



Isabel Cristina López S.

**Founding Partner**

Panama

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Cristina is a founding partner of LOVILL, where she leads the team for dispute resolution, litigation, national and international arbitration. She regularly represents and advises clients on international arbitrations under CeCAP, ICC and ICSID rules, among others. Cristina has been recognized by prestigious international guides such as CHAMBERS & PARTNERS, LEGAL 500 and WHO'S WHO LEGAL for her merits in complex international negotiations and disputes. She is a designated Arbitrator at the Conciliation and Arbitration Center of the Chamber of Commerce, Industries and Agriculture of Panama and was the representative for Latin America of the International Chamber of Commerce ICC/YAF (2017-2019). Cristina specializes in leading teams in high-profile cases in infrastructure, logistics, finance, real estate, energy, telecommunications and representation of states, and has experience in national and international arbitrations. Her law and master degrees were carried out at the University of Oviedo (Spain), at Santa María La Antigua Catholic University of Panama, and at the University of Warwick, England through the Chevening scholarship from the British Council.

Cristina is active representing multinational and regional corporations, family offices and private clients in negotiations and corporate transactions in the infrastructure, real estate, telecommunications, financial, energy, hotel, distribution and logistics sectors.

Cristina has been an invited panelist by several international organizations, including the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC), AS/COA American Society and Council of the Americas, Spanish Arbitration Club (CEA), among other forums.

## RELEVANT CASES IN DISPUTE RESOLUTION AND ARBITRATION

Representation of a foreign state entity in a civil dispute for one hundred thirty (130) million dollars related to the diversion of public funds, fraud and seizure of private assets as a consequence of a bank fraud committed during a financial crisis in the represented state.

Representation of a foreign state entity, in an annulment proceeding of an international arbitration award rendered under ICC rules for thirty (30) million dollars, before the Fourth General Business Chamber of the Supreme Court of Justice of Panama.

Representation of a state-owned oil entity in a complex dispute for twelve thousand nine hundred (12.900) billion dollars that arose from a contractual claim presented by a group of Ecuadorian foundations, as a result of alleged environmental damages.

Representation of a State in enforcement proceedings of a foreign judgment for six-hundred (600) million dollars in multiple jurisdictions, including Ecuador, Panama and the United States.

### INDUSTRIES

Sovereign States  
Infrastructures  
Real Estate  
Telecommunications  
Energy  
Logistics/Distribution  
Finance  
Consumer Goods  
Entertainment and Hospitality

### PRACTICE AREAS

International Litigation & Arbitration  
International Commercial Arbitration  
Negotiation and Conciliation  
Foreign Investment  
Private International Law  
Public International Law  
Corporate Law

### EDUCATION

Universidad de Oviedo, LL.B.  
(Spain)  
Universidad Católica Santa María la Antigua, LL.B. (Panama)  
University of Warwick, LL.M. (UK)

### LANGUAGES

English  
Spanish

### BAR ADMISSIONS

Admitted to practice law in the Republic of Panama



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Republic of Panama

Represents and advises a sovereign state on how to carry out an investigation and criminal process before the Panamanian courts, in relation to a multi-million-dollar fraud.

Advised a multinational Colombian company in the logistics sector in a dispute for thirteen (13) million dollars in an international commercial arbitration under the ICC Rules.

Representation of a Chinese infrastructure company in breach of obligations regarding contractual agreements with real guarantees for the construction of a port project in Panama.

Representation of a Spanish infrastructure company against a bank for the execution of irrevocable letters of credit in relation to a hydroelectric project in Costa Rica in an ICC arbitration with precautionary measures.

Advice a company in the energy sector for claims of civil and indigenous associations before the Inter-American Court of Human Rights.

## RELEVANT CASES IN NEGOTIATIONS AND TRANSACTIONS

Representation of Grupo Aval (Colombia) in the acquisition of Bac Credomatic (Panama).

Representation of Dekel Holdings for JVs, commercial and investment agreements at a global level.

Representation of VISA International in Panama as a "SEM" company in its operations, commercial agreements and investment.

Representation of M&A Capital, family offices in Panama for its operations, investments, commercial agreements, negotiations in different sectors and industries, including infrastructure, transportation, logistics, hotels, real estate and retail.

