

## Sophie Nappert

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Avocat, Bar of Quebec, Canada; Solicitor of the Supreme Court of England and Wales

Sophie is a dual-qualified lawyer in Canada and in the UK. She is an arbitrator in independent practice, based in London. Before becoming a full-time arbitrator, she was Head of International Arbitration at a global law firm.

Sophie is trained and has practised in both civil law and common law jurisdictions. She is the peer-nominated Moderator of OGEMID, the online discussion forum on current issues of international investment law, economic law and arbitration. She is ranked in Global Arbitration Review's Top 30 List of Female Arbitrators Worldwide and is commended as a "leading light" in the field by Who's Who Legal.

Areas of expertise include: energy and natural resources, infrastructure, hotel and leisure, pharmaceuticals, telecoms, joint ventures, concession agreements, emerging economies and notably Russia, Kazakhstan and the Caspian region, the Energy Charter Treaty, investment treaty disputes, investment law and EU law, and disputes against State parties.

Sophie is the author of a *Commentary on the 2010 UNCITRAL Arbitration Rules: A Practitioner's Guide* (Juris, 2012). She is a regular speaker at conferences and seminars on issues of arbitration and international law. She is also a guest lecturer at Columbia Law School, Harvard Law School and McGill University Faculty of Law.

She has created the Nappert Prize in International Arbitration, open to young scholars and practitioners worldwide, and administered under the auspices of McGill University.

Sophie delivered the Inaugural Annual Lecture at the European Federation for Investment Law and Arbitration (EFILA) on 26 November 2015, on the topic of ['Escaping From Freedom? The Dilemma of an Improved ISDS Mechanism'](#). The lecture won the GAR Award 2016 for Best Speech or Lecture.

### Languages

Native French, fluent English, Spanish, Russian (reading; verbal comprehension).

### Education

University of London: LL.M. (Masters Degree in Law) with Merit, King's College London.

McGill University (Canada): Bachelor of Laws (Common Law), (LL.B.), Bachelor of Civil Law (B.C.L.).

Institute of International and Comparative Law (Magdalen College, Oxford): Diploma in Public International Law.

### Employment history

2007-present: Arbitrator in independent practice at 3 Verulam Buildings, Gray's Inn, London.

2000-2007: Head of International Arbitration, Denton Wilde Sapte LLP, London.

1997-2000: Solicitor, Masons LLP, London.

1992-1996: Solicitor, Norton Rose LLP, London and Paris.

## Representative matters

- *Chair*: A €30 million dispute between a private party and a State entity in Cameroon concerning the financial structuring of an agreement for the acquisition of telephonic systems, under the OHADA principles.
- *Chair*: A dispute between the parties to a telecoms agreement in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. The dispute involves recalcitrant Respondents, Emergency Arbitrator proceedings, and parallel court proceedings in the courts of the DRC and South Africa.
- *Chair*: A dispute between the parties to a JOA concerning the drilling of offshore wells in an African country, and issues of unlawful cash calls, under the ICC Rules, pursuant to English law. Sum in dispute: USD 25 million.
- *Chair*: A dispute between a Singaporean party and a Hong Kong-based party regarding the supply of coal under the SCoTA Terms, including a jurisdictional challenge, striking out application and application for bifurcation of the proceedings.
- *Chair*: A dispute between the parties to a Shareholders' Agreement in relation to the development of an energy project in Africa, under the ICC Rules. Injunctive relief is claimed.
- *Chair*: A dispute between a telecom company and an African State-owned entity under the ICC Rules.
- *Fast-track dispute*: Party-appointed arbitrator in a fast-track dispute under the ICDR Rules in relation to the operation of a luxury resort in the Caribbean. The arbitration agreement provides for 45 days between the composition of the arbitral tribunal and the final award.
- *Fast-track dispute*: Sole Arbitrator in an expedited dispute under the LCIA Rules between the American supplier of a component of aluminium smelter and its purchaser in Bosnia.
- *Party-appointed arbitrator*: A gas price revision dispute between a Turkish company and a Greek company under the ICC Rules.
- *Party-appointed arbitrator*: A joint venture dispute between two US public companies in the pharmaceutical industry, under the UNCITRAL Rules, pursuant to French law. Sum in dispute: USD 33 million.
- *Party-appointed arbitrator*: A dispute (including a request for interim injunctive measures) between an oil company and a State under a Concession Agreement, under the SCC Rules.
- *Party-appointed arbitrator*: A joint venture project in Turkey between an international oil company and a local company, including complex issues of multi-party arbitration, consolidation and inter-linked agreements. ICC arbitration Rules, pursuant to Swiss law. Sum in dispute: USD 25 million.
- *Party-appointed arbitrator*: An LCIA arbitration concerning an advisory agreement on the restructuring of a CIS country's external debt.
- *Party-appointed arbitrator*: An ad hoc arbitration concerning a BOT agreement between a Chinese company and an English company. Sum in dispute: GBP 15 million.
- *Party-appointed arbitrator*: An LCIA arbitration concerning the supply of pipelines, between a German company and a French company.
- *Sole Arbitrator*: An ICC dispute regarding a sulphuric acid plant tail gas unit treatment between an Italian company and the Canadian subsidiary of a major oil and gas corporation.
- *Sole Arbitrator*: An LCIA Arbitration between a global law firm and one of its partners concerning allegations of professional misconduct.
- *Sole arbitrator*: An LCIA arbitration concerning allegations of misconduct against the director of a Russian company.
- *Sole arbitrator*: An LCIA arbitration concerning allegations of bad faith and wilful default between a Ukrainian investor and a Russian broker.
- *Sole arbitrator*: An ICC arbitration in relation to an aircraft supply agreement.
- *Sole arbitrator*: An LCIA arbitration concerning the supply of military equipment in Pakistan.
- *Sole arbitrator*: An ad hoc arbitration concerning a shipbuilding contract between a Lithuanian shipping company and a Russian company, pursuant to Russian law.
- *Sole arbitrator*: A number of related LCIA arbitrations between Russian parties to a military supply agreement, and the

