



Elliott E. Geisinger

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Since joining Schellenberg Wittmer in January 1996, Mr Geisinger's practice has focused primarily on international commercial arbitration. He has acted as counsel and arbitrator in complex commercial disputes involving international construction contracts, consortia and joint venture agreements, sponsorship contracts, sales and distribution contracts, post-M&A disputes, consultancy contracts and hotel management contracts. Recently, he has also advised a major Swiss corporation in connection with an international investment protection matter. Mr Geisinger has also participated in drafting arbitration rules for commercial arbitration and for sports arbitration.

Mr Geisinger has also represented parties before Swiss courts in arbitration-related court proceedings, such as judicial appointments of arbitrators or challenges of arbitral awards before the Swiss Supreme Court. Several cases in which Mr Geisinger represented parties before the Swiss Supreme Court have been reported in the official collection of Swiss Supreme Court cases and in specialized journals.

Mr Geisinger is President of the Swiss Arbitration Association ("ASA") since 2014, having previously been Vice-President from 2010 to 2013. In 2014, Mr Geisinger was elected as a member of the Board of Trustees of FIAA (Foundation for International Arbitration Advocacy).

In addition to his activities in international commercial arbitration, Mr Geisinger advises clients on aspects of international civil litigation, in particular enforcement in Switzerland of foreign judgments and on cases often involving complicated issues of private international law related to contract, tort and inheritance law. Mr Geisinger's practice also includes legal opinions on Swiss substantive law, in particular contract law, and court litigation in Geneva in commercial and contractual disputes.

A particular area of specialization is construction, including contract management in large-scale construction projects. Mr Geisinger has led contract-management teams for an Italian general contractor in connection with the construction in Switzerland of a large pharmaceutical plant and for the extension and revamping of an oil refinery, for a Swiss general contractor in connection with the renovation of a 5-star hotel in Switzerland, for a Swiss owner in relation with the construction of a major R&D facility in Switzerland and for a Turkish contractor in connection with the construction of a hotel in a Central Asian country.

Prior to joining Schellenberg Wittmer, Mr Geisinger was an associate at Etienne Blum Stehlé Manfrini & Partners (Baker & McKenzie) in Geneva, where he had the same fields of practice. Before admission to the bar, Mr Geisinger gained extensive knowledge of Swiss private international law as a teaching and research assistant to Professor Pierre Lalive at the Department of private international law of the University of Geneva.

DETAILS

AREAS OF PRACTICE

International Arbitration, Construction Contract Management, International commercial contracts

BAR ADMISSION

Avocat Geneva, Switzerland (1994)

EDUCATION

DES (LLM) University of Geneva (summa cum laude) (1990)

Licence en droit University of Geneva (1986)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE AND POSITIONS

Partner	Schellenberg Wittmer (2002–)
President	Swiss Arbitration Association (“ASA”) (2014–)
Vice-President	Swiss Arbitration Association (“ASA”) (2010–2013)
Member of the Board	Swiss Arbitration Association (“ASA”) (2007–)
Member of the Arbitration Committee	Geneva Chamber of Commerce and Industry (1999–2003)
Associate	Schellenberg Wittmer (formerly Brunschwig Wittmer), Geneva (1996–2001)
Associate	Etienne Blum Stehlé Manfrini & Partners / Baker & McKenzie, Geneva (1995)
Legal Clerkship	Etienne Blum Stehlé Manfrini & Partners / Baker & McKenzie, Geneva (1992–1994)
Teaching and Research Assistant	University of Geneva, Faculty of Law, Department of Private International Law (1986–1992)

MAIN PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Member	Swiss Arbitration Association
Member	London Court of International Arbitration
Member	<i>Ordre des Avocats de Genève</i> (Geneva Bar Association)
Member	<i>Association Internationale de Juristes d’Affaires</i>
Member	Board of Trustees of FIAA (Foundation for International Arbitration Advocacy)

CREENTIALS

RECENT REPRESENTATIVE CASES

- Counsel, Dubai affiliate of Turkish corp. v. Dubai public entity re: construction contract for irrigation system, Dubai Municipality Rules of Arbitration
- Counsel, Swiss corp. v. Swedish individual re: dispute relating to departure package for international high-level executives, Swiss Rules
- Counsel, Nigerian corp. v. Ghanaian corp. re: contract for international mobile telephone roaming services, ICC
- Counsel, Ukrainian and Cyprus corps. v. Ukrainian energy companies re: contracts for development of wind farms in Ukraine, CEPANI
- Counsel, Turkish corp. v. German corp. re: design-build contract for modular medical facilities in US military base in Iraq, ICC

RECENT CASES AS ARBITRATOR

- Chairman, US corp. v. German corps. re: post M&A dispute, Swiss Rules
- Chairman, Dubai corp. v. Dubai corp. re: construction agreement relating to high-prestige property development project, DIAC
- Co-Arbitrator, Greek corp. and Turkish corp. v. German corps. re: turnkey contract for construction of power plant, ICC
- Chairman, Swiss corp. v. Austrian corp. re: contract for manufacture of ultra-complicated watch movements, ad hoc
- Chairman, US corp. v. Macedonian individual and Macedonian corp. re: franchise agreements for food industry, ICC

SELECTED RECENT PUBLICATIONS

General Editor and contributor	Advocacy in International Commercial Arbitration, edited by Elliott Geisinger and Guillaume Tattevin, ASA Special Series No. 36, New York 2013 (General Editor and contributor)
General Editor and contributor	<i>Geisinger & Voser (Eds), International Arbitration in Switzerland: A Handbook for Practitioners, 2nd edition, Kluwer Law International 2013</i>
Co-author	<i>Les conséquences des sanctions économiques sur les obligations contractuelles et sur l'arbitrage commercial international / The Impact of International Trade Sanctions on Contractual Obligations and on International Commercial Arbitration</i> , in: <i>Revue de droit des affaires internationales / International Business Law Journal</i> N°4, 2012, pp. 405-437

- Author *The Uncomfortable Truth: Once Discovered, What to Do with It?* in: *The Search for "Truth" in Arbitration: Is Finding the Truth what Dispute Resolution is About?*, edited by Markus Wirth and Christina Jodidio, ASA Special Series No. 35, New York 2011, pp. 113–133
- Author *Transparency, "Extension" of Arbitral Clauses to Non-Signatories and "Piercing the Corporate Veil" – All Meet in a Decision by the Swiss Supreme Court*, in: Bénédicte Foëx and Laurent Hirsch (Eds), *Transparence et secret dans l'ordre juridique, Liber Amicorum pour Vincent Jeanneret*, Geneva 2010, pp. 213 – 222
- Co-author *Commentary of Articles II and XVI of the New York Convention*, in: Herbert Kronke, Patricia Nacimiento, Dirk Otto and Nicola Christine Port (Eds), *Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards - A Global Commentary on the New York Convention*, Kluwer Law International 2010, pp. 37-114 and 555-558

PERSONAL INFORMATION

- Date of Birth 26 March 1964
- Nationalities Swiss, United States of America
- Languages Fluent: English, French, German, read and understood orally: Italian; good reading knowledge of Spanish