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Global Diploma in International Commercial Arbitration (Virtual)

8 – 31 May 2026



Key facts about this Diploma



The gold standard qualification for international commercial arbitration



On successful completion, you can apply to become a Ciarb Fellow



Delivered virtually, combining interactive sessions with lectures



Learn the law, practice and procedure of international commercial arbitration



Held across four weeks, on Friday afternoons, Saturday and Sunday mornings



Institutional Round Table gives you insight on the rules and practices at major global institutions



Welcome letter

Dear Candidates,

Fast track your career in arbitration with Ciarb's Global Diploma in International Commercial Arbitration (Virtual).

You will benefit from learning from internationally recognised experts in the field and gain insight into how to win appointments with major arbitral institutions through the Institutional Round Table.

There will also be a session on *AI in Arbitration* that explores the role of AI in the arbitral process and the relevance of transparency in the use of AI in arbitrations.

On passing the Practice and Procedure examination and the Award Writing examination, you will receive a Diploma of International Commercial Arbitration from Ciarb. You will then be able to apply to become a Ciarb Fellow.

I encourage you to join us on this exciting learning opportunity.

**Dr. Crina Baltag FCI Arb
Diploma Director**

"I did this Diploma specifically because it's virtual, and the convenience factor is just unbeatable. I currently practice in the United States, so being able to get into the international field and meet arbitrators and staff from Ciarb's programme was a blessing. I also travel a lot, so being able to do the Diploma from anywhere in the world was extremely convenient."

Stuthi Balaji

The Global Diploma in International Commercial Arbitration (Virtual) was a unique opportunity to learn from distinguished tutors and connect with peers from various professional backgrounds and legal jurisdictions. This diversity not only enriched our discussions but also deepened my understanding of the intricacies and complexities of international arbitration. The virtual format provided a flexible and cost-effective alternative to in-person sessions. This Diploma is an ideal choice if you're eager to navigate the global landscape of international dispute resolution and elevate your expertise in this dynamic field.

Samuel Muthomi Gichunge FCI Arb

Meet the Diploma's Director



Dr. Crina Baltag FCI Arb is a globally recognised arbitration and dispute resolution practitioner.

She is also an attorney at law and an academic with over 20 years of extensive practice in international dispute resolution, private, and public international law.

Crina has been appointed as presiding, sole and co-arbitrator in numerous arbitrations under the rules of the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC), the London Court of International Arbitration (LCIA), the Singapore International Arbitration Centre (SIAC), the Arbitration Institute of the Stockholm Chamber of Commerce (SCC Arbitration Institute), the Finland Arbitration Institute (FAI), Vienna International Arbitral Centre

(VIAC), and the Center for Arbitration and Mediation of the Chamber of Commerce Brazil-Canada (CAM-CCBC).

She has acted as expert and counsel in various international commercial and investment arbitrations. She has also practiced as counsel, specialising in commercial and disputes, focusing on construction, energy and natural resources projects, financial transactions, intellectual property, and foreign investments.

Crina is the managing editor of Kluwer Arbitration Blog, and an Associate Professor in International Arbitration and Dispute Resolution at Queen Mary University of London.

Dr. Crina Baltag FCI Arb

Learn from arbitration experts

2026 Diploma core tutors:



Dr. Ana Coimbra Trigo

Ana is Guest Professor at NOVA School of Law and a Senior Associate at PLMJ, Portugal. Ana has worked across domestic and international commercial and investment arbitrations and has experience in civil and commercial litigation. Ana is a member of the Commercial Arbitration Centre of the Portuguese Chamber of Commerce and Industry, among other institutions, and is Deputy Director for the International Journal of Arbitration and Conciliation.

Dr. Fabricio Fortese FCIArb

Fabricio is an international dispute resolution consultant and Research Fellow at the Faculty of Law at the University of Oxford, as well as Senior Lecturer at Stockholm University. Fabricio is a board member of The Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot and ambassador for the Sports Arbitration Moot. Fabricio has worked for the Commercial Law Development Program, training educators and students in arbitration and commercial law.



Bethel Genene Kassa

Bethel is an Associate at Morgan & Morgan with extensive experience representing sovereign states and companies in investment treaty and commercial arbitrations. Bethel has lectured at The George Washington University Law School on topics including the application of umbrella clauses in investment treaty arbitrations. Bethel is a member of the African Affairs Committee and the New York City Bar Association, among others.

Dr. Denis Parchajev MCIArb

Denis is Partner at Motieka & Audzevičius where he handles high-profile international arbitration cases. He advises clients on the ongoing set-aside proceedings in Stockholm and Vilnius. Denis is an honorary lecturer for the distance learning arbitration programme at Queen Mary University of London, where he is completing his PhD in International Investment Arbitration. He also lectures on international commercial litigation at Mykolas Romeris University, Lithuania.



Dr. Mireille Taok

Mireille is Founder of Taok ADR LLC and acts as an independent arbitrator in high-value international arbitrations. A visiting professor at the University of Poitiers, France, Mireille completed her PhD at the university with a thesis on contract termination in international commercial arbitration. Mireille is a member of the ICC Lebanon National Committee, the ICC Commission on Arbitration, and the International Bar Association, among others.

