

Gary Soo's Chambers

GARY K.L. SOO

**Arbitrator, Barrister-at-Law, Chartered Engineer,
Accredited Mediator & Adjudicator**

B.Sc. (Hong Kong) LL.B. (London) LL.M. (Peking)
CEng CQP MStructE MICE MHKIE MASCE FHKIArb FCIArb FHKIoD

Contact Details

Gary Soo's Chambers

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Academic Profile

- Master of Laws (LL.M.) 2002, Peking University
- Bachelor of Laws (LL.B.) 1993, University of London
- Bachelor of Science (B.Sc.) in Civil and Structural Engineering, 1989, The University of Hong Kong

Professional Profile

- 2019 Panel Adjudicator of Hong Kong Institute of Construction Adjudicators
- 2017 Panel Arbitrator of Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre
- 2012 Accredited Mediator of the Hong Kong Mediation Accreditation Association
- 2010 Accredited Mediator of the Centre for Effective Dispute Resolution (CEDR)
- 2009 Fellow of the Hong Kong Institute of Directors
- 2008 Chartered Quality Professional
- 2003 Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators
- 1999 Fellow of the Hong Kong Institute of Arbitrators
Member of the American Society of Civil Engineers
- 1997 Member of the Chartered Quality Institute (then known as Institute of Quality Assurance)
- 1996 Associate of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators
- 1995 Barrister-at-Law of the Supreme Court of Hong Kong
Barrister-at-Law of the Honourable Society of Gray's Inn
Registered Professional Engineer (Civil, Structural)
- 1994 Member of the Institution of Civil Engineers
Member of the Hong Kong Institution of Engineers
Chartered Engineer of the Engineering Council

Professional Practice & Experience

Experience & Qualifications

2010-Present Barrister-at-Law, Arbitrator, Mediator & Adjudicator

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- Practice in construction commercial and intellectual property litigation, arbitration and mediation
- Acting as arbitrator, advocate, mediator and dispute resolution advisor in construction, commercial and international trade litigation and arbitration
- Practice as counsel before courts, arbitrators, mediators, tribunals, panels, statutory boards and disciplinary committees
- Served in dozens of international cases involving both ad hoc and institutional arbitrations (including HKIAC, ICC, CIETAC, SCIA etc.) as party-appointed arbitrator, sole arbitrator or presiding arbitrator
- Listed arbitrator of various arbitration institutions and commissions
- Listed arbitrator of arbitration commissions in China including CIETAC and Guangzhou, Dalian, Weizhou, Qinzhou, Suzhou, Weihai, Karamay, Yantai, Wuhan and Shenyang Arbitration Commissions
- Listed arbitrator of Hong Kong Bar Association
- Listed arbitrator of Hong Kong Institution of Engineers
- Listed arbitrator/panelist of Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre domain name disputes
- Listed arbitrator/panelist of China Economic and International Trade Arbitration Commission Listed panelist of Asian Domain Name Dispute Resolution Centre
- Listed panelist of China Economic and International Trade Arbitration Commission for domain name cases
- Appointed mediator in commercial and construction disputes
- Appointed arbitrator for construction, intellectual property and international commercial arbitrations
- Appointed arbitrator for energy-related international arbitration
- Appointed arbitrator/panelist for domain name disputes
- Appointed arbitrator for HKIAC, CIETAC & ICC arbitrations
- Experienced with institutional arbitrations, such as those of HKIAC, CIETAC & SIAC

2008-2010

Secretary-General

Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre (“HKIAC”)

- Leading and running the HKIAC on a day-to-day basis, including preparing and implementing policy decisions of council meetings
- Managing and administering all ADR cases at HKIAC, including arbitration cases, mediation cases, adjudication cases and domain name disputes
- Organizing conferences and training events for all sectors, in Hong Kong and overseas
- Marketing and promoting Hong Kong, ADR and HKIAC to all ADR users
- Serving as a liaison key with authorities, international institutions, ADR bodies, government officials, judges, ADR neutrals, professionals, academics and industry sectors

