

KARIMA SAUMA

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

NATIONALITY Costa Rican national

PROFESSIONAL

- Admitted to the New York State Bar Association
- Admitted to the Costa Rican Bar Association

2022 – present **DJ ARBITRAJE**

San José, Costa Rica

- Act as arbitrator, advisor, legal expert, and tribunal secretary in a variety of arbitrations

2016 – 2022 **INDEPENDENT CONSULTANT**

San José, Costa Rica

- Of counsel, DJ Arbitraje
- Assisted international arbitrator Rodrigo Oreamuno Blanco on international investment cases where he sat as arbitrator
- Acted as co-counsel, advisor, legal expert, arbitrator and tribunal secretary in a variety of arbitrations

2016 – 2022 **INTERNATIONAL CENTER FOR CONCILIATION AND ARBITRATION (CICA-AMCHAM)**

San José, Costa Rica. Executive Director

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

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

San José, Costa Rica. Advisor

- Worked 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 international 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 – present **LEAD UNIVERSITY**

San José, Costa Rica

Professor of the “Arbitration” course of the Corporate Law Master’s Degree

2017 – present **ULACIT UNIVERSITY**

Academic Director of the “Especialización en Arbitraje CICA-ULACIT” and professor of the “International Investment Arbitration” and “Arbitration” courses

KARIMA SAUMA

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

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

- “25 years of Costa Rica’s Arbitration Law”, Sauma and Jiménez (eds.), Edinexo, 2023.
- “Alejandro Díaz Gaspar v. Costa Rica: FET in the Spotlight”, in Kluwer Arbitration Blog, August 17, 2022.
- “Annulment of Arbitral Awards in Costa Rica”, in Logos, Volume 3, Number 2, July-December 2022.
- “Costa Rican Supreme Court Enforces against Non-Signatory”, in Kluwer Arbitration Blog, May 8, 2021.
- “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

- Treasurer, ICC Costa Rica Chapter (2024-present)
- Delegate for Costa Rica, *CIAC jóvenes* (2024-present)
- Member of the Executive Committee, Rising Arbitrators Initiative (2024-present)
- Delegate for Costa Rica, ICC Commission on Arbitration and ADR (2022-2024)
- Young ITA Chair, Institute for Transnational Arbitration (2023-2025)
- Young ITA Vice Chair, Institute for Transnational Arbitration (2021-2023)
- Representative for Costa Rica: ALARB – *Siguiente Generación* (2021-present)
- Co-representative for Costa Rica, Equal Representation in Arbitration Pledge (2018- present)
- Ambassador - Racial Equality for Arbitration Lawyers (REAL) (2021- present)
- Director at PRIDAT (Foundation for Data Privacy) (2021- present)
- Chapter Lead - Legal Hackers Costa Rica

KARIMA SAUMA

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

- Young ITA Mentorship Program Chair, Institute for Transnational Arbitration (2019-2021)
- Young ITA Regional Chair for Mexico and Central America, Institute for Transnational Arbitration (2017-2019)
- Contributing Member, Fundación Paniamor (2018-present)
- Member, Board of Directors, Costa Rican International Law Association (2009-2012)
- Member, Board of Directors, Costa Rican Demographic Association (2009-2012)

LANGUAGES Bilingual Spanish and English; intermediate French