

# RUSSIAN ARBITRATION CENTER

at the Russian Institute of Modern Arbitration



ANNUAL  
REPORT



We are delighted to share with you our accomplishments for 2023.

In this report, we feature both the Russian Arbitration Center caseload as well as the projects and cooperation of the Russian Institute of Modern Arbitration. These areas are inseparably connected. We enhance our practices of administering arbitration to share this experience – and we organise educational projects so that counsels, arbitrators, and our employees could further develop their arbitration skills.

In 2023, we received 269 requests for arbitration, issued 201 arbitral awards, held three educational

academies, opened a representative office in Dubai International Financial Centre, and welcomed students from Russia and all over the globe to five student competitions that we organised or supported.

And there is more: throughout 2023, we discussed ideas for the future development of the Russian Arbitration Center. Our primary objectives for 2024 are to strengthen international cooperation, engage with potential arbitration users around the world, expand our lists of qualified arbitrators, support students in their aspiration to become part of the arbitration community. And, of course, to continue improvement of our arbitration rules so that parties

and arbitrators can fully concentrate on the resolution of a dispute.

Just as in 2016, when our project was founded, and now in 2024, the Russian Arbitration Center continues to grow thanks to everyone who supports us along the way. And we are eternally grateful for this support.



# 2023 EVENTS

The year 2023 was truly filled with achievements and completed projects. We are excited to share a few highlights with you.

## JANUARY

### Winter Academy “Across the Arbitration Universe: Different Perspectives on Dispute Resolution in the Modern World”

An annual project for experienced arbitration practitioners, featuring the world-renowned lecturers. In 2023, the Academy brought together participants from Russia, Kyrgyzstan, Colombia, Nigeria, UK, Rwanda, India, Germany, Bosnia and Herzegovina.

## FEBRUARY

### New Composition of the RAC Board

Nine new members joined the Board. Among the new members of the committee on international arbitration are Mohamed Abdel Wahab, Judge Shamlan Al Sawalehi, Olga Boltenko and Islambek Rustambekov.

In February, the RAC supported the National Rounds of the Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition, one of the most famous and prestigious moot courts in the world.

## MARCH

### New Executive Administrator of the RAC

As of March 1, 2023, Sabina Ganieva became new Executive Administrator of the RAC. Yulia Mullina, who had held this position since 2019, remained Director of the RIMA and RAC and continued to be involved in the Institute's projects.

### XIII Moscow Vis Pre-Moot

In 2023, 30 teams, including teams from China, India, France, UK, Ethiopia, Russia, as well as around 90 arbitrators from around the world participated in the online rounds of the Moscow Pre-Moot.

## JULY

### First RAC overseas office in Dubai (DIFC)

In July, the RAC established an office in the Dubai International Financial Centre (DIFC), a free economic zone with its own legal and court system. The RIMA obtained the status of a Recognized Company.



## AUGUST

### Summer Academy “Arbitration Vacations: Introduction to Alternative Dispute Resolution”

It is already the fourth introductory course in Russian on the basics of arbitration held by the RIMA. The Academy is conducted in person in the RAC's hearing rooms.



Information about all our projects is published on the [RAC](#) and [RIMA](#) websites and our [Telegram channel](#).

SEPTEMBER

Discussion “Unraveling Applicable Law in MENA: Strategies, Considerations and RAC Rules Instruments”

The RAC DIFC Office Launch Evening brought together distinguished experts from the MENA region, including Professor Jan Paulsson, Judge Shamlan Al Sawalehi, Anne C. Hoffmann, Adrian Cole, Alec Emmerson.



NOVEMBER

Academy for Arbitrators

In the autumn of 2023, we held the first Academy for Arbitrators, an intensive practice-oriented course for professionals wishing to be appointed as arbitrators in the future, as well as for experienced arbitrators who want to improve their knowledge and skills in arbitration.



OCTOBER

“Arbitration in the Spotlight” Conference

Our in-person international arbitration conference, first in several years, took place in October. More than 100 participants and 25 speakers gathered to discuss the most pressing dispute resolution issues: the right to access to justice, sanctions, ethics, choosing a dispute resolution forum and adapting to current realities.

