

Recent Disputes by  
Project/Contract Location:

Iraq  
Israel  
Jordan  
Kuwait  
Libya  
Oman  
Saudi Arabia  
UAE  
Yemen

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- **"Able and persuasive advocate and a highly respected lawyer"**  
– *Chambers UK, 2011*
  - **"Energy disputes are another area of strength"**  
– *Chambers UK, 2010*
  - **"Awesome opponents"**  
– *Law360, 2010*
  - **"Has a very strong track record in energy and infrastructure disputes"**  
– *Legal 500, 2009*
  - **Ranked as one of the top firms in International Arbitration**  
– *Chambers Global, 2009*
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## International Dispute Resolution: MENA Overview

Working from our hub offices in Dubai and Abu Dhabi, and drawing on our London-based resources, Vinson & Elkins' International Dispute Resolution team has a strong pedigree in advising clients in relation to disputes across the Middle East and North Africa regions.

V&E lawyers have assisted both foreign investors and regional entities in resolving disputes arising out of the EMEA energy, construction and infrastructure sectors and in ensuring that effective dispute resolution tools are available to the parties during the initial stages of a deal.

The V&E team has strong experience both conducting such dispute resolution directly (by way of international arbitration, Dubai International Financial Centre, U.S. or English court proceedings) and also in coordinating teams of domestic advisors to conduct litigation, often in a cross-border basis. Accordingly, we have built a network of extensive contacts throughout the region to ensure the right resources are available to our clients whatever the necessary forum is when a dispute arises.

In addition to our experience as advocates and trial lawyers, the V&E team combines local knowledge and appreciation of customs and business sensitivities, with broad energy sector experience, offering clients a package designed for effective resolution of any dispute – taking into account, political, regional, or other sensitivities, not merely fighting a case.

We focus on our client's end goal, not simply the next step.

### Representative Experience:

- Represented the contractor in relation to claims (in excess of a hundred million dollars) for variations and delay arising out of the construction of an industrial feedstock production facility in the Middle East
- Represented the owner in arbitration defending claims brought by a fabrication contractor in relation to one of the world's largest greenfield aluminium smelters being developed in the UAE ►

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- Represented an Omani venture in an ICC arbitration brought by an Asian contractor under the terms of a turn-key EPC contract for construction of a power generation and saltwater desalination plant in Oman. The claims concerned the delayed completion of the plant, the status of a large quantity of variation orders, the amount of liquidated damages payable, and alleged “acts of prevention” by the client. The sums in dispute exceeded US\$80 million
- Acted for a second Omani venture in connection with a separate power and water facility in claims (valued in excess of US\$100 million) brought by the contractor for extension and price increase and by the off taker for delay liquidated damages
- Represented a commodities exchange in both LCIA arbitration and DIFC Court proceedings concerning a dispute with one of its members
- Represented a major oil company in an arbitration against the Libyan government involving a dispute over the operation of Libyan oil and gas concessions
- Acted for the claimant U.S. company in an ICC arbitration against a Fund of a North African state, in a dispute relating to an agreement for the exclusive exploitation of scrap metal stockpiles
- Represented a major multinational energy company in proceedings arising from an oil well blowout in Syria
- Advised the project company and sponsors of a power project in a Middle Eastern country in relation to proceedings brought in the host company’s administrative courts, seeking to have a guarantee given by the government treasury of the off-taker’s obligations under the PPA declared to be null and void on constitutional grounds
- Acted for a U.S. claimant in LCIA arbitration proceedings concerning the breach of a memorandum of understanding for the sale of a Middle Eastern jet fuel transportation business
- Acting on behalf of a Kuwaiti investment house in obtaining protection from proceedings under the UNCITRAL Model Law Cross Border Insolvency Regulations
- Defended an architect-engineer in a large number of claims against the A-E and the City of Alexandria, Egypt in connection with the construction and operation of a US\$750 million U.S. AID funded water/wastewater project in Alexandria
- Representing two affiliates of an international independent power and electricity producer to act as arbitration counsel in the negotiation and resolution of disputes with a Middle Eastern power and water procurement company and a power plant construction company. The disputes involve delays in operation and failure to perform under an EPC contract; sums in dispute currently exceed US\$82 million
- Represented a Middle Eastern state oil company in a dispute in Central Asia with two other former Soviet republics and a private company over a contract to build and operate an oil pipeline

*Prior results do not guarantee a similar outcome.*



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