About NYIAC

NYIAC was founded to promote and enhance New York as a leading hub for international arbitration and other forms of alternative dispute resolution. Working with arbitral institutions, practitioners and arbitrators, the judiciary, and the academic community, NYIAC facilitates discussion and offers educational programs on why parties should choose New York as a seat and venue for both international commercial and investment treaty arbitration. NYIAC also operates a world-class hearing center that provides a neutral, private, modern space for the conduct of international arbitrations (either ad hoc or under any institutional rules). NYIAC was founded by an extraordinary group of leaders at law firms and within the local bar association, who saw the need for an independent non-profit to promote New York and to provide world-class hearing space. The founders do not retain any ownership interest in NYIAC.
Welcome

James H. Carter  
Chair of the Board

International arbitration in New York is big business. In 2016, the United States remained the third most frequently chosen country for arbitration under the auspices of the International Court of Arbitration of the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC), after France and Switzerland. Eighty ICC new cases were seated in the United States, an increase of 33% over 2015. And New York has by far the largest market share of the U.S. cases, with more than half of new ICC cases nationwide being seated in New York City.

The New York International Arbitration Center (NYIAC) was founded to foster the dynamism of the New York arbitration community and to respond to the need for neutral hearing space in Manhattan. NYIAC was founded in 2013 under the leadership of the peerless Judge Judith S. Kaye, with the generous support of market-leading law firms and bar association sections (pages 4-5). Since then, NYIAC has hosted over 115 bookings and 40 programs. Parties choose NYIAC as the venue for their hearings because of its neutrality, expertise, all-inclusive technology, and comfort (pages 6-7).

Parties choose New York as the seat for their international arbitration disputes for similar reasons: the neutrality of its courts and laws, the expertise of its local practitioners, and the convenience of holding hearings in New York. At NYIAC, we continued to highlight New York’s role as a leading arbitral seat where party choices are respected and international standards are the norm (pages 8-9).

In 2016-2017, our programming showcased the tremendous talent in the New York arbitration community and engaged current and future leaders in active dialogue regarding best practices worldwide (pages 12-13). In 2016, in honor of NYIAC’s Founding Chair, we instituted the Judith S. Kaye Arbitration Lecture in conjunction with NYIAC’s annual Grand Central Forum. The first Kaye Lecture was given by Gary Born, one of the world’s leading authorities on international arbitration. The second, in 2017, was given by Meg Kinnear, the Secretary-General of the International Center for the Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID) (pages 14-15).

Finally, October 2017 marks an important transition for NYIAC as a new Executive Director takes the helm. Rekha Rangachari, a New York qualified lawyer who previously served as Director of ADR Services for the New York Commercial Division of the American Arbitration Association, has extensive experience in arbitration and a clear vision for NYIAC. Along with its tremendous Board of Directors (pages 10-11), NYIAC is in excellent hands as it moves into its fifth year.

Rekha Rangachari  
Incoming Executive Director

Alexandra Dosman  
Executive Director

James H. Carter  
Alexandra Dosman
Our Founders

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Winston & Strawn LLP
NYSBA Dispute Resolution Section
NYSBA International Section
NYIAC deeply mourns the passing of our Founding Chair, the Hon. Judith S. Kaye, former Chief Judge of the New York State Court of Appeals, in January 2016. We were privileged to have her take on the leadership of the Center. She brought it from a concept to a reality and led it with her inimitable warmth, grace, and humor. Judge Kaye’s work in defining and realizing the vision of a dynamic arbitration center in Midtown Manhattan has contributed immeasurably to maintaining New York’s position as a capital of international dispute resolution. Judge Kaye’s legacy will honor her memory.

The flag of the City of New York (background image) inspired Judge Kaye to choose blue and orange as NYIAC’s colors.
Why parties

Neutrality
Experience your hearing on neutral ground, where neither party has the “home court” advantage. No sharing conference space with other law firm clients, potentially compromising confidentiality. At NYIAC, your case is the main event.

Convenience
NYIAC is ideally located in Midtown Manhattan, next to Grand Central Terminal. The United Nations, Bryant Park, and Fifth Avenue are all steps away. At NYIAC, every detail matters, and we do all we can to anticipate and address our clients’ needs.

Expertise
Our facilities were purpose built for international cases. A simultaneous translation booth is available in our Central Park and Bryant Park rooms. Having hosted over 115 hearings, our staff can anticipate the needs of each hearing to provide a seamless experience.

