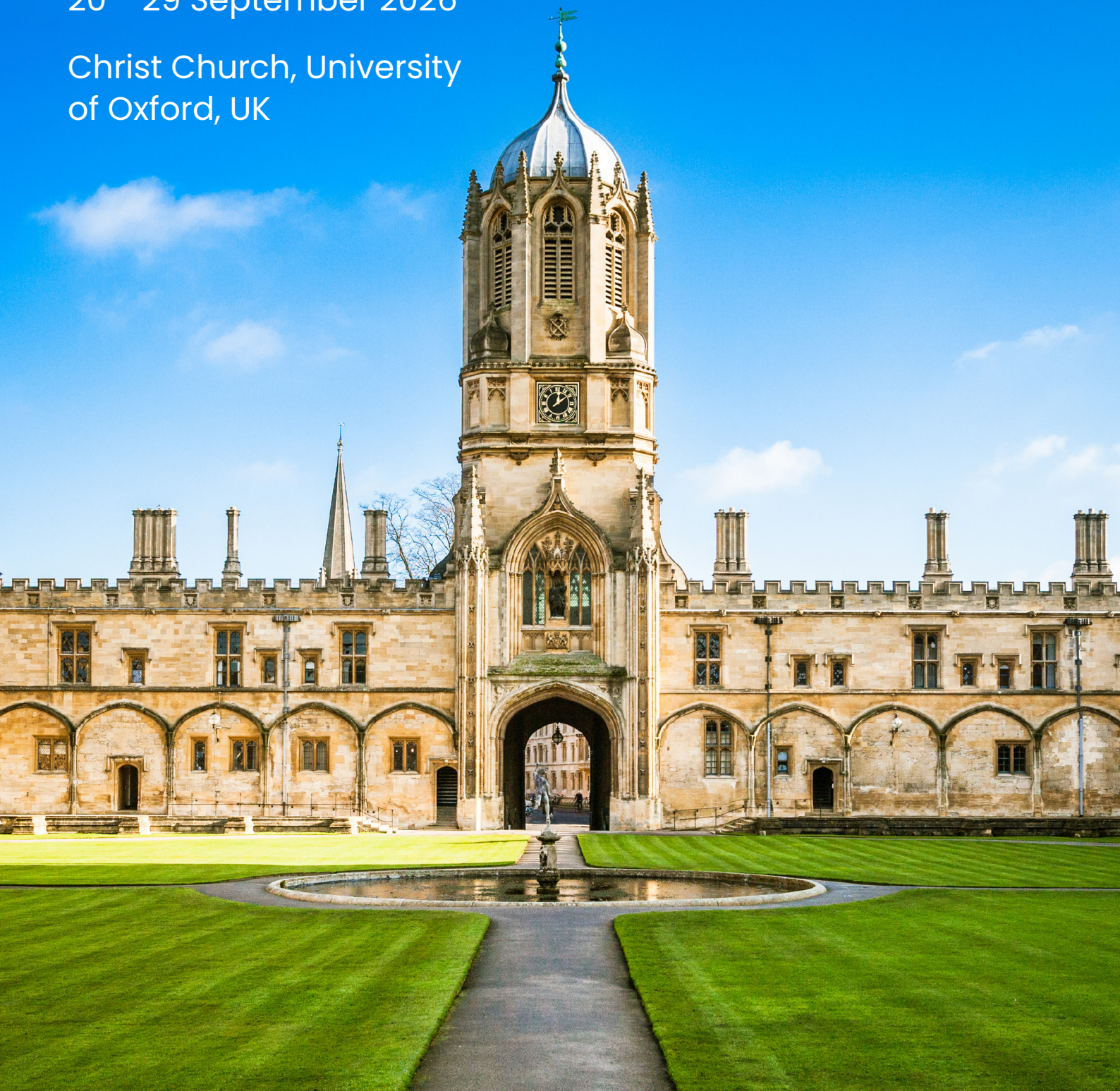


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# Global Diploma in International Commercial Arbitration (In-person)

20 - 29 September 2026

Christ Church, University  
of Oxford, UK



# Key facts



The arbitration industry's gold standard qualification



Full access to the University of Oxford's Bodleian Library



Network with professional peers from around the globe and expert faculty



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



Held at Christ Church, University of Oxford, UK



Covers the law, practice and procedure of international commercial arbitration



Delivered in person through a series of intensive and interactive seminars, workshops and lectures



Institutional Round Table gives candidates insight on the rules and practices at major global institutions – and how to win appointments



# Welcome letter

**Dear Candidates,**

This Diploma is designed to give you an in-depth understanding of international commercial arbitration law and practice, equipping you with the skills required to develop your career as an arbitrator.

