arbitra™

Marieke Witkamp

Arbitrator & Mediator

Nationality: Dutch
Languages: English (fluent), Dutch (native), French and German (working knowledge)

Marieke Witkamp is an independent international arbitrator and mediator with over 20 years of experience across judicial, arbitral, and advisory roles. Originally trained as a commercial judge in the Netherlands, she later developed an arbitration practice spanning Europe, the United States, and the Middle East. She holds an LLM in Dutch and US law and is admitted to the Texas Bar, bringing together civil law and common law perspectives with a strong grounding in international commercial arbitration.

Her professional background includes extensive service as a commercial and maritime judge, alongside experience in private practice and in-house roles within the energy and infrastructure sectors. She has presided over and participated in a significant number of complex domestic and international disputes, both as a judge and as an arbitrator, with proceedings seated in the United States, the United Kingdom, continental Europe, and the Middle East under the rules of the ICC, ICDR, AAA, NAI, LMAA, SMA, UNUM Transport and UNCITRAL ad hoc rules. This breadth of experience informs a pragmatic, structured, and commercially focused approach to dispute resolution.

As an arbitrator, Marieke is recognised for efficient case management, procedural fairness, and clear, well-reasoned awards. Her practice encompasses a wide range of commercial disputes, with particular depth in maritime and transport, energy, construction, insurance, and post-M&A matters. She is listed on the rosters of leading arbitral institutions in Europe, the United States, the Middle East, and Asia, and conducts proceedings fluently in Dutch and English, with working knowledge of French and German.

Sector Expertise

- Construction, Engineering & Infrastructure
- Energy Construction, Engineering & Infrastructure
- Contractual Disputes
- Insurance & Reinsurance
- Mergers, Acquisitions & Shareholder Disputes
- Shipping, Maritime & Transport
- Healthcare

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Email: info@arbitra.co.uk	20005	United Arab Emirates

- Technology & Telecommunications

Construction, Engineering & Infrastructure

Marieke decided over 50 cases about delay, breach of contract (including defects), and variation and costs issues related to commercial, residential, and infrastructure construction projects. These disputes related to excavation and foundation works, painting work, concrete work, electrical work, roofing work, heavy construction work, HVAC work, plumbing work, isolation works, road construction work, exterior terrain works, condo and coop renovations, high-rises, public buildings, and energy infrastructure projects. Marieke decided a 20 million EUR design damages claim related to construction of performing arts center with 4 theatre and concert halls in major Dutch city. She is also familiar with offshore construction contracts, including shipbuilding and ship repairs. As construction attorney in the Middle East, Marieke represented clients in various ICC arbitrations related to World Cup 2022 infrastructure and stadium works, and public buildings, involving FIDIC contracts. She also acted for a major international consulting engineer in an ICC arbitration relating to variations and unpaid fees for architectural design detailing services on one of the major civil works contracts on one of the Doha Metro railway line projects. Value of ICC cases was 20 million USD and up.

Energy & Natural Resources

Marieke acted as in-house counsel for biggest LNG terminal in the Netherlands and for the production company that operates the biggest onshore non-associated gas field in Europe. Marieke negotiated a EPC construction contract for break-bulk LNG facilities and break-bulk LNG terminal operation contracts. She set up gas production claims scheme and handled over 50 claims. As a judge and arbitrator, Marieke decided more than 30 energy disputes. She is experienced in liquefied natural gas agreements, storage agreements, oil and gas operations, joint operating agreements, electricity/grid agreements, pipeline survey agreements, and construction of windfarms (including defects to windmill rotor blades).

Insurance & Reinsurance

As a judge, Marieke decided more than 100 insurance coverage disputes related to a wide range of insurances, including general and professional liability insurances, healthcare insurances, Directors & Officers insurance, fraud insurance, cyber security insurance, Machinery (liability) insurance, CAR insurance, property insurance and all forms of maritime insurances. Marieke decided claims that went up to Fourth Insurance Layer.

Contractual Disputes

Marieke decided cases involving breach of contract and payment disputes, conversion, fraud, rescission, and breach of fiduciary duty. She interpreted contracts under various applicable laws, including various US laws, English law, Dutch law, Belgium law and Polish law. She is familiar with many types of contracts, including franchising, hospitality, entertainment, (pharma) distribution agreements, financial services contracts, various technology agreements, management services agreements, sale and purchase agreements (including CISG disputes), and post M&A contracts (including earn-out payments, shareholder disputes, and compliance with contribution agreements).

