



**STRAUS INSTITUTE**  
— FOR DISPUTE RESOLUTION —

present

# **THE GLOBAL DISPUTE RESOLUTION CONFERENCE**

## **BIOGRAPHIES**

**Moderators, Panelists, Presenters**

**&**

**Special Guests**

## **Planning Committee Members:**

**Thomas J. Stipanowich** holds the William H. Webster Chair in Dispute Resolution and is a full professor at Pepperdine University School of Law. As associate dean, he heads the Straus Institute for Dispute Resolution. He is the award-winning author of more than fifty books and articles, and has been cited by the U.S. Supreme Court and many other courts. Prior to coming to Pepperdine, he was a litigator, a chaired professor of law, and President /CEO of the Manhattan-based International Institute for Conflict Prevention & Resolution (2001-2006). His many honors include the D'Alemberte-Raven Award of the ABA Section on Dispute Resolution (2008) and CPR's James F. Henry Award for career contributions. He was the first non-Indian named Distinguished Professor by the National Law University, Delhi, India, and was named one of twenty affiliated faculty of Peking University Law School. In 2018 he was a featured commentator on a documentary on arbitration in China seen by an estimated forty million viewers in its first showing. Last year he was also Visiting Fellow of the Hagler Institute for Advanced Studies of Texas A&M University. An active arbitrator of domestic and international commercial disputes, he will be joining the JAMS panel this summer.



**Muamar Salameh** is the chair of the law department at Prince Mohammad bin Fahd University in Saudi Arabia. There he is also the director of Prince Mohammad bin Fahd Center for futuristic studies and is a professor of international law and human rights. Salameh received his Ph.d. in international order and human rights, as well as his M.S. in European Law from the University of Rome, La Sapienza. He earned his B.S. in law from the University of Al Albayt in Jordan in 2001. Currently Salameh is a deputy chair of the European Federation for Freedom of Belief (FOB), and his current fields of research include human rights, the Palestinian-Israeli conflict, public international law, constitutional law, and legal education.

**Sukhsimranjit Singh** is the managing director of the Straus Institute at Pepperdine University School of Law, where he also serves on the law faculty. Singh oversees the Institute's global outreach, professional training programs, and rigorous academic curriculum. He teaches various subjects in dispute resolution at Pepperdine, and he has previously taught at the University of Southern California School of Law, Willamette University, Hamline University, as well as in India. Singh has given TEDx talks on dispute resolution, and his practice and scholarship focus on cross-cultural dispute resolution, faith-based mediation, and utilizing modern theories and technology to devise creative solutions for global disputes. Singh is a successful international mediator and has resolved disputes in the United States and countries throughout the world. Upon earning his bachelor's degree in law, he clerked for the Chief Justice of India. He then pursued an LLM in Dispute Resolution from the University of Missouri and completed a post-graduate fellowship at Hamline University. He then pursued his PhD from National Law University, Delhi. He serves on the boards of several committees including the Weinstein International Foundation, and serves as an advisor to local and regional governments besides more than a dozen national and international organizations.



## **Special Guests:**



**Jamal Nayfeh** is the Dean of the College of Engineering at Prince Mohammad Bin Fahd University in Saudi Arabia. Previously, he was the Associate Dean for Academics, Marketing, and Outreach in the College of Engineering and Computer Science and a Professor of Mechanical Engineering in the Department of Mechanical, Materials, and Aerospace Engineering (MMAE) at the University of Central Florida (UCF). He received his Ph.D. in Engineering Mechanics from Virginia Tech in 1990. He has published 24 journal papers and 52 conference proceedings papers, presented 51 papers at national and international conferences and meetings, and conducted 15 short courses and workshops. He graduated 16 M.S. and 6 Ph.D. Students. Nayfeh organized national and international technical sessions and serves on a number of national professional committees. Nayfeh is a reviewer of a number of international technical journals, and is the President and CEO of Nayfeh Engineering Consulting Serves (NECS). He is a Consultant to US Navy SPAWAR, Lockheed Martin Missiles and Fire Control, Walt Disney World Ride and Show Engineering, Siemens Power Corporation, and US Corps of Engineers Water Ways Experiment Station.



