



VIAC VIAC VIAC VIAC VIAC VIAC VIAC VIAC VIAC VIAC VIAC VIAC VIAC VIAC VIAC

ANNUAL REPORT 2017

Vienna International Arbitral Centre

Disclosure according to Sec. 25 Austrian Media Act

Media owner, publisher: Austrian Federal Economic Chamber



Editor: Vienna International Arbitral Centre of the Austrian Federal Economic Chamber
Wiedner Hauptstrasse 63, 1045 Vienna, Austria

Vienna, February 2018

CONTENT

Preface.....	ii
Highlights	1
What's New?	7
2017 Statistics	10
Outlook for 2018	12
VIAC Secretariat.....	14
VIAC Board.....	16
VIAC Advisory Board.....	17

PREFACE



2017 was again an intensive year. It brought about important changes, challenges and a new leadership.

The biggest project for VIAC in 2017 was the revision of its arbitration and mediation rules. We implemented an amendment of the Act on the Austrian Economic Chamber of June 2017, which allows VIAC to administrate also purely domestic cases (which had been reserved to the arbitration institutions of the regional economic chambers before). In addition, we foresaw rules tailored to the electronic case management system to be implemented in 2018 and introduced innovative new features such as a provision on security for costs.

VIAC continues to be a strong supporter of the ERA-Pledge and continues to support women in arbitration. To make this transparent, VIAC publishes the names of arbitrators acting in VIAC proceedings since September 2017.

In May 2017, the long-serving president of the VIAC-Board, Anton Baier, handed over the office to Günther Horvath, who was elected as new President. Franz Schwarz was promoted to Vice-President of the VIAC-Board, together with Nikolaus Pitkowitz, who had already served in this function for the past three years.



On 31 December 2017, Manfred Heider, the Secretary General of VIAC, and Maria Knoche, who had worked for VIAC for three decades as a case manager, retired. Alice Fremuth-Wolf, Deputy Secretary General of VIAC, was appointed new Secretary General as of 1 January 2018, and Elisabeth Vanas-Metzler as her new Deputy. The VIAC-Secretariat was further strengthened by Klaudia Dobosz, as legal counsel and case manager.

VIAC's mission continues to maintain and improve its successful cooperation with parties, party-representatives, arbitrators and mediators. VIAC will keep its fingers on the pulse of time to stay alert of new developments in international arbitration.

We hope you enjoy reading VIAC's 2nd Annual Report.

Dr. Günther Horvath
President of the VIAC-Board

Dr. Alice Fremuth-Wolf
Secretary General of VIAC

HIGHLIGHTS

In 2017, VIAC again hosted conferences and seminars in Austria and abroad and engaged in various new initiatives and co-operations. The most important events in 2017 were:

Vienna Arbitration Days (VAD) 2017

The Vienna Arbitration Days 2017 took place from 24 – 25 February 2017 and discussed the inspiring topic "Repositioning Arbitration". The keynote speech "Repositioning Arbitration" was delivered by Donald Francis Donovan (ICCA). The sub-topics discussed during this conference were: "Changing Environment" addressing a) the legal environment focusing on the EU's initiative to establish an International Arbitration Court, b) the political & regional environment discussing i.e. Brexit and c) the related dispute resolution fields. In the afternoon "Changing Transparency" and "Changing Control" addressed the increasing call for transparency in arbitration proceedings and ways of "putting counsel under (ethical) control, arbitrators under (institutional) control and parties back into control". On the Day 2 the World Café, moderated by Nikolaus Pitkowitz and Alice Fremuth-Wof, deepened the topics of Day 1 with participants discussing hot topics on 14 tables guided by renowned practitioners acting as table-moderators assisted by younger colleagues as secretaries. The result of these discussion can be found in the Austrian Arbitration Yearbook 2018 presented during the VAD 2018.



The 10th anniversary conference proved to be a great success as almost 250 arbitration practitioners from 34 countries were present. The feedback received on the panels and the World Café sessions has been extremely positive.

24th Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot

The 24th edition of the world famous student arbitration competition was hosted in Vienna from 6 to 13 April 2017 and turned Vienna into a buzzing place for arbitration practitioners. VIAC hosted the Bergsten Lecture, see below for details.



We congratulate the team of University of Ottawa, who won this great competition in 2017 against O.P. Jindal Global University.

5th Bergsten Lecture

In the course of the 24th Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot, VIAC had the great honor of hosting the Eric Bergsten lecture for the second time in its premises on 9 April 2017. The lecture is held in honor of Professor Eric Bergsten, the "father" of the Vis Moot who had organized this event for decades; it was organized by the University of Vienna and the Austrian Arbitration Association (Arb|Aut) and delivered by Ms Cherie Blair (Omnia).



