

MIKA SAVOLA

Independent Arbitrator

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PERSONAL DETAILS

Born 1969
Nationality: Finnish (birthright citizenship)
Israeli (citizenship by naturalization since 2023)

EDUCATION

Master of Laws, University of Helsinki, 1996 (graduated summa cum laude)
Master of Political Sciences, University of Helsinki, 1993 (graduated summa cum laude)

WORK EXPERIENCE

Independent Arbitrator as of 1 April 2018
Partner at Hannes Snellman Attorneys Ltd 2002-2018 (until 31 March)
Head of Dispute Resolution at Hannes Snellman Attorneys Ltd 2006-2016
Trainee and Associate lawyer at Hannes Snellman Attorneys Ltd 1995-2002

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

Commercial and investment treaty arbitration.

EXPERIENCE AS COUNSEL

Represented corporations across different business sectors in close to a hundred international and domestic Finnish arbitrations governed by various sets of rules (e.g. the FAI, ICC, SCC, DIA, LCIA, SCAI, SIAC, UNCITRAL and ICSID) in a number of different arbitral seats.

Represented clients also in numerous court and competition cases before the Finnish state courts, the European Commission and the Court of Justice of the European Union.

EXPERIENCE AS ARBITRATOR

Served as sole, presiding, party-nominated and emergency arbitrator in more than 130 ad hoc and administered arbitration proceedings governed e.g. by the ICC, SCC, DIA and FAI Rules under different applicable laws and across different business sectors. The parties in such proceedings have originated from five continents and more than 30 jurisdictions. (For further details, please see the Appendix to this CV.)

POSITIONS OF TRUST

Chair, Board of the Arbitration Institute of the Finland Chamber of Commerce (“FAI”) 2013-2018 (until 31 March)

Chair, Redemption Board of the Finland Chamber of Commerce 2013-2015

Chair, Task Force on the Revision of the Arbitration Rules of the Finland Chamber of Commerce (“FAI Rules”) 2012-2013

Secretary of the Finnish Arbitration Association 1998-2010

Member of the Board of the Finnish Arbitration Association 2004-2017

Member for Finland, ICC Commission on Arbitration and ADR 2004-2018

Member of the ICC Commission on Arbitration and ADR Task Force on “Decisions as to Costs” 2011-2015

Member of the ICC Commission on Arbitration and ADR Task Force on “The Revision of the Rules of ICC as Appointing Authority in UNCITRAL or other Ad Hoc Arbitration Proceedings” 2015-2017

Member of the ICC Commission on Arbitration and ADR Task Force on “Emergency Arbitrator Proceedings” 2015-2019

Member of the CIETAC Panel of Arbitrators 2017-

Member of the ICSID Panel of Arbitrators 2019- (designated by the Government of Finland)

Member of the International Arbitration Panel of the Israeli Institute of Commercial Arbitration (IICA) 2024-

BOOKS, ARTICLES AND OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- “Digital Hearings – Civil Procedure and Arbitration” (Norstedts Juridik, 2022; 288 pages); chief editor (with Ylli Dautaj, Bruno Gustafsson and Rolf Åbjörnsson)
- “Guide to the Finnish Arbitration Rules” (Lakimiesliiton Kustannus, 2015; 649 + 404 pages)
- “Law and Practice of Arbitration in Finland” (Finnish Arbitration Association, 2004; 105 pages), editor and co-author (Chapter on “Arbitral Award”)

Published numerous articles and case comments in Finnish and international legal journals mainly in the fields of arbitration and other procedural law, contract law and competition litigation. By way of example:

- Case comment on the Finnish Supreme Court's judgment KKO 1996:21, Defensor Legis (Journal of the Finnish Bar Association) 1997 pp. 157-163 (subject: bankruptcy law)
- Case comment on the Finnish Supreme Court's judgment KKO 1996:84, Defensor Legis (Journal of the Finnish Bar Association) 1997 pp. 344-353 (subject: contract law)
- "Remarks on the Application of Section 67 of the Finnish Sale of Goods Act" (in Finnish: "Havaintoja kauppalaain 67 §:n sisällöstä ja soveltamiskäytännöstä"), Defensor Legis (Journal of the Finnish Bar Association) 1997 pp. 862-872
- Case comment on the Finnish Supreme Court's judgment KKO 1996:129, Lakimies (Journal of the Association of Finnish Lawyers) 1997 pp. 928-940 (subject: procedural law)
- Case comment on the Finnish Supreme Court's judgment KKO 1997:202, Defensor Legis (Journal of the Finnish Bar Association) 1998 pp. 379-391 (subject: company law)
- "Anticipatory Breach of Contract" (in Finnish: "Ennakoidusta sopimusrikkomuksesta"), Defensor Legis (Journal of the Finnish Bar Association) 1998 pp. 1006-1031
- "Fault in Possession in the Sale of Goods" (in Finnish: "Vallintavirheestä irtaimen kaupassa"), Defensor Legis (Journal of the Finnish Bar Association) 1999 pp. 275-288
- "Compensation Payment in Public Procurement Cases" (in Finnish: "Hyvitysmaksusta julkisissa hankinnoissa"), Defensor Legis (Journal of the Finnish Bar Association) 2000 pp. 230-244
- "Enforcement of Multi-Tiered Dispute Resolution Clauses: Finland", Arbitration and ADR: Newsletter of Committee D of the International Bar Association Section on Business Law, Vol. 6 No. 2, October 2001 (co-author)
- "Scope of Application of the Section on General Precautionary Measures in the Finnish Code of Judicial Procedure" (in Finnish: "Oikeudenkäymiskaaren yleisen turvaamistoimissäännöksen soveltamisalasta"), Defensor Legis (Journal of the Finnish Bar Association) 2001 pp. 435-468
- Case comment on Final Arbitral Award rendered in the SCC case 16/2000, Stockholm Arbitration Report 2002:1, pp. 96-106 (co-author)
- "Other Decisions than Final Arbitral Awards in Arbitration Proceedings" (in Finnish: "Muut ratkaisut kuin lopulliset välitystuomiot välimiesmenettelyssä"), Defensor Legis (Journal of the Finnish Bar Association) 2003 pp. 385-416