**Jim Gash** is the president and chief executive officer of Pepperdine University. Prior to assuming the presidency, he was the associate dean for strategic planning and external relations at the Pepperdine School of Law, as well as serving as the law school's first dean of students. Over his 20-year teaching career his primary areas of focus included evidence, torts, and international human rights. Gash is devoted to advancing the rule of law in developing countries, and has served as a specialist advisor to the High Court of Uganda since 2012. In 2016 he published his first book, *Divine Collision: An African Boy, An American Lawyer, and Their Remarkable Battle for Freedom*, and the following year, Revolution Pictures released the award-winning documentary *REMAND* about the work of the Sudreau Global Justice Program at Pepperdine Law, which Gash led as its director from 2012 to 2019. Gash holds a bachelor's degree in finance (*summa cum laude*) from Abilene Christian University and a juris doctor degree from the Pepperdine School of Law, where he finished first in his class and served as the editor in chief of the *Pepperdine Law Review*.

**Daniel J. Dewalt** is vice president and chief of staff of Pepperdine University. DeWalt joined Pepperdine full time in 2014 as the first assistant director of the Parris Institute for Professional Excellence, and that same year he became associate dean of Pepperdine Law, where he also served as chief counsel of the Sudreau Global Justice Program. He is now the executive director of that program in addition to his role as chief of staff. DeWalt serves as vice president of Love Does, formerly Restore International, a nonprofit organization established in 2003 with his law partner, diplomat, and bestselling author Bob Goff. Love Does focuses on human rights efforts around the world, emphasizing the restoration of oppressed children. An honorary consul of Uganda since 2011, DeWalt helped design and build the organization's Restore Leadership Academy, located in Gulu, Uganda. DeWalt holds a juris doctor degree, magna cum laude, from California Western School of Law. He also holds a master of divinity degree from Princeton Theological Seminary, a master of arts degree in marriage and family therapy from Pacific Lutheran University, and a bachelor of arts degree in philosophy and psychology from California State University, Bakersfield.



**Paul Caron** is the Dean of Pepperdine University School of Law. Prior to joining the Pepperdine faculty in 2013, he served as Associate Dean of Faculty and Charles Hartsock Professor of Law at the University of Cincinnati College of Law. Dean Caron has written over 50 books and law review articles on tax and legal education topics. He served as Series Editor for two publishers in developing over 50 books for use by law students: the *Law Stories Series* of books published by Foundation Press; and the *Graduate Tax Series* of books published by LexisNexis for use in Tax LLM programs. Dean Caron is the editor of three tax journals published by the Social Science Research Network (SSRN). In addition, he is the Editor of Tax Prof Blog, the most popular tax blog on the Internet; and Owner of the Law Professor Blogs Network of more than 50 blogs in other areas of law edited by law professors around the country. Dean Caron has been named the third most influential person in legal education the past two years by *The National Jurist*, and one of the 100 most influential people in tax and accounting every year since 2006 by *Accounting Today*.



### **Moderators, Panelists & Presenters:**

**Arif H. Ali** (*Moderator/Panelist*) is the co-chair of Dechert's global International Arbitration Practice. He is considered by peers and clients alike as one of the world's most experienced international arbitration trial counsel. He has served as lead attorney in international commercial and investor-state arbitrations under the procedural rules of all of the major arbitral institutions, and in a broad range of industry sectors. Ali is particularly acclaimed for his advocacy and strategic advice in disputes under bilateral and multilateral investment treaties, investment agreements, and foreign investment laws. Mr. Ali's reputation as lead trial counsel, strategic adviser, negotiator and academic have led to consistently high rankings over the past decade in such publications as Chambers Global, USA and Latin America, Legal 500, Global Arbitration Review, The International Who's Who of Commercial Arbitration Lawyers and The Best Lawyers in America, and many others. In 2001, he was decorated by the King of Bahrain with the Order of Bahrain (II) for his role in representing Bahrain before the International Court of Justice. More recently, in 2016, he received Law 360's MVP Award, which is awarded to a select group of lawyers who have distinguished themselves from their peers by securing hard-earned successes in high-stakes litigation and complex global matters.



