

***WALA 2024***

# **SPEAKERS & MODERATORS LIST**

**MANAMA, BAHRAIN | MAY, 29-31**

**HOST 2024**



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# Speakers & Moderators

**AboAbah, Ayman Abdulaziz**, Riyadh Airports Company, Saudi Arabia

**Al Binfalah, Mohamed**, Bahrain Airport Company, Bahrain

**Al Hosni, Sheikh Aimen bin**, Oman Airports, Oman

**Al Mandhari, Abdullah**, Oman Airports, Oman

**Alaseeri, Khalid A.**, Riyadh Airports, Saudi Arabia

**Carvalhaes, Eduardo**, Lefosse Advogados, Brazil

**Correia, Dr. Vincent**, McGill University, Canada

**Di Cio, Gustavo**, Abiax Air, Argentina

**El Feghali, Elie**, SITA, Lebanon

**Evtimova-Spaseska, Emilija**, TAV Macedonia, North Macedonia

**Flouris, Dr. Triant**, Metropolitan College, Greece

**Folley, Sam**, Trowers & Hamblins LLP, UK

**Garcia Rosales, Marcelo**, NACO, The Netherlands

**Gonzalez, Diego**, Aeropuertos Argentina, Argentina

**Harb, Karim**, SITA, Lebanon

**Kirsch, Peter**, Kaplan Kirsch & Rockwell, United States

**Lelieur, Isabelle**, Lelieur Avocat Law firm, France

**Lopez Linetti, Candela**, Corporacion America Airports SA

**McPhee, Simon**, Perth Airport, Australia

**Mohammed, Abdulhaq**, Partner, Trowers & Hamblins LLP, Bahrain/Singapore

**Nüesch, Pablo**, Airports Council International – North America, United States

**O'Shea, Patricia**, Dublin Airport Authority, Ireland

**Pierallini, Laura**, Studio Pierallini, Italy

**Pishbin, Shirin**, Trowers & Hamblins, Bahrain

**Polivnick, Alan**, Watson Farley & Williams

**Siebold, Michael**, ASD/WALA Board, Germany

**Sipos, Dr. Attila**, Professor of Law, UAE

**Tan, Dr. Alan Khee-Jin**, Professor of Law, Singapore

**Tegethoff, Michael**, Munich Airport, Germany



# AYMAN ABDULAZIZ ABOABAH

**RIYADH AIRPORTS COMPANY (RAC)**  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

SAUDI ARABIA

With over 31 years of business experience in several senior positions, in international companies and government entities Ayman Abdulaziz AboAbah is currently the CEO of Riyadh Airports Company (RAC) overseeing the management and operations of the King Khalid International Airport. Having been the CEO of Jeddah Airports company since May 2022, Ayman AboAbah comes with rich experience in leadership and airport operations.

May 2020, VP Operations Group at Riyadh Airports Company leading KKIA towards Excellence in Operation, directing several critical missions as well as contributing on strategic initiatives, projects, and programs accomplishment, obtaining multi-WW accreditations.

Apr 2016, Chief Business Development Officer, and Subsidiaries Affairs at Awqaf Sulaiman Al Rajhi Holding Co. (ASRHC), which runs several subsidiaries, local and international, strategic assets, and private equity. The role requires establishing new ventures, improve ROI of existing business, represent the Holding with the affiliates. Board member of SEGAF and ADEC. Member of the IPO team for WP.  
May 2017, Assigned as VP to develop and lead the transformation plan within Watania Agriculture Co, lead several BU's and divisions towered contributing tremendously in truing the business over to the targeted commercialization. Jan 2020 assigned as acting CEO Watania Agriculture to lead the business among all affiliates of Watania Co.

June 2014, CEO of Tamkeen Technology (Startup Company) working in different dimensionsof lean Business transformation. First, build the internal capabilities. Second, build the company's structure, vision, and mission, implementing the strategy, building business processes procedure and Governance aligning with WW trends. Third, meet MLSD needs and demand of all IT services. Strengthened relationship with all Saudi National / Local Companies.

Oct 2011, (HRDF - CTO promoted to DDG) leading all functional of informational technology and was part of the business decision-making leaders, contributing in various initiatives of business transformation and mega strategic project among MOL. Strengthened relationship with Government Officials.

April 2008, Joined Cisco to handle territory of business in Saudi, handling strategic accounts with mega deals, responsible for leading part of Cisco business in education strategic accounts, in this role, overachieved to secure Cisco business goals, obtaining the sales champion awards twice in arrow and Chairmen club as well.

April 2006 Started the journey in private sector with Microsoft, handling Education Sector business, as well as Partner-in-Learning Program Manager. During this time, was also handling Community Affairs Program Manager as well. overachieved the targets in both roles and got highest recognition in Microsoft Contribution Based Incentive awarding.

1997, at Ministry of Education as Supervisor of ICT played a major role on the other side of the business cycle. Was a member of the Awarding Committee, Evaluation Committee, and Technical Prerequisites Committee to evaluate and participate in buying the right IT-solution for the Ministry of Education, contribute on managing IT infrastructure for over 30K public Schools around the Kingdome of Saudi Arabia. 1994 hired as teacher of since obtain the best innovative teacher in Riyadh region.



