



David Brynmor Thomas KC is an English King's Counsel renowned for his expertise in international commercial arbitration and mediation with experience in over 30 jurisdictions. He sits exclusively as an arbitrator and a CEDR-accredited mediator. This follows a 30-year career that began as a partner in a City of London solicitor's firm and later as a barrister.

David has been appointed in 90 arbitrations. This includes as sole, party-appointed or presiding arbitrator in ad hoc and institutional commercial arbitrations, with experience as counsel and arbitrator under the rules of the: American Arbitration Association (AAA), Dubai International Arbitration Centre (DIAC), International Chamber of Commerce (ICC), International Center for Dispute Resolution (ICDR), London Court of International Arbitration (LCIA), Singapore International Arbitration Centre (SIAC), Stockholm Chamber of Commerce (SCC), Saudi Centre for Commercial Arbitration (SCCA), and Swiss Arbitration Association (SAA).

He has been appointed as an Emergency Arbitrator by the International Center for Dispute Resolution (ICDR), International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) and Singapore International Arbitration (SIAC).

His scientific background—originally trained in medicine—gives him confidence in handling technically complex matters, including those that involve advanced statistics, organic and inorganic chemistry, microbiology, pharmacology, biotechnology, and metallurgy.

David specialises in the conduct and resolution of complex commercial disputes, encompassing a wide range of industry sectors: complex and high value construction and engineering projects; matters arising under EPC and other contracts for the execution of complex construction and engineering projects; contractor and sub-contractor chains; PSAs, JOAs, and similar arrangements; disputes in professional partnerships, joint ventures and shareholders' agreements; power generation and energy-related issues; renewable energy, including wind and solar farms; water and desalination plants; waste disposal; transportation, including rail, aviation and highways; oil refineries; dams; shipbuilding; oil and gas and mining; defence; bonds, guarantees, pensions and other financial instruments; insurance; and technology including intellectual property rights.

David has also advised on issues arising from sanctions (in particular under United Kingdom and EU sanctions regimes); the drafting and amendment of industry-wide dispute resolution provisions; and the

Qualifications

King's Counsel – 2019

Barrister – 2011

Solicitor Advocate, England and Wales (Higher Rights of Audience before all Civil Courts) – 2001

Solicitor (England and Wales) – 1993

Law Society Finals (First Class Honours) – 1991

Common Professional Examination (Commendation) – 1990

MB, ChB (Medicine Edinburgh) – 1987

Memberships

Chartered Institute of Arbitrators

LCIA

IBA

Worshipful Company of Arbitrators

ADGM Court-Annexed Mediation Scheme – Pro Bono Mediators' Panel

ability of Governments to sue on behalf of their citizens for alleged mass torts.

Appointments

Member, International Advisory Council, ADGM Dispute Resolution Hearing Centre (2026 –)

As a CEDR-accredited mediator, David has mediated commercial, insurance and construction issues. David is a British citizen. His practice management is delivered through Newmans Row.

Mediator, ADGM Court-Annexed Mediation Scheme (2026 –)

Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (CIARB):

Chair, Board of Trustees (2016)

Deputy Chair, Board of Trustees (2015)

Trustee (2011-2016)

Education & Membership Committee (2005-2010)

COMBAR – Co-Chair, India Sub-Committee (2023-2025)

ICC Commission (including its work on the ICC Rules revision)

ICDR International Panel

UNCITRAL working Group II (for work on both recent revisions to the UNCITRAL Model Law and to the UNCITRAL Arbitration Rules)

Co-Editor, Global Arbitration Review – Guide to Construction Arbitration

Editorial Advisory Board, Global Arbitration Review

Honorary Professor of Law, School for International Arbitration, Centre for Commercial Law Studies, Queen Mary University of London

Various conference providers, including the Institute for Transnational Arbitration and Juris