

Dr. Ghada Mohammed Darwish Karbon, FCI Arb

Founder and Managing Partner, Dr. Ghada M. Darwish Karbon Law Firm

T: +974 4488 9050 | F: +974 4488 9040 | E: gdarwish@gdarwish.com

Office Address: Level 24, Tornado Tower, Majlis Al Taawon St., West Bay, Doha, State of Qatar
P.O. Box: 8119

Profile Brief:

Dr. Ghada is a distinguished Qatari lawyer, admitted to the Qatari Bar Association and registered before the Court of Cassation. She serves as an accomplished Arbitrator and Litigator, practicing locally, across key GCC jurisdictions, and internationally, with expertise spanning a broad range of legal fields in both private and public matters.

Dr. Ghada brings over a decade of distinguished legal experience, representing prominent clients as Counsel, Litigator, and Chairperson of Hearing Panels in local, regional, and international proceedings. Her proven expertise and leadership in complex legal and arbitration matters have earned her several notable appointments within her field.

Dr. Ghada's strong legal foundation was shaped by her early career in private practice and key roles within prominent Qatari institutions, including Qatar Chemical Company (Q-Chem Ltd), the National Human Rights Committee (NHRC-Qatar), and Qatar University under the Office of the President, where she gained valuable experience in both legal and institutional development.

With more than a decade of presence of her own law firm in the legal domain, founded in 2012, Dr Ghada demonstrated exceptional legal acumen and leadership in guiding it to become one of Qatar's top law firms. Through her strategic vision and commitment to excellence, the firm has earned, sustained recognition and accolades from leading legal directories, including Lexis Nexis Middle East, The Legal 500, and Chambers and Partners.

In 2024, Dr. Ghada was appointed as a Court Member of the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) in Paris, representing the State of Qatar. In this role, she reviews and assesses arbitration cases, providing reports and recommendations, when necessary, particularly in complex or precedent-setting matters. Her work upholds the integrity, efficiency, and consistency of ICC arbitration proceedings. Beyond case reviews, she contributes to discussions on policy and procedural reforms, strengthening Qatar's presence within the ICC's global network of arbitration professionals and advancing international dispute resolution practices.

Dr. Ghada actively shares her passion as an empowered woman leader in the legal domain. As a distinguished woman leader in law, she actively shares her expertise and is frequently invited by leading organizations, television and magazine organizations to speak and lead panels at major conferences, write commentaries and support the reform and publishing of the new laws. Moreover, she supported sponsoring pioneering legal events locally and internationally.

Dr. Ghada maintains a close collaboration with embassies in Qatar and assists in advising and providing legal representation in addition to her constant newspaper publication contributions and television interviews related to legal and women leadership empowerment.

Professional Memberships and Appointments in Arbitration and Sporting Bodies

Dr. Ghada's expertise in Arbitration proceedings includes major panel appointments in the following key organizations,

- Arbitrator, The Qatar International Centre for Conciliation and Arbitration (QICCA), Qatar
- Arbitrator, The Qatar Sports Federation Association (QSAF), Qatar
- Chairperson of The Hearing Panel, The Qatar Anti-Doping Committee (QAD), Qatar
- Arbitrator, Tribunal Arbitral Du Sport/The Court of Arbitration for Sport (TAS-CAS), The International Council of Arbitration for Sport (ICAS), Lausanne, Switzerland
- Arbitrator, The National Sports Arbitration Tribunal (NSAT), Kuwait
- Arbitrator, The Dubai International Arbitration Centre (DIAC), UAE
- Appointed as Commission Member of The ICC Global Arbitration ADR Commission by the International Chamber of Commerce Qatar (ICC-Qatar)
- Appointed as Vice-Chair of the ICC Global Commercial Law and Practice Division by the International Chamber of Commerce Qatar (ICC-Qatar)
- Appointed as Senior Vice-Chair to the Arab Regional Forum (ARF) of the International Bar Association (IBA)
- Appointed as one of the three Members of the Adjudicatory Body by the Aquatics Integrity Unit (AQIU) of the World Aquatics, based in Lausanne, Switzerland
- Appointed Member of the Independent Hearing Panel of the Badminton World Federation (BWF)
- Appointed by the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) as Court Member for the State of Qatar for the term 2024-2027, held on June 11, 2024, in Paris, France
- Member of the Open-End Working Group for the UNESCO Anti-Doping Convention in 2024
- Appointed Committee Member of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (CIARB-Qatar) branch and currently sits as its Public Relations Officer since 2024

