

# ADR CENTURION

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# "Mandatory arbitration clauses I think, more often than not, work to the detriment of working people."



- Tom Perez

## Join the spotlight - submit your profile to the AIADR Newsletter



Submission requirement:

- 1. Profile Picture
- 2. Biodata (150 200) words
- Available to AIADR members with active membership only
- Limited to 5 slots for each issue.

To submit, kindly email aiadr.editor@aiadr.world

## Membership

#### Collaborate with us!

Members are welcome to reach out to the Secretariat for assistance or collaboration in organizing webinars on ADR topics of their choice. No charges are levied. Do not miss out on this great opportunity to enhance your resume by delivering a webinar for the benefit of other members and the ADR fraternity. Email us to register your interest!

#### Upgrade Your Membership!

Members can now upgrade their membership level or get accredited as a Certified Practitioner through our fast-track path by virtue of having comparable membership or accreditation from equivalent international ADR organisations (e.g. Chartered Arbitrator with ClArb).

aiadr.membership@aiadr.world



Dear Members,

Warm greetings from the Asian Institute of Alternative Dispute Resolution. I am delighted to present you with the 35th Issue of the ADR Centurion. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all individuals for their constant support and trust in the work of the institute towards achieving our vision of building a global platform in alternative dispute resolution (ADR).

I would like to take this moment to express my gratitude to the Governance Council, Office Bearers, committee members, AIADR Secretariat, partner organizations, esteemed members, and our latest subscribers for their dedication to advancing AIADR's objectives. We encourage you to stay tuned for our latest news and content across different social media platforms such as Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter, YouTube, and Instagram.

I am delighted to take this opportunity to update all members of the Asian Institute of Alternative Dispute Resolution (AIADR) on our recent work and initiatives. Over the past couple of months, we have orchestrated a variety of engaging and multifaceted events, tailored to cater to a broad spectrum of interests within the realm of alternative dispute resolution (ADR). Whether you're a seasoned professional or just starting in the field of ADR, there was something for everyone at AIADR's recent events:

1. Firstly, I am delighted to share that on 18 January 2025, I am pleased to share that on 18

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#### Highlights

January 2025, I had the privilege of serving as a panel speaker at the AALCO Hong Kong Sports Mediation Training Programme, organized by the AALCO Hong Kong Regional Arbitration Centre. This event served as an important platform for discussing the unique challenges and dispute resolution mechanisms in the sports industry.

During my panel session on "Introduction to the Sports Industry and Its Related Disputes." I shared insights drawn from my personal experiences in sports-related disputes. My discussion highlighted the common challenges faced by stakeholders, effective dispute resolution strategies, and the growing role of mediation in sports. The increasing complexity of legal and commercial issues in sports requires an efficient and specialized approach, and mediation has emerged as a key tool in resolving such disputes swiftly and effectively.

AlADR remains committed to expanding the reach of ADR across diverse industries, including sports. This event further reinforced our commitment to fostering expertise in sports mediation and promoting the use of ADR as a preferred mechanism for dispute resolution in this dynamic sector. We look forward to more opportunities for collaboration, knowledge-sharing, and capacitybuilding in sports dispute resolution.

2. Next, in our continued efforts to nurture young legal talents and future ADR practitioners, AIADR is proud to announce its collaboration with Taylor's Law Society for their internship programme 2025. This initiative reflects our commitment

2025

#### Highlights

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to providing law students with valuable practical exposure and real-world experience in ADR.

Through this internship programme, students will have the opportunity to engage in arbitration and mediation cases, refine their legal research and writing skills, and gain first-hand insights into the evolving ADR landscape. We firmly believe that hands-on experience is crucial in developing the next generation of ADR professionals, and we are eager to mentor and guide young minds as they embark on their journey in dispute resolution.

AIADR extends a warm welcome to these talented interns, and we look forward to working with them in furthering ADR knowledge and practice. We encourage our members to support and engage with young professionals, as their enthusiasm and fresh perspectives will undoubtedly contribute to the continued growth of ADR.

AIADR is also delighted to be a supporting З. organization for the ACL Conference 2025, organized by Africa Construction Law. This landmark event, set to take place on 22 - 23 May 2025, will bring together leading construction law experts and professionals from around the world to discuss the latest developments, challenges, and opportunities in construction dispute resolution.

