

**FAHIRA BRODLIJA**  
**CURRICULUM VITAE**

**Nationality:** Bosnia and Herzegovina

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**I EDUCATION**

**University of Pittsburgh School of Law, Pittsburgh, PA LL.M in International Law and Arbitration, May 2017 (full scholarship)**

- Main focus of studies: International dispute resolution, international arbitration, alternative dispute resolution, ethics and compliance
- Activities: International Arbitration Conference New York (October 2016) LL.M. International Investment Arbitration Competition (Washington D.C. April 2017)
- Contributor to the Jurist Publication

**University of Sarajevo, Faculty of Law, Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina Bachelor of Law, July 2016**

- Activities: Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot (2015 - participant, 2016 onwards - coach)
- GIZ sponsored Begleitstudium (Education on German Law)
- Big Deal 2015 (Competition in Commercial and Business Law)
- Humanity in Action Senior Fellow (Berlin, 2016)

**II EXPERIENCE**

**Rule of Law Advisor – ISDS Reform Project Manager for the Western Balkans Region**

*Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH Legal Reform for Economic Development in the Western Balkans (2022- )*

**Capacity development**

- Organized and implemented training on investment treaties and dispute resolution for over 100 government officials in the Western Balkans, Southeastern Europe and Africa.
- Organized and implemented treaty negotiation simulations for over 20 government officials in the Western Balkans.
- Organized and implemented mediation workshops for over 50 government officials in the Western Balkans.
- Developed or contributed to the development of training workshops, exercises and hypothetical cases.

## **Policy development**

- Advised and supported government officials in the Western Balkans in the development of model provisions for their modernized investment treaties, including a model ISDS clause for the region.
- Advised government officials in the Western Balkans in the development of their Model bilateral investment treaties, two of which were finalized in 2023 (not yet publicly available).
- Supported the development of investor-State mediation strategies.

## **Design of institutional dispute prevention mechanisms**

- Developed a model mapping of communication channels for the Western Balkans for the enhancement of intra-governmental and investor-State communication, aimed at identifying and preventing investment disputes.
- Supported the design of tailored dispute prevention mechanisms for governments, three of which have been established and are currently tested.

## **The main project highlights include:**

- Development of communication roadmaps for the prevention and mitigation of investment disputes in the Western Balkans
- Development of proposed ISDS mediation strategies for the Western Balkans governments
- Technical support in the design of coordination bodies for the prevention and resolution of investment disputes (one body approved and two currently deliberated)
- Technical support for the reform and development of model bilateral investment treaties
- Technical support in the negotiation
- Regional training or trainers for investment law and dispute resolution
- Simulation of a treaty negotiation in collaboration with the Czech Ministry of Finance
- National mediation workshops and simulations for the competent institutions in collaboration with ICSID

## **Director of Research and Development**

### *Arbitrator Intelligence (January 2020-2022)*

- Management and coordination of the process of research, collection and data management on international arbitration cases and arbitrators through specialized methodology.
- Arbitrator Intelligence is a global data aggregator, seeking to improve the diversity, accountability, and transparency in international arbitration.
- Arbitrator Intelligence collects data on the performance of arbitrators through the online, anonymous Arbitrator Intelligence Questionnaire which is filled by arbitration users.

### **Adjunct Lecturer**

*International University of Sarajevo (September 2019-)*

- Teaching the Civil Law, Civil Procedure, International Arbitration course for JD students;
- Coaching the Vis Moot teams and lecturing at the international arbitration legal clinic of the university;
- Organizing the annual IUS Summer School on International Arbitration since 2021 featuring Gary Born, Steven Finizio, Maja Stanivuković, Toni Deskoski, Ilija Mitrev Penushliski, and others.

### **Country Coordinator**

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH Open Regional Fund or South-East Europe – Legal Reform/ISDS Reform project (March 2019-2021)

- Co-manager of the sub project for ISDS reform in the Western Balkans.
- Main activities: Preparation for the participation of delegations in the UNCITRAL Working Group III sessions, legal research and analysis, drafting model clauses and other legal tools, drafting project documentation, reports and memoranda; organization of events, regional seminars and working sessions, including the logistical and administrative coordination; Providing support to regional governments in their participation in the UNCITRAL Working Group III sessions; Coordination of project activities with regional partners and stakeholders, Coordination and communication with high-level country representatives, Assistance in the participation of regional delegations in international discussions, Contribution to the overall improvement of the legal framework in the region through various projects (mapping of the ISDS structures in the region, development of model clauses with national and international experts, etc.).

