



International Arbitration

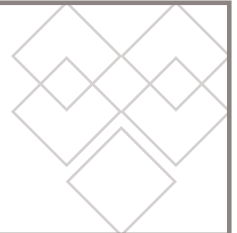
2021



PROFILED:

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RESEARCH



International Arbitration



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PERSONAL BIOGRAPHY

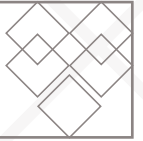
José Alberro co-heads Cornerstone Research's International Arbitration and Litigation practice. A sought-after authority with over two decades of consulting experience, Dr Alberro brings a multifaceted perspective from his previous roles as a tenured professor, high-level government official and corporate leader. He taught economics in the US, UK and Mexico, served in the Mexican government, and was CEO of a \$10bn gas and liquids company. As an ICSID arbitrator and ICC expert/sole arbitrator, Dr Alberro has testified in English, Spanish and French in ICC, ICSID, UNCITRAL, ECT and ICDR/AAA international arbitrations in investor-state and commercial cases on four continents.

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Q&A WITH JOSÉ ALBERRO

**What do you consider to be your major career achievements?**

◆ My career achievements are the result of my varied professional experiences. Being tricultural and a native speaker of French and Spanish enables me to understand and interpret the diverse political and business backgrounds of international arbitration. Highlights of my academic career include becoming a tenured full professor at age 33, and having my PhD research cited in the 1995 Nobel Prize in Economics Lecture. My research expertise led to several senior positions in the Mexican government. During the NAFTA negotiations, I was chief negotiator for PEMEX, the Mexican oil and gas company. I later became founding chief executive of PEMEX Gas y Petroquímica Básica, PEMEX's gas and gas liquids subsidiary. These experiences gave me powerful insight into how strategic and operational decisions affect organisations. As an expert witness, I combine diverse skills – academic knowledge, negotiating expertise and business acumen – and apply them in complex investor-state and commercial cases on four continents.

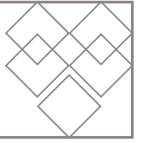
Could you provide an insight into how you approach your work? What drives and motivates you?

◆ Research and intellectual rigour motivate me. I am passionate about applying my decades of analytical expertise and industry knowledge to the challenges our clients face. Methodological acumen is critical, as is a commitment to delivering the highest quality work. At the same time, I am driven by intellectual curiosity: considering a problem from multiple perspectives can provide valuable, and sometimes unexpected, insights. Collaborating with colleagues on the many cases in which I am engaged, whether in a testifying or non-testifying role, is always rewarding. Communicating effectively is just as important as possessing robust



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analytical skills and an inquiring mind. As a teacher, I am experienced in explaining complex issues. Being able to speak and read multiple languages is an additional asset.



What strengths and characteristics do you, your team, and your firm strive to demonstrate to clients?

◆ Cornerstone Research is uniquely placed to create value for our clients. In maintaining a strong international arbitration practice, we look for highly qualified individuals with exceptional analytical skills in quantum of damages, sophisticated modelling and financial analyses. Our international arbitration experts understand and adapt to the procedures and customs of varied venues and countries. Many of our staff and consultants also have fluency in multiple international languages. We are industry leaders in large-scale data analytics, supporting clients with an array of secure analytical, artificial intelligence, and machine learning tools and techniques. This expertise enables us to deliver analyses of exceptional depth, and provides clients with a distinct advantage. With new issues and precedents emerging in commercial arbitrations involving cyber security and intellectual property rights, our leadership becomes even more critical. We have particular expertise in automotive, energy and commodities, healthcare, hydrocarbons, life sciences, mining, securities and financial services, and telecommunications. ■

"I AM PASSIONATE ABOUT APPLYING MY DECADES OF ANALYTICAL EXPERTISE AND INDUSTRY KNOWLEDGE TO THE CHALLENGES OUR CLIENTS FACE. METHODOLOGICAL ACUMEN IS CRITICAL, AS IS A COMMITMENT TO DELIVERING THE HIGHEST QUALITY WORK."

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  REPRESENTATIVE ENGAGEMENTS

- ◆ Testified before ICSID for the claimant in the matter of *ConocoPhillips Petrozuata B.V. et al. v. Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela*, about expropriation of three crude oil venture projects. A core issue was the relationship between the expropriation's lawfulness and the standard of compensation. A tribunal awarded over \$8.3bn to the claimants.
- ◆ Calculated damages for cancelled uranium licences and testified in an international arbitration involving cancellation of a mining company's licences to conduct operations in Mongolia. The tribunal awarded the mining company approximately \$100m, over five times the amount the respondent argued had been invested in the project.
- ◆ Testified for Costa Rica in an ICSID arbitration about rejected applications for LP gas tariff increases. While the tribunal found that Costa Rica had violated its international obligations, it awarded zero damages and ordered the claimant to pay the Costa Rican government 50 percent of expenses.