- “Production of Documents in Finnish Arbitral Proceedings”, International Bar Association Committee D Newsletter, Vol. 8 No. 1, February 2003
- “Adjustment of Arbitration Clauses Under Finnish Law”, International Bar Association Committee D Newsletter, Vol. 9 No. 1, May 2004
- Book review of “Arbitration Law of Sweden: Practice and Procedure” by Professor Lars Heuman, Stockholm Arbitration Report 2004:1, pp. 317-346 (co-author)
- Book review of “Arbitration Law of Sweden: Practice and Procedure” by Professor Lars Heuman, Defensor Legis (Journal of the Finnish Bar Association) 2004 pp. 125-145
- “Arbitral Proceedings: A Comparative Approach to the Swedish Arbitration Act of 1999 and the Finnish Arbitration Act of 1992”, in “The Swedish Arbitration Act 1999, Five Years On: A Critical Review of Strengths and Weaknesses. Papers Presented, and the Ensuing Discussions, at an International Arbitration Symposium Held in Stockholm on 7 and 8 October 2004” (editors: Lars Heuman and Sigvard Jarvin), 2006, pp. 321-338
- “Multi-tiered Dispute Resolution Clauses Under Finnish Law”, article in the joint publication of the American Arbitration Association, Fordham International Law Journal and Fordham Urban Law Journal: “ADR & the Law” (20th edition), 2006, pp. 234-265
- “Rights of Defence of a Business Enterprise in Cartel Proceedings” (in Finnish: “Yrityksen puolustautumisoikeudet kartelliprosessissa”), Defensor Legis (Journal of the Finnish Bar Association) 2006 pp. 853-873
- “Finnish Supreme Court places limits on an advocate’s duty of secrecy”, International Litigation News, International Bar Association Legal Practice Division Newsletter, May 2007 (co-author)
- “Application of Competition Law Rules in Arbitration” (in Finnish: “Kilpailuoikeuden soveltamisesta välimiesmenettelyssä”), article in the Jubilee Publication for Professor Juha Lappalainen, 2007, pp. 483-515
- “Validity and binding effect of arbitration clauses – recent case law from the Supreme Court of Finland”, Newsletter of the Arbitration Committee of the International Bar Association Legal Practice Division, October 2007 (co-author)
- “Drafting Arbitration Clauses in International Contracts I” (in Finnish: “Välityslausekkeen laadinnasta kansainvälisluontoisissa sopimuksissa I”), Defensor Legis (Journal of the Finnish Bar Association) 2008 pp. 13-52
- “Recent case law from the Supreme Court of Finland: state immunity and cross-border insolvency issues”, International Litigation News, International Bar Association Legal Practice Division Newsletter, May 2008 (co-author)