The main project highlights include:

- Mapping of the network of international investment treaties in the Western Balkans and the past and present ISDS cases
- Development of a ISDS Lexicon for the competent institutions in the Western Balkans
- Coordination of the submission of two joint submissions of the Western Balkans government to the UNCITRAL Working Group III (ISDS reform)
- Development of the model ISDS clause for the Western Balkans governments (used in three model BITs in the region to date)

### **Project Legal Officer**

*National Center for State Courts Office in BiH Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina (August 2018 – March 2019)*

- Legal research and analysis, Development of criminal procedure law guidelines for professors, practitioners and students, Organizing and implementing trainings and presentations, Establishing connections between legal academics and legal practitioners in Bosnia and

Herzegovina, Establishing connections between students, professors and legal practitioners from the Federation of BiH and Republika Srpska Generating website content and maintaining project website, Conducting positive public diplomacy campaign, Monitoring and evaluation Regular reporting (biweekly, monthly, quarterly)

### **Project Legal Officer**

*Youth Initiative for Human Rights BiH Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina (March 2018- March 2019)*

*Mock Trial Project (funded by INL USA)*

- Legal research and analysis, Development of criminal procedure law guidelines for professors, practitioners and students, Organizing and implementing trainings and presentations, Establishing connections between legal academics and legal practitioners in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Establishing connections between students, professors and legal practitioners from the Federation of BiH and Republika Srpska Generating website content and maintaining project website, Conducting positive public diplomacy campaign, Monitoring and evaluation, Regular reporting (biweekly, monthly, quarterly).

### **International Arbitration Trainee**

*Al Jazy & Co. Law Consultants Amman, Jordan (November 2017-February 2018)*

- Legal research and analysis;
- Drafting of memoranda, briefs and submissions on a broad range of topics of commercial law and alternative dispute resolution;
- Review and analysis of party submissions in arbitral proceedings;
- Participation in case management, consulting and development of legal strategies;
- Correspondence with and assistance to the partners and counsel within the law firm

### **Intern (Ethics and Compliance Department)**

*Alcoa Corp. Ethics and Compliance Department Pittsburgh, PA, U.S. (June-September 2017)*

- Legal research and analysis, drafting of reports Preparation of training materials for directors' and officers' compliance training, Preparation of Trade Compliance Newsletters, Research of updates and trends in anti-corruption legislation and regulation

### **Other engagements and memberships**

- Member of The American Review of International Arbitration Panel of Advisors, at Columbia Law School
- Member of Association ARBITRI; member of the organization board for the annual Sarajevo Arbitration Days conference
- Lecturer and tutor at the CIArb Diploma on international arbitration (since February 2021)
- Lecturer at the Africa Arbitration Academy on “Data-Driven and Targeted ISDS Reform in Developing Countries” (London, since 2023)

- Lecturer at the Regional Bar Association, Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Panelist at regional and international conferences including: Juris, VIAC CAN, MCC Budapest ECT Modernization Conference, Balkans Arbitration Day, etc.
- Member of ArbitralWomen
- Member of the Executive Committee of the Western Balkans International Arbitration Writing Competition (WBARB)
- Founder and mentor of the Girls Empowerment and Mentorship (GEM) program, the first regional diversity initiative in the Western Balkans supporting students and young practitioners
- Member of the Board of Directors of the Forum for International Conciliation and Arbitration (FICA)
- Guest lecturer at the University of Pittsburgh, George Washington University, Georgetown University, Penn State University, Columbia University, University of Aberdeen, Bocconi University, Brunel University, University of Sarajevo, University of Zenica, University of Banja Luka, etc.

### **III LANGUAGE SKILLS**

- Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian – native languages
- Fluent in English (written and oral, TOEFL certification) and German (B1 level courses)
- Passive knowledge of French and Spanish

### **IV INTERESTS AND COMMUNITY AFFILIATIONS**

Coach of the Vis Moot team of the University of Sarajevo Faculty of Law since 2016, and the International University of Sarajevo in 2020. Coach of the Dagon University Vis Moot team in 2020. Through this empowering and engaging project, I had the privilege of being a participant in 2015, and it is one of the main reasons why I have become dedicated to international arbitration. The Willem Vis C. International Commercial Arbitration Moot is one of the most prestigious international competitions for law students which is held in Vienna for over a quarter of a century. It encompasses theoretical and practical skills, legal writing, reasoning and advocacy.