guarantors thereto, pursuant to English law.

- *Sole arbitrator*: An LCIA arbitration between the Mexican distributor and supplier of children's books, pursuant to English law. Emergency injunctive relief is claimed in relation to ongoing criminal proceedings against the Claimant in Mexico. Parallel ADR in relation to a commercial settlement for the return on unused books.
- *ADR*: Sophie also acts as mediator.

## Pro Bono Work

Training of Arbitrators for the Centre Commercial d'Arbitrage en Haïti, Port-au-Prince, Haïti, June 2014.

Coaching Iran's first team for the Vis Moot 2015, February 2015.

## Membership of Rosters, Professional Bodies and Committees

- The Law Society of England and Wales
- The Bar of Quebec
- The AIPN
- The International Center for Dispute Resolution (ICDR), Roster of Arbitrators - Commercial and Energy Disputes
- The International Bar Association
- The London Court of International Arbitration
- The International Chamber of Commerce
- The International Law Association
- ICC, Canadian delegate to the Commission on Arbitration
- Swedish Arbitration Association, Executive Committee Member
- International Arbitration Club, London, Treasurer and Committee Member
- International Law Association, Member, Committees on International Investment Law and on International Arbitration
- Legal/Industry Round table on third party funding in international arbitration, by invitation.
- UNCITRAL Working Group on International Arbitration, member of the observer delegation sent by the Forum for International Conciliation and Arbitration
- Various task forces on arbitration for the ICC and the IBA

## Expertise

### Representative Matters: As Arbitrator

Chair: A dispute between the parties to a JOA concerning the drilling of offshore wells in an African country, and issues of unlawful cash calls, under the ICC Rules, pursuant to English law. Sum in dispute: USD 25 million.

Chair: A dispute regarding the supply of coal under the ScoTA Terms, including a jurisdictional challenge.

Chair: A dispute between the parties to a Shareholders' Agreement in relation to the development of an energy project in Africa, under the ICC Rules. Injunctive relief is claimed.

Party-appointed arbitrator: A gas price revision dispute between a Turkish company and a Greek company under the ICC Rules.

Party-appointed arbitrator: A joint venture dispute between two US public companies in the pharmaceutical industry, under the UNCITRAL Rules, pursuant to French law. Sum in dispute: USD 33 million.

Party-appointed arbitrator: A dispute (including a request for interim injunctive measures) between an oil company and a State

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under a Concession Agreement, under the SCC Rules. Sum in dispute: USD 3 billion.

Party-appointed arbitrator: A joint venture project in Turkey between an international oil company and a local company, including complex issues of multi-party arbitration, consolidation and inter-linked agreements. ICC arbitration Rules, pursuant to Swiss law. Sum in dispute: USD 25 million.

Party-appointed arbitrator: An LCIA arbitration concerning an advisory agreement on the restructuring of a CIS country's external debt. Sum in dispute: USD 6 million.

Party-appointed arbitrator: An ad hoc arbitration concerning a BOT agreement between a Chinese company and an English company. Sum in dispute: GBP 15 million.

Party-appointed arbitrator: An LCIA arbitration concerning the supply of pipelines, between a German company and a French company. Sum in dispute: US 8 million.

Sole Arbitrator: An LCIA Arbitration between a global law firm and one of its partners concerning allegations of professional misconduct.

Sole arbitrator: An LCIA arbitration concerning allegations of misconduct against the director of a Russian company.

Sole arbitrator: An ICC arbitration in relation to an aircraft supply agreement. Sum in dispute: USD 5 million.

Sole arbitrator: An LCIA arbitration concerning the supply of military equipment in Pakistan. Sum in dispute: USD 10 million.

Sole arbitrator: An ad hoc arbitration concerning a shipbuilding contract between a Lithuanian shipping company and a Russian company, pursuant to Russian law. Sum in dispute: USD 2 million.

Sole arbitrator: A number of related LCIA arbitrations between Russian parties to a military supply agreement, and the guarantors thereto, pursuant to English law. Sum in dispute: USD 4 million.

Sole arbitrator: An LCIA arbitration between the Mexican distributor and supplier of children's books, pursuant to English law. Emergency injunctive relief is claimed in relation to ongoing criminal proceedings against the Claimant in Mexico. Parallel ADR in relation to a commercial settlement for the return on unused books. .

ADR: Sophie also acts as mediator.