

SIDRA Webinar

Launch of the Preliminary Findings of the Singapore International Dispute Resolution Academy's International Dispute Resolution Survey 2021

The Singapore International Dispute Resolution Academy will be launching the preliminary findings of its International Dispute Resolution Survey 2021 on 9 September 2021, on the sidelines of the Singapore Convention Week. Commissioned by the Ministry of Law, the SIDRA Survey 2021 follows the first iteration of the SIDRA Survey released in 2019. The SIDRA Survey is the first of its kind as it takes a unique perspective – it only surveys lawyers, legal counsel, corporate executives, and legal advisors who are familiar with and have used dispute resolution mechanisms such as international commercial arbitration, international commercial litigation, international commercial mediation, mixed-mode mechanisms, and investor-state dispute settlement.

The launch of the preliminary findings of the SIDRA Survey 2021 will give a brief overview of the findings thus far, and feature a conversation between senior lawyers and in-house counsel on the various dispute resolution mechanisms.

Programme – 9 September 2021

| Time | Event | Panellists |
|-----------------|--|---|
| 4.30pm - 5.00pm | Welcome Remarks and Introduction of the Preliminary Findings | Professor Nadja Alexander Rachel Tan Xi'en , Research and Development Operations Lead at the Singapore International Dispute Resolution Academy |
| 5.00pm - 5.40pm | Conversation between Senior Practitioners and In-House Counsel on the Preliminary Findings | Professor Nadja Alexander Michael Peer , Head of Disputes Advisory at PwC Southeast Asia Consulting Chou Sean Yu , Head of Litigation at WongPartnership LLP Nicholas Lingard , Partner at Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer Singapore Krishnan Nadarajan , Senior Legal Counsel at ExxonMobil Asia Pacific Pte Ltd |
| 5.40pm - 6.00pm | Question and Answer Session | |

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Details

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| Date | 9 September 2021 |
| Time | 4.30 – 6.00pm |
| Venue | Zoom |
| To register | https://smu-sg.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_CJS4o8WgSYeuKsxiRXcODQ |

About the Panellists



Nadja Alexander

Nadja Alexander is an international dispute resolution specialist who mediates and consults on cross-border mediation policy. She is recognized as a global thought leader in the field of mediation (Who's Who Legal).

An award winning author (2020, 2011) and educator (2018, 2007, 1997), Nadja's expertise has contributed to the design and drafting of dispute resolution legislation in more than 10 jurisdictions including Singapore, Hong Kong and Vietnam. She is a foundation member of the International Advisory Board of the United Nations Global Mediation Panel (Office of the Ombudsman).

Nadja is Professor of Law (Practice) and Director of the Singapore International Dispute Resolution Academy (SIDRA) at the Singapore Management University School of Law. She holds honorary appointments in Australia and the United States. Her books include The Singapore Convention on Mediation: A Commentary, International and Comparative Mediation, and the EU Mediation Law Handbook.



Michael Peer

Michael is Head of Disputes Advisory at PwC Southeast Asia Consulting. He acts as an arbitrator and expert on accounting and quantum issues in a wide range of disputes and industries. He is a Chartered Accountant as well as a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators.

He has been involved in disputes arising from breaches of contract, share purchase agreements and claims arising out of investment treaties in mining, oil & gas, power generation, transport, construction, financial services, telecoms and manufacturing.

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Michael has been recognised as a thought leader in arbitration by Who's Who Legal and has been recognised in its listing of International Arbitration Experts since its inception.



Rachel Tan Xi'En

Rachel is an Advocate and Solicitor of the Supreme Court of Singapore. She is currently part of the leadership team at the Singapore International Dispute Resolution Academy and Associate Counsel at RevLaw LLC. Rachel trained at, and was an associate at large law firms in Singapore, and clerked for a world-renowned arbitrator. Rachel also spent three years in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs as a Foreign Service Officer from 2011 to 2014.

Rachel's interests focus on international dispute resolution. She holds a BA (Hons) and an LL.B (Hons) from the National University of Singapore, and is an accredited Tribunal Secretary at the HKIAC. Rachel has won several prizes, including placing 3rd in the Christopher Bathurst Essay Prize Competition in 2017, placing 1st in the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (Singapore) Procedural Order Competition 2018, and winning the Championship of the Essex Court Chambers – SAL International Mooting Competition 2019.



Chou Sean Yu

Sean Yu heads the Litigation & Dispute Resolution Group at WongPartnership LLP, which has over 150 litigators. He is also the Head of the Banking & Financial Disputes Practice and a Partner in the International Arbitration, Financial Services Regulatory and Malaysia Practices.

His main practice areas are banking & trade finance disputes, insolvency & restructuring, corporate fraud, investigations & asset recovery, financial services regulatory, commercial & corporate disputes, shareholder litigation, tort & contractual claims and domestic & international arbitration.

He also sits as an arbitrator and is on the panel of the Singapore International Arbitration Centre, the Asian International Arbitration Centre, the Korean Commercial Arbitration Board, the Maldives International Arbitration Centre, the Japan Commercial Arbitration Association, the Hainan International Arbitration Court and the Russian Arbitration Centre at the Russian Institute of Modern Arbitration.

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He has been named for Banking – Regulatory in *Who's Who Legal Banking* since 2017 and is also recognised as a leading lawyer for International Arbitration in various publications, including *Who's Who Legal - Southeast Asia 2021*.

Sean graduated with First Class Honours from the University of Bristol and is admitted to the English Bar (Middle Temple) and to the Singapore Bar. He was a Justices' Law Clerk with the Singapore Supreme Court before entering private practice.



Nicholas Lingard

The head of Freshfields' international arbitration practice in Asia, Nick is an experienced international arbitration counsel and advocate.

He leads one of the most active treaty arbitration practices in Asia, representing both investors and states, in high-profile, politically complex cases around Asia and the world.

Nick also represents clients in commercial and construction disputes across a variety of industries, under all major arbitral rules, including ICC, SIAC, UNCITRAL, HKIAC, KLRCA, JCAA, AAA and NAI, and under all major systems of law.

He provides public international law advice to government and private clients, and accepts occasional appointments as arbitrator.

Nick is recognised as a leading international arbitration practitioner by all the major directories, including as a Band 1 "Leading Individual" for arbitration in Singapore by Legal 500. He was recently named "International Arbitration Lawyer of the Year" at the Asia Legal Awards.

A former law clerk to the Chief Justice of Australia, Nick was educated at the University of Queensland, where he graduated at the top of his class in law and Japanese, and Harvard Law School where he was a Frank Knox Memorial Fellow.

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Krishnan Nadarajan

Krishnan Nadarajan has had an illustrious career in the legal fraternity spanning over 20 years. Krishnan began his legal career in England and came home to join the Singapore Judiciary. Thereafter, he pursued his passion in advocacy and went on to argue a number of notable cases as an Advocate & Solicitor of the Supreme Court of Singapore. He moved in-house with ExxonMobil in 2009 and has since stewarded a number of international and local disputes for the company over this period.

He began his in-house career as the lead attorney for all downstream trading activities and maritime matters. And he went on to become ExxonMobil Asia Pacific Pte Ltd's very first lawyer for all LNG trading activities in Singapore, which included providing legal support to ExxonMobil's LNG country offices in Japan, India, China, Taiwan & South Korea. During his time with the company, he has also been entrusted with legal oversight of ExxonMobil offices in Japan and India for all in-country business.

Krishnan is a firm believer of the *mantra* 'preventive lawyering' and has a *forte* in stewarding commercial negotiations in the global arena.

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