More than 150 persons attended her speech approaching the subject "Wikileaks & Beyond: Admissibility of Improperly

Obtained Evidence in International Arbitration" followed by a panel discussion with Professor Stefan Kröll (one of the directors of the Vis Moot) and Florian Kreamlehner (Dorda) moderated by Professor Paul Oberhammer (Dean of the Faculty of Law of the University of Vienna).

All participants were subsequently invited by Arb|Aut and VIAC for cocktails in the



unique SkyLounge of the Austrian Federal Economic Chamber.

1st GAR Live Vienna

VIAC organized the 1st edition of GAR Live Vienna in association with Arb|Aut and the Young Austrian Arbitration Practitioners. The conference was held on 20 October 2017 in the SkyLounge of the Austrian



Federal Economic Chamber. More than 150 participants from Austria

and the CEE and SEE region attended this successful event.

Austria still serves as a gateway to the CEE/SEE region and thus this conference aimed at covering topics specifically relevant in and to this area such as enforcement of awards, effects of political change etc. This was complemented by the famous GAR Live debate and the Tynley Hall style Symposium where participants were invited to pose questions in advance that were debated and moderated by Michael Polkinghorne and Claudia Annacker.

Speakers included renowned arbitration practitioners and experts such as Claudia Annacker, Markus Burgstaller, Filip Boras, James Castello, Milena Djordjevic, Ulrike Gantenberg, Rashda Rana, Michael Polkinghorne, Rafal Morek, Noah Rubins, Christian Konrad, Ciprian Goldeanu, Celine Gauer, Sebastian Gutiu, Miriama Kiselyova, Anna Kozmenko, Robin Oldenstam, Wolfgang Peters, and Larry Shore. The thought-provoking key-note speech was delivered by Prof. em. Christoph Schreuer on the topic *"Three perspectives on investment arbitration"*.

The Event was concluded with a networking cocktail sponsored by Arb|Aut. At this occasion Alice Fremuth-Wolf, then Secretary General Designate, and Elisabeth Vanas-Metzler, then Deputy Secretary General Designate, were cordially welcomed by Günther Horvath; Manfred Heider, the outgoing Secretary General, was honored for his work for VIAC.

VIAC & Mediation

IBA-VIAC Consensual Dispute Resolution Competition (CDRC)

VIAC, the IBA and ELSA Austria made Vienna again the capital of consensual dispute resolution by organizing the third edition of the CDRC from 10 to 14 July 2017.



The IBA-VIAC CDRC gathered 33 university teams and over 100 experts, trainers and coaches: The underlying idea was and is to promote Consensual Dispute Resolution, which is gaining more and more attention at a global level and will require a new generation of negotiators and mediators



ready to take the leap. A big “thank you” goes to the director of the CDRC, Claudia Winkler, and her team for the excellent organization.

We congratulate the winning negotiator team of National Law School of India University, Bangalore, and the winning mediator of University of Bonn, Sophie Lilienthal.

Other mediation related events

VIAC was represented at and sent speakers to the Symposium on Business Mediation (Linz) and the CILS (Center for International Legal Studies) International Mediation Symposium (Salzburg), the 20th anniversary celebration of the Forum Wirtschaftsmediation (Reichenau) as well as the event organized by Miryan Weichselbaum-Gharibo (Let’s Agree) on “How to agree when you disagree” (Vienna).

Events with the regional Austrian Bar Associations

It is one of VIAC’s aims to spread profound knowledge on arbitration and its advantages among lawyers from all specializations and age groups. Based on this idea, VIAC has enhanced its cooperation with the regional bar associations starting a series of lectures in the Austrian provinces. The kick-off took place in March 2017 in Styria and Vienna, followed by Carinthia in April. In 2018 VIAC will continue these efforts with roadshows through all nine provinces promoting VIAC’s new competence to administer purely domestic disputes.

Events with other arbitration and mediation organizations

VIAC enjoys very good relations with academia and other national and international arbitration and mediation organizations and organized various joint seminars and conferences in 2017:

Gang of Four

VIAC’s fruitful cooperation with the DIS (the German Institution of Arbitration), the SCC (the Arbitration Institute of the Stockholm Chamber of Commerce) and the CAM (the Milan Chamber of Arbitration) already lasts for many years.



The Joint seminar “Not in the Rules” offered a glimpse into the daily decision-making practice of the Secretary Generals: it was held in Vienna (May) and in Berlin (September) and will be continued in 2018 in Milano (May) and Stockholm (October).

In October another joint event was organized by these 4 institutions in Frankfurt inviting participants to “Meet



your Case Manager”. Representatives of the institutions’ case management teams were present to shed light on their day-to-day work and give practical insights into the case management. VIAC was represented by Sonja Rogge.

