



## **ELISABETH ELJURI**

### **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

Current - **Elisabeth Eljuri, P.A., Miami**

Elisabeth Eljuri is an Independent arbitrator and founded her own firm in January 2020. Since then, Ms. Eljuri has been sitting as arbitrator in multiple international arbitrations related to Latin America and filed under the rules of the ICC, the ICDR, UNCITRAL and ICSID. Ms. Eljuri is included in the Energy Arbitrators List (EAL) of the ICDR, and the lists kept by the ICC, LCIA and various arbitrations centers in Latin America such as AmCham Peru. In addition, she is part of the EAL Review Committee and of the Users Council of SIAC. Ms. Eljuri is a fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (CIARB).

In addition to her arbitrator role, Ms. Eljuri advises in matters related to energy, natural resources and M&A generally. She also sits on boards of privately held companies where she is an investor.

2016 - 2019 **Sierra Oil and Gas, Mexico City and Houston**

Vice President, Chief Negotiator and Chief Legal Counsel of Sierra Oil and Gas, a private equity- backed oil upstream company which was created to capture opportunities in the Mexican energy market. The company secured six exploration blocks in the Gulf of Mexico, one of which included the 9<sup>th</sup> largest discovery in the history of Mexico.

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Ms. Eljuri's role in fact started earlier in 2014 as outside counsel to the company, with the initial financial closing with three private equity funds (Riverstone Energy, Encap and BlackRock) of two tranches of funding of \$525 million each. She then joined the Executive Team in January 2016 and continued advising during the entire growth of the company up until the successful exit in 2019, where she was co-responsible for the negotiation and execution of the Share Purchase Agreement with the purchaser group.

### **1998 – 2015 Norton Rose Fulbright, Latin America**

Head of Latin America for the Firm globally, reporting to the Firm's CEO. Ms. Eljuri was also a senior partner of the Firm, active in the areas of international arbitration, energy and natural resources and projects/infrastructure. She joined as an equity partner in May 1998, where she co-founded the Caracas office, became Managing Partner and later on held several positions in the Firm, including as a member of the Executive Committee of Canada and Latin America.

For many consecutive years up until her retirement from law firms, Chambers Global and Who's Who Legal in several different areas of practice ranked Ms. Eljuri as one of the top lawyers in Latin America and Star Individual for Venezuela. On the disputes side, Who's Who in Commercial Arbitration ranked Ms. Eljuri for several years as a leading arbitration lawyer internationally. Who's Who in Oil and Gas consistently included Ms. Eljuri in the list of top ten oil and gas practitioners globally.

In Latin America and Venezuela in particular, Ms. Eljuri focused on corporate and transactional work involving high-end sophisticated transactions for Fortune 500 corporations as well as international dispute work related to international investments. She has significant M&A experience and over the past nearly 30 years of practice, in addition to her contracts and general business practice, she regularly advised multinationals in their handling of political risk and protection of investments in Latin America.

Ms. Eljuri frequently acted as counsel in international arbitrations, including ICC and ICSID cases as well as domestic arbitrations in Latin America. She was also retained as independent expert in several international arbitrations or proceedings and spoken/published extensively in the area of disputes.

### **1994 – 1988 Baker & McKenzie – Caracas**

Senior Associate in the Corporate and Energy Departments of the Firm.

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1992 – 1993 **Baker & McKenzie – San Francisco**

Associate in the International Trade Department of the Firm.

1988 – 1991 **Baker & McKenzie – Caracas and New York**

Law clerk in Caracas for three consecutive years. Summer associate in New York in 1990.

## **EDUCATION**

LL.M., Harvard Law School, Cambridge, 1992

- Scholarship from Harvard Law School
- Fundayacucho Scholarship

Orientation in American Law, University of California at Berkeley, Summer 1992

Law Degree, Universidad Católica Andrés Bello, Caracas, 1991

- *Valedictorian*
- Scholarship granted by the national petrochemical company (PEQUIVEN)
- Represented the University and Venezuela twice at the Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition in Washington, D.C.