- Book review of “Judicial Control of Arbitral Decision-making” (in Finnish: “Välimieslainkäytön oikeudellinen kontrolli”) by LL.D. Risto Koulu, Lakimies (Journal of the Association of Finnish Lawyers) 2008 pp. 1013-1021
- “Drafting Arbitration Clauses in International Contracts II” (in Finnish: “Välityslausekkeen laadinnasta kansainvälisluontoisissa sopimuksissa II”), Defensor Legis (Journal of the Finnish Bar Association) 2009 pp. 31-74
- “Recent case law from Finland: the product liability of tobacco manufacturers”, International Litigation News, International Bar Association Legal Practice Division Newsletter, April 2009 (co-author)
- “Arbitrator-Ordered Interim Measures of Protection in International Arbitration”, article in the Jubilee Publication for Justice Gustaf Möller, Special Edition of Tidskrift Utgiven av Juridiska Föreningen i Finland 2011 pp. 647-663
- “Overview of the New Arbitration Rules of the Finland Chamber of Commerce”, paper presented at the Helsinki International Arbitration Day 2013, Helsinki, 22 May 2013
- “Interim Measures and Emergency Arbitrator Proceedings”, article in the Croatian Arbitration Yearbook 2016, pp. 73-97 (based on the paper presented at the 23rd Croatian Arbitration Days, Zagreb, 3–4 December 2015)
- “Confirmation of Arbitrators Under the FAI Arbitration Rules” (in Finnish: “Välimiehen vahvistaminen Keskuskauppakamarin sääntöjen mukaisessa välimiesmenettelyssä”), article co-authored with FAI Secretary General Ms. Heidi Merikallasteir, Liikejuridiikka (”Business Law”) number 1, 2016, pp. 111-139
- “Awarding Costs in International Commercial Arbitration”, article in the Scandinavian Studies in Law, Vol. 63, 2017 (editors: Lars Heuman, Peter Wahgren and Patricia Shaughnessy), pp. 275-318
- “Why and How Should the Finnish Arbitration Act Be Amended?” (in Finnish: “Miksi ja miten välimiesmenettelylakia tulisi muuttaa?”), Defensor Legis (Journal of the Finnish Bar Association) 2017 pp. 501-513
- A number of case comments on arbitral awards and court decisions pertaining to arbitration in Finland for ITA Arbitration Report (together with Ms. Anna-Maria Tamminen of Hannes Snellman Attorneys Ltd), Kluwer Arbitration 2015-2017
- “Arbitrator-ordered Costs of Injunctive Relief Proceedings in National Court: When Should a Party Be Able to Recover its Costs?”, Kluwer Arbitration Blog, 6 April 2017
- “Jurisdictional Decision Finding that an FAI Arbitration Clause in a Draft Agreement was Valid and Binding on the Parties”, Kluwer Arbitration Blog, 29 September 2017

- “FAI Arbitral Tribunal’s Separate Award on the Reimbursement of Advance on Costs”, Kluwer Arbitration Blog, 23 January 2018
- “FAI Board’s Recent Practice on the Consolidation of Arbitrations under the FAI Rules”, Kluwer Arbitration Blog, 16 February 2018
- “FAI Arbitral Tribunal’s Decision concerning the Disqualification of Counsel in Arbitral Proceedings”, Kluwer Arbitration Blog, 6 March 2018
- “On the relevance of passivity in the Finnish Supreme Court’s contract law practice” (in Finnish: “Passiviteetin merkityksestä KKO:n sopimusoikeudellisessa ratkaisukäytännössä”), article posted on LinkedIn on 21 May 2018
- “On the binding effect of ‘no oral modification’ clauses under Finnish law” (in Finnish: “‘No oral modification’ -ehtojen sitovuudesta Suomen oikeudessa”), article posted on LinkedIn on 12 July 2018
- “Case comment on the Finnish Supreme Court’s precedent 2018:48 regarding the challenge of an arbitral award” (in Finnish: “Oikeustapauskommentti: KKO:n ennakkopäätös 2018:48 välitystuomion moiteasiassa”), article posted on LinkedIn on 11 August 2018
- “Case comment on the Finnish Supreme Court’s precedent 2018:37 regarding the termination of a long-term contract” (in Finnish: “Oikeustapauskommentti: KKO:n ennakkopäätös 2018:37 kestopimuksen irtisanomisesta”), article posted on LinkedIn on 11 November 2018
- “Justice denied: can a party unilaterally waive its right to arbitrate by initiating court proceedings?”, article posted on LinkedIn on 26 April 2019
- “A short note on delay interest: three case studies” (in Finnish: “Viivästyskorosta vähäsen: kolme case-esimerkkiä”), article posted on LinkedIn on 11 April 2020
- Joint book review of “A Guide to the IBA Rules on the Taking of Evidence in International Arbitration” by Roman Khodykin and Carol Mulcahy (Consultant editor Nicholas Fletcher QC) and “Rules of Evidence in International Arbitration: An Annotated Guide” (Second edition) by Nathan D. O’Malley, Arbitration: The International Journal of Arbitration, Mediation and Dispute Management, Vol. 86, Issue 3 (August 2020), pp. 373-388 and Defensor Legis (Journal of the Finnish Bar Association) 2020 pp. 249-267 and 445-463
- “The Finnish Supreme Court’s new precedent 2020:89 on the binding effect of an arbitration agreement on third parties” (in Finnish: “KKO:n uusi ennakkopäätös 2020:89 välityssopimuksen sivullissitovuudesta”), article posted on LinkedIn on 1 December 2020
- “The best advocacy advice you’ll ever hear?”, article posted on LinkedIn on 20 May 2021

