

CLARE AMBROSE
Twenty Essex



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Nationality	British
Current position	Barrister practising as full-time arbitrator at Twenty Essex

Clare Ambrose is a full-time arbitrator with expertise and wide-ranging experience in the shipping and energy sectors. She has practised as a barrister from Twenty Essex since 1993, becoming a full-time arbitrator (and full member of the LMAA) in 2017. She was appointed a Deputy High Court Judge in 2018.

She has vast experience sitting as an arbitrator in complex and technical disputes relating to charters and contracts of affreightment, also shipbuilding and repair, offshore construction, long term energy supply agreements, ship sales and commodity trading. However, appointments also include broader commercial disputes, for example relating to joint operations, agency and management agreements, competition law, finance and banking services, construction projects, distribution agreements, professional negligence and share purchase agreements.

As arbitrator she has had over 300 appointments in international arbitrations, sitting as chair, sole and co-arbitrator. Appointments have been made under the rules of the LCIA, ICC, LMAA, SCMA, SIAC, SCC and UNCITRAL, and also on an *ad hoc* basis.

Clare is a Fellow of CIArb and a Centre for Dispute Resolution (CEDR) accredited mediator.

She frequently lectures on arbitration issues and is co-author of the leading textbook on shipping arbitration, *London Maritime Arbitration* (4th edn, Informa 2017).

Education and professional roles

First Class BA Hons, Jurisprudence, Oxford University, Somerville College

First Class LLM Cambridge University, Queens' College

Call as barrister (1992)

Joined Twenty Essex as junior tenant (1993)

University lecturer at Oxford University, Senior Law Fellow Somerville College (1999-2002)

Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (2008)

Panel Arbitrator for the Singapore Chamber of Maritime Arbitration (2011)

Panel Arbitrator for Singapore International Arbitration Centre (2016)

Series Editor of Lloyd's Shipping Law Library (2016)

Full Member of LMAA (2017)

4th Edition of *London Maritime Arbitration* (2017)

CEDR Accredited Mediator (2018)

Deputy High Court Judge (2018)

Key cases

Shipping, Commodities & Offshore operations

- Numerous appointments under charterparties, bills of lading, ship management agreements, ship sales, brokerage agreements and contracts of affreightment (typically LMAA or ad hoc, also EMAC, HKIAC, SIAC, SCMA, Swiss Arbitration Centre and UNCITRAL rules).
- Appointments relating to offshore vessels and operations, including under Supplytime and relating to operations of barges, cranes and pipe-laying vessels.
- Several appointments as chair and panel arbitrator in disputes concerning sale of superyachts, including several relating to issues arising out of COVID 19 restrictions
- Numerous appointments (typically LCIA, also SIAC and HKIAC) under trading agreements, typically oil, LNG, coal, steel, metals, metal ores and soft commodities.
- Several appointments relating to consequences of insolvency of bunker operator.
- Sole arbitrator in substantial multi-party ad hoc arbitration dispute concerning series of ship sales.
- Tribunal chair in US\$35 million claim arising out of loss of bulk carrier vessel and lives of 18 crew members.
- Tribunal chair in US\$18 million claim arising out of hijack of tanker by pirates.
- Sole arbitrator appointed by LCIA under services agreement for ship management and investment advice.
- Party nominated LCIA arbitrator under joint venture for supply of cocoa and coffee beans from Cote d'Ivoire.
- Tribunal chair in US\$9 million claim arising out of explosion on tanker (ad hoc).
- Appointed by DIFC/LCIA as sole arbitrator in trading dispute, issued first award by DIFC/LCIA. Its enforcement by the Dubai Court of Cassation in Appeal No 132/2012, *Airmech Dubai LLC v Macsteel International LLC* [2012] was a landmark development for Dubai's role as an arbitration centre.
- LCIA/DIFC appointed tribunal member in technical management dispute between Emirates company and owners of liquefied gas tanker.
- *Counsel in Transgrain Shipping BV v Deuilemar Shipping SPA (The "Eleni P")* [2014] EWHC 4202 (Comm); [2015] 1 Lloyd's Rep 12.
- *Counsel in Louis Dreyfus Trading v Reliance Trading*[2004] 2 Lloyd's Rep 243.

