



ZHAO Fang

Head of Shanghai Office

Languages: English, Mandarin

Practices: International Commercial Arbitration, Cross-Border Dispute Resolution, Commercial Dispute Resolution

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Profile

Ms. Zhao is the head of Hui Zhong's Shanghai office. Ms. Zhao has been practicing PRC law for 25 years. She was also called to the Bar of England and Wales. Ms. Zhao was appointed as the Court Member of ICC in July 2024 and is working with other members from 119 jurisdictions all over the world. She is the fourth Chinese lawyer that has received this appointment and the first one in Shanghai.

Ms. Zhao has been acting for clients both before the Chinese courts including the Supreme People's Court and various international arbitration institutions including ICC, HKIAC, SIAC, CAS and DIS etc. The clients Ms. Zhao served cover a wide range of industries and her expertise lies in international trade, foreign investment, Sino-foreign joint venture, energy, telecommunication, construction, intellectual property, employment, sports, and entertainment.

Other than a trial lawyer, she sits as an arbitrator in commercial arbitration cases. Ms. Zhao is on the official panel lists of HKIAC, SIAC, CIETAC, BAC, SHIAC and SCIA. She is an accredited civil-commercial mediator of ADR-ODR International in London and was invited by the Qianhai Cooperation Zone People's Court as the court's mediator for foreign related cases.

Ms. Zhao is a visiting lecturer at the Law Schools of Peking University, Fudan University, Shanghai Jiaotong University, Renmin University, China University of Political Science and Law, University of International Business and Economics etc. Chambers & Partners ranks Ms. Zhao in both the Global and Asian sectors as one of the leading practitioners in the field of Arbitration in China.

Professional Qualifications

- PRC Bar
- Called to the bar of England & Wales

Educational Background

BPP Law School BPTC Bar Practice Training Course
City University London, Law School GDL
Fudan University BA

Professional Experience

2013-Present Shanghai Office, Beijing Hui Zhong Law Firm, Head of Shanghai Office
2008-2013 Shanghai Office, JunHe Law Offices, Partner
2001-2008 Shanghai Office, Haiwen & Partners, Lawyer

Memberships & Affiliations

- Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre, Arbitrator
- Singapore International Arbitration Centre, Arbitrator
- China International Economic and Trade Arbitration Commission, Member
- Beijing Arbitration Commission / Beijing International Arbitration Centre, Arbitrator
- Shanghai International Arbitration Center, Arbitrator
- Shenzhen International Arbitration Court, Arbitrator
- Langfang Arbitration Commission, Arbitrator
- Rules Revision Committee, Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre (2023), Member
- London ADR-ODR International Mediation Centre, Certified Mediator
- Shenzhen Qianhai Cooperation Zone Court, Specially Invited Mediator
- ICC International Chamber of Commerce Court of Arbitration, Member
- ICC Court of Arbitration Expedited Arbitration Rules Working Group, Member

Representative Cases

- In 2018, represented a Chinese state-owned listed coal mining company against its Chinese business partner before CIETAC, concerning a dispute arising from the transfer of coal resources and equity interests. The disputed amount exceeded RMB¥ 1.6 billion. Ultimately, successfully defended the client as the respondent and dismissed all arbitration claims brought by the claimant.
- In 2018, represented a major state-owned semiconductor R&D and manufacturing company against another state-owned telecommunications equipment company before the Beijing High Court in a dispute concerning royalty payments arising from a TD-SCDMA technology cooperation agreement. The disputed amount exceeded RMB¥ 600 million.
- In 2018, represented a Finnish coatings manufacturer against its Hong Kong business partner before Shanghai International Arbitration Center in a shareholder agreement dispute arising from a wholly foreign-owned enterprise invested by both parties. Secured a victory for the client.
- In 2019, represented a Fortune 500 U.S. company specializing in OEM mobile phones in a series of over 50 cases against its Chinese business partner, involving construction contract disputes before the Chengdu Arbitration Commission, Guangzhou Arbitration Commission, Wuxi Arbitration Commission, Suzhou Arbitration Commission, and various people's courts. The total amount in dispute exceeded RMB¥ 250 million.
- In 2019, represented a Fortune 500 U.S. company specializing in OEM mobile phones in a series of over 20 cases against its Chinese business partner, involving supply contract disputes in the People's Courts of Shanghai, Chengdu, Wuxi, Suzhou, Guangzhou, and Huizhou. The total amount in dispute exceeded RMB¥ 100 million.
- In 2019, represented a Chinese consulting firm against a Singaporean company and a Chinese company in a dispute arising from a share transfer agreement, before CIETAC, achieving a satisfactory outcome for the client.
- In 2019, represented a Chinese state-owned enterprise against the local land management committee in an administrative contract dispute before the Inner Mongolia court, securing a final victory.
- In 2020, represented an individual against the developer, the distributor, and other parties in a series of five related lawsuits involving commercial housing sales contract disputes before the First Circuit Court of the Supreme People's Court, and ultimately achieved a satisfactory outcome for the client (Case Nos. (2020) SPC Civil Final 883, 209, 210, 211, 212).
- In 2020, represented a Chinese world swimming champion in an arbitration case before the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) in Switzerland,

concerning World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) allegations of anti-doping rule violations. Collaborated with Swiss counsel, successfully set aside the adverse CAS award before the Swiss Federal Supreme Court. In the subsequent *de novo* arbitration, we secured a revised decision, effectively halving the ineligibility period.

