

Aristotle University of Thessaloniki

Faculty of Law

Bachelor of Laws (LL.B.)

Course Syllabus

1. Course Information

- **Title:** International Litigation and Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR)
- **Code:** LLB33
- **ECTS:** 8
- **Hours per week:** 4
- **Academic Year:** 4th
- **Teaching Period:** Winter Semester
- **Mode of Delivery:** Face-to-Face
- **Language of Instruction/Assessment:** English
- **Course Type:** Mandatory

2. Course Description

This advanced course examines the procedural architecture of cross-border civil and commercial dispute resolution, combining the study of international litigation with a focused introduction to alternative dispute resolution (ADR). It explores the jurisdictional, procedural, and enforcement challenges arising in private international disputes, with particular emphasis on the application of multilateral treaties (e.g. the 2005 Hague Choice of Court Convention), EU instruments (Brussels I bis, Service and Evidence Regulations), and comparative national practice. In parallel, the course surveys transnational arbitration and mediation as increasingly prominent methods of dispute resolution, with reference to the New York Convention, the UNCITRAL Model Law, institutional rules (e.g. ICC, LCIA, DIS), and recent developments in digital and online

ADR. Distinctive to this course is the integration of structured moot court participation, which constitutes 50% of the final grade. Students are supported in preparing for international moot court competitions, such as the Jessup, Vis, ELMC, and others, or alternatively, may engage in simulated ADR proceedings. The course is designed to develop both legal knowledge and procedural fluency through immersive learning and experiential learning. By its conclusion, students will be equipped to navigate the legal and strategic dimensions of complex transnational disputes, whether before national courts, arbitral panels, or hybrid mechanisms.

3. Keywords

Private International Procedure, Cross-Border Dispute Resolution, International Arbitration, Moot Court, ADR Mechanisms

4. Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. **Identify** key legal frameworks governing jurisdiction, recognition, and enforcement in cross-border civil and commercial disputes. (*Remembering*)
2. **Explain** the procedural mechanisms and institutional rules applicable to international litigation, arbitration, and mediation. (*Understanding*)
3. **Apply** treaty provisions, EU regulations, and arbitral rules to hypothetical disputes involving transnational elements. (*Applying*)
4. **Analyse** procedural strategies and jurisdictional challenges in complex multi-jurisdictional settings. (*Analysing*)
5. **Demonstrate** advanced written and oral advocacy skills through preparation and participation in moot court competitions or simulated ADR proceedings. (*Creating*)

5. General Skills to Be Acquired

- Apply knowledge in practice
- Retrieve, analyse, and synthesise data and information
- Adapt to new situations
- Make decisions

- Work in an international context
- Work in an interdisciplinary team
- Generate new research ideas
- Appreciate diversity and multiculturalism
- Respect the natural environment
- Be critical and self-critical
- Advance free, creative, and causative thinking

6. Course Content (Topics)

1. **Jurisdiction in International Civil and Commercial Disputes** – Foundations of adjudicatory authority: territoriality, consent, and special jurisdiction under EU and national rules.
2. **The Brussels I bis Regulation and EU Private International Procedure** – Analysing jurisdiction, *lis pendens*, and choice-of-court agreements within the EU legal order.
3. **Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Judgments in Civil and Commercial Matters** – The Brussels I bis regime, the Hague Conventions, and obstacles to recognition.
4. **Service of Process and Taking of Evidence Abroad** – Procedural cooperation in cross-border litigation under EU Regulations and the Hague Evidence Convention.
5. **Forum Selection and Parallel Proceedings** – Anti-suit injunctions, *forum non conveniens*, and the role of procedural discretion.
6. **Applicable Law and Procedural Autonomy in Transnational Litigation** – Interface between jurisdiction, choice of law, and procedural fairness.
7. **Introduction to International Arbitration: Principles, Institutions, and Legal Frameworks** – Overview of arbitration agreements, tribunal jurisdiction, and arbitral procedure.
8. **The New York Convention and the Recognition of Arbitral Awards** – Core provisions, grounds for refusal, and comparative enforcement practice.
9. **ADR Mechanisms Beyond Arbitration: Mediation, Negotiation, and Hybrid Models** – Analysing UNCITRAL instruments, the Singapore Convention, and institutional rules.

10. **Digital and Online Dispute Resolution (ODR)** – Trends in online arbitration, virtual hearings, and platforms for digital dispute resolution.
11. **Procedural Strategy and Advocacy in International Disputes** – Drafting pleadings, selecting procedural tactics, and preparing for oral argument.
12. **Moot Court Methodology and Experiential Learning in Transnational Dispute Resolution** – Preparing written submissions, oral advocacy techniques, and feedback from past competitions.

7. Teaching Methods

- Lectures.
- Case law workshops.
- Guided reading and legal reasoning exercises.
- Moot Court Participation (indicative list following):
 1. European Human Rights Moot Court Competition
 2. Frankfurt Investment Arbitration Moot Court
 3. IBA International Criminal Court Moot Court Competition
 4. ICC International Commercial Mediation Competition
 5. Moot Court on the European Social Charter
 6. PAX Moot Court
 7. Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition
 8. Simulated Online ADR Proceedings
(<https://mockarbitrationonline.blogspot.com/>)
 9. The European Law Moot Court Competition (ELMC)
 10. The John H. Jackson WTO Moot Court Competition
 11. Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot
 12. Any other equivalent Moot Court Competition to be approved by the course instructor(s).

