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GLOBAL RESOLUTION HUB FOR ENERGY DISPUTES: EDAC'S VISION OF LEADERSHIP AND FUTURE

by Süleyman BOŞÇA

The Energy Disputes Arbitration Center (EDAC),¹ established in 2020, has rapidly gained recognition as a global arbitration center dedicated to resolving disputes specific to the energy sector. Considering the complexity and dynamic nature of the energy industry, the EDAC serves as a tailored solution platform designed to address the unique needs of this field. Having taken significant steps toward its goal of leadership in energy arbitration within a short period, the EDAC aims not only to resolve disputes but also to shape the future of arbitration in the energy sector.

The EDAC's most distinguishing feature lies in its sector-specific approach to managing arbitration processes. The energy industry encompasses a wide range of activities, including international energy investment agreements, oil and gas projects, renewable energy initiatives, nuclear energy projects, infrastructure development, and energy trade. Disputes arising in these areas often require high-level technical knowledge and legal expertise. To address these demands, the EDAC has developed an arbitration model that encompasses not only legal aspects but also technical and commercial dimensions. This approach ensures the continuity of energy projects while contributing to the preservation of commercial relationships between parties.

The EDAC's uniqueness stems from its panel of arbitrators who possess expertise in energy law, international arbitration, and the technical intricacies of the energy sector. These arbitrators are equipped to handle complex cross-border disputes, delivering balanced decisions that account for diverse legal systems and commercial practices. The panel's in-depth knowledge of specific areas, including oil and gas projects, renewable energy initiatives, nuclear energy projects, infrastructure investments, and energy trade distinguishes the EDAC from other arbitration centers.

¹ EDAC, <https://arbitrationcenter.org>.



Additionally, the arbitrators' expertise in innovative topics, such as energy market regulations, carbon certificates, and energy storage technologies, enables the EDAC to provide swift and effective solutions to intricate disputes.

Shortly after its establishment, the EDAC began resolving significant disputes. Notably, two major cases were adjudicated before the EDAC, both stemming from international agreements. These cases have demonstrated the EDAC's capacity to manage complex cross-border disputes with neutrality and expertise. Both disputes were successfully resolved, further strengthening the EDAC's reputation as a reliable arbitration center.

The EDAC places great importance on international collaborations to bolster its role within the global arbitration community. Its cooperation agreements with international arbitration centers and energy organizations have expanded its global influence and reinforced its international presence. Furthermore, the EDAC fosters cooperation and knowledge exchange among stakeholders in the energy sector through seminars, workshops, and training programs.

The EDAC is committed not only resolving existing disputes but also to shaping the future of arbitration in the energy sector. To achieve this, it plans to develop specialized arbitration solutions for emerging fields, such as renewable energy, carbon markets, and energy storage, while adapting to the digital transformation of the energy world by integrating technology-driven solutions into arbitration processes. Innovative approaches, such as online hearings, AI-assisted dispute analysis, and digital evidence management, are part of the EDAC's vision to modernize arbitration procedures.

The EDAC is also committed to contributing to global sustainability goals within the energy sector. By organizing carbon-neutral events and supporting solutions aligned with ESG (Environmental, Social, and Governance) criteria, the EDAC aims to mitigate the environmental impact of energy projects. This sustainability-focused approach positions the EDAC not only as an arbitration center but also as an institution contributing to the sustainable development of the energy industry.



In a remarkably short time, the EDAC has made significant strides toward becoming a global leader in sector-specific arbitration, leveraging its expertise, impartiality, and innovation. Its successful resolution of international energy disputes, expanded international partnerships, and innovative solutions tailored to the energy industry highlight the EDAC's potential to be a key player in energy arbitration today and in the future. As the energy sector continues to evolve rapidly, the EDAC remains a driving force, guiding and shaping this transformation.



SÜLEYMAN BOŞÇA, the founder and managing partner of BOSCA Law Firm, graduated from Ankara University in 2001. Mr. Boşça, who completed his Master's Degree in Private Law, is also continuing his PhD in Energy Law. He completed the Energy Law Certificate Program organized by the Banking and Commercial Law Research Institute in 2005. Süleyman presented papers in many national and international meetings and symposiums in the field of energy law and also gave lectures in this field. He has taken an active role in the preparation, negotiation, and management of many contracts, from energy supply contracts to EPC contracts and dispute resolution process in the energy sector. He is currently Chairman of the Energy Law Research Institute, Chairman of the Energy Efficiency Association Ankara Branch, Africa Coordinator Vice President and Chairman of the Turkey-Seychelles Business Council of the Foreign Economic Relations Board (DEIK), member of the Turkish National Committee of the World Energy Council and Member of the African Energy Chamber. He has experience in the fields of energy law, commercial and corporate law, mergers and acquisitions, project finance, sports law, public procurement contracts and law, intellectual property law.

