



Christopher Gibson, Esq.
Boston, Massachusetts



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Primary Areas of Expertise

Technology
Int'l Business Transactions
Intellectual Property
Life Sciences
Licensing
Distribution/Reseller Agmts

Professional Summary

Active and experienced arbitrator and mediator, and Professor of Law and Director of the ADR Program and Business Law and Financial Services Concentration at Suffolk University Law School in Boston. More than 25 years of experience serving as arbitrator, mediator and counsel in institutional, ad hoc and other international and domestic proceedings involving a wide variety of commercial, technology, intellectual property, life sciences (pharmaceuticals), information technology, financial/loan agreements, joint venture agreements, insurance, construction, medical device, telecommunications, energy and other commercial matters, and more than 250 disputes involving domain names and trademarks.

Current Employer-Title

Suffolk University Law School - Professor of Law and Director of ADR Program and Business Law & Financial Services Concentration

Independent Arbitrator and Mediator

Profession

Arbitrator, Mediator, Law Professor

Work History

Professor of Law and Director, Business Law & Financial Services Concentration, Suffolk University Law School (Boston), 2004 - Present;
Partner, Steptoe & Johnson LLP (London), 2000 - 2004;
Head, Electronic Commerce Law Section / Senior Legal Officer, WIPO Arbitration & Mediation Center, World Intellectual Property Organization (Geneva), 1996 - 2000;
Senior Associate, Litigation, Arbitration and IP Group, Pillsbury Madison & Sutro (San Francisco), 1994 - 1996;
Legal Officer, Head of Category "C" Claims, United Nations Compensation Commission (Geneva), 1992 - 1994;

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Neutral ID : 4062528

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Associate, Appellate Litigation and Corporate Groups, Howard, Rice LLP (San Francisco), 1990 - 1992;
Senior Legal Officer, Iran-United States Claims Tribunal (The Hague, The Netherlands), 1989-1990;
Clerkship, United States Federal District Court (San Francisco), 1988-1989.

International Experience

STEPTOE & JOHNSON LLP, London
Partner, 2000-2005

Founding partner in the London office of Steptoe & Johnson LLP, where practice focused on international arbitration and litigation, as well as transactional matters involving technology, intellectual property, telecommunications and DNS, licensing and distribution agreements. Acted as counsel in cases involving technology and related commercial issues, including enforcement against assets in multiple jurisdictions. Also acted as lead counsel in arbitrations with sums in dispute ranging from US\$5 million to more than US\$500 million. Advised clients on wide variety of commercial, intellectual property, technology, telecommunications and related regulatory matters. Acted as outside general counsel for two technology standard-setting organizations (SSOs) for wireless and domain name system (DNS) technologies, and advised clients on telecommunications patents.

WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION, Geneva, Switzerland
Head of Section, Electronic Commerce Law Section / Senior Legal Officer, WIPO Arbitration Center, 1997-2000

Worked in WIPO's Arbitration and Mediation Center and as Head of Electronic Commerce Section to formulate WIPO's role and policies in relation to electronic commerce, new technologies and their impact on intellectual property.

- Senior Legal Officer in the WIPO Arbitration and Mediation Center.
- Principal officer conducting WIPO Internet Domain Name Process and developing a dispute resolution policy and rules, with recommendations for the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) that resulted in implementation of the Uniform Dispute Resolution Policy (UDRP) now in effect for domain name disputes.
- Helped develop WIPO's response to copyright issues in response to Internet and digital technologies.
- Represented WIPO with its Member States and other international organizations, and at numerous conferences and meetings throughout the world.

UNITED NATIONS COMPENSATION COMMISSION (subsidiary organ of UN Security Council), Geneva, Switzerland
Legal Officer / Head of Section, Category "C" Claims, 1992-1995

- Chief attorney responsible for presentation of claims to panel of Commissioners appointed to decide claims for individual loss.
- Managed legal development of issues and responses, and development of computer systems for processing over 400,000 claims for individual loss,

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representing approximately US\$ 7.6 Billion.

- Supervised "C" Unit with staff of five lawyers and 18 paralegals. Conducted external relations with governments, intergovernmental and professional bodies.

IRAN-UNITED STATES CLAIMS TRIBUNAL, The Hague, The Netherlands
Legal Assistant, 1989-1990
Legal Assistant to United States Commissioners Richard C. Allison and Charles N. Brower

Experience

Professor of Law and Director of the ADR Program and the Business Law & Financial Services Concentration at Suffolk University Law School in Boston, teaching and writing in the areas of arbitration, intellectual property, international business transactions, transactional skills and contract drafting, trade and investment law. Regularly acts as arbitrator in disputes involving commercial, technology and intellectual property matters. Outside consultant to organizations on issues relating to intellectual property and licensing.

ACADEMIC: Teaches courses on domestic and international arbitration; international business transactions; international intellectual property; transactional skills and contract drafting; Internet law; trade and investment law; and trademarks. Has numerous articles, books, chapters and reviews published on topics involving international dispute resolution, intellectual property, technology and international investment law.