Our faculty comprises internationally recognised experts, and there will be considerable opportunities to network with other candidates and peers, allowing you to build professional connections.

Ciarb's Diploma, held at the University of Oxford, is the gold standard in the industry. Highlights include the Fireside Chat, the Arbitral Workshop, the Institutional Round Table, where you gain insight into institutional rules and practices, and an exploration of AI in Arbitration.

Upon successfully passing the Practice and Procedure and the Award Writing examinations, you will be awarded a Global Diploma in International Commercial Arbitration by Ciarb. You will then be able to apply to become a Ciarb Fellow, a globally recognised post-nominal.

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

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



# 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**



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*This was a truly transformative experience. The Diploma's intensity was matched only by its engaging nature, which made learning an absolute delight. Our tutors, renowned experts in their field, brought unparalleled expertise to the table, motivating me to push beyond my limits and strive for excellence. It was an enriching experience that significantly enhanced my knowledge, skills and professional network. I highly recommend it to anyone seeking to excel in international commercial arbitration.*

**Aishat Okuribido ACI 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 FCI Arb**

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 MCI Arb**

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.

**The 2026 speakers include:**



**Nania Owusu-  
Ankomah FCI Arb**



**Francisco Abriani**



**Nadja Al Kanawati**



**Cristen Bauer**



**Philippa Charles FCI Arb**



**Steven Finizio**



**Dr. Inka Hanefeld**



**Claire Morel de Westgaver**



**Athina Fouchard  
Papaefstratiou FCI Arb**



**Professor Loukas  
Mistelis FCI Arb**



**Dharshini Prasad**



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



**Cristián Conejero Roos**



**Monique Sasson**



**Benjamin Siino**



**Dr. Cosmin Vasile FCI Arb**



**Guled Yusuf**



**Dr. Diora Ziyayeva FCI Arb**

# Diploma structure

The Diploma 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.

### **Session 6:**

AI in the arbitral process.

This Diploma includes a full-day workshop led by a leading arbitral institution, where you will gain valuable insight into that institution's arbitral rules and processes and learn how to win an institutional appointment.

# 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 5 November 2026 and constitutes 80% of the overall mark.

## **Part 2 Assessment: Law of Obligations**

Candidates need to demonstrate expertise on the common law and civil law of contract tort.

Candidates must pass a multiple-choice online exemption test before starting the final assessment.

Candidates will be given a reference workbook and a mock assessment before taking the exemption test.

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 enable the candidate 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. It includes an extract from the candidate's (the arbitrator'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 have chosen to focus on.

Stage two will be available for five days from the assessment start date.

Within these five days, candidates have 48 consecutive hours from the time they access the stage two documents to submit the award.

The arbitral award can be up to 10,000 words.



*I loved this course. The diversity of the students, the engaging discussions we've had. We have 22 countries represented in one room and learning from each other is phenomenal.*

**Patrick Turinawe,  
2024 candidate**



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 the technical and judicial merits 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 be considered for this Diploma you must meet one or more of the following entry requirements:

- You must be actively involved in, or have experience of, domestic or international arbitration
- You have completed the Module Two Law of Obligations course and successfully passed its assessment or the Module Two exemption test (if you're 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](#).

Please note, the CV review process is thorough and can take up to four weeks.

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

Or for more information, email our team at [education@ciarb.org](mailto:education@ciarb.org).



### What does the course fee include?

Candidates will receive:

- Accommodation at Christ Church College in Oxford, UK. Some meals will be provided
- Access to a wealth of learning resources via Ciarb's virtual learning platform and Oxford University's Bodleian Library
- Study materials
- Access to a dissertation supervisor
- One to one access to a dissertation supervisor and tutor for the duration of the course
- One sitting of all assignments, assessments and exemption tests



# Diploma fee

## Secure your place with a 50% deposit

Deposits are non-refundable.

Ciarb member discounts are available exclusively to Ciarb professional members.

## Visa requirements

It is the candidate's responsibility to make sure an appropriate visa is in place prior to the start date of the Diploma if a visa is required for travel to the UK.



