

BESPOKE GLOBAL LITIGATION SUMMIT

Navigating Legal Challenges With Expertise


September 2025 | Dubai Edition
24 -25 September, 2025 | Park Regis Kris Kin



INSIDE THIS EDITION

"Where expertise meets innovation in
international litigation and arbitration."

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UPCOMING EVENTS

☛ Stay updated on our future summits and conferences.



AGENDA

Day 01 24th September, 2025

08:00 - 09:00	Registration
09:00 - 09:30	Keynote Session Cheryl Nankoo, Executive Coach and TEDx Speaker
09:30 - 10:30	Session 1: Arbitration and ADR in the Middle East: Practical Insights for Corporate Legal Teams Moderator <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cristina Amate Munoz, Head of Legal, Contracts, and Procurement, BEUMER Group, Middle East Panelists <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Meghna Malhotra - Senior Legal Counsel, BEEAH Group, UAE• Sabine Makkes - Founder and Managing Director of Envizion Consulting LLC and Founder of Women In Mentoring• Janice Chew - Partner, JC Legal
10:30 - 10:45	Coffee Break
10:45 - 12:00	Session 2: AI & Legal Tech in Litigation: Opportunities and Pitfalls Moderator <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Major Baisden, CEO at Lineal Services, USA Panelists <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Yosr (Hussein) Hamza, Head of Legal /Director, Legal & Compliance, Middle East at Gartner• Arjun Sivakumar, Litigation Partner at Brown Rudnick LLP, USA• Hamdan Al Shamsi, Founder & Senior Partner at Hamdan AlShamsi Lawyers & Legal Consultants, UAE• Sophie Best, CEO at Knowledge Nexus, UAE• Shannon Ng, MENA Business Manager at Opus 2, UAE
12:00 - 13:00	Session 3: Key Arbitration Trends in the UAE and Beyond, Navigating Future of International Disputes in a multicultural space Moderator <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Abdul Azeem, Head of Legal Department at Rayan Engineering Consulting, UAE Panelists <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Robert Whitehead, Partner - Head of DIFC & International Arbitration, HAS Law Firm.• (The Role of the New DIAC Rules in Enhancing Arbitration Efficiency)• Rana Hatata, Senior Associate at Gaillard Banifatemi Shalbaya Disputes, France• Jing Li, Senior Partner, Winson Partners & Legal Consultants, UAE• Mohammed Afzal, FCA, Regional Finance Director at ChampionX
13:00 - 13:30	Award Felicitation
13:30 - 14:30	Networking Lunch Break
14:30 - 15:30	Session 4: Emerging trends in litigation across the Middle East, emphasizing new jurisprudence, commercial litigation, and recent change. Moderator <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ahmed Zaki, Senior Vice President - Legal Affairs at Al Hamra, UAE Panelist <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sophia Hurst, Barrister at Essex Court Chambers, UK• Mousa Albaharani, General Manager, Mena Credit And Collection at Future Pipe Industries, Saudi Arabia• Dr. Abdulrahman Abukhalid, CEO at The GIANT for Consulting (and Training) and Debt Collection
15:30 - 16:00	Session 5: Practical session/Workshop
16:00 - 16:15	Coffee Break
16:15 - 17:15	Session 6: White-Collar Crime & Financial Misconduct: How UAE Courts Are Responding. Moderator <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Chinar Jethwani, Company Secretary at Varun Beverages Limited, UAE Panelists <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sameet Gambhir, Sr. Vice President & Group head - Legal, UFlex Ltd• Muhammad Nazri Shaidon, Head of AML Training & Advisory, Malaysia

Day 02 25th September, 2025

9:00 - 10:00	Session 7: Litigating ESG and Climate-Related Disputes in the Middle East Moderator <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Brijesh Chedayan, CEO, Beveron Technologies Dubai Panelists <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Saloni Tuteja, Head of Legal and Compliance, Middle East at Servier• Vijay Ojha, Group Company Secretary at Sharaf Group, Dubai
10:00 - 10:15	Coffee Break
10:15 - 11:30	Session 8: AI's Role in Multijurisdictional Litigation - Cross-border eDiscovery Moderator <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Henrietta Newton Martin, Legal Director, JusCogen & Alcop—JCA, UAE Panelists <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ahmed Nagy, Senior Legal Counsel at Emirates Islamic, UAE• Ahmad Saleh, Partner at Al Tamimi & Company, UAE• Mohammad Soiab Khan, Group Legal Manager, Sharaf Group UAE• Brian Stempel, Head of Customer Advocacy, Lineal, USA• Maria Athanasiou, Founder, Athanasiou & Associates LLC, Cyprus
11:30 - 12:00	Special Session: Legal and PR strategies for reputation protection <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lia Perin, Partner at Taylor Hampton Solicitors Limited, UK• Daniel Taylor, Managing Partner at Taylor Hampton Solicitors Limited, UK
12:00 - 13:30	Session 9: Best Practices for Drafting Effective Arbitration Clauses in MENA Contracts Moderator <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sabine Makkes, Founder and Chair-Women in Mentoring Panelists <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Felipe Arboleda Márquez, Regional Counsel for India, Middle East, Türkiye, Africa at CHEP• Georges Abi Saab, General Counsel at Ooredoo Group, Qatar• Tariq Khan, Partner, M&CO, UAE• Dr. Omar S I Abasheikh, Senior Legal Counsel at HALCON
13:30 - 14:30	Networking Lunch
14:30 -15:45	Session 10: Employment Laws & Workplace challenges in the UAE Moderator <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Abdul Azeem, Head of Legal Department at Rayan Engineering Consulting, UAE Panelists <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Felipe Arboleda Márquez, Regional Counsel for India, Middle East, Türkiye, Africa at CHEP• Raghvendra Verma, Partner at amadi, UAE• Chinar Jethwani, Company Secretary at Varun Beverages Limited, UAE• Romy Rasmy, Assistant Manager at DAMAC Properties, UAE
15:45 - 16:00	Coffee
16:00 -17:00	Session 11: Cybersecurity Breaches and Legal Liability: Preparing for Data breach Litigation Moderator <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Abduraheem Padinhare, Legal Manager, Cars24 Arabia Panelists <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Beatriz Ruiz-Beato, Head of Global Data Privacy at NEC Corporation, Spain• Ammar Sibyani, Cyber Security Manager CISO at Confidential Jobs, Saudi Arabia• Bushra Asif, Corporate Lawyer and Legal Trainer, and Co Fonder of Ascend Legal Training & Consulting• Megha Agarwal - Senior Counsel (APJ Lead), Optimizely

WELCOME TO THE BESPOKE GLOBAL LITIGATION SUMMIT DUBAI 2025 ISSUE

This magazine marks the debut of the Bespoke Global Litigation Summit, and we are honoured to welcome distinguished legal professionals from around the world to Dubai for our very first event. Our summit is dedicated to fostering genuine dialogue, sharing expertise, and building new connections across borders in the field of international litigation and arbitration.

As inaugural attendees, you are part of a milestone occasion, shaping the foundation of what we hope will become an influential gathering for global legal minds. Every session, article, and discussion in this issue reflects our commitment to collaboration, learning, and the advancement of dispute resolution.

Thank you for being with us at the start of this new journey. May the summit and this magazine inspire professional growth, thought leadership, and meaningful relationships within our community.

With gratitude,

Bespoke Global Litigation
Summit Organizing Committee



**Bespoke Global
Litigation Summit**

Navigating Legal Challenges with Expertise

Our inaugural summit in Dubai is just the beginning. Together, we are shaping the future of international litigation."



The Rise of **DUBAI AS A GLOBAL LITIGATION HUB**

By Bespoke GLS Team

Dubai's legal landscape is undergoing a transformation. Once seen primarily as a commercial hub, the city is now at the forefront of global litigation and arbitration, making it the perfect stage for the Bespoke Global Litigation Summit 2025.

Why Dubai?

Dubai offers more than just a strategic location, it provides an ecosystem where East meets West. With institutions such as the DIFC Courts and DIAC, coupled with progressive reforms, the city has become a magnet for cross-border dispute resolution.

Voices of Leadership

At this year's Summit, delegates will hear from global thought leaders, judges, arbitrators, and general counsels, who are driving conversations on white-collar crime, financial misconduct, digital arbitration, and the future of corporate compliance. Their insights reflect not just today's challenges but also tomorrow's solutions.

More Than a Conference

The Summit goes beyond traditional panels. It is a platform for collaboration, where ideas turn into action, partnerships are formed, and the global litigation community finds new ways to navigate an evolving legal landscape.

 **Discover more at www.bespokegl.com**

Five Core Values

- Integrity – Uphold ethics & trust
- Excellence – Deliver quality & impact
- Inclusivity – Respect all voices
- Community – Focus on attendees & legal needs
- Innovation – Collaborate & embrace new ideas

Our Mission

Our mission is to unite legal professionals and international legal communities from all corners of the globe, fostering a powerful bond that transcends borders and creates endless possibilities for collaboration. Together, we strive to forge lasting partnerships, ignite innovation, and unlock a world of shared business opportunities. Join us in building a future where unity and cooperation propel us forward, fueling our passion for excellence and driving us towards success.



ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS



**Bespoke Global
Litigation Summit**
Navigating Legal Challenges with Expertise

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info@bespokegls.com

Sabrine Makkes

Founder & Managing Director, Envizion Consulting LLC | Founder, Women in Mentoring
👉 Legal and compliance expert, DE&I advocate, and award-winning leadership coach.



Ahmed Nagy

Senior Legal Counsel, Emirates Islamic Bank PJSC
👉 Brings 15+ years of expertise in Islamic & conventional banking with a focus on legal innovation.



Dr. Omar S I Abasheikh

Senior Legal Counsel at HALCON
👉👉 20+ years in arbitration, corporate law & compliance across global industries



Ahmed Zaki

Senior Vice President – Legal Affairs, Al Hamra
👉 Over 30 years in judiciary and legal sectors; accredited arbitrator and award-winning legal strategist.



Vijay Ojha

Group Company Secretary, Sharaf Group
👉 Governance and compliance leader with 20+ years of experience across GRC, M&As, and corporate affairs.



EDUCATION PARTNER



“Mentorship is the cornerstone of progress. When women lead and collaborate, the legal profession is transformed for the better.”

Women In Mentoring (WIM) is a pioneering organization dedicated to empowering legal professionals through mentorship, leadership development, and knowledge sharing. Guided by the belief that strong mentorship creates lasting change, WIM builds robust support systems for individuals at every stage of their career, fostering community and advancing diversity within the legal sector.

WIM provides invaluable resources such as expert-led workshops, professional networking events, and curated publications—ensuring that members and collaborators receive the guidance and opportunities they need to excel. At the Bespoke Global Litigation Summit, WIM serves a vital role as an education partner, connecting summit participants to a wealth of learning opportunities, thought leadership, and global perspectives on litigation practice.

With a commitment to inclusivity and progress, WIM partners with industry-leading institutions and innovative minds to drive meaningful dialogue around

trends, best practices, and emerging challenges in litigation. Their mentorship programs and educational initiatives are designed not only to impart technical skills, but also to inspire ethical leadership and resilience among legal professionals navigating complex environments.

Through this partnership, the Summit and its attendees benefit from WIM’s unwavering dedication to building a brighter, more collaborative future for the global legal community.

LANYARD SPONSOR & EXHIBITOR



Hamdan Al Shamsi Lawyers & Legal Consultants

“Transparency, innovation, and client-focused solutions form the pillars of HAS’s success in Dubai’s legal landscape.”

Hamdan Al Shamsi Lawyers & Legal Consultants (HAS) stands at the forefront of the UAE’s legal sector, recognized for its commitment to transparency, innovation, and client success. Founded in 2011 by Hamdan Al Shamsi, the firm has steadily grown to become one of Dubai’s leading legal service providers, offering expertise that spans banking, corporate, construction, family law, intellectual property, and dispute resolution.

HAS’s diverse and multilingual team leverages local knowledge and international standards, making them a trusted advisor for individuals, businesses, and government entities navigating complex legal challenges in the region.

The firm’s approach is rooted in building lasting relationships with its clients. Every client receives personalized attention, and HAS ensures that their needs are the foundation of every solution they deliver. By prioritizing transparency and trust, the team fosters confidence that has helped them achieve successful outcomes in high-stakes matters, both domestically and on a global scale.


As lanyard sponsors of the Bespoke Global Litigation Summit, HAS highlights its leadership in legal innovation and collaboration. Their involvement demonstrates a strong commitment to supporting the legal community and sharing insights into emerging trends and best practices.

HAS remains dedicated to its core values of integrity, adaptability, and client-driven service. Their partnerships and reputation continue to foster a collaborative and progressive future for the UAE legal landscape.

SESSION SPONSOR



Taylor Hampton Solicitors is a distinguished law firm based in London, renowned for its expertise in media, privacy, and reputation management. The firm has built a reputation for providing tailored legal solutions to both individuals and businesses, tackling complex issues such as defamation, privacy breaches, and intellectual property with professionalism and dedication. Taylor Hampton Solicitors is committed to delivering exceptional client service, ensuring that each case is handled with discretion, integrity, and attention to detail. By continuously innovating and upholding the highest standards, Taylor Hampton remains a trusted partner for clients seeking protection and advocacy in an increasingly digital world.



“Taylor Hampton Solicitors brings expertise, integrity, and unwavering dedication to protecting reputations in a fast-changing media landscape.”

TECHNOLOGY PARTNER



"Technology is reshaping the future of legal practice. With Lineal, innovation and intelligence drive every solution, transforming complexity into clarity."

Lineal is a global leader at the forefront of legal technology, recognized for revolutionizing how law firms and corporate legal teams manage eDiscovery, data analytics, and digital investigations. With cutting-edge solutions powered by artificial intelligence and advanced automation, Lineal empowers organizations to streamline workflows, mitigate risk, and achieve greater accuracy in compliance and litigation support.

As our technology partner for the Bespoke Global Litigation Summit, Lineal plays a vital role in fostering innovation and driving transformation across the legal industry.

By delivering scalable platforms and expert guidance, Lineal ensures that professionals stay ahead of today's fast-evolving digital challenges, making complex data more accessible and actionable than ever before.

Lineal's partnership reflects a shared commitment to excellence, security, and progress—helping summit participants experience the future of legal technology in practice.

TRAVEL PARTNER



Trawego is a leading travel and tourism company dedicated to creating seamless, memorable, and personalized travel experiences for both individuals and groups. With a strong focus on innovation and customer satisfaction, Trawego has built a reputation for offering end-to-end travel solutions including flights, hotels, holiday packages, corporate travel management, and concierge services.

Driven by a passion for excellence, Trawego blends technology with personalized care to simplify every aspect of travel. Whether it's a business trip, luxury vacation, or destination event, the company ensures comfort, convenience, and cost-effectiveness at every stage.

As a trusted partner, Trawego is committed to delivering tailored services that match the unique preferences of each traveler. By continuously expanding its global network and adopting cutting-edge solutions, Trawego remains at the forefront of the travel industry, making journeys smoother and more enjoyable.

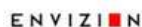
With Trawego as our official Travel Partner, delegates of the Bespoke Global Litigation Summit can rely on their expertise, reliability, and dedication to ensure a stress-free and rewarding travel experience.

"Trawego – redefining travel with innovation, care, and global expertise."

OUR PARTNERS & SPONSORS



Schindler



KEYNOTE SPEAKER CHERYL NANKOO

EXECUTIVE COACH & TEDX SPEAKER

"Leadership is not just about performance, it's about unlocking identity, language, and mindset."

Cheryl Nankoo is an Executive Coach and TEDx Speaker with over 20 years of experience working with leaders across Europe and the Middle East. She specializes in leadership development that redefines success, bringing a holistic approach that blends performance with purpose.

Renowned for her powerful storytelling and thought-provoking delivery, Cheryl's keynotes challenge leaders to reframe how they think, speak, and lead. She offers a human-centered lens in corporate environments, helping executives embrace transformation and navigate complexity with clarity.



Her work is deeply shaped by her own personal journey of building her family through adoption and her belief in the transformative power of language, identity, and belonging. Cheryl continues to inspire leaders globally, guiding them to lead authentically and create lasting impact.

AT A GLANCE

- ✦ 20+ Years of Leadership Coaching Experience
- ✦ TEDx Speaker on Identity, Language & Belonging
- ✦ Leadership Development Specialist across Europe & Middle East

"True leadership begins when we unlock identity, language, and mindset."

SPEAKER SPOTLIGHT SABRINE MAKKES

FOUNDER & MANAGING DIRECTOR, ENVIZION CONSULTING LLC
FOUNDER, WOMEN IN MENTORING

ENVIZION

WIM

"Championing innovation, mentorship, and DE&I to transform tomorrow's leaders."

Sabrine Makkes is a value-driven General Counsel with 18+ years of experience in Fortune 500 tech and automotive multinationals, holding senior legal and compliance roles across the MEA region.

An accredited leadership coach and tech entrepreneur, she founded Envizion Consulting LLC, a boutique advisory delivering leadership, HR, and compliance solutions using advanced technologies like Mixed Reality, AR, and VR.

Recognized with the Global Women Leadership Award 2024 (Most Inspiring DEI Ambassador), Sabine has been celebrated for her work in driving diversity, equity, and inclusion across the legal and compliance field.



She is the founder of Women in Mentoring (WIM), a platform bridging academia and practice to empower future female leaders, and recently launched WIM for HIM, an initiative engaging male leaders to champion a more inclusive and equitable future.

AT A GLANCE

🌐 18+ years in legal & compliance leadership

👤 Founder – Envizion Consulting LLC

🏆 Global Women Leaderships Award 2024

💛 Founder – Women in Mentoring (WIM & WIM for HIM)

"Empowering leaders with purpose, technology, and mentorship."

