



Dr. Emad Hussein

CEDR Accreditation:	2019
CEDR Panel:	2025
Languages:	Arabic, English, German
Location:	Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates

Dr. Hussein is an International Arbitrator, Accredited Mediator, Legal Counsel, Academic, and Strategic Expert in Institutional Development and Capacity Building, combining deep regional knowledge with international best practices across ADR.

Overview

Dr Hussein is an International Arbitrator, Accredited Mediator, Legal Counsel, Academic, and Strategic Expert in Institutional Development and Capacity Building. He serves as Senior Advisor (MENA) at the Singapore International Dispute Resolution Academy (SIDRA) and is Deputy President of the International Court of Arbitration of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation Arbitration Centre (OIC-AC). He is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (FCIArb), a Certified Consultant with both the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Commercial Law Development Program (CLDP) of the U.S. Department of Commerce, and a Fellow of the Asian Institute of Alternative Dispute Resolution (FAIADR). He is also an Accredited Mediator by CEDR (UK), the Singapore International Mediation Institute (SIMI) and the International Mediation Institute (IMI), Netherlands.

He acts as an Independent Arbitrator and Mediator and is empanelled with leading institutions including LCIA, AAA-ICDR, ADCCAC, DIAC, ADGMAC, CRCICA, SIAC, HKIAC, SCCA, WIPO AMC, APIAC and AIADR, handling disputes across construction, infrastructure, commercial services, real estate, SPAs, investment, media, sports, sponsorship, IP, technology, supply chain management, and hospitality.



Professional Background

Dr Hussein has acted as Chairman, Sole Arbitrator and Co-Arbitrator in numerous complex arbitrations, both institutional and ad-hoc, regionally and internationally. His experience spans multi-million-dollar disputes across construction and infrastructure, real estate development, media and broadcasting, civil engineering, technology projects, government contracts, investment partnerships, and supply agreements. His tribunal appointments include DIAC, ADCCAC, DIFC-LCIA, ICC, CRCICA, SCCA, QICCA and other regional and international centres.

As a mediator, he is listed on the rosters of CAO, AfDB-IRM, and EIB-CM, and is empanelled with WIPO AMC, ADGMAC, IICRA, and the Investors' Dispute Settlement Center. He has mediated and co-mediated high-value commercial disputes including media broadcasting agreements worth USD 224M, insurance coverage disputes, and complex multi-party business partnership terminations in the United States and the Middle East.

Alongside his dispute resolution practice, he is deeply engaged in institutional development and capacity-building. He has designed and delivered training programmes for mediators, conciliators, judges, in-house counsel, engineers and ADR practitioners across Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Kuwait, the UAE, Morocco, Egypt and Iraq. His expertise includes drafting and updating institutional arbitration rules, mediation regulations, judicial mediation frameworks, legislative encyclopaedias, and comprehensive ADR capacity-building initiatives.

Dr Hussein is Associate Lecturer (LLM Programme) at the School of Law, Newcastle University (UK) and has served as Visiting Researcher at Singapore Management University. He has led expert teams for projects under the Ministries of Justice in Saudi Arabia and the UAE, the Supreme Council of the Judicial Power (Morocco), and multiple ADR centres across the Arab region. He is also Senior Advisor to CIMAC for institutional capacity-building initiatives.

Expertise

- Construction & infrastructure
- Commercial contracts & business partnerships
- Government contracts & public projects
- Technology & IT systems
- Real estate & property development
- Investment & joint ventures
- Intellectual property & licensing
- Supply chain & distribution
- Share purchase agreements (SPAs)
- Media, entertainment & broadcasting
- Sports & sponsorship arrangements

Dispute Experience

Dr Hussein's dispute resolution caseload covers a broad range of high-value, technically complex and multi-jurisdictional matters. He has served as Chairman, Sole Arbitrator and Co-Arbitrator in arbitrations valued from USD 60,000 to over USD 370 million. His appointments include major disputes involving:

- construction and infrastructure development projects in the UAE, KSA, Qatar, Kuwait and Egypt;
- pipeline design services for petrochemical entities in Saudi Arabia;
- banking facility disputes;
- SPAs of residential plots involving GCC investment entities;
- sub-contracts for government infrastructure in Abu Dhabi and Al Ain City;
- real estate development and hotel interior design works;
- mechanical, electrical and maintenance works in government buildings;
- civil construction works under FIDIC contracts for major villa cluster projects;
- media broadcasting management agreements worth more than USD 40 million.

His mediation portfolio includes:

- a USD 224,728,261 dispute over exclusive media broadcast and sponsorship between a telecommunications provider and a government entity under SCCA Rules;
- cross-border mediations in the USA concerning insurance and operational agreement terminations;
- a USD 4.4 million IT systems and services dispute between an IT provider and a medical services entity.