Learn more and book your next hearing at NYIAC by visiting www.nyiac.org
We have welcomed cases from a myriad of industries and institutions, and parties from around the globe. Data for 2016-2017 show that the ICC and ICDR had the largest number of hearings at NYIAC. NYIAC welcomes bookings for arbitrations conducted under any arbitral rules and administered by any arbitral institution, as well as ad hoc arbitrations and mediations.

Having had several hearings at NYIAC in recent years, both as counsel and arbitrator, I have nothing but praise for the quality of the hearing rooms and the NYIAC staff. The hearings rooms are first rate, spacious, and everything always runs smoothly.
– John Fellas, Hughes, Hubbard & Reed LLP

From a court reporter’s perspective, the large hearing room at NYIAC allows me and my colleagues to make an excellent hearing record and the professional staff members are very helpful in assisting us with any additional technical requirements we may need in order to perform our jobs properly, and this is a big plus for us!
– David Kasdan, Worldwide Reporting LLP

choose NYIAC

All-inclusive technology
Our hearing rooms feature technology needed for a modern hearing, including the ability to hear witnesses by videoconferencing. In 2016, we added to our standard technology offerings, which now include a 70-inch, mobile flat-screen high-resolution display, 12 individual monitors for the tribunal, parties, witnesses, and 12 wireless microphones. Use of NYIAC’s technology is included in our rental rates. We do extensive testing prior to the hearing start day so that you can get straight to the presentation of your case.

Comfort
Enjoy complimentary coffee, Nespresso, tea and cold beverages in our café. Each room is equipped with generous shelving and benefits from natural light. You may be in a hearing, but you do not need to be shut away from the sun.
In New York you can have the kind of international arbitration that you choose, from the most traditional to the most innovative, and with confidence that the courts will support that choice.

- “Why Choose New York for International Arbitration,” a detailed guide produced by the New York State Bar Association Dispute Resolution Section, International Dispute Resolution Subcommittee, and supported by the New York State Bar Association International Section and by NYIAC. Download the Guide at www.nyiac.org
In 2016, the United States was the third most frequently chosen country for the seat of ICC arbitration, after France and Switzerland. Eighty new cases were seated in the United States, an increase of 33% over 2015. Consistent with the results in recent years, New York had by far the largest market share of the U.S. cases. Learn more at www.nyiac.org
NYIAC Board of Directors

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Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver & Jacobson LLP (2017)

*Non-officer member of the Executive Committee as of October 2017
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Shearman & Sterling LLP

Stephen P. Younger
Patterson Belknap Webb & Tyler LLP

David Zaslowsky
Baker & McKenzie LLP (2016)
NYIAC Annual Meeting (January 28, 2016), hosted by Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison LLP ... When Third Party Funders Meet Requests for Costs and Security for Costs (February 3, 2016), speakers included Donald F. Donovan (Debevoise & Plimpton LLP) ... Arbitration in Africa: Recent and Future Developments (February 4, 2016), speakers included Ina Popova (Debevoise & Plimpton LLP) and Corinne Montineri (UNCITRAL) ... Revisiting Chromalloy: Enforcing Vacated Awards Under the New York Convention (March 8, 2016), speakers included George Bermann (Columbia Law School), Catherine Rogers (Penn State Law), and Louis B. Kimmelman (Sidley Austin LLP) ... Reflections on the Changing Landscape of International Arbitration: José Ricardo Feris (February 24, 2016) ... Reception for NYC-Area LLM Students (April 1, 2016), supported by Squire Patton Boggs (US) LLP ... Corruption and International Arbitration: a 360° View (April 7, 2016), speakers included Daniel Schimmel (Foley Hoag LLP) ... Yukos: the Dutch Proceedings (April 25, 2016), featuring Jennifer Permesly (Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP) ... Book Launch for International Commercial Arbitration in New York, 2ed., by James H. Carter (WilmerHale) and John Fellas (Hughes, Hubbard & Reed LLP) (October 13, 2016) ... In Camera Breakfast Series: Exploring Intra-Tribunal Dynamics and Decision-Making (October 26, 2016), featuring Caline Mouawad (King & Spalding LLP) and moderated by Alexandra Dosman (NYIAC) ...“Twilight Issues” in International Arbitration: Where Should Arbitrators Look for Guidance?” (November 11, 2016), speakers included Global Advisory Board Co-Chair George A. Bermann (Columbia Law School), Louis B. Kimmelman (Sidley Austin LLP), Wendy J. Miles QC (Debevoise & Plimpton LLP), and John M. Townsend (Hughes, Hubbard & Reed LLP)
NYIAC’s Program Committee is charged with developing original programming on cutting-edge topics and forging connections with leading arbitral institutions. NYIAC events showcase the depth and breadth of thought leadership in the New York international arbitration community. Special thank you to our programming partners in 2016-2017:
The 2016 Kaye Lecture was given by Gary Born, Chair of the International Arbitration Practice Group at Wilmer Hale, in the format of a conversation with Aníbal Sabater (Chaffetz Lindsay LLP) and Claudia Salomon (Latham & Watkins LLP). Born’s contention that international arbitration has enjoyed “a long golden summer when everything went right,” but that “winter is coming” and as such the community needs to defend it more vigorously, was widely reported in the trade press.

