



CEDR Accreditation:	2023
CEDR Panel:	2026
Languages:	English, Japanese
Location:	Japan

Junichi Ikeda

“He is quick and decisive and is considered invaluable.”

“Without his client-focused approach, this complex dispute would not have reached a settlement.”

Overview

Junichi Ikeda brings to the mediation table a rare combination of mediation and judicial settlement acumen, top-tier disputes expertise, and deep transactional negotiation experience. A former judge with above-benchmark settlement rates, he facilitates parties' negotiations by grounding the process in engaged listening, precise reframing, and workable agreement structuring. As a partner at a leading Japanese firm, he has advised clients in a wide array of prominent disputes involving Japanese companies, adeptly managing multi-jurisdictional complexity, stakeholder coordination, and strategic inflection points. His transactional background enables him to guide disciplined, interest-based dialogue towards efficient and durable agreements.

Professional Background

Before joining Nagashima Ohno & Tsunematsu, Junichi served as a district court judge at the Tokyo District Court and Kushiro District Court. As a former district judge, he frequently led judicial settlement proceedings in complex civil disputes and served as a court-appointed mediator in civil mediation, guiding parties to negotiated resolutions at rates well above standard benchmarks. The skill developed through years of front-line experience—listening

closely, reframing issues with precision, and structuring practicable pathways to agreement—underpins his ability to help parties identify key areas of concern, assess risk, generate a broad set of options, and converge on durable, real-world solutions.

At Nagashima Ohno & Tsunematsu, one of Japan’s largest, top-tier law firms, Junichi has advised clients in many of their most prominent and complex disputes being adjudicated in various forums, including high-profile international arbitrations and major global product liability class-action litigations. He is accustomed to navigating multi-jurisdictional complexity, coordinating among diverse stakeholders, and managing the procedural and strategic inflection points that shape settlement leverage. This background informs a pragmatic approach to mediation that is sensitive to cross-border dynamics, regulatory overlays, and the commercial imperatives that drive decision-making.

Complementing his disputes practice, Junichi has also represented banks, investment funds, and operating companies in significant transactions, handling contract negotiation and documentation across a wide range of industries. This transactional foundation enhances his ability to translate business objectives into structured deal terms, evaluate trade-offs, and craft settlement frameworks that are both operationally workable and legally robust. Drawing on these combined perspectives, he facilitates disciplined, interest-based dialogue, encourages rigorous evaluation of settlement options, and helps parties reach principled agreements efficiently.

Expertise

- Sale of goods
- Investments
- Energy & Infrastructure
- Construction & Engineering
- Partnership & joint venture
- Distributorship
- Mergers & Acquisitions
- Product liability

Dispute Experience

Junichi’s dispute experience includes the following disputes:

Sale of Goods

- Dispute involving the supplier’s liability for supplying non-conforming parts used in a semiconductor lithography machine between the supplier and the purchaser.
- Dispute regarding claims in excess of JPY 30 billion for contractual non-conformity and other breaches arising from components supplied for consumer appliances between the Japan-based supplier and a Southeast Asia (“SEA”)-based manufacturer of consumer appliance (SEA)

- Dispute regarding claim of the purchaser for significant damages against the seller for alleged defects in the air-conditioning units supplied.
- Dispute over the existence of a breach of obligations under a mold procurement contract between a Tier 2 supplier (Japan) and a Tier 1 supplier (Europe) in the automotive sector.
- Dispute regarding claims for breach of contract under supply agreements between automotive OEM and Tier 1 supplier.
- Dispute concerning the allocation of recall costs pursuant to the warranty clause set forth in a supply agreement between automotive OEMs (Japan and Europe)

Construction & Engineering

- Dispute involving the contractor's liability for liquidated damages and the contractor's entitlement to additional cost claims in relation to a biomass power plant EPC contract.
- Dispute regarding the contractor's defects liability under a biomass power plant EPC contract.
- Dispute involving the contractor's contractual liability for a subway tunnel collapse.
- Dispute concerning duty of the contractor (Japan) to remove unexploded ordnance ("UXO") under a construction contract with the Employer (SEA).
- Dispute over whether force majeure excused the contractor (Japan) from performance of its obligations under a construction contract with the Employer (SEA).
- Dispute over the interpretation of price adjustment clause of a construction contract between the contractor (Japan) and the Employer (SEA)

Mergers & Acquisitions

- Dispute concerning a breach of representations and warranties under a share purchase agreement.
- Dispute over damages claim by acquirer against former officers of the target company for inflated purchase price caused by false statements in pre-acquisition securities reports of the target company.

