LALIVE

Catherine Anne Kunz
Partner, Geneva



Catherine specialises in international commercial arbitration and other forms of international dispute resolution. Dual-qualified in both civil and common law jurisdictions, she acts as counsel and serves as arbitrator in both ad hoc and institutional arbitration proceedings, with a focus on the energy, construction and technology sectors.

Her experience spans commercial disputes arising out of construction and engineering contracts, M&A, shareholder and joint venture agreements, as well as sales and distribution contracts. In addition, she regularly advises international organisations on immunities and privileges, internal dispute resolution mechanisms, regulatory and compliance issues.

Ranked as a Global Elite Thought Leader – under 45 and quoted as “one of the best cross examiners of her age”, *Who’s Who Legal, Arbitration 2023,* Catherine also represents parties in arbitration-related court proceedings, especially in the challenge of arbitral awards before the Swiss Supreme Court, including investment treaty awards. In parallel, she routinely assists clients with dispute prevention and settlement, including in negotiations and mediation proceedings.

Current professional memberships

- Vice Editor in Chief of the editorial board of the ASA Bulletin, the journal of the Swiss Arbitration Association
- Vice-President of the ICC Swiss Commission of Arbitration and ADR
- Member of the ADR Commission of the Geneva Bar Association
- Co-founder of Mute Off Thursdays, a virtual knowledge-sharing platform for senior female arbitration practitioners (GAR Award for Best Diversity Initiative, 2020)

Career history

- Partner, LALIVE, 2020 – present
- Counsel, LALIVE, 2018 – 2019
- Associate, LALIVE, 2016 – 2017
- Associate, Skadden Arps Slate Meagher & Flom (UK) LLP, London, 2014 – 2015
- Associate, LALIVE, Geneva, 2010 – 2014

Academic qualifications

- QLTS – Solicitors Qualifying Examination, London, 2015
- Bilingual French-German Bachelor & Master of Law, with major in European Law, University of Fribourg, Switzerland, 2007

Contact

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LinkedIn

Practices

- Arbitration - International Commercial
- Commercial Litigation
- Public International Law

Sectors

- Construction & Infrastructure
- Energy
- Technology

Languages

- English
- French
- German
- Spanish

Nationality

- British
- Swiss

Admission

- England & Wales, 2016
- Switzerland, 2010

“A future star in commercial and investment disputes”

Who’s Who Legal, Arbitration, Future Leaders - Partners, 2022

- Certificate of International Business Transactions with Chinese Characteristics, Cornell-Bucerius Summer Law Institute, Suzhou, China 2007

Recognition

Catherine Anne Kunz is ranked as a Thought Leader in Arbitration.
Lexology Index, Arbitration, 2026

Catherine Anne Kunz is recognised as a key lawyer within LALIVE's Tier 1 arbitration practice, which is noted for its strength across complex investment treaty and commercial arbitration matters, particularly in the mining, construction, infrastructure, energy and biotechnology sectors.
Legal 500, EMEA – Switzerland, Arbitration, 2025/2026

Catherine Anne Kunz is "notably adept in relation to construction contracts, shareholder, and joint venture agreement disputes."
Legal 500, Dispute Resolution: Arbitration, 2025

Recent publications

Challenging Investment Treaty Awards in Switzerland: Mission (Almost) Impossible? A review of the Swiss Supreme Court decisions rendered over the period 2019-2024
MATTHIAS SCHERER, CATHERINE A. KUNZ, LAURA AZARIA
In: 42 ASA Bulletin 4/2024 (December)

International Arbitration: Switzerland chapter
CATHERINE A. KUNZ, COURTNEY FURNER
In: Global Legal Insights, International Arbitration, 2024

New Developments in International Commercial Arbitration
CATHERINE A. KUNZ
In: *Christoph Müller, Sébastien Besson, Antonio Rigozzi (Eds), New Developments in International Commercial Arbitration, Stämpfli Editions Bern, pp. 131-165, 2020*

Recent conferences

GAR Live Vienna - GAR Live 2023: What would you do?
CATHERINE ANNE KUNZ , Role: Panellist, Do we need a uniform standard for independence and impartiality for experts in international arbitration? How diverging is the approach and how dangerous is it to the integrity of the proceedings?
Vienna, 13 October 2023

ASA Town Hall 2023 - Conflicts of Interest and Disclosure
CATHERINE ANNE KUNZ , Role: Moderator, Rountable dealing with social media
Bern, 29 September 2023

DIS40 - Spring Conference - Is this the end?! – Arbitration in the post-award stage, Setting aside of arbitral awards
CATHERINE ANNE KUNZ , Role: Panellist
Webinar, 4 May 2023