

OIL & GAS DISPUTES - EXPLORING ARBITRATION TECHNIQUES

"Resolving Complex Energy Disputes Through Arbitration and International Best Practices"

Schedule

Date	Venue	Fees (Face-to-Face)
14 - 18 Dec 2026	London, UK	USD 3495 per delegate

Introduction

The oil and gas sector is often characterized by high-value contracts, multi-jurisdictional operations, and geopolitical sensitivities—factors that contribute to a heightened risk of disputes. Arbitration has emerged as the preferred mechanism for resolving these conflicts due to its confidentiality, flexibility, and enforceability across borders.

This 5-day course provides energy professionals, legal practitioners, and contract managers with a deep dive into the principles, procedures, and strategic use of arbitration in oil and gas disputes. Participants will explore real-world case studies, practice drafting arbitration clauses, and develop negotiation and advocacy skills tailored to upstream, midstream, and downstream conflicts.

Objectives

By the end of this course, participants will be able to:

- Understand the common sources and types of disputes in the oil & gas industry
- Apply international arbitration principles and institutional rules (e.g., ICC, LCIA, ICSID)
- Draft effective dispute resolution clauses for oil & gas contracts
- Manage arbitration proceedings from initiation to award
- Balance negotiation, mediation, and arbitration strategies in complex disputes

Why Attend

- To proactively manage and reduce the risk of costly disputes
- To gain confidence in handling arbitration in international oil & gas contracts
- To improve negotiation and settlement outcomes through structured techniques
- To comply with dispute resolution clauses and avoid jurisdictional pitfalls
- To understand enforcement of arbitral awards in a global context

Target Audience

This program is designed for:

- Legal and contracts professionals in the oil & gas sector
- Energy executives and project managers involved in international deals
- In-house counsel, compliance officers, and external legal advisors
- Risk managers and joint venture coordinators
- Government officials and regulatory professionals involved in upstream licensing or energy PPPs

Individual Benefits

Key competencies that will be developed include:

- Dispute risk identification and clause drafting
- Arbitration case management and procedural planning
- Cross-border contract and jurisdiction analysis
- Negotiation and mediation techniques for energy disputes
- Strategic decision-making in dispute escalation and settlement

Organizational Benefits

Upon completing the training course, participants will demonstrate:

- Improved dispute resolution strategies and cost control
- Stronger legal drafting and contract management capabilities
- Reduced project delays and reputational risks from unresolved conflicts
- Increased legal and commercial alignment in joint ventures and PSCs
- Greater confidence in handling international arbitration procedures

Instructional Methodology

The course follows a blended learning approach combining theory with practice:

- Strategy Briefings - International arbitration frameworks, enforcement treaties, and sector trends
- Case Studies - Disputes in oil concessions, PSCs, LNG contracts, and pipeline agreements
- Workshops - Drafting clauses, mock arbitrations, and hearing preparation
- Peer Exchange - Sharing lessons and challenges in managing energy disputes
- Tools - Clause libraries, hearing templates, and dispute risk assessment matrices

Course Outline

Detailed 5-Day Course Outline

Training Hours: 7:30 AM – 3:30 PM **Daily Format:** 3–4 Learning Modules | Coffee breaks: 09:30 & 11:15 | Lunch Buffet: 01:00 – 02:00

Day 1: Introduction to Disputes in the Oil & Gas Sector

- Module 1: Sources and Types of Energy Disputes (07:30 – 09:30) • PSCs, joint ventures, construction, and gas pricing conflicts
- Module 2: Overview of Arbitration in Energy Contracts (09:45 – 11:15) • Advantages of arbitration vs. litigation or mediation
- Module 3: Workshop – Dispute Risk Mapping in a Project Lifecycle (11:30 – 01:00) • Identifying where disputes commonly arise
- Module 4: Arbitration Institutions and Rules (02:00 – 03:30) • ICC, LCIA, ICSID, UNCITRAL – comparative overview

Day 2: Legal Framework and Arbitration Clauses

- Module 5: Legal Foundations and Enforceability (07:30 – 09:30) • New York Convention, seat of arbitration, governing law
- Module 6: Drafting Dispute Resolution Clauses (09:45 – 11:15) • Escalation clauses, jurisdiction, language, and forum selection
- Module 7: Workshop – Clause Drafting for an Oil & Gas Agreement (11:30 – 01:00) • Tailoring clauses to upstream, midstream, and downstream contracts
- Module 8: Path to Arbitration – From Dispute to Filing (02:00 – 03:30) • Notice of arbitration, statement of claim, and counterclaims

Day 3: Managing Arbitration Proceedings

- Module 9: Constitution of the Arbitral Tribunal (07:30 – 09:30) • Appointment procedures, conflicts, and independence
- Module 10: Arbitration Procedure and Case Management (09:45 – 11:15) • Submissions, witness testimony, timelines, and cost allocation
- Module 11: Workshop – Managing an Arbitration Timeline (11:30 – 01:00) • Planning and coordinating case strategy
- Module 12: Evidence and Discovery in Arbitration (02:00 – 03:30) • IBA Rules, expert witnesses, and document production

Day 4: Hearings, Awards, and Settlements

- Module 13: Preparation for Final Hearings (07:30 – 09:30) • Opening statements, cross-examination, and virtual hearings
- Module 14: The Arbitral Award – Types and Enforcement (09:45 – 11:15) • Final, partial, and interim awards; enforcement strategies
- Module 15: Workshop – Mock Arbitration Hearing (11:30 – 01:00) • Simulated hearing roles: counsel, arbitrators, and witnesses
- Module 16: Post-Award Actions and Annulment (02:00 – 03:30) • Appeal rights, challenges, and enforcement pitfalls

Day 5: Strategic Considerations and Alternative Tools

- Module 17: Settlement and Mediation in Energy Disputes (07:30 – 09:30) • When to mediate vs. arbitrate; hybrid dispute resolution
- Module 18: Investor-State Disputes in Oil & Gas (09:45 – 11:15) • BITs, ICSID, and sovereign risk
- Module 19: Workshop – Strategy Session: Choosing the Right Dispute Resolution Path (11:30 – 01:00) • Case-based simulation: litigation vs. arbitration vs. settlement
- Module 20: Final Wrap-Up and Certification (02:00 – 03:30) • Debrief, participant presentations, and action planning

Certification

Participants will receive a Certificate of Completion in Oil & Gas Disputes – Exploring Arbitration Techniques, recognizing their ability to manage complex disputes using arbitration and aligned legal strategies within the energy industry.

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