Healthcare

Marieke handled multiple managed care and payor-provider disputes. She decided cases about the following issues: non- or under payment of health providers, prior authorization/approval of treatment, medical necessity of care, reasonable & customary fees, out-of-network providers, evidence-based medicine, sampling and extrapolation of claims, and pharma distribution agreements. Marieke is experienced in interpretation of (insurance) healthcare contracts and statutory healthcare regulations. She also obtained a proper understanding of the healthcare industry because of deciding medical professional negligence cases.

Shipping, Maritime & Transport

Marieke was one of the four maritime district judges in the Netherlands and continues to decide maritime cases as arbitrator. She is an Aspiring Full Member of the London Maritime Arbitrators Association and holds the CIArb Diploma in International Maritime Arbitration. Marieke decided cases relating to cargo and bills of lading disputes, charter parties (dealing with laytime/demurrage, off-hire, termination), ship building and ship repair agreements, bunker oil disputes, sale of goods (including CISG cases), ship purchase agreements, offshore construction agreements and port operations. Marieke also dealt with inland shipping and road transport disputes.

Many of Marieke's maritime judgments have been included in legal and industry journals. Four of her cases about maritime international treaties have been included in the CML CMI database of the National University of Singapore. See: CMA CGM Alcazar, Seachill UK Ltd v Samskip Logistics BV , Julietta D and the Pechora Star, the Oostzee and Lady Ariette

Technology & Telecommunications

As a judge and arbitrator, Marieke handled over 20 technology related disputes. She decided several cases related to Software as a Service (SaaS) products in the healthcare and transport sector. She dealt with development of software applications, cyber-security claims, crypto currencies disputes, disputes involving telecommunications companies and license termination and payment issues.

Experience

Arbitrator appointments – most recent:

- Co-arbitrator, ICC matter, Russia seat and governing law, related to a shipbuilding dispute within sanctions context with value over 40 million EUR
- Sole arbitrator, AAA matter, Texas seat and governing law, related to defects to a residential construction project
- Co-arbitrator, LMAA matter, London seat and English governing law, related to ship purchase agreement
- Sole arbitrator, AAA matter, Texas seat and governing law, related to a dispute between a healthcare service provide and an insurance company
- Sole arbitrator, AAA matter, Texas seat and governing law, related to dispute about termination of telecommunications contract
- Sole arbitrator, AAA matter, Texas seat and governing law, related to interpretation of a Software as a Service contract
- Sole arbitrator, NAI matter, Dutch seat and governing law, related to a ship repair agreement
- Emergency arbitrator, NAI matter, Dutch seat and governing law, related to shareholder dispute and breach of confidentiality provisions
- Sole arbitrator, various SMA matters, NY seat and governing law, related to payment of bunker oil supplies
- Sole arbitrator, various LMAA matters, London seat and English governing law, related to charter party issues
- Sole arbitrator, various LMAA matters, London seat and English governing law, related to payment of bunker oil supplies
- Sole arbitrator, LMAA matter, London seat and English governing law, related to liability of directors for non-payment of LMAA award
- Sole arbitrator, LMAA matter, London seat and English governing law, related to liability of directors for non-payment of LMAA award