- In 2021, represented a world-leading Swiss chemical company against two Chinese enterprises involving disputes arising from the sale of large-scale equipment, infringement of commercial trade secrets, and related Chinese patent ownership before the ICC Court of Arbitration.
- In 2021, served as an expert witness, represented a Chinese enterprise in a charter contract dispute before the Supreme Court of Victoria, Australia and provided expert opinions on Chinese law.
- In 2021, represented a Brunei company against a Hong Kong company in an arbitration case involving an international sales transaction dispute before the Shenzhen International Arbitration Court. The disputed amount is approximately RMB¥ 40 million. We successfully assisted the client in having most of the opposing party's arbitration claims dismissed.
- In 2022, represented a major fund company in a dispute arising from its acquisition of equity interest in a domestic beverage company before the Shanghai International Arbitration Center. The disputed amount is approximately RMB¥ 200 million.
- In 2022, represented an investee company in a dispute involving an investor's demand for the return of investment funds, before the Shanghai International Arbitration Center. The disputed amount exceeded RMB¥ 60 million and a favorable result was ultimately achieved for the client.
- In 2022, as an expert witness, represented a Hong Kong investment company affiliated with a world-renowned bank in providing expert witness opinions at the Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre regarding a repurchase dispute arising from its acquisition of equity interests in a domestic real estate enterprise.
- In 2022, represented a renowned Hong Kong listed brand in the culture and entertainment sector against a world renowned sports brand in resolving a dispute over a cooperation agreement through arbitration at CIETAC, with the total amount in dispute exceeding RMB¥ 30 million.
- In 2022, represented a Chinese cross-border trading group with registered capital exceeding RMB¥ 300 million in negotiations concerning a dispute over the performance of a COVID-19 prevention supplies contract with a government department of a European sovereign state. The case involved arbitration proceedings at the London Court of International Arbitration (LCIA), with a disputed amount exceeding US\$100 million, ultimately achieving a satisfactory settlement outcome for the client.
- In 2022, represented a domestic computer component R&D company against a U.S. company in a dispute involving a software licensing agreement at the HKIAC. The disputed amount exceeded US\$1.5 billion.
- In 2023, represented a German bank in litigation concerning a stop payment order filed by a Chinese buyer in a Hangzhou court.
- In 2023, represented a U.S. company as the property owner against another Fortune 500 U.S. company in a dispute before Shenzhen International Arbitration Commission (SIAC) concerning a 20-year lease agreement. The disputed amount was close to RMB¥ 700 million.
- In 2023, represented an investment fund in handling Shanghai's first "two-way earn-out" case before the Shanghai Financial Court and the Shanghai High Court. Through precise analysis of the case, successfully secured support for the client's claims at both the first-instance and retrial courts, thereby achieving the client's commercial objectives.
- In 2023, represented a Chinese enterprise against a foreign supplier in a case arising from a long-term supply contract dispute, before the Swiss Arbitration Center. The disputed amount exceeded RMB¥ 10 billion. Successfully initiated emergency arbitration proceedings on behalf of the client at the Swiss Arbitration Center and secured interim relief measures twice, compelling the other party to continue performing the contract during the arbitration process. The case ultimately concluded with a satisfactory settlement outcome for the client.
- From 2021 to 2024, represented a leading Chinese mathematician in handling disputes over share repurchase and subsequent share transfer through arbitration at the Shenzhen International Arbitration Court and related litigation at a Beijing court. Both cases resulted in favorable rulings. With a total amount in dispute exceeding RMB¥ 50 million, these cases not only involved substantial sums, but also presented complex, challenging circumstances.

Articles and Publications

- July 2018, *Shanghai Lawyer*: The Path to Becoming a Great Lawyer.
- November 2018, Legal 500: Interim Relief Measures - Latest Developments in China.