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- Developing dispute resolution schemes including the Lehman-Brothers-Related Products Dispute Mediation and Arbitration Scheme
- Advising and participating in setting up on ADR institutions including the Hong Kong Joint Mediation Helpline Office and the Hong Kong Financial Dispute Resolution Centre

1995-2008 **Barrister-at-Law & Arbitrator**

- Practice in construction and commercial litigation and arbitration
- Practice in and advice on procedures and strategy for construction litigation and arbitration
- Appearing as advocate in litigation and arbitration in numerous trials and hearings
- Advice on witnesses, experts and evidence in litigation and arbitration
- Advice on choice of arbitrator and challenges to enforcement of arbitral awards
- Number of days of such hearings and trials ranging from 1 day to 2-3 weeks
- Amount of disputes involved up to billions
- Representing developers, main contractors and sub-contractors
- Official Receiver's list of barristers
- Legal Aid's list of barristers

1990-1995 **Civil Engineer, Hong Kong Government (last post)**

- Contract design & administration
- Site supervision as resident engineer in housing development projects
- Project negotiation and dispute support
- Knowledge management

Recent Mediation Cases

- Appointed mediator for commercial contract disputes
- Appointed mediator for commercial land matter disputes
- Acted as mediator in arbitration for international commercial disputes involving PRC parties
- Appointed mediator for various building-related matters disputes
- Advocate for various mediation involving construction, property and commercial disputes
- Construction mediation involving construction disputes and building renovation disputes

Recent Arbitration & ADR Practice

Some Recently Handled Arbitration/Adjudication/ADR Cases

- Appointed arbitrator for Shanghai International Arbitration

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Center

- Appointed presiding arbitrator for foreign-related arbitration on land matters involving PRC parties
- Appointed arbitrator for international arbitration under HKIAC rules
- Appointed arbitrator in international arbitration under ICC rules
- Appointed arbitrator in commercial arbitration under HKIAC rules
- Appointed arbitrator in financial arbitration involving PRC parties
- Appointed arbitrator for constructions disputes involving contractor and sub-contractor
- Appointed arbitrator for international commercial disputes involving international sales of goods
- Appointed arbitrator for international commercial disputes involving PRC parties
- Appointed arbitrator for construction arbitrations involving project development and construction works
- Appointed presiding arbitrator for commercial arbitration involving international trade
- Appointed arbitrator for international intellectual property disputes, including disputes under PRC law
- Advocate for international commercial arbitration involving dispute over USD35 million
- Advocate for licensing dispute of over 1 billion RMB involving a Mainland entity for arbitration in Chinese
- Advocate for construction disputes each about HKD10M for arbitration in English and in Chinese
- Advocate for various domestic arbitrations and construction litigation
- Advocate for various intellectual property disputes arbitrations

Some Recently Handled Construction Cases

- Construction arbitration involving country house development in New Territories
- Construction arbitration involving building services works in Macau
- Construction arbitration involving residential property development in Kowloon
- Construction litigation between main contractor and sub-contractor over variations and final account in property development project
- Construction litigation between developer and contractor over delays and payment in property development project
- Construction litigation between main contractor and sub-contractors for MTRC project over termination

Some Recently Handled Commercial & Intellectual Property Cases

- Litigation involving commercial licensing disputes

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- International intellectual property disputes involving emergency arbitrator proceeding
- Arbitration on Clean Development Mechanism (CDM), Certified Emission Reductions (CERs) and the renewable energy disputes
- International arbitration on ICT disputes
- International technology arbitration on commercial technology licensing disputes
- Commercial arbitration on consultancy disputes
- Commercial arbitration involving jurisdictional challenges
- Arbitration on International commercial contracts