Vienna Summit on Commercial Dispute Resolution in China (BAC-VIAC)

The 2017 Vienna Summit on Commercial Dispute Resolution in China (“BAC



Summit”), was jointly hosted by the Beijing Arbitration Commission / Beijing International Arbitration Center (“BAC/BIAC”) and VIAC. More than 20 internationally renowned experts were on the panel. The BAC Summit was a great success with

UNCITRAL 50th Anniversary

From 4 to 6 July 2017, UNCITRAL celebrated its 50th anniversary in Vienna



and invited to a three day congress entitled “*Modernizing International Trade Law to Support Innovation and Sustainable Development*” at the Vienna International Centre (VIC).

Participants examined ways in which UNCITRAL can contribute to managing new development issues and fostering innovation through the modernization of international trade law. Alice Fremuth-Wolf was one of the speakers in the panel “*International framework on arbitration: where are the needs?*”.

Visit by Secretary of Justice of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region

In July 2017, a delegation including the Secretary of Justice of the



Hong Kong Special Administrative Region visited Vienna and VIAC. With this journey,

the delegation intended to promote Hong Kong as a place for arbitration and to enter into co-operations with other institutions such as VIAC by exchanging information.

Various Speaking Engagements

International Arbitration Conference in Moscow

For the second time the Arbitration Center at the Autonomous Non-profit Organisation “Institute of Modern Arbitration” (Russia) and the Legal Forum Academy organized a conference with the support from St. Petersburg International Legal

Forum on Monday, 20 March 2017 in Moscow. This



conference on the topic “*International Arbitration in the Spotlight: from Tokyo to New York*” provided an exchange of different arbitration experiences from various jurisdictions. VIAC’s Secretary General, Manfred Heider, was a speaker in the first session concerning “*Recent trends in arbitration. New arbitration rules: how popular are they and which changes are to expect?*”.

Presentations within the Austrian Federal Economic Chamber

To make its services better known within the Austrian Federal Economic Chamber, VIAC presented itself to the chamber’s new trainees and various internal departments, such as the members of the trade organization of the logistic companies.

A long-standing cooperation links us to the foreign trade department of the Austrian Federal Economic Chamber with whom we organized seminars in Trieste and Padua.

And many more...

VIAC was represented by speakers at the RAA Annual Conference, Moscow, a meeting of the Austrian-Spanish Law-Society, the 2017 Dispute Resolution in M&A Transactions Conference in Warsaw, the Spring conference of the Legal Network International in Vienna (LNI), the 25-year celebration of ICAC in Kiev and more.

Education and Training

Promoting and supporting the education of the next generation of arbitration practitioners has always been a major concern of VIAC. Therefore, VIAC initiated and supported various events and trainings.

Hernstein Seminar

This seminar, that was organized for more than 20 years by VIAC together with Prof. Walter Rechberger of the Institute of Civil Procedural Law of Vienna's Law Faculty, was held in Hernstein in January 2017 for the very last time. Students and associates were invited to discuss current subjects in international arbitration in an academic environment followed by a "mock-arbitration" where the participants could act like in a real arbitration hearing.



The Hernstein Seminar is replaced by the Austrian Arbitration Academy – Summer and Winter School as well as the Master Classes that are co-organized by VIAC.

Winter School of the Austrian Arbitration Academy

The 1st edition of the Winter School of the Austrian Arbitration Academy organized by the University of Vienna, VIAC and YAAP took place from 21-25 February 2017, preceding and including the VAD 2017. It was a great success with 35 participants

from 18 nations enjoying two intense days of interactive classes with eight modules à 90 minutes. The course mirrored the structure of an (administered) arbitration; the renowned lecturers discussed salient issues of international arbitration, in particular practical problems that are encountered frequently. The key-note speech was delivered by Franz Schwarz on the "Evolving Role of Institutional Arbitration."

VIAC – YAAP Master Class



VIAC together with YAAP commenced a new training programme, the Master Class. The 1st lecture on "Cross

Examination in Practice" was held by Franz Schwarz in October preceding the 1st GAR Live Vienna. It was a great success and will be continued in 2018.

Claudia Winkler, coach and negotiation trainer as well as director of the IBA-VIAC CDRC, held a negotiation Workshop "The Great Legal Negotiator" in May which will also be repeated in 2018.

Other lectures and seminars

VIAC was also involved in the Swiss Arbitration Academy in Neuchatel and the DIS40 Praxis-Seminar in Stuttgart on "Schiedsverfahren nach den Wiener Regeln".

Together with K&L Gates, a webinar on the subject of "Arbitrating in Central and Eastern Europe" was organized. This innovative format was tailor-made to those unfamiliar with arbitrating in and against parties from the region. The discussion included practical advice - not just of arbitral rules and laws and the economic and political setting - but also of cultural differences in terms of how arbitration is "done" in CEE.

