

CURRICULUM VITAE

PROF DR MARTIN LAU

Professor of Law

SOAS University of London
Russell Square
London WC1H 0XG

Barrister at Law

Essex Court Chambers
24, Lincoln's Inn Fields
London WC2A 3EG

Martin Lau has been a member of Essex Court Chambers since 1997, specialising in the field of Islamic finance and South Asian law. In his arbitration practice, Martin sits as sole, presiding and co-arbitrator with experience under ad-hoc, LCIA, DIFC-LCIA and UNCITRAL rules, including Pakistan, Dubai, Qatar, Turkey and UK seated arbitrations. Martin's professional experience includes appointments as Legal Officer to the Claims Resolution Tribunal for Dormant Accounts in Switzerland and as Legal Assistant to Prof Martin Hunter at the NAFTA Arbitral Panel in *Mexico -v- US*. He has provided expert reports on Islamic and South Asian law in over 200 cases. Martin frequently carries out consultancies and international fact-finding missions, for example to Pakistan, Afghanistan, Somalia and Iran.

Martin is also a Professor of Law at SOAS University of London, where he has lectured since 1990. He has held visiting academic appointments at Harvard Law School and Nagoya University and is the Editor-in-Chief of Brill's *Yearbook of Islamic and Middle Eastern Law*.

Nationality: German

Languages: English and German (bilingual); Arabic, Urdu & French (intermediate)

CAREER RECORD

- 1997-present **Tenant**, Essex Court Chambers, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London
- 2012-present **Professor of Law**, School of Law, SOAS, University of London
- 2016-2018 **Dean & Professor of Law**, School of Law, LUMS, Lahore/Pakistan
- 2004-2012 **Reader in Law**, School of Law, SOAS
- 2007-2008 **Special Advisor and Team Leader** of the European Commission Justice Sector Reform Programme, Kabul, Afghanistan
- 2006-2007 **Visiting Scholar**, Islamic Legal Studies Program, Harvard Law School (2006-2007)
- 2005-2006 **Visiting Scholar**, Centre for Asian Legal Exchange, University of Nagoya (October 2005 - February 2006)
- 1992-2004 **Lecturer in Law**, Department of Law, SOAS
- 1990-1992 **Training Fellow in South Asian Law**, Department of Law, SOAS

PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION

1997 **Barrister at Law**, Middle Temple

EDUCATION

2014-2015 **Diploma in Communicative Arabic** (SOAS Language Centre)

2002 **PhD** “The Role of Islam in the Legal System of Pakistan”
(University of London)

1988-1989 **MA Area Studies (South Asia)** (SOAS University of London)

1985-1988 **BA** (equivalent) History, Law & Political Science
(University of Heidelberg, Germany)

PRACTICE AS ARBITRATOR

Claims in relation to:

- Islamic finance/Murabaha Agreement (DIFC/LCIA)
- employment dispute (UK/Saudi Arabia) (LCIA)
- investment dispute (Qatar) (LCIA)
- contractual dispute (Afghanistan) (PCA Ad Hoc)
- oil/gas contracts (UAE) (LCIA)
- media/broadcasting dispute (Pakistan) (LCIA)

EXPERT OPINIONS & CONSULTANCIES

Special Advisor to:

- *Somalia Justice Sector Reform Strategy* DFID (Mogadishu 2013)
- *Kabul International Donor Conference* EU (Kabul (2010)
- *Justice Sector Support Project* EU (Kabul 2007-2008)

Over 200 expert opinions on Pakistani, Indian & Middle Eastern in relation to commercial disputes, extraditions, political asylum and criminal law in proceedings before UK courts and tribunals and arbitral proceedings.

JUDICIAL AND PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

Academic Director of:

- *Lord Chancellor’s Chinese Judges Training Programme* (1997-2010)
- *Dubai International Financial Centre Court Judges’ Training Programme* (2007-2009)
- *Qatar International Financial Centre Court Judges’ Training Programme* (2009-2012)
- *Young Chinese Lawyers’ Professional Training Course* (2008-2010)