

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY



MONDAY, 18 NOVEMBER 2024, 12:30 – 13:30 CET

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
MIDS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Monday, 18 November 2024, 12:30 to 13:30 CET | Geneva, Switzerland (held online)

1. The third Ordinary Meeting of the General Assembly (“**GAM**”) of the MIDS Alumni Association (“**MAA**”) was held on Monday, 18 November 2024 with Members of the MAA attending online. The list of attendees is in the EC’s records and can be made available on request. The GAM was recorded, and an audio and video recording has been kept in records of the MAA.
2. The notice and agenda for the GAM (“**Notice**” and “**Agenda**” respectively) was circulated to the Members on 16 October 2024 and again on 4 November 2024 and 16 November 2024.
3. Rahul Donde, Co-chair of the MAA, opened the GAM, noted that the current Members of the Executive Committee (“**EC**”) were present and welcomed the Members attending the meeting.
4. At the onset Rahul mentioned the following preliminary matters:
 - (a) based on the feedback of Members the EC decided to hold the meeting entirely online at a suitable timing to ensure maximum participation from the Members;
 - (b) while the EC is happy to take on board the suggestions from its Members, it should be noted that the MAA has almost no funding, which limits the extent of some of its activities; and
 - (c) while the MAA’s activities are listed on the website, the EC’s LinkedIn account is the most update to date source of upcoming events organised or promoted by the EC and it is requested that all Members follow the page.
5. Puloma Mukherjee (Secretary of the EC) then started the presentation of the Agenda for the GAM.
6. Rahul informed the Members that the meeting would proceed with a discussion of the items in the Agenda. The Presentation made by the EC at the GAM is annexed to these Minutes.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE 2nd GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING OF 6 DECEMBER 2023

7. Sebastian Coulon Bauer (co-chair of the EC) took the floor next to present the first item on the agenda.
8. Sebastian noted that the minutes of the 2nd General Assembly meeting have been available on the website of the Alumni Association and stated that unless there were any objections, the General Assembly (“**GA**”) accept these minutes.

9. There were no objections by any of the attendees and accordingly the minutes of the 2nd General Meeting were considered to be accepted and approved.

PRESENTATION OF THE ACTIVITIES OF THE MAA IN THE PREVIOUS YEAR (DECEMBER 2023-NOVEMBER 2024)

10. Sebastian then presented a brief overview of the following activities undertaken by MAA in the previous year.
 - (a) There has been an increase in the membership of the MAA over the past year.
 - (b) The Student Mentorship Programme for 2023-2024 was successfully completed. The EC was able to match 33 mentees with mentors and received good feedback from the Members.
 - (c) In the past year the EC has organised or facilitated a number of alumni events around major arbitration events in different places like London, Washington, Mumbai, Hong Kong, Dubai, Madrid and New York. Sebastian encouraged more alumni to reach out to the EC if there are major arbitration events in their region so that the EC can help organise side events and meetups.
 - (d) There has been an increase in the promotion of alumni activities, including speaking engagements and career accomplishments, fostering partnerships with UNIGE's Digital Law Center and the Cross-Examination Moot.
 - (e) The EC organized the 4th Annual MAA Conference on 15 November 2024. The event was successful due to the significant amount of work and effort that went into organising it, especially procuring the venue and the sponsorship.
 - (a) The EC also launched the inaugural version of the MIDS Alumni Socials alongside the 4th Annual MAA Conference which was very well received.

REGIONAL DESK UPDATE

11. Scott Falls (Regional Desk Coordinator) took the floor to give an update from the regional desk.
12. Scott referred to the alumni events spread across six cities in three different continents. For the most part, these were casual meetups with between 5 to 15 participants, usually centered around a meal or in a pub, with the exception of the round table in Mumbai.
13. Puloma noted that the round table style alumni event was successfully organised in Mumbai for the second year, in collaboration with Khaitan and Co., Mumbai. As in the case of the previous year, the event did not have a speaker and was organised as a round table discussion, with attendees speaking from personal experience. This format not only reduced the additional burden of organising a speaker, but it also ensured that everyone was engaged and participated in the discussion.

