

MÉLANIE RIOFRIO PICHE

Mélanie Riofrio Piché is a professional arbitrator specialized in commercial and investment arbitration. She handles international disputes arising out of contracts and investment treaties, in the electricity sector (generation and distribution), renewable energy, construction, oil & gas, joint ventures, telecommunications and sales and distribution contracts. She is a dual national of Canada and Ecuador and a member of the Panel of Arbitrators of ICSID, appointed by the Republic of Ecuador.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2023-present	Partner, Riofrio IDR (International Dispute Resolution), Madrid
2020-2022	Secretary General, Madrid International Arbitration Center (MIAC), Madrid
2019-2020	Of counsel, Armesto & Asociados Árbitros, Madrid
2012-2019	Associate Armesto & Asociados Árbitros, Madrid
2012	<i>Stagiaire</i> , Permanent Court of Arbitration (PCA), The Hague
2011-2012	<i>Stagiaire</i> , ICC International Arbitration Court, Paris
2011	Fasken Martineau Dumoulin, Montreal
2009-2010	Peñaherrera, Ponce & Salvador Abogados, Quito
2008-2009	Serrano Puig Abogados, Quito

ACADEMIA

2019- present	Adjunct professor, Master of Laws (LL.M.), Oral Advocacy in International Arbitration, IE Law School
2018-2020	Adjunct professor, Master of Laws (LL.M.), Arbitration, Universidad de Navarra
2017-2019	Adjunct professor, Master of Laws (LL.M.), International Commercial Arbitration, ESADE Law School
2016- 2022	Co-founder and chair, International Arbitration Seminars & Courses Association (IASC)

QUALIFICATIONS

Université Panthéon-Assas (Paris 2), Certificate in French and European Business Law
Université de Montréal, Master of Laws (LL.M.), Business Law and International Trade
Pontificia Universidad Católica del Ecuador, Law Degree

MEMBERSHIPS AND PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

Current positions

2022-present	Member of the Editorial Board of ALARB – Asociación Latinoamericana de Arbitraje
2021-present	Member of the ICSID Panel of Arbitrators, appointed by the Republic of Ecuador
2020-present	Member of the Editorial Board of the Ecuadorian Arbitration Review
2013-present	Member of the Spanish Club of Arbitration (CEA)

2010 Member of the *Foro de Abogados de la República del Ecuador*

Former positions

2020-2022 Observer at the UNCITRAL sessions of Working Group II (Dispute Settlement)
2020-2022 Group advisor for the ICCA Mentoring Programme
2019 Member of the Task Force in charge of drafting the Code of Best Practices in Arbitration of the Spanish Arbitration Club (Club Español del Arbitraje – CEA)
2017-2019 ICC Young Arbitrators Forum Representative for Europe
2015 Member of the Task Force on the revision of the ICC Rules as Appointing Authority in UNCITRAL and other Ad Hoc Proceedings

LANGUAGES

Bilingual in French, Spanish and English, and capacity to read Portuguese

PUBLICATIONS

2022 Document Production: the Armesto Schedule, Jus Mundi
2021 “Corruption in energy and natural resources investment disputes in Latin America”, Kluwer Law International, co-author
2021 International Arbitration in Latin America: Energy and Natural Resources Disputes, Wolters Kluwer, co-editor
2020 “El Centro Internacional de Arbitraje de Madrid y el Código de Buenas Prácticas del Club Español del Arbitraje”, Revista Española de Arbitraje, co-author
2020 “La Plataforma Virtual de CIAM: generando confianza y transparencia con el uso de la tecnología”, La Ley Mediación y Arbitraje, Wolters Kluwer
2020 “The Armesto Schedule: a Step Further to a More Efficient Document Production”, Kluwer Arbitration Blog, co-author
2019 “Rule 18 of the ICSID Rules: Representation of the Parties”, The ICSID Convention, Regulations and Rules, A Practical Commentary, co-author
2019 “ICC Institute Training for Tribunal Secretaries”, Report, 16th ICC Miami Conference, ICC Dispute Resolution Bulletin, Issue 1
2017 “Around the World in 80-ish Minutes (Europe and Russia)”, ICC Dispute Resolution Bulletin, Issue 3, co-author
2015 “Investment Treaty Arbitration – Ecuador”, Know-How Global Arbitration Review – GAR, co-author
2013 “L’Évolution du droit québécois de l’arbitrage conventionnel”, Revue d’arbitrage et de médiation / Journal of Arbitration and Mediation 3(1)
2011 “La denuncia del Convenio CIADI: ¿fundamento jurídico o estrategia política?”, Revista Ecuatoriana de Arbitraje, co-author