

Freshfields Singapore

# International Arbitration Group Winter Internship Programme 2024



Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer

# 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 large global investment bank and financial services firm on a potential bilateral treaty claim against a South Asian State;
- 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.

**'The team is said to be "relentlessly detailed" and able to offer appropriate analyses without the need for client guidance and supervision.'**

*Chambers Asia Pacific: International Arbitration, Singapore – 2021*

**'Outstanding overall impression of Freshfields as a result of its handling of a complex commercial arbitration.'**

*Chambers Asia Pacific – 2022*

**'They are very respectful of everyone's time and try to be very efficient. They are very effective and keep us in the loop. They stick to the internal deadline and we are never left wondering.'**

*Chambers Asia Pacific: Dispute Resolution: Arbitration: The Elite client – 2024*

## Band 1

Ranked Band 1 for international arbitration globally in 2024

Chambers Global

## Band 1

Nicholas Lingard lawyer, Dispute Resolution: Arbitration, Singapore

Chambers Asia Pacific 2024

## Number 1

Ranked No. 1 for 9 of the past 13 years

Global Arbitration Review

## Number 1

46 of our lawyers recognised for their expertise in 2024

Who's Who Legal: Arbitration

## 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 2024 and January 2025

## The Programme

Our winter 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.

## 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.



\*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.



# In interns' own words

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'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 believes in building an inclusive environment, and for everyone including interns to contribute and excel together.'

**Audrey Loo**

Singapore Management University,  
Juris Doctor, Class of 2024

'My time with Freshfields was enriching and fulfilling! I 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 lot 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, gaining 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 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

'I was constantly and meaningfully engaged throughout my time at the firm, where I conducted research on cutting-edge areas of the law across multiple jurisdictions.'

**Choi Young Jae**

National University of Singapore,  
Bachelor of Laws (LLB), Class of 2025

'From trainees on secondment to partners, the people I interacted with were not only friendly but also nurturing, readily offering guidance and assistance without any hesitation.'

**Arya Arun**

University of Oxford, BA in  
Jurisprudence (Law), Class of 2024

# How to apply

If interested, please apply via [www.freshfields.com/chinarecruiting](http://www.freshfields.com/chinarecruiting)

your  
curriculum vitae

a cover  
letter

a short\* legal  
writing sample

your academic  
transcripts

\*(three to ten pages)

by 30 June 2024

Please direct any questions to [Asia.GraduateRecruitment@freshfields.com](mailto:Asia.GraduateRecruitment@freshfields.com).

'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



**Nicholas Lee**

Associate, Singapore, International Arbitration

'Freshfields' Singapore office serves not just as a home base for our international arbitration team but as a gateway to the wider world of arbitration. From here, we act on some of the biggest and most complex disputes across Asia and the globe. This involves working alongside, opposite and before the world's leading arbitration practitioners. For a young lawyer, there is no better place to hone one's craft.'



[freshfields.com](http://freshfields.com)

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