Investment

- Dispute between a global real estate fund (US) and its asset manager (Japan) over the clawback of incentive compensation.
- Dispute in which a corporate purchaser of complex structured bonds sold by a securities broker-dealer sought JPY 30 billion in damages, alleging inadequate risk disclosure in breach of the seller's explanatory duty.

Partnership & Joint Venture

- Dispute concerning the termination of a business alliance agreement between a Japanese company and a European company; among the most significant disputes of its kind.
- Dispute concerning allocation of profits between shareholders (Japan and SEA).

Product Liability

- Represented a Japanese manufacturer in global airbag product liability litigations across various jurisdictions.

Energy & Infrastructure

- Dispute involving non-payments of electricity charges under various power supply agreements between a retail electricity supplier and various purchasers.
- Dispute regarding the offtaker's ability to terminate the electricity supply agreement in a project financed through project finance.

Distributorship

- Dispute concerning the permissibility or validity of terminating the distributorship agreement between a Japanese company and an African local distributor.
- Dispute over whether a statutory indemnity was payable following termination of the distributorship agreement between a Japanese company and a European local agent.

Others

- Dispute in which the buyer, invoking the latent defect warranty by the Seller under a real estate SPA, claimed either specific performance for removal of underground installations/debris or indemnification of the removal expenses.
- Dispute in which former prisoners of war, who had been held in captivity by the former Imperial Japanese Army, sought state redress in damages from the Government of Japan.

Transactional Experience

Junichi's transactional experience includes the following transactions:

Energy & Infrastructure

- Represented an infrastructure fund as the project sponsor in an investment in a thermal power generation project using project financing.
- Represented an infrastructure fund as the sponsor in an investment in a wind power project.
- Represented an infrastructure fund as the sponsor in an investment in a solar power project.
- Represented a contractor in a biomass power plant project.

- Represented an employer under the EPC contract for a hydropower project.
- Represented an infrastructure company in establishing infrastructure investment funds.

Mergers & Acquisitions

- Represented a global Tier-1 company in connection with the disposition of its Japanese subsidiary.
- Represented the purchaser in acquiring the thermal power generation business from the target company by way of a corporate split.
- Represented the seller in the sale of shares in an SPC that owns a thermal power generation business.

Real Estate

- Represented the senior lender in providing financing for the acquisition of what was then the largest single-asset real estate in Japan in a real estate securitization transaction.
- Represented the sponsor in a shopping mall development executed via a special purpose company.
- Represented a real estate investment fund in acquisition of a portfolio of real estate properties using a special purpose company.

Partnership & Joint Venture

- Represented a power generation company in establishing a joint venture company with a gas supplier.

Personal Style

Junichi employs a pragmatic, party-responsive mediation style, drawing on his experience as a former judge and a current partner at a leading firm to move parties from positions to interests. He ensures that commercial objectives and concerns are well understood, then prioritizes issues, tests strengths and weaknesses, and helps the parties develop workable settlement options. He also helps them weigh the risks of continued litigation or arbitration—including cross-border complexity, regulatory exposure, reputational impact, and cost—to inform principled decisions. Meticulous, respectful, and persistent, he prepares thoroughly, structures disciplined, interest-based dialogue, and balances diplomacy with decisiveness to achieve durable agreements.

Qualifications

- Admitted to practice law in Japan and New York
- Former Coordinator at the Legislative Council of the Ministry of Justice of Japan
- A committee member of the Subcommittee on Contract & Legal of the Engineering Advancement Association of Japan (ENAA)