

Lunch DIScussions
8 January 2026, 1-2 pm

Taming the Beast: Users Call for Restraint and Limitations on Document Production in International Arbitration

International arbitration is often criticized for being too expensive, too slow, and overly complex. A central concern in this debate is the growing scope and intensity of document production, which many see as a key driver of rising costs, delays, and tactical behavior. In response, a group of seasoned in-house counsel has published a whitepaper outlining how expansive document production has contributed to this development, and offering concrete recommendations to bring it back under control: "[Taming the Beast – A Whitepaper on Document Production](#)".

In this session, several of the whitepaper's authors will share the motivation behind the project and its core findings. Together with experienced external counsel and arbitrators from diverse legal traditions, we will discuss:

- which tools users have at their disposal at the contracting stage to shape and limit document production,
- what arbitral tribunals and counsel can do to manage document production once proceedings are underway, and
- how arbitral institutions can help safeguard efficiency in arbitration.

Programme

Welcome address

Karsten Grillitsch

German Arbitration Institute (DIS), Bonn/Berlin

Discussion

Alison Pearsall

Atos, Paris

James Boykin

Hughes Hubbard Reed, Washington

Alfred Siwy

Zeiler Rechtsanwälte, Vienna

Moderator

Jan-Michael Ahrens

Siemens, Erlangen

Registration

The event will be held in the form of a video conference. There will be an alternative option to participate by audio only. Participation in this event is free of charge.

Please register by **6 January 2026** via the link below.

By registering you accept the [DIS General Terms and Conditions](#) for Conferences and Workshops. Registered participants will receive the access details by email prior to the event.

Please address any questions to events@disarb.org.

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