On May 18, 2016, the inaugural Judith S. Kaye Arbitration Lecture was introduced by John L. Gardiner (Skadden Arps), who recalled Judge Kaye’s devotion to international arbitration and to NYIAC.

The 2016 Kaye Lecture was preceded by a Grand Central Forum, in which a panel of experts debated the question: “Is There a U.S. Culture of International Arbitration”? The panel, moderated by Caline Mouawad (King & Spalding LLP), featured Jalal El Ahdab (Ginestie Magellan Paley-Vincent), Franco Ferrari (New York University School of Law), Claudia Frutos-Peterson (Curtis Mallet-Prevost, Colt & Mosle LLP), Greg Litt (Skadden Arps), and Eloïse Obadia (Derains & Gharavi).

The reception following the program was generously supported by Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP.
Held on May 1, the 2017 Kaye Lecture featured Meg Kinnear, the Secretary-General of ICSID, in conversation with Richard Kreindler (Cleary Gottlieb). With 153 member states, the International Center for the Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID) is effectively a global investment court system, having administered more than 70% of all known cases between foreign investors and sovereign states. Ms. Kinnear shared her insights on the ICSID rules amendment process, diversity in arbitration, challenges to arbitrators, and remedies for both investors and states.

The 2017 Grand Central Forum considered the question: “Does the Use of Witness Statements in International Arbitration Operate as a Fraud on the Tribunal?” Phillip Allen Lacovara (Independent Arbitrator) and Frances Bivens (Davis Polk) treated the audience to a lively debate.

Judge Kaye loved conversations and discussions of this kind - she would be beaming ear to ear to see these speakers and this audience.

- James H. Carter, NYIAC Chair

SULLIVAN & CROMWELL LLP

The reception following the programme was generously supported by Sullivan & Cromwell LLP. CLE was support provided by Davis Polk LLP.
Global Advisors

NYIAC is fortunate to have access to the input and guidance of a group of leading arbitrators, academics, and arbitral institution representatives from around the globe.

Gerald Aksen  Co-Chair
George Bermann  Co-Chair
Gary Born  Jean Monnet Professor of EU Law,
Robert Davidson  Walter Gellhorn Professor of Law & Director,
Linda J. Silberman  Center for International Commercial and
Emmanuel Gaillard  Investment Arbitration, Columbia Law School
Teresa Giovannini  Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr LLP
Jacqueline Nolan-Haley  Executive Director, JAMS Arbitration Practice
Neil Kaplan  Martin Lipton Professor of Law & Co-Director, Center for
Meg Kinnear  Transnational Litigation, Arbitration, and Commercial Law, New York University School of Law
Christopher Lau  Shearman & Sterling LLP
Seok Hui Lim  LALIVE
Salim Moollan  Professor of Law, Fordham University
William W. Park  Independent Arbitrator
Jan Paulsson  Secretary-General, International Centre for Settlement of
José Emilio Nunes Pinto  Investment Disputes
Catherine A. Rogers  R. Gordon Butler Scholar in International Law and Professor of Law, Boston University
James P. Wood  Three Crowns LLP
JENP Advogados

Gerald Aksen  Academic Director, Straus Institute for Dispute Resolution, William H. Webster Chair in Dispute Resolution, and Professor of Law, Pepperdine University School of Law
S.I. Strong  Associate Professor of Law & Senior Fellow, Center for the Study of Dispute Resolution, University of Missouri School of Law
Eduardo Zuleta  Zuleta Abogados Asociados
UNCITRAL Engagement

NYIAC is honored to participate as an Observer at the Working Group II meetings of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL), which take place twice yearly, in New York and in Vienna.