# MOHAMED YOUSIF AL BINFALAH

**BAHRAIN AIRPORT COMPANY  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

BAHRAIN

Mohamed Yousif Al Binfalah is the Chief Executive Officer of Bahrain Airport Company (BAC), which has been responsible for managing, operating and developing Bahrain International Airport since 2010.

On joining the company in 2012, driven by a clear vision to elevate and position Bahrain International Airport as a friendly and efficient regional hub, Mohamed has led the team working jointly with the Ministry of Transportation and Telecommunications since 2014 to deliver the \$1.1bn Bahrain International Airport Modernization Program with the aim of enhancing the airport's infrastructure and sustaining the growth of Bahrain's aviation sector in line with the Kingdom of Bahrain's Vision 2030.

Mohamed is a Board Member on the Airport Council International (ACI) World Governing Board (WGB) besides his position as a Regional Director at ACI Asia-Pacific Board and Chair of the ACI World Audit Committee.





# SHEIKH AIMEN bin AL HOSNI

**OMAN AIRPORTS  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

OMAN

Is a prominent figure with significant influence worldwide in the aviation and travel sector.  
He is the Chief Executive Officer of Oman Airports

Al Hosni has made a substantial contribution to leading the historical transition and change in Oman Airports, culminating in the opening of Muscat International, Salalah, Duqm, and Sohar airports within just three years, from 2015 to 2018.

Under his leadership, Oman Airports, which manages 7 airports in the Sultanate of Oman, has transformed into one of the most prominent airports management companies in the Middle East and the world. Oman Airports offers an exceptional travel experience to all its users, reflecting authentic Omani hospitality and high professional ambition. This has led to Muscat International Airport winning the award for the Most Improved Airport in the Middle East in 2018 and 2019 by the Airports Council International and Salalah Airport receiving a five-star rating in the Middle East by Skytrax as the first regional airport to achieve this global rating, in addition to many other prestigious international awards.

In November 2021, Aimen Al Hosni was voted as the Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Airports Council International, a for the period that ended at the end of 2023. He is currently a member of the council as a former chairman for the period 2024 - 2025. He also continues to serve on the Board of Directors for the Regional Council of Asia-Pacific and the Middle East for the Airports Council International, which is tasked with enhancing the strategic position of airports in Asia-Pacific and the Middle East within the global aviation system, enabling sustainable growth in the Asia-Pacific region.

In addition to his current role at Oman Airports, Aimen Al Hosni also holds executive positions in several national and international companies. He is the Chairman of the Board of Directors of Transom Handling, Chairman of the Board of Directors of Oman SATS, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Oman National Engineering and Investment Company, and a member of the Board of Directors of Omantel Telecommunications



# DR. ABDULLAH AL MANDHARI

**OMAN AIRPORTS  
VICE PRESIDENT LEGAL**

OMAN

Dr. Abdullah is Vice President Legal at Oman Airports with a forward-thinking and rich foundation and background in aviation, legal, and commercial fields, his academic achievements include both a Ph.D. and Master's degree from the United Kingdom. Under his guidance and as a member in the Leadership Team, Oman Airports has achieved remarkable steps in aviation, prioritizing top-notch airports services and revolutionizing different businesses through insightful data analysis and enhanced operational efficiency. Dr. Abdullah leadership not only guides new innovations toward business sustainability but also committed to the success and impact of Oman Airports in the local and international markets.



# KHALID A. ALASEERI

**RIYADH AIRPORTS  
CHIEF LEAL OFFICER**

SAUDI ARABIA

Khalid AlAseeri is Chief Legal Officer at Riyadh Airports Company.

Khalid has over 20 years of experience working within various industries and in some of the most prominent organizations in their field, both locally and internationally.

Some of his past roles include General Counsel at Almarai, the largest food and beverage company in the region; and General Counsel at Qiddiya Investment Company, one of the Saudi Public Investment Fund's Gigaprojects. Khalid has also worked with multinationals such as Bechtel; and Saudi Aramco, Saudi Arabia's national Oil Company..

Khalid holds a Juris Doctorate degree from Lewis and Clark Law School and is licensed to practice in the United States. He also holds an MBA from the London Business School and an Accounting degree from Penn State University.



# EDUARDO CARVALHAES

**LEFFOSE ADVOGADOS'  
PARTNER**

**BRAZIL**

Eduardo is the Lefosse Advogados' head of the public law and regulated markets practice.

Eduardo has solid experience in licensing, privatizations, public procurement, dispute resolution and

legal advice in regulated markets. He is a member of FGV-RJ University's Airport Concessions Committee, of the Brazilian Bar Association Infrastructure Commission and the Construction and Aviation Committees of the International Bar Association.

Eduardo graduated at São Paulo Catholic University and holds both a PhD and a Master's degree from the University of São Paulo.