PRACTICE: Has accepted over 300 appointments as single, presiding, co-arbitrator or emergency arbitrator. Has accepted over 300 appointments as single, presiding, co-arbitrator or emergency arbitrator. Founding partner in the London office of Steptoe & Johnson LLP, specializing in areas of arbitration and litigation, as well as intellectual property, technology and telecommunications. Acted as counsel or arbitrator in a variety of international disputes, involving the governing laws of different jurisdictions and under various institutional rules, including arbitrator in both institutional and ad hoc proceedings. Acted as lead counsel in arbitrations with sums in dispute ranging from US\$250,000 to more than \$350 million. Subject matters include technology, intellectual property, telecommunications, investments, joint venture agreements, financial and loan agreements.

Served as single, presiding and co-arbitrator arbitrator on numerous arbitral tribunals in cases under different institutional rules and involving a wide range of commercial, financial, technology and intellectual property issues. Arbitrator in more than 225 domain name disputes under the UDRP and Nominet DRS rules.

Successful career of service in the public international and private sectors.

Prior to joining the Suffolk University Law School faculty, was a partner in the London office of Steptoe & Johnson LLP, where practice focused on arbitration,

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trademarks, and transactional matters involving technology and licensing.

Following law school, clerked for a federal judge in the United States District Court for the Northern District of California, then served as a Legal Assistant at the Iran-United States Claim Tribunal in The Hague, The Netherlands.

Was later engaged in private practice in San Francisco for the law firms of Howard Rice and Pillsbury, Madison & Sutro.

Served for three years as section chief at the UN Compensation Commission (Head of the "C" Claims Division), a special division of the UN Security Council, followed by a four year period as Senior Legal Officer of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) Arbitration and Mediation Center and later as Head of WIPO's Electronic Commerce Law Section. At WIPO was a principal officer responsible for developing recommendations for the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN), which lead to implementation of the Uniform Dispute Resolution Policy (UDRP) now in effect.

Alternative Dispute Resolution Experience

Diverse experience in technology, intellectual property, business transactions, licensing, distribution agreements; technology standard-setting, patents, domain names, trademarks, investment, and biotechnology. Has accepted over 300 appointments as single, presiding, co-arbitrator or emergency arbitrator. Has accepted over 300 appointments as single, presiding, co-arbitrator or emergency arbitrator.

Arbitrator Engagements:

- Chair, three-member ICDR tribunal involving US and India companies, alleged breach of master services agreement, with more than \$ 8 million.
- Co-Arbitrator, three-member ICC arbitration involving technology contract between US and South Korean companies, with more than \$10 million claimed.
- Co-Arbitrator, three-member JAMS arbitration concerning university technology license to private company, with more than \$3 million claimed.
- Chair, three-member ad hoc tribunal in pharmaceutical dispute involving license agreement and related patents. Amount in dispute exceeds \$800 million.
- Chair, three-member ICDR tribunal, Commercial Connect v. ICANN, ICDR Case No. 01-16-0000-2245 (publicly available).
- Chair, three-member ICDR panel, Vistaprint Ltd. v. ICANN, ICDR Case No. 01-14-0000-6505 (2015) (publicly available).
- Co-arbitrator three-member ICC panel involving dispute over distribution agreement between major provider of alcoholic beverages and importer.
- Sole arbitrator, ICC case involving breach of international license agreement concerning patented technology.
- Sole arbitrator or member of three-member tribunals in more than 250 domain name disputes under UDRP, NAF and Nominet DRS (UK) rules involving trademark and Internet domain names.
- Sole arbitrator, ad hoc arbitration between international telecommunications

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companies under UNCITRAL rules in dispute over interconnect issues.
- Early neutral evaluator in multi-million dollar dispute between satellite joint venturers concerning jointly developed intellectual property.

Sample Expert Engagements:

- Expert in two US International Trade Commission section 337 enforcement cases.
- Expert in two large ICSID Investor-State arbitrations, providing reports on intellectual property issues.
- Expert report to New Zealand parliament on international intellectual property and investment law issues.

Sample Representations:

- Successfully represented Swiss aluminum trading company as lead counsel in claims under complex framework and supply agreements. Stockholm Chamber of Commerce arbitration with value at \$350 million.
- Successfully represented Swiss trading company as lead counsel to enforce arbitral award in off-shore jurisdictions, with interim relief obtained in European and off-shore jurisdictions.
- Acted as lead counsel obtaining emergency freezing and attachment orders from French, Bermudan and BVI courts (working with local counsel) in proceedings to enforce \$2 billion judgment of the US District Court for the Southern District of New York on behalf of major telecoms company.
- Member of team representing Motorola in dispute under a GSM frame contract involving alleged defects in one of Europe's largest GSM/GPRS networks. Two arbitrations under ICC and Zurich Chamber of Commerce Rules with value at approximately \$500 million.
- Lead counsel in California arbitration and mediation involving dispute between founders of publishing business.
- Lead counsel representing UK telecommunications company in trademark opposition and regulatory proceedings.
- Lead counsel representing international antique and art dealer in UK litigation.
- Lead counsel representing Internet-based dating company on international trademark matters, including trademark registrations and oppositions.
- Acted as outside general counsel to two technology standard-setting organizations regarding wireless and Internet-related standards.

