



Olga Hamama

Arbitrator (General List) ,
Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS)

Partner, V29 Legal, Frankfurt, Germany



Practice

Olga Hamama is an international sports and dispute resolution lawyer admitted to the German Bar. She is acting as arbitrator and strategic advisor in international disputes and sports-related matters. She has experience as arbitrator, counsel and secretary to the tribunal in more than 50 arbitration proceedings. Since 2019, Olga has been continuously recognised by her peers and clients as one of the Future Leaders in Arbitration by the global platform Who is Who Legal.

Prior to co-founding V29 Legal, Olga was a member of the International Arbitration Group of a leading international law firm, Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer LLP, from October 2008. Olga practiced from Frankfurt, Brussels and Moscow offices of the firm representing and advising clients in cases spanning a number of industries under local and international sets of arbitration rules, as well as arbitration-related proceedings in national courts.

Olga has been involved in sports arbitration proceedings at the Court of Arbitration for Sport (**CAS**) in Lausanne, Switzerland; the German Court Arbitration for Sport at the German Institute of Arbitration (**DIS-Sportschiedsgericht**) and at the German Motor Racing Association. The arbitration proceedings, *inter alia*, concerned admission to associations, integrity issues, transfer of minors, doping cases, investor claims, relegation, contractual and employment disputes.

Olga serves as a member of the International Panel of Arbitrators with Sport Resolutions. She has also advised sports associations on governance issues and has experience in basketball, football, ice hockey, tennis, athletics and motor racing.

Highlights

- Advising a national association in connection with a withdrawal of hosting rights for a World Championship from a co-hosting association;
- Advising a major English football club in contractual negotiations with implications of German law, DFL/DFB and FIFA regulations;
- Initial advice to a major European football club with regard to the eligibility for the UEFA Champions League competition;
- Advising a major German racing car manufacturers in connection with disciplinary proceedings at the German Motor Racing Association related to the allegations of technical manipulation;
- Advising a Brazilian football player with regard to the enforceability of a FIFA DRC decision against a Ukrainian football club following an unexpected relegation of the football club and the initiation of bankruptcy proceedings;
- Advising a leading German tennis player in negotiations of a sponsorship agreement;
- Advising a Bundesliga football club in relation to cooperation agreements and trademark rights;
- Advising an international start-up on cooperation possibilities with German football associations;
- Acting as counsel, *ad hoc* clerk, assistant to arbitrator in and providing advice on CAS and DIS proceedings pertaining to contractual, transfer, investment disputes and appeal proceedings related to relegation, match-fixing, governance and doping matters.

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Lectures, presentations, seminars

- “Shut Up and Dribble: The Role of Sport in Social Change”, Virtual Roundtable, International Forum on Sports Law, 2021;
- “Does Sports Arbitration Offer Sufficient Human Rights Protection? Caster Semenya v IAAF”, supervisor of the master thesis, guest lecturer on “Sports and Dispute Resolution” at the Humboldt University of Berlin, International Dispute Resolution (IDR) LL.M. Programme, 2020;
- “Dispute Resolution at the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS)”, guest lecturer at the Goethe University of Frankfurt, Germany, 2020;
- „Evidentiary Issues in Sports Arbitration: Hearing of Protected Witnesses and Betting Analysis in Sports Arbitration”, presentation at the CEA-40 (Club Español del Arbitraje) conference on “Jurisdiction and Evidence in Sports Arbitration”, Brussels, Belgium 2020;
- Presentation on International Court of Arbitration for Sport in light of the Pechstein Case at the German Federal Ministry of Justice and Consumer Protection and the German Ministry of Interior, Berlin, Germany, 2016;
- “Governance of Sports”, discussion at the International Forum on Sports Law, Bagshot, UK, 2016;
- “Standard and Burden of Proof in Doping Cases: CAS 2009/A/1912 P. v. International Skating Union (ISU) & CAS 2009/A/1913 Deutsche Eisschnelllauf Gemeinschaft e.V. (DESG) v. International Skating Union (ISU)”, lecture at the Konrad Adenauer Stiftung Academy, Lausanne, Switzerland, 2015;

- “Sports and Dispute Resolution” and “Standard and Burden of Proof in Doping Cases. CAS 2011/A/2384 UCI v. Alberto Contador Velasco & RFEC CAS 2011/A/2386 WADA v. Alberto Contador Velasco & RFEC”, lectures at the Spring Academy organised by German Academic Scholarship Foundation, Lac d'Annecy, France, 2014.

Sports-related publications

- “Investing in German football – How long will the 50+1 rule sustain?”, a joint publication with Lukas Pfister in World Sports Advocate, 2018;
- “Recent sports-related decisions of the German Federal Court”, a joint publication with Niklas Luft in World Sports Advocate, 2017;

Education, Memberships and Bar Admission

Olga obtained her law degree at the Goethe University in Frankfurt, Germany, specialising in International and European Law. Olga attended the global executive master course in international sports law at the Instituto Superior de Derecho y Economía (ISDE), Madrid, Spain.

She is an editorial board member of the Journal of International Arbitration; member of the Working Group on Dispute Resolution in Blockchain-Based Transactions at the Silicon Valley Arbitration and Mediation Centre and Legal Expert at the German Association for Artificial Intelligence.


Olga is admitted to the German Bar. She is fluent in English, German, Russian and Ukrainian.


“Olga Hamama stands out for her strong expertise handling disputes relating to Eastern Europe and Russia. Sources note that “her international experience makes her a real rising star”.”


Who is Who Legal,
Arbitration 2019, 2020,
2021 –
Future Leaders


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