Recognitions:

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# DR. VINCENT CORREIA

**INSTITUTE OF AIR AND SPACE LAW  
CO-DIRECTOR**

**CANADA**

Specialized in Aviation Law, Prof. Dr. Vincent Correia is Full Professor of Law since 2014. Before joining McGill University, he served as Professor of Public Law in France, at the Université de Poitiers (2014-2017) and Université Paris-Saclay (2017-2023). In parallel, he has been a Visiting Professor at Leiden University (the Netherlands) for almost a decade. He intervened as a guest lecturer at several Universities throughout the world, in Europe, South America, South-East and Central Asia most notably. He is fluent in French, English and Spanish.

His current research focuses on the study of the interactions between international air law and national and regional legislations, from a multi-level perspective. He addresses emerging trends in the field of environmental protection, competition law, liability and passengers' rights, as well as the liberalization of the air transport sector. He lectured, in the last years, Air Law, Public International Law and European Union Law.

He has published numerous articles and case commentaries on aviation law in English, French and Spanish. He has been co-editor of the *Revue Française de Droit Aérien et Spatial* and member of the boards of editors of the *Aviation and Space Journal* and the *Air & Space Law* journals. He is member of the board of the *Société Française de Droit Aérien et Spatial* and member of the *International Law Association* and the *Association Française d'Études Européennes*.



# GUSTAVO DI CIO

**ABIAX AIR  
MANAGING DIRECTOR**

**ARGENTINA**

Gustavo is the Director of Abiax Air Aviation. Before co-founding Abiax Air in 2008, he was the Director of Strategy at the Latin American Airline Association, but also worked developing aviation projects for Canadian government. Before joining the aviation industry he held senior and CEO positions in the financial and insurance sectors within Latin America. Gustavo holds an MBA in Aviation Management from Concordia University, Montreal, a diploma in Sustainable Tourism and a degree in Business Administration. He teaches Evaluation of Investment Projects and Aviation Economics for Latin American civil aviation authorities. A writer, he has also participated in conferences as a speaker, moderator and chairman, and has attended more than 100 aviation and airport events.





# ELIE EL FEGHALI

**SITA**  
**LEGAL DIRECTOR**

**LEBANON**

Elie El Feghali is a Legal Director at SITA, the world's leading specialist in air transport communications and information technology.

Elie has a degree in law and a master's degree in intellectual and industrial property law from La Sagesse University - Lebanon.

Elie is member of the Beirut Bar Association and in-house counsel certified (Association of Corporate Counsel). He is also a university professor and has published several articles and lectured in seminars and workshops.

Elie has nearly 20 years of legal experience, having worked in private practice as a Partner and Head of the Litigation Practice Group at one of the leading regional law firms in the Middle East, before he moved in-house. Elie is currently leading the Middle East and Africa Legal Team of SITA and he is based in Beirut, Lebanon.



# EMILIJA EVTIMOVA-SPASESKA

**TAV MACEDONIA  
LEGAL AFFAIRS MANAGER**

**NORTH MACEDONIA**

Emilija Evtimova-Spaseska is the Legal Affairs Manager of TAV Macedonia subsidiary of TAV Airports, the airport operator of the Skopje and Ohrid Airports in North Macedonia. She has +18 years of professional experience, having spent 6 years in private practice before she moved in-house in IT sector and currently in aviation. Following the completion of Law Faculty for International Law, she successfully completed the Macedonian Bar Exam, the IATA SGHA and SLA Effective Negotiation Contracts and her Master's degree in business law.

In her previous positions she led projects for mergers and acquisitions, due diligences, special sale-purchases, intellectual property rights protection, contract negotiations and legal advising.

In her current position she is responsible for the overall legal compliance, advising and consulting of TAV Macedonia for all legal issues of the company including aviation, labor, finance and contract management



# DR. TRIANT FLOURIS

**METROPOLITAN COLLEGE  
VP ACADEMIC AFFAIRS**

GREECE

Triant Flouris holds degrees from the UofSC (Ph.D.), Baylor University (M.A.), and William Jewell College (B.A.). Dr. Flouris has extensive international experience in strategic planning and higher education administration in the U.S., Canada, and Greece. He is the author of nine books, and over two hundred refereed journal articles, book chapters, scholarly articles, and public reports primarily on aviation topics. He holds professional pilot and flight instructor certifications and has over 10,000 hours of total flight time. He is VP Academic Affairs at Metropolitan College in Greece.



# SAM FOLLEY

**TROWERS & HAMLINS LLP,  
PARTNER**

UNITED KINGDOM

Sam is a partner in the Real Estate team at Trowers and Hamblins in London specialising in commercial real estate. Sam specialises in acting for airport operators, with over 15 years' experience advising the sector on airport expansion and development and airside leasing, with a particular focus on the role of ESG. Sam is a regular contributor to trade publications such as Airport Technology magazine, ESG Investor and Airports International magazine, covering in particular use of airport real estate and sustainability in airport expansion.