**Noor Issa Mohamad Al-hendi** (*Presenter*) is an assistant professor in Administrative Law in Applied Science Private University, Faculty of Law, Jordan. Al-hendi has published numerous scientific papers both in Arabic and with international journals. A few of her titles include *The Effect of Criminal Judgment on Comfort of Functional in the Saudi Law*, *The Legal System of the Recovery in the Concession*, *The Constitutionality of Acts of Sovereignty and Immune Laws*, and many others. Al-hendi participated in the Second Cultural Daren Conference in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, and she has written two books titled *Administrative Judiciary Control Over the Decisions of Intellectual Property Registrar "Comparative and Practical Study in Jordan"* and *The Issue of Transferring Intellectual Property Rights to the Heirs*.



**Maria Chedid** (*Panelist*) regularly serves as lead counsel in commercial and investment arbitrations. She also sits as an arbitrator, and advises on litigation of international disputes in US courts, including actions seeking judicial enforcement of arbitration agreements and awards. She brings a wealth of experience from having worked on a wide range of matters around the globe relating to licensing, technology, energy, taxation, infrastructure, and many others. Chedid is one of two US representatives appointed to the International Court of Arbitration of the ICC, co-chair of the ICDR California Advisory Committee, a US member of the National Committee for the SIAC Users Council, and the president and co-chair of the Board of Directors of the California International Arbitration Council (CIAC). She has been named to the Silicon Valley Arbitration & Mediation Center's "Tech List" of the World's Leading Technology Arbitrators, and is co-author of a book chapter entitled *International Arbitration of Intellectual Property Disputes*. Chedid has spoken about international dispute resolution at conferences worldwide and at numerous law schools, including UC Berkeley School of Law, Harvard Law School, Stanford Law School, Columbia Law School, and the Straus Institute for Dispute Resolution at Pepperdine Law School, where she has taught as an adjunct professor.



**Ken Fox** (*Moderator/Panelist*) is a professor of Business and founding university Director of Conflict Studies at Hamline University, and a Senior Fellow of the Dispute Resolution Institute at the Mitchell | Hamline School of Law in St. Paul, Minnesota (USA). Fox teaches a range of conflict theory, theory-to-practice, and intensive courses, and his publications focus on negotiation, mediation, restorative justice, public conflict engagement and conflict theory. Internationally, he has taught, presented or worked on a range of negotiation, mediation, and conflict transformation courses, seminars, presentations or projects all over the world including in China, Hong Kong, Middle Eastern communities, Northern Ireland, Singapore, and many others. Fox has served as a U.S. State Department *J. William Fulbright Senior Specialist* in law/peace and conflict resolution studies, teaching and consulting at the Riga Graduate School of Law in Latvia. Between 2001 and 2015, he was on the leadership team for a series of multi-year U.S. State Department-funded civil society and peace building projects, working directly in-region with Israeli, Palestinian, Jordanian and Lebanese educators and civic leaders. He recently developed mediation trainer's materials for the Afghanistan Center for Alternative Dispute Resolution in Kabul, and mediation curriculum for a new course offered at Kabul's three Law schools, in cooperation with ADR Centre, Rome.



**Nathan Funk** (*Panelist*) is associate professor and Chair of Peace and Conflict Studies at Conrad Grebel University College, the University of Waterloo, in Waterloo, Ontario. He has authored or co-authored a number of writings on international peacebuilding, with a special focus on the Middle Eastern context, religious and cultural dimensions of conflict and peacemaking, Islamic-Western relations, sustained dialogue processes, and localized approaches to capacity development. His publications include *Islam and Peacemaking in the Middle East* (2009), *Ameen Rihani: Bridging East and West* (2004), "Building on What's Already There: Valuing the Local in International Peacebuilding" (*International Journal*, 2012), "Islam and Peace and Conflict Studies" (in *Peace on Earth: The Role of Religion in Peace and Conflict Studies*, 2014), and "Religion and Peaceful Relations: Negotiating the Sacred" (in *The Routledge Companion to the Handbook of Peace and Conflict Studies*, 2019). He has served on the boards of several Canadian peace organizations, and is currently board chair of the Peace and Conflict Studies Association of Canada



