

BETTO PERBEN

Jean-Georges BETTO
Senior Partner

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Jean-Georges Betto advises and represents clients in international arbitration cases. He has a broad range of experience in complex and sensitive international arbitration cases in the areas of defence, civil aeronautic, engineering, and construction. He has served as counsel and arbitrator in arbitration cases conducted under most major institutional rules and works both in French and English.

Jean-Georges Betto is a Board member of the International Academy for Arbitration Law and speaks at international conferences. He chairs the Think-tank "Cabinets de croissance" and has chaired the French Arbitration Committee task force on International Construction. He is the former Secretary of the working group of the French Arbitration Committee reporting on the reform of the French Arbitration Act.

LANGUAGES

French, English

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Since 2013	Partner, BETTO PERBEN (formerly BETTO SERAGLINI)
2013 - 2019	Associate member, Quadrant Chamber
2008-2012	Partner, Hogan Lovells
2004-2007	Partner, Derains & Associés
1995-2004	Associate, Gide Loyrette Nouel, Arbitration Department
1994-1995	Military service, French Ministry of Defense, Inspectorate
1993-1994	Associate, Shearman & Sterling, Arbitration Department

EDUCATION

1995	Paris, Bar Admission
1993	DEA (post-degree), English and US Business Law, University of Paris I (Panthéon-Sorbonne)
1992	DESS (post-degree), International Business Law, University of Paris V (Descartes)

1991

Maitrise (degree), European and International Law,
University of Paris II (Panthéon-Assas)

PROFILE

Chairman of the think tank "Cabinets de croissance"

Board member of the International Academy for Arbitration Law
Former Chairman of the endowment fund for International Justice

Former Secretary to the working group of the French Arbitration Committee proposing a reform of the French Arbitration Act

Former Chairman of the French Arbitration Committee task force on International Construction

Founded the *Rencontres de l'arbitrage* (Paris international arbitration club)

Speaks at conferences hosted by the ICC (recently: Disputes in Aeronautic, YAF, PIDA on the new ICC Arbitration Rules)

Member of the International Council for Commercial Arbitration

Associate Member of the ICC Institute for International Business Law

Speaks at conferences hosted by the think tank *Défense & Stratégie* (recently: Defense Secret, privately contracted military personnel, cyber-crisis)

RANKINGS

Décideurs 2022: « Excellent » - Litigation & Arbitration – International Arbitration

Jeune Afrique: Jean-Georges Betto is named in 2021 top 100 Business Lawyers in Africa

Lawdragon 500 Global Litigation Lawyers 2021

Best Lawyers 2021: International Arbitration (France), Arbitration and Mediation (France) & Aviation Law (France)

Décideurs 2021 :

« Excellent » - Contentieux & Arbitrage - Arbitrage international

« Excellent » - Afrique - Contentieux & Arbitrage

Jeune Afrique: Jean-Georges Betto is named in 2020 top 100 Business Lawyers in Africa

Who's Who Legal - Global Leader 2020 - Construction

Who's Who Legal - National Leader 2020 - France - Arbitration

Who's Who Legal - National Leader 2020 - France - Construction

Legal 500 EMEA 2020: "Jean-Georges Betto is brilliant and has very convincing skills. He demonstrates excellent oral abilities that make him a feared attorney from the other side. He has great strategic understanding of cases."

Jeune Afrique: Jean-Georges Betto is named in 2019 top 50 Business Lawyers in Africa

Chambers Global 2019: "Jean-Georges Betto is a 'big figure in the Paris market,' he is noted for his involvement in 'African state-related disputes.'"