VI FDI Online Pre-Moot

The Foreign Direct Investment International Arbitration Moot (FDI Moot) was preceded by our preliminary online rounds. 24 teams from various countries participated in the rounds, including Argentina, China, Colombia, Egypt, Greece, India, Indonesia, Iran, Kenya, Malaysia, Russia, Singapore, South Africa, Vietnam, and Greece.



DECEMBER

VII Mozolin Moot Court

The competition is considered to be one of the largest Russian student moot courts and the only Russian competition on arbitration of corporate disputes. In 2023, more than 300 students from various regions of Russia and Belarus, as well as more than 160 arbitrators took part in the competition.

In December, the “Dispute Resolution in the EAEU” competition was held with the support of the RAC. 18 teams from 7 states (the Eurasian Five, as well as Uzbekistan and Sierra Leone) took part in the competition.



# RAC BOARD AND EXECUTIVE ADMINISTRATOR

The RAC Board is the primary body of the arbitration institute; it is the members of the Board who decide on the appointment, challenges and termination of powers of arbitrators. Therefore, it is of utmost importance for us that the Board is credible to arbitration users and consists of recognised and independent Russian and international experts.

In 2023, significant changes occurred within the RAC Board. Firstly, during rotation, nine new members joined the RAC appointing body. And secondly, a new President of the Board and the President of the Subcommittee on Arbitration of Domestic Disputes were elected.

Additionally, modifications took place in the RAC Administrative Office. In March, the new RAC Executive Administrator was appointed. The Executive Administrator organises the work of the Administrative Office and makes sure that all cases are administered in strict compliance with the provisions of the Arbitration Rules and the best practices.