**Federico Fusco** (*Presenter*) is an Italian national, working as an assistant professor of Law in the College of Law at PMU, KSA. He received a Master degree in Law from University of Napoli Federico II, Italy, a postmaster specialization degree in EU Law from the same university and a PhD in Law and Economics from the Scuola Normale Superiore of Pisa and Florence. In addition, he has passed the bar exam in Italy and he worked as a lawyer from 2010 to 2019, becoming partner of an Italian law firm. Fusco has several years of experience in teaching, research and curriculum development at graduate and undergraduate levels. From 2017 to 2019, he worked as a post doctorate in business law at the Business School of Lund University, Sweden. In this context, he also completed several pedagogical courses. His research interests include labour law, privacy law, comparative law, gig economy and industrial relations. Fusco is the author of a wide number of scientific publications in refereed journals and books. In 2018, he created an international study group, which organizes university professors, ILO officers and lawyers from Brazil, Cambodia, Italy, South Africa and Sweden. Both in 2018 and 2019, the group presented his findings during the most prominent world labour law conferences.



**Dimitar Gantchev** (*Panelist*) is Deputy Director of the Copyright Management Division in the Copyright and Creative Industries Sector of the World Intellectual Property Organization in Geneva. Dimitar works on issues related to the economics of copyright and related rights, copyright infrastructure and management, and in general, the potential of the copyright for generating income streams and making a living. He is involved in economic studies, delivers the capacity building on direct management of intellectual property assets in the creative industries, and develops public-private partnerships for transfer of knowledge in the creative sector. Dimitar has been in charge of research projects in WIPO on establishing methodologies for assessing copyright impacts and providing evidence for policy making on copyright and creative industries. Dimitar is a national of Bulgaria. He holds a PhD in economics from the Sofia University of National and World Economy and an MA in international relations from the Moscow State Institute of International Relations. He is a Founding Member of the Bulgarian National Association on Intellectual Property and he has numerous publications on creative industries, intellectual property, and foreign policy issues.



**Jair Gevaerd** (*Panelist*) is the founding partner at Gevaerd & Associates, a well-regarded Brazilian boutique law firm specialized in Commercial Law. In addition to serving as a State Attorney to the State of Paraná (Brazil), Gevaerd is a domestic and international arbitrator, as well as a cross-cultural international commercial mediator, with experience in the U.S. and Brazil. He is a Professor of Corporate Law, International Law and Conflict of Laws at the Pontifical Catholic University of Parana, specialist in Development Law (IDLO – Rome, Italy), and holds a Master of Laws and a Ph.D. degree in Corporate Law from the Parana State Federal University Law School (Brazil). Gevaerd has an LL.M in Dispute Resolution, concentration in arbitration, from the Straus Institute For Dispute Resolution/Pepperdine Law, and has been appointed, in 2019, as a Straus Institute Ambassador for Brazil. He teaches an ADR segment as a visiting faculty at the Straus Institute summer seminar on *U.S. Law and Legal Writing*, and is currently the President of the International Editorial Committee of the ADR Brazilian Law Journal, published by the CBMA- Brazilian Center of Mediation and Arbitration, in Rio de Janeiro.



**Aloysius Goh** (*Panelist*) is the Chief Executive Officer of *Sage*. Established in 2019, *Sage* draws on Aloysius' extensive experience in mediation and focuses on the delivery of international mediation services. These include mediation, mediation advisory, training, and consulting services for private and public organisations. Aloysius has been certified as an international mediator since 2007 and is on the International Panels of the Singapore International Mediation Centre (SIMC) and Japan International Mediation Centre in Kyoto (JIMC in Kyoto). He has conducted more than 200 mediations and conflict management workshops around the world. Prior to setting up *Sage*, Aloysius was the Chief Executive Officer and Registrar of SIMC and had also headed the Mediation Unit of the Singapore Ministry of Health and served as the General Counsel of the Singapore Institute of Technology. He is a National University of Singapore Research Scholar where he obtained his LLB and LLM. He also holds a Master of Education Leadership from Boston College.