Study visits from Universities and other interested parties at VIAC

Each year VIAC receives various requests to present itself to interested organizations and students. In 2017 VIAC welcomed many guests from abroad like the Dispute Resolution Club of the Istanbul University Faculty of Law, students of the College in Krems (Lower Austria), students from the Netherlands and interns from UNCITRAL. On these occasions, the VIAC Secretariat informed the visitors of the main features of institutional arbitration at VIAC and daily case management routine, followed by lively Q&A sessions.

WHAT'S NEW?

Günther Horvath was elected new President of the VIAC-Board as of 1 May 2017

After six successful years as President of the VIAC-Board, Anton Baier passed the baton to its Vice-President Günther Horvath. Anton Baier remains member of the VIAC-Board. Under his presidency, VIAC's aggregated amount in dispute doubled, and VIAC modernized its appearance and its rules with the launch of the Vienna Arbitration Rules in 2013 and the Mediation Rules in 2016 and conducted various roadshows in the near and wider surroundings.

The new President of the VIAC-Board Günther Horvath, partner at Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer, is a renowned expert in international arbitration with many years of experience in the field. His aim is to foster VIAC's position as the premier arbitration institution in the CEE region and to strengthen our ties with other institutions and regions.

Franz Schwarz of WilmerHale was elected Vice-President besides Nikolaus Pitkowitz of Graf&Pitkowitz.

VIAC is honoured to be chaired by such an excellent team.

Elisabeth Vanas-Metzler as new member of the VIAC-Secretariat

Elisabeth Vanas-Metzler, Deputy Secretary General as of 1 January 2018 and former attorney-at-law at Graf & Pitkowitz, started to support our team as of October. You can find her short bio in the section on the VIAC-Secretariat below.

Revision of the Vienna Rules and the Vienna Mediation Rules 2018 and VIAC's right to administer purely domestic disputes

A new version of the VIAC Rules of Arbitration and Mediation was adopted by the Extended Presiding Committee of the Austrian Federal Economic Chamber on 29 November 2017. The new rules entered into force as of 1 January 2018 implementing a recent change in the law that permits VIAC to administer also purely domestic

disputes (which had been reserved to



the regional economic chambers before). On this occasion VIAC introduced some innovative new features into its well-known and otherwise unchanged rules that concern (1) the service of documents (taking into account the introduction of an electronic case management system); (2) the possibility for respondent to claim security for costs; (3) a higher flexibility for the Secretary General when determining the arbitrators' fees (increase and decrease); (4) the revision of the Model Clauses for arbitration and mediation; as well as (5) adjustments in the Schedule of Fees, i.e. the registration and administrative fees for low amounts in dispute have been staggered in a new manner and thereby reduced, whereas the administrative fees for very high amounts in dispute have been slightly increased, but are still very moderate in comparison to other institutions. These changes will hopefully make our rules even more attractive for our users.

The Rules apply to all proceedings that commence after 31 December 2017.

We are convinced that with the possibility to administer also purely domestic disputes, our case-load will continue to rise and attract more Austrian parties to arbitrate with VIAC.

Outlook for 2018: the Austrian Federal Economic Chamber is currently in the midst of a restructuring process where overlaps in competences will be eliminated. It is the aim that as of 1 July 2018 VIAC will take over the administration of all (pending and future) domestic cases.

Our new VIAC Arbitration and Mediation Rules 2018 will continue to be available in several languages (German, English, Arabic, Chinese, Czech, Italian, Korean, Polish, Portuguese, Romanian, Russian, Slovak, Spanish, Turkish and Ukrainian). We are in the process of translating the rules with the help of renowned arbitration practitioners and translators.

DRD – Dispute Resolution Data

Following the call of the international arbitration community for enhanced transparency, Debi and Bill Slate set up a remarkable project of collecting and presenting anonymized aggregated international case data. VIAC is proud to participate in this great initiative since 2017.

DRD provides cost, time, and other valuable process information for users and meanwhile has been rewarded by GAR for the *“best innovation by an individual or organization”*.

Enhanced Transparency – Publication of Arbitral Tribunals on VIAC’s Website

In the interest of increased transparency in the appointment process of institutional

arbitration, VIAC has in 2017 decided to publish the names of arbitrators acting in current proceedings: In the list "[VIAC Arbitral Tribunals](#)" you will find the names of all arbitrators acting in VIAC cases where the file has already been transferred to the arbitral tribunal and which were pending on 1 January 2017 or were filed after this date.

ERA - Equal Representation in Arbitration Pledge

ArbitralWomen is an international network of women in dispute resolution, and a non-governmental organisation bringing together women practitioners active in this field.



In recognition of the under-representation of women on international arbitral tribunals, members of the arbitration community drew up a pledge (“Equal Representation in Arbitration PLEDGE”) to take action. Alice Fremuth-Wolf is member of the steering committee and took part in the 1st anniversary event on 15 May 2017 in London. VIAC has already signed the pledge and would like to encourage others to do the same.