Professional Memberships

- Member, The London International Court of Arbitration (LCIA)
- Vice Chairman and Honorary Treasurer, CIARB Qatar Branch (2026)
- Member, The Association of International Energy Negotiators (AIEN) formerly AIPN
- Member, Women in Sports Law (WisLaw)
- Member, Association Internationale' Des Avocats Du Football (AIAF)
- Honorary Member, British Chamber of Commerce Qatar (BCCQ)
- Member, The Arab Lawyer Forum (ALF)
- Founding Member, Worldwide Lawyers Association (WLA)
- The International Bar Association (IBA)
- The International Chamber of Commerce (ICC)
- Member, The Qatari Businesswomen Association (QBWA)

Featured Events and Recognitions

- On October 11, 2016, Dr. Ghada was honoured as one of the “Inspiring Women in Qatar” by Medeis Al Khaleej, the authors of Qatar Success Stories, and was one of the chosen participants for the Book launch held in Paris, France, under the invitation of His Excellency Sheikh Meshal Bin Hamad Al-Thani, the then Ambassador of Qatar in France.
- On April 02-20, 2018, Dr. Ghada was the ‘sole’ female delegate among more than 200 businessmen and Qatari officials during the “Qatar-US Economic Forum” organized by the Ministry of Economy and Commerce in cooperation with the Qatar Chamber of Commerce, the American Chamber of Commerce, the Qatari Businessmen Association, the U.S-Qatar Business Council and several U.S official entities held in the United States of America in line with the official visit of His Highness the Emir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al-Thani. The forum was organised in the framework of Qatar’s Economic Roadshow across several U.S cities. that promoted trade and economic relations between Qatar and the U.S., which built investment partnerships between the private sectors in both countries.
- On September 06-08, 2018, Dr. Ghada was part of the Qatari delegation during the “Qatar-Germany Business and Investment Forum” held in Berlin, Germany where His Highness Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani made a historic announcement that Qatar will invest €10 billion in the German economy over the next five years in the presence of German Chancellor Angela Merkel at the inaugural.
- On December 03-06, 2018, Dr. Ghada attended the “Made in Qatar”2018 Exhibition held in Muscat, Oman, as part of the Qatari Delegation under the patronage of HE Prime Minister and Minister of the Interior Sheikh Abdullah bin Nasser bin Khalifa al-Thani, the expo was organized by the Qatar Chamber in co-operation with the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, in a strategic partnership with Qatar Development Bank and coordination with Oman Chamber of Commerce and Industry.
- On August 03-24, 2019, Dr. Ghada was nominated and selected by the US Embassy in Doha to participate in The International Visitor Leadership Program (IVLP), a U.S. Department of State’s premier professional exchange program through short-term visits to the United States, current and emerging foreign leaders in a variety of fields experience under the theme “Women in Politics”
- On September 19-October 08, 2023, Dr. Ghada was selected by the TAS/CAS to sit as one of the 6 Members of the TAS/CAS Ad Hoc Division during the 19th Asian Games held in Hangzhou, China, to handle arbitration procedures in case of disputes.
- On November 08-10, 2023, Dr. Ghada joined the Qatari delegation during the Qatar Africa Business Forum 2023 (QABF), an event initiated, attended, and led by Sheikha Al Mayassa bint Hamad Al-Thani, held in Kigali, Rwanda. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Qatar organised the conference, the Permanent Committee for Organizing Events of the State of Qatar, and its counterpart, the African Leadership Network, to foster sustainable and equitable partnerships between Qatar and Africa.

Education and Assessments:

- Bachelor's Degree in Sharia and Law (LLB), Qatar University, Doha, State of Qatar
- Master's degree in public law, Administrative Sciences (LLM), Cairo University, Cairo, Egypt
- PhD in Public Law, Cairo University, Cairo, Egypt
- Executive Master's in Sports Law (LLM) with *Universitat de Lleida* in association with Qatar Olympic Academy. Thesis Title: "Taking Lessons from the Past" with a published book
- Master's of International Sports Law, *Universitat de Lleida, Madrid, Spain*: Thesis title: '*Bidding the Sports Events*'
- Master's in Sports Law Program, Qatar Olympic Academy
- Diploma in International Commercial Arbitration, Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (CI Arb), qualifying as "Fellow"

Areas of Practice

- Arbitration
- Litigation
- Corporate & Commercial
- Construction

Publications

- Dr. Ghada published a book in line with her thesis, "Taking Lessons from the Past"

Qualifications

- License to Practice in Qatar

Language

- Arabic
- English