



Investor-State Arbitration: Current Status and Future Directions

School of Law, SOAS Arbitration Public Seminar Series 2020/21

Speaker: **Meg Kinnear**, Secretary-General of the International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID)

Moderator: Dr. Emilia Onyema, Reader in International Commercial Law, School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), University of London

Date and time: 18 December 2020 Friday 17:00 – 19:00 (GMT)

Booking via Eventbrite

The International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID) is a globally renowned arbitral institution which is a part of the World Bank Group. ICSID was established by the Washington Convention in 1966. Today, 155 countries have signed and ratified the Convention. ICSID is now the leading forum for investor-state dispute settlement. ICSID has administered the majority of legal disputes concerning international investment law.

Meg Kinnear was re-elected as the Secretary-General of ICSID for a third term in 2020. The ICSID Secretary-General is nominated after consultation with Member States and when a two-thirds majority vote is secured among members of the centre's Administrative Council. Since assuming office in 2009, Ms. Kinnear has overseen significant growth in ICSID's membership and caseload; reinforced its technical assistance program; streamlined internal processes at the ICSID Secretariat; and has led a project to bring about procedural reforms in ICSID arbitration, conciliation, mediation and fact-finding. Under her leadership, ICSID has also launched an initiative with the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) to develop a Code of Conduct for Adjudicators in Investor-State Dispute Settlement.

Prior to her leadership at ICSID, Ms. Kinnear served as Director-General of the Trade Law Bureau of Canada during which she was responsible for Canada's international investment and trade litigation. She has co-authored a work on investment disputes under NAFTA Chapter 11 and speaks frequently on international investment law and procedure. For more, see <https://icsid.worldbank.org/about/secretariat/meg-kinnear>