Public Services

- Member of Transport Advisory Committee, Hong Kong SAR Government (2019)
- Vice-Chairman of the China Nansha International Arbitration Centre (2014-Present)
- Co-founder of the Hong Kong Legal Training Institute (2012–Present)
- Honorary Secretary of Joint Mediation Helpline Office (2010-Present)
- Committee Member of the Management Committee of Centre for Infrastructure and Construction Industry Development of the University of Hong Kong (2007-Present)
- Council Member of Hong Kong Bar Association (2007-2008 & 2010-Present)
- Committee Member of the Greater China Affairs Committee of the Hong Kong Bar Association (2002-Present)
- Council Member of Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre (2008-2018)
- Chairperson of the Committee on Arbitration of the Hong Kong Bar Association (2016-2017)
- First Chairman of the Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macau Commercial Mediation Alliance (2014-2016)
- Chairperson of the Special Committee on Alternative Dispute Resolution of the Hong Kong Bar Association (2010-2016)
- Committee Member of Legal Consultation Association, Qianhai (2014)
- Member of the Chief Justice's Working Party on Mediation (2009-2012)
- President of Hong Kong Institute of Arbitrators (2006-2008 & 2010-2011)
- Honorary Secretary of the Hong Kong Institute of Arbitrators (2000-2003 & 2005)
- Reviewer for Chartered Professional Review of the Institution of Civil Engineers (Since 2001)
- Reviewer for Professional Review of the Hong Kong Institution of Engineers (From 2004)
- Chairman of the Civil Justice Reform Consultation Committee of the Hong Kong Mediation Centre (2002)

Selected Publication

- Editor of the book titled *“Essential of Contract Drafting and Negotiation for Construction Professional”* published by HKU Press (To appear in 2019)
- Author of the book titled *“Construction Law and Practice in Hong Kong (4th Ed)”*

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- published by Sweet & Maxwell (2018)
- Editor of the book titled “**Construction Contract Essentials in Hong Kong**” published by HKU Press (2017)
 - Contributing Author on book chapter for book titled “**Construction Arbitration in Hong Kong: A Practical Guide**” published by Wolters Kluwer (2015)
 - Contributing Author on book chapter for book titled “**Mediation & Dispute Resolution Handbook (2nd Ed)**” published by Joint Mediation Helpline Office (2015)
 - Author on book chapter on Part 11 of the Arbitration Ordinance (Cap.609) for book titled “**The Hong Kong Arbitration Ordinance: Commentary and Annotations**” (2nd Ed.) published by Sweet & Maxwell (2015)
 - Author on book chapters on “**Construction Arbitration in Hong Kong: A Practical Guide**” by Kluwer (2015)
 - Co-author of book titled “**Construction Law and Practice in Hong Kong (3rd Ed)**” published by Sweet & Maxwell (2013)
 - Author on book chapter on Part 11 of the Arbitration Ordinance (Cap.609) for book titled “**The Hong Kong Arbitration Ordinance: Commentary and Annotations**” published by Sweet & Maxwell (2011)
 - Co-author of book titled “**Construction Law and Practice in Hong Kong (2nd Ed)**” published by Sweet & Maxwell (2011)
 - Contributors to Mediator / ADR volume of “**The Hong Kong Encyclopedia of Forms and Precedents**” by LexisNexis (2011)
 - Authors of book chapter on insurance arbitration for book titled “**Arbitration in Hong Kong: A Practical Guide (2nd Ed)**” published by Sweet & Maxwell (2011)
 - Author on professional liabilities for book chapter in “**Tort Law and Practice in Hong Kong (2nd Ed)**” published by Sweet & Maxwell (2011)
 - Author on architects, engineers and surveyors sections of book chapter in “**Professional Conduct and Risk Management in Hong Kong**” published by Sweet & Maxwell (2007)
 - Co-author of book titled “**Construction Law and Practice in Hong Kong**” published by Sweet & Maxwell (2004)
 - Author on professional liabilities for book chapter in “**Tort Law and Practice in Hong Kong**” published by Sweet & Maxwell (2005)
 - Author of book titled “**Uniform Domain-Name Dispute-Resolution Policy: Cases and Commentaries**” published by Law Press China (2003)
 - Author of book chapter on arbitration law reform for book titled “**Arbitration in Hong Kong: A Practical Guide**” published by Sweet & Maxwell (2003)
 - “**Protecting Against Insolvency of Contractors in Hong Kong**” Construction Law Journal (2003) 19 Const.L.J. No.7 pp.406-421
 - “**Invoking Security in Hong Kong Construction Contracts**” the International Construction Law Review [2001] ICLR Vol.18 Part 1, pp.130-146 (2001)
 - “**International Enforcement of Arbitral Awards**” International Company and Commercial law Review, [2000] I.C.C.L.R. Issue 7, pp.253-259 (2000)