Sam's recent experience in the airport sector has included

- Acting for a UK airport owner on all aspects related to a new onsite flight training facility housing state of the art flight simulators.
- Acting for a UK airport owner in respect of the development and leasing of a new high end passenger lounge together with a ground handling agreement.
- Advising a UK airport owner in respect of installation of large-scale rooftop solar arrays across multiple buildings at the airport including the hangars, terminal and hotel; a project which forms an integral part of the airport's sustainability strategy.
- Acting for a UK airport owner on a fast paced transaction involving the grant of a new lease of maintenance sheds with additional commercial elements relating to the use of the tenant's aircraft at the airport.
- Acting for a UK airport owner and operator on a development and leasing project for a new state of the art maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO) facility including hanger space, offices, customer areas and ancillary facilities.
- Acting for the owner and operator of a UK airport on lettings of food and beverage and retail units within a departure lounge. The leases contained extensive turnover rent provisions whereby the landlord profited from increased footfall to the premises.
- Acting on the lettings of hangars within a major UK airport to various private and commercial aircraft operators.
- Advising a UK airport owner on the review of fuel agreements, the redrafting of its standard supplier commercial terms and conditions, the negotiation of branding agreements and on various data protection related concerns.
- Advising a UK airport owner on a filming location agreement for access to and use of the airport for filming.



# MARCELO GARCIA ROSALES

**NACO**  
**CHIEF AVIATION REGULATION, POLICY, AND GOVERNANCE**

THE NETHERLANDS

Marcelo has over 15 years of aviation, government, and regulatory experience acquired across three continents: North America, Europe and the Middle East. He has advised on a wide array of aviation industry issues such as commercial partnerships, business continuity and organizational change, airport incentives packages, market access, economic regulation, sustainability initiatives, and regional airspace disputes. He has also overseen numerous multi-stakeholder and cross-functional projects such as the launch of airline sustainability programs and management systems, and has advised C-level executives on the launch of new routes for passenger and cargo operations. His integrated approach to global advocacy and cross-functional knowledge of airlines and government led him to coordinate and deploy over 20 market access right's campaigns in restricted countries. He was a member of the Qatar team that negotiated the 2019 Qatar-EU Comprehensive Air Transport Agreement and the 2018 Qatar-U.S. Understandings.

He holds a Master of Laws (LL.M.) from McGill's Institute of Air and Space Law in Montreal. He also earned a Juris Doctor (J.D.) and Civil Law (B.C.L.) degrees from the same university. He clerked for Justice Richard Wagner of the Superior Court of Quebec (currently Chief Supreme Justice of Canada). He is fluent in English, French, Spanish and has basic knowledge of Arabic.





# DIEGO R. GONZALEZ

**AEROPUERTOS ARGENTINA 2000  
LEGAL MANAGER**

**ARGENTINA**

## SHORT BIO:

**AEROPUERTOS ARGENTINA 2000 / CORPORACION AMERICA AIRPORTS SA**

As legal manager of AA2000, he was responsible for contracts, tariff and regulatory matters and litigation dealer for the operation of the 33 airports (Group A airports in the National Airport System).

He was responsible for the comprehensive legal management (strategy, drafting, negotiation and execution). Diego exercised these tasks advising the AA2000's Directorates of Infrastructure, Operations, Systems, Purchase and Commercial Affairs.

He advised on comprehensive legal management of contracts for airport charges, tariff and regulatory affairs, retail and non aeronautical activities contracts at the airport. In reference to litigation Diego led cases initiated by consumer associations and all airlines As Corporacion America Airports advisor, Diego assist on Urban Air Mobility legal & regulatory matters.

Also he participated in various public and private procurement processes as well as expressions of interest. His professional experience was special focus on the legal and regulatory aspects of airport services, domestic and international aviation activity. In that sense Diego participated in the presentations of tenders, projects of concession contracts, take over and acquisition of airport companies, etc in many processes within Latin America Region (Colombia, Puerto Rico, Jamaica, Uruguay, Ecuador, Peru, Brazil, Argentina, Chile) and other countries in the World (Portugal, Hungary, Bulgaria, Turkey, Greece, Italy).

Attorney - Law School of Universidad Nacional de La Plata (UNLP) Graduated in April, 1992. Master In Administrative Law - Universidad Austral, 1995

Founder and president of Worldwide Airport Lawyer Association - WALA, since May, 2008.

Legal Affairs Manager | Aeropuertos Argentina 2000 (1999 – present)

Head of Legal Affairs CAAP vertiports team (present)

Vice Chair of the Institute of Transport Maritime, Air & Space Law – Buenos Aires Public Bar Association. Since March, 2015

Founder and President of ACI-LAC Political, Regulatory & Legal Committee (2003-2010)  
Professor of Airport Law

·Visitor Universidad Nacional de la Plata,  
·Universidad Católica Argentina (UCA) since March, 2015

·Academic Director at Infinitum Academy (Uruguay)  
Books

· Airport Law: Juridical Regimen of the Airport Service, Prometeo Publisher, Buenos Aires, 2013

·Airport Law in Iberoamerica, Tirant LoBlanch, Mexico, Co-Director, 2024





# KARIM HARB

**SITA**  
**COMMERCIAL DIRECTOR**

LEBANON

Karim Harb is a Commercial Director at SITA, the world's leading specialist in air transport communications and information technology.

Karim has a degree in electrical engineering and a master's degree in engineering management from the American University of Beirut.

