

A satellite view of Earth at night, showing the illuminated landmasses of Asia and the Pacific region. The lights from cities and urban areas create a dense, glowing pattern across the continents, contrasting sharply with the dark background of the night sky and the unlit oceans. The text 'Atkin Chambers in Asia-Pacific' is overlaid on the right side of the image.

Atkin Chambers in
Asia-Pacific

**Atkin
Chambers**
Barristers

“Atkin Chambers ‘epitomises strength in depth’, housing members with ‘substantive experience as well as profound knowledge of the industry and its latest developments.’”

Legal 500

About Atkin Chambers

Atkin Chambers is a leading barristers’ chambers with an international reputation for providing advocacy and legal consultative services. Instructions concern domestic and worldwide construction, engineering and infrastructure projects, energy, information technology and telecommunications, shipping, professional negligence and general commercial law.

Referred to as a *“premier set”*, members of Atkin Chambers are *“consistently involved in the sector’s most high-profile domestic and international disputes”*¹, often in international arbitrations and associated court proceedings.

Atkin Chambers is committed to offering a high-quality service to its clients. Members are noted for their *“responsiveness and approachability”*² and are supported by a team that is *“absolutely top of the range and in a league of its own”* with Chambers highlighted as *“a modern and innovative set, and one that ‘doesn’t rely on past reputation or rest on its laurels’”*¹.

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Introduction from the clerking team

The members of Atkin Chambers have an affinity with Asia-Pacific having worked there over several decades on numerous landmark projects and with many of the leading law firms in the region.

Atkin Chambers has long been seen as a premier chambers and the core expertise of its members supports work across construction, infrastructure, energy, IT and telecoms, and related professional negligence and wider commercial disputes.

Advocacy skills and specialist advice, particularly early in any contractual or dispute process, remain an extremely valuable resource for clients, the more so as the global landscape increases in complexity.

International disputes litigated in the UK courts or in international arbitrations make up a significant proportion of members' work at Atkin Chambers. As a result, members are experienced in interpreting and applying the laws of other countries, and are accustomed to the rules of the main international arbitral institutions.

We frequently receive instructions from around the world and are happy to find flexible ways to help clients to draw on the expertise they need to achieve the best possible outcome in any matter or dispute.

The barristers of Atkin Chambers regularly co-counsel with lawyers and collaborate with law firms throughout Asia-Pacific to provide advisory and advocacy services.



David Barnes

Chief Executive and Director of Clerking

"It boasts an enviable bench of leading barristers, whose longstanding expertise attracts significant instructions from clients around the world."

Chambers & Partners

Services

The barristers at Atkin Chambers offer a huge breadth and depth of experience in technically complex disputes and many are recognised as being leaders in their field.

Members' international work frequently involves complex cross-border disputes, involving parties from several jurisdictions. Disputes are often commercially and/or politically sensitive.

The barristers practise in many of the world's leading arbitration centres and are highly-experienced in handling disputes under the major international arbitration rules, including: AICA, HKIAC, ICC, ICSID, KCAB, LCIA, SCC, SIAC, THAC and UNCITRAL.

International dispute resolution

- Commercial law
- Construction and engineering
- Energy and natural resources
- Infrastructure and PFI/PPP
- International arbitration
- IT and telecommunications
- Professional negligence
- Shipbuilding and offshore construction

Atkin Chambers in Asia-Pacific

Atkin Chambers has a long-standing presence in Asia and The Pacific, maintaining members' reputations for advocacy, advice and analysis through their continued involvement with important and complex disputes.

The barristers at Atkin Chambers have been instructed in major project disputes in the region including: mixed use developments across commercial, retail, domestic and leisure; transport infrastructure across road, rail, air and sea; and energy projects including all upstream and downstream oil and gas work, power generation from traditional technologies like coal-fired and nuclear power stations, and newer technologies like solar, wind and waste-to-energy.

Members also have significant marine and sub-marine experience - most famously acting in the 'Solitaire' bulk carrier conversion dispute in *Sembawang Corporation v Pacific Ocean Shipbuilding [2004] EWHC 2743 (Comm)*. Members have worked with a variety of bespoke and standard form contracts including FIDIC and NEC forms.

Increasingly members are instructed on behalf of companies from Asia-Pacific operating overseas as they extend their international operations in projects in Europe, the Middle East and Africa.