Shipbuilding/ Offshore construction/ Construction

- Presiding arbitrator in €18 million LCIA dispute relating to upgrade of FPSO.
- LCIA appointed tribunal chair under largescale contract for upgrading floating semi-submersible platform.
- Party appointed arbitrator under Dubai International Arbitration Centre rules under contract for building of semi-submersible rigs for state entity.
- Chair in DIAC arbitration under UNCITRAL rules in dispute under guarantee relating to drill rig unit in Alaska.
- Chair in two arbitrations relating to construction of LNG carriers.
- Tribunal chair in US\$20 million shipbuilding dispute between Chinese yard and German shipping group for purchase and construction of 4 vessels.
- Party appointed arbitrator in dispute between a European yard and the buyer involving a US\$20 million luxury motor yacht (LMAA).
- Tribunal chair in €40 million claim under a shipbuilding contract to build a vessel for a Scandinavian buyer.
- Sole arbitrator appointed by LCIA under contract for design and installation of a chemical plant in the UAE.

- Emergency arbitrator appointed by LCIA in dispute about construction of fishing vessels in Vietnam.
- Tribunal chair in €40 million claim under a shipbuilding contract to build a vessel for a Scandinavian buyer.
- Presiding arbitrator in ICC dispute relating to supply of low and high voltage cables for a construction project in Nigeria.
- Sole arbitrator appointed by LCIA under contract for design and installation of a chemical plant in the UAE.
- Co-arbitrator in ICC dispute under EPC contract relating to a hydrocarbon terminal expansion project in Amsterdam.

Energy and Natural Resources

- Presiding arbitrator in LCIA dispute under Joint Operation Agreement for oil and gas exploration in Eastern Europe.
- Numerous appointments in disputes (including LCIA, SIAC, ICC, HKIAC, ad hoc) relating to long term supply agreements for oil, gas, coal, and metal ores.
- ICC appointed tribunal chair under services agreement for oil and gas plants in Libya.
- Counsel in MRI Trading AG v Erdenet Mining Corp LLC [2012] EWHC 1988 (Comm), [2012] 2 Lloyd's Rep 465; [2013] EWCA Civ 156, [2013] 1 Lloyd's Rep 638.
- Sole arbitrator in ICC dispute with Singapore seat arising out long term agreements for the generation and sale of electricity in Pakistan.
- ICC appointed tribunal chair under services agreement for oil and gas plants in Libya.
- Party nominated arbitrator in ICC arbitration (Paris seat) under contract governed by Spanish law relating to development of wind farms for production of electricity in Spain.
- ICC appointed panel member in dispute relating to consultancy for drilling services in Libya.
- Party nominated panel member in SCC arbitration relating to supply of turbine equipment for construction of power plant near Moscow.
- ICC appointed sole arbitrator in USD 30 million dispute between French multinational and Texan start up relating to fuel delivery technology.
- Party nominated arbitrator in LCIA EURO 20 million dispute relating to long term contract for supply of electricity in Italy.
- Counsel in MRI Trading AG v Erdenet Mining Corp LLC [2012] EWHC 1988 (Comm); [2012] 2 Lloyd's Rep 465; [2013] EWCA Civ 156; [2013] 1 Lloyd's Rep 638.

Aviation

- Sole arbitrator appointed by LCIA under airport services agreement between budget airline and airport operator, included claim for abuse of a dominant market position.
- Party nominated arbitrator in LCIA dispute under sale of a private jet.
- Appointed as presiding arbitrator in LCIA arbitration relating to damage to passenger aircraft at an airport.

Banking and Financial Services

- ICC nominated sole arbitrator under dispute between two banks relating to an international money transfer system used in Africa.
- Presiding arbitrator in €50 million LCIA dispute under guarantee and indemnity agreement involving Russian bank.
- Sole arbitrator appointed by LCIA under 3 international credit insurance policies.
- Party nominated arbitrator in €400 million LCIA dispute under loan agreement, involving Russian sanctions.

- Appointed as presiding arbitrator in LCIA arbitration relating to share acquisition agreement relating to two Russian banks.
- Sole arbitrator appointed by LCIA in two linked claims (worth USD 80 million) under guarantee governed by Ghanaian law given by telecommunication company to South African lender to secure finance for 4G roll out in Ghana.

