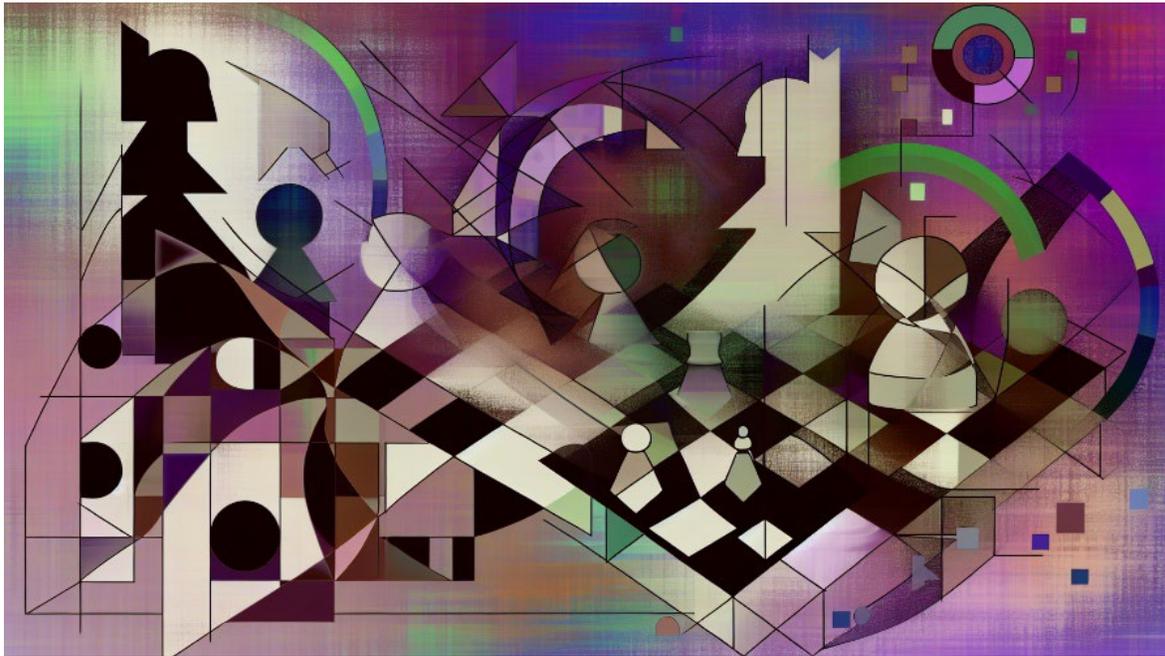


SINGAPORE INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATION ACADEMY 2025



From 24 to 29 November 2025, the Centre for International Law (CIL) at the National University of Singapore (NUS) held its flagship annual [Singapore International Arbitration Academy \(SIAA\)](#).

Every year, CIL brings together some of the world's renowned experts in international arbitration for a weeklong in-person programme on investor-State dispute settlement designed specifically for government officials, academics, and private practitioners. SIAA 2025 was the 12th iteration of the Academy. The SIAA 2025's Faculty was composed of 24 leading practitioners, barristers, academics, and government officials based in nine different countries. The number of participants for the 2025 Academy reached 55 delegates from 19 different countries. The 2025 Academy received excellent feedback with over 96% of participants rating it as "*perfect*".

As a culmination of the SIAA, participants are given the opportunity to argue in investor-State arbitration proceedings before a tribunal composed of some of the world's leading arbitrators. The hypothetical for the mock arbitration revolved around the intersection of international investment law and climate change.

The problem touched upon a variety of legal issues that advocates had to address, such as *i)* defining the contours of a "protected investment"; *ii)* ascertaining the existence and

relevance of legitimate expectations, including expectations of good governance; *iii*) addressing regime interactions in international law; *iv*) and debating the State's police powers and right to regulate and their interaction with treaty-based general exceptions. SIAA participants involved in the arbitration exercise were provided with consultations and coaching throughout the week.



DAY ONE | 24 Nov 2025

The Academy started with an opening and welcome address delivered by Dr Nilufer Oral (CIL's Director), Professor N. Jansen Calamita (Head of the International Economic Law and Policy programme at CIL), and Ms Celine Lange (Lead of the International Dispute Resolution Programme at CIL).



Dr Nilufer Oral



Prof N. Jansen Calamita



Ms Celine Lange

After an introduction to the moot problem and applicable treaty obligations by Professor N. Jansen Calamita, Dr Nilufer Oral set the context by providing an introduction to international environmental law. She discussed landmark developments in the field leading all the way up to the International Court of Justice’s advisory opinion on climate change delivered in July 2025.