As the construction industry continues to expand and evolve, it is crucial for professionals to stay ahead of legal and regulatory developments, particularly in dispute resolution. This conference provides an exceptional platform for thought leaders, legal practitioners, arbitrators, and industry stakeholders to exchange ideas, share best practices, and strengthen global collaborations.

We strongly encourage our members and stakeholders to participate in this event, as it presents a valuable opportunity to gain deep insights into construction law, network with leading experts, and contribute to meaningful discussions that shape the future of dispute resolution in the construction industry. AIADR remains committed to supporting global initiatives that enhance ADR knowledge and practice across different sectors. 4.Lastly, another significant milestone for AIADR was the hosting of the webinar titled "From

Drafts to Action: How Are Amendments Shaping Arbitration's Future?" in collaboration with Robert Gordon University on 17 February 2025.

This insightful sessions examined the latest developments in arbitration law, particularly the UK's new Arbitration Bill and its potential impact on international arbitration. The discussions also explored whether similar reforms could strengthen Malaysia's arbitration framework.

Moderated by Charles Mak, the webinar featured distinguished speakers, including David S. Christie, Dr. Andrey Kotelnikov, Dr. Shahrizal M Zin, and Ms. Tan Swee Im. Their expertise provided a comprehensive analysis of the UK Arbitration Bill, its motivations, its influence on global arbitration, and key issues such as third-party funding, procedural efficiency, and case law developments.

As arbitration continues to evolve, this webinar reinforced the importance of proactive legal reform, knowledge-sharing and international collaboration. By keeping pace with global trends and adopting best practices, we can contribute to a more effective, accessible, and robust dispute resolution landscape.

In closing, I would like to express my sincere appreciation to all our members for their unwavering participation and support in our various activities and events. Your continued engagement is integral to the success and impact of our efforts, and we are grateful for your commitment. As we look ahead to 2025, we remain dedicated to bringing more value to our members and the wider ADR community.

## The Digital Future of ADR: How Artificial Intelligence is Changing the Game



**Begaim Mukhitovna** Kaibyldaeva

in Tashkent.

Specializing in international arbitration, mediation, and ADR, Begaim has over a decade of experience resolving complex disputes. She is widely recognized for her work in incorporating innovative technologies like AI and LegalTech into dispute resolution.

In addition to her professional roles, Begaim regularly delivers guest lectures at universities and legal forums on topics such as AI in arbitration, ADR innovations, and the future of dispute resolution. Through these engagements, she inspires and educates the next generation of legal professionals, fostering knowledge-sharing and practical insights in the rapidly evolving field of ADR.

international journals and forums.

#### Abstract

As technology increasingly influences all aspects of our lives, it is no surprise that it has begun to reshape the landscape of dispute resolution. The integration of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) is not just a technical upgrade; it is a profound shift in how we approach and resolve conflicts.

ADR, traditionally seen as a faster, more cost-effective, and private alternative to litigation, now stands at the intersection of innovation and tradition. Al brings the promise of enhanced efficiency by automating repetitive tasks, analyzing vast amounts

Is an International arbitrator for prominent institutions, Deputy Chairperson of the Central Asian Court of International Arbitration (CACIA) and CEO of Business Soft & ICLOUD (IT Companies located in Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan). She is a Member of the Bar Association of Kyrgyzstan and an Honorary Member of the Congress of Women of Kyrgyzstan. Begaim is a Resident of the Central Asian Association for Artificial Intelligence (AI)

Begaim is a sought-after speaker, writer, and thought leader on Al in arbitration, ADR, and the future of legal practice, contributing regularly to

> of data, and even predicting outcomes based on historical trends. This means that arbitration, mediation, and negotiation can be conducted with greater precision and speed, reducing the time and resources typically consumed by these processes.

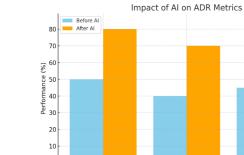
> Moreover, AI has the potential to make ADR more accessible. For individuals and small businesses that may have previously found dispute resolution mechanisms out of reach due to cost or complexity, Al-powered tools can democratize access to justice. Online platforms leveraging AI can facilitate communication, streamline processes, and provide solutions tailored to the needs of disputing parties.

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However, with innovation comes responsibility. The deployment of AI in ADR raises critical ethical questions about bias, transparency, and the need for human oversight. This article delves into these complexities, exploring both the promise and the challenges of integrating AI into ADR. It aims to provide a balanced perspective on how technology is not merely a tool but a transformative force reshaping the way we think about justice and conflict resolution.