- “Awarding Interest in International Arbitration”, article in the Jubilee Publication for Professor Seppo Villa, 2021, pp. 493-515
- “How Do Tribunals Deliberate? A Guide to Effective Arbitral Decision-Making in International Arbitration”, article in the Stockholm Arbitration Yearbook, Vol. 3, 2021 (editors: Alex Calissendorff and Patrik Schöldström), pp. 37-63
- “An Arbitrator’s View on Advocacy in the Oral Hearing” (in Finnish: “Asianajosta välimiesmenettelyn suullisessa käsittelyssä – välimiehen näkökulma”), Defensor Legis (Journal of the Finnish Bar Association) 2022 pp. 369-381
- “A primer on the art of persuasion in international arbitration”, article posted on LinkedIn on 4 February 2023
- Report on the “37th SIA-ICC Joint Symposium of Arbitrators: Tribunal Deliberations and Award Drafting”, ICC Dispute Resolution Bulletin 2023, Issue 1, pp. 79-82 (co-author)
- “Back to Basics: the Golden Rules of Advocacy”, article posted on LinkedIn on 21 May 2023
- Book review of “Arbitration: The Art & Science of Persuasion” by Donald E. Vinson and Klaus Reichert (Oxford University Press 2022), Arbitration: The International Journal of Arbitration, Mediation and Dispute Management, Vol. 89, Issue 2 (July 2023), pp. 216-223
- “What’s All That Noise? Arbitrators and the Flaws in Human Judgment”, article posted on LinkedIn on 19 November 2023
- “Procedural Order No. 1 – Trends and Practices”, ASA Bulletin Vol. 41, Issue 4 (2023), pp. 783-804
- “Becoming a Trusted Advisor: How to Influence Your Fellow Arbitrators in Tribunal Deliberations”, article posted on LinkedIn on 17 August 2024
- “The Role of an Expert in Commercial Contracts: Some Insights from the High Court of Justice’s Decision in *Dandara South East v Medway Preservation*”, article posted on LinkedIn on 2 October 2024
- “A Few Words on the Standard of Proof: A Professional Arbitrator’s Thoughts on the High Court of Justice’s Decision in *Blower v GH Canfields*” (in Finnish: “Näyttökynnyksestä vähäsen: ammattivälimiehen ajatuksia High Court of Justicen ratkaisusta *Blower v GH Canfields*”), article posted on LinkedIn on 20 November 2024
- “On the Anatomy of a Limitation of Liability Clause: A Brief Comment on the Court of Appeal’s Decision in *Topalsson GmbH v Rolls-Royce Motor Cars Ltd* [2024] EWCA Civ 1330” (in Finnish: “Erään vastuunrajoitusehdon anatomia: lyhyt kommentti Court of Appealin ratkaisusta *Topalsson GmbH v Rolls-Royce Motor Cars Ltd* [2024] EWCA Civ 1330”), article posted on LinkedIn on 11 December 2024

- “Can a Court Amend an Arbitral Tribunal’s Cost Decision in a Challenge Against an Award? Observations on the Svea Court of Appeal’s Recent Case Law” (in Finnish: “Voiko tuomioistuim muuttaa välitysoikeuden kuluratkaisua välitystuomion moitejutussa? Huomioita Svean hovioikeuden tuoreesta ratkaisukäytännöstä”), article posted on LinkedIn on 23 February 2025
- Book review of “The Conduct of International Arbitration Proceedings” by Yves Derains (Edward Elgar Publishing Limited 2024), *Journal of International Arbitration*, Vol. 42, Issue 3 (2025), pp. 399-408
- “Ten Fail-Safe Ways to Irritate, Alienate and Antagonize Your Arbitral Tribunal”, *ASA Bulletin* Vol. 43, Issue 1 (2025), pp. 46-57
- “Arbitrating in the Nordics: Distilling Common Traits and Uncovering Differences”, article in “Nordic Commercial Arbitration Forum 2025 – Nordic Arbitration: A Strategic Choice for Business” (editors: Johnny Herre, Therese Isaksson, Daria Kozłowska-Rautiainen, Natalia Petrik and Monica Seifert), 2025, pp. 87-99
- “Some Observations on the Ministry of Justice’s Proposal for a New Finnish Arbitration Act” (in Finnish: “Eräitä huomioita oikeusministeriön ehdotuksesta uudeksi välitysmenettelylaiksi”), article posted on LinkedIn on 4 January 2026

Further, in his capacity as past Chair of the Board of the Arbitration Institute of the Finland Chamber of Commerce (the “FAI”), Mr. Savola regularly produced anonymized extracts of, and case comments on, decisions made by the FAI Board and arbitral tribunals in different FAI arbitrations. Below is a list of such case comments published on the FAI’s website:

