



Dr Patrick Dahm

Arbitrator

Nationality: German

Languages: German (native language), English (fluent)

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Dr Patrick Dahm is a dual-qualified legal professional, arbitrator, mediator, and counsel with extensive cross-border experience in corporate commercial dispute resolution, maritime and shipping, and technology-related matters. Admitted as a *Rechtsanwalt* in Germany and registered as a foreign practitioner in Singapore, including full registration with the Singapore International Commercial Court (SICC), he combines deep legal expertise with fluency in both civil law and common law systems. Patrick holds a Doctor of Law and regularly acts as arbitrator and counsel in complex international disputes.

Beyond his legal practice, Patrick is regularly invited by the German Embassy in Singapore to accompany senior political delegations from Germany, offering high-level, sensitive and nuanced legal, political and cultural support during meetings with Singaporean and ASEAN government representatives. His recent engagements include delegations from the Ministries of Justice and Economics and State Parliaments from various German federal states, as well as the President of the Federal Office for Economic Affairs and Export Control (BAFA) during the 2023 ASEAN Regional Conference on Sanctions Implementation.

Patrick is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (CIArb) and the Asian Institute of Alternative Dispute Resolution (AIADR) and sits on the panels of over twenty international arbitration centres including SIAC, VIAC, JCAA, AIAC, SHAC, and SCIA. A prolific writer and legal thinker, he has published extensively on arbitration, legal technology, and cross-border law, in outlets such as the Kluwer Arbitration Blog, German Arbitration Journal, Global Trade and Customs Journal, and Singapore Law Gazette. His multilingual, multidisciplinary profile makes him a respected figure in both legal and diplomatic circles across Europe and Asia.

Sector Expertise

- Corporate commercial
- Shipping & maritime, transport
- Technology & telecommunications
- Islamic banking and finance

Corporate Commercial

Since 2006, experience in negotiating and drafting cross-border shareholder, joint venture, partnership, consortium and research and development agreements in the oil, real estate and medical device sectors, and in litigating and arbitrating disputes arising therefrom.

Shipping & Maritime, Transport

Acted as arbitrator in dry shipping, bill of lading disputes.

Since 2020, advising clients on dry shipping and transport issues (for example, multimodal bills of lading, Hague Rules, Hague-Visby Rules, Convention on the Contract for the International Carriage of Goods by Road – CMR).

Acted as an expert on Singapore law on carriage of goods by sea in German court proceedings.

Technology & Telecommunications

Acted as mediator and arbitrator in cryptocurrency disputes. Since 2017, advising clients on the commercial and regulatory aspects of ventures involving cryptocurrency and tokenised assets.

Islamic Banking and Finance

Acted as arbitrator in an Islamic finance dispute concerning the *fiqh*- and *sharia*-compliance of *ijarah* agreements.

Arbitrator Experience

- Acted as first arbitrator of a three-member tribunal in an AIAC arbitration involving Malaysian and Singaporean parties disputing a corporate guarantee for payment and performance of other obligations in connection with the supply of smartphones in Malaysia.
- Acted as sole arbitrator in an ASEAC arbitration involving German and Chinese parties disputing the sale and purchase of rooftop solar panels and their freedom from material defects.
- Acted as sole arbitrator in an ad hoc arbitration involving Malaysian parties in dispute over their obligations to maintain industrial machinery financed through *fiqh*- and *sharia*-compliant *ijarah* agreements (Islamic financing).
- Acted as arbitrator of a three-member tribunal in an arbitration under the SCMA Rules between a UK bank and a German buyer of containerised food products that had been misdirected to the wrong destination due to a mix-up of countries. The parties were disputing their respective obligations, and those of the seller, carrier and insurer involved, under a letter of credit and a multimodal bill of lading governed by the Hague-Visby Rules.
- Acted as chairman of a three-member tribunal in an arbitration under the Swiss Rules between parties from Central Europe and South America in dispute over their obligations as seller and purchaser of raw materials under a contract governed by the United Nations Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods (CISG).
- Acted as sole arbitrator in an ad hoc arbitration between a German manufacturer and a South Korean joint venture concerning their respective obligations under a sales and purchase agreement for lined tubes intended for the respondent's construction project in West Asia.
- Acted as party-appointed mediator and arbitrator in concurrent mediation-arbitration proceedings in a cryptocurrency dispute between parties from Germany and Indonesia. The dispute was settled during the mediation process.
- Represented Asian and European parties in numerous court and arbitration proceedings under various procedural and substantive laws (both common law and civil law, including CISG) and arbitration rules (SIAC, SCMA, Swiss Rules, DIS, UNCITRAL). The disputes concerned matters such as trade and distribution, employment relations, IT, research and development, and commercial partnerships or joint ventures.

