

## CURRICULUM VITAE

*Anja is an independent arbitrator, and an accredited mediator based in Dubai, UAE. She is a UK qualified lawyer and a German national who is fluent in five major European languages.*



**NAME** **ANJA BOLZ**  
*Chartered Arbitrator and Fellow of the CIArb  
Accredited Mediator  
BA and MA Cambridge University  
MA Cranfield FAIADR TEP DipM DipL*

**NATIONALITY** German

**LANGUAGES** Native Speaker of English and German  
Fluent Speaker of Spanish, French and Dutch

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### OVERVIEW

Anja is a UK qualified lawyer, an independent chartered arbitrator and an accredited mediator based in the United Arab Emirates. She has extensive experience of both civil and common law jurisdictions and has an in-depth understanding of the legal systems of the MENA/GCC region.

Anja was recently appointed as one of only 500 global Chartered Arbitrators by the Chartered Arbitrators. The C.Arb designation was awarded to her as *'a Fellow of CIArb who has demonstrated to a peer interview panel an advanced knowledge and understanding of arbitration and its practical application, evidencing a professional approach to parties.'*

Anja has over 20 years of experience working with leading regional and international law firms on corporate, commercial, real estate, shareholder and construction disputes. She is regularly appointed by both institutes and parties and is commended as *'an excellent practitioner who excels at managing efficient and cost-effective processes'*. Anja is particularly noted for *'combining practical commercial understanding with a wealth of legal experience and arbitration expertise'* and her Awards are considered *'models of clarity'* by peer review.

Anja is one of the ICC UAE delegates to the ICC Global Commission on Arbitration and ADR for the upcoming term 2024 to 2027. She is a member of the Steering Committee of the ICC UAE Commission on Arbitration and ADR. She is a Panel Arbitrator at the Abu Dhabi International Arbitration Centre (ArbitrateAD); the Dubai International Arbitration Centre (DIAC); the International Chamber of Commerce UAE (ICC); the Abu Dhabi ADGM Arbitration Centre (ADGMAC); the London Court of International Arbitration (LCIA); the International Centre for Dispute Resolution (ICDR – being the international division of the American Arbitration Association); the Asian Institute of Alternative Dispute Resolution (AIADR); the Oman Commercial Arbitration Centre (OCAC); the Saudi Centre for Commercial Arbitration (SCCA) and the Abu Dhabi Commercial Conciliation and Arbitration Centre (ADCCAC) as well as a List Arbitrator with the Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre (HKIAC).

Anja is a German national and native English and German speaker. She is also proficient in French, Spanish and Dutch. Anja is a UK qualified solicitor admitted to the Law Society of the United Kingdom and in addition to her common law qualification, has extensive and in-depth experience of the civil law jurisdictions of the Middle East.

Anja is a Cambridge University graduate holding both BA and MA in Modern and Mediaeval Languages as well as an MA in European Business from Cranfield University. Anja further holds postgraduate degrees in Law from the University of Law in London (CPE and LPC). Anja trained and worked with City Magic Circle firm HoganLovells for a decade before spending the last 17 years in the UAE and GCC/MENA in both in-house and private practice roles.

### ARBITRATION EXPERIENCE

Since 2009, Anja has worked on over thirty international and GCC/MENA arbitration cases. She has sat as Tribunal Chairman, Sole Arbitrator, Party Representative and has acted as Lead Counsel in arbitrations spanning the corporate, commercial, agency, property, real estate and construction sectors - mainly in the UAE and the wider MENA and GCC region.

Her experience as in-house Counsel and exposure to a full range of contentious and non-contentious legal matters in combination with her long business and legal experience, has given Anja a deep understanding of regional legal and business issues and disputes. Anja's focus on efficient, transparent and cost-effective dispute resolution processes have led to a growing number of appointments by referral.

## **LEGAL CAREER**

Anja has an excellent academic track record and holds both legal and business graduate qualifications. She developed a strong business management background as European Business Development Manager with Blockbuster Inc prior to joining the legal profession.

After qualifying as a UK solicitor and practising in the Corporate/Commercial group at the Magic Circle City of London firm HoganLovells in London and Paris for nearly a decade specialising in M&A and listings, Anja moved to join Al Tamimi in Dubai's International Financial Centre (DIFC) where she set up the respected Family Business Practice specialising in corporate structures, governance, and succession planning.

Anja moved in-house in 2009 as Group and Family General Counsel for the Lootah Group (a regional family business conglomerate). In this role, Anja managed all contentious and non-contentious legal affairs for the many companies and businesses comprising the Group ranging from banking, construction, property, real estate, insurance through to retail and structured the family's private wealth. Accordingly, Anja is also familiar with Shari'a business requirements and disputes.

From 2009 onwards Anja also gained experience as an international independent arbitrator and party representative specialising in corporate, commercial, agency, property, real estate and construction disputes. Anja founded Bolz Arbitration in 2020 as an independent specialised arbitration practice. Accordingly, Anja has broad practical experience of all aspects of corporate, commercial litigation, construction, property, real estate and family business legal issues and combines this with a commercial, practical approach to dispute resolution.

## **EDUCATION**

Anja holds both a BA and an MA in Modern and Mediaeval Languages from Cambridge University as well as an MA in European Business Studies from Cranfield University. After obtaining a further degree in Law at the University of Law in London, Anja completed her training contract with Magic Circle firm HoganLovells and duly qualified as a UK Solicitor with admittance to the Law Society of England and Wales.

As well as being a Chartered Arbitrator and a Fellow of the Asian Institute of ADR, Anja is a full member of both the Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners as well as of the Chartered Institute of Linguists. She is a member of the Steering Committee of the ICC UAE Commission on Arbitration and ADR. Anja recently completed the STEP Certificate in Foundations.

## **QUALIFICATIONS**

### **Degrees**

Postgraduate Degree in Law (LPC) from the University of Law in London

Degree in Law (CPL) from the University of Law in London

Bachelor and Master of Arts (BA & MA) in Modern and Mediaeval Languages from Cambridge University

Master of Arts (MA) in European Business Management from Cranfield University

### **Professional Organisations**

Admitted as a Chartered Arbitrator (C.Arb)

Admitted as a Chartered Marketer by the Chartered Institute of Marketing (DipM)

Admitted to the Law Society of the UK to practice as a Solicitor

Admitted to the Chartered Institute of Linguists as a Translator (DipL)

Admitted to Full Membership of the Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners (TEP)

### **Diplomas and Courses**

STEP Certificate in Foundations

Diploma in Financial Strategy from the Open University

Negotiation Dynamics INSEAD

### **Publications**

Oxford University Press 'Trusts and Trustees' (ISSN 1363-1780) '*Waqfs and Trusts: a Comparative Study*'