- “*Prima facie* jurisdictional decision by the FAI Board allowing a single arbitration initiated against two separate parties on the basis of three different arbitration agreements to proceed”, posted on 14 November 2014
- “Arbitral award confirming arbitrator’s jurisdiction to hear a dispute arising out of an oral extension of a written contract containing an arbitration clause providing for arbitration under the FAI Expedited Rules”, posted on 3 December 2014
- “Two decisions by the FAI Board and arbitral tribunal allowing the arbitration to proceed regardless of a jurisdictional objection”, posted on 26 February 2015
- “FAI Board’s negative jurisdictional decision under Article 14.2 refusing to allow the counterclaim to proceed in the arbitration”, posted on 2 March 2015
- “FAI Board’s first ruling on the consolidation of arbitrations under Article 13”, posted on 4 May 2015
- “FAI award dealing with specific cost allocation provisions in the arbitration clause”, posted on 21 August 2015
- “Sole Arbitrator’s ruling on an ‘Independent Auditor clause’ as an alleged bar to arbitral proceedings”, posted on 27 October 2015

- “Sole Arbitrator’s jurisdictional decision in a license agreement dispute”, posted on 24 February 2016
- “Sole Arbitrator’s decision on a document production request”, posted on 23 March 2016
- “Sole Arbitrator’s decision on the interpretation of Article 33.3 FAI Rules”, posted on 4 April 2016
- “Sole Arbitrator’s jurisdictional decision finding that an arbitration clause contained in a loan agreement was valid and binding on both the lender and the guarantor”, posted on 30 May 2016
- “FAI award addressing the principles of contract interpretation under Finnish law”, posted on 30 August 2016
- “Arbitral Tribunal’s ruling on a breach of confidentiality obligations”, posted on 25 November 2016
- “FAI award declaring a service agreement terminated due to a material breach of contract”, posted on 8 February 2017
- “FAI award addressing the recoverability of the costs of injunction proceedings in the subsequent FAI arbitration”, posted on 3 March 2017
- “Further practice on the application of the ‘cut-off date’ provision in Article 33.3 FAI Rules”, posted on 19 June 2017
- “Jurisdictional decision finding that an FAI arbitration clause in a draft agreement was valid and binding on the parties”, posted on 2 October 2017
- “FAI arbitral tribunal’s decision regarding a document production request”, posted on 7 December 2017
- “FAI arbitral tribunal’s jurisdictional decision in a shareholders’ agreement dispute”, posted on 2 January 2018
- “FAI arbitral tribunal’s separate award on the reimbursement of advance on costs”, posted on 24 January 2018
- “FAI arbitral tribunal’s separate award on the conditions of set-off under Finnish law”, posted on 2 February 2018
- “FAI Board’s recent practice on the consolidation of arbitrations under the FAI Rules”, posted on 19 February 2018
- “FAI award in a sale of business dispute regarding the calculation of purchase price”, posted on 26 February 2018
- “Further FAI case law on sale of business disputes”, posted on 5 March 2018

- “FAI arbitral tribunal’s decision concerning the disqualification of counsel in arbitral proceedings”, posted on 7 March 2018

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

Frequent speaker and panelist at seminars and conferences on a wide range of arbitration-related topics. By way of example:

- “Other Decisions than Final Arbitral Awards in Arbitration Proceedings”, keynote speech at the General Meeting of the Finnish Arbitration Association, Helsinki, 26 March 2003
- “The Swedish Arbitration Act 1999, Five Years On: A Critical Review of Strengths and Weaknesses – Comments on the Symposium Report for Session IV on Proceedings”, presentation at the International Arbitration Symposium, Stockholm, 7–8 October 2004
- “Application of Competition Rules in Arbitral Proceedings”, Business Law Forum, University of Helsinki, Helsinki, 13 October 2005
- “The Effect of Common Law based Contract Clauses – such as *Entire Agreement*, *No Oral Amendment* or *No Waiver* – on Contracts Governed by Finnish Substantive Law”, keynote speech at Juridiska Föreningen i Finland’s discussion meeting, Helsinki, 2 April 2009
- “Requests for Production of Documents and Written Witness Statements”, presentation at the International Bar Association’s IBA Northern European Conference, Helsinki, 3–4 September 2009
- Moderator in the roundtable discussion “Users’ Expectations and Experience in Arbitration”, 100th Anniversary Seminar of the Arbitration Institute of the Finland Chamber of Commerce, Helsinki, 21 October 2011
- Commentator on the keynote speeches given by Ms. Nathalie Voser and Mr. Simon Greenberg at “The official ICC launch of the new ICC Rules of Arbitration in Finland”, seminar arranged by the International Chamber of Commerce – ICC Finland, Helsinki, 1 December 2011
- “Overview of the New Arbitration Rules of the Finland Chamber of Commerce”, keynote speech at the Helsinki International Arbitration Day 2013: “Advocacy in international arbitration”, Helsinki, 22 May 2013
- Panelist in the roundtable discussion “Arbitration Institutions’ Approaches to Interim Measures”, AIJA 2013 May Conference, Seminar II: Powers of Arbitrators, Helsinki, 24 May 2013
- Panelist in the roundtable discussion “Practical Experiences with the New Arbitration Rules of the Finland Chamber of Commerce”, Helsinki International Arbitration Day 2014: “Demystifying the role of the arbitrator”, Helsinki, 5 June 2014