Dr Oral’s session was followed by a presentation by Professor Chester Brown SC (University of Sydney Law School) who introduced the General Rules of International Law and the Investment Treaty Regime, and how they interact. The session concluded with a discussion on State attribution under the International Law Commission (ILC) Articles on State Responsibility.



Prof Chester Brown SC

DAY TWO | 25 Nov 2025

Professor N. Jansen Calamita started the day with a summary of the topics covered on the first day. Ms Frauke Nitschke (Team Leader/Legal Counsel at ICSID) then conducted a session on the International Centre for the Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID).



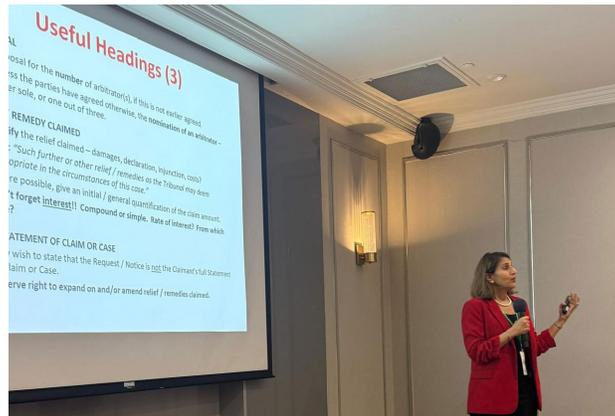
Ms Frauke Nitschke

Mr Aditya Singh (White & Case, Singapore) presented a comparison between ICSID arbitration and non-ICSID arbitration highlighting the differences in jurisdictional requirements, procedural framework, challenges and enforcement of awards.



Mr Aditya Singh

Ms Sapna Jhangiani KC (Chartered Arbitrator and Mediator, Blackstone Chambers, Singapore) led a workshop focused on drafting a request for arbitration, including its structure and essential elements. Participants had the opportunity to draft a request for arbitration based on the moot problem.



Ms Sapna Jhangiani KC

Mooters then attended a briefing session by Professor N. Jansen Calamita and Dr Charalampos Giannakopoulos (Senior Research Fellow at CIL).

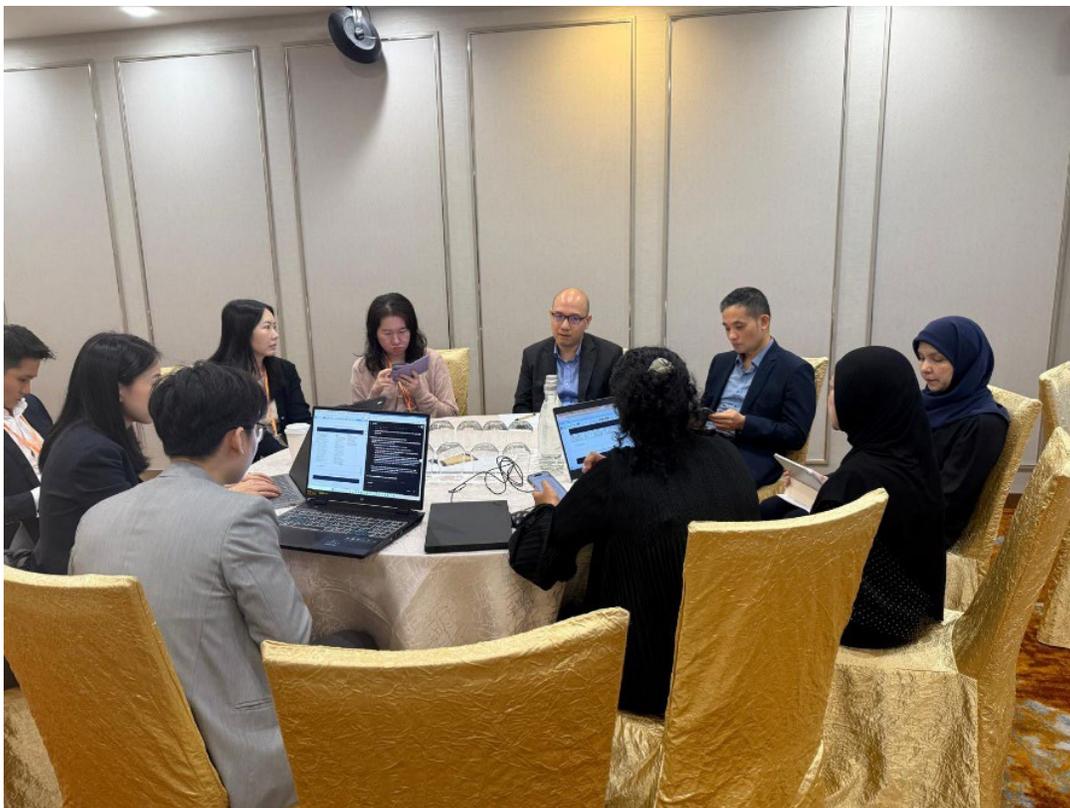
The day concluded with a drinks' reception hosted by Clifford Chance at its offices.

