

# LONDON INTERNATIONAL DISPUTES WEEK 2021

10 May 2021 | London  
Events

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London International Disputes Week 2021 (LIDW21) comes at a significant period for the UK legal sector, in the wake of the Covid-19 pandemic, post-Brexit and amid an uncertain global political environment.

The [programme](#) for LIDW21 draws on contemporary global issues facing the sector, including the rise of group actions, the role of technology, the rule of law, climate change, social responsibility, and ethics.

With its theme: *'Looking forward: change, challenge and opportunity'*, LIDW21 will provide crucial insights on the business and law of international dispute resolution.

## CO-HOSTED SESSIONS

**We are delighted to be co-hosting the following virtual member-hosted events throughout the week:**

**[The new regime for trial witness statements: what to watch out for](#)**

Wednesday, 12 May 2021 (09.00 – 10.00)

*We are pleased to co-host this event with One Essex Court*

In this panel session we will outline the new rules on trial witness statements, introduced from 6 April 2021 by Practice Direction 57AC of the CPR, and discuss their practical implications for commercial litigation. We will consider the challenges the new rules present, from the perspective of the judge, counsel, solicitor and client.

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## **The future of oil and gas disputes**

Thursday, 13 May 2021 (18.00 - 19.00)

*We are pleased to co-host this event with  
Quadrant Chambers*

The panel will look at recent trends in oil and gas disputes. They will focus on:

**Upstream disputes:** Developments in upstream oil and gas contractual disputes, including joint operating agreements.

**LNG disputes:** A joint 'legal' and 'market' approach, with perspectives on the LNG global market over the last year and trends in gas price reviews.

**Decarbonisation disputes:** Governments around the world have committed to decarbonisation targets within limited timeframes. The panel will review the disputes that are likely to emerge from decisions to scale down existing O&G exploration and production rights, to ban certain carbon-intensive activities, or disputes likely to arise in relation to emissions-reporting.

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## **The impact of litigation analytics on London dispute resolution**

Friday, 14 May 2021 (11.00 - 12.00)

*We are pleased to co-host this event with  
Brick Court Chambers*

This session will examine the data analytic tools available to lawyers and their clients to assist in the running and resolution of disputes.

Exploring the issues from different perspectives, the session will explore how litigation analytics and business intelligence will shape the development of dispute resolution in London in the coming year.

The panel will include speakers from Herbert Smith Freehills, Brick Court Chambers and Solomonic.

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## **SPEAKER SESSIONS**

**We are also pleased to be speaking at sessions on:**

### **How can London remain a forum of choice for parties to MENA disputes?**

Monday, 10 May 2021 (09.00 – 10.00)

*We are pleased to co-host this event with HKA*

This discussion will include: 1) the popularity of London for MENA dispute resolution; 2) what London could do better to alleviate the concerns of MENA parties; 3) the MENA seats and institutions to watch; and 4) recent developments in the MENA region that London practitioners should know about, including in light of the Covid pandemic.

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## **Breaking the mould - new approaches to evidence in the digital age**

Wednesday, 12 May (12.00 - 13.00)

*Please note that this is part of the main conference and you will need to have registered for the conference to attend this session*

This session will consider the use of evidence in international dispute resolution – from the Disclosure Pilot Scheme in the English Business and Property Courts and the review and use of witness statements in litigation, to the Prague Rules and whether they have been adopted by many during arbitration and, if so, to what extent, or whether practitioners still prefer the use of the IBA Rules and, if so, why. The session will consider these topics by drawing particular attention to the digital world (i.e. virtual hearings, virtual examinations/cross-examinations) and will evaluate the various weapons available in the dispute practitioners' arsenal while preparing evidence.

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## **Challenges and opportunities in investor-state dispute settlement**

Friday, 14 May 2021 (09.00 - 11.00)

We present two question and answer sessions with diverse panels of leading experts, who will examine some of the most topical challenges and opportunities in Investor-State Dispute Settlement from the perspectives of:

**The UK and EU post Brexit:** What positive outcomes may occur now that the UK has been decoupled from the EU and how might protection standards such as the European Convention on Human Rights be affected?

**The world more broadly:** What are the recent developments with investment treaties globally and why are they important?

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## **Construction disputes in a post-COVID world**

Friday, 14 May 2021 (15.00 - 16.00)

The panel will explore the implications of the pandemic on the future state of construction disputes in International Arbitration, Litigation and Adjudication.

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## **ABOUT LONDON INTERNATIONAL DISPUTES WEEK**

Herbert Smith Freehills is a proud founding member of LIDW: a collaborative, representative, world-class and forward-thinking body that demonstrates the UK's legal community's commitment to innovation, excellence, upholding the rule of law and diversity.

LIDW21 is a forward-thinking forum, which aims to drive the future of international dispute resolution. Using London's position as a major international seat for the dispute resolution business, LIDW21 will engage with international perspectives across all sectors and explore how the industry can adapt, evolve and progress.

Through a **programme** of virtual sessions, leading experts will discuss and debate the ever-changing landscape of international dispute resolution: LIDW21 is the biggest celebration there is of the heritage of London as a leading centre for handling international disputes.

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## REGISTRATION

To read more about LIDW21 and to register to attend please click [here](#). In addition to signing up for these events, please register for [LIDW21](#) which includes 16 virtual sessions delivered by leading experts in their fields, 4 unmissable keynote addresses by high-profile dispute resolution figures, and many vital opportunities to network with colleagues from around the world. [Register here](#)

**Note:** *your registration for these events does not provide access to the LIDW21 conference and related benefits; and, your registration for this event is not conditional on registering for LIDW21, although we strongly encourage such registrations.*

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## KEY CONTACTS

If you have any questions, or would like to know how this might affect your business, phone, or email these key contacts.



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