- Lecturer at the “Finnish Arbitration Academy” (a study program comprising several seminar modules designed to educate the participants on how to become skillful and efficient arbitrators and counsel in arbitration proceedings) arranged by the Finland Chamber of Commerce, Helsinki, August – December 2014, 2015, 2016 and 2017
- “Interim Measures and Emergency Arbitrator Proceedings”, presentation at the 23rd Croatian Arbitration Days, Zagreb, 3–4 December 2015
- Speaker at the arbitration seminars arranged jointly by the Finland Arbitration Institute and the Arbitration Institute of the Stockholm Chamber of Commerce (on the topics of confirmation of arbitrators, determination of arbitrators’ fees, multiparty proceedings and consolidation of arbitrations), Helsinki 21 January 2016, Stockholm 16 February 2016
- Speaker and panelist in the Swedish Arbitration Association’s seminar “Fast track arbitration in Sweden and Finland”, Stockholm, 16 March 2016
- Speaker at the Helsinki International Arbitration Day 2016: “Time to change our mindsets and to think outside the (tool) box?”, Helsinki, 26 May 2016
- Speaker at the arbitration seminar arranged jointly by the Finland Arbitration Institute and the Arbitration Institute of the Stockholm Chamber of Commerce (on the topics of consolidation of proceedings, confirmation of arbitrators and determination of the costs of arbitration), Helsinki, 8 March 2017
- Speaker at the Helsinki International Arbitration Day 2017: “Taking a Close Look at Today’s Arbitral Process and Who Pays For It”, Helsinki, 18 May 2017
- Speaker and panelist at the FAI seminar “The Need for Revisions of the Finnish Arbitration Act”, Helsinki, 25 January 2018
- Speaker at the Finnish Bar Association’s seminar “Serving as Counsel in Arbitration Proceedings” on the topic of “Advocacy from an Arbitrator’s Point of View”, Helsinki, 11 November 2021
- Speaker and panelist at the 37th Annual Joint Symposium of Arbitrators organized by the School of International Arbitration (Queen Mary University of London) and the ICC Institute of World Business Law on the topic of “Tribunal Deliberations and Award Drafting” (rapporteur on the sub-topic “How Do Tribunals Deliberate? Format and Process of Deliberations”), London, 27 June 2022
- Speaker at the book launch of “Digital Hearings – Civil Procedure and Arbitration” (an anthology published by Norstedts Juridik in which Mr. Savola served as the chief editor), Stockholm, 13 October 2022 and New York, 9 January 2023
- Panelist at the 12. Baltic Arbitration Days 2023 on the discussion topic “IT and LegalTech in Arbitration”, Riga, 12 June 2023

- Speaker at the Copenhagen Arbitration Day 2023: “The Future of Arbitration” on the topic of “Procedural Order No. 1 – Trends and Practices”, Copenhagen, 5 October 2023
- Panelist at the inaugural Nordic Commercial Arbitration Forum on the discussion topic “Overview of Professional Experiences in the Field of Arbitration Under Nordic Arbitration Rules, as Arbitrator or as Counsel”, Stockholm, 11 March 2025
- Panelist in the Danish Arbitration Association’s seminar “How Advocacy Works in Arbitration”, Copenhagen, 1 May 2026

RANKINGS AND ACCOLADES

Consistently listed as the leading Finnish arbitration lawyer in all the major international legal directories, including e.g. Chambers, Legal 500, Who’s Who Legal: Arbitration, and Lexology Index.

Chambers awarded Mr. Savola a unique “Star Individual” ranking each year since 2014 until he gave up counsel work in 2018. He remains listed in the “Most in Demand Arbitrators” category.

In 2018, Mr. Savola was inducted to The Legal 500 EMEA Hall of Fame. It highlights individuals who have received constant praise by their clients for continued excellence and who have been recognized by Legal 500 as one of the elite leading lawyers for seven consecutive years.

Further, in 2017, the Finland Chamber of Commerce awarded Mr. Savola “The Chamber of Commerce Cross” on behalf of the Finnish business and industry for his meritorious work for the FAI and contribution to the Finnish business and industry.

Below is a sample of quotes from legal directories describing Mr. Savola’s qualities as arbitrator and counsel:

- “[...] highlighted for his arbitration experience in areas such as construction, M&A and intellectual property” (Chambers Global 2023)
- “Israel-based Mika Savola is held in high esteem for his arbitration practice. Sources laud him as a *‘superb arbitrator,’* with a market commentator asserting that Savola is *‘one of the best.’*” (Chambers Global 2021)
- “Independent arbitrator Mika Savola is praised by sources as *‘excellent’* and *‘first rate’* for his arbitration work. Commentators also state that he has *‘lots of experience’* and is *‘an unusually diligent person.’*” (Chambers Global 2019)
- “Mika Savola recently relocated to Israel after a long career at Finnish law firm, Hannes Snellman, where he was one of Finland’s most respected disputes lawyers, and a top choice for arbitration... He enjoys a fantastic reputation as a lawyer who is *‘very experienced, pragmatic and quickly understands the big picture.’*” (Chambers Global 2018)