Expert Guides 2019: ranked in the "Leading Construction & Real Estate practitioners' list for France"

Legal 500 EMEA 2019: "Private Practice Powerlist: The leading Africa specialists"

Décideurs 2019:

"Excellent" – Litigation & Arbitration – International Arbitration

Top 50 Best Business Lawyers - Décideurs 2018: "*Un nouveau succès pour cet avocat particulièrement discret sur les dossiers qu'il traite. Éthique et positionnement obligent.*"

Décideurs 2018:

“Leading” – Africa Desk – Arbitration & International Litigation

“Excellent” – Litigation & Arbitration – International Arbitration – Mediation / Africa Desk – Oil, Gas, Mining, Natural Resources and Energy

Who's Who Legal France: International Arbitration 2018: “Jean-Georges Betto stands out as ‘a very well-known and successful figure in the market’. He is recognized for his ‘excellent work’ and vast experience handling proceedings across a wide array of sectors including construction and energy.”

Jeune Afrique: Jean-Georges Betto is named in 2018 top 50 Business Lawyers in Africa

Chambers Global 2018: Jean-Georges Betto is a “very strategic thinker”

Best Lawyers 2018: Lawyer of the Year - International Arbitration Paris

Who's Who Legal France: International Arbitration 2017: “Jean-Georges Betto handles both domestic and international disputes. He has notable depth of expertise in construction cases, and additional experience in defence and construction matters.”

Chambers Global 2017: Jean-Georges Betto is “very well known”

Who's Who Legal 2016: “Jean-Georges Betto is ‘highly in-demand’ due to his impressive depth of knowledge and expertise in a number of fields ranging from defence to the industrial and energy sectors. Sources laud his ‘dynamic and personable manner’ and his ‘impressive record in difficult cases’.”

Legal 500 EMEA 2016: “Jean-Georges has great knowledge of the defence and aviation areas.”

Legal 500 EMEA 2015: “Jean-Georges Betto is ‘a master tactician with an unparalleled eye for finding the points that really matter’.”

Who's Who Legal 2015: “Jean-Georges Betto has expertise in the defence, aviation, engineering and construction, energy and reinsurance sectors and serves as counsel and arbitrator.”

Chambers Global 2015: “His experience covers complex and sensitive disputes in sectors such as construction, engineering and defense.”

Décideurs: Top 50 Best Business Lawyers 2014

Legal 500 Paris 2014: “Jean-Georges Betto possède une réputation d'excellence méritée.”

Chambers 2014: “Sources describe him as «a very talented lawyer.» He has particular expertise in construction, defense and aviation disputes.”

Legal 500 EMEA 2014: “‘Always provides laser-sharp analyses’, and is ‘a brilliant tactician, shrewd advocate and engaging personae’.”

Legal 500 EMEA 2013: “Avec d'excellent résultats, il est apprécié pour son ‘très bon sens du relationnel’.”

Chambers 2013: “Son dynamisme continue d'impressionner les commentateurs, dont l'un affirme: “Il est jeune et solide, je suis régulièrement impressionné par lui”.”

Chambers, 2012: “Sources are united in their praise for “charming, tenacious and 100% committed” international arbitration expert Jean-Georges Betto. He is especially well known for his work in the defense, energy, construction and insurance sectors.”

Legal 500 EMEA 2012: “[...] ‘often acting on the winning side’. [...] Jean-Georges Betto, a creative, dynamic and cool-minded lawyer, recommended for difficult cases [...]”

Chambers, 2011: “Jean-Georges Betto is leader of the arbitration team and earns high praise for his wide ranging practice. Sources note his particular skill in energy, construction and military procurement.”

Legal 500 EMEA 2011: “[...] a ‘very dynamic’ practice, the firm gaining new high-profile clients in 2010. The 10 lawyer team is led by the ‘very combative’ Jean-Georges Betto, who is ‘well-versed in the defense sector’ [...]. The firm runs an active ICC practice, advising key clients in the defense, aerospace and energy sectors.”

Chambers 2010: “Jean-Georges Betto wins praise for his excellent communication skills and deep involvement on his files. He focuses on international arbitration and is well regarded for his expertise in oil and gas, military procurement and reinsurance.”

Legal 500 EMEA 2010: “Jean-Georges Betto [...] has done an impressive job so far in developing the practice, rapidly gaining high-profile clients in the defense sector.”