SPEAKER SPOTLIGHT HAMDAN ALSHAMSI

SENIOR PARTNER & FOUNDER

HAMDAN ALSHAMSI LAWYERS & LEGAL CONSULTANTS



**"Strategic,
solutions-driven,
and deeply
committed to
excellence."**

A UAE national and University of Warwick graduate, Hamdan AlShamsi has built a stellar career over nearly two decades, leading litigation, corporate advisory, and transactional matters for top-tier local and international clients.

AT A GLANCE

🇦🇪 UAE Bar Member (2009), DIFC Part 2 (2015)

⚖️ DIFC Registered Practitioner (2014)

📝 Registered DIFC Wills Practitioner (2017)

🏛️ Full rights of audience before UAE courts

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Bespoke Global Litigation Summit Dubai 2025



Founder of HAS Law Firm, Hamdan's portfolio includes high-value corporate disputes, complex banking & finance matters, and major insurance claims. His career journey spans banking & finance at a leading DIFC firm to steering multi-million-dirham real estate, construction, and infrastructure projects for a major Abu Dhabi investment company.

Recognized for his proficiency in corporate, banking & finance, and insurance law, Hamdan has earned his place among Dubai's most respected legal professionals.

"Committed to excellence, powered by strategy."

SPEAKER SPOTLIGHT MAJOR BAISDEN

CEO | LINEAL



"A trailblazer in eDiscovery, driving innovation through leadership and problem-solving."

With more than 20 years of leadership in the eDiscovery and legal technology sector, Major Baisden has consistently pushed the boundaries of what's possible in the industry. Currently serving as CEO of Lineal, he partners with law firms and corporates worldwide, delivering innovative, problem-solving solutions to complex litigation and investigation challenges.

AT A GLANCE

- ♥ CEO of Lineal
- ♥ Founder & President, Iris Data Services
- ♥ Founding Director, Xact Data Discovery – Litigation Support Services Division
- ♥ Former, California Department of Justice



Major's career reflects a track record of building and scaling pioneering ventures. He is the Founder and former President of Iris Data Services, which became one of the leading eDiscovery providers globally, and the Founding Director of Xact Data Discovery's Litigation Support Services Division. His career began at the California Department of Justice, where he honed his expertise at the intersection of law and technology.

A recognized leader, innovator, and trusted advisor, Major continues to influence the future of legal technology and remains deeply committed to advancing how organizations approach data, discovery, and compliance.

"A problem-solver at the forefront of eDiscovery."

SPEAKER SPOTLIGHT

Robert Whitehead

PARTNER – HEAD OF DIFC & INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATION
HAMDAN ALSHAMSI LAWYERS & LEGAL CONSULTANTS



“Complex disputes demand not just arguments, but vision, clarity, and strategy.”

Robert Whitehead leads the DIFC & International Arbitration Department, advising on high-value commercial, financial, and shareholder disputes. With substantial experience before the DIFC Courts and under DIAC, ICC, and DIFC-LCIA rules, he is trusted by corporations, financial institutions, and HNWIs in cross-border enforcement and complex arbitrations.

Previously trained and practiced at a Tier 1 UK law firm, Robert brings unmatched international expertise and a results-driven approach to the region’s most challenging cases.



He is highly regarded for his strategic precision and ability to simplify complex legal issues, ensuring clients receive clear, practical, and effective solutions in even the most high-stakes disputes.

At a Glance

- Partner & Head of DIFC & International Arbitration
- Specialist in cross-border disputes, enforcement & fraud
- Extensive advocacy before DIFC Courts & international tribunals
- Experience at a Tier 1 UK law firm handling multi-jurisdictional disputes

“In a rapidly evolving global market, arbitration must evolve with agility, precision, and foresight.”

SPEAKER SPOTLIGHT

ARJUN SIVAKUMAR

LITIGATION PARTNER | BROWN RUDNICK LLP



"Strategy from the outset defines success in litigation."

Arjun Sivakumar is a first-chair trial attorney at Brown Rudnick LLP with expertise in complex commercial litigation and arbitration. He represents individuals, private equity firms, and global companies in disputes involving technology, real estate, financial services, and BPOs.

Known for his strategic foresight, Arjun blends early resolution with assertive litigation to deliver impactful results. His practice covers fraud, breach of contract, and high-value financial disputes.

His practice covers a broad spectrum of cases, including fraud, breach of contract, and financial disputes.

AT A GLANCE

🎓 Columbia Law School – J.D., Harlan Fiske Stone Scholar

🎓 Cornell University – B.A.

⚖️ Bar Admissions: California, New York

🏆 Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch (2024)

Beyond law, Arjun has showcased his intellect on Jeopardy! and other trivia shows, reflecting his curiosity and versatility beyond the courtroom.



CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

Secured eight-figure recovery for a private equity client.

Achieved seven-figure arbitration awards for BPO leaders.

Defended a healthcare REIT against fraud claims.

Pro bono: Complete dismissal in a racial bullying case.

LEADERSHIP

Co-Chair – Brown Rudnick DAWN

Board of Directors – Orange County Bar Association

Co-Chair – Federal Bar Association (OC Chapter)

Chair-Elect – Business Litigation Section, OCBA

Member – AI Task Force, OCBA

"Assertive litigation, guided by strategy, drives resolution."

SPEAKER SPOTLIGHT DANIEL TAYLOR

MANAGING PARTNER

TAYLOR HAMPTON SOLICITORS LIMITED



“Daniel Taylor’s expertise in reputation, privacy, and press freedom is unmatched.”

Daniel Taylor is one of the UK’s most accomplished media lawyers, specialising in libel, privacy, internet law, and confidentiality. With extensive experience in high-profile litigation, landmark rulings, and pivotal legal reforms, his contributions have shaped modern media law.

He played a key role in the “serious harm” threshold test in the Defamation Act 2013, and in the landmark Supreme Court case *Lachaux v Independent Newspapers* (2019), which established that serious harm depends on both the inherent tendency of the words and their actual impact. In privacy law, his firm acted in the pivotal case *Gulati v Mirror Group Newspapers*, resulting in a fourfold increase in damages awarded in UK privacy cases.

Representing renowned public figures, corporate clients, and defending major media outlets in landmark contempt cases, Daniel’s expertise in reputation, privacy, and press freedom is widely recognised.



Awards under his leadership include:

- 🏆 Media Law Firm of the Year
- 🏆 Privacy & Confidentiality Law Firm of the Year
- 🏆 Internet Law Firm of the Year

Taylor Hampton’s excellence has been featured in *Super Lawyers*, *Lawyer Monthly*, and *Family Office Magazine*, cementing its reputation in high-impact litigation.

“Privacy and reputation are the pillars of personal liberty.”

SPEAKER SPOTLIGHT BRIAN STEMPEL

HEAD OF CUSTOMER ADVOCACY
LINEAL



“Innovation in legal technology is about empowering people as much as transforming processes.”

With over 30 years of experience, Brian Stempel is a seasoned practice technology executive and thought leader. As Head of Customer Advocacy at Lineal, he drives client success across the full customer lifecycle, strengthening the award-winning Amplify solution suite and redefining how legal teams manage data and technology.

AT A GLANCE

- ✦ 30+ years in legal technology & practice innovation
- ✦ Head of Customer Advocacy at Lineal
- ✦ Expertise in Legal Data Transformation & customer lifecycle success
- ✦ Leader of CSR & Pro Bono initiatives at Lineal
- ✦ Executive certificates from Cornell, MIT Sloan, Columbia & Harvard



Brian collaborates with Lineal’s leadership to solve challenges in Legal Data Transformation, designing innovative strategies that add measurable value. He also leads Lineal’s CSR and Pro Bono initiatives, applying the company’s expertise to benefit charitable and social causes.

Passionate about innovation, diversity, and leadership, Brian has built global business units, mentored high-performing teams, and promoted psychological safety in complex environments. He also holds advanced executive certificates in AI, innovation, and leadership from Cornell, MIT Sloan, Columbia Business School, and Harvard Business School.

“Transforming legal data into value is the future of advocacy.”

SPEAKER SPOTLIGHT SOPHIA HURST

**BARRISTER
ESSEX COURT CHAMBERS**

ESSEX COURT CHAMBERS
BARRISTERS

“In complex disputes, clarity is the strongest form of advocacy.”

Sophia Hurst is a junior commercial barrister at Essex Court Chambers, London, with a strong international practice across the UK, DIFC, ADGM, and Caribbean financial centres.

She is ranked in Chambers Global as one of only seven junior barristers recognised for Middle East expertise, with a practice spanning civil fraud, asset recovery, banking and financial services, insolvency, and shareholder disputes. Sophia acts for major banks, funds, HNWIs, and corporations in high-value, cross-border matters.



Praised as “technically excellent” and “super clear in drafting,” Sophia is known for her calm advocacy and collaborative approach, whether as sole counsel or part of large teams in complex litigation and arbitration.

Career Highlights

- Ranked in Chambers Global for commercial disputes in the Middle East.
- Specialist in civil fraud & asset recovery across multiple jurisdictions.
- Strong cross-border presence in DIFC, ADGM, Cayman Islands, and BVI.

“Cross-border disputes demand not just expertise, but perspective.”