Karim has over twenty years of progressive expertise in Information & Communications Technology and Air Transport Industry, hands-on leadership with an extensive background in project management complemented by specialized knowledge of business & commercial management. Karim currently harnesses his in-depth analytical abilities to facilitate operational and procedural planning , in addition to translating opportunities and optimizing requirements into revenues, improving management efficiency and business performance.



# PETER J. KIRSCH

**KAPLAN KIRSCH & ROCKWELL LLP  
PARTNER**

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Peter J. Kirsch is a partner with the law firm of Kaplan Kirsch & Rockwell, dividing his time between the firm's offices in Denver, Colorado and Washington, DC. For nearly 35 years, Mr. Kirsch has concentrated his practice on airport law. He has represented scores of airports on land use, regulatory and environmental issues that arise in connection with airport operations and development. Much of his work focuses on private capital investment in airports, and the legal, regulatory, financial and policy implications of such investments. He is a frequent speaker at conferences on airport law, is widely published in professional journals and has authored several papers for the National Academy of Sciences, Transportation Research Board. He is the recipient of the 2021 Vance Award from the Transportation Research Board for a paper on airport land use and revenue. His undergraduate degree is from Oberlin College and his law degree is from the University of Chicago. He is admitted to practice law before the U.S. Supreme Court, many federal appellate and district courts, and the local courts in the District of Columbia, Colorado, Maryland and Washington.



# PATRICIA O'SHEA

**DUBLIN AIRPORT AUTHORITY  
GROUP HEAD OF LEGAL AND SECRETARY**

**IRELAND**

Patricia O'Shea is Group Head of Legal at daa plc encompassing its national and international operations. Daa plc has two subsidiaries operating at a global level, one being ARI the global retail company and the other daa International which operates airports in other jurisdictions. She is a corporate lawyer, qualified to practice in England & Wales with over 30 years' experience gained largely in the IT and aviation sectors. She worked for a number of years with IBM, holding General Counsel, Company Secretary and Director roles. She also serves on a number of Boards in Ireland. She was appointed by the Government to the Executive Board of the National Maternity Hospital and is also a Government appointee to the Board of Directors of Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII). She is a member of the Advisory Board of Asia Matters forging business relationships between Ireland and Asia.



# ISABELLE LELIEUR

**LELIEUR AVOCAT LAW FIRM  
FOUNDING PARTNER**

FRANCE

## Qualifications

She has an undergraduate law degree from Toulouse Law University and a Master's degree from the Air Transport Training and Research Institute (IFURTA) of Aix-Marseille University. She also holds a graduate degree (LLM) from the Institute of Air and Space Law (IASL), McGill University, Montreal. She is admitted to Paris Bar. In addition, Isabelle is AMPAP accredited (the Global ACI-ICAO Airport Management Professional Accreditation Programme) and has a certificate in aircraft financing and leasing.

## Lecturing and Publications

Isabelle LELIEUR lectures in several French universities (Paris I Panthéon Sorbonne, Toulouse I Capitole and Aix Marseille), as well as for Leiden University (IIASL) and Djibouti University. And she is an AMPAP instructor.

Isabelle LELIEUR published a book on airline ownership and control, as well as several articles on airport regulation, data protection (GDPR) and bilateral air service agreements. She also contributed to Dalloz book on transport law (2023-2024).

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Isabelle Lelieur is involved in the aviation industry for over 20 years. She is the founding partner of the firm Lelieur Avocat. She was previously a partner lawyer for Chevrier Avocats law firm, a firm dedicated to the aviation industry, for 3 years. She also headed for 10 years the legal department of VINCI Airports (a world-leading airport operator) – managing all legal aspects on airport projects globally. Prior to VINCI Airports, Isabelle was in a senior role as the head of the legal department of the French Airport Association. She also held positions with the European Commission and with Air France's international affairs department. Since 2017, she is also a Senior Associate Business Law & Policy; Policy for Aviation Strategies International. She is a member of the French Society of Air and Space Law (SFDAS) and of the European Air Law Association (EALA).



# CANDELA LOPEZ LINETTI

**CORPORACION AMERICA AIRPORTS SA  
LEGAL MANAGER**

**ARGENTINA**

Candela López Linetti is Legal Manager at Corporación América Airports, with over six years within the organization. As member of the corporate finance team, she holds a pivotal role directly reporting to both the Chief Legal Officer and Chief Financial Officer. In this capacity, Candela offers strategic counsel on various financial matters, including transactions, debt structuring, M&A processes, and broader initiatives such as ESG integration. Furthermore, Candela actively contributes to the company's business development efforts, collaborating closely with the Head of Business Development. Her academic background includes a law degree from the Pontifical Catholic University of Argentina, supplemented by a Master's degree in Corporate Law. She recently completed her Executive MBA program at IAE Business School, further enhancing her expertise and leadership capabilities.