The chief executive and senior clerk frequently travel to the region in order to meet clients and attend events to ensure our local knowledge is up-to-date and that client needs are being met efficiently and effectively.

Chambers has played host to lawyers from the region on training and exchange programmes like the Bar Council Training Scheme for Chinese lawyers and the Bar Council and Korean Bar Association Korean Exchange Programme for young lawyers. At the same time, junior barristers from Chambers have gained valuable experience on secondment to law firms in Hong Kong and Korea.

Since 1959, the members of Atkin Chambers have edited *Hudson's Building and Engineering Contracts*, the seminal textbook on construction law, which is now in its 13th edition. Hudson has always had a strong international element, comparing and commenting on legal developments in numerous Commonwealth and other jurisdictions, including those of Singapore, Hong Kong and Malaysia.

As recognition of its success internationally Atkin Chambers was the first-ever UK chambers to win the *Queen's Award for Enterprise* in international trade, the UK's highest recognition for international business success.



Practice area expertise

Construction and engineering

"One of the best construction and engineering chambers in the UK, if not the world."³

Construction and engineering disputes are at the heart of what the members at Atkin Chambers do. It is the specialism on which individual barristers have built their outstanding national and international reputations.

The technical and economic challenges of constructing landmark buildings and projects mean that disputes between those involved in delivering them are not infrequent. Developers, contractors, funders, insurers and construction professionals turn to members for advice and assistance in connection with many of the major projects of the age.

Energy

"Barristers from the set are active in cases relating to colossal energy infrastructure projects around the world, and routinely tackle matters in both the oil and gas and renewables sectors."⁴

Their experience in complex dispute resolution means that many of the members at Atkin Chambers work extensively in the **energy and natural resources sector** advising and acting across the globe for many of the world's major energy companies and international engineering contractors.

Instructions have included disputes concerning jackup rigs, oil and gas pipelines, FPSOs, drilling contracts, and petrochemical refineries.

Shipbuilding

Members of Atkin Chambers have also acted in some of the largest **shipbuilding disputes** in the world and are experienced in cases concerning new builds, conversion and repairs.

³ Legal 500 / ⁴ Chambers & Partners

Public private partnership

"The specialist set is renowned for its involvement in large infrastructure project disputes on a national and international scale."⁵

Public private partnership infrastructure projects bring unique challenges. Disputes arising out of long-term collaborative agreements between public authorities, major private sector infrastructure providers and financiers require an understanding of the technical complexities of construction projects and an appreciation of the financial implications arising out of failures in, or changes to, ongoing service provision.

Members have extensive experience in advising both public bodies and the private sector. Project experience spans major road building, power stations, waste management, hospitals, schools, rail infrastructure investment, water and waste.

International arbitration

"It has an excellent reputation for major infrastructure related arbitrations."⁵

While members may appear in the courts of other jurisdictions such as Hong Kong and Dubai, **International arbitration** is now the principal method of resolving international disputes involving states, individuals and corporations.

Members of Chambers have acted in arbitrations operating under the rules and procedures of the major arbitral institutions in the region and further afield. They are frequently nominated to sit on international dispute boards and represent clients in all forms of alternative dispute resolution across the globe.

Many are on international arbitrator panels such as those of the AIAC, AIFC, DIFC, HKIAC, LCIA and SIAC.