INSTITUTE FOR TRANSNATIONAL ARBITRATION OF THE CENTER FOR AMERICAN AND INTERNATIONAL LAW

The Institute for Transnational Arbitration (ITA) provides advanced, continuing education for lawyers, judges and other professionals concerned with transnational arbitration of commercial and investment disputes. Through its programs, scholarly publications and membership activities, ITA has become an important global forum on contemporary issues in the field of transnational arbitration. The Institute's record of educational achievements has been aided by the support of many of the world's leading companies, lawyers and arbitration professionals. Membership in the Institute for Transnational Arbitration is available to corporations, law firms, professional and educational organizations, government agencies and individuals.

I. MISSION

Founded in 1986 as a division of The Center for American and International Law, the Institute was created to promote global adherence to the world's principal arbitration treaties and to educate business executives, government officials and lawyers about arbitration as a means of resolving transnational business disputes.

II. WHY BECOME A MEMBER?

Membership dues are more than compensated both financially and professionally by the benefits of membership. Depending on the level of membership, ITA members may designate multiple representatives on the Institute's Advisory Board, each of whom is invited to attend, without charge, either the annual ITA Workshop in Dallas or the annual Americas Workshop held in a different Latin American city each year. Both events begin with the Workshop and are followed by a Dinner Meeting later that evening and the ITA Forum the following morning - an informal, invitation-only roundtable discussion on current issues in the field. Advisory Board Members also receive a substantial tuition discount at all other ITA programs.

Advisory Board members also have the opportunity to participate in the work of



the Institute's practice committees and a variety of other free professional and social membership activities throughout the year. Advisory Board Members also receive a free subscription to ITA's quarterly law journal, *World Arbitration and Mediation Review*, a free subscription to ITA's quarterly newsletter, *News and Notes*, and substantial discounts on all ITA educational online, DVD and print publications. Your membership and participation support the activities of one of the world's leading forums on international arbitration today.

III. THE ADVISORY BOARD

The work of the Institute is done primarily through its Advisory Board, and its committees. The current practice committees of the ITA are the Americas Initiative Committee (comprised of Advisory Board members practicing or interested in Latin America) and the Young Arbitrators Initiative Committee (comprised of Advisory Board members under 40 years old). The ITA Advisory Board and its committees meet for business and social activities each June in connection with the annual ITA Workshop. Other committee activities occur in connection with the annual ITA Americas Workshop and throughout the year.

IV. PROGRAMS

The primary public program of the Institute is its annual ITA Workshop, presented each year in June in Dallas in connection with the annual membership meetings. Other annual programs include the ITA Americas Workshop held at different venues in Latin America, the ITA-ASIL Spring Conference, held in Washington, D.C., and the ITA-IEL-ICC Joint Conference on International Energy Arbitration. ITA conferences customarily include a Roundtable for young practitioners and an ITA Forum for candid discussion among peers of current issues and concerns in the field. For a complete calendar of ITA programs, please visit our website at www.cailaw.org/ita.

V. PUBLICATIONS

The Institute for Transnational Arbitration publishes its acclaimed Scoreboard of Adherence to Transnational Arbitration Treaties, a comprehensive, regularly-updated report on the status of every country's adherence to the primary



international arbitration treaties, in ITA's quarterly newsletter, News and Notes. All ITA members also receive a free subscription to *ITA in Review*, ITA's law journal edited by ITA's Board of Editors and published in three issues per year. ITA's educational videos and books are produced through its Academic Council to aid professors, students and practitioners of international arbitration. Since 2002, ITA has co-sponsored KluwerArbitration.com, the most comprehensive, up-to-date portal for international arbitration resources on the Internet. The ITA Arbitration Report, a free email subscription service available at KluwerArbitration.com and prepared by the ITA Board of Reporters, delivers timely reports on awards, cases, legislation and other current developments from over 60 countries, organized by country, together with reports on new treaty ratifications, new publications and upcoming events around the globe. ITAFOR (the ITA Latin American Arbitration Forum) a listserv launched in 2014 has quickly become the leading online forum on arbitration in Latin America.

Please join us. For more information, visit ITA online at www.cailaw.org/ita.



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