- Sole arbitrator, AAA matter, Texas seat and governing law, related to a professional negligence claim against attorney involving tax payment of 15 million USD
- Sole arbitrator, AAA matter, California seat and governing law, related to crypto-currency and cyber-security dispute
- Co-arbitrator, UNUM Transport matter, Dutch seat and applicable law, related to offshore maritime operations
- Sole arbitrator, AAA matter, Nevada seat and governing law, related to breach of credit services agreement
- Sole arbitrator, AAA matter, Texas seat and governing law, related to cyber-security claim against telecommunications provider
- Co-arbitrator, UNUM Transport matter, Dutch seat and applicable law, related to termination of port operations agreement
- Sole arbitrator, AAA matter, Texas seat and governing law, related to defects in real estate property
- Sole arbitrator, ICDR matter, Washington seat and governing law, related to termination of e-commerce business services agreement
- Sole arbitrator, NAI matter, Dutch seat and governing law, related to post M&A dispute and earn-out provisions
- Co-arbitrator, NAI matter, Dutch seat and governing law, related to termination of investment services agreement
- Co-arbitrator, ad hoc matter, Dutch seat and governing law, related to contamination of cargo
- Sole arbitrator, LMAA matter, London seat and English governing law, related to payment of general average payments and detention of cargo
- Presiding arbitrator, NAI matter, Dutch seat and governing law, related to shareholders dispute and dissolution of company
- Presiding arbitrator, NAI matter, Dutch seat and governing law, related to post M&A dispute and compliance with contribution payments
- Presiding arbitrator, NAI matter, Dutch seat and governing law, related to compliance with sale and purchase agreement
- Presiding arbitrator, NAI matter, Dutch seat and governing law, related to post M&A dispute and earn-out provisions with 15 million EUR value
- Emergency arbitrator, NAI matter, Dutch seat and governing law, related to shareholder dispute and voting rights
- Presiding arbitrator, NAI matter, Dutch seat and governing law, related to interpretation of railway infrastructure services agreement
- Co-arbitrator, NAI matter, Dutch seat and governing law, related to post M&A dispute and earn-out provisions with 10 million EUR value
- Sole arbitrator, NAI matter, Dutch seat and governing law, related to ownership claims in real estate property

As Counsel:

- Acting for a major international consulting engineer in an ICC arbitration relating to variations and unpaid fees for architectural design detailing services on one of the major civil works contracts on one of the Doha Metro railway line.
- Acting for an MEP subcontractor on an ICC arbitration for claims for variations, delay and disruption relating to the construction of an iconic public building in Qatar.
- Acting for a subcontractor bringing a claim in ICC arbitration relating to delay, disruption and unpaid variations relating to the construction of roads in Qatar.
- Acting for a quasi non-governmental Qatari organization, advising on dispute avoidance concerning the termination of a contract for supply of specialist IT and audio equipment for 2 mega yachts.
- Advising a major international design practice on claims and counterclaims arising out of a landmark cable-stayed and bascule bridge project in Qatar, being litigated in the Qatar courts.
- Advising a master franchisor in the food and beverage industry in disputes regarding misuse of its IP rights and trade marks with franchisees in Qatar, Egypt and Kuwait.

Professional & Academic Qualifications

Academic:

- University of Houston, Master of Law (LLM) in US Law
- Erasmus University Rotterdam, Rotterdam, the Netherlands, Master o. f law (LLM) in Dutch Law

Bar Admissions

- Texas Bar License

Professional History:

- ArbDB Chambers – 2024–2026
- Marieke Witkamp LLC – 2024–Present
- Court of Rotterdam, the Netherlands – 2008 – 2010 (full-time judge), 2010 - 2019 (substitute judge); 2019–2023 (full-time judge); 2024–Present (substitute judge)
- Netherlands Commercial Court, the Netherlands – 2023 – present (substitute judge)
- K&L Gates, Qatar – 2017–2019
- Lucci Smith Law PLLC / Bain & Bain Law, USA – 2015–2017
- NAM (Shell / ExxonMobil JV), the Netherlands – 2014
- NV Nederlandse Gasunie, the Netherlands – 2012–2013
- Aspire Zone Foundation (President's Office), Qatar – 2011–2012
- Local Organizing Committee – AFC Asian Cup, Qatar – 2010–2011

- Simmons & Simmons, the Netherlands – 2006–2007
- Traineeship of the Dutch Judiciary – 2003–2008

Professional Associations

Memberships

- CIArb, Fellow
- Dutch Arbitration Association, Chair of the DAA Energy Committee
- Texas Bar
- London Maritime Arbitration Association, Aspiring Full Member
- American Bar Association
- London Court of International Arbitration Member
- ArbitralWomen
- Houston Maritime Arbitration Association, Advisory Board Member

Marieke is admitted to the following Panels of Arbitrators:

- AAA, ICDR (USA),
- ICC (Netherlands & USA),
- SIAC (Singapore)
- DIAC (UAE)
- ArbitrateAD (UAE),
- QICCA (Qatar)
- PinqDR
- Netherlands Arbitration Institute
- Danish Arbitration Institute
- London Maritime Arbitrators Association (Aspiring Full Member)
- UNUM Transport Arbitration & Mediation (the Netherlands)
- Houston Maritime Arbitrators Association (USA)