Ultimately, as legal professionals, we must navigate this evolving landscape thoughtfully, ensuring that while we embrace innovation, we remain steadfast in upholding fairness, impartiality, and justice.



(Drawn by AI)

Accessibilit Key Metrics

#### Introduction

The legal profession, known for the adherence to tradition, has often been slow to embrace technological advancements. However, Artificial Intelligence (AI) is proving to be a transformative force, compelling change across various sectors of the legal field, including Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR). Designed to provide faster, more cost-effective, and private methods of resolving disputes, ADR mechanisms such as arbitration and mediation are now poised for significant evolution with the integration of Al.

Al has the potential to enhance ADR processes on an unprecedented scale. By automating data analysis, predicting case outcomes, and streamlining communication between parties, AI is not merely a tool for efficiency but a catalyst for redefining dispute resolution. ADR practitioners are increasingly utilizing Al-driven tools to overcome traditional challenges such as procedural delays, high costs, and the risk of biased decision-making.

This article explores the transformative applications of AI in ADR, delving into how these technologies can optimize processes while maintaining the core principles of fairness and impartiality. By addressing inefficiencies and providing innovative solutions, AI is not just complementing ADR-it is reimagining it for a more accessible and effective future.

#### **AI Application in ADR**

#### 1. Predictive Analytics in Arbitration

Predictive analytics powered by AI can analyze previous arbitration cases to provide insights into likely outcomes. By using machine learning algorithms, platforms can predict awards based on factors such as jurisdiction, arbitrator tendencies, and case facts. For instance, tools like ArbiLex use Al to assess case strengths, enabling parties to make informed decisions about proceeding with arbitration.1

#### 2. Online Dispute Resolution (ODR)

Al has transformed Online Dispute Resolution by automating routine tasks and facilitating virtual mediations. Platforms like Modria<sup>2</sup> employ Al to assist in e-commerce disputes, resolving thousands of cases without human intervention. This democratization of ADR provides access to justice for individuals and small businesses that may not afford traditional litigation or arbitration.

<sup>1</sup> Columbia Arbitration Day, "Predictive Analytics in Arbitration," Columbia Law School, https://arbitration-day.law.columbia.edu/sites/default/files/ content/docs/PANEL%202\_readings.pdf.

<sup>2</sup> Modria, "Al-Powered Online Dispute Resolution," https://losangelescafam.modria.com.

#### 3. Automated Document Review

Al-driven tools such as Kira Systems and ROSS Intelligence streamline document review processes, reducing the time required to analyze contracts and case files. This efficiency is particularly valuable in arbitration, where voluminous submissions can delay proceedings.<sup>3</sup>

#### **Ethical Challenges**

Despite its benefits, AI in ADR raises ethical concerns. Key issues include:

Bias in Algorithms: Al systems trained on biased data may perpetuate systemic inequalities. Ensuring transparency in algorithm development is essential to maintain fairness<sup>4</sup>

Confidentiality Risks: The use of AI in ADR requires robust cybersecurity measures to protect sensitive case data<sup>5</sup>

Human Oversight: While AI can assist in decision-making, human arbitrators and mediators must retain ultimate authority to ensure justice is served.

#### **Case Studies**

#### 1. Singapore International Arbitration Centre (SIAC)

SIAC has adopted Al-powered tools to streamline arbitration processes. By using AI for case management and document analysis, SIAC has reduced case resolution times by 20%.

#### 2. European Union Online Dispute Resolution (EU ODR) Platform

The EU's ODR platform resolves cross-border consumer disputes using Al-driven communication tools, handling over 10,000 cases annually.6 In my

2025

view, to fully harness the transformative potential of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR), several key steps must be taken:

Prioritize Training: It is essential to provide ٠ ADR professionals with comprehensive training on the use of AI tools. By equipping practitioners with the necessary skills, we can ensure the effective and responsible implementation of these technologies in dispute resolution processes.

Establish Ethical Standards: The development of clear ethical guidelines is crucial for addressing concerns such as biases, data security, and accountability in Al deployment. These standards will act as a foundation to maintain trust and uphold justice in Al-driven ADR practices.

Encourage Collaborative Efforts: Building strong partnerships between technology developers and ADR institutions is vital. Collaboration will enable the creation of tailored AI solutions that align with the unique needs of the ADR landscape, ensuring that innovation complements the core principles of fairness and impartiality.