Representation of infrastructure companies in negotiations with Grupo Unidos Por el Canal (GUPEC) within the expansion contracts of the Panama Canal

Representation of logistic companies at Manzanillo International Terminal (MIT) in commercial agreements, warehousing and joint ventures.

Representation of hotel brands in arbitration proceedings and commercial negotiations.

Representation of debtors of multimillion dollar loans in restructuring negotiations and liquidation proceedings in extrajudicial negotiations and judicial proceedings.



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Advise multinational and regional companies, family offices and private funds, in the industries of infrastructure, real estate, financial, telecommunications, pharmaceutical, logistics, distribution and entertainment with their investment and commercial agreements for their investment in the region.

## INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITIONS AND AWARDS

**2015 – 2022** **CHAMBERS & PARTNERS GLOBAL**  
**CHAMBERS & PARTNERS LATIN AMERICA**  
“Leading Individual in Dispute Resolution in Panama in Band 2”.

**LEGAL 500**  
“Leading Individual in Dispute Resolution”.

**WHO’S WHO LEGAL (WWL)**  
“Leading Individual in Dispute Resolution and Arbitration in Panama”.

**2006 – 2007** **BRITISH COUNCIL Chevening Scholar**  
United Kingdom, Warwick University, LL.M. in “International Development Law and Globalization”.

**2007** **ERASMUS European Union Scholar**  
Recognition by the University of Warwick to study at Isik University, Istanbul, Turkey in the LEGIS and LEFIS program “Law and Information Society in the European Union”.

## BOARDS OF DIRECTORS, APPOINTMENTS AND NETWORKS

**2020 - Present** **Member of Executive Forums**  
A global community of business leaders evolving together through collective intelligence. Through carefully constructed forums of diverse leaders, the members help each other make crucial decisions and achieve work, life, and self goals.

**2017 - Present** **Representative of the Arbitration Pledge for Panama**  
Global initiative led by different international firms for the representation of women arbitrators in international arbitration.

**Member of the Board of the Jesus Luz de Oportunidades Foundation (FJLO)**  
FJLOF is a non-profit Foundation that works with international organizations, the United States Embassy, the Ministry of Security of Panama and multilateral entities as well as private corporations for the reintegration into society of young people at risk.

**2017 - 2019** **Representative to the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC)**  
Representative for Latin America appointed by the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC), Paris for the period 2017-2019. Panelist and Moderator at ICC conferences.

**2013** **AS/COA American Society and Council of the Americas**  
Members who share a commitment to economic and social development, free markets, the rule of law and democracy.



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2009 - Present

### President of the Lovill Foundation

Promotes international law in Panama by sponsoring, representing and organizing the "Phillip C. Jessup Moot Court Competition" in Washington D.C., which is recognized worldwide as one of the most prestigious international law competitions in the world.

### Panama British Business Association (PBBA)

Member of the "British Chamber of Commerce" whose purpose is to promote trade between Panama and England.

## PANELIST AND CONFERENCES

2021

Panelist in Webinar "Rules applicable to the Law of Arbitration and Mediation" organized by the Chamber of Commerce of Quayaquil.

Panelist in Podcast "Legaltech" organized by the Ibero-American Legal Network.

2020

Panelist in Webinar "Force Majeure in International Contracts as a consequence of COVID 19" organized by the Ibero-American Legal Network.

Panelist in Webinar "Regulatory Measures as a consequence of COVID 19 and its impact on international arbitration", organized by the Spanish Arbitration Club (CEA).

2019

ICC/YAF Panelist: "Perception, Myth or Reality of ICC Arbitration in Latin America", Panama, Republic of Panama.

ICC/YAF Panelist: "News and Growth of Arbitration in Latin America in the Energy, Infrastructure, Finance and Telecommunications sectors", Costa Rica.

2018

ICC/YAF Panelist: "Workshop: Cooperation and Synergy between the Judicial Organ and the Arbitral Jurisdiction in Panama for the execution of Arbitral Judgments and Awards in Panama", Dominican Republic.

ICC/YAF Panelist: "Oral Techniques and Skills in International Arbitration", Costa Rica.

Conference Panelist: "Regulatory Compliance: Situation and Keys to Successful Compliance in Spain and Latin America", Casa de America, Plaza de Cibeles s/n Madrid.

2013

Panelist "Woman's Hemispheric Network" organized by American Society, New York.