Past speakers include:



**Francisco
Abriani**



**Dr Christopher
Boog FCI Arb**



**Philippa Charles
FCI Arb**



**Cristián Conejero
Roos**



**Martin Doe
FCI Arb**



**Caroline
Falconer**



Steven Finizio



**Ben Giaretta
C. Arb FCI Arb**



**Dr Inka
Hanefeld**



**Niamh
Leinwathers**



**Professor Loukas
Mistelis**



Kevin Nash



**Athina Fouchard
Papaefttratiou FCI Arb**



**Dharshini
Prasad**



**Ann Ryan Robertson
C. Arb FCI Arb**



**Monique
Sasson**



**Benjamin
Siino**



Erica Stein



**Robert A. Stephen
MCI Arb**



**Sami Tannous
MCI Arb**



**Alexandre
Vagenheim**



**Sarah Vasani
FCI Arb**



**Dr Cosmin Vasile
FCI Arb**



**Claire Morel
de Westgaver**



Guled Yusuf



Diploma structure

The structure follows the arbitral process from beginning to end. You will be involved in interactive sessions from day one.

Typical day

Session 1:

Duties and powers of the arbitral tribunal. Liability of arbitrators.

Session 2:

Role of tribunal secretaries.

Session 3:

Commencement of arbitration, request for arbitration and answer, terms of reference/appointment.

Session 4:

Managing the arbitration process: communications, preliminary meetings, interlocutory matters. Jurisdiction and admissibility.

Session 5:

Interactive workshop: Drafting Procedural Order Number 1.

Diploma assessment

Part 1 Assessment: Law, Practice and Procedure of International Commercial Arbitration

Candidates must complete three assessments:

1. An assignment completed during the Diploma
2. A dissertation proposal (up to 300 words) on an arbitration-related topic
3. A final dissertation (up to 4,000 words), submitted two months after the dissertation proposal is approved

The final dissertation is due by 1 July 2026 (18.00 GMT +1) and constitutes 80% of the overall mark.

Part 2 Assessment: Law of Obligations

Candidates are required to demonstrate expertise on the common law and civil law of contract tort. Candidates must pass a multiple-choice online exemption test before commencing to the final assessment.

Candidates will be given a reference workbook and a mock assessment before taking the test. Candidates will have 90 minutes to take the test, and the pass mark is 70%. The deadline is 26 July 2026.

Ciarb Fellows do not need to complete the exemption test.





Part 3 Assessment: Evidence and Award Writing of International Arbitration

Candidates are required to submit an award.

The assessment is split into two stages.

Stage one:

The documents in the case are released 10 days before the assessment start date. They are sufficient to allow candidates to review the nature of the case and the likely legal problems.

Candidates should consider the recitals they intend to include and the relevant law.

Stage two:

This is the equivalent of the hearing stage and includes an extract from the candidate's notebook.

This records the oral evidence and arguments the arbitrator has heard, as well as any other relevant documents.

From the evidence, candidates must make their findings of fact. Different candidates will no doubt make different findings.

When candidates have made their findings of fact, they can write the award. It must be a final award that reflects the issues they decide.

Stage two is released at 12:00 GMT +1 on 15 August 2026, the assessment start date.

Stage two will be available for five days from the assessment start date. Within the five days, candidates have 48 consecutive hours from the time they access the stage two documents to submit the award.

For the arbitral award, word count is 10,000 words maximum.



Candidates will be marked on technical and judicial merit:

Technical merit:

counts as 40% towards the overall mark.

Judicial merit:

counts as 60% towards the overall mark.

Candidates must achieve 70% in both technical and judicial merit and 70% overall to pass this assessment. The detailed elements of each technical and judicial merits will be made available with stage one.

Results are sent to candidates 12 weeks from the deadline date of the submission.

Entry requirements

To successfully enrol on this diploma, you must demonstrate one of the following:

- You are actively involved in, or have experience of, domestic or international arbitration
- You have successfully completed the Module 2 Law of Obligations course and assessment, or the Module 2 exemption test (if you are not a lawyer)
- You have at least five years' professional experience in a related field

How to apply

To apply for this Diploma, [submit your CV via this form](#).

Or for more information, email our team at education@ciarb.org.

If your application is successful, you will be contacted regarding registration and payment.



Diploma fee

The full fee is £5,995.00, including VAT.

50% of the full fee must be paid as a deposit on registering. This is non-refundable.

What does the course fee include?