Publications, Articles & Thought Leadership

Publications

- "LexisNexis Practice Notes on Dutch Arbitration Practices", LexisNexis, (2026)
- "Beslechting van Zakelijke Geschillen in 2050" (Resolution Commercial Disputes in 2050), Maandblad voor Vermogensrecht (2025)

- "European International Commercial Courts: An Interesting Addition to the Dispute Resolution Scene", ABA Litigation Sect.(2025)
  "Facilitating Settlements by an Arbitral Tribunal – a Best Practice from Continental Europe", Texas Bar International Law Section Global Law Review (2025)
- "MUR Shipping – A Comparative Analysis" (co-authored with James M. Turner KC), Lloyd's Journal for Trade & Shipping 2024/10 (2024)
  "The Exclusive Competence of the Court of Rotterdam in Maritime Cases," Journal for Transport and Law (Tijdschrift Vervoer en Recht) 2023/6 (2023)
- "Internationalizing Domestic Courts in Europe: Procedure, Function, Organization", chapter in "International Commercial Courts: The Future of Transnational Adjudication" by Cambridge University Press (2022)
- "The guide to Challenging and Enforcing Arbitration Awards, Qatar chapter", Global Arbitration Review (2019)
- "ADR in Qatar - A New Law, A New Regional Seat of Choice, and a New Era", Lexis Middle East Law (2018)

Speaking Engagements

- Speaker, Maritime Arbitration Webinar | ARBINBRIEF (1/2026)
- Speaker, From Ship to Shore: Where Houston meets Global Practice | HOUSTON PLACE OF ARBITRATION (12/2025)
- Panelist, Provisional Relief in the Dutch and English Courts | LONDON ARBITRATION WEEK (12/2025)
- Guest Lecturer, Intro to International Commercial Arbitration | FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY, SCHOOL OF LAW (11/2025)
- Panelist, Maritime Arbitration Webinar | CIARB IBERIAN CHAPTER (11/2025)
- Moderator, Maritime Arbitration and Mediation in the Middle East | DUBAI ARBITRATION WEEK (11/2025)
- Moderator, Resolving Ethical Conundrums in Energy, Marine, and Insurance Arbitration Matters | HMEIC (09/2025)
- Trainer, Hearing Skills Arbitrator Training Course | NETHERLANDS ARBITRATION INSTITUTE (06/2025)
- Trainer, Arbitrator Training Course | HOUSTON MARITIME ARBITRATORS ASSOCIATION (04/2025)
- Panelist, Effective Management of International Construction Disputes | US CONSTRUCTION SUPER CONFERENCE (12/2024)
- Speaker, Career Opportunities in International Arbitration | CIMA, WEBINAR (11/2024)
- Moderator, Arbitration – The Tribunal's Perspective | DUBAI ARBITRATION WEEK (11/2024)
- Moderator, First Rule of Infrastructure Disputes | ASSOCIATION FOR INTERNATIONAL ENERGY NEGOTIATORS (10/2024)
- Panelist, Foreign Lawyers Roundtable | HOUSTON, UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON & CURTIS, MALLET-PREVOST (10/2024)
- Panelist, Vinson & Elkins Construction Conference | HOUSTON, VINSON & ELKINS (09/2024)

- Panelist, Ensuring a diverse next generation of practitioners | DUTCH ARBITRATION DAY (06/2024)
- Speaker, The Netherlands: a Small Country with Big Cases | HOUSTON INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATION CLUB (05/2024)
- Speaker, Judging vs. Arbitrating | HAPPY HOUR INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATION PODCAST (04/2024)
- Panelist, International Women's Day event | HOUSTON BAR ASSOCIATION, INTERNATIONAL SECTION (03/2024)
- Keynote Speaker, Inland Shipping Practices of the Court of Rotterdam | GBM ANNUAL MEETING (10/2023)
- Speaker, Importance of Diversity and Inclusion for the Dutch Judiciary | COURT OF ROTTERDAM 01 –(12/2023)
- Panelist, NCC: A Forum Conveniens for International Commercial Cases | NETHERLANDS COMMERCIAL COURT (05/2022)
- Panelist, Multi-Tier Dispute Resolution Clauses | LEGALPLUS QATAR SUMMIT (04/2019)
- Panelist, Internationalizing Domestic Courts in Europe | HBKU CONFERENCE ON HYBRID DISPUTE RESOLUTION (11/2018)