Academic & Professional Qualifications

Qualifications

- Doctor of Law
- Judgeship in Germany (two state examinations in law)
- *Rechtsanwalt*: admitted to practise German law (all regions)
- Foreign practitioner: registered and authorised to practise Singapore law (in permitted areas pursuant to section 36B Legal Profession Act 1966)
- Registered foreign lawyer, Singapore International Commercial Court: admitted to act in relevant proceedings and appeals (full registration pursuant to section 36P Legal Profession Act 1966)

Professional Experience

- Arbitrator & Mediator, dahm adr, Singapore (present)
- Counsel, JLA Law Corporation, Singapore (present)
- Foreign Practitioner, Consultant, Samuel Seow Law Corporation, Singapore (2017–2019)
- Foreign Practitioner and Partner, RHTLaw Taylor Wessing LLP, Singapore (2015–2016)
- Foreign Lawyer/Foreign Practitioner and Partner, Rodyk & Davidson LLP, Singapore (2012–2015)
- Foreign Lawyer, Thümmel, Schütze & Partners LLP, Singapore (2008–2012)
- Associate, Jung & Schleicher Rechtsanwälte, Berlin, Germany (2006–2008)
- Practice trainee (*Rechtsreferendar*) (2003–2005)
- Consular Clerk, Legal and Consular Department, German Embassy Singapore (2002–2003)

Professional Associations & Recognitions

Memberships

- Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (Fellow)
- Asian Institute of Alternative Dispute Resolution (Fellow)
- Asian-European Arbitration Association
- ICC Singapore Arbitration Group
- German Maritime Arbitration Association
- German Institution of Arbitration (Deutsche Institution für Schiedsgerichtsbarkeit)
- Hamburg Arbitration Circle
- Singapore Academy of Law
- The Law Society of Singapore
- Bar Association of Berlin (Rechtsanwaltskammer Berlin)

Panels

- Singapore International Arbitration Centre (SIAC, Reserve Panel)
- Japan Commercial Arbitration Association (JCAA)
- Korean Commercial Arbitration Board International (KCAB)
- Asian Institute of Alternative Dispute Resolution (AIADR, Presidential Panel)
- Chinese Arbitration Association, Taipei (CAA)
- CAA International Arbitration Centre, Taipei (CAAI)

- Shanghai Arbitration Commission (SHAC)
- Shenzhen Court of International Arbitration (SCIA)
- South China International Arbitration Center (Hong Kong) (SCIAHK)
- Asian-European Arbitration Centre (ASEAC)
- Vienna International Arbitration Centre (VIAC)
- Asian International Arbitration Centre (AIAC)
- Thailand Arbitration Center (THAC)
- Brunei Darussalam Arbitration Centre (BDAC)
- Saudi Center for Commercial Arbitration (SCCA)
- BVI International Arbitration Centre (BVI IAC)
- Indian Institute of Arbitration & Mediation (IIAM)
- Centre for International Alternative Dispute Resolution (CiADR), Bangladesh
- Arbitration and Mediation Center of the Mauritius Chamber of Commerce and Industry (MARC)
- Court of Arbitration for Art (CAfA), The Netherlands
- Geneva International Dispute Resolution Institute (GIDI)
- Delos Dispute Resolution, France

Publications, Articles & Thought Leadership

Frequently speaks at conferences and seminars on arbitration, shipping, and distribution law.