By focusing on these areas, I believe we can not only integrate AI into ADR effectively but also enhance its role as a transformative force in delivering faster, more accessible, and equitable dispute resolution.

#### Conclusion

In conclusion, Artificial Intelligence (AI) is undeniably transforming the landscape of Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR), paving the way for enhanced efficiency, greater accessibility, and improved fairness in resolving conflicts. The ability of Al to streamline processes, predict outcomes, and facilitate communication has introduced unprecedented possibilities for innovation within the field.

2025

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Baker McKenzie, "International Arbitration Yearbook," https://www.bakermckenzie.com/en/insight/publications/resources/international-arbitration-vearbook.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> SSRN, "Ethical Considerations in AI and ADR," https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract\_id=4972220. <sup>5</sup> European Commission, "EU ODR: Annual Report 2023."

#### Views

However, this transformation is not without its challenges. Issues such as algorithmic biases, confidentiality concerns, and the risk of over-reliance on technology highlight the need for a balanced approach. A thoughtful and ethical integration of Al is imperative to ensure that technological advancements complement, rather than compromise, the core principles of justice and impartiality that underpin ADR.

As ADR mechanisms adapt to the complexities of a rapidly evolving world, embracing AI will no longer be a matter of choice but a necessity. By addressing existing challenges through robust training, ethical guidelines, and collaborative partnerships, stakeholders can harness Al's potential to create a dispute resolution framework that is not only more effective but also more inclusive and equitable.

Ultimately, the future of ADR lies in its ability to blend tradition with innovation. By leveraging the transformative power of AI responsibly, we can redefine the practice of dispute resolution and better respond to the demands of a globalized, technology-driven society.



#### **Unlocking Mediation's Potential:** Why **Juvenile Cases are Key to Reforming Criminal Justice in Malaysia**



system in Malaysia.

Nurul Anna binti Mausar. Malaysia LLB, University of London

#### Introduction

In recent years, there has been a growing conversation surrounding alternative dispute resolution (ADR) in criminal cases, particularly in the use of mediation. Traditionally viewed as a tool for civil disputes, mediation is slowly gaining traction as a way to resolve criminal matters. While it remains controversial in some jurisdictions, juvenile cases offer an ideal starting point for exploring its potential within the criminal justice system. In Malaysia, where the Juvenile Courts Act 1947 underscores the importance of rehabilitation, juvenile cases could pave the way for an unorthodox yet promising approach to justice-mediation.

#### Why Juvenile Cases are Ideal for Mediation

Juvenile justice in Malaysia, like many countries, is based on the principle of rehabilitation. The goal is to help young offenders reintegrate into society, rather than subjecting them to punitive measures that may worsen their future prospects. The focus on rehabilitation is rooted in the recognition that juveniles are psychologically and emotionally different from adults, with a higher potential for reform.

The Juvenile Courts Act 1947 (Act 90) governs the

2025

Nurul Anna is a law student with a strong interest in criminal justice reform and alternative dispute resolution. She is passionate about exploring new approaches to justice that promote rehabilitation and restorative practices. She has actively contributed to various discussions and written pieces advocating for a more balanced and humane legal

> treatment of juvenile offenders in Malaysia. Under this Act, courts are encouraged to seek rehabilitative outcomes, often through community service, probation, or detention in reform schools. However, mediation could enhance this system by providing an alternative that not only holds juveniles accountable but also allows them to understand the impact of their actions on victims and the community.

> Mediation involves the offender, victim, and other stakeholders in a facilitated dialogue aimed at achieving a restorative outcome. Juveniles are particularly well-suited for this process because they are still in formative stages of development, and a structured, empathetic dialogue could have a lasting positive effect on their behavior. Through mediation, a juvenile offender would not only face the consequences of their actions but also learn valuable lessons in accountability, empathy, and conflict resolution.

#### **Restorative Justice: Aligning Mediation with Juvenile Goals**

Restorative justice, a concept embedded in the philosophy of mediation, seeks to repair harm done to victims and the community rather than simply punishing the offender. This aligns well with Malaysia's

juvenile justice system, which emphasizes second chances and social reintegration. In fact, restorative justice principles have already been explored in Malaysia, particularly in juvenile cases, although they are not yet mainstream.

