

International Arbitration Group Winter Internship Programme 2026

Freshfields Singapore

FRESHFIELDS



Freshfields' international arbitration practice in Singapore

Freshfields' international arbitration group is widely recognised as the leading international arbitration practice in Asia and across the globe.

No other law firm in Asia can match our breadth of experience or depth of international arbitration specialists.

Among the leading law firms in Asia, we have the deepest pool of associates with genuine **world-class international arbitration experience**.

We have the world's premier investor-State arbitration practice, having acted in **twice as many investor-State arbitrations** as the next law firm.

We also have one of the leading **international commercial disputes** practices in Asia, representing clients in a wide variety of confidential mandates in Asia and around the world, including advising clients on strategic options for resolving contractual disputes through negotiated settlements or, if necessary, formal dispute resolution.

Highlights of our experience include representing:

- a multinational asset management firm in a pending SIAC arbitration arising out of a terminated M&A transaction for the sale of a multi-billion dollar real estate project in Asia;
- a super major global energy company on various disputes arising from high-profile fraud allegations that have been made against its Asian trading counterparty;
- an Asian government in an investment treaty arbitration commenced by a major hedge fund relating to allegations surrounding the government's involvement in a corporate merger;

- a Japanese renewable energy company in an Energy Charter Treaty claim against Spain;
- a major Asian energy company in an investment treaty dispute against Egypt relating to the 'Peace Pipeline' between Israel and Egypt;
- a leading private equity firm in a dispute concerning its exit from a joint venture in the Indian transportation sector; and
- an Asian oil and gas company in an UNCITRAL arbitration commenced by its joint venture partners under various instruments governing the parties' exploration and development of a natural gas field in the East China Sea.



They are a seasoned legal team with deep expertise and they have a deep bench who collaborate effectively.

Dispute Resolution: Arbitration: The Elite respondent, Asia-Pacific 2025



When requests are made, they are delivered on time and with very good quality.

Dispute Resolution: Arbitration: The Elite respondent, Asia-Pacific 2025

Band 1

Ranked Band 1 for Dispute Resolution
Global: Multi-Jurisdictional
Chambers Global 2024

Band 1

Nicholas Lingard lawyer, Dispute Resolution:
Arbitration, Singapore
Chambers Asia Pacific 2025

Number 1

Ranked Band 1 for International Arbitration
Chambers Global 2025

Number 1

49 of our lawyers recognised for their
expertise in 2025
Lexology Index: Arbitration 2025

ALB Southeast Asia Law Awards 2023

International Arbitration Law Firm of
the Year

Our Winter Internship Programme

We are inviting applications for internships from outstanding students in all years of an undergraduate or graduate law or non-law degree.*

Three to six
weeks long

Between
December 2026 to
January 2027

The Programme

Our interns can expect to work with our team on a range of research and writing assignments, as well as preparation for any hearings in which the team is involved during your internship.

We demand intellectual excellence from our lawyers and interns, and thus seek students with outstanding academic records. Our standards are uncompromising. But we also want colleagues with whom we can enjoy working together. We seek colleagues who will enjoy the challenge of the fluid, stimulating, high-stakes environment in which we work; who will get their hands dirty with all sorts of work; and who will also have fun with us.

In particular, we are looking for candidates who are:

- at or near the top of their class;
- passionate about advocacy, research and writing;
- interested in international cases and issues;
- able to work well with colleagues and clients from diverse backgrounds and legal traditions; and
- eager to take on challenging legal assignments and gain substantive, practical experience.

**Subject to the applicant either having or obtaining the right to work in Singapore for the duration of the internship. Successful applicants must make their own application to the Singapore Ministry of Manpower to obtain a Work Holiday Pass, if required.*

As a Freshfields Intern, you will:

1. Learn about cutting-edge issues in international law from leaders of the international bar.
2. Cultivate your analysis, writing, research and advocacy skills by doing substantive work on real cases with top practitioners in international investment and commercial arbitration.
3. Work across jurisdictions with a diverse team of lawyers from Asia, Europe and the Americas.
4. Work with friendly lawyers in a collaborative, collegial environment.
5. Have access to our world-class in-house training programmes.



