

Biography



Judge Ameli has thirty years of hands-on experience in international arbitration with highly renowned international judges and arbitrators in complex and sensitive treaty and commercial cases. He served as a judge of the Iran-United States Claims Tribunal from 1985 to 1987 and 1990 to 2009, where under the Algiers Accords of 19 January 1981 between Iran and the United States, he decided over 100 major civil and commercial disputes arising from contract, expropriation or other measures affecting property rights of private parties against the other State or its State enterprises as well as disputes arising from interpretation and application of treaty or purchase and sale of goods and services between the two States or their State enterprises. The cases involved almost every issue of public and private international law. During 1985-87, he sat in these cases with former President of the Tribunal, Judge Gunnar Lagergren and Judge Howard Holtzmann as well as in a number of cases with President Karl-Heinz Bockstiegel, all from Chamber One of the Tribunal. Later, from 1990 to 2009, he decided the cases with the then Presidents of the Tribunal, Robert Briner (Chairman of the ICC International Court of Arbitration), Jose Maria Ruda (former President of the International Court of Justice) or Krzysztof Skubiszewski and Judge George Aldrich at Chamber Two of the Tribunal. As a judge of the Full Tribunal, he also worked with these and Judges Bengt Broms, Arangio-Ruiz, Michel Virally, Charles Brower, Richard Mosk, Richard Allison, Carl Salans and Gabrielle McDonald, in addition to Iranian colleagues.

From 1990 to 2009, he also was a member of the Tribunal's Committee on Administrative and Financial Questions, which dealt with the important budgetary and administrative matters of the Tribunal as well as the Tribunal's privileges and immunities under its headquarters agreement with the host State. The Committee's tasks gained additional significance since its decisions were mostly endorsed by the Full Tribunal, where the two governments and Tribunal personnel, including the judges, had to comply with them.

Prior to his service as a judge, Koorosh was a legal adviser to the Tribunal from 1981 to 1985, where he assisted the Tribunal in its formative years, including in the modification and adaptation of the UNCITRAL Arbitration Rules to the Tribunal Rules. In this period, Judges Pierre Bellet, Nils Mangard and Willem Riphagen were also members of the Tribunal.

During 1988-1990, he acted as the Director for Legal Research of the Bureau for International Legal Services of Iran in The Hague. In this period, he was involved in the litigation of two major cases for the applicant before

the International Court of Justice, which ended successfully after he left the Bureau. Aerial Incident of 3 July 1988 (Islamic Republic of Iran v. United States of America), where Iran won \$61.8 million for the victims plus an asserted \$40 million for the aircraft as part of total amount of \$ 131.8 million in settlement, which also included few Iranian cases before the Tribunal. Order of 22 February 1996, I.J.C. Reports 1996, p. 9 and Iran v. US, Award No. 568-A13/A15 (I and IV: C) A26 (I, II and III)-FT, (22 Feb. 1996), 32 Iran-US CTR 207; Oil Platforms (Islamic Republic of Iran v. United States of America) which ended in partial but significant success for Iran by Judgment of 6 November 2003, I.C.J. Reports 2003, p. 161. When with the Bureau, he worked on the Aerial Incident case with Eversheds and outstanding QCs who also worked on the Oil Platforms case.

In 1990, Judge Ameli was appointed by the Permanent Court of Arbitration (PCA) as a member of its prestigious Expert Group and Steering Committee, which during 1992-1997 codified four sets of arbitration rules for disputes between States, between States and other parties, between States and international organizations, and between international organizations and private parties. They also adopted conciliation rules, rules for fact-finding commission of inquiry, guidelines for arbitration of disputes arising under multilateral agreements and multiparty contracts, and rules for the operation of a fiscal assistance fund for settlement of international disputes. As envisaged, these together revitalized the operation of the PCA.

During 1995-97, he acted as Presiding Judge of the Semi-Finals in the Telders International Law Moot Court Competition (18th-20th) The Hague, where he was voted as one of three most favored among more than sixty judges.

He has served as an arbitrator in major International Chamber of Commerce and ad hoc international commercial arbitration cases involving telecommunication and petroleum industries since 1982.

Since his separation from the Tribunal, Koorosh has been called as an expert witness by European companies in foreign investment, bilateral investment treaty and international commercial arbitration cases. He also has acted as counsel in international commercial arbitration cases or as ad hoc legal consultant in international litigation or arbitration. He is engaged as an expert legal consultant in the class action, Barboni v. Republic of Argentina, before the US Court for the Southern District of New York (SDNY) for damages arising from Argentina's default on its Eurobonds in 2004 and in another class action for antitrust damages against a multinational company before the Third Circuit Court of Appeals in Philadelphia. In addition, he is a Distinguished Associate with FACTS Global Energy, a major international oil and gas consulting firm, where he may advise on a case by case basis.

Koorosh graduated from the National University of Iran Law School, LL.B. with distinction in 1973 and from Harvard Law School, LL.M. in 1977 and conducted graduate studies at George Washington University Law School before moving to The Hague in 1981 to work with the Iran-United States Claims Tribunal. His Harvard LL.M. Degree Paper, was on Certain Legal Problems of Foreign Investment in the Mining Industry of Iran (with Emphasis on Petroleum), supervised by Professor Hal S. Scott. His graduate studies at George Washington University concerned determination of royalty in technology transfer to developing countries (downstream petroleum industry). He previously worked with two major international law firms in the United States, that is, as a summer associate with Baker & McKenzie, Chicago, in 1977 and as an associate (foreign intern) with Chadbourne & Parke, New York City, in 1978-79.