As a new feature launched on [ERA’s webpage](#), interested parties may now ask for names of female arbitrators that fulfil certain required qualifications and will be provided with a list of potential candidates.

In connection with this pledge, Freshfields in October organized a Womens’ Breakfast Event on women in arbitration and international law following the 1st GAR Live Vienna conference. The event gave an update on the status of the ERA Pledge, showing the great impact the Pledge has had since it was launched in 2016.

A female panel discussed the trials and tribulation of their careers, i.e. the hurdles

the panelists have faced during their careers.


There was a general consensus that the Pledge has played a vital role in raising awareness and continues to do so. In 2017, arbitral institutions appointed one third more female arbitrators than in the previous year but since arbitral institutions only account for a small percentage of appointments, the onus is on law firms to push for female appointments.

Research assistants and trainees at VIAC

During 2017 several young arbitration practitioners got the chance to dive into the work of an arbitral institution. They supported VIAC's team simultaneously gaining precious insights into the world of arbitration. Applications for 2018 and 2019 can be addressed to the VIAC-Secretariat at office@viac.eu.

Strong media presence with LinkedIn account and newsletters

VIAC's media presence continues to be very strong. With regular LinkedIn feeds and 15 newsletter editions in 2017, we keep our users updated as to interesting events and developments.

If you have not done so, please follow us on Linked .

2017 STATISTICS

Number of Cases received in 2017 and aggregated Amount in Dispute

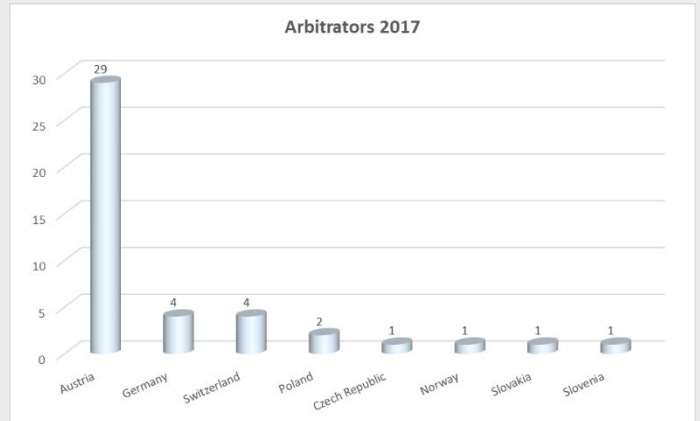
VIAC has opened 43 new international arbitration and mediation cases in 2017. As of 31 December 2017, 59 cases were pending with an aggregated amount in dispute of EUR 622 million.

Nationality of Parties

Our statistics confirm VIAC's standing as a truly international institution with still a particular stronghold in Central and Eastern Europe. Whereas more Austrian parties than last year were amongst VIAC's clients (32% of all parties were Austrian, as opposed to 25% in 2016) the largest party contingent with over 30% still came from the Central and Eastern European region

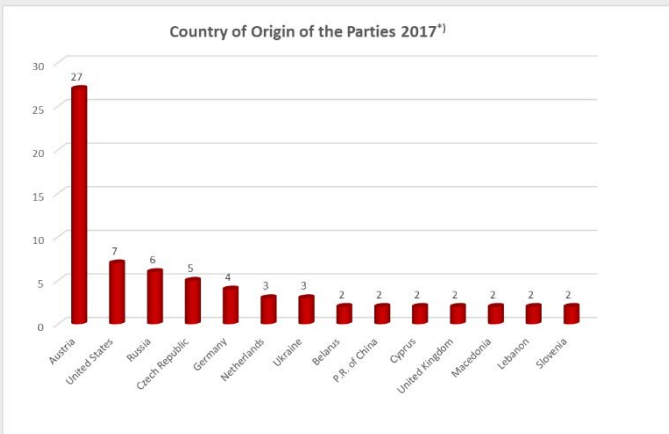
Nationality of Arbitrators

Two thirds of the arbitrators acting in VIAC proceedings came from Austria, 12% from the CEE region.