- “Mika Savola is renowned for his international arbitration expertise across various industry sectors... *‘He’s the number one dispute resolution practitioner in Finland... He’s very responsive, has a brilliant legal mind and is extremely hard working.’*” (Chambers Global and Chambers Europe 2017)
- “... *‘a great character and a great lawyer’* who always *‘thinks one step ahead of the competition’*...” (Legal 500, 2013)
- “Clients appreciate his breadth of knowledge and scientific approach to complex disputes.” (Chambers Global and Chambers Europe 2013)
- “*‘He is thorough, tough and strong-minded litigator and would go through a stone wall if he had to,’* clients say.” (Chambers Global and Chambers Europe 2010)
- “One client remarked on his capability to deal with all ambushes attempted by the disputing party yet never loses sight of commercial realities.” (PLCWhichLawyer Yearbook 2009)
- “Mika Savola garners respect for his resilient, *‘hands-on approach’*, likening him to *‘a terrier that just won’t let go of the ball’*.” (Chambers Global 2007)
- “He wins plaudits for his perseverance, hard work and thorough approach, *‘he will leave no stone unturned’*, say peers.” (Chambers Global 2006)
- “... highly regarded for his contentious aptitude...” (Legal 500, 2004)

MEMBERSHIPS

Finnish Arbitration Association 1998-
 London Court of International Arbitration 2002-
 Swedish Arbitration Association 2008-
 Finnish Bar Association 2000-2018
 International Bar Association, Arbitration and Litigation Committees 2001-2017
 ICC Commission on Arbitration and ADR 2004-2018
 Swiss Arbitration Association 2003-2021
 International Council for Commercial Arbitration (ICCA) 2015-2020

LANGUAGE SKILLS

Finnish	Native
English	Proficient
Swedish	Proficient (reading) / intermediate (speaking, writing)
French	Intermediate (reading)
Hebrew	Basic communication skills

Appendix

Anonymized examples of past arbitrator appointments

Under the ICC Rules:

- Russian entity v. German company, dispute arising out of a construction and engineering contract, ICC Rules, Swedish/Russian law (chairperson)
- Cypriot company v. German company, engineering dispute related to the construction of a production line, ICC Rules, Swedish law (sole arbitrator)
- Finnish company v. Swiss and German companies, dispute related to transportation and logistics services, ICC Rules, Finnish law (sole arbitrator)
- Irish company v. Finnish company, software copyright and licensing dispute, ICC Rules, Irish/Finnish/EU law (co-arbitrator)
- Norwegian company v. Finnish company, dispute arising out of an engine delivery contract, ICC Rules, Finnish law (co-arbitrator)
- Russian company v. Finnish company, dispute related to the termination of a construction contract, ICC Rules, Finnish law (co-arbitrator)
- Romanian company v. Finnish company, dispute arising out of a construction and engineering contract, ICC Rules, Finnish law (co-arbitrator)
- Finnish company v. Finnish company, dispute arising out of a supply and manufacturing contract, ICC Rules, Finnish law (co-arbitrator)
- Finnish company v. Finnish and Italian companies, dispute arising out of a construction and engineering contract, ICC Rules, Finnish law (co-arbitrator)

Under the SCC Rules:

- Kazakh company v. Russian entity, dispute arising out of a contract for satellite launch services, SCC Rules, Swedish law (chairperson)
- Latvian company v. Latvian company, dispute related to the termination of a construction contract, SCC Rules, Latvian law (chairperson)
- Russian company v. Swedish company, dispute related to the termination of a supply contract, SCC Rules, Swedish law (chairperson)
- Dutch individual v. Swedish company, dispute arising out of a contract for the subscription of shares pursuant to warrants, SCC Rules, Swedish law (chairperson)
- Swedish company v. German company, dispute arising out of a share purchase agreement, SCC Rules, Swedish law (sole arbitrator)

- Swiss company v. Malaysian company, dispute arising out of an arms supply contract, SCC Rules, Swedish/Swiss law (sole arbitrator)
- Swedish company v. UK company, dispute arising out of an advertising contract, SCC Rules, Swedish/English law (sole arbitrator)
- Russian entity v. Austrian company, dispute arising out of a sale of goods contract, SCC Rules, CISG/Swedish law (sole arbitrator)
- Swedish company v. Cypriot and Polish companies, dispute related to the termination of a licensing agreement, SCC Rules, Swedish/Polish law (sole arbitrator)
- Estonian, Polish and French companies v. Estonian company, dispute arising out of a construction contract and calling on an on-demand bond, SCC Rules, Estonian law (emergency arbitrator)
- Latvian company v. Irish company, dispute arising out of a sale of goods contract, SCC Rules, Swedish law (co-arbitrator)
- Finnish company v. Finnish company, dispute arising out of an EPCM and consultancy contract, SCC Rules, Finnish law (co-arbitrator)