SPEAKER SPOTLIGHT SHANNON NG

MENA BUSINESS MANAGER
OPUS 2

OPUS2

**“Driving innovation
in dispute
resolution through
technology and
expertise.”**

Based in the UAE, SHANNON NG serves as MENA Business Manager at Opus 2, where she leads the company’s regional growth and supports clients in transforming their dispute resolution processes.

Her career began at Clifford Chance in the UK before moving into the legal technology sector, giving her a unique perspective that blends private practice experience with cutting-edge innovation. With a track record spanning the UK, Middle East, and Asia, Shannon advises law firms, corporates, and institutions on how to harness technology to achieve greater efficiency and effectiveness in hearings.



AT A GLANCE

🌐 Career across UK, Middle East & Asia

⚖️ Former Clifford Chance legal professional

💻 Specialist in legal technology & digital hearings

🚀 Leading Opus 2’s regional expansion in MENA

Passionate about reshaping the future of legal proceedings, Shannon is recognized as a driving force in advancing digital solutions for complex disputes across the region.

“Empowering clients to resolve disputes smarter, faster, and better.”

SPEAKER SPOTLIGHT

LIA PERIN

PARTNER

TAYLOR HAMPTON SOLICITORS LIMITED



“A fierce defender of privacy rights and one of the UK’s leading media litigators.”

With an outstanding reputation in civil and media litigation, Lia Perin has become one of the UK’s most respected legal voices. Her expertise spans defamation, privacy, harassment, and breach of confidence, making her a trusted adviser for high-profile clients and individuals alike.

Lia has been at the forefront of some of the most significant media cases of recent years. Notably, she acted in *Gulati v MGN* and *Duke of Sussex v MGN*, both of which resulted in record-breaking privacy damages and helped redefine the boundaries of modern media law.

Known for her discretion and compassion, Lia has represented celebrities, public figures, and private individuals, handling each case with integrity and an unwavering pursuit of justice.



Beyond the courtroom, she plays an active role in specialist areas such as art law as a member of the Art Due Diligence Group, and she frequently shares her insights as a respected commentator on privacy and media law across major platforms.

AT A GLANCE

- Specialist in defamation, privacy, harassment & breach of confidence
- Counsel in landmark cases *Gulati v MGN* and *Duke of Sussex v MGN*
- Member, Art Due Diligence Group
- Regular commentator on privacy & media law

“Media freedom must never come at the expense of individual rights.”

SPEAKER SPOTLIGHT JANICE CHEW

PARTNER, JC LEGAL



“Cross-border insight, cultural understanding, and strategic dispute resolution.”

With 18 years of legal practice across Malaysia and Hong Kong, Janice Chew is a highly respected lawyer with dual qualifications and a proven track record in cross-border dispute resolution and commercial law.

AT A GLANCE

- ⚖️ Dual-qualified lawyer in Malaysia & Hong Kong
- ⚖️ 18 years' experience in cross-border dispute resolution & commercial law
- ⚖️ Extensive client advisory experience across the Asia Pacific
- ⚖️ Awarded by Asian Legal Business & Women in Law Awards
- ⚖️ Recognised in LexisNexis 40 under 40 & Prestige 40 under 40



Having spent more than a decade in Hong Kong, Janice has advised clients across the Asia Pacific, gaining deep knowledge of the region's opportunities, challenges, and cultural nuances. Her ability to bridge legal systems with practical solutions has made her a trusted advisor to businesses navigating international markets.

Her expertise has been widely recognised, earning her accolades from the Asian Legal Business Hong Kong Law Awards and Women in Law Awards, as well as being named to the prestigious LexisNexis 40 under 40 and Prestige 40 under 40 honour lists.

“Turning Asia Pacific complexities into opportunities.”

SPEAKER SPOTLIGHT MUHAMAD NAZRI

HEAD OF AML TRAINING & ADVISORY
AML TRAINING AND ADVISORY



“The fight against financial crime begins with knowledge, strengthened by integrity, and sustained through collaboration.”

Muhamad Nazri is a highly respected AML/CFT expert, trainer, and practitioner with extensive experience in financial crime investigation and compliance. He began his career at Bank Negara Malaysia, where he spent nearly a decade as a Financial Investigator, before moving into senior compliance roles across international, Islamic, and conventional banks.

A Certified Financial Investigator and HRD Corp-Accredited Trainer, NAZRI has been a key contributor to Malaysia's national enforcement efforts and the CAMCO program by ABS and AICB. His expertise spans financial crime investigations, compliance strategy, and regulatory capacity-building.

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📌 At a Glance

- Nearly a decade as Financial Investigator, Bank Negara Malaysia
- Senior compliance roles in leading banks (international, Islamic & conventional)
- Certified Financial Investigator & HRD Corp-Accredited Trainer
- Contributor to CAMCO program (ABS & AICB)
- Advisor to law enforcement agencies & private institutions

Today, as Head of AML Training & Advisory, he empowers institutions and agencies with training, consultancy, and thought leadership to combat financial crime with integrity and impact.

“Fighting financial crime with knowledge and integrity.”

SPEAKER SPOTLIGHT MEGHNA MALHOTRA

SENIOR LEGAL COUNSEL, BEEAH GROUP



"Shaping legal frameworks that enable businesses to expand with confidence and clarity."

With over a decade of experience in corporate and commercial law, Meghna Malhotra has established herself as a trusted legal strategist across the Middle East, Europe, and Africa. As Senior Legal Counsel at BEEAH Group, she advises on high-value transactions, compliance frameworks, and cross-border expansion initiatives.

Renowned for her ability to balance commercial vision with legal precision, Meghna has been instrumental in structuring transformative partnerships and mitigating risks for leading organizations. Her expertise spans mergers and acquisitions, joint ventures, and corporate structuring, where she delivers strategies that protect businesses while enabling growth.



AT A GLANCE

- ✦ Senior Legal Counsel, BEEAH Group
- ✦ Expertise in M&A, joint ventures & corporate structuring
- ✦ Specialist in AML, data privacy & regulatory compliance
- ✦ Guided legal strategy for real estate, tech, events & hospitality sectors
- ✦ Led multi-million-dollar cross-border deals & brand partnerships

Her career reflects strategic foresight and impactful execution, bridging law and business with clarity and purpose.

"Crafting legal strategies that empower business vision."

SPEAKER SPOTLIGHT MEGHA AGARWAL

SENIOR COUNSEL (APJ LEAD) – OPTIMIZE



“Guiding businesses through complex legal landscapes with clarity, strategy, and global perspective.”

Megha Agarwal is a seasoned legal leader with extensive experience in the IT and SaaS sectors, bringing a global perspective shaped by her work across APAC and MEA regions. She is highly skilled in contract drafting and negotiations, privacy law, international IP, and compliance management.

AT A GLANCE

- ✦ SaaS Legal Leader with APAC & MEA expertise
- ✦ Specialist in Contracts, IP, Privacy & Compliance
- ✦ Advisor to senior management on legal strategy & governance
- ✦ Experienced in building and leading high-performing legal teams



As Head of Legal, Megha advises senior leadership on corporate governance, regulatory frameworks, and strategic decision-making. With a proven record of leading legal departments, she has successfully overseen matters spanning HR, corporate secretarial responsibilities, and regulatory compliance.

Recognized for her strategic insight and ability to simplify complexity, Megha empowers organizations to navigate evolving legal and regulatory environments while staying aligned with global best practices.

“Bridging law, technology, and strategy is where true business value is created.”

SPEAKER SPOTLIGHT MARIA ATHANASIOU

FOUNDER

ATHANASIOU & ASSOCIATES LLC

MARIA ATHANASIOU LLC
LAW FIRM

"Passionate about advancing legal scholarship and shaping the future of maritime and commercial law."

Maria Athanasiou, founder of Athanasiou & Associates LLC, is a highly accomplished attorney and academic with deep expertise in maritime law and international commercial law. With a career grounded in rigorous academic achievement and practical experience, she has established herself as a respected authority in the global legal landscape.

AT A GLANCE

- 📖 Bachelor's in Law – University of South Wales
- 🎓 Master's in International Commercial Law – Cardiff University
- ⚖️ Master's in Criminal Law
- 🎓 Ph.D. Candidate – University of Nicosia (Specialization: Underwater Pipelines)
- 👩 Lecturer – Cyprus Maritime Academy & European University of Cyprus
- 📖 Contributor to published works in maritime law



Her academic path spans a Law degree from the University of South Wales, a Master's in International Commercial Law from Cardiff, and a Master's in Criminal Law. She is now pursuing a Ph.D. at the University of Nicosia, specializing in Underwater Pipelines for the energy sector.

Alongside practice, Maria lectures at the Cyprus Maritime Academy and the European University of Cyprus. She has also contributed chapters to leading maritime law books, shaping global understanding of the field.

"Dedicated to shaping the future of law through scholarship, practice, and teaching."

SPEAKER SPOTLIGHT RANA HATATA

SENIOR ASSOCIATE

GAILLARD BANIFATEMI SHELBYA DISPUTES



"Dedicated to delivering strategic advocacy in high-stakes international disputes."