## **BAR ADMISSIONS**

New York, 1993

Venezuela, 1991

## **LANGUAGES**

Spanish (native)

English (fully bilingual)

French (spoken)

## **NATIONALITIES**

Venezuela

St. Kitts and Nevis

## **PUBLICATIONS**

See separate list of over 50 legal publications

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### SAMPLE SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- Keynote Speaker. “The Time for Collaborative ADR in Latin America is now”. JAMS. February 2021.
- “Women in Arbitration”. Global Arbitration Review (GAR). February 2021.
- “Transparency and International Arbitration”. UNCITRAL DAY 2020. Caracas, December 2020.
- “Arbitration, Concessions and Energy”. Arbitration Unplugged Series. AmCham Peru and AmCham LAB. Lima, October 2020.
- “Risk Mitigation in International Energy Ventures”. IEL Webinar. Houston, August 2020.
- “Best Practices to handle impacts and delays in energy and infrastructure projects during COVID 19”. ICC Infrastructure Disputes Committee’s virtual conference. Mexico, June 2020.
- Keynote Speaker, Annual Event of the International Law Section of the Florida Bar, Miami, February 2020.
- Perspectives on Private Equity, Amicorp Event, Miami, February 2020.
- “Perspectives on Arbitration”, Global Voices in International Arbitration, guest lecturer at Harvard Law School, Cambridge, March 2018.
- Dispute Resolution in the Oil and Gas Business. Joint AIPN and ICDR Program. Mexico City, November 2017.
- “Strategies for Bidders in Mexico”. Mexico’s Oil and Gas Seminar: Investment Opportunities and Regulation. CWC. Mexico, May 2017.
- Co-chair and speaker RMMLF / AIPN International Oil & Gas Law. Contracts and Negotiations. Houston, each year since 2010.
- ITAM University. Petroleum Investments Executive Program. Mexico, August 2016
- AIPN Oil and Gas Model Contracts Workshop. Banff, Canada. June 2016.
- Latin Lawyers Seventh Oil and Gas Conference. Mexico City, Mexico. May 2016.
- Programa de Inversiones en Energía. ITAM. Mexico City. April 2016.
- Foreign Affairs Live Event: Mexico’s Energy Future. New York, March 2016.

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- Overview of the M&A Market in Latin America. Biennial Latin America Regional IBA Forum. Rio de Janeiro, March 2016.
- International Module Chair. Institute of Energy Law (IEL) Oil and Gas Law Conference. Houston, February 2016.
- “State Investment Disputes”. LCIA/AIPN Conference on Dispute Resolution in the International Oil and Gas Business. London, October 2015.
- “Mexico’s Contractual Frameworks: Securing successful participation in the upcoming rounds”. CWC Mexico Upstream Conference. Mexico City, September 2015.
- “International arbitration topics in the context of the Mexican energy reform”. Global Energy Conference of the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC). Mexico August 2015.
- “Fiscal Regimes in Latin America with a focus on Mexico”. World Gas Conference. Paris, June 2015.
- “Challenges and Opportunities with the Mexican Production Sharing Contract”. Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Institute. Cartagena, April 2015.
- “Key Contractual Challenges of the Mexican Production Sharing Contracts”. BNA Americas Conference. Mexico, April 2015.
- “Minimizing and Maximizing Bankability in the Energy Sector”. CANCHAM Day. Mexico City, April 2015.
- “A new era for Mexico: Exploring New Opportunities”. Mexico Upstream Contracts and Deepwater. CWC. Mexico, October 2014.
- “State Investment Disputes”. AIPN/ICDR Conference on Dispute Resolution in the International Oil and Gas Business. Calgary, October 2014.
- Speaker at the ICC Conference on the “Case Study on Consolidation of Arbitrations under the ICC Rules”. August 2014.
- Speaker at the ITA Annual Conference on “The Spectre of Enforcement Risk and Inefficient Arbitral Procedures”. June 2014.
- Panelist at the UT Law: “Emerging Trends in International Arbitration”, Santiago de Chile, June 2014.
- “Mexico’s New Opportunities and Challenges”. Oil Council Latin America Conference. Bogota, January 2014.
- Co-Chair of the Dispute Resolution Module of the 4th IEL-SEERIL (IBA) Conference, London, December 2013.
- “Resource Nationalism, Expropriation and Creeping Expropriation affecting the Extractive Sector” at the Special Institute on

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International Energy and Minerals Arbitration, Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Foundation, Toronto, September 2013.