14. These alumni events have not only brought together alumni from the region but also alumni and friends of the MIDS who happened to be travelling to that city for a particular conference/event.
15. Photos for each event of these events have been shared on LinkedIn to increase the exposure of the MAA. The feedback received from the organisers and participants of these events have been positive.
16. Scott noted that there are already proposals to organise events in the new year, including at Stockholm and in Zurich.
17. In addition to regional events, Scott noted that the MAA has also been promoting alumni speaking engagements, activities, accomplishments or appointments. However, as previously mentioned, this is based on requests received from the alumni. Scott encouraged other alumni to reach out as well and make full use of the MAA platform.
18. Lastly, Scott referred to the Inaugural MIDS Alumni Socials organised by the EC in Geneva alongside the 4th Annual MAA Conference. The event was a success with 40 alumni participants from across the globe and received positive feedback. Based on interest the EC will consider expanding the event to other cities.

STUDENT MENTORSHIP PROGRAMME

19. Puloma took the floor to provide an update on the Student Mentorship Programme.
20. The programme is now more formalised and students' requirements and expectations are taken into account when assigning the mentors. Further, the EC co-ordinates with the MIDS to attend the students' orientation to provide them with information about the mentorship programme.
21. Since last year, the EC has also expanded the pool of mentors by reaching out specifically to our alumni who match in terms of their PQE, jurisdiction or interests. Feedback from earlier iterations of the mentorship programme have also been implemented this year.

GLOBAL DESK UPDATE

22. Harshad Pathak (Global Events Coordinator) then took over to discuss the Global Events Desk.
23. Harshad noted that the flagship MAA Annual Event provided a great opportunity for alumni all over the world to come together. This year's edition had over 80 registrations and diverse panels in terms of nationality and experience. The EC's objective will be to further the diversity in future editions such that the alumni are well represented at this event.
24. This year's event also saw sponsorship from a number of law firms and in this regard the EC would like to thank Schellenberg Wittmer, Fortior Law and Luther.

25. The EC would also like to extend its thanks to the operational committee who made the annual conference possible: Ana Karina Parra, Victoria Rodriguez Goyena and Trisha Mitra.
26. Based on interest, the EC can consider holding another large event in the year in addition to the annual conference. The EC will reach out to the alumni with a call for expression of interest in this regard.

PROPOSED ACTIVITIES OF THE MAA FOR 2024 – 2025

27. Sebastian took the floor to discuss the MAA membership base. While the MAA membership has grown to 369 Members, with a total of around 550 alumni, there are still a substantial number of alumni who have not registered with the MAA. The EC is accordingly working to try and close this gap. Current Members are requested to work among fellow alumni to register with the MAA.
28. Sebastian also noted that it would be helpful if current Members updated their details when changing law firms, institutions, e-mail address etc., so that the EC has available the most up to date information.
29. Regarding the Student Mentorship Programme, Puloma noted that in the current year there have been around 35 matches between mentors and mentees. The EC will be checking-in in the beginning of next year to see how the mentorships are progressing. Puloma thanked the alumni for volunteering their time and experience to the mentorship programme.
30. Puloma also noted that there had been some scattered interest in the Alumni Mentorship Programme. This is distinct from the Student Mentorship Programme and is meant to connect the more junior Members of the MAA to more senior and established Members. While the EC had not seen sufficient interest in the past, it will launch another call for expression of interest in the coming year.
31. Scott took the floor to discuss proposed updates for the regional desk and the national chapters. As mentioned above, activity has picked up in this regard over the years and a number of events have been organised across the globe. However, the majority of events that were organised were on an *ad hoc* basis at the initiative of Members who are not leading the relevant regional desks or national chapters. Scott noted that the enthusiasm of these Members is much appreciated. However, the EC would like to make the process more formalized in the coming year.
32. In this regard, the EC will issue a fresh call for expression of interest for Members to lead the regional desks and the national chapters in the coming weeks – both for existing as well as to establish new desks and chapters.
33. Once the regional desks and national chapters are staffed, the EC will reach out for areas of cooperation and potential opportunities for events and organise calls at regular intervals to discuss completed and upcoming events.
34. The EC would also like to explore opportunities for larger scale events similar to the round table in Mumbai by partnering with local law firms or other organisations and associations.