Rana Hatata is a senior associate with Gaillard Banifatemi Shelbaya Disputes, representing companies, States, and State-owned entities in complex commercial and investment treaty arbitrations. She has acted under ICC, ICSID, UNCITRAL, and CRCICA rules, with a particular focus on large-scale energy, construction, and infrastructure disputes.

Her career includes four years with Shearman & Sterling's international arbitration team and serving as Assistant Legal Counsel at the Permanent Court of Arbitration in The Hague. She has played a pivotal role in multi-billion-dollar disputes, securing dismissals and favorable outcomes for sovereigns and corporations worldwide.



AT A GLANCE

- ⚖ Advocate in major ICC, ICSID, UNCITRAL & CRCICA arbitrations
- ⚡ Specialist in energy, construction & infrastructure disputes
- 🌐 Track record representing States, SOEs & global corporations
- 🏛 Former Assistant Legal Counsel, Permanent Court of Arbitration
- 🎓 LLB, Cairo University – Law Faculty
- 🎓 LLM in International Dispute Resolution, University of London

"Turning complex arbitration into strategic victories."

SPEAKER SPOTLIGHT BRIJESH CHEDAYAN

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
BEVERON LLC DUBAI



**“Transforming
legal practice
through smart
technology and
innovation.”**

As the CEO of Beveron LLC Dubai, BRIJESH CHEDAYAN stands at the forefront of the LegalTech industry, pioneering solutions that streamline legal practice and debt recovery. He is the author of two influential works — Smart Debt Collection and Smart Lawyer Office — which reflect his vision of a more agile, technology-driven legal ecosystem.

Beyond leading innovation in LegalTech, Brijesh also contributes to academia as an Industrial Advisory Board Member at Bolton University, UAE, where he bridges industry expertise with future-focused education.



AT A GLANCE

- 🚀 CEO, Beveron LLC Dubai
- 📖 Author: Smart Debt Collection & Smart Lawyer Office
- 🎓 Industrial Advisory Board Member, Bolton University UAE
- 💡 LegalTech Innovator & Thought Leader

Recognized for his leadership and forward-thinking approach, Brijesh continues to shape how legal professionals embrace digital transformation across the region and beyond.

“LegalTech is not just about tools, it's about creating smarter, future-ready law practices.”

SPEAKER SPOTLIGHT DR. OMAR S I ABASHEIKH

SENIOR LEGAL COUNSEL
HALCON



**“Guided by integrity,
driven by expertise,
and committed to
solving complex
disputes.”**

A barrister and certified Governance, Risk, and Compliance Professional (GRCPTM) and Auditor (GRCATM), Dr. Omar S I Abasheikh brings over 20 years of experience in commercial and corporate law across multiple jurisdictions, with 16 years post-qualification. A PhD holder in international commercial arbitration, he has advised on complex dispute resolution matters and represented clients in mediation, arbitration, and litigation.

As Senior Legal Counsel at HALCON, Dr. Omar specializes in contract law, cross-cultural negotiations, and risk management, with experience across industries from ICT and construction to aviation, real estate, and joint ventures.



AT A GLANCE

- ♥ Barrister & Dispute Resolution Expert
- ♥ Certified GRCPTM & GRCATM Professional
- ♥ 20+ years in commercial & corporate law (16 PQE)
- ♥ 10+ years in the defence industry
- ♥ PhD in International Commercial Arbitration

Known for his integrity, Dr. Omar applies a ‘Protector Mindset™’ to blend governance, compliance, and dispute resolution, driving risk mitigation and lasting value.

“A Protector Mindset™ means solving problems before they escalate into risks.”

SPEAKER SPOTLIGHT RAMY RASMY






ASSISTANT MANAGER
DAMAC PROPERTIES

DAMAC

“Bridging legal processes with precision and corporate success.”

With extensive experience in corporate legal operations, Ramy Rasmy has built expertise in drafting contracts, MOAs and amendments, hypothecation and mortgage agreements, as well as navigating trade license procedures and court-related matters.

AT A GLANCE

-  Drafting contracts, MOAs & amendments
-  Court hearings, procedures & compliance
-  Document legalization, certification & translation
-  Complaints submission & follow-ups
-  Handling departmental procurement & processes



Known for his hands-on approach, Ramy has worked closely with courts, prosecutors, and police departments, ensuring accuracy, compliance, and timely results. His role extends to legal translations, document certification, complaint submissions, and attending hearings to report outcomes to senior lawyers.

Beyond technical expertise, Ramy is valued for his proactive problem-solving and ability to connect legal processes with wider organizational goals.

“Where law meets strategy, efficiency follows.”

SPEAKER SPOTLIGHT JING LI


SENIOR PARTNER
BEIJING WINSON LAW FIRM



“Bridging borders with legal excellence in international construction and dispute resolution.”

A seasoned legal professional with extensive experience, Jing Li has carved her niche in global infrastructure and construction law. As Senior Partner at Beijing Winson Law Firm, she brings over a decade of leadership in international engineering projects, specializing in construction contract management, claims strategy, project execution risk control, and cross-border disputes.

AT A GLANCE

-  Expertise in EPC & EPCO projects across the Middle East & Africa
-  Specialist in construction claims, project risk control & dispute resolution
-  Member, Institute of Construction Claims Practitioners
-  ICC YAAF Regional Representative – North Asia



Previously, Jing served as Head of Legal for a leading Chinese state-owned enterprise in the power engineering sector, where she steered complex EPC and EPCO projects across the UAE, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, South Africa, and beyond.

Her professional achievements extend beyond practice—she is a recognized member of the Institute of Construction Claims Practitioners and proudly serves as the ICC YAAF Regional Representative for North Asia, cementing her role as a thought leader in the global arbitration and legal community.

“An authority in cross-border construction law, guiding global projects with precision and integrity.”

SPEAKER SPOTLIGHT ABDURAHEEM PADINHARE

LEGAL MANAGER
CARS24 ARABIA



“Building resilient strategies that balance legal precision with business growth.”

With over a decade of PQE in the Gulf region, ABDURAHEEM PADINHARE brings a wealth of expertise from law firms and corporate houses. He has built his career advising on corporate transactions, dispute resolution, and governance with clarity, precision, and impact.

AT A GLANCE

- ✓ 10+ years PQE in the Gulf Region
- ✓ Corporate Transactions & Dispute Resolution
- ✓ Governance, Compliance & Arbitration
- ✓ Industry Experience: Logistics, Construction, Infrastructure, Tech, Automotive



As Legal Manager at Cars24 Arabia, Abduraheem focuses on structuring, restructuring, compliance, litigation management, and arbitration. He works closely with both corporates and individuals to design strategies that safeguard interests while driving long-term growth.

His industry reach spans logistics, construction, infrastructure, automobiles, technology, SaaS/DaaS, investment, and more, making him a versatile advisor trusted to deliver solutions across complex business landscapes.

“Legal strategy is the foundation of sustainable business growth.”

SPEAKER SPOTLIGHT TARIQ KHAN

HEAD OF INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATION
M&CO LEGAL (UAE)

M&CO LEGAL

**"Bridging borders
through arbitration,
advocacy, and
thought leadership."**

Tariq Khan is a distinguished arbitration lawyer and Head of International Arbitration at M&CO Legal (UAE). He represents sovereigns, multinational corporations, and high-net-worth individuals in complex, cross-border disputes under ICC, DIAC, SIAC, and LCIA rules. With rights of audience before the DIFC Courts, AIFC Courts, and the Supreme Court of India, he has acted in high-value cases spanning energy, construction, M&A, and crypto-assets.

AT A GLANCE

- ⚖️ Empanelled Arbitrator with leading institutions
- ⚖️ Appeared before DIFC, AIFC & Supreme Court of India
- ⚖️ Acted in 10+ institutional arbitrations
- ⚖️ Published 60+ scholarly articles & books
- ⚖️ Forbes Legal Powerlist | BW Legal 40 Under 40



Empanelled as an arbitrator with leading global institutions, Tariq has handled more than 10 institutional arbitrations across diverse sectors and jurisdictions.

Beyond practice, he is a prolific author and academic, with 60+ scholarly articles and leading commentaries on arbitration law. Recognized in the Forbes Legal Powerlist and BW Legal 40 Under 40, he is widely regarded as one of the most dynamic arbitration voices of his generation.

"Arbitration is the art of transforming disputes into lasting trust across nations."

SPEAKER SPOTLIGHT SAMEET GAMBHIR

SR. VICE PRESIDENT & GROUP HEAD – LEGAL
UFLEX LTD.



“Strong governance, compliance, and integrity are the foundation of sustainable business success.”

A distinguished corporate legal professional, Sameet Gambhir has over 30 years of expertise across regulatory & corporate legal matters, governance, ESG, SEBI regulations, risk management, IPR, data privacy, corporate restructuring, and litigation.