Selected Publications

- [Book chapter] Das Vertriebsrecht von Singapur (The Distribution Law of Singapore), in: Martinek/Semler/Flohr, Handbuch Vertriebsrecht, 5th edition (<https://is.gd/i9VO34>)
- [Doctoral dissertation] SICC oder Schiedsgericht? Ein Vergleich des Verfahrens vor dem Singapore International Commercial Court mit den Vor- und Nachteilen internationaler Schiedsverfahren (SICC or Arbitration? A Comparison of Proceedings in the Singapore International Commercial Court with the Advantages and Disadvantages of International Arbitration Proceedings) (<https://is.gd/aNcHAW>)
- Arbitrators: Balancing Active Engagement and Party Autonomy (<https://is.gd/haCf3H>)
- On the Diminishing Importance of Humanity in Arbitration (<https://is.gd/INIOJT>)
- Inquisitorial Processes, or: Can Singapore Courts or Arbitral Tribunals Engage in the Amicable Settlement of Disputes?, in: Kluwer Arbitration Blog (<https://is.gd/x8kOxt>)
- On the Powers of Courts and Arbitral Tribunals in the Amicable Settlement of Disputes by the Parties: A Look at Singapore and Selected Other Countries; in: Zeitschrift für Schiedsverfahren – German Arbitration Journal (SchiedsVZ) 2023, pp. 270–275 (<https://is.gd/cfdsb9>)
- Das neue Recht elektronischer Transaktionen in Singapur: Wegbereiter für elektronische Konnossemente?; in: Transportrecht (TranspR) 2021, pp. 313–321 (<https://is.gd/n7wKKX>)
- The New Electronic Transactions Law in Singapore: Paving the Way for Electronic Bills of Lading? (<https://is.gd/w5YB3d>)
- Enforceability of Foreign Emergency Awards in Singapore (<https://wp.me/p8fCIC-vi>)
- On Arbitration, Football and Vacuum-Cleaning Robots (<https://wp.me/p8fCIC-mU>)
- Gilded with Law (<https://wp.me/p8fCIC-fo>)
- Initial Coin Offering: an Inaccurate Term and an Imperfect Regulator (<https://wp.me/p8fCIC-dS>)
- No, I Won't Help You Whitewash Your Token Sale Scam (<https://wp.me/p8fCIC-de>)
- The Efficient Breach of Smart Contracts (<https://wp.me/p8fCIC-ck>)
- The Arts and the Law in Singapore (<https://wp.me/p8fCIC-bE>)

- The Art of Walking a Fine and Golden Line (<https://wp.me/p8fCIC-7N>)
- Smartifying Blockchains, Legally (<https://wp.me/p8fCIC-63>)
- Blockchain: the Roll of Deeds of the Internet (<https://wp.me/p8fCIC-5i>)
- How Do We Resolve Disputes? What's with Those Algorithms? (<https://wp.me/p8fCIC-4s>)
- Singapurischer Internationaler Handelsgerichtshof eröffnet (Singapore International Commercial Court Launched) (<https://wp.me/p8fCIC-hH>)
- 'Language' Difficulties between Civil Law and Common Law (<https://wp.me/p8fCIC-hK>)
- The Midnight Clause in International Arbitration (<https://wp.me/p8fCIC-ia>)
- A Grain of Civil Law – Some (Not So) New Chords for the International Arbitration Jazz; in: Singapore Law Gazette, October 2014, pp. 19–31 (with Respondek and O'Shea) (<https://wp.me/p8fCIC-k8>)
- Wettbewerbsrecht in Singapur (Competition Law in Singapore); in: SGC Bizguide 2012 (with Singham)
- Immobilienmarkt Singapur – Schwerpunkt gewerbliche Immobilien (The Real Estate Market in Singapore – Focusing on Commercial Real Estate); in: SGC Bizguide 2012
- Overkill, Or: Free Trade Agreements in Asia; in: Global Trade and Customs Journal, Volume 7, Issue 7/8, pp. 341–346 (<https://is.gd/fHRz1B>)
- The Civil Law Interpretation of Declarations of Intent by Contracting Parties; in: Rodyk Reporter – Litigation Brief, March 2012 (<https://is.gd/9k3tIH>)
- Kredit und Kreditsicherung in Singapur (Credit and Credit Security in Singapore); in: SGC Bizguide 2008
- Der staatliche Aufwendungsersatzanspruch nach erfolgreicher Befreiung entführter Deutscher im Ausland (The State's Claim for Refund of Expenses After the Successful Release of Kidnapped Germans Abroad); in: Neue Zeitschrift für Verwaltungsrecht 2005, pp. 172–174 (<https://is.gd/m9de0d>)

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