

Kent Phillips

Partner
Singapore

Biography

Kent Phillips has over 20 years experience as a dispute resolution lawyer, concentrating on international arbitration in both London and Singapore. He has conducted arbitrations under leading institutional rules in most major seats, under both civil and common applicable laws.

Kent's extensive trial experience includes high-value commercial disputes across a number of sectors and jurisdictions. His time in London was spent leading disputes between high-profile Russian oligarchs, with merits hearing of claims involving some US\$3 billion. Now based in Singapore, he is routinely involved in disputes relating to services and infrastructure in the resources, energy, and oil & gas sectors. These include construction and commodities matters and often involve Southeast Asia or India.

Kent conducts all stages of proceedings, from interim measures to advocacy at trial. He also holds full registration as a foreign lawyer to appear before the Singapore International Commercial Court.

For many years Kent has been recognised by major directories as a leading individual for International Arbitration. He regularly sits as an arbitrator and is on the SIAC panel, he is also a director of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators – Singapore branch.



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Languages

English

Practices

Energy Disputes

International Arbitration

Industries

Diversified Industrials

Energy and Natural Resources

Financial Institutions

Private Capital

Representative experience

Acting as counsel for a manufacturer in a Singapore seated arbitration under SIAC Rules, in a long running dispute between South Korean and U.S. entities.

Acting as Counsel in an ICC arbitration for the supply of telecommunication systems, which included a full merits hearing over two weeks in Singapore.

Acting as counsel in an ICC arbitration (London seat, English law) against Ukrainian state entities for the reconstruction, maintenance and operation of a toll road in Ukraine.

Acting as counsel in an SIAC arbitration relating to the construction of port related facilities in Singapore, which involved an 8 day hearing.

Counsel in an SIAC arbitration involving renewable energy project in Pakistan, including all advocacy up to and including merits hearing.

Advising a Japanese construction company in relation to a US\$200 million thermal power plant international arbitration dispute under the SIAC arbitral rules.

Acting for a claimant in a US\$60m SIAC arbitration relating to commodity financing fraud in China.

Acting for the Claimant in an SIAC arbitration (Singapore seat, English law, three-person tribunal) against private individuals for guarantee claims.

Advising a high profile US energy company on a successful cross-border enforcement of a US\$275m ICSID arbitration award under the NY Convention 1958.

LCIA arbitration relating to a Nigerian oil field, including merits hearing, challenges to the award in the English Courts and multi-jurisdictional enforcement.*

Conduct of multi-jurisdictional litigation for Russian businessman Boris Berezovsky with more than \$3bn at stake.*

Education and admissions

Education

LL.M., London School of Economics and Political Science, 1999

BCom LLB, University of Auckland, (Hons), 1994

Memberships

Director of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators – Singapore branch

SIAC (Panel member of Arbitrators)

CI Arb (Director of Singapore Branch)

Bar admissions and qualifications

Barrister and Solicitor of the High Court of New Zealand

Court admissions

England and Wales

Singapore International Commercial Court

Accolades

*Matter handled prior to joining Hogan Lovells.

Awards and rankings

- Dispute Resolution Star: International Arbitration, *Benchmark Litigation Asia-Pacific*, 2020
- Dispute Resolution: Arbitration (Singapore), *Chambers Global*, 2017-2020
- Leading Lawyer: Arbitration and Mediation (Singapore), *Best Lawyers*, 2020
- Dispute Resolution: Arbitration (Singapore), *Chambers Asia Pacific*, 2017 - 2020

Latest thinking and events

- News
 - C v D – Hong Kong court rules on compliance with pre-arbitration procedural requirements
- News
 - Talking Point Asia – "You're on mute!" – top tips for when mediation goes virtual
- Insights
 - The importance of getting your notices right *Litigation, Arbitration, and Employment Alert*
- News
 - Cardinal duty – UK Supreme Court clarifies arbitrators' obligations of impartiality and disclosure
- News
 - Litigation Landscape: managing your COVID-19 risk
- Published Works
 - Does an arbitration agreement protect a debtor from the threat of liquidation?

"Kent Phillips is an outstanding arbitration counsel. He is easy to work with and thorough."

Legal 500 Asia Pacific, 2019

Kent Phillips is "*experienced and has the ability to calm the most troubled waters,*" say market sources. He has over 20 years' experience of handling commercial arbitrations and is particularly focused on the energy and resources. Clients find him "*technically sound, succinct and commercial.*"

Chambers Global and Asia Pacific
2020

For many years Kent has been recognised by major directories as a leading individual for international arbitration.

Legal 500 Asia Pacific, 2020

"Kent Phillips is a strategic thinker who provides reasoned and thoughtful advice. He also is an absolute pleasure to work with, and a consummate professional."