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- **“Securing Costs in Hong Kong Arbitration”** International Arbitration Law Review [2000] Int.A.L.R. Issue 1, pp.25-30 (2000)
- **“Impact of Insolvency on Hong Kong Arbitration”** International Arbitration Law Review [2000] Int.A.L.R. Issue 4, pp.103-107 (2000)
- **“The Dos and Don’ts of Mediation”**, Hong Kong Engineer, January issue, pp.33-35 (2001)
- **“Working Through Unworkable Mediation”** Arbitration, Vol.66 No. 3, pp.207-210 (2000)
- **“Resisting Arbitral Award Enforcement in Hong Kong”** the Arbitration and Dispute Resolution Law Journal, pp.214-222 (2000)
- **“Growing Role of Information Flow in Resolution of Construction Disputes”** Civil and Structural Engineering Issue, Journal of the Institution of Engineers, Singapore Vol.40, No.5, pp.1-3 (2000)
- **“Challenging Arbitration Awards in Hong Kong”** International Arbitration Law Review, [1999] Int.A.L.R. Issue 4, pp.111-116 (1999)
- **“Winding-up: Impact on Hong Kong Arbitration”** Hong Kong Lawyer, July Issue, pp.26-30 (2000)
- **“Legal Pitfalls and Solutions”**, Asia Engineer, July Issue, pp.9-11 (2000)
- **“Growing Importance of Documents in Construction Disputes”**, Civil Engineering, Proceedings of the Institution of Civil Engineers, November Issue, pp.148-149 (1999)
- **“Reporting Expertise”** Asia Engineer, August Issue, pp.19-21 (1999)
- **“Approaching Extension of Time”** Asia Engineer, July Issue, pp.17-19 (1999)
- **“What can ISO9000 do for you?”** Asia Engineer, February Issue, pp.12-14 (1999)

Recent Teaching/Lecturing/Research

- Adjunct Professor teaching on engineering law subjects for undergraduate and postgraduate programmes and supervising M.Sc. and Ph.D. research students, Department of Civil Engineering, the University of Hong Kong (2006-Present)
- Trainers for legal-related courses for various government departments, including Customs and Excise Department, Home Affairs Department and Social Welfare Department, Officer of the Government Chief Information Officer, Social Welfare Department (2005-Present)
- Invited Speakers for CPD courses including those on *“Essential Update of Arbitration Law and Practice”*, *“Forensic Accounting and Litigation Services”* *“Practical Aspects of Forensic Accounting”*, *“Letters of Intent and Construction Contract Practice”* and *“Construction Disputes: Common Causes and Resolution”* for accountants, lawyers and construction professionals at InfoCite (2000-Present)
- Adjunct Professor / Lecturer for East China University of Political Science and Law / Perking University on arbitration and common law topics
- Visiting Lecturer (part-time) for CPD course for engineers on *“Construction Contract Claims”*, *“Project Procurement”*, *“Construction Contract Administration”*, *“Essential Laws for*