DAY THREE | 26 Nov 2025

After Professor N. Jansen Calamita's summary of the takeaways from Day 2, Ms Gitta Satryani (Herbert Smith Freehills Kramer, Singapore) continued with a presentation on issues relating to document production in international arbitration and a workshop on drafting a request of document production under the Redfern Schedule.



Ms Gitta Satryani



SIAA participants working in their Request for Document Production

Professor Mark Feldman (Peking University of Transnational Law) led the next session on Fair and Equitable Treatment, and Professor N. Jansen Calamita followed with a session on Expropriation. Both these sessions encouraged participants to think critically about the moot problem.



Prof Mark Feldman

The day concluded with a session on Defence arguments in investment arbitration by Professor Mavluda Sattorova (University of Liverpool).



Prof Mavluda Sattorova

Mooters attended a coaching session by Dr Giannakopoulos, Dr Thomas Lehmann (Research Fellow at NUS), Ms Yoonji Lee (Freshfields, Singapore) and Mr Daryl Wong (Wong Partnership, Singapore).

DAY FOUR | 27 Nov 2025

After Professor N. Jansen Calamita's summary of the takeaways from Day 3, participants were introduced to a session on Most Favoured Nation Treatment delivered by Professor Diego Fernández Arroyo (Sciences Po Paris).



Prof Diego Fernández Arroyo

The following sessions concerned the dissection of an investment arbitration case from the point of view of the Claimant by Mr Nicholas Lingard (Freshfields, Singapore), and of the Respondent by Mr David Pawlak (David A Pawlak LLC, Warsaw). These sessions engaged the participants to think critically about how to approach the hypothetical depending on the side they are representing.



Mr Nicholas Lingard



Mr David Pawlak

In the afternoon, Ms Ashwita Ambast (Senior Legal Counsel, Permanent Court of Arbitration, and its Representative in Singapore) delivered a session on the Permanent Court of Arbitration, its history, activities, rules, and cases. Thereafter, Ms Daphne Hong (Solicitor General at the Attorney General's Chambers in Singapore), Professor Makane Moise Mbengue (University of Geneva), Professor N. Jansen Calamita and Mr Pawlak held a session on Managing Investment Treaty Obligations.



Ms Ashwita Ambast



From left to right: Ms Hong, Prof Mbengue, Prof Calamita and Mr Pawlak

Day 5 closed with a coaching session for mooters by Dr Giannakopoulos, Dr Lehmann, Ms Lee and Mr Wong. Two coaches advised the Claimant Team, and two coaches advised the Respondent Team. In the meantime, participants not taking part in the coaching session had the possibility of attending SIAC's online lecture by Professor Zachary Douglas KC entitled "A Race to the Bottom: Ethical Standards in Investment Arbitration".

DAY FIVE | 28 Nov 2025

Day 5 began with a Keynote speech delivered by Mr Christopher Thomas KC (Barrister and Solicitor, International Arbitrator, Canada), who convened the first SIAA in 2012 during his time at CIL, on the evolution of the Academy and of the investment arbitration field through the years.



Mr Christopher Thomas KC

Thereafter, a debate was organised with Professor Mavluda, Professor N. Jansen Calamita and Professor Mbengue on the reform of investment treaties.



From left to right: Prof Calamita, Prof Sattorova and Prof Mbenge

The debate was followed by a session by Dr Giannakopoulos on the reforms discussed at UNCITRAL Working Group III on Investor-State Dispute Settlement. In the afternoon, participants attended a session on Alternative Dispute Resolution and the use of mediation for investment disputes, with first a presentation by Ms Celine Lange, followed by a panel featuring Ms Natalie Morris-Sharma (Senior Director and Senior State Counsel, Singapore's Attorney-General's Chambers), Dr Romesh Weeramantry and Dr Mark McLaughlin (Assistant Professor, Singapore Management University).



