YANHUA LIN

Partner, Fangda Partners
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PRACTICE AREAS

Ms. Lin specializes in dispute resolution, including arbitration, litigation and government enforcement matters.

REPRESENTATIVE MATTERS AND CASES

Arbitration

- Represented various investment funds in a number of share redemption and/or post-investment arbitrations under the HKIAC, ICC, CIETAC, BAC and SCIA rules.
- Represented a significant PRC state-owned company in successfully settling an HKIAC arbitration involving a several-billion-RMB dispute over a real estate investment project, concerning construction, hotel management and corporate governance issues, under the UNCITRAL Arbitration Rules.
- Represented a leading internet infrastructure and data centre company in two HKIAC arbitrations against certain shareholders of a target company, arising out of a merger transaction and involving complex agency law issues.
- Represented a PRC internet company and certain of its founders in parallel Hong Kong arbitrations over a corporate control dispute relating to a VIE structure, under the HKIAC Administered Arbitration Rules.
- Represented and successfully defended a significant PRC computer manufacturer in an HKIAC arbitration under the UNCITRAL Arbitration Rules regarding a dispute over the supply of computer equipment to the government of an African country.
- Represented a PRC investor in successfully settling an ICC arbitration in Hong Kong and related court proceedings involving injunctive relief, arising from a share purchase agreement.
- Represented the founders of a Swiss company in an investment arbitration under the HKIAC Administered Arbitration Rules with Hong Kong and Swiss governing law.
- Represented a global consulting firm and its affiliates in a number of arbitrations before the CIETAC, SHIAC and other Chinese arbitration institutions arising out of professional service agreements.

Recognition and Enforcement of Arbitral Awards

- Represented several European clients in relation to the enforcement of an ICC arbitral award in China, a groundbreaking case in which China's Supreme People's Court for the first time invoked the public policy ground under the New York Convention to refuse enforcement of a foreign arbitral award.
- Represented an Israeli company in successfully seeking recognition and enforcement of an ICC arbitral award in China.
- Represented a U.S. company and a UK company in successfully seeking recognition and enforcement in China of an award rendered by the Arbitration Institute of the Stockholm Chamber of Commerce (SCC).

- Represented a U.S. company in the recognition and enforcement of an SCC award, successfully reaching a settlement in the enforcement proceedings.

Expert Work

- Worked as PRC legal expert in an arbitration before the Singapore International Arbitration Centre.
- Worked as PRC legal expert in several overseas proceedings (including U.S. and Cayman court matters) on various PRC law issues.

Other Representative Matters

- Defended the receiver of Lehman Brothers (Europe) in PRC court proceedings concerning its role in structuring certain financial derivatives of approximately USD 200 million, involving PRC, Hong Kong and UK laws.
- Represented ConocoPhillips China Inc. in obtaining a favourable court decision, affirmed on appeal, in an action arising from the Penglai 19-3 oil spill (selected by the People's Court Daily as one of the Ten Civil and Administrative Cases of the Year 2016).
- Advised several China-based, U.S.-listed companies in securities lawsuits before U.S. courts and going-private lawsuits before Cayman courts.
- Represented various clients in compliance and government enforcement matters, including hearings in administrative review and court proceedings, in particular on securities misconduct, professional liability, data security and cross-border law enforcement.

OTHER INFORMATION

Education

- Columbia University, LL.M.: James Kent Scholar; Columbia Journal of Asian Law, Editorial Advisor on Chinese Law
- University of Hong Kong, MCL: Lee Shiu Scholar; Thesis: Ad hoc Arbitration and its Potential Development in the PRC (2006)
- Peking University, LL.B.: with Honors; President (2003–04), Peking University Law School Students' Union
- Peking University, B.Ec., Economics

Professional Background

- Ms. Lin previously worked with a first-tier U.K. firm and a leading U.S. firm.

Professional Qualifications

- Admitted to practice in the PRC; qualified to practice in the State of New York.

Professional Positions and Recognition

- VIAC Ambassador for China (2026–2028)
- Arbitrator on the list of arbitrators of the Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre (HKIAC); Member of the HKIAC Appointments Committee

- Arbitrator on the panels of the Shenzhen Court of International Arbitration (SCIA), the Beijing Arbitration Commission / Beijing International Arbitration Center (BAC), and the Hainan International Arbitration Court
- Recognized by Chambers & Partners, The Legal 500 and Benchmark Litigation; Top 100 Women in Litigation 2026 (Asia Pacific), Benchmark Litigation

Languages

Mandarin; Cantonese; English

Publications

- The Development of Competence-Competence Rules in China based on the New CIETAC Rules: A Comparative Study from an International Perspective – Arbitration and Law, 2005(5)
- Getting the Deal Through – Class Actions 2017 – China Chapter
- Lexology Getting the Deal Through – Securities Litigation 2020 – China Chapter