# DR. GIZEM ALPER, ESQ.

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# **DATE OF BIRTH & NATIONALITY**

07.07.1978- Turkish

#### **BAR ADMISSIONS**

Licensed to practice law in New York and Turkey (Istanbul)

#### PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Secretary, Commercial Law and Uniform State Laws, New York City Bar

Member, New York City Bar Joint Working Group on Digital Assets

Observer, ULC Drafting Committee on UCC and Emerging Technologies

Member, New York State Bar, International Dispute Resolution Section

Member, LCIA European Users' Council

Member, British Virgin Islands Arbitration Group

Member, Arbitral Women

Member, Silicon Valley Arbitration and Mediation Center (SVAMC).

# PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

**Institute for International Commercial Law at Elisabeth Haub School of Law at Pace University,** White Plains, NY *Global CISG Editor and IICL Fellow*, 2018 -

Analyzing case law related to international commercial arbitration, the United Nations Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods (CISG) and UCC Article 2. Preparing abstracts, annotations and editing the university legal database on CISG. Collaboration with international network and third parties in relation to the CISG. Identifying and overseeing tech related projects and issues concerning the CISG database. Guest lecturer and panel moderator on CISG related events. Judge and arbitrator for various ABA and international arbitration moot court and mediation competitions.

#### **Independent Legal Advisor**, 2015-

Of Counsel/ Independent Advisor for Alper Law Office in Istanbul (alper.av.tr- Rated for Media & Entertainment in Legal500 2022) and Independent Contractor in New York (gizemalper.com).

Advising corporations on, *inter alia*, cross- border international commercial contracts. Advising international counsel on international commercial arbitration proceedings and dispute resolution management. Advising tech startups.

40- hour Part 146 New York Unified Court System Certification.

Mediator for Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts (VLA NY) [specific focus contractual and IP disputes].

LCIA and Shanghai Arbitration Commission panel member.

# The New School, Milano School of Policy, Management and Environment, New York, NY

Research Scholar, 2016-2017

Focused on holistic research on the intersection of corporate compliance and corporate sustainability policies. Researched emerging technology policies. Authored articles published in US-based professional digital platforms.

# Maltepe University, School of Law, Istanbul, Turkey

Assistant Professor, 2013-2014

Lectured on business and contract law, including the CISG and ADR in English. Advised incoming international exchange students. Faculty Member for EU Bologna Process Implementation.

# Dogus University, School of Law, Istanbul, Turkey

Research Associate, 2009-2012

Co-taught corporate law courses, including dispute resolution in corporations. Translated international symposium papers for publication. Reviewed, revised and coordinated agreements with international institutions.

# **Corio Turkey (REIT)**

Legal and Compliance Counsel, 2008-2009

Acted as sole Turkish legal counsel for Dutch REIT. Drafted, negotiated and finalized real estate, construction, loan, share purchase and M&A transactions in coordination with the legal team at the Dutch HQ. Prepared and filed all necessary government approvals. Maintained corporate records. Worked with outside counsel to advise on relevant tax, human resources and financial matters. Revised and implemented Code of Conduct in line with compliance procedures and securities law.

# Turkish Economy Bank (Affiliate of BNP Paribas), Istanbul, Turkey

Legal Counsel, 2006- 2008

Provided legal services to the bank and other BNP Paribas affiliates as part of the international law and consultancy team. Assisted in drafting, negotiating and finalizing transactions with international financial institutions. Prepared legal memoranda on securities law. Collaborated with other departments in drafting and processing IPO transactions. Drafted relevant template commercial contracts for other BNP Paribas affiliates. Conducted training for other departments on fundamental legal matters related to financial transactions.

#### **Multi Development Corporation**

Legal and Compliance Counsel, 2004-2005

Acted as sole Turkish legal counsel for Dutch corporation engaged in real estate development. Drafted, negotiated and finalized real estate, construction, commercial lease and share purchase transactions in coordination with the legal team at the Dutch HQ. Worked with outside counsel on tax matters. Identified and oversaw matters to be handled by outside legal counsel. Maintained corporate records. Implemented Code of Conduct procedures.

# Paksoy International Law Offices, Istanbul, Turkey

Associate, 2002-2004

Worked in the corporate law and ADR department of prominent, full-service law firm. Drafted legal documents, conducted legal due diligence and assisted in negotiating and finalizing transactions concerning IPOs, M&As and project finance. Prepared antitrust law filings. Communicated with governmental authorities on behalf of clients concerning foreign investment matters. Assisted in trial preparation for international arbitration proceedings, mainly ICSID/ World Bank.

#### **EDUCATION**

# Elisabeth Haub School of Law at Pace University, White Plains, NY

LL.M. with a specialization in US legal practice

*Honors*: Full tuition scholarship, Magna Cum Laude

Activities: 50- hours pro bono program at Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts (VLA)

#### Istanbul University, Istanbul, Turkey

Ph.D. in Private Law

Honors: Erasmus Research Grant from University of Nice-Sophia Antipolis France (visiting researcher for 6 months)

Dissertation: "Ultra Vires Doctrine in Private Law"

# Leiden University, Leiden, The Netherlands

LL.M. in European Business Law

Dissertation: "Cross-border Mergers within Europe"

# Ankara University, Ankara, Turkey

LL.B. in Law

Honors: Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition

Activities: Organizing Committee Member for ELSA European Law Students' Association

# RECENT SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

University of Minho & JusGov (Portugal/ 2021): "What U.S. Jurists Have to Say on the Application of CISG as an International Treaty"

BAU & IGUL Training Series (Istanbul/ 2021): "Double Hatting in Med/ Arb"

IstanbulTalks (2021): "International Arbitration and Mediation"

New York City Bar (New York/ 2020): Panel Moderator, Current Perspectives on the CISG

# **SELECT PUBLICATIONS**

"Double Hatting" under Med-Arb: A Comparative Analysis, MEDIATE.COM, 2021

COVID-19: Force Majeure under CISG, JURIST, 2020

Turkey, in International Protection of Adults (Overdijk, Frimston, Ward, Keene eds.), Oxford University Press, 2015 Prohibition of Self- dealing by the Board of Directors in Corporations, Maltepe University L. Rev., Spring 2013 Agency in Private International Law (Conflicts of law), in L. Rev. Honoring Prof Hatemi, Vol. 1, 2009

# **PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATIONS**

40 hour Part 146 New York Unified Court System Mediation Training (2021)

Mediation, CIArb (2021)

MediateArt, Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts New York (2021)

**Corporate Compliance and Ethics**, New York University (2015)

US Legal Research Methods, Institute for US Law- George Washington University (2013)

American Law, Fordham University School of Law (2012)

**Legal Translation**, Institute of Banking and Commercial Law (1999)

American Law, Columbia University of NY (1998), Merit Based Scholarship.

# **LANGUAGES**

Fluent in Turkish and English. Knowledge of French.