CREDENTIALIALS

Among others:

BIT Arbitration relating to the expropriation of a Western investor in an Eastern European State in various industrial sectors and in real estate.

(12 billion dollars - UNCITRAL/BIT, Seat in Madrid, English language)

Breach of Public-Private Partnership in the mining sector in West Africa.

(4 billion dollars, Civil Law, ICC The Hague, French language)

Revision of a lump sum EPC contract in the Engineering & Construction sector.

(1,4 billion dollars, Qatari law, ICC Paris, English language)

Breach of a supply contract in the Defense sector.

(1,3 billion euros, French law, ICC Paris, English language)

Termination of a cooperation agreement in the Defense sector.

(1,2 billion euros, French law, ICC Paris, French language)

Breach of a Production Sharing Agreement in the oil and gas sector.

(1 billion dollars, Civil law, ICC Paris, French language)

Representation of an African company against Senegal in an ICSID arbitration about expropriation in the energy sector (ICSID ARB/18/24).

(400 million euros, Civil Law, Senegalese law, ICSID, English as the language of arbitration)

Breach of a joint-venture agreement in the Defense sector.

(180 million dollars, Swiss law, ICC Geneva, English language)

Termination of an EPC contract in the Engineering & Construction sector.

(150 million euros, French law, ICC Lausanne, French language)

Breach of a cooperation agreement in the Defense sector.

(105 million euros, French law, ICC Brussels, English language)

Breach of an EPC subcontract in the Engineering & Construction sector.

(80 million euros, Abu Dhabi law, ICC Geneva, English language)

Breach of a supply agreement in the Aeronautic sector.

(50 million euros, French law, ICC Paris, English language)

Representation of state-owned company of Central Africa in a dispute regarding Cost Oil Recovery.

(43 million USD, French law, ICC Paris, French language)

Breach of a supply contract in the Defense sector.

(40 million dollars, French law, ICC Paris, English language)

Breach of a supply contract in the Defense sector.

(40 million euros, Singapore law, ICC Paris, English language)

Representing a leading French audit company in relation to a dispute arising out of an IT project.

(40 million euros, French law, ICC, Paris, French language)

Breach of a supply contract in the Defense sector.

(40 million euros, English law, ICC London, English language)

Delays and disruptions in the construction energy sector infrastructure.
(30 million euros, Algerian law, ICC Paris, French language)

Representation of a major aeronautics group in a dispute related to a license agreement.
(25 million euros, French law, ad hoc procedure, English language)

Representation of a major aeronautics group in a dispute related to a licence agreement.
(25 million euros, NY Law, ICC, English language)

Termination of a commercial lease in the retail sector.
(19 million euros, Greek law, ICC Athens, English language)

Breach of a management contract in the Hospitality sector.
(18 million euros, English law, ICC Geneva, English language)

Breach of a supply contract in the Aeronautic sector.
(15 million dollars, English law, ICC Geneva, English language)

Breach of a management contract in the Hospitality sector.
(13 million euros, Tunisian law, ICC Tunis, French language)

Breach of a commercial lease in the hospitality sector.
(12 million euros, OHADA law, ICC, seat in Paris, French language)

Breach of an agency contract in the Defense sector.
(8 million dollars, French law, ICC Geneva, French language)

Dispute between a German Fund and an Italian company in relation to a real estate property.
(6 million dollars, ICC Paris, English, and French language)

Breach of a cooperation agreement in the Aeronautic sector.
(5 million dollars, Florida law, ICC Geneva, English language)

Representation of a consulting firm in the defense sector industry company in a dispute related to the termination of a consultancy agreement with a major European aviation group of representation regarding the sale of military equipment.
(3 million euros, French law, ICC, seat in Paris, French language)

PUBLICATIONS

“France Chapter” in *The European Arbitration Review 2021*, Global Arbitration Review, 3 December 2020 (with A. Reynaud and L. Canet).

