



**Santiago Rodríguez**  
**Arias SLP**

Santiago Rodríguez is an associate at Arias SLP. He has seven years of experience gained at international law firms in Madrid and Venezuela.

Santiago has acted as counsel advising foreign and domestic companies, as well as States, in international commercial and investment arbitrations under several domestic laws and arbitration rules, administered by some of the main arbitral institutions in Europe and the Americas (ICC, PCA, ICSID, CIMA, among others). He has also acted as counsel in legal proceedings before Spanish and European courts. Santiago has focused his practice in disputes in the engineering and construction, renewable energy, and oil & gas sectors, as well as in disputes dealing with public international law.

Santiago is an adjunct professor at IE Law School in Madrid, where he has taught courses on philosophy of law and international dispute resolution. Santiago holds a law degree from the Universidad Católica Andrés Bello, a Juris Doctor (Cum Laude) from the University of Miami School of Law, an LL.M. from Northwestern Pritzker School of Law, and a law degree from the Universidad de Nebrija. He was admitted to the Caracas Bar in 2018 and to the Madrid Bar in 2022.

He speaks English and Spanish.

## Representative matters as counsel

- Advising a Portuguese company in an arbitration against a Spanish company in relation to a dispute involving a swap agreement of liquefied natural gas (*ad hoc*, New York, Spanish and New York law, English)
- Advising a Spanish company in an arbitration brought against the regional government of a South American country in relation to a dispute involving the construction of a tramway in a municipality of that country (ICC, Santiago de Chile, Ecuadorian law, Spanish)
- Advising a Saudi company in an arbitration against a Spanish company in relation to a dispute involving the development and construction of a wind energy project in Spain (ICC, Paris, Spanish law, English)
- Advising a Peruvian company against a Spanish company in an emergency arbitration regarding a request for interim measures to block the execution of a guarantee in a construction contract (ICC, Miami, Florida law, Spanish)
- Advising the Dominican Republic in an arbitration initiated by a Spanish investor in relation to a dispute involving an investment to develop a sugar refinery in the Dominican Republic (PCA, The Hague, Dominican law, Spanish)
- Advising a steel manufacturing company in an ICSID arbitration against Venezuela (ICSID, Belgium/Luxembourg-Venezuela BIT, Washington D.C., English)
- Advising a petrochemical company in an ICSID arbitration against Venezuela (ICSID, Barbados-Venezuela BIT, Washington D.C., English)

- Advising an Asian state before the courts of Madrid in the annulment proceedings of a jurisdiction award issued by an arbitral tribunal seated in Madrid (Spanish Courts)
- Advising the majority shareholder of a Spanish football team in a dispute brought before the first instance courts of Madrid regarding the sale of said football team to a foreign investment group (Spanish Courts)
- Advising a Saudi company in the exequatur proceedings of a foreign arbitral award issued by an ICC tribunal in Paris (Spanish Courts)
- Advising a Saudi company in the annulment proceedings of an award issued by an ICC tribunal in Paris (French Courts)

## Representative matters as tribunal assistant

- Administrative secretary in a dispute between two companies from Panama and Chipre against a Luxemburg company regarding a joint venture agreement for the development of a luxury hotel chain in Spain (CIMA, Madrid, Luxembourg law, Spanish)

## Conferences and teaching

- IE University, Master of Laws (LL.M): *International Dispute Resolution* (2022-2024, Madrid, Spain)
- EBIS Business Techschool: Master in digital law, artificial intelligence and blockchain, *Dispute resolution and blockchain* (May 2024, Madrid, Spain)
- CEA-40 and IE Arbitration Club: Seminar, *Opportunities in arbitration: exploring your professional options* (May 2023, Madrid, Spain)
- IE University, Dual degree in law and international relations: *Philosophy of Law* (2020-2022, Madrid, Spain)
- Spanish Arbitration Club: Seminar, *Arbitral parents: how to be a parent in the world of international arbitration without dying along the way* (October 2022, Madrid, Spain)
- Centre for Advanced Research and Training in Arbitration Law: 6th CARTAL conference on international arbitration, *Blockchain technology and arbitration* (April 2022, online)
- Universidad Nacional de Rosario: VI congress on international investments, arbitration, and development, *Cryptoassets and investment arbitration: myths and realities* (December 2021, online)
- Washington Arbitration Week: Second edition, *Investment Treaty Arbitration in the Digital Era: Using BITs to Protect Cryptocurrency Investments?* (November 2021, online)
- Barcelona Bar Association arbitration committee: Seminar, *Protocols in virtual hearings in arbitration* (November 2021, online)
- Venezuelan Arbitration Association: VII annual congress, *Arbitration costs, financing and control*, (July 2021, online)

- Venezuelan Arbitration Association: Seminar, *New updates to the IBA Rules on the Taking of Evidence in international arbitration* (June 2021, online)
- ICC Costa Rica and the Madrid Bar Association: Seminar, *Virtual hearings in international arbitration* (July 2020, online)
- University of Cambridge: Cambridge's International Law Journal 8th annual International Law conference, *The what, the why, and the how: blockchain as a solution for Institutional Arbitration* (March 2019, Cambridge, United Kingdom)

## Publications

- Legal nature of cryptoassets and their regulatory framework in Spain and Latin America, *Tribute for Dr. Humberto Romero-Muci*, Academy for social and political sciences of Venezuela (January 2024)
- Can El Salvador bridge the worlds of cryptoassets and investment arbitration?, *Uría Menéndez Investment Arbitration Outlook*, Issue 10 (December 2022)
- Is Venezuela fixed?, *Líder Legal* (November 2022)
- Cryptoassets and international arbitration: an incipient relationship, *Foro Jurídico México* (September 2022)
- Cryptoassets and international arbitration: an incipient relationship, *Líder Legal* (July 2022)
- Cryptoassets and international arbitration: is there really something there?, *IE-Insights* (June 2022)
- The IBA Rules on the Taking of Evidence in international arbitration: key features of the 2020 revision, *New York Dispute Resolution Lawyer* (June 2021)
- Reducing costs in international arbitration using existing and emerging technologies, *Arbitration and new technologies* (Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú, March 2021)
- COVID-19 and online hearings, *Uría Menéndez Investment Arbitration Outlook*, Issue 6 (June 2020)
- Virtual hearings in international arbitration: the way of the future?, *Transnational Dispute Management* (April 2020)
- The what, the why, and the how: blockchain as a solution for institutional arbitration, *Spain Arbitration Review*, No. 37/2020 (March 2020)
- May central bank digital currencies become a tool for hostile States to avoid investor-state arbitration?, *Chartered Institute of Arbitrators Journal*, Issue 85(1) (January 2019)
- Smart contracts and international arbitration: friends or foes?, *Uría Menéndez Investment Arbitration Outlook*, Issue 4 (February 2019)
- Investor-state arbitration for central bank digital currencies: the future of investment disputes, *Law Ahead Hub* (November 2018)

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- International arbitration – Venezuela oil & gas: arbitrator perspective, *International Commercial Arbitration Practice: 21st Century Perspectives from LexisNexis* by Horacio A. Grigera Naón and Paul Mason (2018)
- A first glance into the current arbitration framework for mixed companies in Venezuela, *Venezuela's Digital Journal for Administrative Law*, Redav No. 5 (October 2015)

## Professional memberships

- Madrid Bar Association (ICAM)
- Distrito Capital Bar Association (Venezuela)
- Spanish and Ibero-American Arbitration Club (CEIA)
- Venezuelan Arbitration Association
- Young ICCA
- Ambassador of Northwestern University in Spain