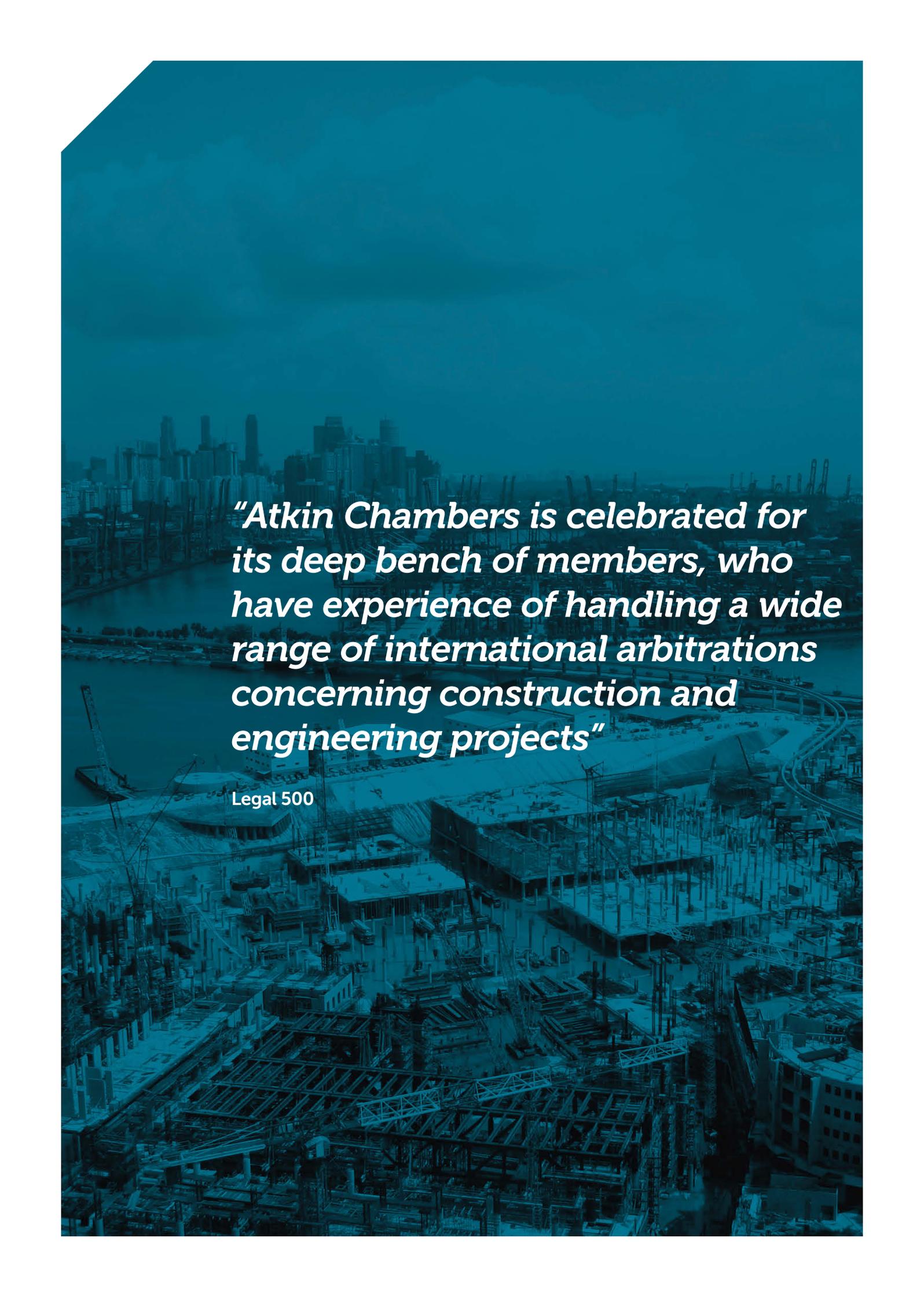


Atkin Chambers is top ranked in **Chambers Global** for construction and is described by Chambers as "A firm favourite for construction and engineering-related energy matters".

It is recognised as a leading name in construction law worldwide by **Who's Who Legal** with several members also ranked as outstanding in energy and natural resources.

Atkin Chambers is recommended in **Legal 500 Asia Pacific 2018** and several members are listed in **Chambers Asia-Pacific** for International Arbitration (English Bar).

⁵ Legal 500



“Atkin Chambers is celebrated for its deep bench of members, who have experience of handling a wide range of international arbitrations concerning construction and engineering projects”

Legal 500

Instructing a barrister

Barristers at Atkin Chambers are instructed by a wide variety of clients and commercial entities.

The instruction of a barrister is arranged through the clerks.

They will advise on the particular expertise of the barristers and will answer any questions in relation to potential instructions.

They will also discuss how fees can be structured to suit a client's budgetary requirements including hourly and daily rates, and any potential for fixed fees.

Barristers take instructions through solicitors (from England and Wales), international lawyers and in-house lawyers.

If you have a legal matter and wish to instruct a barrister, please contact David Barnes on +44 (0)7979 850 434 or dbarnes@atkinchambers.com, Justin Wilson on +44 (0)7843 561 737 or jwilson@atkinchambers.com, or one of the other clerks who will be pleased to assist.