UNCITRAL Working Group II is currently working on the possibility of an international treaty facilitating the enforcement of conciliated settlement agreements, which would play a role similar to that of the New York Convention in the context of arbitral awards.

NYIAC also hopes to participate in the work of UNCITRAL Working Group III, which will consider reform of the investor-state dispute settlement (ISDS) system.

*    *    *

In 2017, NYIAC was delighted to host a program on the occasion of the New York launch of the Hardback Special Edition of the UNCITRAL Secretariat Guide on the New York Convention. The Guide canvasses the richness of the national case law on the New York Convention in an objective manner by analysing the judicial interpretation and application of each of its provisions by reference to case law from over 45 contracting States.

The Guide was presented alongside an updated version of the www.newyorkconvention1958.org website, an interactive online platform developed by UNCITRAL, Shearman & Sterling and Columbia Law School. It provides free access to more than 1,700 cases from a wide number of common law and civil law jurisdictions, and also includes more than 100 English translations of those decisions.

NYIAC Case Law Library

On January 1, 2015, NYIAC began collecting and cataloguing international arbitration decisions issued by New York courts as part of its Case Law Library project. Now those decisions – and key identifying information such as the decision date, the stage of the case, and the main issues treated by the court – are freely available on the NYIAC website. Each entry contains a public link to the decision itself: there is no need to log into PACER or other subscription-based service. Mark Stadnyk (Squire Patton Boggs) and Gretta Walters (Chaffetz Lindsey) provide leadership on this project.

View the Case Law Library Online at www.nyiac.org/case-law-library
Frequently Asked Questions

Q1: Does NYIAC administer arbitrations?
A1: No, NYIAC does not administer arbitrations. It rents hearing rooms for arbitrations and mediations as well as providing programming to support international arbitration in New York.

Q2: If my arbitration clause requires arbitration with another organization, can I have my hearings at NYIAC?
A2: Yes, you can hold hearings at NYIAC no matter which organization administers the arbitration or which arbitration rules you use.

Q3: I heard that NYIAC is located next door to the American Arbitration Association (“AAA”). Is NYIAC affiliated with the AAA?
A3: No. NYIAC is an independent non-profit organization that is not affiliated with the AAA or any other arbitral institution. NYIAC leases its space from the AAA, and NYIAC is located adjacent to a AAA hearing center. The two centers also share some costs.

Q4: Does NYIAC have a list of approved or recommended arbitrators?
A4: There are many terrific arbitrators based in New York, but NYIAC does not require or recommend the use of any specific arbitrators. If your arbitration is administered by an organization, that organization may have requirements or procedures for selecting arbitrators.

Q5: Which party pays NYIAC’s room rental fees?
A5: NYIAC’s fees are the responsibility of all parties to the arbitration and must be paid before the hearings can commence. While cost shifting is available in some arbitrations, that is a matter between the parties and the arbitral tribunal.

Q6: Do you have to be a member of NYIAC to rent hearing rooms?
A6: Absolutely not. NYIAC is open to all!

Q7: Does anyone have a financial stake in NYIAC?
A7: No. NYIAC is an independent non-profit organization. NYIAC’s founding firms provide voluntary financial support to the organization, but they do not own the organization and they have no stake in its financial success.

Q8: How do I learn more about your hearing rooms?
A8: Floorplans, photographs, rates, reviews, and client services options are available at www.nyiac.org, or just give us a call at +1 917 300 9550.
Individual Membership

A NYIAC individual membership provides access to an international network of top arbitration practitioners and professionals. Individual members are featured in an online directory, enjoy exclusive breakfast sessions featuring thought leaders in the field of dispute resolution, and attend programs and conferences at discounted rates. Support NYIAC’s work and join today!

Why Join?

Networking
Individual membership provides access to a community of the leading international arbitration practitioners.

Membership Directory
An online directory of members, with photos and downloadable CVs, is available to the public at [www.nyiac.org/member-directory](http://www.nyiac.org/member-directory).

Events
NYIAC organizes members-only events to facilitate relationship building in the international arbitration community.

CLE and Conferences
Members are entitled to discounts on NYIAC programs and conference fees.

Who May Join?
Lawyers, arbitration practitioners, academics and students.