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- Project Managers*” the Management and Executive Development Centre of the Hong Kong Polytechnic University (2002-2019)
- Visiting Lecturer for CPD courses for professionals by Institute of Enterprise, Hong Kong Polytechnic University (2002-2008)
 - Teaching Fellow (Fractional) to School of Law, the City University of Hong Kong (2005-2008)
 - Adjunct Associate Professor on engineering laws subjects, Department of Civil Engineering, the University of Hong Kong (2003-2006)
 - Visiting Scholar to Dispute Resolution Centre, Bond University, Australia (2005)
 - Visiting Scholar to Dispute Resolution Centre, Massey University, New Zealand (2005)
 - Visiting Lecturer (part-time) for CPD course for engineers on “*Construction Contract Claims*”, “*Project Procurement*”, “*Construction Contract Administration*”, “*Essential Laws for Project Managers*” the Management and Executive Development Centre of the Hong Kong Polytechnic University (2002-2005)
 - Tutor for “*Civil Advocacy*” for PCLL, the University of Hong Kong (2000-Present)
 - Approved Tutor and Examiner of Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (2005)
 - Tutor for “*Associate Entry Course*” of Chartered Institute of Arbitrators and Hong Kong Institution of Arbitrators (2000-2003)
 - Assessor and Tutor for “*Fellowship Assessment Course*” of Hong Kong Institution of Arbitrators (2002, 2005 & 2006)
 - Tutor of Module on “*Arbitration Practice*” of Postgraduate Diploma in Construction Law, Arbitration and Mediation of SPACE, the University of Hong Kong (2002-2004)

Selected Seminars/Workshop/Conference Proceedings

- Delivered presentation at the Conference on “*NEC Contracts in Hong Kong – The Legal Landscape and Beyond*” held by Hong Kong Legal Training Institute (HKLTI), Construction Disputes Resolution Committee of the Hong Kong Institution of Engineers (HKIE CDR Committee) and the Centre for Innovation in Construction and Infrastructure Development (CICID) of the University of Hong Kong (2019, Hong Kong)
- Delivered presentation on “*Interim Measures in Aid of Arbitral Proceedings – Mainland and Hong Kong Latest Arrangement*” at China Guangzhou Arbitration Commission Zhongshan Sub-Commission (2019, Zhongshan)
- Delivered presentation at the “*Mediation Forum - The Present and Future of Mediation*” at Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre (2018, Hong Kong)
- Delivered presentation at the “*Ceremony for Launch of NSIAC General Rules for Arbitration & Proceedings Guidelines on the Three Models for Arbitration Hearing 2017 cum Procedural Demonstration --- Hong Kong Arbitration Model*” held by China Nansha International Arbitration Centre (NSIAC) and Hong Kong Institute of Arbitrators (HKI Arb) (2017, Hong Kong)
- Delivered presentation at the “*Legal and Contracting Essentials for Belt and Road Infrastructure Projects*” (2017, Hong Kong)
- Delivered presentation at the “*Construction Contract Essentials 2016*” (2016, Hong Kong)

