

Anthony Cheah Nicholls

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Education and Qualifications	Advocate and Solicitor (Supreme Court of Singapore) Attorney and Counselor at Law (State of New York) Accredited Mediator (Singapore International Mediation Institute)
	2005-2009 London School of Economics , Bachelor of Laws with French Law (LLF)
	2007-2008 Université de Strasbourg III (Université Robert Schuman) , <i>Diplôme d'Etudes Juridiques Françaises, Mention Assez Bien</i> (With Merit/Cum Laude)
Work Experience	<p>Director Havelock Law Corporation, Singapore <i>August 2022 – Present</i></p> <p>Some of the cases that I am currently working on, or have recently worked on, include acting as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Counsel in a Hong Kong seated ICC arbitration, representing a South East Asian State Owned Enterprise. The other two parties in this gas transportation dispute were also State Owned Enterprises. The value in dispute was over US\$400 million.- Counsel in two related Hong Kong seated HKIAC arbitrations, representing an Indonesian individual and their family against a PRC company. The dispute arose in relation to a mining project. In one arbitration, the governing law of the contract was Chinese, the arbitration took place in Mandarin Chinese and over US\$114 million was at stake. In the other arbitration, the governing law of the contract was Indonesian law and over US\$84 million was at stake.- Counsel to a Vietnamese individual in a Singapore seated SIAC arbitration against South Korean investment firms. The dispute arises in the pharmaceutical industry, English law governs the contract and over VND 900 billion / S\$40 million is in dispute.- Counsel to a Malaysian company in a dispute against a UAE company and its affiliates. The dispute took place across multiple fora, including before an SIAC tribunal seated in Singapore and the Singapore courts. The SIAC arbitration was governed by Singapore law and the amount in dispute was over US\$25 million.- Counsel for a major cryptocurrency exchange in a Singapore seated SIAC arbitration against a national of Slovenia. The dispute is governed by Singapore law and the amount in dispute is over US\$500,000.- Counsel for an Indonesian company in a pharmaceutical related SIAC arbitration against a Hong Kong company. The arbitration applied Indonesian law and was seated in Singapore. The value in dispute was over S\$9 million.- Counsel for a Singapore company in an aviation related ICC arbitration against a major French respondent. French law applied to the arbitration, it was seated in Paris and the language of the arbitration was French.- Counsel in Singapore litigation for investors involved in a fraudulent nickel trading scheme with lost assets valued at over S\$35 million.- Counsel in Singapore litigation for a company with liabilities of over S\$3 million involved in a fraudulent luxury watch related scheme.- Sole arbitrator in a Singapore seated SIAC arbitration between two Indonesian parties. Singapore and Indonesian law applied, with a value in dispute of almost US\$500,000.

- Acting as sole arbitrator in an *ad hoc* arbitration between a Singaporean company and Filipino company.
- Co-mediator in a dispute between Singapore group of companies and a Malaysian investment fund. The dispute concerned an investment in the healthcare sector and updates of S\$4.5 million was in dispute.
- Independent expert on Singapore arbitration law in Case 166/2564 before Thailand's Central Intellectual Property and International Trade Court, in relation to the enforcement of a commodities related arbitral award, issued by a Singapore seated tribunal applying Singapore law.
- External advisor for a Latin American law firm in relation to a then ongoing ICSID arbitration between an American investor and a Latin American host state. The dispute arose in the context of a water treatment plant.
- Advisor to an Indonesian lawyer whose application led to Indonesian Constitutional Court Decision No. 100/PUU-XXII/2024. This decision led to certain wording in the Indonesian Arbitration to be declared as unconstitutional.

Counsel
February 2021 – July 2022

Forte Law LLC, Singapore

I established my own international dispute resolution practice and worked on a variety of cases, including acting as:

- Sole counsel in a complex mediation, representing a Singapore national against multiple counterparties in a real estate dispute. The value in dispute was over S\$300 million.
- Counsel for an American company in an insurance related dispute against a Dubai incorporated company. The ICC arbitration was seated in Dubai and the substantive law was Dubai law. Over AED 80 million was at stake.
- Counsel in a Hong Kong seated HKIAC arbitration applying Hong Kong law, representing a BVI company against another BVI company in a cryptocurrency related dispute.
- Counsel for a North Asian State Owned Entity in a SIAC arbitration against a Singaporean counterparty in a Singapore seated commodities related arbitration.
- Sole arbitrator in a Singapore seated *ad hoc* commodities related arbitration between a South Korean claimant and a Vietnamese respondent. The value in dispute was over US\$100,000.
- Co-mediator in a dispute between two Singaporean companies that arose out of the sale and purchase of commercial real estate. The value in dispute was up to S\$9 million.
- Sole mediator in a dispute between two Singaporean parties regarding a luxury vehicle.