If you have an ADR matter, including the appointment of arbitrators, adjudicators or mediators, please contact Daniel Jones on +44 (0)20 7400 8507 or djones@atkinchambers.com.

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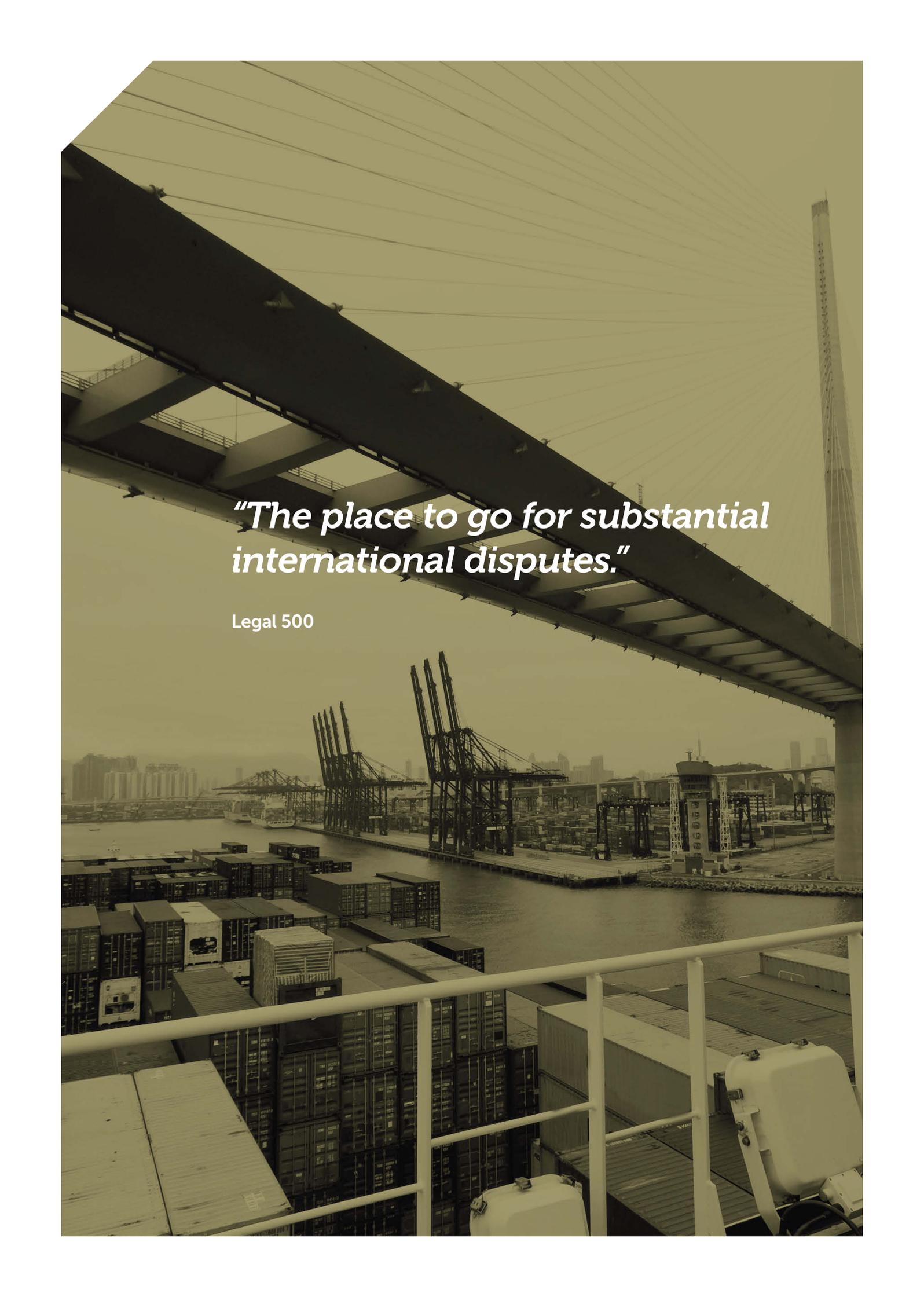
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Monday to Friday

8.00am – 7.00pm (UK time)



"The place to go for substantial international disputes."

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