8. Assessment Methods

Method	Weight	Description
Final Exam	40%	Essay-type and case-based questions
Mid-Term Assignment	10%	Individual or group-based
Participation in Moot Courts	50%	Constructive attendance, preparedness, contribution

Note: A minimum final exam score of 60% is required to pass.

9. A. Ethics

Students are reminded that all submitted work must comply with the University's academic [integrity policy](#). Plagiarism or unauthorised collaboration will result in disciplinary measures.

B. Course Policies

- Attendance is strongly encouraged.
- All assignments must be submitted on time via the designated platform.
- Special accommodations will be made for students with documented learning or health needs in accordance with university policy.

10. Use of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT)

- **Use in Teaching:** (e.g. digital slides, audiovisual aids, interactive tools like Mentimeter)
- **Use in Communication:** (e.g. E-learning platform, Zoom/Google Meet for office hours)
- **Digital Resources:** (e.g. online legal databases, podcasts, video lectures)

11. Bibliography

- Books/E-Books

Azaria, Danai. (2025). *State silence across international law meaning, context, and developments* (e-book)/. Oxford University Press.

Borg-Barther, J. (et. al) (Ed.). (2024). *"From Theory to Practice in Private International Law Gedächtnisschrift for Professor Jonathan Fitchen"* (E-BOOK) :: Library Catalog. Bloomsbury Publishing.
<https://search.lib.auth.gr/Record/1170425?sid=50101289>

Calster, G. van. (2024). *European private international law commercial litigation in the EU* / (Fourth edition.). Hart Publishing, an imprint of Bloomsbury Publishing,.

Damjanovic, I. 1981-. (2023). *The European Union and international investment law reform : between aspirations and reality* (e-book) /. Cambridge University Press.

Dautaj, Y. (2025). *Sovereign Immunity from Execution and International Arbitration : Theory and Practice*(E-BOOK) . Wolters Kluwer.
<https://search.lib.auth.gr/Record/1170430?sid=50101298>

Fawcett, J. J. (Ed.). (2003). *International litigation procedure*. Oxford University Press.

Ferrari, F., & Arroyo, D. P. F. (2019). *Private international law (Contemporary challenges and continuing relevance)* (e-book). Edward Elgar .
<https://search.lib.auth.gr/Record/1129397?sid=50101314>

Hartley, T. C. (2020). *International commercial litigation: Text, cases, and materials on private international law* (2nd ed.). Cambridge University Press.

Lavranos, N., & Castagna, A. (2024). *International investment law and arbitration: Commentary, cases, and materials*. Nomos.

Newman, L. W., & Radine, R. D. (Eds.). (2014). *Litigating international commercial disputes*. Juris Publishing.

Rubino-Sammartano, M., Beraudo, J.-M., & Berman, H. J. (2014). *International arbitration law and practice* (3rd ed.). Juris.

Segesser, D. M. (2016). *The history of arbitration and international law in the 19th century*. Oxford University Press.

Walter, G., & Walther, H. (2000). Statutory instruments in international arbitration. Kluwer Law International.

- Databases

Westlaw UK Academic	https://law.auth.gr/en/subscription-to-electronic-databases-2/
HeinOnline Academic Core and Kluwer Law International Journal Library	https://law.auth.gr/en/subscription-to-electronic-databases-2/
Beck-online PREMIUM	https://law.auth.gr/en/subscription-to-electronic-databases-2/
O.U.P Oxford Public International Law	https://law.auth.gr/en/subscription-to-electronic-databases-2/
O.U.P Max Planck Encyclopedia of Comparative Constitutional Law	https://law.auth.gr/en/subscription-to-electronic-databases-2/
Dalloz.fr	https://law.auth.gr/en/subscription-to-electronic-databases-2/
JURIS Zusatzmodul Hochschulen, BGB Staudinger Online	https://law.auth.gr/en/subscription-to-electronic-databases-2/
Kluwer Law Online (30 journals)	https://law.auth.gr/en/subscription-to-electronic-databases-2/
IAReporter. Investment Arbitration Report	https://law.auth.gr/en/subscription-to-electronic-databases-2/
Cambridge Core (Law)	https://www.cambridge.org/core/browse-subjects/law
EBSCO	https://research.ebsco.com/c/quc7ji/search/advanced/filters?autocorrect=y&isDashboardExpanded=true
ProQuest Central	https://www.proquest.com/central/topicpaths/AbiGlobal_business/0?accountid=8359#0
Springer link	https://link.springer.com/
Taylor & Francis e-books	https://www.taylorfrancis.com/search?subject=SC_LW
Taylor & Francis e-journals	https://www.tandfonline.com/subjects/law

The Making of Modern Law: Legal Treatises 1800-1926 (Gale)	https://go.gale.com/ps/start.do?p=MOML&u=arist&cookieConsent=true&analyticsOptout=false&aty=ip
Wiley online Library	https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/action/showPublications?startPage=&ConceptID=85