# SIMON MC PHEE

**PERTH AIRPORT**  
**CHIEF CORPORATE SERVICES OFFICER AND GENERAL COUNSEL**

AUSTRALIA

Simon is the Chief Corporate Services Officer and General Counsel of Perth Airport in Western Australia. In his role at Perth Airport, Simon is responsible for the management of the Perth Airport's full suite legal, risk, governance, compliance, regulatory, sustainability and corporate affairs functions. Prior to joining Perth Airport, Simon was General Counsel and Company Secretary for WesTrac|CAT and held a senior legal position with CIMIC Groups' Australasian construction company (previously Leighton Contractors). Prior to joining CIMIC, Simon worked in private practice (major projects, construction, corporate and structured finance) at a top tier Australian law firm and in London, for a tier one 'Magic Circle' law firm.





# ABDULHAQ MOHAMMED

**TROWERS & HAMLINS LLP**  
**PARTNER**

BAHRAIN/SINGAPORE

Abdulhaq is an Infrastructure and Real Estate Partner at Trowers & Hamlin and specializes in PPP and concession arrangements relating to urban and transport-related development, real estate development and investment, and strategic legal advice. Among other things, he has been the lead partner advising Bahrain Airport Company on a wide range of matters since its inception. He has held several senior management positions within the Firm, including sitting on the Management Board for six years, as well as being the Firm's International Managing Partner until late 2021. He is consistently recognized as a top-tier lawyer by both The Legal 500 and Chambers Global. He is now the firm's Head of Asia and has recently led the opening of our Singapore office



# PABLO O. NÜESCH

**AIRPORTS COUNCIL INTERNATIONAL – NORTH AMERICA  
GENERAL COUNSEL**

UNITED STATES

Pablo Nüesch has more than thirty five years' experience in the fields of airport law, finance, and administration, working for, or on behalf of, airports throughout the United States. On July 2020, he was appointed General Counsel to Airports Council International – North America (ACI-NA). In that capacity, Pablo advises ACI-NA leadership and airport members on matters of legislative, legal, and regulatory policy that impact the airport sector in North America.

Prior to joining ACI-NA, Pablo was in private practice at a Washington-based law firm, counseling airports on U.S. law and regulatory issues, and representing their interests before U.S. federal administrative agencies, the U.S. Congress, and in the Federal courts. Earlier in his career, Pablo was an airport consultant, providing advisory services in support of the management and development of airports and financing of airport projects throughout the U.S. and in the Caribbean. Pablo was graduated from the Florida Institute of Technology with a Bachelor of Science in Aviation Management, and received a Juris Doctor degree from the University of South Carolina, School of Law. He is admitted to practice law before the courts of the District of Columbia and in a number of United States Federal Circuits.



# LAURA PIERALLINI

**PIERALLINI STUDIO LEGALE  
NAME PARTNER**

ITALY

Laura Pierallini is the founder and name partner of the Italian aviation law firm Pierallini Studio Legale.

She is a professor of commercial law and air law at the LUISS University of Rome. Laura has practised aviation law since 1988, providing expert advice to clients across the whole of the international aviation sector, including aircraft finance and leasing; antitrust and regulatory; litigation and dispute resolution; employment; restructuring; M&A and corporate issues.

Her clientele includes Italian and foreign airlines, manufacturers, lessors, financiers, airports, handlers and travel agents. She has recently advised the most important M&A transactions in the aviation sector, including the sale to the newly established flag Italian carrier (Italia Trasporto Aereo S.p.A. – ITA Airways) of the Alitalia aviation business.

Ms Pierallini is recognised Thought Leader in the aviation section of Thought Leaders –Global Elite (2018-2023) and is recommended as a leading lawyer in the regulatory, contentious and finance sub-chapters of the aviation section of WWL: Transport.

She is named Best Aviation Lawyer at the Client Choice Awards 2024 and Lawyer of the Year – Aviation at the WWL Awards 2024. She has been consistently shortlisted for Best Aviation Lawyer at the Europe Women in Business Law Awards. She has been named Italian lawyer of the year in Transport Law at Top Legal Industry Awards 2021 and 2022 and Italian lawyer of the year in Aviation Finance at Legal Community Finance Awards 2023.

Laura regularly participates in conferences on aviation, delivering speeches and moderating panels at various Italian and international symposia, in particular those organised by IATA, IBA, EALA; WALA and EBAA.

She organises annual conferences on air law at LUISS University of Rome, attracting international experts, jurists and operators.

She is aviation committee member of the International Bar Association (IBA), committee member of the European Air Law Association (EALA) and a member of the International Aviation Women's Association (IAWA).

She is the author of many national and international publications on aviation, tourism and commercial law.



# SHIRIN PISHBIN

**TROWERS & HAMLINS**  
**SENIOR ASSOCIATE**

**BAHRAIN**

Shirin is a Senior Associate in Trowers & Hamlin's International Real Estate team in Bahrain.

Shirin was a leading member of the team advising Bahrain Airport Company on the concession agreements for the new international airport terminal in Bahrain. She has assisted with various large scale projects throughout the GCC including the Bahrain Affordable Housing PPP; and development projects such as Diyar Al Muharraq, Riffa Views, Canal View in Dilmunia and Water Garden City. This has included community management structuring in light of the new legal framework for joint ownership in Bahrain. Shirin graduated in 2009 from the University of Bristol, followed by a master's degree at SOAS, University of London in 2010. She completed her Graduate Diploma in Law and Legal Practice Course at the College of Law, Bloomsbury and was admitted as a solicitor in the Senior Courts of England and Wales in October 2015.



