

## PRESS RELEASE

### German Arbitration Institute elects new Presiding Committee

**Bonn, 7 January 2026**

The German Arbitration Institute (DIS) has elected a new Presiding Committee, led by President Thomas Pfeiffer and Vice Presidents Niuscha Bassiri and Rouven F. Bodenheimer.

Upon accepting their roles, the members of the new Presiding Committee delivered the following statement: 'We want to further expand the position of the DIS as an efficient, trustworthy and internationally visible arbitration institution. The international orientation of the DIS is particularly reflected in the composition of the Presiding Committee in the new Board of Directors. At the same time, we are focusing our attention on Germany as an international legal hub both for German and foreign users. We therefore call on the governing coalition in Germany to promptly resume the reforms of German arbitration law that were left unfinished in the last legislative period.'

The Presiding Committee was elected by the members of the Board of Directors, who were themselves elected on 11 December 2025:

- Niuscha Bassiri, ArbBoutique, Brussels
- Rouven F. Bodenheimer, BODENHEIMER, Berlin/Cologne
- Jennifer Bryant, Noerr, Düsseldorf
- Florian Cahn, Framatome, Erlangen
- Stefan Kröll, Bucerius Law School, Hamburg – Kanzlei Prof. Kröll, Cologne
- Torsten Lörcher, CMS, Cologne
- Thomas Pfeiffer, Heidelberg University
- David Quinke, Gleiss Lutz, Düsseldorf
- Judith Sawang, Ashurst, Frankfurt am Main
- Jan K. Schäfer, King & Spalding, Frankfurt am Main
- Nils Schmidt-Ahrendts, Hanefeld, Hamburg
- Johanna Wirth, Hengeler Mueller, Berlin
- Reinmar Wolff, Philipps-Universität Marburg

**German Arbitration Institute (DIS)**

For over 100 years, the German Arbitration Institute (DIS) e. V. has been the leading point of contact in Germany for matters relating to arbitration as well as alternative dispute resolution for both domestic and international commercial disputes. As a registered association, the DIS is independent and accountable solely to its more than 1,600 members, who include all key stakeholders in arbitration in Germany.

In addition, over the course of more than a century the DIS has built up extensive expertise in the administration of arbitral proceedings and other alternative dispute resolution procedures. Each year, approximately 170 arbitral proceedings are initiated under the DIS Arbitration Rules, with numbers showing an upward trend.

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