Dr Charalampos Giannakopoulos



From left to right: Ms Celine Lange, Dr Romesh Weeramantry, Dr Mark McLaughlin and Ms Morris-Sharma.



For the last session of the day, participants enjoyed a lively dialogue on arbitral tribunals' point of view when managing arbitrations, with Professor Arroyo, Ms Swee Yen Koh SC (Head of the International Arbitration Practice at Wong Partnership), Mr Pawlak, and Mr Christopher Lau SC (Senior Counsel and Chartered Arbitrator at 3VB barristers' chambers, Singapore), moderated by Professor N. Jansen Calamita.



From left to right: Prof N. Jansen Calamita, Prof Diego Fernández Arroyo, Ms Swee Yen Koh SC, Mr David Pawlak and Mr Christopher Lau SC

The day ended with final consultations before the mock arbitration by Professor Calamita and Dr Giannakopoulos.

DAY SIX | 29 Nov 2025

Day Six was dedicated to the mock arbitration hearing. The arbitral tribunal, chaired by Professor N. Jansen Calamita, included Professor Mavluda Sattorova, Mr Christopher Thomas KC, and Ms Chiann Bao (Chartered Arbitrator and Partner in ArbBoutique, Singapore).



From left to right: Prof Sattorova, Mr Christopher Thomas KC, Prof Calamita, and Ms Chiann Bao

Participants representing PanEnergia plc (Claimant) and the Republic of Aqualandia (Respondent) presented compelling arguments on Jurisdictional Objections, Fair and Equitable Treatment, Expropriation and General Exceptions. After the hearing, the oralists benefitted from critical feedback from the arbitral tribunal on advocacy, style, and presentation of arguments.



Mock arbitration hearing before the Arbitral Tribunal











Team Claimant with one of their coaches Dr Thomas Lehmann (fifth from left)



Team Respondent with their coaches Dr Charalampos Giannakopoulos (second from left) and Mr Daryl Wong (fourth from left).

The Academy concluded with the SIAA Advocacy Awards and Certificate Ceremony.



**Mr Sidney Tambasi Netya (Graduate Institute, Geneva) was awarded the SIAA
Excellency in Advocacy Award**



Akiko MURAMOTO



Martin Kioko MUNYOTO

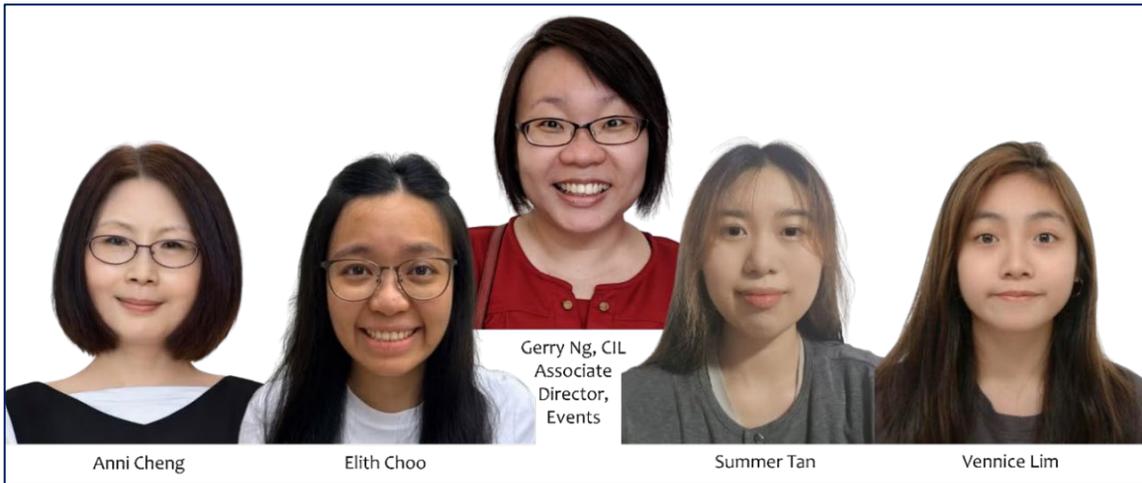


Didina Maria ASSUNÇÃO COELHO DA SILVA





The SIAA Organising Committee, from left to right: Dr Charalampos Giannakopoulos (Moot), Prof N. Jansen Calamita (SIAA co-Director), Ms Celine Lange (SIAA co-Director), Mr Jorge Escalona Gálvez, NUS Law LLM Candidate, Student Researcher, CIL)



SIAA Events Team





The SIAA officially closed with a drinks' reception at the hotel venue.