Mediation, as a tool of restorative justice, allows both the victim and offender to be active participants in the justice process. This differs from the traditional court system, where juveniles are often passive, merely waiting for a sentence to be imposed. Through mediation, the juvenile can face the victim, hear their story, and offer reparation, whether through apologies or agreed-upon compensation. In return, the victim has the opportunity to express their pain, seek closure, and potentially forgive, fostering a more healing approach.

The case of PP v Zainal Abidin [1995] 4 CLJ 137 offers an example of the court's willingness to consider the juvenile's potential for reform. Although this case did not involve mediation, it demonstrated the judiciary's preference for non-punitive measures when dealing with juvenile offenders. Mediation could provide a more structured and dialogic way of addressing these issues, leading to more meaningful resolutions for all parties involved.

#### Breaking the Mold: Juvenile Cases as a Starting Point for a New Approach

Juvenile cases offer a safe and controlled environment to introduce mediation into the Malaysian criminal justice system. Society is often more willing to accept experimental approaches with youth offenders, especially when rehabilitation is prioritized over punishment. In Malaysia, the Child Act 2001 (Act 611) reflects a growing awareness that youth offenders should be treated differently than adults. This Act focuses on the best interest of the child, including rehabilitation and reintegration into society, making it an ideal legal framework for implementing mediation.

In Malaysia, the Pusat Mediasi Komuniti (Community Mediation Centres) established under the Legal Aid Department already handle some civil disputes through mediation. Expanding this initiative to handle certain categories of juvenile crimes especially non-violent offenses—could provide a foundation for wider implementation. For example, cases involving minor theft, property damage, or first-time offenders could be referred to mediation as a diversion from the traditional court process.

The success of mediation in juvenile cases could encourage broader applications, especially for non-violent crimes in adult cases. If mediation proves effective in reducing recidivism and improving victim-offender relationships, it would make a compelling case for expanding its use. A well-structured juvenile mediation program could build public confidence in ADR, potentially shifting perceptions of justice toward a more restorative model.



#### **The Challenges and Opportunities**

While mediation holds great promise for juvenile justice in Malaysia, it is not without challenges. One major concern is the risk of mediation being viewed as a "soft" approach, especially in cases involving more serious offenses. There is also the possibility that victims might feel pressured to forgive offenders or that the process could be seen as overly lenient. To mitigate these concerns, the mediation process must be carefully designed to balance accountability with the goal of rehabilitation. Mediators should be trained to ensure that both parties' voices are heard, and that the outcome is fair and equitable. Moreover, the courts should retain oversight to ensure that mediation is used appropriately and that serious offenses still receive the necessary legal attention.

On the other hand, the potential benefits are significant. Mediation can address the underlying causes of juvenile delinquency, such as family conflict, peer pressure, or social disadvantage. It can also reduce the burden on the court system, as cases resolved through mediation do not require lengthy trials. For victims, mediation offers an opportunity for closure, healing, and possibly even forgiveness—outcomes that the traditional justice system often fails to deliver.

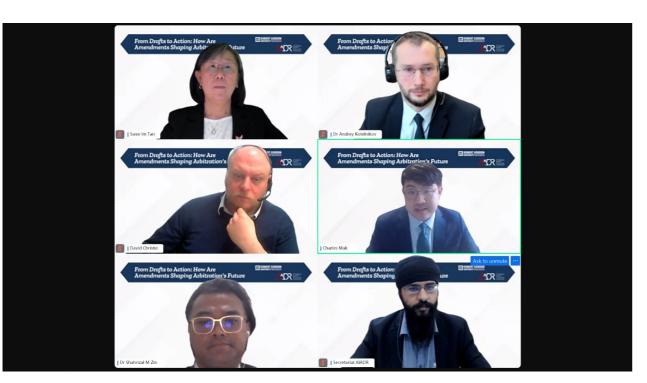
#### Conclusion

Juvenile cases represent an ideal starting point for introducing mediation into Malaysia's criminal justice system. The focus on rehabilitation, the vulnerability of juvenile offenders, and the restorative potential of mediation all align with the goals of Malaysia's juvenile justice framework. By beginning with juvenile cases, Malaysia could initiate a broader conversation about the future of mediation in criminal law—one that emphasizes healing, accountability, and the potential for a more compassionate and effective system of justice.

As Malaysia continues to explore unorthodox approaches to justice, mediation could provide a much-needed alternative that strengthens both individual lives and the community as a whole. Starting with juveniles could lead the way to a more restorative justice system for all.

