

ETHICS DOCUMENT

International Court of Arbitration – Permanent Court of Arbitration Framework

1. Introduction

This Ethics Document establishes the fundamental principles and standards of conduct expected in arbitration proceedings administered under the frameworks of the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) and the Permanent Court of Arbitration (PCA). It is designed to ensure integrity, impartiality, transparency, and fairness in all arbitral processes.

2. Core Ethical Principles

2.1 Independence and Impartiality

All arbitrators, administrators, and participants must remain independent and impartial. Decisions shall be made free from bias, external influence, or personal interest.

2.2 Integrity

Participants must conduct themselves with honesty and uphold the highest moral and professional standards throughout proceedings.

2.3 Confidentiality

All arbitration matters, including documents, deliberations, and awards, must remain confidential unless disclosure is required by law or agreed upon by the parties.

2.4 Transparency

While maintaining confidentiality, processes must be clear and procedurally transparent to all parties involved.

2.5 Fairness and Equality

All parties must be treated equally, given a full opportunity to present their case, and assured due process.

3. Ethical Obligations of Arbitrators

- Disclose any potential conflicts of interest immediately upon appointment and throughout proceedings.
- Avoid ex parte communications with any party.

- Maintain competence, diligence, and efficiency in managing proceedings.
 - Ensure decisions are based solely on evidence and applicable law.
 - Refrain from accepting gifts, favors, or benefits that may influence judgment.
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4. Ethical Obligations of Parties and Counsel

- Act in good faith and avoid abusive procedural tactics.
 - Respect the authority and neutrality of the arbitral tribunal.
 - Ensure accuracy and honesty in submissions and evidence.
 - Avoid any attempt to improperly influence arbitrators or tribunal staff.
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5. Administrative Conduct

Officials and staff involved in arbitration administration must:

- Act neutrally and without favoritism.
 - Protect the integrity of the process.
 - Maintain strict confidentiality of all case-related information.
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6. Conflicts of Interest

All participants must actively avoid conflicts of interest. Any situation that may give rise to doubts regarding impartiality must be disclosed promptly. Failure to disclose may result in removal, challenge, or annulment of proceedings.

7. Enforcement and Compliance

Violations of this Ethics Document may result in:

- Disqualification or removal of arbitrators
- Sanctions against parties or counsel
- Adverse procedural or cost decisions

- Referral to professional or regulatory bodies
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8. Continuous Improvement

This document should be periodically reviewed and updated in alignment with evolving international arbitration standards and best practices.

9. Conclusion

Adherence to these ethical standards ensures that arbitration under ICC and PCA frameworks remains credible, effective, and respected globally. All participants share responsibility for maintaining trust in the arbitral process.