**Ranse Howell** (*Panelist*) is a member of the senior management team and oversees international efforts at JAMS. Ranse is an accomplished leader in cross-border alternative dispute resolution, with over a decade of experience in mediation, training, conflict management and business development. At JAMS, he supervises a global team with representatives in multiple markets across the United States as well as in China, Mexico and the United Kingdom, among other countries. Previously, Ranse was head of the Negotiation and Leadership Academy at the Centre for Effective Dispute Resolution and a mediator in both New York and California. He led the Civil Justice Reform Initiative for the Republic of Moldova and worked on multinational cases in Hong Kong, Ireland and South Africa. Ranse was also a visiting lecturer at the University of Westminster for nearly four years. Based in both London and Washington, D.C., Ranse earned undergraduate and master's degrees from Temple University, a law degree from the City University of New York School of Law and an LL.M. from Straus Institute for Dispute Resolution at Pepperdine University; and he is currently working toward a Ph.D. from the University of Sussex Business School.

**Swee Tan Im** (*Panelist*) is an international arbitrator member at 39 Essex Chambers, based in their Kuala Lumpur office. Her focus is on the construction, infrastructure and energy sectors with extensive experience ranging from the early procurement strategy stage, to contract drafting, advisory during the project life, through to dispute resolution. She has spent more than 30 years in these sectors in counsel and advisory roles, including having been seconded to the KL International Airport and Malaysia-Singapore Second Crossing projects, been an in-house counsel and founded a boutique legal firm in 1999. She is now a full time Arbitrator and Adjudicator and Accredited Mediator. She is on the panel of the Asian International Arbitration Centre and the Singapore International Arbitration Centre as well as an Advocate & Solicitor of the High Court of Malaya, Barrister-at-Law (Middle Temple), a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators, Malaysian Institute of Arbitrators, Asian Institute of Alternative Dispute Resolution, Chartered Institute of Building, Malaysian Society of Adjudicators and Dispute Board Federation and holds a Diploma in International Commercial Arbitration.



**Rajinder Kaur** (*Panelist*) is a professor of law and coordinator of Centre for Trade Laws and Dispute Resolution at University Institute of Legal Studies, Panjab University, Chandigarh. She has seventeen years of teaching experience in Corporate Laws and International Trade Laws. She owes to her credit more than 55 publications in reputed and refereed international and national journals. She is reviewer of various international and national journals. She was Foreign Quality Assurance Expert and Chair of EPR Team in Institutional Quality Assurance Cell at Khulna University, Bangladesh. She has co-authored three case studies on Maruti Suzuki Industry Limited- Industrial Relations, Maruti Suzuki Industry Limited- Industrial Relations (B) and Nestle Maggi published with Richard Ivey Publications listed with Harvard Business Publishing and available in the Chinese language. She has co-edited Four books *Selected Essays on Companies Act, 2013* (2015), *International Trade, Human Rights and Sustainable Development An Entangled Trinity necessary for a Nation's Development* (2019), *Mediation and Negotiation in Trade and Commercial Conflicts: An Indian Perspective* (2019) with Thomson Reuters and *Patent Law and Intellectual Property in the Medical Field* (2017), indexed with Scopus. She has co-authored two books *Corporate laws in India* (2016), Lexis Nexis, New Delhi and *Legal Aspects of Business* (in press) Pearson India.



**Lela Porter Love** (*Panelist*) is a professor of law and director of the Kukin Program for Conflict Resolution at Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law, New York City. Her program has been ranked by U.S. News and World Report among the top ten law school programs in the United States in dispute resolution since 2000. Lela serves as mediator, arbitrator and dispute resolution consultant in community, employment, family, human rights, school-based and commercial cases. An active educator and participant in dispute resolution activities, she regularly conducts mediation and arbitration training programs and courses both domestic and international. In 1985 she founded Cardozo's Mediation Clinic—one of the first clinical programs to train law students to serve as mediators. Lela is Past Chair of the American Bar Association Section of Dispute Resolution. In her chair year she initiated the first International Mediation Leadership Summit in the Hague. She has written widely on the topic of dispute resolution, including co-authoring three law school textbooks. Among her books are: *The Middle Voice*, co-authored with Joseph Stulberg, and two collections of stories about mediations—*Stories Mediators Tell* and *Stories Mediators Tell—World Edition*.



