

Dr. Gisela Knuts

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Nationality: Finnish



CAREER

Independent Arbitrator (since 2022)

Roschier (2000 – 2022): Associate and Senior Associate (2000 – 2011), Partner (2011 – 2022), Head of Dispute Resolution Team in Finland (2012 – 2019), Head of Dispute Resolution Practice in Finland (2019 – 2022), Head of Helsinki office (2019 – 2022)

Pargas District Court, Law clerk (1999 – 2000)

EDUCATION

University of Helsinki, LL.D. (2006)

Uppsala University, visiting scholar (2004)

University of Helsinki, LL.M. (1999)

SAA Training Programme for Arbitrators (2010 – 2011)

AREAS OF EXPERTISE AND EXPERIENCE

- AS ARBITRATOR

Gisela's main expertise is as arbitrator in international commercial arbitrations. She has acted as arbitrator in proceedings under many institutional arbitration rules, including ICC, SCC, FAI, DIA, DIS, Oslo Chamber of Commerce, the Swiss Rules and Lewiatan Court of Arbitration (Poland), as well as in ad hoc proceedings, applying a variety of substantive rules of law.

Gisela has arbitrated disputes arising out of, e.g., energy and infrastructure projects, construction, joint ventures, mergers and acquisitions, shareholders' agreements, international

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sales and related transactions, agency and distribution, and licensing, across a wide range of business sectors.

Gisela also has experience as arbitrator in statutory squeeze-out proceedings under the Finnish Companies Act.

- **AS COUNSEL**

Before pursuing a career as a full-time arbitrator, Gisela acted for more than twenty years as counsel in commercial dispute resolution, including international and domestic arbitration, complex cross-border and domestic litigation, and ADR. In this respect, Gisela has acted as lead counsel and advised clients in multi-million-euro disputes in fields such as post-M&A, construction (on- and offshore), engineering, projects & energy, distribution, sale of goods, insolvency, tax, financial instruments, corporate law and shareholder relations, director's liability, ICT, and competition damages. Moreover, she has experience acting as counsel in white collar crime matters.

- **AS STRATEGIC AND BUSINESS ADVISOR**

In addition to her dispute resolution expertise, Gisela has considerable experience in governance and compliance related issues as well as risk management, both in relation to corporations and not-for-profit organisations.

Gisela also acts as strategic, legal and financial advisor to corporations and private individuals and takes a special interest in wealth management.

POSITIONS OF TRUST

DIS Council, Member (since 2026)

Norwegian Arbitration Association, Board member (since 2025)

Society of Swedish Literature in Finland, Finance Board member (since 2025)

Finnish Arbitration Association, Chair of the Board (since 2024)

Veritas Pension Insurance Company, Chair of the Board (since 2023)

Aktia Bank Plc, Chair of Shareholders' Nomination Board (since 2023)

Åbo Akademi Foundation, Supervisory Board member (since 2012), Board member (2012 – 2022), Chair of the Board (2019 – 2022)

Pohjantähti Mutual Insurance Company, Member of Shareholders' Nomination Board (2023 – 2025)

The Finland Arbitration Institute, Board member and Vice-Chair (2022 – 2024)

Rettig Capital Ab & Rettig Group Ab, Board observer and advisor to the owners (2016 – 2022)

PUBLICATIONS

“Recourse to the Courts Against an Arbitral Award” in “International Arbitration in Sweden: A Practitioner’s Guide” 2nd Edition, Kluwer Law International B.V., 2021

“Domarens förlikningsverksamhet och rätten till rättvis rättegång” (“Facilitation of settlement by the courts and the right to a fair trial”), Festskrift till Dan Frände, 2017

“Toolkit for Award Writing”, IBA Arb40 Subcommittee, 2016

Book review of Anna-Liisa Autio’s doctoral dissertation entitled “Lainkäyttö yritysten riidanratkaisussa” (“Dispute resolution practices among companies”), with A. Keinänen, Lakimies, 2014

“Recourse to the Courts against an Arbitral Award”, in Ulf Franke et al. (Ed.): “International Arbitration in Sweden. A Practitioner’s Guide”, Kluwer Law International, 2013

“Jura Novit Curia and the Right to be heard – an Analysis of Recent Case Law”, Arbitration International, 2012

“Korvaus tarpeettoman turvaamistoimen aiheuttamasta vahingosta” (“Compensation for Damage due to Groundless Interim Relief”), Lakimies, 2011

“Skiljeförfarandeundantaget i Bryssel förordningen – Quo vadis?” (“The Arbitration Exception in the Brussels Regulation – Quo vadis?”), Festskrift till Gustaf Möller, 2011

“West Tankers – ett bakslag för internationellt skiljeförfarande in Europa” (“West Tankers – a Backlash for International Arbitration in Europe”), Tidskrift utgiven av Juridiska Föreningen i Finland, 2010

“Asiakirjakategorian esittämispyyntö kansainvälisessä välimiesmenettelyssä International Bar Associationin Rules of Evidencen mukaan” (“Discovery in International Arbitration in Accordance with the Rules of Evidence of the International Bar Association”), in Risto Koulu (Ed.): Oikeudenkäyntejä ja tuomioistuimia: Juhlakirja Juha Lappalainen 60 vuotta, Helsinki, 2007

“Förfarandegarantier vid domstolsanknuten medling” (“Procedural Guarantees in Court-annexed Mediation”), Doctoral Thesis, Suomalainen Lakimies-yhdistys, 2006

“Tuomioistuinsovittelu – vaihtoehtoinen riidanratkaisu osaksi riidanratkaisun virallisjärjestelmää Suomessa?” (“Court-annexed Mediation – Alternative Dispute Resolution to be Integrated to the Public System in Finland?”), Defensor Legis, 2003

LANGUAGES

Mother tongue: Swedish

Fluent: English, Finnish

Working knowledge: German, Danish, Norwegian