

KARIMA SAUMA

San José, Costa Rica. +506 8937-3755. karima.sauma@dj Arbitraje.com

NATIONALITY Costa Rican national

PROFESSIONAL

- Admitted to State of New York Bar
- Member Costa Rican Bar Association

2016 – to date **INTERNATIONAL CENTER FOR CONCILIATION AND ARBITRATION (CICA-AMCHAM)**

San José, Costa Rica. Executive Director

- Manage the mediation and arbitration cases filed before CICA
- Act as arbitral secretary in commercial cases involving a wide range of industries and legal issues
- Liaise with government officials and different organizations from the private sector to advance the use of alternative dispute resolution (ADR) and access to justice

2016 – to date **INDEPENDENT CONSULTANT**

San José, Costa Rica

- Of Counsel, DJ Arbitraje
- Assist international arbitrator Rodrigo Oreamuno Blanco on international investment cases where he sits as arbitrator
- Act as co-counsel, advisor, legal expert, arbitrator or tribunal secretary in a variety of international arbitrations and litigations

2014 - 2016 **COSTA RICAN MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE**

San José, Costa Rica. Advisor

- Collaborated on investment cases filed before ICSID against Costa Rica, as well as arbitration cases under CAFTA-DR against other States
- Participated in treaty negotiations of provisions on institutional and dispute resolution matters and helped coordinate the OECD's Public Governance Review

2013 – 2014 **FRESHFIELDS BRUCKHAUS DERINGER US LLP**

- Washington, DC. Foreign Associate
- Collaborated on investment arbitration cases filed before ICSID

2011 – 2012 **SFERA LEGAL**

San José, Costa Rica. Associate Attorney.

Worked on foreign investment, corporate, commercial, real estate and litigation/arbitration matters

ACADEMIA

2020 – to date **LEAD UNIVERSITY**

San José, Costa Rica

Professor of "Arbitration" course in Corporate Law Master's Degree

2017 – to date **ULACIT UNIVERSITY**

Academic Director of "*Especialización en Arbitraje CICA-ULACIT*" and professor of "International Investment Arbitration" course; professor of "Arbitration" course in JD Program

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EDUCATION

2012-2013 **COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW**
New York, NY

- LL.M. with honors (Harlan Fiske Stone Scholar)
- Columbia International Arbitration Association, Board Representative, Arbitration Day Chair. Member of Columbia Society of International Law and Columbia Latin American Business and Law Association

2005 - 2011 **UNIVERSIDAD DE COSTA RICA**
San José, Costa Rica

- Law Degree (thesis with distinction)
- Participation in the *FDI International Arbitration Moot*, Suffolk University

PUBLICATIONS

- “Robot arbitrators? Stranger than Fiction”, in “Arbitration and Technology”, Chipana and Duarte (eds.), 2021.
- “Foreign Investment and Investment Arbitration in Costa Rica”, in “Foreign Investment and Investment Arbitration in Latin America”, C. Esplugues Mota (ed.), Editorial Tirant Lo Blanch, Valencia, 2019.
- “David Aven et al versus Costa Rica”, Latin American Commercial and Investment Arbitration Bulletin, Year IV | Number 44, 18 October 2018.
- “Pura Vida: From Costa Rica to the World”, with co-author F. Castro, Markets and Trends Magazine, August 2018.
- “CAFTA-DR: The Experience under Chapter 10”, Transnational Dispute Management 5 (2016), Latin America, Volume 13, Issue #05, November 2016.
- “Transparency and Chapter 10 of CAFTA-DR”, with co-authors A. González and A. Arce, ACODI, Costa Rican Magazine of International Law, V Edition, II Semester 2016.
- “The Possibility of Costa Rican Nonprofit Organizations of Gaining Access to the Dispute Resolution Mechanisms of International Investment Law”, University of Costa Rica, 2011.

ASSOCIATIONS

- Representative for Costa Rica: ALARB – *Siguiente Generación* (2021-to date)
- Ambassador - Racial Equality for Arbitration Lawyers (REAL) (2021-to date)
- Young ITA Mentorship Program Chair, Institute for Transnational Arbitration (2019-to date)
- Co-representative for Costa Rica, Equal Representation in Arbitration Pledge (2018-to date)
- Reporter for Costa Rica, International Arbitration Bulletin (2018-to date)
- Regional Chair for Mexico and Central America, Institute for Transnational Arbitration (2017-2019)
- Contributing Member, Fundación Paniamor (2018-to date)
- Member, Board of Directors, Costa Rican International Law Association (2009-2012)
- Member, Board of Directors, Costa Rican Demographic Association (2009-2012)
- Institute for Transnational Arbitration (ITA) Advisory Board
- Costa Rican International Law Association
- ICC Young Arbitrators Forum
- ICDR Young & International

LANGUAGES Bilingual Spanish and English; intermediate French