

JUAN FERNÁNDEZ-ARRESTO

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Juan Fernández-Armesto is a professional arbitrator and also Chaired Professor of Commercial Law in Madrid. He has been President of the Spanish Securities and Exchange Commission (CNMV) (1996-2000) and partner of Uría & Menéndez (1983-1996).

A profile of Juan Fernández-Armesto was published on November 17, 1997 in the *Financial Times*.

On May 13, 2009 a jury organized by *El Mundo*, the Spanish daily, included him among the 20 persons “most important in the global finance and economy within the last two decades”.

Chambers Guide 2009 lists Juan F.-Armesto (“Most in Demand Arbitrators – International”) (“*bringing a wealth of experience to his arbitration work ... and is regarded by some as the best of the best in Spain*”) (“*one of the most prestigious arbitrators in the world, with a great commercial mind*”).

Experience as arbitrator

Since 2001 Juan F.-Armesto has acted as sole arbitrator, co-arbitrator or chairman in more than 70 proceedings, including commercial, construction and investment arbitrations.

Commercial disputes typically involve sales of enterprises (misrepresentations, adjustment of price, accounting issues), shareholders’ agreements and joint venture contracts, termination of agency and distributorship agreements, finance and banking agreements and hotel management agreements. Construction disputes relate to infrastructure projects, dams, power plants, oil and gas pipelines, turnkey plant construction agreement...

As regards investment arbitrations under ICSID Rules, he has participated in the following cases: *Unisys Corporation vs. Argentine Republic* (Chairman), *SAUR International vs. Argentine Republic* (Chairman), *Phoenix Action Ltd. vs. Czech Republic* (Co-Arbitrator), *Joseph Charles Lemire vs. Ukraine* (Chairman), *Tza Yap Shum vs. Republic of Peru* (Co-Arbitrator), *City Oriente Limited vs. Republic of Ecuador and Empresa Estatal Petróleos del Ecuador* (Chairman). Juan F.-Armesto is also chairman in an investment arbitration under NAFTA (*Vito G. Gallo vs. Government of Canada*), co-arbitrator in a procedure under CAFTA and he has been chairman in an arbitration between Central Banks under ALADI rules.

International commercial arbitrations in which he acted as arbitrator include more than 29 cases administered by the ICC, plus cases administered by AAA, LCIA, and *ad hoc* procedures under UNCITRAL Rules. He has acted as mediator in a case managed by the ICC.

In domestic Spanish arbitrations, he has acted as arbitrator in more than 25 cases, under the administration of *Corte Española de Arbitraje*, *Corte de Arbitraje de Madrid*, *Tribunal Arbitral de Barcelona*, *CIMA* and *ad hoc*.

Member of the Panel of Arbitrators of ICSID, designated by the Kingdom of Spain. Other arbitration panels of which he is member include AAA/ICDR, Euroarbitration, CIMA and Corte de Arbitraje de Madrid.

Vice-Chairman, IBA Arbitration Committee (2008-).

Co-founder and Vice-Chairman, Club Español del Arbitraje (Spanish Arbitration Association) (2005-).

Representative, Spanish Committee at the ICC Arbitration Commission (2001-).

Public appointment

In October 1996 Juan F.-Armesto was designated by the Spanish government Chairman of the Spanish Securities and Exchange Commission (CNMV), an institution modelled on the American SEC, and with equivalent powers. The CNMV is an independent regulator, entrusted with the supervision of the Spanish stock exchanges, including public offerings and tenders of securities, and mergers and acquisitions among listed companies. It also acts as regulator of the brokerage and the investment fund industry. The CNMV's scope of activity includes the investigation and sanctioning of insider trading, market manipulation and other abusive conducts in the securities area.

As Chairman of the CNMV he chaired more than 200 disciplinary proceedings in matters relating to the securities markets.

The four-year term for which he was designated expired in October 2000.

Professional and academic experience

Between 1983 and 1996, Juan F.-Armesto was partner of the law firm Uría & Menéndez. In 1993 he became the head of the litigation and arbitration area of the firm and acted as counsel in more than 40 domestic and international arbitrations.

In 1978 he started to teach commercial law as Assistant Professor at Comillas University - ICADE in Madrid. He was designated Chaired Professor of such University in 1988.

Curriculum vitae

Born in New York in 1953, he lived for 10 years in Germany, obtained the *Abitur* at the German School in Madrid (1972), and then received Degrees in Law (ICADE, Madrid, 1977) and in Business Administration (ICADE, Madrid, 1978) and an *Iuris Doctor* (Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, 1983 *summa cum laude*).

He has been awarded by the Spanish Government the “Gran Cruz de la Orden de Isabel La Católica”, Spain’s highest civil order.

Bilingual: Spanish-German; English; Portuguese and working knowledge of French.

Publications and conferences

Juan F.-Armesto has published two books, various chapters in collective publications, numerous articles and participated as speaker in more than one hundred and fifty public events.

A full list of his articles and the text of many of them, as well as his conferences, can be seen in the “Publications and Conferences” area of this web site.

The text of his speeches as chairman of the CNMV can be found in www.cnmv.es