**James MacPherson** (*Panelist*) is an international ADR Specialist with over twenty years' experience, MacPherson works in over 20 countries, and has served as a Board Member of the International Mediation Institute. He advises governments and companies in the EMEA and North America on ADR systems design, training and legislative policy. Among his roles in international ADR, he works with an array of clients - e.g. the World Bank, IFC, and the US Department of Commerce's Commercial Law Development Program - and he is the Special Counsel & Project Leader establishing Saudi Arabia's first Arbitration and Mediation (ADR) Center in Riyadh. Mr. MacPherson is also the co-Founder and inaugural CEO of The Bahrain Chamber for Dispute Resolution's joint venture, BCDR-AAA, with the American Arbitration Association. MacPherson's extensive experience across the MENA region includes having been Country Director, ABA Rule of Law Initiative, focusing on judicial and legal reform as well as training government officials, judges and lawyers in Bahrain, Jordan, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syria, UAE, and Morocco. MacPherson has mediated hundreds of disputes including banking, insurance and other commercial and employment disputes. He holds a BA from Bishop's University of Toronto and LLB from the University of Edinburgh.



**Hamed Merah** (*Panelist*) holds an MSc and a PhD degree from the Higher Judicial Institute of Imam Muhammad Bin Saud University in Riyadh. He also holds several professional certificates in compliance, governance, capital markets and insurance. Dr. Merah professional experience includes working in Islamic banks, investment banks and insurance companies. Merah is currently leading one of the most important international organizations specialized in Islamic finance with activities extending to more than 45 countries. As a CEO of the Saudi Arbitration Centre, Merah is engaged in developing the Institutional ADR industry in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in line with the KSA 2030 vision consisting of creating attractive dispute resolution mechanisms for both local and foreign investors. Merah has extensively published in the areas of Islamic banking, Finance, and Takaful. Merah was also a member in some advisory councils, scientific committees and research centers, including the International Monetary Fund (IMF)'s Interdepartmental Working Group on Islamic Finance, the International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS)'s Islamic Finance Consultative Group, and the Advisory Council on Islamic Finance of the Astana International Financial Centre ("AIFC"), Republic of Kazakhstan.



**Paul Rafferty** (*Panelist*) has 30 years of complex trial experience in defense of class actions, fiduciary duty, trade secrets, and contract lawsuits. He offers guidance on regulations and policy in the United States governing the testing and deployment of autonomous vehicles (AV) and artificial intelligence (AI), particularly as they apply to product liability issues, and collaborates on resolving difficult or emerging legal issues before they ripen into litigation. He also has arbitrated significant matters in the United States and Europe, and since 2006, is an appointed federal settlement officer for the United States District Court. Paul was recently named just one of twenty top AI lawyers in California, and is both published, and/or has lectured in the United States, Europe and UAE on his views pertaining to AVs and AI.



**Daniela Romagnoli** (*Presenter*) is a passionate youth advocate with a special interest in the area of entrepreneurship in developing nations. Her education includes a PhD from Penn State University in Workforce Education and Development HRD/OD, a masters degree in international affairs, and an MBA. Daniela has enjoyed working in academia where she has taught management and entrepreneurship. She is currently Chair of the HR Department in the College of Business at Prince Mohammad Bin Fahd University. Dr. Romagnoli's experience also includes working for UN Habitat where she developed entrepreneurship programs targeted to women and youth, working in training and development, conducting multiple business analyses, and opening up new ventures in Kenya and Costa Rica.



**Marcelo Rosadilla** (*Panelist*), a lawyer from Brazil, began his relationship with the Straus Institute in 2009 as a student when he started his LL.M. in Dispute Resolution. Upon graduating in 2010, he went to work in the dispute resolution field in Los Angeles, and returned to the Straus Institute in 2011. Marcelo is passionate about advocating for dispute resolution and his role in helping students throughout their endeavor at Straus. He loves witnessing the thrill and growth the students go through during their studies. When not at Pepperdine, Marcelo is usually surfing, enjoying the outdoors, hanging out with friends, or traveling.