Technology Proficiency

Extensive expertise in using an array of technologies and technology platforms (e. g., online platforms like Zoom, LoopUp, and GoToMeeting) to assist arbitration proceedings and conduct hearings/conferences. Have developed and applied protocols for obtaining witness testimony during online hearings.

As a professor, teach an annual course, Online Dispute Resolution (ODR), which explores the use of technologies (including Generative AI) in dispute resolution.

Education

University of California, Berkeley (JD-1988)
Harvard University, Kennedy School of Government (Master of Public Policy)

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(MPP-1984)
University of Chicago (BA-1982)

Professional Licenses

Admitted to the Bar, California (1988) and District of Columbia (2004);
Registered Foreign Lawyer, England and Wales (2001).

Professional Associations

American Bar Association (ABA)
American Society of International Law (ASIL)
American Association of Law Schools (AALS)
Boston Bar Association (BBA)
Boston International Arbitration Council (BIAC)
Institute for Transnational Arbitration (ITA)
International Bar Association (IBA)

AAA and ICDR, Panelist
Silicon Valley Arbitration and Mediation Center - Tech List 2024
International Chamber of Commerce (ICC), Panelist
WIPO Arbitration and Mediation Center, Panelist
London Court of International Arbitration (LCIA), Panelist
Panelist; and National Arbitration Forum (NAF), Panelist
ArbitrateAD, Panelist

Recent Publications & Speaking Engagements

Spoken at more than 150 conferences around the world on topics of international arbitration, international business transactions, intellectual property, and technology. Presented and taught at numerous workshops and seminars. Spoken and testified on topics of international intellectual property with a number of different governments.

Books:

- Chapter: Intellectual Property Licensing Under International Investment Law, Research Handbook of Intellectual Property Licensing (Edward Elgar 2024).
- Chapter: Domain Names Disputes and the Uniform Domain Name Dispute Resolution Policy, in Edward Elgar Research Handbook on Intellectual Property Rights and Arbitration (2024).
- The Protection of Intellectual Property Rights Under International Investment Law, with Dr. Simon Klopschinski (Oxford University Press, 2021)
- Gulf War Reparations and The UN Compensation Commission: Designing Compensation After Conflict, with Timothy Feighery and Trevor Rajah, co-editors (Oxford University Press, 2015)
- The Iran-United States Claims Tribunal: The Cases Everyone Needs to Know for Investor-State and International Arbitration, with Prof. Christopher Drahozal (Oxford University Press 2007)
- Chapter: Technology Standards - New Technical Barriers to Trade? in THE STANDARDS EDGE, Sherrie Bolin ed. (Stanford Univ. Press 2007).

Recent Articles:

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- FRAND Principles and Global Litigation: Raising Risks and Uncertainty for Global Technology Standards, law review article forthcoming (2024).
- Yukos Universal Limited (Isle of Man) v. The Russian Federation: A Classic Case of Indirect Expropriation, 30 ICSID Rev. – Foreign Investment L. J., No. 2, 303 (2015)
- Breaking Down Barriers to Technology Transfer: Reforming WTO Standard-Setting Rules, chapter in Sustainable Technology Transfer (Wolters Kluwer 2012)
- A Look at the Compulsory License in International Investment Arbitration, 25 Amer. Univ. Int'l L Rev. 1 (2010)
- Latent Grounds for Investor-State Arbitration: Do International Investment Agreements Provide a Powerful New Means to Enforce Intellectual Property Rights, Yearbook on International Investment Law & Policy (Columbia University Vale Center, 2009-2010)
- Arbitration, Civilization and Public Policy: Seeking Counterpoise Between Arbitral Autonomy and the Public Policy Defence in View of Foreign Mandatory Public Law, 113 Penn. St. L. Rev. 101 (2009)
- Globalization and the Technology Standards Game: Balancing Concerns of Protectionism and Intellectual Property in International Technology Standards, 22 Berkeley Tech. L. J. 1401 (2007)
- Iran-United States Claims Tribunal Precedent in Investor-State Arbitration, with Prof. Christopher Drahozal, 23 J. Int'l Arbitration 521 (2006)

Locations Where Parties Will Not be Charged for Travel Expenses Boston
New York

Citizenship United States of America
Languages English

Compensation

Hearing:	\$725.00/Hr
Study:	\$725.00/Hr
Travel:	\$500.00/Hr
Cancellation Period:	0 Days
Comment:	Able to travel to New York without travel charges.

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