Law Lecturer and Academic Programme Director
May 2020 – May 2025

Law Faculty of the National University of Management, Cambodia

I taught a full academic semester on international commercial and investment arbitration. I also taught an executive course on commercial mediation and contributed to the design of the overall syllabus of NUM's International Bachelor of Laws (iLLB) Programme.

Associate (International Arbitration)
August 2014 – May 2020

Shearman & Sterling LLP, Singapore

I worked as a member of Shearman & Sterling LLP's International Arbitration group. Cases that I worked on included:

- An ICC arbitration seated in Stockholm, representing a French-German consortium and a

Finnish utility company. The dispute arose from an agreement for the construction of a nuclear power plant in Finland and was governed by Finnish law. Over EUR 6.1 billion was at stake.

- Two parallel ICC arbitrations in Singapore, representing the subsidiary of an Asian State-owned company in the energy sector as Respondent against its Asian joint venture partners. The dispute arose from a joint venture agreement for the development of an oil storage facility and related port facilities in Asia. English law and the law of the Claimants' State applied.
- An SIAC arbitration seated in Singapore, representing a Southeast Asian listed company as Claimant in an SIAC arbitration in Singapore. The dispute arose in connection with a shipbuilding contract. Singapore law applied.
- Complex negotiations between a Mongolian State-owned company with Rio Tinto regarding the Oyu Tolgoi mining project in Mongolia.

I also undertook: (i) *pro bono* work representing victims of the Khmer Rouge before the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia, (ii) *pro bono* work preparing memos for Civil Society Organisations in Bangladesh and customary land owners in Myanmar and (iii) work helping disadvantaged children in Singapore, victims of domestic abuse and migrant workers, as part of the office's CSR committee.

Practice Trainee (Dispute Resolution)
January 2014 – June 2014 (6 months)

Baker & McKenzie, Singapore

I worked on a mixture of arbitrations and litigation matters in the firm's Dispute Resolution group, including helping a Senior Counsel with his appointment as an Emergency Arbitrator.

Practice Trainee (International Arbitration)
January 2013 – June 2013 (6 months)
January 2012 – June 2012 (6 months)

Michael Hwang Chambers, Singapore

I assisted tribunals on ICC, SIAC, DIAC, LCIA, HKIAC and domestic commercial arbitrations, as well as ad hoc and ICSID investment arbitrations (e.g. *Churchill Mining PLC and Planet Mining Pty Ltd v. Republic of Indonesia* (ICSID Case No. ARB/12/14 and 12/40) and *Hesham T. M. Al Warraq v. Republic of Indonesia*, UNCITRAL). I also contributed to cases before the DIFC Courts and Dubai World Tribunal in Dubai, where Dr. Hwang S.C. sat as Chief Justice, as well as a successful white collar criminal appeal before the Chief Justice of Singapore, sitting in the High Court (*Madhavan Peter v Public Prosecutor and other appeals* [2012] SGHC 153).

Seconded Trainee (International Arbitration)
July 2012 – December 2012 (6 months)

King & Spalding LLP, Singapore

I worked in the international arbitration department on SIAC and ICC international commercial arbitrations, an ICSID investment treaty arbitration (*Garanti Koza LLP v. Turkmenistan* (ICSID Case No. ARB/11/20)) and a litigation involving issues of expropriation and international human rights law. I also assisted Mr. John Savage QC on a ZCC commercial arbitration where he was sitting as a co-arbitrator.

Legal Executive (Litigation & Arbitration)
September 2010 – November 2011 (1 year, 2 months)

Drew & Napier LLC, Singapore

I worked on contentious and advisory matters under Mr. Davinder Singh, S.C. This included researching procedural and substantive issues under civil and common law systems. Amongst other matters, I assisted on the research and drafting of closing submissions for an US\$800 million SIAC arbitration.

Intern/Stagiaire ("Study Visitor")
February 2008 – April 2008 (2 months)

**European Court of Human Rights,
Strasbourg, France**

As an intern, I analysed, researched and wrote Committee Case Notes in English and French, using the HUDOC case law search engine and extensive library resources.