# ALAN POLIVNICK

**WATSON FARLEY & WILLIAMS**  
**PARTNER**

**AUSTRALIA**

Alan is a partner in the Sydney office of Watson Farley & Williams. He was based in Singapore and Bangkok from 2000 to 2021. Alan is a member of the Legal 500 Hall of Fame for Transport in South East Asia.

Alan focuses on transport, insurance and hospitality and provides a broad range of contentious, non-contentious, regulatory and commercial advice and assistance to clients in Australia and across the Asia-Pacific. He has extensive experience of litigation and dispute resolution across the Asia-Pacific region, including Australia, India and South East and North East Asia. Alan has acted for investors and parties in a number of recent airport PPP projects in the region. In his transport practice, Alan advises logistics companies, shipping lines, airlines, airport and traders on a range of issues including breach of sale agreements, breach of contract claims, charterparty and contract of carriage disputes, warehousing and storage/handling disputes, vessel detention, infrastructure claims and disputes and commodity transaction disputes. Alan advises clients on their e-commerce and online operations, including inventory supply agreements and disputes, regulatory compliance and investigations, data privacy and consumer disclosure requirements and prosecutions and competition law.

Alan also advises on regulatory issues relating to e-commerce and ESG with a focus on the aviation sector.





# MICHAEL SIEBOLD

**MH MANAGEMENT GMBH  
PARTNER**

**GERMANY**

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Central to Michael's distinguished legal journey are international mergers and acquisitions, corporate transactions, and reorganisations as well as large infrastructure projects. His legal acumen also encompasses sports and entertainment law, sponsoring, real property law, international project management, and financing—primarily within the dynamic logistics and stadia and arena sectors.

A founding partner of ARNECKE SIEBOLD, Michael has steadfastly evolved through three decades, transitioning from a managing partner to the esteemed role of Senior Partner at ARNECKE SIBETH DABELSTEIN, today emeritus. This premier German law firm comprised approximately 150 fee earners across 6 offices in Germany.

Michael's academic journey traversed Munich, London (UK), and Toronto (Canada), culminating in the attainment of a Master's degree from the University of Toronto. Michael was admitted to the German Bar

## EXPERIENCE

ARNECKE SIBETH DABELSTEIN | Senior Partner  
2019 – 2023 (now emeritus)

ARNECKE SIBETH DABELSTEIN | Managing Partner  
1989 - 2018

After his career as described above, Michael now operates his own consultancy firm mh management und unternehmensberatungs gmbh, Munich, where he is engaged in primarily law firm management consulting and coaching of young professionals; he is also a sought-after board member.

Michael's diverse expertise encompasses a broad spectrum of practice areas, including Mergers and Acquisitions, Company Law, Engineering, Industrial Projects, International Delivery of Goods, Real Estate Finance, Commercial Property, Legal Project Management, Property Development, Planning, and Sports and Entertainment Law, as well as Media, Press, and Publishing Law. His proficiency extends across sectors such as Automotive, Energy/Renewables, Hospitality, Real Estate, Sports, Media and Entertainment, Transportation, Aviation, and Logistics. With a seasoned understanding of these domains, Michael has honed his skills to address complex challenges within a range of industries.

Michael, in addition to his profound mastery of various practice areas, brings his insights to bear on a multitude of sectors. From Automotive to Energy/Renewables, Hospitality to Real Estate, and Sports to Media and Entertainment, his well-rounded experience spans across Transportation, Aviation, and Logistics. This comprehensive expertise empowers him to provide strategic counsel that resonates effectively within a diverse array of industries.

## World Airport Lawyers Association (WALA) | Vice President 2014 - Present

As Vice President of the World Airport Lawyers Association (WALA) since 2014, Michael has played a pivotal role in shaping the organization's strategic direction. His steadfast commitment and expertise have contributed to its ongoing success and influence within the aviation and legal sectors.

## Interlaw | Chairman 2012 - 2018

Michael, as the Chair of Interlaw, has spearheaded global legal collaboration, facilitating cross-border insights and expertise for diverse legal matters. His leadership has nurtured a robust network of legal professionals, fostering a dynamic platform for international legal cooperation and knowledge exchange.

## DKG German Canadian Association | Chairman Emeritus/ President 2003 - Present

As the Chairman Emeritus and present President of the DKG - German Canadian Association, Michael has played a pivotal role in fostering cultural exchange and collaboration between Germany and Canada. His leadership has significantly contributed to strengthening the bond between the two nations and promoting mutual understanding.