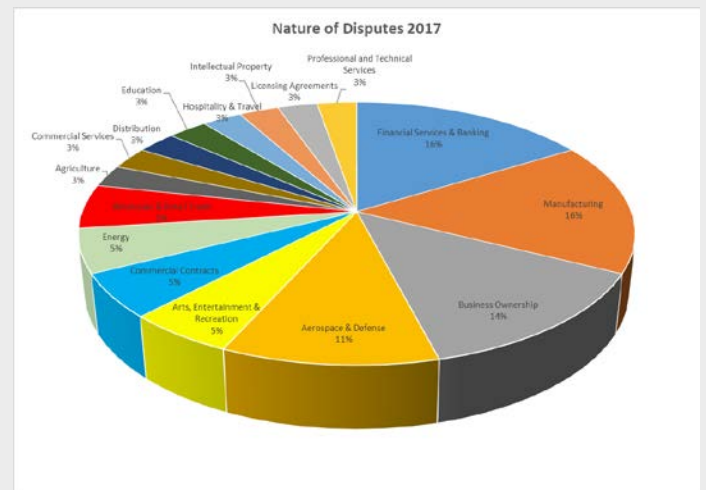


Nature of Disputes

The nature of disputes shows a broad variety. Financial services and banking (each 16%) built the biggest part, followed by Business Ownership (14%) and Aerospace and Defense (11%).



(40% in 2016). We are proud to have received cases involving parties from Africa and Oceania.

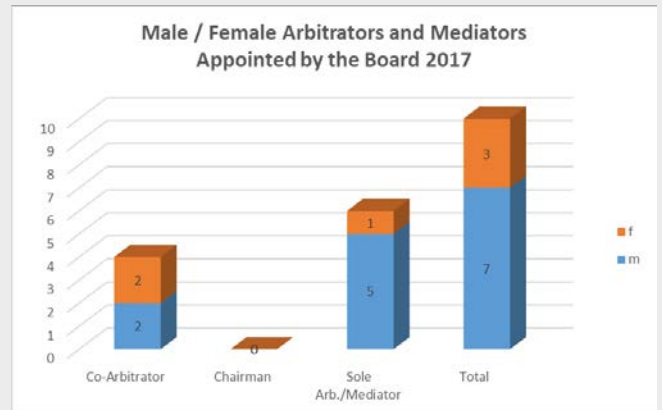


Gender Ratio

Promoting women in arbitration is an important goal for VIAC. The proportion of women acting as arbitrators in VIAC arbitration proceedings has increased steadily over the last several years. In tribunals of cases received in 2017, the women-ratio reached nearly 17%, which lies well above the average of certain other renowned arbitral institutions based on available information. However, there is still room for much improvement!

A closer look reveals that whereas the percentage of women acting as co-arbitrator or chairperson increased in relation to 2016, the percentage of female sole arbitrators declined.

Still, parties seem to be much more reluctant to nominate women than VIAC's Board. Two out of four co-arbitrators appointed by the Board were women, whereas when nominated by the parties only two out of 17 were female.

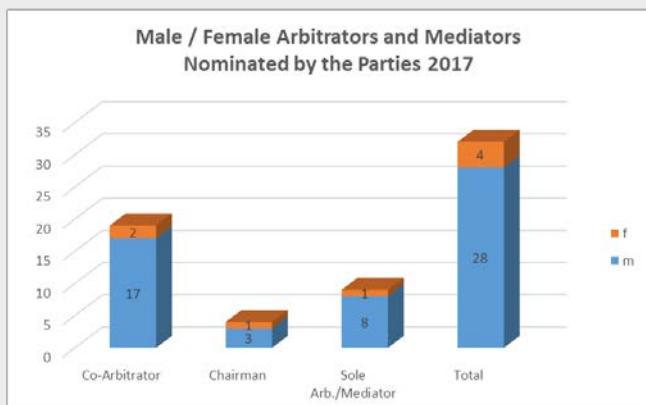
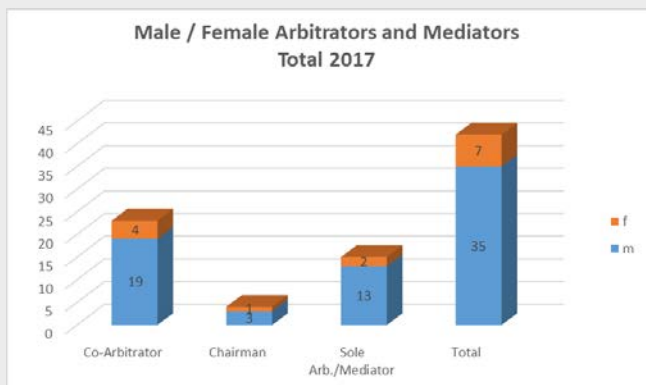


Costs

The arithmetic mean fees for sole arbitrators in cases where a final award was rendered in 2017, were EUR 22,250, whereas those for 3-member-tribunals amounted to EUR 223,500.

VIAC's mean administrative fees amounted to EUR 11,000 in cases handled by sole arbitrators and to EUR 30,000 in cases with tribunals.

The costs have risen significantly in comparison to 2016 (by more than half in cases with only one arbitrator and by around three-quarters in cases with three arbitrators), because some cases with high amounts in dispute were involved.



