

Hong Kong, 27 October 2023

Dear Colleagues,

Having been a member of the Academic Forum on ISDS (AF) since its inception, I am honoured to accept the nomination for a position on the Steering Committee.

Outlined below are my key objectives for the AF, should I be elected and entrusted with this responsibility:

1. My interdisciplinary approach to legal scholarship equips me with maintaining AF's focus on innovative and collaborative research. Given the recent progress in the UNCITRAL reform process, including the shift from identifying issues to formulating detailed proposals, this approach is essential. It enables AF to effectively engage with and influence the evolving landscape of international dispute resolution.
2. Building on our existing strong foundation, my ambition is to intensify our relationship with the UNCITRAL Secretariat and establish more robust ties with government, institutional, and non-governmental delegations. Continuous dialogue with these entities is paramount to advancing shared goals.
3. Utilising my extensive international network, I aim to ensure that our work significantly informs global policies and dialogue.
4. Ensuring that AF remains diverse and inclusive is indispensable. I am committed to fostering a platform where multiple voices resonate to amplify our collective expertise and influence.

Throughout my career, I have focused on the complexities of international economic law, international dispute resolution, and the multidimensional domain of digital law, which includes areas such as cybersecurity, privacy, and data protection. As the Editor-in-Chief of the [Asia Pacific Law Review](#) and the incoming Co-Editor-in-Chief of the [Journal of World Investment & Trade](#), I have taken an active role in facilitating discussions that align with the core objectives of the AF.

My experiences, a blend of academic, diplomatic, and policy roles spanning multiple continents and legal systems, have given me a fine understanding of the AF's strengths and the significant areas where it can influence the reform process. My work at the City University of Hong Kong and the World Trade Institute across Europe and Asia has informed my understanding of global trade and investment dynamics.

In my association with AF, I have had the opportunity to participate in several key collaborations. Notably, in 2018, I contributed to the policy paper titled "[Excessive Costs & Insufficient Recoverability of Cost Awards](#)". Since 2021, I have co-chaired the Working Group (WG) "Comparative Timeline Analysis for ISDS Reform: WTO Experience and Implications", resulting in a comprehensive draft policy paper in May 2023. I am also involved in an ongoing WG project on "Investment Dispute Settlement in Special Economic Zones", with expected outcomes by the year's end.

Recognitions from the Tenth Annual Smit-Lowenfeld Prize from the International Arbitration Club of New York (2020) and the Hong Kong's Humanities and Social Sciences Prestigious Fellowship (2021) have been a testament to my scholarly work. My bimonthly column in the Financial Times' fDI Intelligence Magazine, "[The Global Lawyer](#)", provides insights on foreign investment law and politics to a broader audience.

With a solid experience in organisational governance, I am confident in my ability to contribute significantly to the operational and structural growth of the AF. As we address the challenges of international dispute resolution, I bring my diverse expertise, global perspective, and unwavering commitment to the table, always aiming to further the AF's objectives.

Warm regards,  
Julien Chaisse