



# AIJA LEJNIECE

Avocat à la Cour | Paris  
Attorney at Law | New York

al@aijalejniece.com | +33 (0)6 51 27 00 52 | www.aijalejniece.com | www.linkedin.com/in/aija-lejniece



## PROFILE & EXPERIENCE

10+ years' experience working in international disputes

**Specialization:** Investment Treaty Arbitration | International Commercial Arbitration | PIL | Cross-Border Disputes | French Enforcement & Annulment Proceedings | EU Law | ADR

**Areas of Expertise:** Litigation | Pre-Dispute Advice | Investment Corporate Structuring Advice | Regulatory Advice | Strategy | Securing Funding | Settlement Negotiations | Contracts

**Sectors:** Oil & Gas | Renewable Energy | Mining | Banking | Fintech | Crypto | Construction | Insolvency | Taxation | Sovereign Debt | Tourism | Consumer Protection

**Rules & Institutions:** ICSID | SCC | HKIAC | LCIA | ICC | UNCITRAL | PCA

### Select Commercial Arbitration Representations & Others

- An African State in French-language ICC proceedings related to the reopening of an arbitration
- Crypto traders in a dispute against a prominent crypto trading platform under the HKIAC Rules
- An individual in an arbitration concerning a crypto-related shareholders' agreement under the HKIAC Rules
- A LATAM State-owned oil & gas company in two LCIA arbitrations in connection with a dispute relating to Health & Safety and arising out of a Unit Operating Agreement
- A Ukrainian construction company in ICC award enforcement and annulment proceedings in France
- The family of a high-ranking international organization representative in a dispute against the organization
- Advising various fintech actors in matters relating to their ventures
- Co-arbitrator in an *ad hoc* arbitration under French law relating to the sale of a real estate company

### Select State Representations

- Russian Federation in an UNCITRAL arbitration concerning the bankruptcy of one of the largest national banks following the 2014 Russian financial crisis
- Republic of Colombia in multiple ICSID arbitrations against North American gold miners
- Russian Federation in multiple UNCITRAL arbitrations relating to the bankruptcy of Yukos Oil Company
- Hellenic Republic in an ICSID arbitration against a Cypriot bank arising out of government bond restructuring in the context of the Greek financial crisis
- Arab Republic of Egypt in an ICSID arbitration relating to an investment in the tourism sector

### Select Investor Representations

- Eastern European investor against Belarus in an ICSID arbitration arising out of the host State's interference with an infrastructure project in the Minsk Airport vicinity
- Photovoltaic investor Novenergia in an Energy Charter Treaty-based SCC arbitration against the Kingdom of Spain concerning the national renewable energy scheme, and the consequent dealings with the European Commission and annulment proceedings before the Svea Court of Appeal in Sweden
- Russian State-owned energy company Gazprom against Lithuania in an UNCITRAL arbitration regarding the unbundling of the national gas sector
- Russian oil & gas company Tatneft against Ukraine in an UNCITRAL arbitration concerning the forced takeover of the investor's company, as well as in subsequent annulment proceedings before the Paris Court of Appeal

## EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

**Independent Counsel & Arbitrator** | May 2021–Present

**Latham & Watkins LLP**, Paris, France

Senior Associate, International Arbitration, Litigation & Trial Practice | April 2016–April 2021

**Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton LLP**, Paris, France | November 2012–February 2016

**Shearman & Sterling LLP**, Paris, France  
Trainee Lawyer | April 2012–July 2012

**White & Case LLP**, Paris, France

Trainee Lawyer | September 2011–February 2012

## EDUCATION

Harvard Law School  
LL.M. / 2010–2011

University of Latvia  
LL.M. / 2008–2010

Utrecht University  
LL.M., Erasmus / 2009

University of Latvia  
LL.B. / 2005–2008

## BAR ADMISSIONS

New York State Bar / 2013

Barreau de Paris / 2014

## NATIONALITY

Latvian

## LANGUAGES

English & Latvian (bilingual)

French & Russian (fluent)

Spanish (professional grasp)

Italian & German (notions)

## PROFESSIONAL INTERESTS

Member of the VIAC Legal  
Tech Think Tank

Fintech & Crypto

Moot courts

Teaching & training

Women's Rights

Mentoring junior  
practitioners

## PASSIONS

Family & Friends

Equestrian sports

Art, antiques & literature

Social media