- Published February 2020, Hong Kong City University *Dispute Resolution Yearbook: Interim Relief Measures in the Jurisdiction of the People's Republic of China*.
- 2014-2020, Co-author of the *China Annual Arbitration Report*, Drafted the “Getting the Deal Through” Chapter.
- Participated in writing the *Foreign Related Laws and Practice* published by Renmin University of China Press.
- Contributed to *Managing “Belt and Road” Business Disputes*, Author of Chapter Nine “Litigation in China”.
- 2021, Author of the Arbitration Section in the Beijing Arbitration Commission/BAC's *Commercial Dispute Resolution in China: An Annual Review and Preview*.
- 2022, Author of the Mediation Section in the Beijing Arbitration Commission/BAC's *Commercial Dispute Resolution in China: An Annual Review and Preview*.
- 2023, Author of the Arbitration Section in the Beijing Arbitration Commission/BAC's *Commercial Dispute Resolution in China: An Annual Review and Preview*.
- 2024, Author of the Arbitration Section in the Beijing Arbitration Commission/BAC's *Commercial Dispute Resolution in China: An Annual Review and Preview*.

Public Welfare and Social Activities

- February 2018, Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre Annual Conference: Has China Fully Approved Arbitration Cases Administered by Foreign Arbitration Institutions?
- March 2018, LEB Online Training: Enforcing International Arbitral Awards in Mainland China.
- March 2018, Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre Shanghai Office: Why Choose Hong Kong, Why Choose Arbitration for Belt and Road Related Disputes?
- May 2018, Hong Kong City University: Dispute Resolution in Asia and Other Regions: Developments and Trends
- October 2018, China International Economic and Trade Arbitration Commission First Global Arbitrators Annual Conference: Demonstration of Cross-Examination of Witnesses in Arbitration
- October 2018, 2018 Hong Kong Arbitration Week: Women in Arbitration
- November 2018, China International Economic and Trade Arbitration Commission: Sixteenth CIETAC Cup, Presiding Arbitrator in the Semi-Finals
- December 2018, Beijing Arbitration Commission: Document Production in International Arbitration
- March 2019, Shanghai International Arbitration Center: Presiding Arbitrator in Shanghai Moot
- April 2019, LEB: What Impact Do Parallel Proceedings Have on Chinese Companies
- May 2019, London GAR Live 2019: In the Competition for Dispute Resolution Methods for “Belt and Road” Related Disputes, Will International Arbitration Lose to China's “International Courts”
- Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre Jakarta Conference: Planning Ahead: Effective Strategies to Reduce Risks—China and Indonesia Related Businesses
- Hong Kong International Arbitration Week/Roundtable: Understanding and Misunderstandings of International Arbitration
- October 2019, led the Hui Zhong team to participate in the “Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre Doing International Arbitration in Chinese Competition,” breaking out from 32 domestic law firm teams, winning the overall championship in the finals, and personally receiving the “Best Individual Performance Award in the Finals”
- October 2019, Hong Kong GAR Live 2019: Annual Review of Arbitration in Mainland China
- November 2019, China International Economic and Trade Arbitration Commission and Hong Kong Arbitration Centre Arb-Med-Arb Mock Trial: Co-Arbitrator in the Moot Hearing