Views

## Webinar Highlights: From Drafts to Action: How Are Amendments Shaping Arbitration's Future?



We are delighted to share the key takeaways from our insightful webinar, From Drafts to Action: How Are Amendments Shaping Arbitration's Future?, which took place on Monday, February 17, 2025, at 4 PM (MYT) GMT +8 via Zoom.

In today's interconnected world, legal reforms in arbitration have far-reaching implications. This webinar provided an in-depth exploration of the UK's new Arbitration Bill and its potential influence on global arbitration practices. It also examined Malaysia's arbitration framework, analyzing whether similar reforms could enhance its efficiency and effectiveness. Mr. David S. Christie opened the discussion by providing an overview of the UK's latest Arbitration Bill. He explained its key provisions and the motivations driving these reforms, emphasizing how the Bill aims to modernize arbitration, enhance efficiency, and improve accessibility. He highlighted how procedural updates and fairness safeguards are expected to reinforce London's status as a leading arbitration hub.

Building on this, Dr. Andrey Kotelnikov examined how the UK Bill aligns with international arbitration trends. He discussed the potential impact beyond the UK, analyzing the challenges and opportunities that may arise for arbitrators, legal counsel, and parties engaging in arbitration. He also explored how practitioners might need to adapt their strategies to remain aligned with the evolving legal framework.

From a Malaysian perspective, Dr. Shahrizal M Zin provided a comparative analysis of Malaysia's Arbitration Act in relation to the UK reforms He explored whether Malaysia could benefit from similar amendments, particularly in improving efficiency and accessibility. Additionally, he delved into the role of third-party funding in Malaysia, discussing how legal changes could enhance arbitration financing and accessibility.

Adding a case-law perspective, Ms. Tan Swee Im examined recent arbitration-related decisions in Malaysia and compared them to UK trends. She highlighted practical challenges that Malaysian arbitrators and practitioners face, stressing the need for clear legal guidelines. She also discussed the opportunities for Malaysia to strengthen its arbitration framework by learning from international developments.

The webinar provided several key isnights. The UK Arbitration Bill aims to modernize arbitration and maintain London's status as a preferred arbitration



**Charles Ho Wang Mak** 



**Dr. Andrey Kotelnikov** 

Charles Ho Wang Mak is an award-winning scholar. He is a Lecturer in Law at Robert Gordon University, a PhD Candidate in law at the University of Glasgow, a Fellow of the Stanford-Vienna Transatlantic Technology Law Forum at Stanford Law School, a Fellow of the Centre for Chinese and Comparative Law at the City University of Hong Kong, a Leslie Wright Fellow at the Philip K.H. Wong Centre for Chinese Law at the University of Hong Kong (HKU) (2022), an Honorary Fellow of the Asian Institute of International Financial Law at the HKU, a Research Affiliate at SovereigNet at The Fletcher School, Tufts University, and a Research Associate at China, Law and Development Project at the University of Oxford. research concentrates on sovereign debt restructuring, technology law and dispute resolution. He is the Chairperson of the Young Members Group at the Asian Institute of Alternative Dispute Resolution.

Andrey Kotelnikov is a Lecturer in Law at Robert Gordon University (RGU) in Aberdeen, Scotland. He is the Course Leader for the Construction Law and Arbitration/Adjudication LLM Programme, a Module Leader for International Commercial Dispute Resolution, Arbitration Law, Online Dispute Resolution and Advanced Mediation Practice, and teaches numerous other subjects at undergraduate and postgraduate levels. He is an arbitrator and a coach of RGU's mooting team in Willem C Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot (Vienna and Hong Kong). Before joining RGU, Andrey was the Head of the Commercial Law team at one of Russia's major energy companies. He is a graduate of Central European University (Budapest), holds an LL.M in International Business Law from the University of Manchester (UK), and a PhD from the USLA.

#### Highlights

venue. Its provisions could also influence global arbitration practices, potentially serving as a model for other jurisdiction. In Malaysia, while the arbitration framework is well-established, there are still opportunities to refine certain aspects by considering UK-inspired reforms. The discussion also underscored the importance of addressing issues such as third-party funding and procedural efficiency.