Global Diploma fee		Fee including VAT
Full price	Non-member	<b>£9,995.00</b>
Full price	Ciarb member	<b>£9,995.00</b>



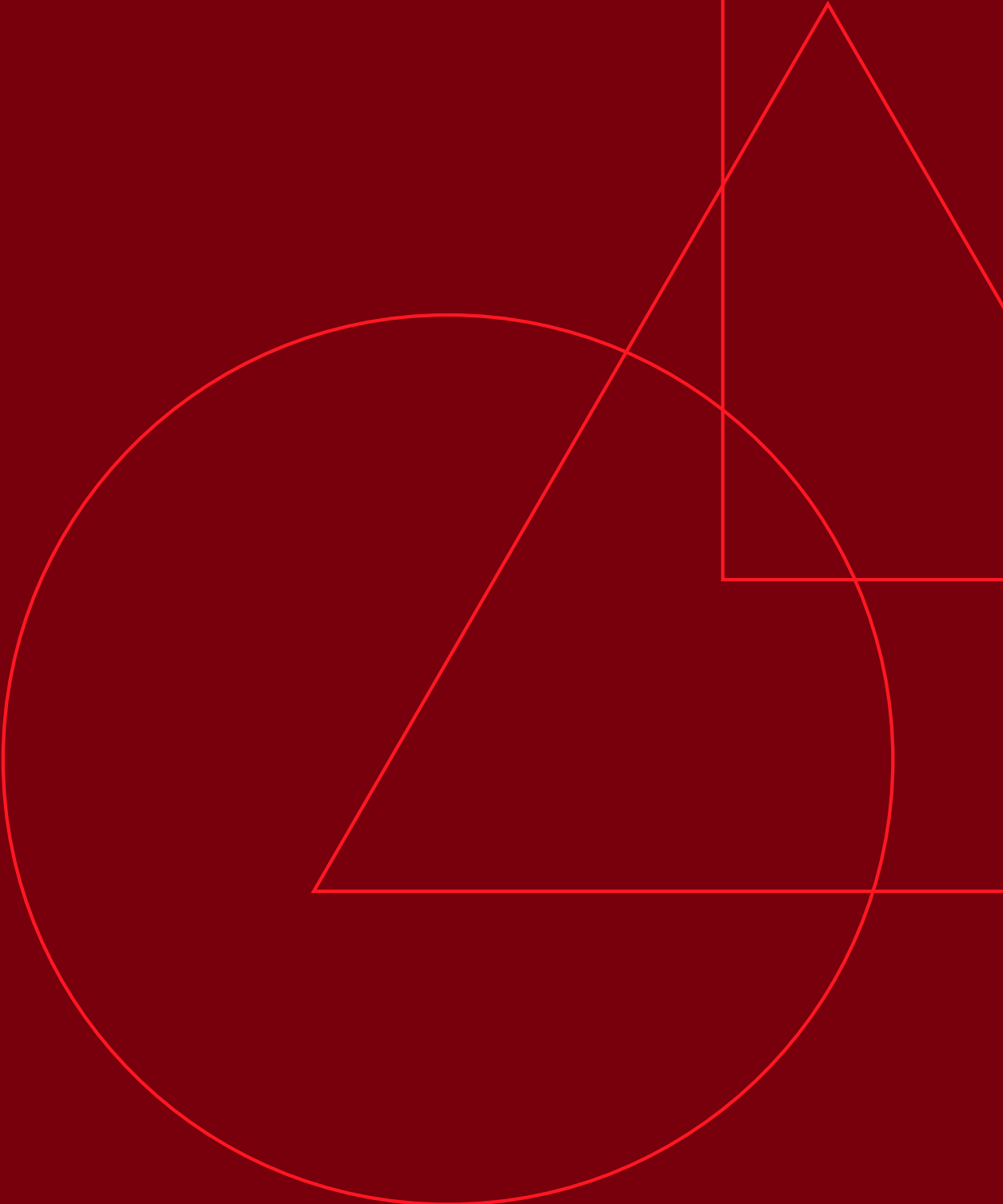
# Important dates

Date	Event
5 September 2026	Candidates will receive dissertation proposal instructions and gain access to the course materials and the Module Two exemption test
15 September 2026	Candidates will be assigned a dissertation supervisor
20 September 2026	Candidates arrive in Oxford, UK
21-28 September 2026	Seminars, lectures and workshops
23 September 2026	Assignment is due
29 September 2026	Candidates depart from Oxford, UK
4 October 2026	Dissertation proposal is due
5 November 2026	Dissertation is due
24 November 2026	Release of stage one materials
26 November 2026	Module Two exemption test deadline
4 December 2026	Stage two assessment begins

## Research Supporters



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