractual Risk Allocation <i>Prof. Tomislav Borić, University of Graz, Austria</i> Understanding Dispute Management Tools in FIDIC Contracts: A Key to Effective Multi-Tiered Resolution <i>Christopher Seppälä - Independent Arbitrator, Expert, Counsel, Paris, France</i> Multi-Tiered Dispute Resolution Clauses – Counsel's Perspective <i>Nastja Merlak, LL.M, Partner, Law Firm Jadek & Pensa, Ljubljana, Slovenia</i>
12.45 – 14.00	LUNCH
14.00 – 15.30	Panel / Session 3: Construction disputes and Arbitration Moderator: Petja Plauštajner, Attorney at Law, Law Office Plauštajner, Ljubljana, Slovenia; member of the Board of the Ljubljana Arbitration Centre From Claim to Award: Effective Case Management in Construction Arbitration <i>Maja Menard, Ph.D., Attorney at Law and arbitrator, Partner, Law Firm Fatur & Menard, Ljubljana, Slovenia</i> Extension of Time Claims and Delay Analysis in Construction Disputes <i>Thierry Linares, Senior Managing Director, FTI Consulting, Paris, France</i> Burden of proof in Construction Arbitration <i>Mag. Tamara Manasijević, Attorney at Law, ARP, Vienna, Austria</i> Designing for delivery, not disputes: A Contractor's approach to conflict prevention <i>Janez Škrabec - General Manager, Riko d.o.o., Ljubljana, Slovenia</i> FIDIC and the Engineer: A Key Player in Minimizing Delays and Disputes <i>Robert A. Werth - DiplArb, FCIArb, Arbitrator, Adjudicator and Mediator, Werth Consult, Essen, Germany</i>
15.30 – 15.45	Closing remarks <i>Full Professor mult. Dr. h.c. Vesna Rijavec, Ph.D., vice-president of the Board of the Ljubljana Arbitration Centre</i>
15.45 - 16.30	Networking