

Musical Chairs - Choosing the Right Seat in Times of Change

Arbitrating in the Middle East

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The Middle East – A Vast and Diversified Region



Middle Eastern Countries

- Bahrain
- Cyprus
- Egypt
- Iraq
- Iran
- Israel
- Jordan
- Kuwait
- Lebanon
- Palestine
- Oman
- Qatar
- Saudi Arabia
- Syria
- Turkey
- United Arab Emirates
- Yemen

Arab Middle Eastern Countries – Arbitration Laws

Bahrain	Domestic Arbitration: Section 7, Articles 233-243 of the Civil and Commercial Procedures Law - International Arbitration: The International Commercial Arbitration Law, 1994
Egypt	Law No. 27 of 1994
Iraq	Domestic Arbitration: Book III, Section 2, Articles 251-276 of New Code of Procedures, 1969
Jordan	Law No. 31 of 2001
Kuwait	Domestic Arbitration: Articles 173-188 of Civil and Commercial Procedures Law, 1980
Lebanon	Domestic Arbitration: Articles 762-808 - International Arbitration: Articles 809-821 of Civil Procedures Code, 1983
Oman	Law No. 47 of 1997; Law 36/1998, Article 353 of the Civil and Commercial Procedures Law, 2002
Palestine	Arbitration Law No. 3 of 2000
Qatar	Articles 190-210 of Civil and Commercial Procedures Law, 1990
Saudi Arabia	Law No. 46 of 1983 and Executive Regulations No. 7/2021 of 1985
Syria	Law No. 4 of 2008
United Arab Emirates	Articles 203-218 of Civil Procedures Law, 1992
Yemen	Law No. 22 of 1992 amended by Law No. 32 of 1997

Sources of Arbitration Laws

State	UNCITRAL Model Law	Egyptian Arbitration Law	Shari'a Law
Bahrain	√		
Egypt	√		
Iraq		√	
Jordan	√	√ (Law of 1994)	
Kuwait		√	
Lebanon			
Oman	√		
Palestine	√		
Qatar		√	
Saudi Arabia			√
Syria	√	√ (Law of 1994)	
United Arab Emirates		√	
Yemen		√	√

International Treaties Entered into by Arab Middle Eastern States

State	New York Convention	Washington Convention	Riyadh Convention	GCC Agreement
Bahrain	√	√	√ (R)	√
Egypt	√	√		
Iraq			√ (R)	
Jordan	√	√	√ (R)	
Kuwait	√	√	√	√
Lebanon	√	√	√	
Oman	√	√	√ (R)	√
Palestine			√ (R)	
Qatar	√	√	√	√
Saudi Arabia	√	√	√ (R)	√
Syria	√	√	√ (R)	
United Arab Emirates	√	√	√ (R)	√
Yemen		√	√ (R)	

The GCC States



- Bahrain**
- Kuwait**
- Oman**
- Qatar**
- Saudi Arabia**
- United Arab Emirates**

Key Provisions/Key Practices (GCC States)

A. The Arbitration Agreement

- Procedural Requirements
- Contracting with State Entities

B. Intervention of the Courts

- Enforcement of the Arbitration Clause
- Interim Measures
- Appointment and Challenge of Arbitrators

Key Provisions/Key Practices (GCC States) (cont'd.)

C. The Arbitral Proceedings

- Preliminary Hearing
- Witnesses
- Power of Attorney

D. The Award

- Time limits
- Formal Requirements
- Challenge
- Enforcement

The Rising of New Species: the Free Arbitration Zones

A. Why?

- Lack of confidence in local courts
- Little or no track record of the courts
- Unfavorable past decisions
- Attraction of trade and investments
- Language barrier

The Rising of New Species: the Free Arbitration Zones (cont'd.)

B. The Example of the DIFC

- Established by Federal Law
- Free Financial Zone in Dubai with its own courts and judicial system adopting an autonomous common law system
- Arbitration Law of the DIFC
- Recent developments in arbitration

The Relevant Arbitral Institutions in the Middle East

A. The Most Reliable Arbitration Institutions

- The Cairo Regional Centre for International Commercial Arbitration (CRCICA)
- The Dubai International Arbitration Centre (DIAC)

B. The Promising Arbitration Institutions

- The Bahrain chamber of Dispute Resolution-American Arbitration Association (BCDR/AAA)
- The Dubai International Financial Centre-London Court of International Arbitration (DIFC/LCIA)

C. Others

- The Abu Dhabi Chamber of Commerce Centre for Settlement of Disputes (ADCCAC)
- The GCC Commercial Arbitration Centre (GCC Centre)
- The Qatar Chamber of Commerce and Industry International Arbitration and Conciliation Centre (QAC)

Thank You.