OUTLOOK FOR 2018

During the forthcoming year 2018, VIAC will continue to set milestones and initiatives to promote arbitration in Austria.

Outgoing and Incoming Members of the Secretariat

The new year started with new team members. Alice Fremuth-Wolf, former Deputy Secretary General, followed Manfred Heider and took over the management of the VIAC-Secretariat as of 1 January 2018. Manfred Heider had been heading the VIAC-Secretariat for more than 16 years and retired at the end of 2017. During his term of office, he managed to foster VIAC's position as the premier international arbitration institution in Central and Eastern Europe. In addition, he helped driving major reforms in the national legislation, especially in 2006 when the UNCITRAL ML was adopted and in 2014 when Austria's Supreme Court became the sole instance in setting aside proceedings for arbitral awards. All this has led to important improvements in the Austrian arbitration landscape with a spillover effect also to the Vienna Rules of Arbitration and Mediation, which saw major reforms in 2013 and 2016. He was able to strengthen the ties to other major international arbitration institutions as well as the UNCITRAL Secretariat, having its offices in Vienna. It was one of his goals to develop a young generation in the Austrian arbitration community by giving many young practitioners their first chance to act as arbitrator under the Vienna Rules. His consistency and his foresight in the case management has added much to VIAC's reputation as reliable institution that administers its cases with care and with

diligence. We thank him for his dedication and his commitment and are very happy that he will remain part of VIAC as Board Member as of 1 January 2018.

Elisabeth Vanas-Metzler assumed office as Deputy Secretary General as of 1 January 2018.

VIAC also lost a long-serving case manager, Maria Knoche, who retired at the end of 2017. Her sense of humor and her experience will be greatly missed. VIAC is however very happy to have won Klaudia Dobosz as a new case manager and legal counsel for its team.

Handbook Vienna Rules – Revised Edition

Following the revision of our rules, we intend to issue a new edition of our Handbook Commentary on our new rules. Again, renowned arbitration practitioners, who had been involved in the revision, will share their reflections and knowledge with the arbitration community.

Electronic Case File

VIAC is currently developing an electronic database for the handling of all case files. This will enable VIAC to switch to an almost paperless system of case management in the course of 2018. The Vienna Rules and Vienna Mediation Rules 2018 already envisage this innovation. The Secretariat will receive and send out all correspondence in electronic form (except, of course, for the most delicate documents, in particular Statement of Claim and arbitral awards).

Data Protection – Stay connected with us!

The General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) has brought about several requirements to be implemented also by VIAC. In particular, VIAC will send out a newsletter asking all recipients to confirm that they consent to the processing of their data for the purposes of receiving the VIAC-newsletter also in the future. So, please give us your consent and watch out for our special newsletter with a consent button! We hope to keep a large audience for our newsletter informing on new developments and events in the arbitration arena.

New Website-Design

For 2018, VIAC plans to update the look and functionality of its website and to offer also a mobile version. Well-proven and accepted functionalities (like our cost-calculator and the list of arbitrators) will be maintained. The new website will only have a German and an English version as maintenance of multi-language website proved to be unfeasible.

VIAC SECRETARIAT



Alice Fremuth-Wolf, LL.M. (LSE)
Secretary General

Alice Fremuth-Wolf is Secretary General of VIAC since January 2018. She joined the VIAC Secretariat in 2012 as Deputy SG. Having studied law at Vienna University (Mag. iur. 1995, Dr. iur. 2002), Utrecht University (1994) and the London School of Economics and Political Science (LL.M. 1998), she served as assistant professor at the Department of Civil Procedure Law at the Law Faculty of Vienna University. Before opening her own practice in 2004, she worked with major Austrian law firms and acted as party representative and arbitrator in international commercial arbitration cases. Alice Fremuth-Wolf has authored articles and books on arbitration and currently also serves as a lecturer at the Law Faculty of Vienna University, where she was coach of the Vienna team for the Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot from 2004-2009. She is a trained mediator and co-organizer of the IBA-VIAC CDRC. She speaks German, English, French and Spanish.



Elisabeth Vanas-Metzler, LL.M. (Harvard)
Deputy Secretary General

Elisabeth Vanas-Metzler is Deputy Secretary General of VIAC since January 2018. She joined the VIAC Secretariat in October 2017. Elisabeth Vanas-Metzler studied law at Vienna University (Mag. iur. 2003, Dr. iur. 2008), Geneva University (2002) and Harvard Law School (LL.M. 2007). She served as research assistant at the Department for Business and Commercial Law at the Law Faculty of Vienna University. Later, she worked with renowned international law firms in Vienna and Bogotá (Colombia), first as an associate and then as an attorney-at-law. Her practice focused on dispute resolution and in particular international commercial arbitration, including experience as a party representative, administrative secretary and arbitrator. Elisabeth Vanas-Metzler has been very active in this field, including the Willem C. Vis Moot, publications, lectures and memberships. She speaks German, English and Spanish.



