
WIPO LIST OF NEUTRALS

BIOGRAPHICAL DATA

Robert WALTERS
International Arbitrator
Victoria
Australia



Nationality: Australian

EDUCATIONAL AND PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

Chartered Institute Arbitrators – CIARb Fellow;
Graduate Diploma, Legal Practice, The College of Law, Melbourne, VIC, Australia;
Doctor of Philosophy, PhD, Law, Victoria University, Melbourne, VIC, Australia;
Bachelor of Laws, Victoria University, Melbourne, VIC, Australia;
Master of Public Policy – Public Policy & Management, Monash University, Australia;
Diploma Science, Natural Resources Management/Agriculture, Frankston Polytechnic;
Certificate, Structural Steel Fabrication – Engineering, Footscray Polytechnic Australia.

LANGUAGES

English

PRESENT POSITION

International Arbitrator;
Solicitor Victoria, Australia;
Senior Lecturer, Victoria University;
Head Digital Economy Research Group, Victoria University 2021 – 2024,
Director, Principal Australia, India Technology Law Project (commercial law) 2022 – 2024;
Director, Principal, United Kingdom, South Africa, Kenya, India Data Flows-Commercial law project 2021 – 2022;
Director, Digital Finance Law Project addressing governance of intellectual property, arbitration, contracts for digital payments 2022 – ongoing;
Adjunct Senior Research Fellow, University Western Australia;
Adjunct Professor, European Faculty of Law, Slovenia;
Advisor, Corporate and Insolvency Centre, Gujarat National Law University, India.

January 9, 2024

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE BEFORE PRESENT POSITION

Manager Legal, Regulation and other positions Department Primary Industries, Natural Resources, 1997 – 2017;

WSG Consulting 2017 – 2023 transitioned to WGB Associates, 2023;

Chair Victorian Agricultural Chemicals Advisory Board, 2012 – 2015.

Drafted, negotiated, interpreted and managed contracts, service level agreements, memorandums of understanding to govern intellectual property from development to commercialization, and dispute resolution, prosecutions, law reform, risk management, business management.

MEMBERSHIP IN PROFESSIONAL BODIES

Charter Institute Arbitrators & Fellow CIARb;

Member ASEAN Law Association, Singapore;

Indian Council of Arbitrators;

Gujarat Maritime Arbitration Center, India;

Academic Delegate United Nations Commission on International Trade Law, Working Group III Investor State Arbitration-Dispute Resolution, 2019 – 2021;

Member, Asian Privacy (Data) Scholars Network;

Member, Steering Committee, Victoria University, School of Transport 2020 – 2022;

Board Member Victoria University Academic Board 2020 – 2022;

The Qatar International Centre for Conciliation & Arbitration;

Cayman Islands, International Mediation and Arbitration Centre;

Europe, Slovenia Ljubljana Arbitration Centre;

Pakistan The Center for International Investment and Commercial Arbitration;

Australia – India Chamber of Commerce through Victoria University;

Advisor Gujarat National Law University India, Corporate and Insolvency Centre;

Adjunct Professor, European Faculty of Law, The New University, Slovenia, Europe;

Adjunct Senior Research Fellow, University Western Australia.

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

Transnational commercial and arbitration law across the digital economy; patent, copyright and trademark and domain name disputes;

Director Digital Finance Project FinTech, Financial-Banking services, Crypto & Digital Assets – Arbitration, M&As, Contracts, Intellectual Property, Patents, Trade Marks, Domain Names;

Director, engaged by United Kingdom Government to address commercial trade-investment issues related to Data Flows, India, South Africa, Kenya and;

Director, engaged by Australian Government to strengthen digital trade-investment, Data Flows, Data Protection, Cyber Security and Artificial Intelligence, Critical, Quantum Technology that includes intellectual property rights;

Primary Industries, contacts and intellectual property (Agvet chemicals, commodities, biosecurity, horticulture);

Drafted, negotiated and managed commercial contracts that pertained specifically to intellectual property; Cross border insolvency, restructuring and insurance – primary industries, resources, energy.

EXPERIENCE IN INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Ongoing involvement for more than a decade governing intellectual property (patents, copyright, trade marks) through contracts;

Providing consultation and advice in relation to intellectual property patents, copyright, trade marks;

Publications in relation to intellectual property, patents, copyright, trade marks;

Board Reviewer MDPI Journal Switzerland a peer reviewed journal for technology and the law;

Digital Economy, FinTech, AgTech, Trade-Investment Agreements, contracts, intellectual property, restructuring;
 Advised on dispute resolution clauses within contracts;
 Advised clients during mediation of contractual disputes;
 Australia developed and managed contracts with NATA, for testing and protection of IP;
 Australia National-State Law reform programs to enhance market access, protection of IP across primary industries;
 Australia National Law reform programs protection national and international markets from use of hazardous materials;
 Represented government in the courts as Prosecutor;
 Consultant to government on regulation and risk management from the use of high-risk chemicals in pest and disease management, to protect trade and investment (intellectual property, contracts);
 Australia managed legal and regulatory framework for 20,000+ licenses/permits for primary production investment and trade (personal and commercial data-protection), safeguarding IP rights of chemical manufactures;
 Drafted, negotiated and managed the implementation of MOUs between government and semi-government organizations, to ensure no duplication of regulatory controls that dilute trade and investment.