Selected Publications

- Anthony Cheah Nicholls, Togi Pangaribuan and Nikki Krisadtyo, “*Indonesian Constitutional Court Sets a Stricter Definition of International Arbitral Awards*”, Kluwer Arbitration Blog dated 6 May 2025.
- Anthony Cheah Nicholls, Kamyar Oladi and Dr. Minli Tang, “*Looking Further East: Singapore arbitration for Iranian related disputes*”, online platform of the Macao Institute of International Arbitration (in English and Mandarin), available at https://mp.weixin.qq.com/s/_labYaJnF7_TvKJVStGZsq (as accessed on 4 September 2021).
- Anthony Cheah Nicholls and Dimitrios Katsikis, “*Enforcement in Indonesia: obtaining a Power of Attorney for registration of the award*”, Journal of International Arbitration, Vol. 37, no. 5 (2020), pp. 665-674.
- Anthony Cheah Nicholls, essay submitted in the inaugural YSIAC Conference Essay Competition 2015 on the topic “*If there was one thing you could change about the practice of international arbitration, what would it be?*” The essay was written in the form of a satirical award that criticised arbitral organisations for failing to provide junior arbitration practitioners with opportunities to sit as arbitrators. It received an “Honourable Mention” at the 2015 YSIAC Conference. Available upon request.
- Anthony Cheah Nicholls and Chris Bloch, “*ICC Hybrid Arbitrations Here to Stay: Singapore Courts’ Treatment of the ICC Rules Revisions in Articles 1(2) and 6(2)*”, Journal of International Arbitration, Vol. 31, no.3 (2014), pp. 393-412.
- Anthony Cheah Nicholls, “*Enforcing Mediation Agreements: Why the End is just as Important as the Beginning*”, Singapore Law Gazette (May 2014).
- Anthony Cheah Nicholls, Gerald Kuppusamy and Weiyi Tan, “*PT First Media TBK (formerly known as PT Broadband Multimedia TBK) v Astro Nusantara International BV and others and another appeal [2013] SGCA 57*”, Mealey’s International Arbitration Report, Vol.29, #1, January 2014.
- Anthony Cheah Nicholls and Emmanuel Duncan Chua, “*Singapore: New Rules*”, Global Arbitration Review (April 2013).
- Anthony Cheah Nicholls, “*The Astro approach to attempts to resist enforcement*”, Global Arbitration Review (November 2012).
- Dr. Michael Hwang S.C. and Anthony Cheah Nicholls, “*When should Video Conferencing Evidence be allowed?*”, Singapore Law Gazette (September 2012); republished by CLJ Law online under citation [2016] 1 LNS(A) xxxix. This article was awarded a “Special Mention” by the Law Society at the inaugural Singapore Law Gazette Feature Article Awards 2013.

Selected Speaking Engagements

- International Law Association (Singapore branch) and the Center for International Law, Moderator on “*A Comparative Look at Dispute Settlement Across International Courts and Tribunals; A Fireside Chat with Professor Rüdiger Wolfrum*”, Singapore, 19 January 2024
- Faculty of Law of the University of Indonesia, Guest Lecturer on “*Drafting Arbitration Agreements; A Few Points to Remember*”, delivered by videoconference, 16 May 2023
- Vietnam ADR Week, Moderator on “*Civil Law-Common Law Divide in International Dispute Resolution (Vietnam, South Korea, Singapore, Thailand perspectives)*”, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, 11 May 2023
- Thailand Arbitration Center Academy, Speaker on “*Becoming a Safe Seat: Thai and Global Perspectives*”, Bangkok, Thailand, 15 December 2022
- Australian National University, Speaker on “*International Arbitration in Singapore; what textbooks do not teach you*”, delivered by videoconference, 27 October 2022
- Singapore International Arbitration Centre, Speaker on “*SIAC Indonesia Webinar: Strategies and Practical Tips for Effective Enforcement of Arbitral Awards*”, delivered by videoconference, 26 July 2022