**Sabina Ganieva**  
RAC Executive Administrator



**Evgeny Raschevsky**  
President of the Subcommittee  
on Arbitration of Domestic  
Disputes



**Timur Aitkulov**  
President of the Board



**Francis Xavier, SC**  
President of the Subcommittee  
on International  
Arbitration



**Prof. Mohamed Abdel Wahab**



**H.E. Justice Shamlan  
Al Sawalehi**



**Sergey Arakelov**



**Anna Arkhipova**



**Prof. Anton Asoskov**



**Yuri Babichev**



**Olga Boltenko**



**Victoria Bortkevicha**



**Mikhail Ivanov**



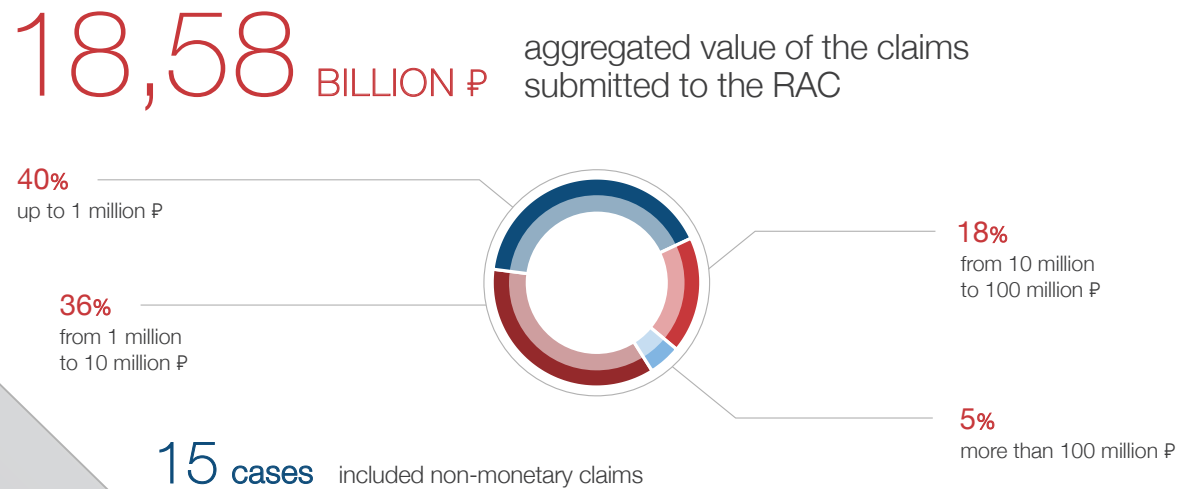
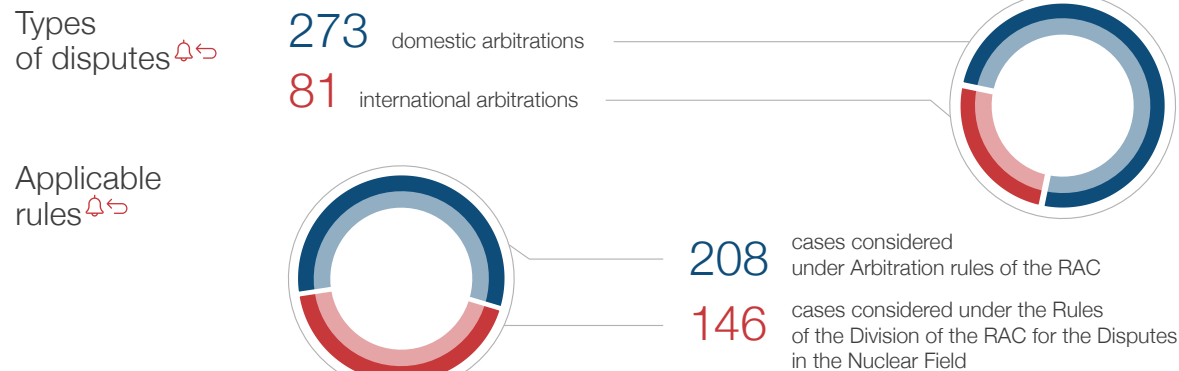
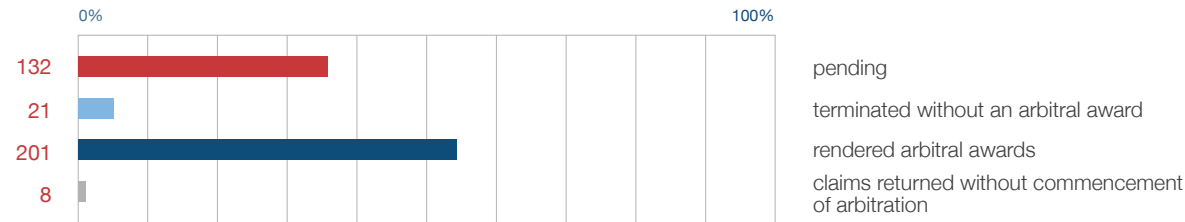
**Andrey Panov**



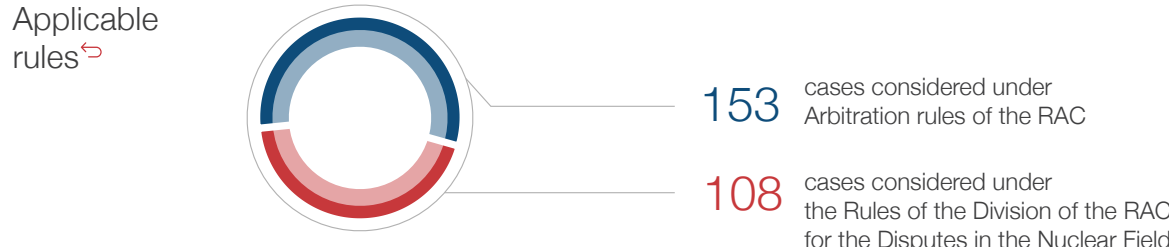
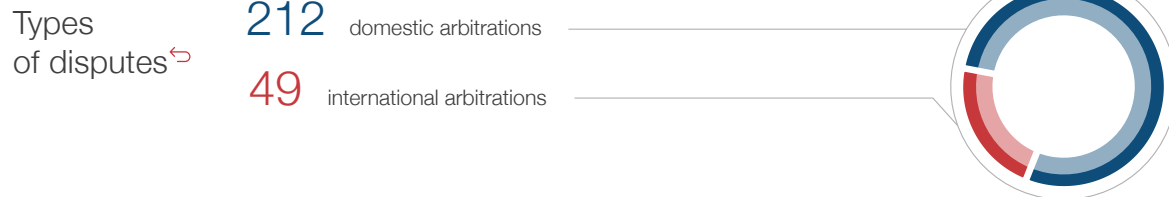
**Prof. Islambek Rustambekov**

# RAC IN FIGURES

**362** <sup>🔔</sup> cases administered in 2023



**269** claims submitted to the RAC in 2023



10 requests for consolidation of multiple claims and 4 requests for consolidation of arbitrations