“*Prorogation, estoppel et renonciation: variations sur le délai d’arbitrage en droit de l’arbitrage interne*”, note following Civ. 1ère, 22 September 2010 and Paris, 1ère Ch. C., 19 November 2009, 2011 Rev. arb. 152 (with A. Reynaud).

“*Le nouveau règlement d’arbitrage de la CNUDCI*”, Option Droit & Affaires, 8 December 2010 (with A. Job).

“*Validité de l’engagement d’une société à l’arbitrage*”, note following Civ.1ère, 8 July 2009, Il Diritto Marittimo, I-2011 (with A. Job).

“*Affaire Inserm: le tribunal des conflits créé un nouveau régime pour le contentieux post-arbitral relatif aux contrats administratifs internationaux*”, Option Droit & Affaires, 8 September 2010 (with A. Job).

“*Le tiers évaluateur: arbitre ou mandataire?*”, note following Com. 16 February 2010, Option Droit & Affaires, 2 June 2010 (with A. Job).

"Enfin la définition de l'estoppel en droit français", *Option Droit & Affaires*, 1 April 2010 (with A. Job).

"Le livre vert de la Commission européenne, une menace pour l'arbitrage en Europe?", *Option Droit & Affaires*, 7 October 2009 (with L. Gouiffès).

"Opinion dissidente et secret du délibéré arbitral", note following Paris, 9 October 2008, *Rev. arb.* 2009, 352 (with A. Canivet).

"Arbitration draws lessons from recent blows: ICC techniques on controlling times and costs", *Practical Law Company*, Volume 2: arbitration, 2008-2009.

"Pour la consécration de la notion de sentence arbitrale provisoire en droit français de l'arbitrage international", *III Cahiers de l'arbitrage* 8 (2006).

"Parties' contribution to the arbitral award: submission of a synopsis of the award", 2006 (1) *Stockholm Int'l Arb. Rev.* 65.

"International Arbitration: New Trends", 2006 *Int'l Bus. L. J.* 371 (with J. Fry, M. Henry, E. Kleiman, and P. Pinsolle).

"La sentence condamnant à relever et garantir constitue un titre exécutoire", note following Civ. 2ème, 8 July 2004, *Rev. arb.* 2006, 99.

"Simplifier et actualiser l'arbitrage international", *Les Echos*, 20 February 2006, at 15.

"L'obligation pour l'arbitre de statuer en équité : principe et sanction", *Rev. arb.* 2004, 907.

"International Arbitration and Defense Secret", 2004 *Int'l Bus. L. J.* 827.

Chronique de jurisprudence française, note following Civ. 2ème, 10 July 2003 and Paris, 1ère Ch. C, 28 November 2002 and 27 May 2003, *Rev. arb.* 2003, 1359.

"International Arbitration and Projects Finance: the viewpoint of practitioners", 2003 *Int'l Bus. L. J.* 831.

"Expiration du délai d'arbitrage: la jurisprudence sur la prorogation tacite n'est-elle pas dans une impasse?", note following Civ. 2ème, 8 March, 18 October 2001 and 4 April 2002 and Paris, 1ère Ch. C, 17 January 2002, *Rev. arb.* 2002, 899.

"Respect du contradictoire et mesure d'instruction conduite personnellement par l'arbitre", note following Civ. 2ème, 25 March and 30 September 1999, *Rev. arb.* 2000, 267.

"Le respect du principe de la contradiction: renforcement du contrôle?", note following Civ. 2ème, 10 November 1998, *Rev. arb.* 1998, 680.

International Arbitration Award Digest, 2002 *Int'l Bus. L. J.* 843; 2002 *Int'l Bus. L. J.* 111; 2001 *Int'l Bus. L. J.* 648; 2001 *Int'l Bus. L. J.* 234; 2000 *Int'l Bus. L. J.* 1040.

"Sous-traitances internationales: comment écarter la loi française de 1975", 1999 *Int'l Bus. L. J.* 411.