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - International Law Association (Singapore branch) and the Center for International Law, Moderator on <i>“Is the Referee a Good Lawyer? Establishing an International Law Framework For Professional Sports”</i>, delivered by videoconference, 7 July 2022 - International Law Association (Singapore branch) and the Center for International Law, Moderator on <i>“International Law and Technology”</i>, delivered by videoconference, 20 May 2021 - Sage Mediation and NUM, Speaker on <i>“Mediation’s Role in Resolving Cross-Border Trade Disputes”</i>, delivered by videoconference (recording available here, from 4:20-15:54 and 48:47-1:38:22), 18 July 2020 - Doshisha University, Speaker on <i>“L’État, C’est Moi: State Attribution, Defences and Counterclaims in International Investment Law”</i>, delivered by videoconference, 2 July 2020 - Royal Academy for Judicial Professions, Speaker on <i>“Interim Measures and Enforcement of Awards: What Should the Court’s Role Be?”</i>, Phnom Penh, Cambodia, 12 February 2020 - National University of Management and Handong International Law School, Speaker at 6th Annual Conference on Dispute Resolution on <i>“Introduction to Investment Arbitration”</i>, Phnom Penh, Cambodia, 11 February 2020 - ESSEC Business School, Guest Lecturer for international MBA program entitled <i>“Showtime: Investment Arbitration, and what it means to you”</i>, Singapore, 11 December 2019 - YKVN / Young ICCA / VIAC, Skills Training Workshop, Moderator on panel discussion for <i>“Witnesses and Experts in International Arbitration”</i>, Hanoi, Vietnam, 22 November 2019 - MedArbld, Panelist on <i>“Getting an Early Advantage: Key Decisions for Clients at the Beginning of a Complex Dispute”</i>, Jakarta, Indonesia, 9 October 2019 - Bali International Arbitration and Mediation Centre, Membership Course, Course Tutor on <i>“The Arbitral Tribunal”</i>, Bali, Indonesia, 21 May 2019 - Faculty of Law of the University of Indonesia, Guest Lecturer on <i>“Investment Arbitration and Public International Law”</i>, Jakarta, Indonesia, 3 May 2019 - Bali International Arbitration and Mediation Centre, Fellowship Course, Course Examiner, Jakarta, Indonesia, 26 April 2019 - CARDS’ Tour de Arbitration, Panelist on <i>“The Role of Experts in Arbitration”</i>, Singapore, 14 December 2017
Accolades, Committees, Membership and Other Appointments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Exclusive winner of Lexology’s 2025 Client Choice Award for Arbitration in Singapore where I was described as “[a] <i>first-rate arbitration specialist</i>”, being “<i>go-to external co-counsel in all matters</i>” and being “<i>easily one of the best lawyers I have had the pleasure of working with</i>”. - Designated as an “Arbitration Future Leader” by Lexology Index 2025 (formerly Who’s Who Legal). Clients and fellow lawyers commented that he is “<i>very intelligent and savvy</i>”, that he “<i>has deep experience in Indonesia, where has built a strong practice</i>” and that “[t]here is no better advocate than Anthony to have in the trenches with you”. - Exclusive winner of Lexology’s 2024 Client Choice Award for Arbitration in Singapore. I was described as having “<i>excellent legal skills</i>” and “<i>sharp analytical skills</i>”, being “<i>extremely approachable and always willing to meet clients’ demands</i>”, and overall being “<i>very commercial minded...a successful problem solver</i>”. - Winner of Acquisition International Magazine’s award for Leading International Dispute Resolution Lawyer of the Year 2024 – Singapore. - Regional Ambassador, Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre, HK45 (July 2024 – Present) - Admitted to the Panel of Arbitrators of the Arbitration Center of Iran Chamber of Commerce,

	<p>Industries, Mines and Agriculture (May 2021 – Present)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Admitted to the Panel of Arbitrators of the Thai Arbitration Institute (December 2020 - Present) - Council and Programs Sub-Committee Member, International Law Association, Singapore branch (May 2020 – Present) - Admitted to the Reserve Panel of Arbitrators, Singapore International Arbitration Centre (September 2019 - Present) - Committee Member, Lead Drafter of Arbitral Rules, and admitted to both the Panel of Arbitrators and Panel of Mediators - Beihai Asia International Arbitration Centre (August 2019 - 2023) - Committee Member, Singapore Institute of Arbitrators, Young Practitioners' Network (February 2022 – December 2023) - Committee Member, Public and International Law Standing Committee, Law Society of Singapore (2018 - 2021) - Advocacy Teacher, Singapore Part B Bar Course (2018 - Present) - Member, Law Society of Singapore, Young ICCA, Young SIAC, SI Arb. - Former Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition Captain and Coach 2007, 2008, 2009. Recipient of the “Best Oralist” prize in the 2008 National Rounds and quarterfinalist of the International Rounds in 2009.
Languages	<p>English: Native; French: spoken-fluent, written-fluent; German: spoken-beginner, written-non; Bahasa Indonesia: spoken – beginner, written-non</p>