## ARBITRATION PROCEDURE



## AVERAGE DURATION OF ARBITRATION since its commencement

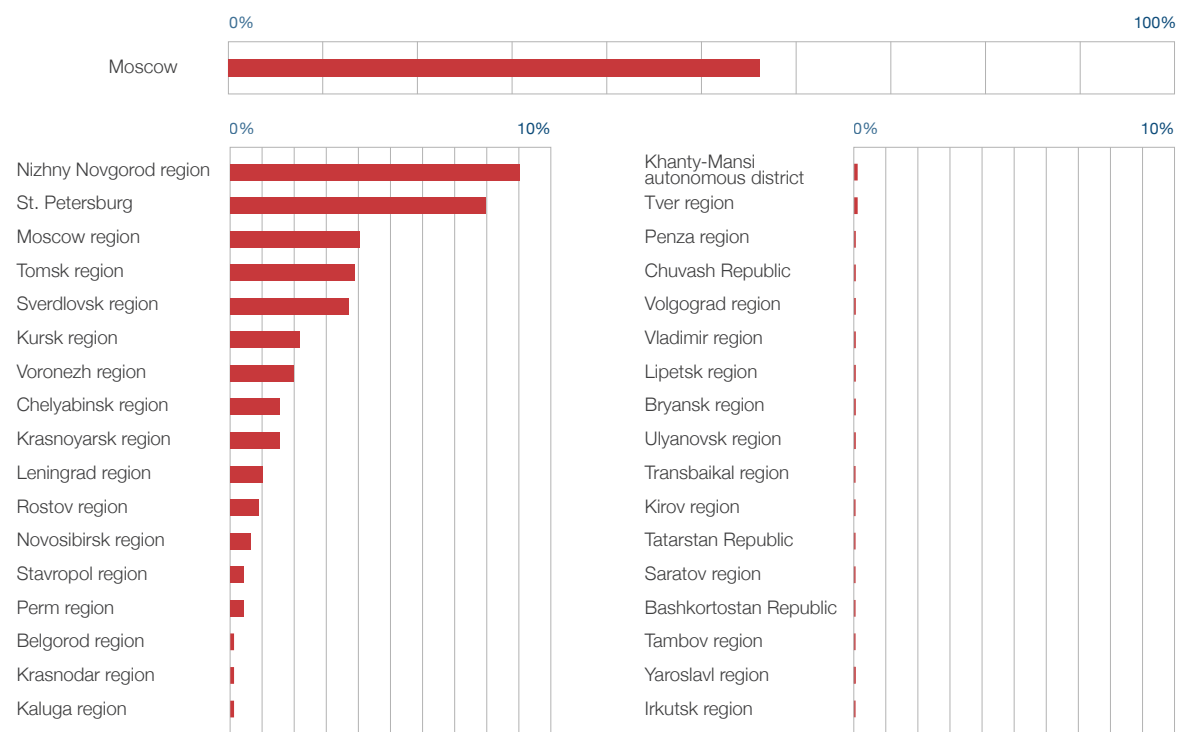
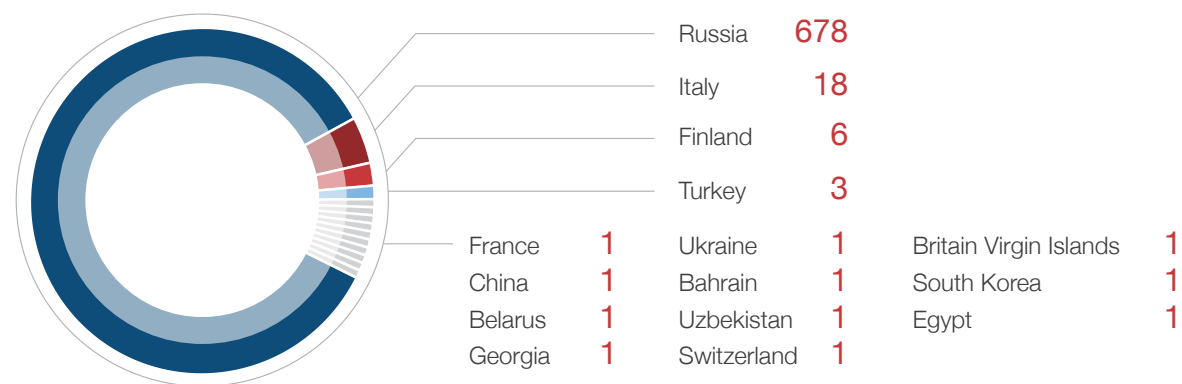
**171** days in standard procedure      **98** days in expedited arbitration