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- Delivered presentation at the “*ALB Hong Kong Competition Ordinance Forum*” (2015, Hong Kong)
- Delivered presentation at the “*Construction Contract Essentials 2015*” (2015, Hong Kong)
- Delivered presentation at the Seminar on “*Hong Kong – An International Hub For Legal & Arbitration Services*” & Networking Luncheon (2014, Qingdao)
- Delivered presentations at the Two-day Seminar on “*Construction Contract Essentials*” held by Hong Kong Legal Training Institute (HKLTI) and the Centre for Infrastructure & Construction Industry Development (CICID), University of Hong Kong (2014, Hong Kong)
- Delivered presentations at the Two-day Seminar on “*Construction Contract Essentials*” held by Hong Kong Legal Training Institute (HKLTI) and Institute for Entrepreneurship, Hong Kong Polytechnic University (2013, Hong Kong)
- Delivered presentation at the Seminar on Hong Kong Legal and Arbitration Services on “*Resolving Dispute Efficiently Through International Arbitration and Mediation*” held by the Hong Kong Department of Justice (2013, Xiamen)
- Delivered presentation at the *Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao Arbitral Cooperation and Development Forum* held by the Guangzhou Arbitration Commission (2012, Nansha)
- Delivered presentation at the Hong Kong Legal Services Forum 2012 on “*Resolving Dispute Efficiently Through International Arbitration And Mediation*” held by the Hong Kong Department of Justice (2012, Guangzhou)
- Delivered presentation at the Mediation in Hong Kong --- *Your Options Conference* on “*Are Mediation And Arbitration Mutually Facilitative Or Conflicting With Each Other?*” held by the Joint Mediation Helpline Office (2012, Huizhou)
- Delivered presentation at the Training Programme for FDRC Mediators and Arbitrators held by the Financial Dispute Resolution Centre (2012, Hong Kong)
- Delivered presentations at the Two-day Seminar on Contract Law Essentials for Construction Professionals held by Hong Kong Legal Training Institute (HKLTI) and School of Law, City University of Hong Kong (2012, Hong Kong)
- Delivered presentation at the IPBA Conference on “*Better Ways of Resolving Disputes in Hong Kong: Some Insights from the Lehman-Brother Related Investment Products Dispute Mediation and Arbitration Scheme*” organised by Inter-Pacific Bar Association (2009, Manila)
- Delivered presentation at “*Mediation in Hong Kong: The Way Forward*” organized by Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre (2007, Hong Kong)
- Attended as expert team member of seminar on “*Negotiation Skill for Construction Contract Claims*” at the Hong Kong Polytechnic University (2005, Hong Kong)
- Delivered seminars on “*Effective Construction Contract and Site Administration Practice*” for engineers at Hong Kong Institution of Engineers (2005, Hong Kong)
- Delivered lecture on “*Construction Contracts & Security in Contracts*” at half-day seminar on “*Construction Payments: Law and Practice for Getting Paid*” (2002, Hong Kong) for lawyers and construction professionals organised by Hong Kong Legal and Economic Learning Association.
- Presented paper on “*Reform of Hong Kong Arbitration law*” at the seminar on “*Theory and*

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practice of International Arbitration and Mediation” (2002, Dalian) for Mainland China arbitrators organised by Dalian Arbitration Commission

- Developed course and materials for “*Mediation and Arbitration Training Course*” (2002, Hong Kong) leading to Associate Membership of Hong Kong Mediation Centre and Hong Kong Institute of Arbitrators at City University of Hong Kong
- Developed course and materials for “*Construction Dispute Negotiation and Mediation Skills Enhancement Programme: Workshop on Dispute Resolution Adviser and Mediation*” (2001, Hong Kong) for Hong Kong Housing Authority directorate grade staff organised by Hong Kong Institute of Arbitrators

Other Tribunal Experience

- Member of the Payment Systems and Stored Value Facilities Appeals Tribunal (2019)
- Panel Member of the Insurance Appeals Tribunal (2017-Present)
- Member of The Disciplinary Appeals Committee, the Hong Kong Confederation of Insurance Brokers (2016-Present)
- Deputy Chairman of the Appeal Board under the Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications Ordinance (2016-Present)
- Chairman of the Appeal Tribunal Panel (Buildings) under the Buildings Ordinance (Cap.123) (2015-Present)
- Member of the Fishermen Claims Appeal Board (Trawl Ban) (2015-Present)
- Member of the Appeals Tribunal, the Hong Kong Federation of Insurers (2009-Present)
- Chairperson and Member of Disciplinary Committee of Social Workers Registration Board, Hong Kong SAR Government (2004-Present)
- Chairperson of Transport Tribunal, Hong Kong SAR Government (2009-2015)
- Panel Member of Transport Tribunal, Hong Kong SAR Government (2005-2009)
- Counsel before Inquiry Committee of Veterinary Surgeons Board, Hong Kong SAR Government
- Counsel before the Administrative Appeal Board, Hong Kong SAR Government

Areas of Professional Focus

Alternative Dispute Resolution, China, Computer, Conflict of Laws, Construction, E-commerce, Information Technology, International Trade, Intellectual Property, Internet, Knowledge Management, Mediation, Renewable Energy, Unfair Competition, Wine

Languages

Chinese (simplified and traditional; Cantonese and Putonghua), English

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