- “Political Risk Management in Latin American Natural Resources Projects: The Toolbox,” Special Institute on International Mining and Oil & Gas (Law, Development and Investment), Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Foundation, Cartagena, March 2013.
- “Taking the Hammer to Misbehaving Counsel: A debate over Arbitrator Authority”. ICC Annual Latin America Event. Miami, November 2012.
- Rapidfire Latin American Update on Arbitration. ICDR Latin America Conference. Miami, September 2012.
- “M&A Activity in the Energy Business”. Instituto Peruano de Arbitraje. Lima, August 2012.
- “Confronting Ethical Issues in International Arbitration” (faculty member for workshop organized by the Institute for Transnational Arbitration (ITA)-CCB Americas, Bogota, October 2010.
- “Latin American Oil and Gas Disputes” ICDR/AIPN Conference on Dispute Resolution in the International Oil and Gas Business, Houston, April 2010.
- “Parallel Proceedings in Multi-jurisdiction Disputes,” IBA Conference, Washington DC, April 2010
- “Pre-Arbitration Counseling: What to do when the Deal with the Government Starts to Unravel?” Joint IBA and IEL Conference, London, November 2009.
- “Arbitration of Natural Resources Disputes involving Latin American States or State Entities,” ICC Annual Conference, Miami, November 2009.

## AWARDS

- Key Women in Energy 2004 Awards. This award recognized women in the energy profession in six distinct categories at a ceremony held in Washington DC in 2004.
- Association of International Petroleum Negotiators (AIPN). Member of the Year Award in 2008. This award goes to the one member (sometimes two), out of about 4000 members, that the Association recognizes for its contributions.
- Latin Lawyer. Law Firm Leader of the Year Award. 2011. This award goes once a year to the top law firm leader in a major Latin

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American jurisdiction. It evidences leadership skills and widespread recognition.

- Latin Lawyer. Women in Law Award. 2016. Elisabeth was recognized for her leadership as one of the top senior lawyers in Latin America.

### RANKINGS AND RECOGNITIONS

- *Chambers Latin America* in the areas of Energy & Natural Resources (star individual ranking) and Corporate/M&A
- *Chambers Global: The World's Leading Lawyers for Business: Corporate/M&A and Energy & Natural Resources* (star individual)
- *The International Who's Who of Oil and Gas Lawyers* "one of the ten most highly regarded individuals" in the world
- *IFLR1000: Energy and Infrastructure: Latin America* – Leading lawyer in Banking and Finance; Projects; Corporate and Commercial; Disputes; and Energy & Natural Resources; and Compliance and Public Law
- *The Legal 500 Latin America*: Tier 1 leading lawyer in Corporate/M&A and Energy & Natural Resources
- *Best Lawyers* - Lawyer of the Year in the areas of Corporate and M&A
- *Latin Lawyer* Law Firm Leader of the Year 2012
- *Who's Who Legal, Global Mining Law Firm of the Year*
- *The International Who's Who of Arbitration Lawyers*
- *The International Who's Who of Mergers & Acquisitions Lawyers*
- *The International Who's Who of Corporate Governance*
- *The International Who's Who of Project Finance Lawyers*
- *Euromoney Expert Guides* - named 'The Best of the Best' in Energy and Natural Resources "one of the top 25 natural resources and energy lawyers in the world"
- *PLC Which Lawyer?* (Venezuela) in the area of Energy

### MEMBERSHIPS AND OTHER PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

- Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Foundation
  - Vice Chair of the upcoming Special Institute on International Mining and Oil and Gas, Development, and Investment in 2021
  - Co-chair of the Oil and Gas Contracts and Negotiation Course since 2012 organized by RMMLF and AIPN
- Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (FCIArb)

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- International Law Students Association (ILSA)
  - Board member (2020-Present)
- Institute for Transnational Arbitration (ITA)
  - Chair, Americas Initiative (2013-2015)
  - Executive Committee member (2013-2015)
- Association of International Petroleum Negotiators (AIPN)
  - Immediate Past President (2014-2015)
  - President (2013-2014)
  - President-Elect (2012-2013)
  - Vice-President (2008-2012)
  - Regional Director for Latin America (2005-2008)
- Co-chair of the Legal Committee of AMEXHI, the Mexican Hydrocarbons Association, Mexico 2016-2018
- Editorial Board of the *Journal of World Energy Law & Business* (2014-2020)
- Young Presidents' Organization (YPO)
  - Officer of the Venezuela Chapter (2010-2015)
- International Bar Association
  - Officer of the Oil and Gas Committee (2010-2015)
- Council of the Australasian Forum for International Arbitration (AFIA).
- New York State Bar Association
- Miranda State Bar Association (Venezuela) (until 2015)
- Asociación Latinoamericana de Arbitraje
- Harvard Law School Alumni Association
  - Executive Committee (2010-2014)
- National Administrator for the Philip C Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition, Venezuela (1990-2013) and President of the Philip C Jessup Foundation in Venezuela
- Contracts Professor, Law School, Universidad Central de Venezuela (1994-1996)