



Main Areas of Practice

International Arbitration

Public International Law

Luis specialises in international dispute settlement, including investment treaty arbitration, trade and treaty law. He has acted as counsel in international arbitrations under the Arbitration Rules of the International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID) and its Additional Facility, and under the Arbitration Rules of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL).

Before joining Matrix, Luis worked for 10 years in the Office of the General Counsel for International Trade Negotiations at Mexico's Secretariat of Economy. He served from 1998 to 2000 as legal advisor in the negotiation of free trade agreements. In that capacity he was instrumental in the implementation of the European Union-Mexico Free Trade Agreement. From 2001 to 2006, he appeared as counsel for Mexico, and as lead counsel from 2007 to 2008, in investment treaty arbitrations under the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) and bilateral investment treaties. The Mexican legal team was described as “a well integrated, highly competent, coordinated and seamlessly functioning government defence team”. From 2005 to 2008 he was also heavily involved in the negotiation of bilateral investment treaties.

Luis is an external consultant to the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) on investment treaty matters. He advises governments, international organizations and corporations. Luis regularly lectures on international dispute settlement and international law.

Luis worked as an intern at the International Trade Law Branch of the United Nations Office of Legal Affairs in Vienna (UNCITRAL Secretariat). He is Member of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators, a Member of the London Court of International Arbitration (LCIA), and a Member of the Investment Treaty Forum of the British Institute for International and Comparative Law.

Notable Cases

Experience as Counsel:

- Chevron and Texaco v The Republic of Ecuador (Counsel for Ecuador)
- Siemens A.G. v Argentina (Acting for Argentina in the revision proceeding)
- Vivendi Universal v Argentina (Acting for Argentina in the second annulment proceeding)
- Gemplus S.A. / Talsud S.A. v Mexico (Acted as lead counsel for Mexico)
- ADM & TLIA v Mexico (Acted as lead counsel for Mexico)
- Cargill Inc. v Mexico (Acted as lead counsel for Mexico)
- Corn Products International v Mexico (Counsel for Mexico in the damages phase).
- Bayview v Mexico (Counsel for Mexico)
- Tecmed S.A.v Mexico (Counsel for Mexico)
- Gami Investments v Mexico (Counsel for Mexico)
- Metalclad Corporation v Mexico (Responsible for formalizing the agreement that settled the case)

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Advisory Work

Consultant to UNCTAD advising the Governments of the Dominican Republic, Guatemala and Bolivia on investment treaty matters

Visiting Instructor at the International Development Law Organization (IDLO) in Rome (2009)

Trade Specialist for the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), Regional Trade Program for CAFTA-DR in Costa Rica and the Dominican Republic (2009)

Technical assistance and advisory work on investment treaty arbitration for the Governments of Nicaragua and Guatemala

International Treaty Negotiations

Luis was the legal advisor for the negotiation of bilateral investment treaties, including the treaties entered into with the United Kingdom, with China, Spain, India and Panama.

He participated in the negotiation and implementation of the free trade agreements with the European Union; EFTA States (Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland); Israel; Uruguay; and the FTA with Guatemala, El Salvador and Honduras.

Publications

- "El arbitraje inversionista-Estado en el sector del medioambiente: La experiencia de México" (Bridges ICTSD Costa Rica, 2007)
- "Is Consolidation of Claims a Step to Improvement?" (OECD, Paris, 2005)

Presentations

- "Most Favoured Nation Clauses: recent developments and prospects" BIICL ITF, London (2009)
- "Negotiating CARICOM Investment Agreements: State of Play and the Way Forward", Grenada (2009)
- "Renegotiating Investment Treaties: Difficulties and Inequalities" BIICL ITF, London, (2009)
- "State Practice and the development of Customary International Law" Lovells/ICC YAF, Frankfurt (2009)
- "National Seminar on Investment Disputes", Bolivia (2008)
- "Training Course on Managing Investment Disputes", Costa Rica (2008)
- "Managing Investment Disputes", Uruguay (2007)
- "International Dispute Resolution", Panama (2007)
- "Training Course on International Investment Agreements", Chile (2007)
- "Advanced Training Seminar on Investment Disputes", Dominican Republic (2007)
- "International Disputes: An Analysis of Trade Agreements", Guatemala, (2006)
- "Making the Most of International Investment Agreements: a Common Agenda", Paris (2005)
- "Training Seminar on Negotiations of Investments Agreements", Trinidad & Tobago (2005)
- "Advanced Seminar on Managing Investment Disputes", Washington D.C. (2005)

Languages

Spanish and English (fluent)
Portuguese (knowledge)
French (basic)

Education

Law degree, Northeast Autonomous University; Master of Laws in European Law, Carlos III University of Madrid; Diploma on International Commercial Arbitration, ICC/Escuela Libre de Derecho; Summer Academy on International Commercial Arbitration, University of Cologne.