General Commercial

- Several LCIA appointments for disputes arising out of share purchase agreements, e.g. in property development, a Russian energy company.
- Permanent Court of Arbitration (PCA) appointment in dispute relating to telecom services agreement under UNCITRAL Rules.
- Sole arbitrator appointed by LCIA under contract for world-renowned opera singer to give televised concert.
- Party nominated tribunal member in ICC dispute between pharmaceutical companies relating to distribution of contact lens products.
- Sole arbitrator in claim against surveying partnership for professional negligence.
- ICC nominated sole arbitrator under dispute between luxury car manufacturer and distributor relating to long term exclusive distribution in Turkey.
- Tribunal chairman in dispute under distribution agreement between Russian pharmaceutical company and English manufacturer.
- President in ICC arbitration about contract between a satellite operator providing exclusive use of capacity on new satellites.
- Sole arbitrator in two DIFC-LCIA arbitrations relating to exclusive distribution agreement between mobile phone manufacturer and distributors for Pakistan and Afghanistan.
- Sole arbitrator appointed by Chair of the UK Bar Council in dispute relating to licensing of bio-pharmaceutical intellectual property.
- Party nominated tribunal member in DIFC-LCIA dispute concerning joint venture to provide occupational health services clinics in Middle East.
- Party nominated tribunal member in LCIA dispute relating to acquisition of a chain of care homes across the UK.

Publications

- Review of the Arbitration Act 1996: Responses to the Law Commission Consultation Paper, *International Journal of Arb. Med. & Dispute Mgmt* 88, no.4 (2022) 475-544.
- Looking for a “commercial man”: common difficulties in maritime arbitration clauses, 22 May 2022
- ‘Interim and Emergency Relief – In Support of Maritime Arbitration Under English Law’ *TDM* 1 (2021) (co-authored with Michael Collett QC and Karen Maxwell).
- A Tale of Two Cities: virtual arbitration in the best of times, the worst of times, *Lexis Nexis* 3 April 2020
- *London Maritime Arbitration* (4th edn, Informa 2017).
- Co-author of *London Maritime Arbitration* (4th edn, Informa 2017)
- Series Editor of *Lloyd’s Shipping Law Library* (since 2016)

Professional memberships

- Baltic Exchange: Member
- CEDR: Accredited Mediator
- Chartered Institute of Arbitrators: Fellow
- LCIA: Member
- LCIA Young International Arbitration Group: Co-founder
- LMAA: Full Member
- UK Ministry of Justice China Working Group: Member
- Panel Arbitrator for
 - Emirates Maritime Arbitration Centre
 - Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre
 - Kuala Lumpur Regional Centre for Arbitration
 - Singapore Chamber of Maritime Arbitration
 - Singapore International Arbitration Centre

Lectures and seminars

- Arbitrator decisions getting it right and avoiding challenge, Joint CI Arb & LMAA Annual Seminar (6 December 2022)
- Arbitration Act Reform, ICC Annual Arbitration & ADR Conference (11 November 2022)
- “Efficiencies in International Arbitration”, Dublin International Arbitration Day, (18 November 2022)
- Offshore Energy: Contracts and disputes in the maritime environment, LSLC/LMAA's hybrid event (24 June 2022)
- “Hot topics in international arbitration involving Chinese parties”, UK-China Arbitration Summit 2021 (19–21 January 2021)
- Arbitration Challenges and Enforcement in the English Courts: A roundup of 2020, webinar for Boies Schiller Flexner (11 February 2021)
- Rights of Appeal in Arbitration, CI Arb/LMAA Webinar (December 2020)
- Quadrant Chambers International Arbitration Panel Debate – Halliburton, (December 2020)
- Due process paranoia and the search for lost efficiency, ICC YAF, Lisbon (31 January 2019)
- 2018 LCIA-LSE Arbitration Debate: “Arbitration in London after Brexit”
- International Congress on Maritime Arbitration 2017 in Copenhagen: “Interim and Emergency Relief in support of Maritime Arbitration under English Law”
- London International Shipping Week 2017, LSLC Event “How does Arbitration support London?”

Directory Recommendations

- “She is superb.” Chambers UK Bar 2022
- “Super-efficient and very practical. She doesn't take silly points, you feel listened to and everything is run well.” Chambers UK Bar 2021
- “She is really high quality - she's bright, conscientious and understands the commercial drivers.” Chambers UK Bar 2021
- "Brilliant." The Legal 500 2017
- "Her knowledge is first class." The Legal 500 2017
- "Understated, charming, diplomatic and persuasive, with a broad knowledge of commodities." The Legal 500 2016
- Well versed in energy matters, and she excels as an advocate and arbitrator." (Legal 500 2015, Commodities)
- "A frequent arbitrator in commodities cases, who excels in oil and gas disputes." (Legal 500 2014, Commodities)