Klaudia Dobosz
Legal Counsel

Klaudia Dobosz is part of the VIAC-team since January 2018 and assists the VIAC-Secretariat as legal counsel and case manager. She studied law at Vienna University. After finishing her legal practice at Austrian courts, she worked as associate at a renowned Viennese law firm and assisted in preparing a well-known commentary on the Austrian Arbitration law. She speaks German, English and Polish.



Sonja Rogge
Legal Counsel

Sonja Rogge is part of the VIAC-team since the end of 2013 and assists the Secretariat as legal counsel and case manager for arbitration and mediation cases. She studied law at Vienna University from 2009 to 2012 (Mag. iur.). After she finished her legal practice at Austrian courts, she returned to the Austrian Federal Economic Chamber, where she had already worked since 2002 in various positions. She was part of the working groups, which developed the Vienna Mediation Rules 2016 and accompanied the revision of the Vienna Rules 2018. She prepares VIAC's Board-Meetings, is responsible for Social Media and all technical issues, in particular the project for an electronic case management. She also creates in depth analysis of VIAC's statistical data. Sonja Rogge speaks German, English and French.



Christa Eybl
Case Manager

Christa Eybl supports the Secretariat since spring 2013. Previously she worked for the metallurgical industry in Linz and Italy and the USA. She is also VIAC's event coordinator organizing conferences and seminars. She speaks German, English, Italian and French.



Helga Magrutsch
Case Manager

Helga Magrutsch is a long-term employee of the Austrian Federal Economic Chamber, working here since 1981. In the beginning, she was part of ICC Austria and joined the VIAC in 1992 where she has been a case manager since. She speaks German, English, French and Italian.



Susanne Schindler
Assistant and Webmaster

Susanne Schindler supports the VIAC-team since the beginning of 2013. She is in charge of the VIAC website and newsletter, as well as all administrative matters, business trips, and internal accounting. She speaks German and English.

VIAC BOARD



Günther J. Horvath
Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer LLP
President of VIAC-Board



Nikolaus Pitkowitz
Graf & Pitkowitz
Vice Pres. of VIAC-Board



Franz T. Schwarz
Wilmer Cutler Pickering LLP Hale and Dorr
Vice Pres. of VIAC-Board



Werner Melis
Hon. President of VIAC-Board



Anton Baier
Baier Partners



Manfred Heider
former Secretary General
of VIAC



Georg Kathrein
Austrian Ministry of
Justice



Richard Kreindler
Cleary Gottlieb Steen
& Hamilton



Michael J. Moser
Independent Arbitrator



Alexander Petsche
Baker & McKenzie
Diwok Hermann Petsche



Walter H. Rechberger
emer. Prof. at University
of Vienna



Friedrich Rüffler
Prof. at University
of Vienna



Erich Schwarzenbacher
Austrian Supreme Court



Irene Welser
Cerha Hempel Spiegelfeld Hlawati
Hon. Prof. at University of Vienna

VIAC ADVISORY BOARD

The Advisory Board of VIAC is comprised of the following 24 honorable members:

Mr. Jalal El Ahdab [CV](#)

Prof. Nadja Alexander [CV](#)

Mr. Stefano Azzali [CV](#)

Prof. Alexander J. Bělohávek [CV](#)

Prof. Klaus Peter Berger [CV](#)

Mr. James E. Castello [CV](#)

Mr. Josef Fröhlingdorf [CV](#)

Mr. Yu Jianlong [CV](#)

Prof. László Kecskés [CV](#)

Prof. Aleksey A. Kostin [CV](#)

Mr. Sean (Sungwoo) Lim [CV](#)

Mr. Martin Magál [CV](#)

Dr. Christine Mattl [CV](#)

Mrs. Irina Nazarova [CV](#)

Mr. Piotr Nowaczyk [CV](#)

Prof. Vladimir Pavić [CV](#)

Prof. Michael Pryles [CV](#)

Mr. Peter Rees QC [CV](#)

Prof. Catherine A. Rogers [CV](#)

Prof. Hubertus Schumacher [CV](#)

Mr. Jernej Sekolec [CV](#)

Prof. Hrvoje Sikiric [CV](#)

Prof. Nathalie Voser [CV](#)

Mr. Dietmar Prager (as of March 2018) [CV](#)

**VIAC, the premier international arbitration institution
in Central and Eastern Europe.**

For further information, please visit the [VIAC homepage](#).



**Vienna International Arbitral Centre
of the Austrian Federal Economic Chamber**
Wiedner Hauptstrasse 63, A-1045 Vienna, Austria

T +43 (0)5 90 900 4398
F +43 (0)5 90 900 216
E office@viac.eu

www.viac.eu