- December 2019, Beijing International Arbitration Forum/CIAP30: Cross-Examination in International Arbitration
- October 2020, Shenzhen Court of International Arbitration FDI Moot First Round Preliminary, Second Round Elimination Round Presiding Arbitrator
- November 2020, China International Economic and Trade Arbitration Commission Eighteenth “CIETAC Cup” Finals Co-Arbitrator
- IPBA Forum 2021, Youth Forum: Training of Foreign-Related Lawyers
- Fudan University Law School 2021 Spring Semester International Commercial Arbitration Practice Course
- 2020-2021, Guest Lecturer at Peking University, Fudan University, East China University of Political Science and Law, University of International Business and Economics, Teaching “English Contract Law” Course
- November 2021, China International Economic and Trade Arbitration Commission Nineteenth “CIETAC Cup” Semi-Finals Arbitrator
- November 2021, as a contributor, participated in the Global Launch of the Beijing Arbitration Commission/BAC's *Commercial Dispute Resolution in China: An Annual Review and Preview (2021)*, and delivered a keynote presentation on the arbitration section
- January 2022, Fourteenth Frankfurt International Investment Arbitration Moot CIETAC China (Mainland) Division Arbitrator
- August 2022, FDI Moot Shenzhen 2022, served as Arbitrator in Preliminary Round and Semi-Finals
- November 2022, China International Economic and Trade Arbitration Commission Twentieth “CIETAC Cup” Semi-Finals Arbitrator
- 2021-2022, Guest Lecturer at Peking University, Fudan University, East China University of Political Science and Law, University of International Business and Economics, China University of Political Science and Law, Peking University School of Transnational Law, University of Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, Teaching “English Contract Law” Course
- April 2023, Moot Shanghai Arbitrator
- May 2023, Ministry of Justice National Foreign-Related Lawyer Training Course Instructor, Teaching “English Contract Law” Course
- June 2023, ICC APAC Hong Kong Speaker
- August 2023, Fudan-Kunlan Dispute Resolution Forum Fourth Session Speaker
- October 2023, Beijing Arbitration Commission/Beijing International Arbitration Center, Hong Kong Arbitration Week, *Commercial Dispute Resolution in China: An Annual Review and Preview (2023)* Global Launch Reporter
- November 2023, China International Economic and Trade Arbitration Commission 21st “CIETAC Cup” Semi-Finals Arbitrator
- December 2023, Beijing Arbitration Commission/Beijing International Arbitration Center, *Commercial Dispute Resolution in China: An Annual Review and Preview (2023)* Chinese Launch Reporter
- 2022-2023, Guest Lecturer at Peking University, Fudan University, East China University of Political Science and Law, University of International Business and Economics, China University of Political Science and Law, Peking University School of Transnational Law, University of Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, Renmin University of China, Shanghai Jiaotong University, SHAC Academy, Teaching “English Contract Law” Course
- May 2024, invited to the International Council for Commercial Arbitration Congress (ICCA Congress) held in Hong Kong, the 2024 China Commercial Dispute Resolution Summit Forum held in Madrid, Spain in June 2024, and the 2024 China Commercial Dispute Resolution Summit Forum held in Geneva, Switzerland, Representing the Author of *Commercial Dispute Resolution in China: An Annual Review and Preview (2024)* to Deliver On-Site Reports.
- May 2024, Beijing Arbitration Commission, “World Arbitration Update 2024”
- May 2024, Shanghai International Arbitration Center, “SHIAC Cloud Library: Changes in the Liability for Breach of Contract in the General Provisions of the Contract Part of the Civil Code from a Comparative Law Perspective and Arbitration Adjudication Practice Conference”
- March 2024, Shanghai International Arbitration Center, “Arbitration Shanghai-Hong Kong Connect ICCA 2024 Hong Kong”
- Actively Engaged in Animal Protection Legislation Suggestion Work, Leading the Team to Complete Amendment Suggestions for the “Shanghai Animal Epidemic Prevention Regulations (Revised Draft)”.
- Lead Author of Over 20,000 Words of Feedback Opinions on the “Interpretation by the Supreme People's Court of Several Issues Concerning

the Application of Title One General Provisions of Book Three Contracts of the Civil Code of the People's Republic of China (Draft for Comments)”, Participated in the Writing of Feedback Opinions on the “Draft for Comments on the Revision of the Arbitration Law of the People's Republic of China”.

- Co-organized and Participated in the Contract Law Series Open Courses Held by the SHAC Academy.
- July 2024, Singapore International Arbitration Centre 2024 China Regional Annual Conference: Language and Culture in International Arbitration
- July 2024, Singapore International Arbitration Centre Shanghai Arbitration Day, Delivered a Speech on “Arbitration Language and Culture, Psychological Relationships”
- July 2024, ICC International Chamber of Commerce Arbitration Institute First China Arbitration Day, Participated in Hosting the ICC Award Scrutiny Session Demonstration
- June 2024, Beijing Arbitration Commission/Beijing International Arbitration Center,*Commercial Dispute Resolution in China: An Annual Review and Preview (2024)* European Launch Reporter, Spain and Switzerland

Honors and Awards

- 2019 Champion of the HKIAC International Arbitration in Chinese.
- 2019 Best Individual Performance Award at the HKIAC International Arbitration in Chinese.
- 2022 Chambers&Partners Global Legal Guide Dispute Resolution: Listed Lawyers in Arbitration.
- 2023 Chambers&Partners Greater China Legal Guide Dispute Resolution: Listed Lawyers in Arbitration.
- 2023 The Legal 500 Listed in the first Private Practice Powerlist Arbitration China.
- 2024 China Business Law Journal The A-List Legal Elite: China's Business Law Elite 2023.
- 2024 Benchmark Litigation China International Arbitration Dispute Resolution Stars.
- 2024 ALB Litigators of Asia.
- 2024 Chambers Global & Greater China Region Guide Dispute Resolution: Listed Lawyers in Arbitration.
- 2025 Chambers Global & Greater China Region Guide Dispute Resolution: Arbitration Listed Lawyers.
- 2025 China Business Law Journal's The A-List 2024: Visionaries.
- 2025 China Lawyer Pioneer List Top 15 Outstanding Women Lawyers, The Hall of Fame.

Testimonials

Chambers mentioned in its comments that “Many sources highlight that she is also called to the Bar of England and Wales.”

Zhao Fang has a deep understanding of the laws and knows about our commercial needs.

Her attention to detail is second to none; she knows the case inside out, is hyper-responsive and has an extremely quick grasp of the crucial aspects of the case.

Zhao Fang is experienced acting on domestic and international arbitration cases relating to the energy, financial services and manufacturing sectors. She receives a lot of praise from market sources.