

JOINT TRAC/ISTAC CONFERENCE

Monday, December 12, 2016
Centre de Conférence Etoile St-Honoré
25 Rue Balzac
75008 Paris

Iran and Turkey, two regional giants with fastest growing economies and great historical heritages, each host today an arbitral institution that offers legal and cultural safeguards for cost effective means of international dispute resolution.

Iran hosts in Tehran the Tehran Regional Arbitration Centre (TRAC), an independent international organization under the auspice of the Asian-African Legal Consultative Organization (AALCO) that was established pursuant to an agreement signed on 3 May 1997 between the Islamic Republic of Iran and ALLCO. This agreement came into force in July 2004, and TRAC effectively commenced its activities a year later and published its Rules of Arbitration in July 2005, which are inspired from the UNCITRAL Arbitration Rules.

Turkey hosts in Istanbul the Istanbul Arbitration Centre (ISTAC), an independent institution established upon governmental initiative, under law No. 6570 of November 29, 2014, that commenced its activities in the third quarter of 2015. The General Assembly of ISTAC unanimously approved the ISTAC Arbitration Rules on October 26, 2015, largely inspired from the ICC Arbitration Rules, which became effective immediately.

Both institutions have the full support of their host States at the highest level to ensure their independence and their respective promotion for use by the public and private sectors of the country as well as by foreigners for the resolution of international disputes, whether involving their respective host State, other States in the region, or operators thereof.

TRAC and ISTAC have decided to engage in joint efforts by way of yearly conferences in Paris, Istanbul, and Teheran, to introduce their rules and operations, to set out their distinguishing features, and to explain why the public and private operators of the two countries will be increasingly proposing both of these two institutions to foreign parties as alternatives to other regional and international institutions for the resolution of international disputes in the interest of all parties involved while candidly addressing any questions or concerns that users may have.

The first conference will be held in Paris on December 12, 2016 in Paris, the second and third in Teheran and Istanbul in 2017, hosted by TRAC and ISTAC in cooperation with Derains & Gharavi. These conferences, by invitation only limited to 60 guests, will gather in-house counsels, contract and arbitration counsel, academics and arbitrators as well as representatives from each government in charge of the State arbitrations. Recipients of the invitation are requested to confirm their attendance by email to jgarcia@derainsgharavi.com by November 21, 2016.

PROGRAM

9.00 AM: Welcome Coffee

9.30 AM Opening Hamid G. Gharavi, Derains & Gharavi, Court Member of ISTAC (15 minutes)

**9.45 AM to 11.30 AM: First round table
TRAC and ISTAC: Legal and Cultural Safeguards**

Moderator and Speaker: **Ms. Isabelle Hautot**, General Counsel of Orange (10 minutes)

- *TRAC*, by **Dr. Oveis Rezvanian**, Director of TRAC, Associate Professor of International Law (20 minutes)
- *ISTAC*, by **Professor Ziya Akinci**, President of ISTAC, Professor of Law and Principal Akinci Law offices (20 minutes)

History, ground rules, players and objectives? Work load and references thereto in public and private contracts? Safeguards re quality and independence? Is there room for these institutions? What are their distinctive features? List of Arbitrators and Appointing policy? Seat of arbitration?

Q & A and comments from the audience (30 minutes)

Coffee/Tea Break: 11:00 - 11:15

**11:15 AM to 12:30 AM: Second Round Table
Iran and Turkey: Governmental Support and Legislative and Judicial Safeguards**

Moderator and speaker: **Professor Pierre Mayer** (10 minutes)

- Iran, by **Prof. Dr. Mohsen Mohebi**, Head of CILA (Center for International Legal Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran) (20 minutes)
- Turkey, by **Mr. Mulat Alici**, Head of BIT and Foreign Investments, Ministry of Economy of the Republic of Turkey (20 minutes)

Why and how do the government of Iran and Turkey support TRAC and ISTAC? Safeguards against State Interference and Bias? Suitability of Legal and Judicial framework to serve as seat of arbitrations? Policy towards arbitration? Policy in Selection of Counsel and Arbitrators?

Q & A and comments from the audience (30 minutes)

13h00: Lunch - The Nuclear Agreement and the Myth of existing sanctions against Iran, speaker **Dr. Moshkan Mashkour**, Sanglaj law firm, Teheran, Iran.