<sup>🔔</sup> including arbitrations commenced in 2022      <sup>↔</sup> not considering returned claims

# GEOGRAPHY OF THE PARTIES

 **15** countries

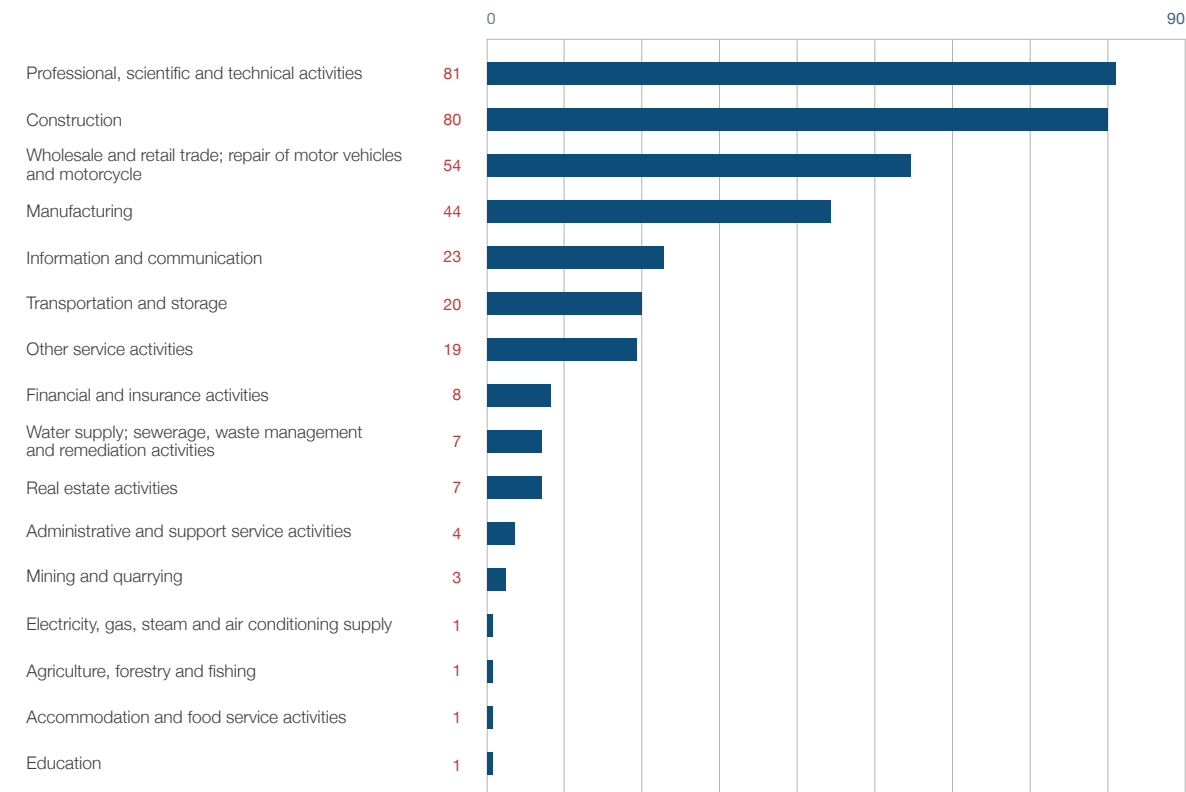
 **35** Russian regions



 including arbitrations commenced in 2022

 not considering returned claims

# ECONOMIC SECTORS OF THE DISPUTES



<sup>1</sup> In accordance with the UN International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities (Revision 4).