Under the DIA Rules:

- Singaporean company v. Danish and US companies, dispute arising out of a shareholders' agreement, DIA Rules, Danish law (chairperson)
- Danish company v. German company, dispute arising out of a share purchase agreement, DIA Rules, Danish law (chairperson)
- Norwegian entity v. German company, dispute arising out of an engine manufacturing contract, DIA Rules, Danish/Norwegian law (chairperson)
- Swedish company v. Danish company, dispute arising out of a supply and manufacturing contract, DIA Rules, Danish law (chairperson)
- Danish company v. Dutch entity, dispute arising out of a loan agreement, DIA Rules, Danish law (sole arbitrator)

Under the UNCITRAL Rules:

- Italian company v. Finnish company, engineering dispute related to the construction of a production line, UNCITRAL Rules, Finnish/Italian law (chairperson)
- Slovenian company v. UK company, dispute arising out of a reinsurance agreement, UNCITRAL Rules, English law (co-arbitrator)

Under the ICSID Rules:

- Member of an annulment committee in ICSID Arbitration Case No. ARB/18/25 (*ITOCHU Corporation v. Kingdom of Spain – Annulment*)
- Member of an annulment committee in ICSID Arbitration Case No. ARB/13/36 (*Eiser Infrastructure Limited and Energía Solar Luxembourg S.à.r.l. v. Kingdom of Spain – (Resubmission) – Annulment*)

Under the FAI Rules:

- Finnish, Swedish and Norwegian companies v. Luxembourgish company, dispute arising out of a liability insurance contract, FAI Rules, Finnish law (chairperson)
- Finnish company v. Finnish company, dispute arising out of a contract for the construction of a nuclear power plant, FAI Rules, Finnish law (chairperson)
- Finnish company v. Finnish company, dispute arising out of a contract for IT hosting services, FAI Rules, Finnish law (chairperson)
- Finnish companies v. Finnish companies, dispute arising out of a share purchase agreement, FAI Rules, Finnish law (chairperson)
- Finnish company v. Finnish company, dispute arising out of a lease agreement, FAI Rules, Finnish law (chairperson)
- Finnish and Swedish entities v. Finnish company, dispute arising out of a share purchase agreement, FAI Rules, Finnish law (sole arbitrator)
- Finnish company v. Brazilian company, dispute arising out of an agency agreement, FAI Rules, Finnish/Brazilian law (sole arbitrator)
- Finnish company v. Finnish subsidiary of a Dutch company, dispute arising out of a construction and engineering contract, FAI Rules, Finnish/Swedish law (sole arbitrator)
- Swedish company v. Finnish entity, dispute arising out of a contract for air medical services, FAI Rules, Finnish law (sole arbitrator)
- US company v. Luxembourgish company, dispute arising out of a liability insurance contract, FAI Rules, Finnish law (co-arbitrator)
- Finnish company v. Swedish company, dispute arising out of a liability insurance contract, FAI Rules, Finnish law (co-arbitrator)
- Finnish company v. Finnish subsidiary of an UK company, dispute related to a gas supply contract, FAI Rules, Finnish law (co-arbitrator)
- Finnish company v. Finnish companies, dispute arising out of a shareholders' agreement, FAI Rules, Finnish law (co-arbitrator)

- Finnish entity v. Finnish company, dispute regarding an auditor's liability for damages, FAI Rules, Finnish law (co-arbitrator)

Finnish ad hoc cases:

- Finnish company v. Finnish entity, insolvency-related dispute arising out of a company restructuring, *ad hoc*, Finnish law (chairperson)
- Finnish company v. Finnish company, dispute arising out of a cooperation agreement, *ad hoc*, Finnish law (sole arbitrator)
- Finnish company v. Finnish companies, dispute arising out of company bylaws, *ad hoc*, Finnish law (co-arbitrator)
- Squeeze-out proceedings under the Finnish Companies Act regarding the redemption of minority shares in Caverion Oyj, *ad hoc*, Finnish law (chairperson; the award is public)
- Squeeze-out proceedings under the Finnish Companies Act regarding the redemption of minority shares in Ramirent Oyj, *ad hoc*, Finnish law (chairperson; the award is public)
- Squeeze-out proceedings under the Finnish Companies Act regarding the redemption of minority shares in Silmäasema Oyj, *ad hoc*, Finnish law (chairperson; the award is public)
- Squeeze-out proceedings under the Finnish Companies Act regarding the redemption of minority shares in Basware Oyj, *ad hoc*, Finnish law (sole arbitrator; the award is public)
- Squeeze-out proceedings under the Finnish Companies Act regarding the redemption of minority shares in Oy Polar Mills Ab, *ad hoc*, Finnish law (sole arbitrator; the award is public)
- Squeeze-out proceedings under the Finnish Companies Act regarding the redemption of minority shares in Normet Group Oy, *ad hoc*, Finnish law (co-arbitrator; the award is public)