AT A GLANCE

- ✓ 3 decades of corporate legal leadership
- ✓ FCS, LLB; Leadership Effectiveness Programme, IIM Bangalore
- ✓ Forbes India – Top In-house Counsel
- ✓ GC Powerlist – The Legal 500
- ✓ Compliance Lawyer of the Year – LegalEra
- ✓ Global LexFalcon Award, Dubai (2022)



He has been recognized as one of India’s most influential corporate counsels and has led award-winning compliance teams. His leadership extends to serving as Co-Chair of PHDCCI’s Corporate Affairs Committee, member of CII’s National Committee on Regulatory Affairs, and board member of GD Goenka Law School.

Sameet has been honored with multiple accolades, including Compliance Lawyer of the Year, Finest Legal Counsel, and recognition among India’s Leading Lawyers and Shining Stars of the Legal Fraternity. His thought leadership continues to shape corporate governance and compliance practices globally.

“Integrity in business isn’t optional; it is the foundation of lasting success.”

SPEAKER SPOTLIGHT

DR. ABDULRAHMAN ABUKHALID

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, THE GIANT | PROFESSIONAL PRACTITIONER & MASTER TRAINER



"Building systems, people, and strategies that deliver results has been my lifelong mission."

Dr. Abdulrahman Abukhalid is an accomplished leader with over 15 years in banking and more than 25 years shaping the fields of debt collection, corporate law, and financial services. An ex-banker with four major institutions, he authored "Happy Customer, Faster Payment" and today serves as CEO of The Giant, a specialized debt collection and consulting firm.

Raised in Portland, Oregon, he holds a Ph.D. from the USA with a second major in Law (First Honors, KSA). His expertise bridges corporate strategy, compliance, and training, making him a respected voice in finance and law.



AT A GLANCE

- Introduced Personal Finance Products (1996) and launched Early Follow-Up & Collection (1997), driving record results.
- Led functions across Assets & Liabilities, Sales Development, Marketing, Risk Control, and SAMA Compliance.
- Author of Happy Customer, Faster Payment, global speaker, and contributor at international forums.
- Master Trainer with 20,000+ professionals trained over 25+ years.
- Ph.D. (USA) with a second major in Law (1st Honors, KSA).strategy.

"Success in collections starts with trust, discipline, and people."

SPEAKER SPOTLIGHT

AMMAR SIBYANI

CYBER SECURITY MANAGER (CISO)
CONFIDENTIAL COMPANY

"Committed to building secure and resilient digital environments through strategy, governance, and innovation."

Ammar Sibyani is a seasoned Cyber Security Manager with a strong foundation in Governance, Risk Management, and Compliance (GRC), coupled with deep technical expertise in Information Security. Holding a Bachelor's degree in Cyber Forensics and Information Security, Ammar has established himself as a trusted leader in safeguarding organizations against evolving cyber threats.

In his career, Ammar has led initiatives in incident response, threat activity monitoring, SIEM solutions, cyber forensic assessments, and vendor operations. With a proven track record in policy building, project planning, and risk management, he continues to drive cybersecurity resilience within high-stakes environments.



AT A GLANCE

- 🎓 Bachelor's in Cyber Forensics & Information Security
- 🛡️ Expertise in Governance, Risk & Compliance (GRC) and SOC
- 📊 Skilled in Cyber Risk Assessment, Incident Response & KPI Roadmapping
- 📋 Hands-on experience with CSF, NCA, NDMO, CCC, CRFR, and MVC frameworks

Recognized for his leadership in bridging compliance with cutting-edge security strategies, Ammar is dedicated to advancing secure digital ecosystems in a collaborative and innovative setting.

"Turning risk into readiness through governance and innovation."

SPEAKER SPOTLIGHT BEATRIZ RUIZ-BEATO

HEAD OF GLOBAL DATA PRIVACY
NEC CORPORATION

NEC

**"Safeguarding data,
empowering
innovation, and
driving trust in the
digital age."**

Beatriz Ruiz-Beato brings over 15 years of distinguished expertise in data privacy, information technology, and corporate compliance. As Head of Global Data Privacy at NEC Corporation, she plays a pivotal role in shaping global privacy frameworks that balance regulatory obligations with business innovation.

AT A GLANCE

- ✦ 15+ years in IT, telecom & data protection law
- ✦ Certified Information Privacy Professional/Europe (CIPP/E)
- ✦ Certified Information Privacy Manager (CIPM)
- ✦ Recognized Privacy Auditor
- ✦ Global expertise in governance, compliance & privacy operations



Her career spans extensive in-house counsel roles at multinational IT and telecommunications corporations, where she advised on data protection, contractual matters, IT and commercial law, governance, and compliance.

A certified professional in privacy and data protection, Beatriz holds the CIPP/E and CIPM certifications from the International Association of Privacy Professionals (IAPP) and is also a recognized Privacy Auditor. Her depth of experience lies in the operationalization of data protection initiatives, helping organizations navigate evolving digital landscapes while building a culture of trust and accountability.

"Protecting data is protecting people — that's the real power of privacy."

SPEAKER SPOTLIGHT MOUSA ALBAHRANI

General Manager, Mena Credit & Collection
Future Pipe Industries, Saudi Arabia



"Driving growth through governance, compliance, and strategic leadership."

A seasoned executive with extensive expertise across the MENA region, Mousa Albahrani has built a career at the intersection of corporate governance, compliance, and financial leadership. As General Manager at Future Pipe Industries' Regional Head Quarter, he plays a pivotal role in overseeing operations, enhancing performance, and ensuring sustainable business practices.

With strong experience in credit, collection, and legal strategy, Mousa Albahrani is recognized for his ability to align governance frameworks with operational efficiency. He has led initiatives that streamline financial oversight while strengthening compliance structures, ensuring sustainable growth across diverse sectors.



His leadership demonstrates a commitment to corporate integrity and innovation, combining financial acumen with legal insight to build resilient, future-ready businesses.

AT A GLANCE

- ✦ Expertise in Corporate Governance & Compliance
- ✦ Proven Leadership in Credit & Collection Strategy
- ✦ Strong Legal & Financial Management Background
- ✦ Advocate for Innovation in Litigation & Legal Operations

"Where governance meets strategy, growth follows."

SPEAKER SPOTLIGHT HENRIETTA NEWTON MARTIN

LEGAL DIRECTOR

JUSCOGEN & ALCOP—JCA | UAE



"Transforming complexity into clarity with principled legal strategy."

A dual gold medalist and renowned legal strategist, Henrietta brings cross-border expertise in legal advisory, policy, and international trade. With her principled leadership, she has shaped critical sectors across Asia and the MEA region.

A trusted advisor to boards, executives, and multinational entities, she is recognized for structuring million-dollar cross-border transactions, resolving complex disputes, and building scalable legal ecosystems aligned with ESG imperatives.

Her experience spans aviation, FMCG, O&G, TMT, manufacturing, and hospitality—with engagements across Europe, the Middle East, and Asia.



AT A GLANCE

- ◆ Corporate & Commercial Law – Governance, entity structuring, and compliance.
- ◆ Strategic Contracting – High-value agreements, joint ventures & partnerships.
- ◆ Cross-Border Litigation & Dispute Resolution – Arbitration, mediation & litigation.
- ◆ ESG & Risk Leadership – Embedding sustainable standards & risk controls.
- ◆ Legal Team Leadership – Building agile, ethics-driven legal functions.



Academic Contribution

Lectured at Murdoch University (Dubai) and Accord University on governance and corporate law.

"Turning legal complexity into clarity and strategy into impact."

SPEAKER SPOTLIGHT AHMED NAGY

SENIOR LEGAL COUNSEL
EMIRATES ISLAMIC BANK PJSC



**"Innovative,
quality-driven, and
shaping the future
of legal services."**

With more than 15 years of experience across Islamic and conventional banking, Ahmed Nagy has built a reputation as a trusted legal strategist. At Emirates Islamic Bank, he specializes in banking, corporate, commercial, and technology law, providing expert guidance on complex agreements, trademarks, employment matters, and corporate governance.

AT A GLANCE

- ✦ 15+ years in Islamic & Conventional Banking
- ✦ Certified LMAs & QMS Lead Auditor (CQI & IRCA)
- ✦ 3 Postgraduate Diplomas (IP Rights, Int'l Arbitration, Economic Courts)
- ✦ Key contributor to ISO 9001:2015 Certification of Legal Departments

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A certified LMAs practitioner and QMS Lead Auditor accredited by CQI & IRCA, Nagy holds an LLB in Law along with three postgraduate diplomas in Intellectual Property Rights, International Arbitration, and Economic Courts.

He played a pivotal role in leading legal departments in both Islamic and conventional banking in the UAE to achieve ISO 9001:2015 certification, reinforcing his reputation as a forward-looking leader and influential change-maker shaping the future of legal services.

"Bridging strategy, compliance, and innovation in banking law."

SPEAKER SPOTLIGHT GEORGES ABI SAAB

GENERAL COUNSEL
OOREDOO GROUP



“Driving legal excellence, shaping strategy, and safeguarding growth.”

With two decades of international experience, Georges Abi Saab has served as General Counsel of Ooredoo Group since 2020. He advises the Chairman and Board on strategic matters while overseeing legal, corporate governance, compliance, and M&A across multiple markets. His leadership has steered transformative deals, including Ooredoo’s USD 1.25B sukuk issuance, major M&A across Iraq, Tunisia, and Kuwait, and the landmark tower sale and leaseback of 30,000+ sites across six countries.