## MOVING TOWARDS TRANSPARENCY



Publication of RAC  
anonymised awards  
(available in Russian)



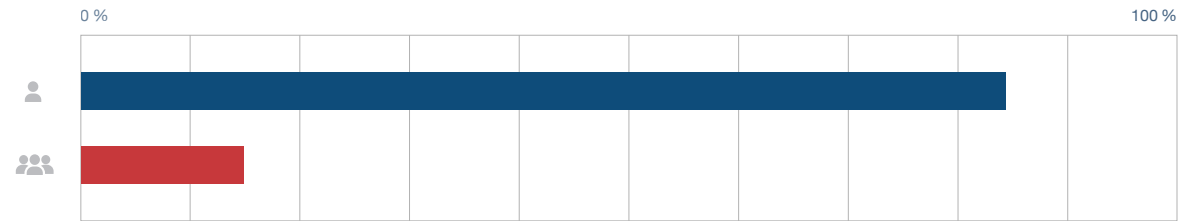
RAC awards at  
Jus Mundi,  
Wolters Kluwer, Consultant Plus



Updated Section  
on Enforceability of RAC Awards  
(available in Russian)

# RAC ARBITRATORS

**242** cases referred to arbitral tribunals

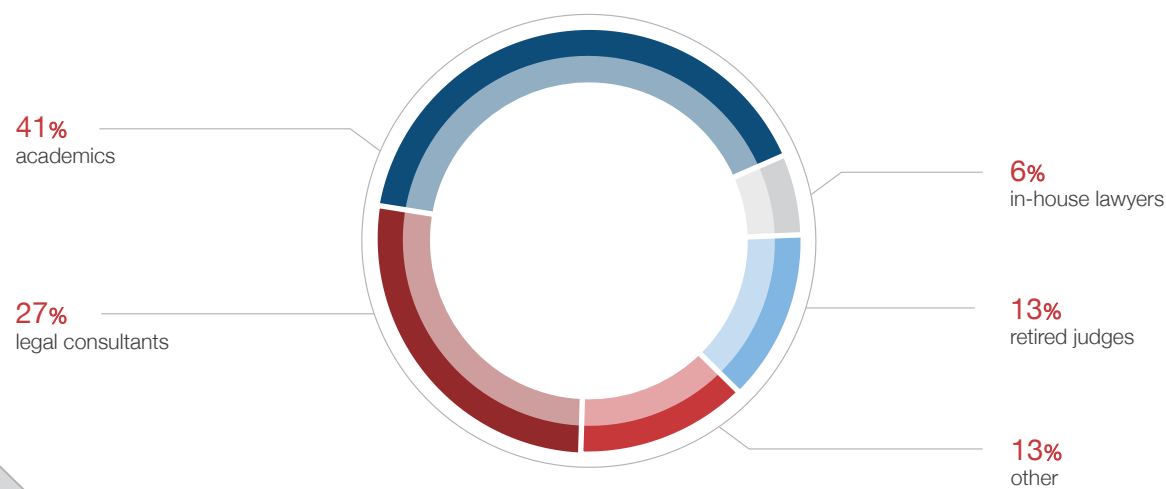


**85%** cases considered by a sole arbitrator **15%** cases considered by panel of arbitrators



In the arbitrations administered by the RAC, the arbitrators were, among others, citizens of Russia, Hong Kong, Singapore, UK, USA, Uzbekistan, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Bulgaria.

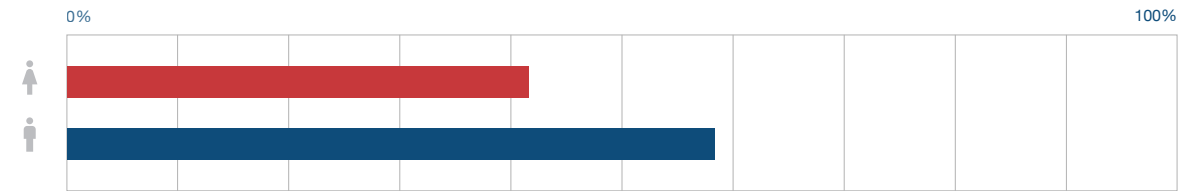
# PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES OF ARBITRATORS