As arbitration continues to evolve, conversations like this remain essential. They help ensure that legal frameworks keep up with global trends and meet the needs of arbitration users. The webinar highlighted the value of proactive legal reform and the importance of international collaboration in improving dispute resolution systems. If you are interested in watching the webinar, please visit our YouTube channel or click the link provided below: https://www.youtube.com/live/KFyk-PIGJe9s?si=p7F4FYPP16jn15eN

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#### Highlights



**David S Christie** 



Tan Swee Im

David is the Associate Dean for Academic Development and Student Experience in the Law School at Robert Gordon University, Aberdeen. He has responsibility for the development and delivery of the School's teaching and learning portfolio. Before joining the University, David was a solicitor in private practice at a UK-wide commercial law firm. He specialised in construction disputes and advised on matters in the energy, infrastructure and leisure sectors, in all forms of dispute resolution - mediation, litigation arbitration and construction adjudication. He also spent time on secondment at an energy supermajor, a 'big four' accountancy firm and on secondment at an outsourcing contract review startup in Mumbai, India. David's research focus is in the area of construction law and dispute resolution. In particular, he has been examining the role of smart contracts in payment processes and possible links with softer contractual values such as good faith in construction contracts in recent years.

Swee Im TAN is a Chartered Arbitrator, Barrister-at-Law (Middle Temple) and Advocate & Solicitor of the High Court of Malaya. She is an international arbitrator member at 39 Essex Chambers, based in their Kuala Lumpur office as well as the USA. Her focus is on the construction, infrastructure and energy sectors with extensive cradle to grave experience, ranging from early procurement strategy to contract drafting, advisory during the project life, through to dispute resolution. She has spent more than 30 years in these sectors in counsel and advisory roles, including having been seconded to major complex infrastructure projects, been an in-house counsel at a multi-national and founded a boutique legal firm in 1999. She is a fulltime independent neutral who takes appointments as arbitrator, adjudicator, dispute board member and mediator. She is a panel arbitrator of various panels including the AIAC, SIAC, HKIAC and ACICA. She is FCIArb, FMIArb, FAIADR, FCIOB, FMSAdi, Fellow of ACICA, Member of DRBF and holds a Diploma in International Commercial Arbitration. She is a Member of the ICC International Court of Arbitration.



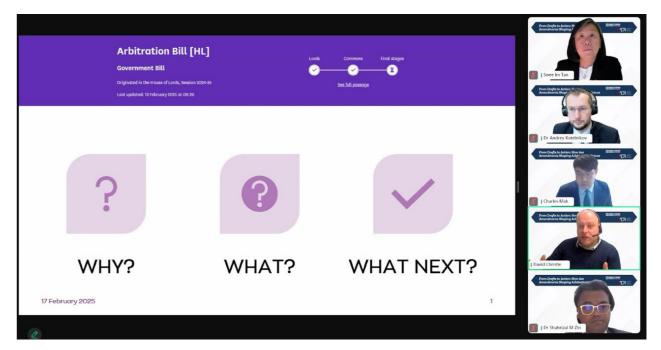
Dr. Shahrizal M Zin

Dr. Shahrizal M Zin is a legal academic and alternative dispute resolution (ADR) practitioner. He graduated with an LLB and LLM from the University of Malaya and holds a Ph.D. from Monash University, Australia. As a fellow of CIArb, AIADR, and MIArb, he expertly handles complex construction claims under the Malaysian Arbitration Act (2005) and the Construction Industry Payment and Adjudication Act (CIPAA) 2012, serving as both an arbitrator and adjudicator. He is also a senior lecturer at the Faculty of Law, University Technology MARA (UiTM), where he educates future legal professionals.

## **Highlights From AIADR's Past Events**



Datuk Sundra Rajoo, had the honor of serving as a panel speaker at the AALCO Hong Kong Sports Mediation Training Programme



During the recent webinar





Asian Institute of Alternative Dispute

2025

## **AIADR Upcoming Training Course**



## Upcoming Events.

5th & 6th April 2025 AIADR & UNGCMYB Legal Sustainability Practitioner Training Course

24th April 2025 Webinar : Digitalization In Arbitration

13th & 14th May 2025 Workshop: Drafting Valid and Enforceable Awards

22nd - 25th May 2025 Training Course: AIADR Mediation Training Course

2025

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#### **Editorial Sub-Committee**

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Next Cut-off Date for Submission of Contributions: Newsletter: 1st May 2025 Journal: 15th April 2025

Direct your queries to <u>aiadr.editor@aiadr.world</u>.



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