

15 July 2026

TO ALL CEIA MEMBERS

Dear friends and colleagues:

The first one hundred days of the new Presidency of the Spanish and Ibero-American Arbitration Club (CEIA) have now elapsed. Through this letter, we would like to share with all of you a brief overview of the main initiatives undertaken during this period, as well as inform you of the upcoming projects and activities that will shape the coming months. We would also like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support, commitment and participation, all of which are essential to continuing to strengthen the Club's growth and international standing. Without all of you, the Club would not be what it is today.

ICCA Congress in Madrid

1. We cannot fail to recall the remarkable milestone represented by ICCA Madrid, held from 12 to 15 April 2026. The Club may legitimately take pride in the success of this Congress, the organization of which represented a major challenge in light of the high-level workload involved, as well as the financial responsibility assumed by CEIA as the organizing entity. In every aspect, ICCA Madrid proved to be a memorable event, with a large and diverse representation of participants who unanimously expressed their satisfaction with the outstanding quality of the Congress. It was an inspiring event that showcased to the international community Madrid's strength as the Ibero-American centre for the practice of arbitration and the cohesion of the community represented by the Club. We would once again like to thank the members of the Organizing Committee for their extraordinary and invaluable work.

Seminar on the Use of Spanish in International Arbitration Proceedings

2. On 27 May 2026, we held the Seminar on the Use of Spanish in International Arbitration Proceedings at the Peace Palace in The Hague. The Seminar was an outstanding success and is expected to become an annual event, while also being replicated in other international venues. In The Hague, we are already scheduled to participate again next year in the context of the XIV Ibero-American Week of International Justice (25 May to 8 June 2027), and we have also begun preparations for a similar event to be held in London, with the support of the Embassy of Spain, during the first quarter of 2027.

20th CEIA International Arbitration Congress

3. From 31 May to 2 June 2026, we held our 20th CEIA International Arbitration Congress, entitled "**International Arbitration and Economic Value: From Financial Strategy to Effective Enforcement**", a particularly special edition marking the twentieth anniversary of our annual Congress, which brought together more than 550 participants.
4. In connection with the Congress, the Mediation Meeting took place on 30 May, followed by the CEIA-40 Meeting on 31 May. We would especially like to thank CIAM for making the Palacio de Santoña available for both events. Subsequently, on 2 June, An Afternoon with CEIA Women was held and, on 3 and 4 June, the 5th Barcelona Arbitration Conference took place. We wish to express our sincere gratitude to all participants.
5. We are also pleased to announce that the **21st CEIA International Arbitration Congress** will take place

from **13 to 15 June 2027**. We encourage you to save the date.

Headquarters Agreement of the Permanent Court of Arbitration

6. CEIA had the honor of participating, as an invited guest, in the formal signing ceremony of the **Headquarters Agreement between the Permanent Court of Arbitration and the Kingdom of Spain**, held on 6 July 2026 at the Palacio de Santa Cruz in Madrid. CEIA's involvement, channelled through our cooperation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, European Union and Cooperation, has been instrumental in achieving this Agreement, and we will continue to follow its implementation very closely.

Cooperation with the Judiciary

7. We are pleased to announce that a new edition of the CEIA-General Council of the Judiciary (CGPJ) Conference will take place on 20 November 2026. We encourage you to save the date and to stay tuned for the opening of registrations, which will be announced shortly.
8. In addition, we have held meetings with the General Council of the Judiciary (Spain) with a view to incorporating arbitration-related content, to be provided by CEIA, into the training programme for judges and magistrates. This programme will include the ICCA special sessions on the application of the 1958 New York Convention. We will keep you informed of the progress of this initiative, as well as of other projects relating to our cooperation with the judiciary.

The CEIA Website Now Available in Portuguese

9. We are pleased to inform you that the CEIA website is now also available in Portuguese, representing a further step in our commitment to strengthening the Club's Ibero-American vocation and facilitating access to our content for the Portuguese-speaking legal community.
10. We would like to express our sincere gratitude to **Selma Lemes and Eliana Baraldi** for the time and dedication they devoted to reviewing the translation of the website texts. Their generous collaboration has been essential in making this project possible and constitutes an excellent example of our members' commitment to strengthening CEIA.

CEIA Committees and Working Groups

11. The **Commission on the Use of Spanish in International Arbitration** has been established to support the projects through which our collaboration with the General Director for Spanish Worldwide (Spanish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, European Union and Cooperation) will be channelled. In addition to such working groups as may be created from time to time, the Commission has already established two subgroups: (i) Training and Promotion within Law Firms and (ii) Training and Promotion within Companies (In-house). Their objective will be to organize, in all the countries where the Club is present, training sessions aimed at transactional lawyers and in-house counsel on the importance and implications of using Spanish in international arbitration, with a view to increasing the inclusion of Spanish-language arbitration provisions in arbitration agreements. We thank all the members who have joined this Commission for their active participation.
12. Closely connected with the work of this Commission is the **Hispano-American Dictionary of Arbitration (DHA)** project, in which a large working group composed of Club members has been collaborating under the direction of Santiago Martínez Lage. The DHA is expected to be published before the end of the year and will be officially launched through a series of presentations with broad institutional support.

13. Among the many other initiatives relating to the promotion of Spanish in arbitration, the Club is represented in the Pan-Hispanic Network for Clear and Accessible Language, promoted by the Royal Spanish Academy, and has been invited to participate in the UNIDROIT Centenary Conference on International Arbitration, to be held in Rome on 22–23 October 2026.
14. The **Artificial Intelligence in Arbitration Commission** has been established under the coordination of Antonio Canales and Ignacio Díaz. We are grateful for their initiative and leadership, as well as for the interest shown by all the members who have joined this Commission.
15. The **Corporate Arbitration Report** has now been completed and is currently in the final stages of layout and publication. It will be released shortly, and an official launch event is expected to take place during the last quarter of the year. We would especially like to acknowledge the outstanding work of Jesús Almoguera, in his capacity as Chair of the Commission, as well as the invaluable contribution of all the members of the various working groups involved in this project.

Finally, we would like to wish those of you in the Northern Hemisphere a wonderful summer holiday, those in the Southern Hemisphere a mild winter, and to thank you once again for your continued commitment to CEIA.

María José Menéndez
President

Álvaro López de Argumedo
Vicepresident