Judge Ameli has rendered legal opinions on Iranian law and international law. He is fluent in English and Persian with a good reading ability in Arabic.

He is Director of Ameli International Arbitration, a legal consultancy firm, registered in The Hague since 2010.

Education

- LL. B. Degree with Distinction, 1973, National University of Iran Law School
- LL. M. Degree, 1977, Harvard University Law School, LL.M. Degree Paper: Certain Legal Problems of Foreign Investment in the Mining Industry of Iran (with Emphasis on Petroleum), supervised by Professor Hal S. Scott.
- Graduate studies, 1979-1981, George Washington University Law School, work on Determination of Reasonable Royalty for Technology Transfer to Developing Countries (with Emphasis on Downstream Petroleum Industry.

Activities

- Associate member, ICC Institute of World Business Law,
- Fellow, Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (European Branch),
- Member, International Law Association (Headquarters Branch), Committee on International Commercial Arbitration and Study Group on International Responsibility,
- Member, International Arbitration Institute, Paris,
- Arbitrator, Association for International Arbitration, Brussels,
- Arbitrator, International Council for Commercial Arbitration, The Hague,
- Arbitrator, International Arbitration Association, Brussels,
- Distinguished Associate, FACTS Global Energy,
- Member, Royal Netherlands Society of International Law,
- Member, Harvard Club of The Netherlands,

Publications

[Declaration of Judge Ameli in *Barboni v. Argentina*](#) (SDNY 29 February 2016).

[The EFILA TASK FORCE PAPER regarding the proposed International Court System \(ICS\)](#) (1 February 2016).

[Voting Record of Judge Ameli in the Cases before the Iran-United States Claims Tribunal](#) (9 March 2016).

[Iranian Law of Loss of Profits in International Arbitration](#), 12 TDM, Issue 2 (March 2015).

Awards, decisions and orders, in Iran-U.S. Claims Tribunal Reports, 1981-2009, Volumes 1-38, Grotius and Cambridge University Press.

[The Iran-United States Claims Tribunal](#), in THE PERMANENT COURT OF ARBITRATION: INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATION AND DISPUTE RESOLUTION, 246-281 (P. Hamilton et al. eds., Kluwer, The Hague 1999).

[The Application of the Rules of the Iran-United States Claims Tribunal](#), in INTERNATIONAL LAW AND THE HAGUE'S 750TH ANNIVERSARY, 263-279 (W.P. Heere, ed., T.M.C. Asser Press, The Hague, 1999).

[Impartiality and Independence of International Arbitrators](#), in First International Conference on Arbitration, Revue de Recherche Juridique No. 27-28, pp. 89-109, (Tehran 1999).

Comments: Reconsidering a key tenet of international commercial arbitration: Is finality of awards what parties really need? Has the time of an international appellate arbitral body arrived? Journal of International Arbitration, Vol. 16, No.1, pp. 57, 101-104 (1999). Presentations

- [Diplomacy and the Pursuit of International Justice between Iran and the United States](#) (2014);

- Debating the Role of Human Rights Provisions in Foreign Investment Agreements, Mock Arbitration Case, prepared and presided over for ABA SIL Fall 2012 Program in Miami, Florida, USA ([Mock arbitration case](#))([Bibliography for Mock Arb. Case](#))

- Do Necessity and Force Majeure Exempt the State from Compensation due to the BIT Investor in the event of Armed Conflict, Revolution and Civil Strife? in The Interaction of International Investment Law with Other Fields of Public International Law, Leiden Law School, 8-9 April 2011;

- [Confidentiality of Arbitral Proceedings Before the Iran-United States Claims Tribunal, February 2010, paper presented to the International Law Association Committee on International Commercial Arbitration;](#)

- International Law and Jurisdiction over States in Global Jurisprudence Colloquium: Decisions of International Legal Institutions: Compliance & Enforcement, Stanford Law School, March 17-18 2005: law.stanford.edu/programs/academic/ruleoflaw/globaljurisprudence/presentations.html;

- Lecture: Currency and Interest in International Judgments and Arbitral Awards, The Hague Academy of International Law (Summer 1999);

- Anything But Small, Arbitrations Involving States, Chartered Institute of Arbitrators, San Miniato Conference, May 1999;

- International Arbitration and New Developments, Fordham University Law School, New York, March 1995;

- International Arbitration, To Be Judicial or Not To Be Judicial, in a colloquium on the topic with Prof. Sh. Rosenne and Judge Bola Ajibola, under the auspices of the Leiden Journal of International Law, Sept. 1993.

Experience



Judges Ameli and Aldrich

- Judge, Iran-U.S. Claims Tribunal in more than 80 cases, September 1990-June 2009
- Judge ad hoc, Iran-U.S. Claims Tribunal, in 17 cases, Aug. 1985-Dec. 1987
- Arbitrator in 2 ICC International Court of Arbitration cases, in one of which appointed by the Court directly, 1982-85 and 1998-2002
- Arbitrator in 2 ad hoc international commercial arbitration cases, 1991-1992 and 2000-2001
- Legal Adviser, Iran-U.S. Claims Tribunal, May 1981- March 1985
- Director for Legal Research, Bureau for International Legal Services of Iran, The Hague, 1988- Aug.1990
- Associate (foreign intern), Chadbourne & Parke, New York, 1978-79
- Summer Associate, Baker & McKenzie, Chicago, 1977