## Education

### LLM (Master of Laws) | 1986

University of Toronto,  
Toronto, Canada

### Legal Clerkship | 1983- 86

District Court, Munich,  
Germany

### Law | 1983

LMU, Munich, Germany

## Honours & Memberships

### INTERLAW.

Board member for 13 Years &  
Chairman for 6 Years

### WORLDWIDE AIRPORTS LAWYERS ASSOCIATION

Vice President for 8+ Years



Chairman of the Permanent  
Court of Arbitration at LSB  
Hessen



President of the DKG – German  
Canadian Association



Non-executive Board Member

## Publications



Global Legal Services in a  
Disruptive World | 2018



Anwaltskanzleien in Zeiten  
von Groß-Fusionen – Does  
Size Matter | 2016



Profitability, M & A and  
Corporate Restructuring |  
2016





# DR. ATTILA SIPOS

**UNIVERSITY OF SHARJAH  
PROFESSOR OF LAW**

UAE

He is a faculty member of the College of Law, University Of Sharjah (UOS), teaching aviation law, financing and management for Master Program students in Air and Space Law.

He is an Honorary Professor and Associate Professor of ELTE University Faculty of Law, International Law Department, in Hungary since 2008.

He was a Bar Association Advisor at the MoD HM EI Electronics, Logistics and Property Management Co., Aviation Division. (2018–2021).

He served the Hungarian Air Navigation Service Providers (ANSP) in various positions such as Legal Director, Alliance Director and Advisor to the CEO (2008–2014).

He was the Permanent Representative of Hungary on the Council of ICAO (2004–2007) and the Vice-President of the Council of ICAO (2006–2007).

He had worked at MALÉV Hungarian Airlines in various positions such as Flight Operation and Navigation Officer, Chief Advisor to COO and Legal Director (1989–2004).

He studied international air and space law at Leiden University, graduating with an Adv. Master's degree in 2002. He has been a committee member of the European Air Law Association (EALA) since 2004 and a member of the International Law Association (ILA) Space Law Committee since 2020.



# DR. ALAN KHEE-JIN TAN

**NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SINGAPORE LAW SCHOOL  
PROFFESOR OF LAW**

**SINGAPORE**

Alan Tan is Professor at the National Univerity of Singapore Law School, specialising in Aviation Law, Maritime Law, Criminal Law and Environmental Law.

Born in Penang, Malaysia, Alan was educated at the Penang Free School and Raffles Junior College, subsequently obtaining an LL.B from NUS and an LL.M and J.S.D. from Yale Law School. He was the winner of the Koh Han Kok Prize for International Law at NUS, and his doctoral thesis on the law and politics of shipping regulation won the Ambrose Gherini International Law Prize at Yale Law School. Alan has been a Justices' Law Clerk for the Supreme Court of Singapore and has also interned at the International Maritime Organization in London. He has published widely on Aviation Law, Maritime Law and Environmental Law, particularly in the context of Asian countries. In 2006, his book "Vessel-Source Marine Pollution: The Law and Politics of International Regulation", was published by Cambridge University Press. In the same year, his article in the Air & Space Law journal – "Liberalizing Aviation in the Asia-Pacific Region: The Impact of the E.U. Horizontal Mandate" – won the Diedriks-Verschoor Prize for best law article.

Alan was Vice-Dean for Graduate Studies and Research at NUS Law (2006 to 2010) and Director (Projects) in the Office of the Provost at NUS (2011 to 2012), overseeing the newly-established Yale-NUS College's double degree programs. He was also Director of the NYU@NUS Dual Degree program through which students obtained two LL.M degrees from the New York University and NUS Law Schools. In 2009, he was appointed as Hauser Global Visiting Professor at New York University School of Law, where he taught global aviation law and policy. He has also taught at the University of Sydney and served as a consultant to various governments and donor agencies, including the Vietnamese government and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). Alan has also been engaged as a consultant on aviation liberalization in Asia by the Asia-Pacific Economic Co-operation (APEC) forum, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), the Arab League and various national governments.



# MICHAEL TEGETHOFF

**MUNICH AIRPORT  
LEGAL AFFAIRS**

GERMANY

Michael Tegethoff is a member of Munich Airport's corporate and commercial legal team and counsel for the airport's international business activities. In this capacity, he negotiates agreements in relation to Munich Airport's international airport consulting and management activities. Recent experience includes projects in Bulgaria, Brazil, Ukraine, Oman, and Turkey. In addition, he advises Munich Airport in matters of EU state aid and competition law and is the airport's representative at ACI Europe's State Aid Taskforce.

An attorney by profession (admission to the German bar), Michael worked for a renowned international law firm for several years before joining Munich Airport in 2011. His experience includes representing multinational clients in IP/IT disputes in administrative courts as well as in WIPO dispute settlement procedures. A large portion of his work was dedicated to negotiating and drafting complex technical agreements on behalf of his clients including some airlines. Michael also gained practical experience working for the United Nations, Geneva, as well as during his assignments to the international trade law department of an American law firm in Brussels and the political department of the German embassy, Tokyo.

Michael studied law with a focus on European and international law at the universities of Dusseldorf, Maastricht and Edinburgh (LL.M. 2002, 1st and 2nd German state examination 2001, 2007) and also holds a post-graduate degree in international relations from the University of London (London School of Economics, 2015).

Michael's academic interest lies in the area of international law and relations. He has published articles on airport law as well as specific aspects of the comparison of laws. He is a fellow of the CSP Network for International Cooperation and Development and a member of the Germa

