

## Augustin Barrier Partner, Geneva



Augustin specialises in international arbitration, including commercial and investment treaty arbitration. His main area of focus is on the extractive industries, specifically energy and mining. His practice spans the full life cycle of projects, from exploration and development to production, processing, marketing, and downstream operations, and extends to related joint ventures, infrastructure, and cross-border investments, with a strong emphasis on matters involving Europe and Africa.

He has acted in numerous international arbitrations, both institutional (including before the ICC, SCC, CCJA and ICSID) and ad hoc. He brings recognised experience in disputes involving States, State-owned entities and private sector participants across Europe and Africa, under a range of legal systems reflecting both civil law and common law traditions. He regularly engages with issues specific to the African context, including regulatory and local content frameworks, resource governance, and investor-State relations.

Augustin regularly publishes on international law and arbitration, and notably contributes to the *Revue des revues of the Journal du droit international* (Clunet).

### Current professional memberships

- + Co-Founder of the Swiss Chapter of ENERAP (Energy Related Arbitration Practitioners)
- + Member of Young Mining Professionals (YMP) Switzerland
- + Member of ICC Young Arbitrators Forum (YAF)
- + Member of LCIA Young International Arbitration Group (YIAG)
- + Member of African Arbitration Association (AfAA)
- + Member of ASA below 40

### Career history

- + Partner, LALIVE, Geneva, 2025 – present
- + Counsel, LALIVE, Geneva, 2020 – 2024
- + Associate, LALIVE, Geneva, 2016 – 2020
- + Associate, Dentons Europe, Paris, 2014 – 2016
- + Associate, Bredin Prat, Paris, 2010 – 2014

### Academic qualifications

- + Master in Litigation, Arbitration & ADR, Paris-Panthéon-Assas University, 2009
- + Master in Economic Law, Sciences Po, Paris, 2008
- + Bachelor of Law, Panthéon-Sorbonne University, Paris, 2007

### Contact

#### Partner, Geneva

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[LinkedIn](#)

### Practices

- + Arbitration - International Commercial
- + Arbitration - Investment Treaty

### Sectors

- + Energy
- + Mining

### Languages

- + English
- + French

### Nationality

- + French

### Admission

- + Geneva (foreign lawyer), 2017
- + Paris, 2011

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## Recognition

Ranked as Future Leader

***Who's Who Legal, Arbitration, 2023***

Ranked as Future Leader

***Who's Who Legal, Arbitration, 2022***

“Augustin’s expertise and knowledge in the case is particularly advanced. Particular emphasis should be placed on his skills to prepare witnesses for the proceedings. Patience, empathy capacity, perfect process (case) management, ability to establish mutual trust between client and legal representative.”

***Legal 500, Dispute Resolution: Arbitration, Key Lawyer, 2021***

Ranked Future Leader

***Who's Who Legal, Arbitration, 2021***

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## Recent publications

### **The AfCFTA’s Dispute Resolution Framework: New Opportunities & Key Considerations For Swiss Investors In Africa**

BERND EHLE, AUGUSTIN BARRIER

In: SABC Member Legal Insights Newsletter, March/April 2025

### **Mitigating the costs of potential disputes in Africa through third-party funding**

BERND EHLE, AUGUSTIN BARRIER

In: SABC Member Legal Insights Newsletter, 2023

### **Mali Ecowas Sanctions: The Impact on Foreign Investors**

AUGUSTIN BARRIER, BAPTISTE RIGAUDEAU

In: LALIVE Blog, 27 January 2022, Lexology online, 31 January 2022

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## Recent conferences

### **African Arbitration Association - African Arbitration Association - 5th Annual Conference**

AUGUSTIN BARRIER , Role: Speaker, Panel 4: ESG in investment arbitration  
*Douala, 10 October 2024*

### **University of Geneva - Symposium on Investors’ Obligations**

AUGUSTIN BARRIER , Role: Speaker, The Landscape of Laws, Compliance with National and International Law  
*Geneva, 16 May 2024*

### **African Public Procurement Network (Réseau africain de la commande publique) - 3rd General Assembly**

AUGUSTIN BARRIER , Role: Speaker, Presentation of a report to the African Development Bank on arbitral seats in Africa  
*Abidjan, 12 December 2023*