This cumulative experience establishes him as a highly capable neutral for complex commercial and cross-border disputes.

Personal Style

Dr Hussein adopts a balanced, structured and solutions-oriented approach to both arbitration and mediation. He combines careful procedural planning and enforceability awareness with a practical focus on outcomes, anticipating procedural risks early, explaining complex legal and jurisdictional points clearly to parties, and shaping processes so they remain efficient and legally robust.

He cultivates a calm and inclusive hearing environment, actively managing uncertainty and party concerns while protecting procedural fairness. In practice this means clear case-management directions, timely interventions to resolve logistical or jurisdictional issues, and the use of

transparent communications (recorded in minutes where appropriate) to maintain confidence in the tribunal's neutrality and authority.

As a mediator he is pragmatic and interest-focused, comfortable using facilitative techniques while adapting to hybrid or evaluative interventions where the parties' commercial realities require it. He emphasises building rapport, controlling dynamics in multi-party settings, and drafting settlement terms with an eye for enforceability and long-term commercial relationships.

Finally, Dr Hussein pairs professional rigour with institutional and pedagogical instincts: he treats each matter as both a dispute to be resolved and an opportunity to model best practice, whether that is by promoting merit-based diversity in appointments, mentoring junior practitioners, or designing processes that reduce the likelihood of later enforcement challenge.

Professional Skills

Dr Hussein possesses a comprehensive and well-rounded skillset spanning arbitration, mediation, institutional development, and legal education. He is experienced in chairing and managing arbitral tribunals under both institutional and ad-hoc rules, and in mediating high-value commercial disputes across a wide range of sectors and jurisdictions. His work includes drafting, reviewing and updating arbitration rules, mediation frameworks, and legislative instruments, as well as advising judicial departments, arbitration centres and international organisations such as UNDP and CLDP. He has led institutional assessments, performance evaluations and excellence programmes for justice sector entities, and has extensive experience in designing and delivering training programmes for mediators, conciliators, judges, arbitrators, government officials and corporate legal teams. Alongside this, he contributes to academia through postgraduate teaching, research supervision and regular publication in leading journals and practitioner platforms.

Feedback

- “Dr Hussein is quick to identify the core issues in a dispute and come up with strategy that benefits all the stakeholders involved.”
- “Extremely patient and tactful in his approach.”
- “He combines technical expertise with an approachable and engaging style that helps build trust with parties and counsel alike.”
- “A pleasure to work with – efficient, sharp and commercially aware.”

Qualifications

- PhD – Law (International Commercial Arbitration), School of Oriental & African Studies (SOAS), University of London, 2023.
- PhD – Management (International Business Management), International School of Management (ISM), New York, 2013.
- LLM – Mediation and International Commercial Dispute Resolution, Newcastle University School of Law, 2024.
- LLM – International Arbitration & ADR, Queen Mary University of London, 2004.
- LLB, Ain Shams University, Cairo, 1995.
- BA – English Language & Literature, Ain Shams University, Cairo, 1989.

Publications

Books & Book Chapters

- *International Commercial Arbitration in the Mainland UAE: A Legislative, Judicial and Institutional Assessment*, LexisNexis, 2025.
- Chapter 3, “Beyond the Courtroom: Mediation and the Pursuit of Justice,” in *Contemporary Issues in Mediation* (Vol. 10), World Scientific, November 2025.

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

- “AI Meets Mediation: Shaping the Future of Dispute Resolution in a Digital World,” *CI Arb Journal of Arbitration: The International Journal of Arbitration, Mediation and Dispute Resolution*, Vol. 91, Issue 2, 2025.
- “Beyond Litigation: The Promise of Mandatory Mediation in Saudi Arabia,” *CI Arb Journal of Arbitration: The International Journal of Arbitration, Mediation and Dispute Resolution*, Vol. 91, Issue 1, 2025.
- “Mediation in the UAE – An Examination of Legislative and Institutional Developments,” *Journal of Mediation Theory and Practice*, Issue 9-1, 2025.
- “Institutional Arbitration in the UAE: Looking for Missing Pieces of the Puzzle,” *CI Arb Journal of Arbitration: The International Journal of Arbitration, Mediation and Dispute Resolution*, Vol. 89, Issue 1, 2023.
- “The Covid-19 Pandemic and Arbitration in the UAE: A Tale of Challenges and Opportunities,” *SOAS Law Journal*, Vol. 7, Issue 2, 2020.

Blog Articles

- “ADR Without Borders: MENA and Singapore in Conversation,” Kluwer Mediation Blog, 10 October 2025.
- “Time Limits for Issuance of the Final Award Under the 2024 CRCICA Rules: Let the Tribunal Decide,” Kluwer Arbitration Blog, 13 March 2025.
- “Is Mediator Neutrality Holding Us Back in Conflict Resolution?,” Kluwer Mediation Blog, 11 March 2025.