Member of Association ARBITRI, an NGO gathering young lawyers who are passionate about arbitration. Activities include educational events, training for the arbitrators of the Commercial Arbitration Court with the Foreign Chamber of Commerce B&H in cooperation with USAID and CLDP, and organizing the annual international arbitration conference, Sarajevo Arbitration Day.

Founder of the Girl Empowerment and Mentorship Program (GEM) is the first diversity initiative for international arbitration launched in the Western Balkans. GEM seeks to multiply and enhance regional collaboration, creating a robust professional support system for international arbitration.

The GEM program connects law students and young professionals to experienced mentors who can provide them academic and professional guidance, advice and support.

Through these efforts,

- Four mentees have successfully found their first internship position at prominent law firms with offices in the region and Europe
- Two mentees obtained LL.M. scholarships at US universities
- One mentee is conducting a significant empirical study with her mentor, which will be covered in a research paper
- One mentee is co-authoring an article which will be published in a prominent international publication
- Several mentees attended events where they met leading experts among scholars and practitioners, including Gary Born, Crina Baltag, Catherine Rogers, Ilija Mitrev Penushliski, Kabir Duggal and many others.

## **V RECENT PUBLICATIONS**

### Published

- Co-editor and contributor of “The Future of Investor-State Dispute Settlement: Reforming Law, Practice and Perspectives for a Fast-Changing World” (Wolters Kluwer International, 2023)
- Co-editor and contributor “International Arbitration, Quo Vadis?” (Kluwer Law International, 2022)
- „The Path of (Re)volution of the International Investor-State Dispute Settlement Regime: A Case Study of Bosnia and Herzegovina“ in „The Investor-State Dispute Settlement System: Reform, Replace or Status Quo?“ Edited by Alan M. Anderson, Ben Beaumont. (Kluwer Law International, 2021).
- Dispute Prevention Mechanisms in Investment Treaties: A Solution Fit for the Future of ISDS, in Nikos Lavranos and Stefano Castagna *International Arbitration and EU Law*, (Edgar Elgar Publishing, 2024)
- „Arbitrator Appointments in the Age of COVID-19“, co-authored with Catherine A. Rogers in „International Arbitration and the COVID-19 Revolution“ co-edited by Maxi Scherer, Niuscha Bassiri, Mohamed S. Abdel Wahab (Kluwer Law International, 2020).
- , 'Sorting the Building Blocks of Investor-State Dispute Settlement Reform: Recent Developments from the UNCITRAL Working Group III', in Nikos Lavranos and Loukas A. Mistelis (eds), European Investment Law and Arbitration, (Kluwer Law International 2024, Volume 9 Issue 1).
- “The Multilateral Investment Court: Necessary ISDS Reform or Self-Fulfilling Prophecy?” Volume 15 of the Penn State Law Arbitration Law Review (2024).
- „The Path Forward of the Investor-State Dispute Settlement Regime“, co-authored with Lidija Šimunović, EU and Comparative Law: Issues and Challenges Series (ECLIC 4) International Scientific Conference “EU 2020 – lessons from the past“ (2020).
- “Innovative solutions for an age-old issue: How transparency and data analytic tools can improve diversity in international arbitration” (Journal of Strategic Contracting and Negotiation, Vol 5, Issue 1-2, 2021).

- „The Inconsistencies in the Pursuit Of Consistency Of Investor State Dispute Settlement Awards“ Investment & Commercial Arbitration Review, January 2021.
- „Transparency and Data Analytics: The Keys to the Transformation of the ISDS Adjudicator Appointment Process“ Kluwer Arbitration Blog, 1 June 2020.
- „Post-Achmea Winds of Change: Opportunities and Perspectives for Bosnia and Herzegovina“ Kluwer Arbitration Blog, 31 July 2019.
- Other Kluwer Arbitration Blog Posts

#### Forthcoming publications

- Co-editor and contributor of a forthcoming book on investment law and dispute resolution in the Western Balkans (forthcoming in 2025)
- Co-author of a chapter on “The Empirics of Arbitrator Challenges in Investor-State Disputes” (forthcoming Brill Nijhoff book on ethics in ISDS in 2024)
- Author of two forthcoming ICSID Review articles (on fair and equitable treatment in relation to energy transition disputes, and the Model BIT for Bosnia and Herzegovina)
- Manuscript on the decade of ISDS reform, UNCITRAL Working Group III from the perspective of developing States (forthcoming in late 2026)