



Valikhan Shaikenov is a leading Central Asian arbitration practitioner and co-founding partner of ADL Disputes, a boutique disputes firm with offices in Astana and Almaty. With twenty years of experience, he has acted as counsel, arbitrator and expert witness in numerous international commercial and investment cases under the LCIA, ICC, SCC, UNCITRAL, TIAC, CIETAC, and AIFC Rules. His practice covers disputes in construction, energy, international trade, finance, infrastructure, foreign investments, and subsoil use, with proceedings seated in London, Geneva, Stockholm, Washington D.C., Tashkent and Astana, governed by laws including English, Swiss, New York, Brazilian, Kazakh, Russian and Uzbek.

He is recognised by Lexology Index for Germany (formerly Who's Who Legal) – *Recommended Practitioner* (2020-2026) and *Thought Leader* (2023); Chambers and Partners and Legal 500 (Leading Individual, since 2015); and asialaw Profiles (Distinguished Practitioner). Peers describe him as “*the guru of Kazakhstan law... extremely cerebral and clear-thinking*” (Legal 500).

Valikhan serves as Delegate to the ICC Commission on Arbitration and ADR (appointed by ICC Ukraine), Ambassador of the Vienna International Arbitration Centre (VIAC) for Kazakhstan, and Co-Chair of the KazBar Arbitration and Litigation Committee. He is also a Foreign-Registered Lawyer before the Superior Court of Berlin and a member of the Kazakhstan Bar Association.

He studied and conducted research in Almaty, Washington D.C., London, Halle (Germany) and Berlin, holding an LL.M. (Georgetown), and graduated from the ICC Advanced Arbitration Academy for Eastern Europe (2023-2024).

Valikhan is the author of over twenty publications on international arbitration, civil procedure, civil law, constitutional law, and jurisprudence, including contributions to *Chambers Global Practice Guides*, *Kluwer Law International* and *Global Arbitration Review*. He frequently speaks at regional and international conferences.

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