In intern's own words

“

The Freshfields Singapore office embraces a positive work culture that prioritises the well-being of its employees. Members of the firm are encouraging and value teamwork. The firm also makes it a point to build an inclusive environment, for everyone including interns to contribute and excel.

Audrey Loo

Singapore Management University,
Juris Doctor, Class of 2024

“

The most rewarding part of my time at Freshfields was being able to work directly with the team on live matters. The team makes it a point to engage your opinions on the matters we work on, allowing us to hone our legal knowledge, as well as commercial acumen.

Kyna Chew

National University of Singapore,
Bachelor of Laws (LLB), Class of 2023

“

My experience with the Dispute Resolution team in Singapore involved a great deal of trust and mentoring. I was given the opportunity to aid in high-profile cases and collaborate with arbitrators as well as renowned colleagues. I received feedback and guidance, but besides the work, it has been truly fun to work with a very diverse and laid-back group of colleagues.

Facundo Stanić

Stockholm University,
LL.M. Int. Commercial Arbitration Law, Class of 2024

“

My time with Freshfields was enriching and fulfilling! I truly enjoyed working in such a supportive environment. Not only did the team go out of their way to get to know us, but they also actively involved us in a diverse range of matters spanning various Asian jurisdictions and answered every question we had. It was also eye-opening to speak to lawyers across various practice areas who shared illuminating stories from their time in practice. I learned a great deal and recommend this experience to anyone looking to gain amazing exposure to international arbitration.

Ning Teo

University of Cambridge,
BA (Hons) Law, Class of 2025

“

Given the firm's international nature, one of the highlights for me was getting to know people from diverse backgrounds. It was fascinating to hear their perspectives on studying and working in different locations like Germany, Paris, London, and more. Throughout the internship, we had the chance to contribute to real cases at various stages of arbitration proceedings, providing valuable exposure to cross-border disputes work.

Tham Mei Shuen

Yale-NUS College & National University of Singapore,
Law and Liberal Arts Double Degree Programme,
Class of 2026

“

The multi-dimensional nature of the work I undertook and the insightful conversations with high-achieving team members at varying stages of their legal career has been invaluable. I would recommend this experience to up-and-coming law students who are keen to gain exposure and work on complex and high-profile multi-jurisdictional disputes.

Lee-Oz Lifschitz

Monash University, Bachelor of Laws
(Hons) and Bachelor of Arts, Class of 2024

How to apply

If interested, please apply via our Singapore Early Careers [Website](#) by 30 June 2026.

Please direct any questions to Asia.GraduateRecruitment@freshfields.com.

Your curriculum vitae

A cover letter

A short* legal
writing sample

Your academic transcripts

* (three to ten pages)



'For the right people, this is a special place. Singapore is the beating heart of our specialist international arbitration practice in Asia.

In the Freshfields international arbitration group here, we work hard to be the best for our clients – the best advocates, the best strategists, the best at offering a genuinely global perspective.

Interns and young lawyers are critical to our ability to do that. They are also critical to our entrepreneurial edge and our hunger as a team to learn and grow and build. I look forward to meeting you.'

Nicholas Lingard

Partner, Head of Freshfields' International Arbitration Practice, Asia

'International Arbitration Lawyer of the Year'

Asia Legal Awards



'In Freshfields' Singapore international arbitration team, us lawyers from this tiny city state are able to act as counsel in the largest, most exciting, international disputes globally, alongside the leading practitioners and arbitrators in the world.

I first said this a few years ago but am still today incredibly grateful for the exposure we get, especially in this place where culture and camaraderie are paramount. Our internship programme aims to share some of this with you.'

Samantha Tan

Partner, Singapore, International Arbitration



This material is provided by Freshfields, an international legal practice. We operate across the globe through multiple firms. For more information about our organisation, please see <https://www.freshfields.com/en/footer/legal-notice>.

Freshfields Singapore Pte. Ltd. is incorporated with limited liability in Singapore with registered UEN & GST number 200917975W and registered office at 2 Central Boulevard, #48-01 West Tower, IOI Central Boulevard Towers, Singapore 018916.

This material is for general information only. It is not intended to provide legal advice on which you may rely. If you require specific legal advice, you should consult a suitably qualified lawyer.

© 2026 Freshfields Singapore Pte. Ltd., all rights reserved

www.freshfields.com