



Full Member
Associate 3 Verulam Buildings,
Gray's Inn, London

FCIArb (1993); Chartered Arbitrator; Diploma in International Commercial Arbitration (Distinction) - Chartered Institute of Arbitrators 1998; QDR. (Qualified Mediator) 1995; Advanced Mediator training (MATA) 2005. Former practising Barrister in Maritime and Commercial Chambers (20 Essex Street and 3 Verulam Buildings).

Arbitrating since 1992; practising solely as professional arbitrator and mediator since 2003. Regularly sits as arbitrator, both as sole arbitrator and as a member of a panel of three, and frequently as presiding arbitrator.

Receives regular appointments under the Rules of LMAA, ICC, LCIA, CPR (New York), IDCR/AAA (Oil & Gas Panel), SIAC, SCMA, SIMC and the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators and ad hoc appointments in commercial, maritime, insurance/reinsurance, contractual and international disputes.

Handles a wide variety of international maritime cases including disputes under time, voyage and bareboat charters, bills of lading contracts, sale and purchase contracts for both ships and yachts, shipbuilding contracts, contracts for the international sale of goods, insurance and reinsurance policies (including marine policies), freight forwarding and agency and broker disputes. Also arbitrates in the fields of banking and financial instruments (including derivative contracts), international distributorship and franchise, information technology and telecommunications. Who's Who Legal comments "Elizabeth Birch is a well-known disputes specialist with a wealth of expertise sitting as arbitrator in a diverse range of international cases."

Qualified as a mediator in 1995 and has successfully mediated a very substantial number of disputes. Recommended in Chambers Guide to the Legal Profession from 1998 - 1999 and continuing to date. In the "Most Highly Regarded" category in Who's Who Legal. Comments include: "gifted mediator"; "inspires confidence"; [she has an] aptitude for exposing parties to the strengths and weaknesses of both sides without seeking to impose a view"; "very considered and commercial", "meticulous in planning and very good on the day"; "she has that skill of getting people, despite their prejudices, to see that there is a better way forward for them and all parties"; "a very experienced mediator known for her non-preaching, reserved, supportive and gentle manner"; "well versed in domestic and international disputes often handling cases with high-value or multiparty aspects."

As a barrister, Elizabeth appeared frequently before the Commercial and Admiralty Courts, and in arbitration before the LMAA and the Commodity Houses (eg LME, GAFTA, FOSFA, RSA etc) and in insurance and reinsurance arbitrations.