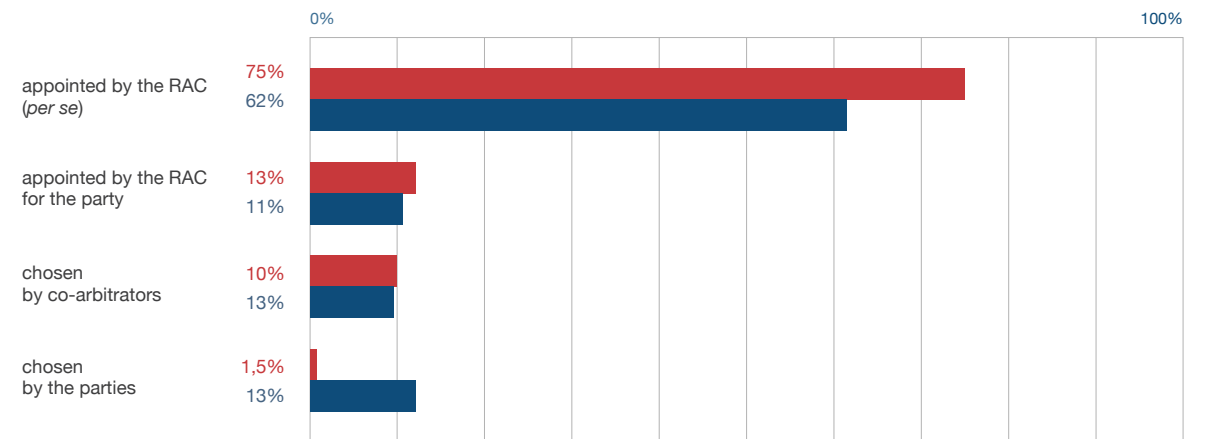
! 2 emergency arbitrators were appointed in 2023



# GENDER DIVERSITY

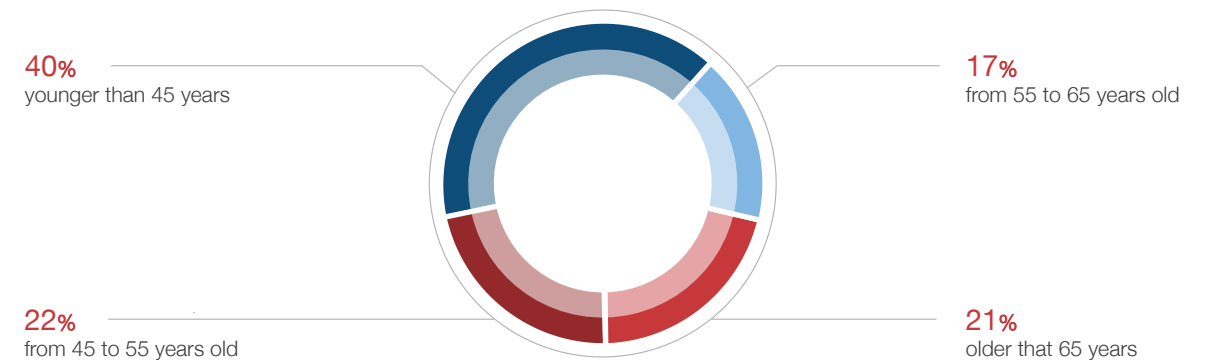


Among arbitrators in 2023 **42%** women **58%** men



# AGE RANGE OF ARBITRATORS

at the date of the constitution of the arbitral tribunal





## ORAL HEARINGS AND DOCUMENTS-BASED ARBITRATION

**29** cases considered based on documents      **190** cases considered with oral hearings



**195** cases were considered with videoconferencing

Since its foundation the Russian Arbitration Center supports eco-friendly approach to dispute resolution and is seeking to minimise negative environmental impact of its activities. The RAC is an institutional supporter of the Campaign for Greener Arbitrations, which aims to significantly reduce the carbon footprint of the arbitration community.

