

Bernhard Maier

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Bernhard is a Partner and head of the arbitration practice at Browne Jacobson.

Bernhard has nearly two decades of experience in complex international dispute resolution and public international law, with a particular focus on the natural resources, technology and healthcare sectors. Bernhard is also a visiting professor at King's College, London, a member of the UK Attorney General's C Panel for Public International law and regularly sits as an arbitrator in commercial arbitrations.

Bernhard is recommended in legal directories as "a very smart litigation attorney" who is "deeply knowledgeable and technically skilled" (Lexology Index (formerly Who's Who Legal) 2024). Bernhard's advice is described as "precise, to the point and very valuable" in the Legal500 directory.

Bernhard has acted for claimant and respondent parties in a wide range of commercial and investment treaty disputes (including under the Energy Charter Treaty and ICSID, UNCITRAL, SIAC, ICC, LCIA, VIAC, DIS and AAA Rules), as well as in related cross-border litigation and enforcement matters.

Recent highlights of Bernhard's practice include securing a significant damages award on behalf of the founders of leading fintech startup in Asia, advising an oil and gas company in two parallel multi-billion-dollar arbitrations against a Central Asian State and representing a leading mining company in a US\$350m UNCITRAL arbitration against a West African State.

Bernhard is qualified to practise in England and Wales and New York. He speaks English, German and Spanish, is widely published and regularly speaks at leading industry events, both in London and abroad. Prior to joining Browne Jacobson, Bernhard practised in leading disputes boutiques, international law firms and international organisations in Berlin, Brussels and New York.

Expertise

Sectors

Energy and infrastructure

Health and care

Technology

Financial services

Private clients

Featured experience

“Unicorn” financial technology (fintech) arbitration

Successfully represented the founders of a financial technology startup in a SIAC arbitration, resulting in a significant favourable award for the founders.

High profile mining arbitration

Representing a leading privately-owned mining company in a US\$350m UNCITRAL arbitration arising out of the termination of a mining license (seated in London, UK).

Oil and gas arbitration

Advising an oil and gas company in two separate arbitrations with a sovereign State pertaining to a production sharing agreement, with a total claim value of US\$1bn.

Commercial arbitration for leading logistics company

Successfully represented a leading French logistics company in an LCIA arbitration concerning questions of withholding tax in West Africa.

Testimonials

Directories

"Bernhard Maier's practice focuses on the natural resources and energy sector and his input is precise, to the point and very valuable."
Legal 500 2025,

"Bernhard is a very smart litigation attorney who is deeply knowledgeable and technically skilled."
Lexology 2024,