AT A GLANCE

- ✦ General Counsel, Ooredoo Group (2020–Present)
- ✦ Led major M&A & cross-border transactions in MENA
- ✦ Spearheaded USD 1.25B sukuk issuance & compliance framework
- ✦ Board Secretary – Ooredoo Myanmar, Algeria & Tunisia

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Recognized for building Ooredoo’s first comprehensive compliance framework, Georges has played a pivotal role in aligning governance with growth. His expertise bridges corporate governance, compliance, and strategy, enabling organizations to strengthen oversight while driving business objectives.

Georges has held senior roles at Baker & McKenzie and M1 Group, contributed to Lebanon’s consumer and trademark laws, and pursued executive programs at Harvard, WIPO, and the Qatar Chamber of Commerce.

“Guiding strategy, driving transformation, and securing trust across borders.”

SPEAKER SPOTLIGHT CHINAR JETHWANI

CORPORATE LAWYER & COMPLIANCE SPECIALIST



"Every immigrant deserves not just opportunity, but the confidence of knowing their rights are protected."

A Dubai-based corporate lawyer and compliance professional with 12+ years of experience, Chinara Jethwani specializes in UAE employment and labor laws, corporate governance, and regulatory compliance. She has advised businesses across the UAE, India, Africa, and Singapore on navigating complex legal frameworks while staying efficient and compliant.

Passionate about empowerment, Chinara dedicates her expertise to helping immigrants in the UAE navigate legal challenges, safeguard their rights, and stay informed on employment and compliance matters.



Her mission is to bridge knowledge gaps and build inclusive, legally aware communities where individuals and businesses can thrive with confidence.

AT A GLANCE

- ✦ 12+ years in corporate law & compliance
- ✦ Specialist in UAE employment & labor laws
- ✦ Advisor to businesses across UAE, India, Africa, Singapore
- ✦ Speaker & trainer simplifying legal concepts for professionals
- ✦ Advocate for immigrants' rights in the UAE

"Empowerment begins with awareness, and awareness begins with the law."

SPEAKER SPOTLIGHT CRISTINA AMATE MUÑOZ

HEAD OF LEGAL, CONTRACTS & PROCUREMENT
BEUMER GROUP MIDDLE EAST



“Bridging law and business with clarity, strategy, and global perspective.”

Cristina Amate Muñoz is a seasoned legal professional with deep expertise in managing international multimillion EPC projects across the Middle East, particularly in airport infrastructure and cultural sectors. She excels in strategic negotiations, risk analysis, and dispute resolution, ensuring contract security and minimizing company risk.

AT A GLANCE

- ✦ Over a decade of international legal & contracts experience
- ✦ Specialist in EPC airport infrastructure & cultural projects
- ✦ Dual Bachelor's in Law & Business Administration
- ✦ MBA in International Business Management
- ✦ Fluent in Spanish & English

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Her career path spans a Spanish law firm in Dubai, ACCIONA Cultura, and legal advisory roles across the UAE, Vietnam, and Spain—equipping her with a rich international perspective.

Today, Cristina leads the legal, contracts, and procurement function at BEUMER Group Middle East, driving complex negotiations and safeguarding the company's interests while supporting major regional infrastructure growth.

“Shaping infrastructure law with precision and vision.”

SPEAKER SPOTLIGHT SALONI TUTEJA

HEAD OF LEGAL & COMPLIANCE – MIDDLE EAST
SERVIER PHARMA FZ LLC



“Championing integrity and innovation in healthcare law and compliance.”

Saloni Tuteja is a seasoned healthcare lawyer with 17 years of experience across the Middle East and APAC regions. Currently, she serves as the Head of Legal & Compliance for the Middle East at Servier, a French healthcare company.

AT A GLANCE

- ✦ 17 years of experience in legal & compliance across ME & APAC
- ✦ LL.M. – UC Berkeley, USA
- ✦ Certified in Asia-Pacific Healthcare Compliance – Seton Hall University, USA
- ✦ Pursuing Master's in Anti-Corruption & Diplomacy – UNITAR & IACA
- ✦ Multiple publications in healthcare law & compliance



Her previous roles include Regional Legal & Compliance Counsel for an American pharmaceutical multinational and Legal Director at Zimmer Biomet, where she helped establish the legal and compliance program for South Asia. She began her career in private practice, advising on commercial, competition, anti-corruption, and dispute resolution matters.

Beyond her corporate role, Saloni is passionate about vintage cars, watches, and architecture. She is currently based in Dubai.

“Where healthcare law meets compliance, integrity leads the way.”

SPEAKER SPOTLIGHT SOPHIE BEST

CEO & OWNER – KNOWLEDGE NEXUS | LEGAL TECH
CONSULTANT & EDUCATOR



“Empowering lawyers to embrace technology, community, and the future of work.”

With over 20 years of global experience, Sophie Best has been at the forefront of helping lawyers and legal teams navigate legal tech, AI, and education. As CEO of Knowledge Nexus, a platform for legal training, education, and events, she is dedicated to equipping professionals with the tools, skills, and networks they need to thrive in a rapidly evolving legal landscape.

AT A GLANCE

- ♥ CEO & Owner, Knowledge Nexus
- ♥ Specialist in legal tech adoption, AI strategy & stakeholder engagement
- ♥ Experience driving technology alignment across legal, finance & business teams
- ♥ Led multimillion-dollar tech sales into law firms, banks & corporates
- ♥ Advocate for bridging the gap between legal education & the future of work

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Sophie’s career spans startups, scale-ups, and global corporates, where she has driven go-to-market strategies, legal tech adoption, and stakeholder engagement. Passionate about demystifying AI, she helps legal teams use technology both strategically and ethically to deliver measurable impact.

Beyond her corporate role, Sophie empowers future lawyers with the skills and confidence to thrive, blending innovation, education, and community to shape the global legal tech ecosystem.

“Bridging law, technology, and education for a future-ready profession.”

SPEAKER SPOTLIGHT VIJAY OJHA

GROUP COMPANY SECRETARY
SHARAF GROUP, DUBAI



“A visionary in governance, law, and ethics, trusted by boards across continents.”

With over 20 years of experience in governance, risk, compliance, corporate affairs, and boardroom leadership, Vijay Ojha is recognized as one of the Most Influential Legal Leaders in the Middle East (2025). As Group Company Secretary at Sharaf Group, he brings a wealth of expertise in cross-border compliance, corporate structuring, mergers and acquisitions, and legal advisory, making him a trusted counsel to business leaders worldwide.

Beyond his professional achievements, Vijay is celebrated for his visionary approach to corporate governance, ethics, and compliance, contributing to stronger boardroom practices and sustainable growth across industries.



AT A GLANCE

- ✦ Group Company Secretary, Sharaf Group (Dubai)
- ✦ Fellow Member, Institute of Company Secretaries of India (ICSI)
- ✦ Graduate in Business Administration & Law
- ✦ Life Member, Institute of Directors (IOD), India
- ✦ Expertise in GRC, corporate structuring, M&A & board governance
- ✦ Named among the Most Influential Legal Leaders in the Middle East 2025

His leadership shapes the region's legal and governance landscape, making him a trusted voice in corporate excellence.

“Trusted legal leader driving ethics, compliance, and corporate growth.”

SPEAKER SPOTLIGHT RAGHVENDRA VERMA

**PARTNER – LEGAL & CORPORATE SERVICES
AMADI LEGAL**



“A global legal strategist and governance champion with impact across business and society.”

With extensive experience across BPO, IT, Healthcare, Telecommunications, and Customer Services, Raghvendra Verma has built a career defined by legal strategy, corporate governance, and cross-border leadership. As Partner at Amadi Legal, he has directed major acquisitions across Africa, the Middle East, and Europe, ensuring smooth transitions aligned with local regulations.

AT A GLANCE

- ✦ Expertise in M&A, governance & compliance culture
- ✦ Led acquisitions in Egypt, South Africa, Dubai, Cyprus, Kenya, Nigeria & beyond
- ✦ Recipient of Champion of Governance (Kenya), Best In-House Legal Team (Middle East) & other global honors
- ✦ Chairman, ICSI Dubai (NPIO) | Certified CIPP/E | Member, IAPP & CISI



Beyond the boardroom, Raghvendra is a strong advocate for mental well-being and community service. Through the Art of Living initiative, he has organized stress-elimination programs across India, the UAE, and Africa. He has also led food distribution drives for underprivileged communities in Nigeria and Kenya, reflecting his deep commitment to social impact.

A recognized thought leader, he writes for leading legal publications, speaks at global forums, and edits Corporate Governance Magazine, reflecting his impact across law, business, and society.

“A thought leader shaping law, governance, and global growth.”

SPEAKER SPOTLIGHT

FELIPE ARBOLEDA-MARQUEZ

REGIONAL GENERAL COUNSEL – MIDDLE EAST, TURKEY & AFRICA, CHEP (BRAMBLES COMPANY)



“Bridging global business with legal expertise across emerging markets.”

