

## Catherine Bratic

Senior Associate

Houston

### Biography

Whether the audience is a judge or a panel of arbitrators, Catherine Bratic helps clients navigate complex, high-value, cross-border disputes. She provides strategic and practical guidance to global clients in the energy and technology sectors as well as to states and state-owned entities.

Trained in civil and common law and dual-qualified in Texas and France, Catherine is adept at navigating cross-cultural issues. She draws on her past experience as a legal fellow at UNESCO and as a clerk for the Honorable Lee H. Rosenthal (Chief Judge, Southern District of Texas) to help clients prevent disputes, negotiate solutions, and – when all else fails – pursue legal action. Catherine's experience includes advising clients before arbitral tribunals under the ICC, UNCITRAL, ICSID, AAA, ICDR, SCAI, and LCIA rules, as well as before national courts.

Catherine is a member of the firm's steering committee on women in arbitration, and she frequently writes on matters relating to energy arbitration, international trade agreements, and arbitration proceedings in U.S. courts.

### Representative experience

Representing a European oil and gas company in an ICC arbitration in relation to a price review of a long-term gas sales contract.



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### Languages

English  
French

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### Practices

Commercial Litigation  
Energy Disputes  
International Arbitration  
Litigation Services  
Technology Litigation

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### Industries

Energy and Natural Resources  
Technology and Telecoms

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Advising two American companies in respect of ICSID claims against the Kingdom of Morocco under trade and investment treaties.

Representing an American company in a contract dispute involving the operation of a chemicals plant in France.

Representing a European company in various disputes under ICC Rules relating to the purchase of helium under long-term supply contracts.

Representing a French engineering company in a breach-of-contract dispute under SCAI rules. The dispute is related to a former consultant's claims arising out of multiple EPC projects in Saudi Arabia.

Representing a French company and its American subsidiaries in breach of contract and antitrust litigation in federal court related to the supply of aircraft engines.

Representing a Hong Kong company in ICDR arbitration related to the breach of a distribution agreement with a Brazilian company.

Representing Canadian and US investors in disputes against Mexico under NAFTA.

Advising an American oil and gas company on the negotiation of concession agreements for four oil blocks in Colombia.

Representing a media group in three ICC arbitration proceedings in relation to breaches of several agreements in connection with their business in the Middle East.

Representing a Cameroonian investor in LCIA proceedings relating to a telecom concession agreement granted to a South African partner.

Representing a Japanese bank in Texas state court proceedings brought by American investors related to notes for the purchase of a drillship in Brazil.

Representing the Republic of Venezuela in ICSID annulment proceedings brought by an investor seeking to challenge an award in Venezuela's favor.

## Areas of focus

Public International Law

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## Education and admissions

### Education

J.D., Columbia Law School, 2013

Masters in Economic Law, Sciences Po, 2013

B.A., Political Science and French Studies, Rice University, 2010

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### Memberships

Chair-Elect, Houston Bar Association, Federal Practice Section

Chair, Young ITA (Institute of Transnational Arbitration)

Member, Federal Bar Association, Southern District of Texas Division

Member, ArbitralWomen

Member, French-American Chamber of Commerce

Member, International Chamber of Commerce Young Arbitrators Forum

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### Bar admissions and qualifications

Texas

Paris

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### Court admissions

U.S. Court of Appeals, Fifth Circuit

U.S. Court of Appeals, Ninth Circuit

Representing a Japanese pharmaceutical company in ICC proceedings relating to the overseas commercialization of a medical device.

Representing the Navajo Nation in U.S. federal court proceedings regarding the constitutionality of the Indian Child Welfare Act.

U.S. District Court, Southern District of Texas

U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Texas

U.S. District Court, Northern District of Texas

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## Awards and rankings

- Commercial Litigation, Ones to Watch, *The Best Lawyers in America*, 2020-2021

## Latest thinking and events

- Sponsorships and Speaking Engagements
  - Networking in the new normal: Staying engaged
- Published Works
  - Competence-corrections: Fifth Circuit in the U.S. says arbitrators decide what "correction" means *Kluwer Arbitration Blog*
- News
  - Second Circuit confirms: No discovery for private international arbitrations
- News
  - COVID-19: will State measures give rise to a new set of investment claims?
- Published Works
  - Life afta' NAFTA: USMCA Protects U.S. Investors in Mexican Energy Sector *Texas Lawyer*
- Published Works
  - "The parties hereby waive all recourse ... but not that one." Why parties adopt exclusion agreements and why courts hesitate *International Bar Association*