EXPERIENCE WITH RESPECT TO DOMAIN NAMES

Commercial Law in the Digital Economy Asian and European Comparison (arbitration, intellectual property (trade marks, copyrights, patents), contracts, tax, M&As, restructuring).

MAJOR PUBLICATIONS

Books – Journals:

Robert Walters, International Arbitration and the Energy Sector: the Fair and Equitable Principle, International Arbitration Law Review 2023;

Leon Trakman, Robert Walters, Bruno Zeller, Is International Arbitration Prudent When Dealing with Personal Data Challenges? Transnational Dispute Management, 2019;

Robert Walters The Digital Economy and International Trade: *Transnational Data Flows Regulation*, 2022, WoltersKluwer;

Leon Trakman, Robert Walters, Cross Border Insolvency and Restructuring Law, (European Union United States, United Kingdom, Singapore, India, Malaysia, Indonesia, China) that deals with arbitration, 2 Volumes Routledge, 2021;

Robert Walters Cyber Security and Data Laws of the Commonwealth International Trade, Investment & Arbitration, Springer Nature, 2023;

Robert Walters, Commercial Law & Arbitration Law in the Digital Economy Asian and European Comparison (Arbitration, Intellectual Property, Patents, Trade Marks, Domain Names, Contracts, Tax, M&As, Restructuring).

Robert Walters, Harsha Rajwanshi, Reconciling Confidentiality in Data Protection, Cyber Security, Artificial Intelligence in International Arbitration, in Yearbook of Private International Law, Volume 24 (2022/2023), pp. 215-235;

Robert Walters, Leon Trakman, Bruno Zeller, Data Protection Law Asia Pacific and European Union, Springer Nature 2019;

Robert Walters, Marko Novak, Cyber security, Artificial Intelligence, Data Protection and the Law (compares, China, Hong Kong, Macau, Canada, United States, Laos, Philippines, Taiwan), Springer Nature 2021;

Cybersecurity, Data Governance and Directors Fiduciary Duty: An Expanding Obligation, Australian Business Law Review, 2023;

Robert Walters, Bruno Zeller Transnational Contract Law: Artificial Intelligence, Data, Cybersecurity and the Legal Landscape, Business law Review Wolters Kluwer 2023;

Bruno Zeller, Robert Walters Australian Dairy Industry Policies – Protecting Domestic Sustainability? A comparative analysis, International trade Law and Regulation Vol 28, issue 1, 2022;

Robert Walters, Close out Netting Provisions – Their Current Value in a Time of International Uncertainty! International Company and Commercial Law Review 2020;

Robert Walters, The Current Status of Data Portability in Personal Data and Competition Law, European Competition Law Review 2020.

Invited Conferences:

2023, presented a paper to Faculty Business students in Slovenia on the law of domain names;

2023, UNCITRAL Macau, UNCITRAL Asia Pacific Day 2023, 10th ANNIVERSARY;

2023, “National and Regional Harmonization of International Trade Law: A Decade in Retrospect and the Desiderata of the Future” – The CISG and Smart Contracts: What Does the Road Ahead Look Like?

2023, Intersect – *Cybersecurity and Directors Obligations in the FinTech sector*, addressed commercial disputes;

2023, Australia, India Chamber of Commerce Perth, International Trade and investment, presented on cybersecurity, data and corporate fiduciary duties and Ethics in artificial intelligence and quantum technology 2023, Regulation of Agvet Chemicals and Technology (RACT 2023) International Conference, Cybersecurity, Cross Border Data Flows & Fiduciary Duties;

2022, February 3, International Conference, “MSMEs: Legislative and Regulatory Challenges” (UNCITRAL and Indian Perspective), MSMEs – Legislative and Regulatory Challenges: An Australian Perspective.

2021, Cross-border flow of personal data: globalized Internet and fragmented (inter)national regulations, Sydney University;

December 2020, Conference on the role of UNICITRAL in Harmonization of Commercial Laws at GNLU, Gandhinagar December 18, Presenting 2 papers, with Professor Leon Trakman and Professor Bruno Zeller: Damages and the Convention on the Sale of Goods 1980, and The UNCITRAL Model Law on Cross Border Insolvency to be afforded Convention status?

December 2019, Conference on the role of UNICITRAL in Harmonization of Commercial Laws at GNLU, Gandhinagar– Is it time for India to Adopt the Convention on the Sale of Goods.

EXPERIENCE IN COURT LITIGATION

More than 6 years’ experience representing government agencies in the courts.

PROFESSIONAL TRAINING IN ARBITRATION

Charter Institute of Arbitrators – Fellow.

EXPERIENCE IN MEDIATION

Represented client/s in mediation of contractual disputes.