As Regional General Counsel at CHEP, a Brambles Company and global leader in container and pallet pooling services, Felipe Arboleda-Marquez brings over a decade of international legal expertise. His work spans business law, litigation, and complex transactions, with a focus on guiding multinational organizations through the evolving challenges of emerging markets.

Felipe’s career reflects a unique blend of private practice foundations and senior in-house leadership. From his early days at Baker McKenzie to regional leadership roles at Medtronic and Smith+Nephew, he has consistently delivered legal strategies that support corporate growth while navigating regulatory complexity.



AT A GLANCE

- ✦ Regional General Counsel, Middle East, Turkey & Africa – CHEP
- ✦ Master’s in Law & Management, Northwestern University & Kellogg School of Management
- ✦ Former Legal Director, Latin America, Middle East & Africa – Smith+Nephew
- ✦ Legal & Compliance Manager – Medtronic South America
- ✦ Early career as Transactional Attorney – Baker McKenzie

Today, at CHEP, he shapes legal frameworks across the Middle East, Turkey, and Africa.

“A legal strategist bridging law, business, and international growth.”

SPEAKER SPOTLIGHT MOHAMMED AFZAL, FCA

REGIONAL FINANCE DIRECTOR
CHAMPIONX



“A results-driven finance leader with a global perspective and a passion for strategic growth.”

With over two decades of international experience across the UK, Europe, Middle East, and Africa, Mohammed Afzal has established himself as a seasoned finance executive. Currently serving as Regional Finance Director at ChampionX, UAE, he is recognized for driving profitability, leading cross-functional teams, and delivering transformative financial strategies across both public and private sectors.

From his foundation at EY London to steering financial strategy at global corporations, Mohammed has consistently shaped business performance with a blend of technical expertise and visionary leadership.



AT A GLANCE

- ✦ Fellow Chartered Accountant (FCA)
- ✦ Executive MBA, HEC Paris
- ✦ Regional Finance Director, ChampionX (UAE)
- ✦ Former leadership roles at Fujitsu UK & Chicago Bridge & Iron
- ✦ Early career at EY London

His journey reflects a commitment to excellence and impact at the highest levels of global finance.

“Driving profitability and growth through global financial leadership.”

SPEAKER SPOTLIGHT AHMED ZAKI

SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT – LEGAL AFFAIRS
AL HAMRA



"Three decades of judicial and corporate excellence, shaping strategy, arbitration, and risk management across the Middle East."

With an illustrious career spanning over 30 years, Ahmed Zaki stands as one of the most respected legal leaders in the region. From serving as a judge and prosecutor in Egypt to becoming an accredited arbitrator and senior legal strategist in the UAE, Ahmed's journey reflects unparalleled expertise and a steadfast commitment to advancing the legal profession.

As Senior Vice President – Legal Affairs at Al Hamra, he has played a pivotal role in shaping corporate governance, managing high-stakes disputes, and safeguarding the organization's legal and regulatory framework. His work extends across judiciary, arbitration, infrastructure, construction, and corporate law, offering invaluable insights into both litigation and alternative dispute resolution (ADR).



Ahmed's contributions have earned him wide recognition, including:

- 🏆 General Counsel of the Year 2025 – LexisNexis Middle East
- 🏆 In-House Counsel of the Year – Infrastructure & Construction 2023 – Legal Community MENA
- 🏆 Real Estate & Construction In-House Legal Team of the Year 2024 – Legal Era Middle East
- ★ Most Influential Legal Leaders in the Middle East 2025 – Middle East Leaders

Renowned for his strategic foresight, Ahmed continues to shape the Middle East's legal landscape with deep expertise in risk management, arbitration, and corporate law.

"An accomplished arbitrator and strategist shaping the legal framework of the Middle East."

SPEAKER SPOTLIGHT ABDUL AZEEM

HEAD OF LEGAL DEPARTMENT
RAYAN ENGINEERING CONSULTING



“Multi-jurisdictional expertise, practical solutions, and a strong commitment to protecting businesses.”

With over a decade of legal experience across the UK, UAE, and Pakistan, Abdul Azeem has established himself as a trusted advisor to leading global and regional businesses. Currently serving as Head of Legal at Rayan Engineering Consulting, he is recognized for his expertise in corporate, labour, debt collection, construction, sports, and intellectual property law.

Abdul has successfully represented clients in litigation, arbitration, and contract management, managing high-value disputes and complex transactions across industries including FinTech, combat sports, construction, engineering, F&B, and corporate services.



He is well-versed in FIDIC, NEC, and JCT contracts with a strong focus on AML/CFT compliance. Featured in Gulf News, Dubai Eye, and The Nation, Abdul is also a visiting lecturer, sharing practical insights on international law and dispute resolution with future lawyers.

AT A GLANCE

- ⚖️ 10+ years' multi-jurisdictional legal experience (UK, UAE & Pakistan)
- ⚖️ Expertise: Corporate | Construction | Labour | Sports | IP Law
- ⚖️ Featured in Gulf News, Dubai Eye, The Nation
- ⚖️ Skilled in litigation, arbitration, and international dispute resolution
- ⚖️ Trusted advisor to global CEOs, founders, and businesses

“Bridging legal systems with clarity, precision, and practical solutions.”

SPEAKER SPOTLIGHT BUSHRA ASIF

CORPORATE LAWYER & LEGAL TRAINER

CO-FOUNDER OF ASCEND LEGAL TRAINING & CONSULTING



“Passionate about empowering lawyers and businesses through knowledge, practice, and innovation.”

A highly accomplished Corporate Lawyer and Legal Trainer with over a decade of diverse experience across Pakistan and Bahrain, Bushra Asif has established herself as a trusted advisor and educator in international business law. Holding a Master’s in International Business Law from the University of London with distinction in Company Law, her career has spanned private practice, in-house counsel, consultancy, and academia.

AT A GLANCE

- ♥ Master’s in International Business Law – University of London
- ♥ Co-Founder, Ascend Legal Training & Consulting (Europe)
- ♥ Lecturer – Commercial Law, Vatel International University (Bahrain)
- ♥ Former Legal Trainer & GCC Marketing Director – British Legal Centre (UK)



Founder of Ascend Legal Training & Consulting, Bushra advises international clients on complex commercial and data-related matters, with expertise in high-value agreements including M&A, joint ventures, IT, and IP contracts.

As an academic, she lectures in Commercial Law at the French International University in Bahrain and contributes to Euro University Bahrain. Her earlier roles include working at a leading Bahraini law firm and spearheading legal training across the GCC.

Bushra also volunteers with INJAZ, Flat6Labs, and Playbook to mentor and empower future leaders.

“Passionate about empowering lawyers and businesses through knowledge, practice, and innovation.”

SPEAKER SPOTLIGHT MOHAMMAD SOIAB KHAN

GROUP LEGAL MANAGER (HEAD OF LEGAL)

SHARAF GROUP



**“Strategic leadership,
innovative solutions,
and two decades of
legal excellence.”**

With over 20 years of experience in corporate law, compliance, cross-border transactions, and M&A, Mohammad Soiab Khan is a seasoned legal professional with a proven record of advising multinational businesses and leading complex legal strategies.

AT A GLANCE

- ⚖️ 20+ years in corporate & commercial law
- ⚖️ Head of Legal at Sharaf Group (60+ countries)
- ⚖️ Expertise: M&A, compliance, disputes & cross-border transactions
- ⚖️ Co-Founder of LinkinLegal – UAE’s first AI-powered legal platform
- ⚖️ Recognized leader in legal innovation & strategy



As Group Legal Manager (Head of Legal) at Sharaf Group, a UAE-based multinational with operations in 60+ countries, he has played a pivotal role in driving the Group’s global legal framework—covering regulatory compliance, acquisitions, joint ventures, international structuring, and dispute management across multiple regions.

Beyond Sharaf Group, he co-founded LinkinLegal, the UAE’s first AI-powered 360° legal operations platform. With its assistant “Alaya,” it delivers smart solutions like multi-jurisdictional research, contract automation, dispute file processing, sanctions monitoring, and entity management—redefining legal operations with efficiency and innovation.

“Blending legal excellence with cutting-edge innovation.”

Upcoming Events



Join us across three global hubs for high-level discussions on Litigation, Arbitration, IP, AI & Legal Tech.



 **Delhi, India**

 **13 November 2025**

**Bespoke Global
Litigation & IP Summit
2025**

-  Keynote sessions on Litigation & IP
-  Networking with 100+ legal professionals
-  Exclusive thought-leadership panels



 **Malaysia**

 **08 – 09 December
2025**

**Bespoke Global
Litigation & Arbitration
Summit 2025**


-  Deep dive into Arbitration & Dispute Resolution
-  Interactive roundtable sessions
-  Global networking opportunities



 **Dubai**

 **30 – 31 March 2025**

**Bespoke Global Legal
(IP, Legal Tech, & AI)
Summit 2026**

-  Exploring AI & Legal Technology
-  Cutting-edge insights on IP litigation
-  1:1 networking & partnership opportunities

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