**Hala Shaat** (*Presenter*) studied psychology of law as an undergraduate at the University of Paul Cézanne Aix-Marseille III University, France, and she completed in the same university a Master in public law, specializing in local government. After working as a researcher at the University of Paul Cézanne Aix-Marseille III University, France Centre for constitutional Research, she completed a PhD at the University of Paul Cézanne Aix-Marseille III University, France. Shaat's thesis examined the gathering of the small council in Palestine and working in the local government. For the last 15 years Shaat has been involved in a number of empirical research projects and has published in the areas of: administrative law, international law; environment law and restorative justice. She initially came to work in the School of Law in Sorbonne University as a member of a large research team which conducted a major evaluation of local law, and after two years she worked for Aix Marseille as an assistant professor until 2010. Since 2011 her research has focused on the impacts on employee services of the UAE Government's, and Shaat served as part of an academic team for seven years with Alain and Dubai University.



**Amer Tabbara** (*Presenter*) is an assistant professor of Commercial Law and Arbitration at Prince Mohammad Bin Fahd University. A member of Beirut Bar since 2009, he holds a BA in law from the Lebanese University - the French Section - a Master's Degree in Private International and International Commercial law from Assas University (Paris II) in France and an LLM in International and Comparative Dispute Resolution from the University of London in the United Kingdom. Amer has also completed his PhD in International Private Law and International Arbitration from the Sorbonne University (Paris 1) in France. Amer's research interests include international litigation and arbitration, commercial law, and construction law. As an International Legal Consultant working between Lebanon and Qatar, Amer has gained a substantive experience in advising and representing clients before both state and arbitration /adjudicative bodies, in domestic, regional and international disputes, under various governing laws. Amer advises clients on construction projects and can be involved at any stage from negotiation to dispute avoidance or resolution. Amer is fluent in Arabic, French and English.





**Kim Taylor** (*Panelist*) is the Chief Legal & Operating Officer for JAMS, and oversees their operations in the United States and abroad. She also provides operational and strategic leadership for international expansion efforts. Additionally, Taylor works with the General Counsel to manage the overall risk of the company, advising management and the Board with respect to transactions and negotiations. Taylor has been a key contributor to JAMS since she joined the organization in 1999. She previously served as Vice President of the East/Central Region, where she oversaw unprecedented growth and expansion efforts, led panelist recruitment and directed business development, strategic planning and daily management of Resolution Centers in the region. As Associate General Counsel, and an expert on arbitration processes, she developed and oversaw training of staff and neutrals and served on the JAMS National Arbitration Committee. She is a frequent writer, lecturer and speaker, and has developed ADR programs for business and government agencies. Taylor serves as Co-Chair on the Board of the International Mediation Institute. Prior to joining JAMS, Taylor practiced law in Ventura County, California. She earned her J.D. from Ventura College of Law, where she later served as an adjunct professor. She is a member of the California State Bar.

**Mimi Zou** (*Moderator/Panelist/Presenter*) obtained her Doctorate of Philosophy in Law and BCL degrees from Christ Church and St John's College, Oxford. She also has first class honors degree in economics, social sciences, and law from the University of Sydney. She was qualified as a solicitor in New South Wales (Australia) in 2009 and England and Wales in 2013. She was called to the Bar of England and Wales in October 2018 and is a member of the Inner Temple. Zou is a fellow in law at St Hugh's College, Oxford and holds the first academic appointment in Chinese law at Oxford, where she has the role of developing the subject as a new field of study and research. For over 15 years, Zou has worked in a number of international organizations, government departments and the judiciary, law firms, and financial institutions in Asia and Europe. Prior to her current appointment at Oxford, Zou was Edwards Fellow at Columbia Law School, Assistant Professor at the Chinese University of Hong Kong, and Senior Research Fellow at Utrecht University. In 2016, the Asia Society named her an 'Asia 21 Young Leader'.