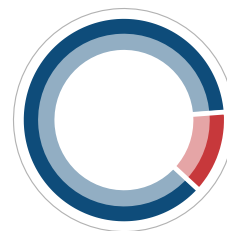


6 multi-party arbitrations



15 counterclaims

## TYPES OF ARBITRAL AWARDS



87% arbitral awards

13% arbitral awards on agreed terms

## ARBITRATIONS TERMINATED

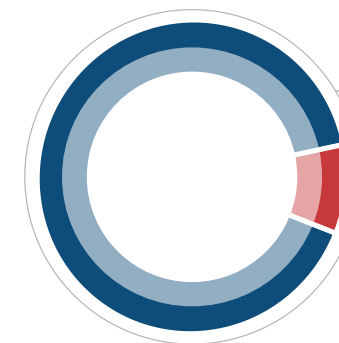


including arbitrations commenced in 2022

## ENFORCEMENT OF RAC AWARDS IN 2023 IN RUSSIAN COMMERCIAL COURTS

**100%** enforceability of RAC arbitral awards

**76** cases in state courts

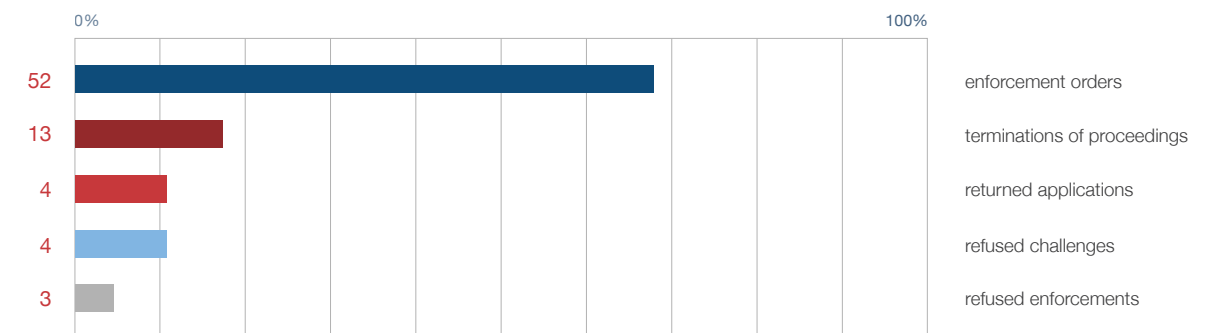


69

applications for enforcement of RAC arbitral awards

7

applications for challenge of RAC arbitral awards



Terminations of the proceedings were due to withdrawal of the applications, direct agreement of the parties on the finality of the arbitral award, the settlement agreement.



Refusals to enforce RAC awards were related to voluntary compliance with arbitral awards, set-off or double recovery.

# RAC OFFICE IN DUBAI

Since July 2023, the Russian Arbitration Center is the first Russian institution with the overseas office in the Dubai International Financial Centre (DIFC). The Russian Institute of Modern Arbitration has the status of a Recognized Company.

The opening of the office in the MENA region aligns with our vision to make arbitration accessible for the parties: now arbitration users can choose the RAC office in the DIFC in their arbitration clause. The RAC Arbitration Rules 2021 will govern the proceedings, and the arbitration fees provided therein will apply.

RECOMMENDED ARBITRATION CLAUSE



DIFC is a free economic zone with its own legal system which is based on English common law. DIFC also has a separate system of courts which operate in English, follow an arbitration-friendly approach, and can assist and supervise if the DIFC is chosen as the seat of arbitration. DIFC principal currency is the USD.

## INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

The key to development lies in the constant pursuit of the most convenient practices for the parties and arbitrators. That is why international cooperation with other arbitration centers, facilitating the exchange of experiences, has always been an essential element in our ethos.

In 2023, we entered into the following cooperation agreements:



Israeli Institute of Commercial Arbitration (IICA) (Israel)



Shenzhen Court of International Arbitration (SCIA) (China)



Asian International Arbitration Centre (AIAC) (Malaysia)



International Arbitration and Mediation Center (IAMC) (India)





YOUNG INSTITUTE  
OF MODERN ARBITRATION

# YOUNG INSTITUTE OF MODERN ARBITRATION (YOUNG IMA)

Discover the Young IMA, a professional platform uniting young specialists in arbitration and ADR in Russia and abroad.

Young IMA organises educational, research, enlightening and other projects within the framework of the committees

| on arbitration of corporate disputes

| on arbitration and state courts interaction

| on investment arbitration

| on moot courts

| on the development of arbitration in Russian regions

| on sports arbitration

## Among 2023 projects



Conference on the outcomes of the research competition “New Perspective on Dispute Resolution”



Lecture at XXIII Moscow Vis Pre-Moot



YIMA x Nikolskaya Consulting Vis Pre-Moot in Moscow attended by teams from Russia and Belarus



VI Foreign District Investments (FDI) Online Pre-Moot attended by teams from 14 countries

Join Young IMA to connect with like-minded peers, participate in ongoing projects, and contribute to arbitration and ADR development.

Anyone can become a member of the Young IMA if they have a legal education (either completed or pending) and they are under 40.

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