Candidates will receive:

- Access to Ciarb's Virtual Learning Platform
- Study materials
- One to one access to a dissertation supervisor and tutor
- All assignments, assessments and exemption tests



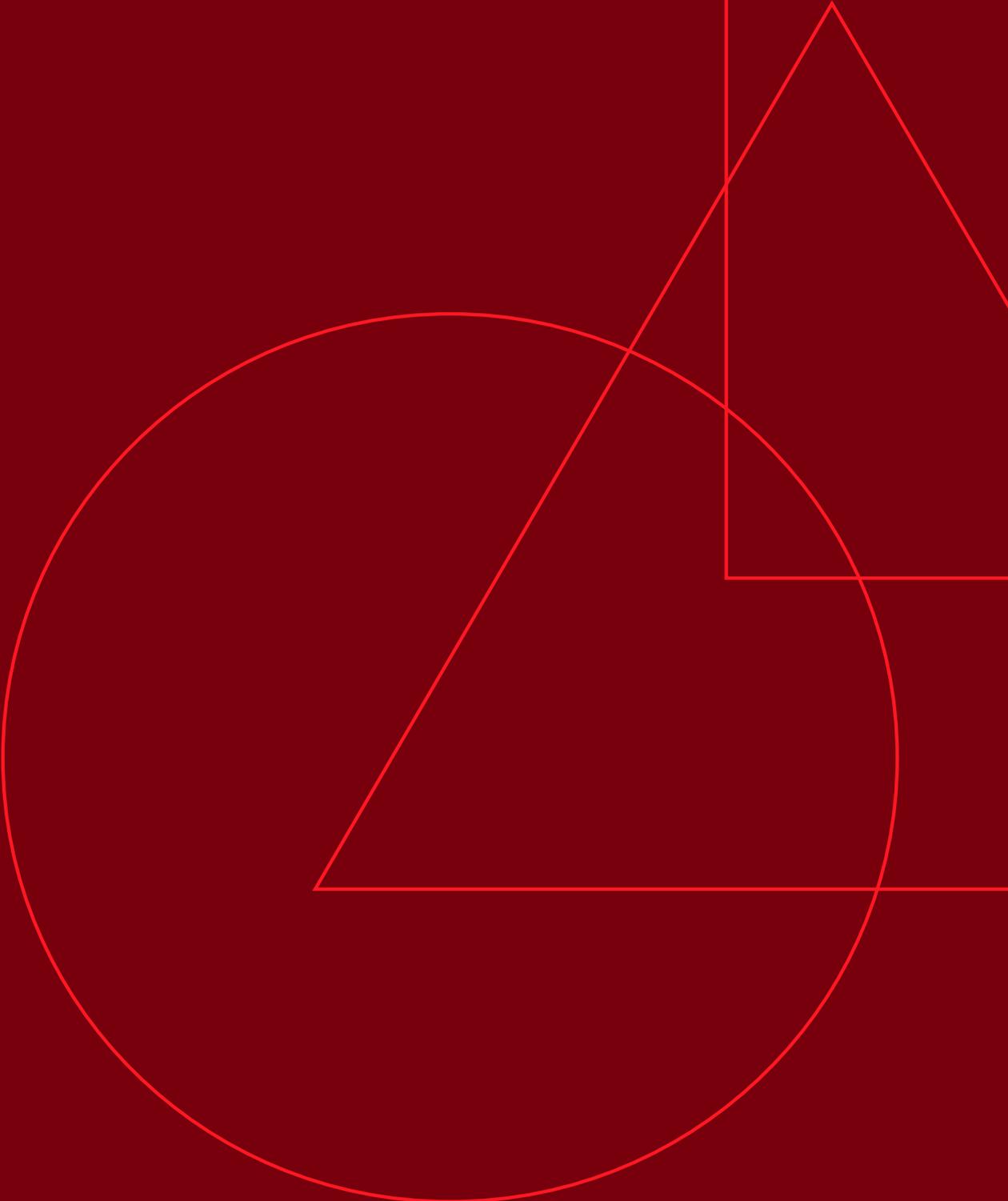
Important dates

Date	Event
30 March 2026	Full fee due
24 April 2026	Ciarb will send candidates dissertation proposal instructions, and candidates will gain access to course material and the Module 2 exemption test
19 April 2026	Ciarb will assign candidates a dissertation supervisor
8 May 2026	Diploma takes place 12.30 – 17.45 GMT +1
9 May 2026	Diploma takes place 9.00 – 14.00 GMT +1
10 May 2026	Diploma takes place 9.00 – 12:45 GMT +1
15 May 2026	Diploma takes place 9.00 – 14.30 GMT +1
16 May 2026	Diploma takes place 9.15 – 12.25 GMT +1
17 May 2026	Diploma takes place 9.00 – 1.30 GMT +1
18 May 2026	Assignment due
22 May 2026	Diploma takes place 9.00 – 15.00 GMT +1
23 May 2026	Diploma takes place 9.00 – 13.30 GMT +1
24 May 2026	Diploma takes place 9.00 – 13.15 GMT +1
29 May 2026	Diploma takes place 9.00 – 12.45 GMT +1
30 May 2026	Diploma takes place 9.00 – 12.15 GMT +1
30 May 2026	Dissertation proposal due
31 May 2026	Diploma takes place 9.00 – 14.15 GMT +1
1 July 2026	Dissertation due
26 July 2026	Module 2 exemption test deadline
11 August 2026	Release of Stage One materials
21 August 2026	Stage Two assessment start date

— Research Supporters —



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