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Karolina Czarnecka

OVERVIEW

Karolina Czarnecka is an Associate at Queritius. Karolina specializes in international commercial arbitration and domestic litigation, with a particular focus on post-M&A disputes.

Her experience includes advising and representing clients in complex arbitration and litigation cases spanning various industries, including energy, FMCG, real estate, transportation, construction, manufacturing, technology, banking, automotive, aviation, and maritime.

Before joining Queritius, she worked in a leading global business litigation and arbitration law firm in Paris, gaining experience in large commercial and investment arbitration cases. She has a background in handling M&A and banking law matters with two prominent law firms in Warsaw.

She is the Central & Eastern Europe Co-Chair of Young ITA, the under-40 division of the Institute for Transnational Arbitration. She is also the Co-Chair of the Arbitration Youth Forum (AFM below 40) under the auspices of the Court of Arbitration at the Polish Chamber of Commerce. She acts as the Co-Reporter for Poland on the ITA Board of Reporters.

Karolina holds an LL.M. in Transnational Arbitration and Dispute Settlement from Sciences Po, Paris (2019) and a Master of Laws from Kozminski University, Warsaw (2016). Currently, she is pursuing her PhD researching in the area of commercial arbitration.

COMMERCIAL ARBITRATION

- Counsel to a European private equity fund in a case under ICC Rules in a dispute related to an acquisition of a CEE manufacturing company;
- Counsel to a Polish beverage distribution company in a case under the Rules of the Court of Arbitration at the Confederation of Lewiatan in a dispute related to an acquisition of a large distribution company;
- Counsel to a real estate fund in a dispute under LCIA Rules concerning the exercise of a call option under a SHA related to a major commercial center in Warsaw;

- Counsel to a Polish vehicle manufacturing company in a domestic arbitration with a customer arising out of a supply contract;
- Counsel to a consortium of engineering companies in a dispute under SCC Rules against a public utility company arising out of an EPC contract;
- Tribunal secretary in a case under ICC Rules in a post-M&A dispute between Spanish, Dutch and French entities from the manufacturing sector;
- Assisting counsel in commercial arbitration proceedings in the automotive, aviation, and maritime industries, including cases administered by the ICC International Court of Arbitration.

LITIGATION

- Counsel to a Polish vehicle manufacturing company in a dispute over a vehicle design issue;
- Counsel to a Polish vehicle manufacturing company in a dispute over performance levels;
- Counsel to a consulting firm in a dispute arising out of a contingent success fee;
- Advisor to a global insurer in relation to insurance coverage of Polish litigation proceedings in a precedent case concerning a breach of NDA;
- Advisor to a Danish producer in a dispute against a Polish food manufacturer arising out of a sales agreement;
- Counsel to a majority shareholder and president in a mineral trading company in criminal proceedings in Poland related to alleged fraud and embezzlement;
- Counsel to an individual claiming damages against the State Treasury in relation to abusive criminal proceedings.

INVESTMENT TREATY ARBITRATION

- Advisor to a group of European investors in relation to a potential claim under the Energy Charter Treaty against Poland in relation to regulatory and legislative measures taken in the renewable energy sector;
- Counsel in an investment arbitration case under ICC Rules in a dispute between a CEE state and a party in the banking industry, focusing on the issues of jurisdiction in an intra-EU BIT;
- Counsel in ICSID annulment proceedings in a case involving Hungary and a French company in the voucher industry.

M&A / BANKING & FINANCE

- Counsel to borrowers and lenders in financial transactions, involving parties such as Enterprise Investors, Guala, Santander Bank, Investindustrial, Steinhoff Moebel, and Separgefi.
- Counsel to entities in M&A transactions, including (i) bank BGZ BNP Paribas in relation to an investment in the TLC Group, (ii) the NPN II fund in relation to an investment agreement on the sale of 100% of shares in Comfort S.A., (iii) Avia Prime (aviation industry), and (iv) Inelo in relation to an agreement that included the sale of a majority of shares in Inelo and OCRK to a fund managed by Innova Capital.

EDUCATION

- PhD Candidate, Kozminski University
- LLM in Transnational Arbitration and Dispute Settlement, Sciences Po, Paris, 2019
- Master of Laws, Kozminski University, Warsaw, 2016
- Summer School, King's College London, London, 2012

LANGUAGES

English | Polish | French | Russian