35. Lastly, in reference to the discussion on 15 November 2024 after the conference, Scott noted the following: (a) the EC uses its LinkedIn handle to promote regional events, as it is not practical to email the Members for each event that is being organised throughout the year. Members are accordingly encouraged to follow the LinkedIn page; and (b) once the new regional desk and national chapter leaders are appointed, their contact information will be made available on the new MIDS website. However, the Members can always reach out to the EC if they are trying to get in touch with alumni in a particular jurisdiction.

SOCIAL MEDIA AND NEW MIDS WEBSITE

36. Harshad also noted briefly that LinkedIn is the primary medium of communication for the EC. There are now more than 1200 followers. The EC has noticed, especially over the past few months, that the posts from this handle are generating more impressions than before. Accordingly, the Members are encouraged to keep reaching out to the EC who is more than happy to help promote the MIDS alumni.
37. Scott noted that the new MIDS website is now up and running. The alumni page has been updated with new information. Over the next few months, a dedicated alumni portal will be created where alumni can login to access certain information, like name, contact information, nationality and background. It might even have more advanced features that include a message board to be used by the alumni to communicate between themselves.

MIDS ALUMNI SCHOLARSHIP

38. Rahul then took the floor to discuss the MIDS Alumni Scholarship.
39. The scholarship was established by the MIDS to grant a MIDS student a partial scholarship in the form of a partial tuition fee waiver and is financed through donations collected from the alumni. Further information is available on the MIDS website.
40. Rahul encouraged Members to make further donations to help achieve the objective of helping more students access a MIDS education.
41. Further to questions from the attendees, Rahul noted that no separate email had been sent by the MIDS administration this year inviting contributions from the alumni. However, the MIDS website sets out the relevant information for making contributions to this scholarship.

AMENDMENT TO THE MAA STATUTE

42. Rahul noted that the EC proposed the following amendment to Article 20.3 of the MAA Statute:

Original Provision	Revised provision	Explanatory Notes, if any
<p>Article 20.3</p> <p>20.3. Vacancy during the term of office: In the event of dismissal or resignation during the term of office, the Executive Committee may appoint a provisional replacement member of the Executive Committee, until the next meeting of the General Assembly.</p>	<p>Article 20.3</p> <p>20.3. Vacancy during the term of office: In the event of dismissal or resignation during the term of office, the Executive Committee may appoint a replacement member of the Executive Committee, who’s term of office shall last until the next election of the Executive Committee, unless the General Assembly decides, by majority vote, to remove the replacement member in accordance with paragraph (1) of this Article.</p>	<p>This amendment has been proposed in order to facilitate the continuous functioning of the EC in the exceptional case of the resignation of one of its Members. The replacement Member appointed by the EC in accordance with this provision would hold office until the next elections, unless there are exceptional circumstances justifying his/her removal.</p>

43. Rahul explained that the need for amendment had come about due to the new situation faced by the EC this year where the elected secretary had to resign due to personal reasons. As it was not practical to hold elections in the middle of the term, the above amendment was proposed to the statute.

44. The Members present at the meeting did not have any objections to the proposed amendment and the GA approved the amendment to Article 20.3 as set out above.

QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS

45. The floor was then opened to the Members to bring up and discuss any other business.

46. A Member from the 2012-2013 batch raised a couple queries regarding the ability to filter information regarding alumni based on bar qualifications or language especially when looking for local counsel or arbitrators in certain jurisdictions. The EC noted that this idea was being implemented in the new website.

47. A Member from the 2014-2015 batch raised a query regarding a membership fee for the MAA which was discussed at the last GAM. The EC noted that the issue was discussed on a call with the MIDS administration. The EC noted some challenges in implementing this suggestion, in particular that the disparity in income among the alumni would need to be considered when determining the membership fee. For the time being, the EC would fund its events with sponsorship as was the case for the annual conference this year. However, the EC may consider coming back to this at a later date.

48. The Member also raised a query regarding Mariona Cusi Vidal's position at the MIDS administration and her imminent departure from the role. The EC noted that at the moment the EC did not have much information in this regard and would remain in discussions with the MIDS administration.
49. Lastly, a Member from the 2017-2018 batch raised a query regarding the possibility of acting as a mentor for the Student Mentorship Programme given that her background is not in private law firms. The EC assured the Member that over the last two years the EC has noticed that the MIDS students have diverse requirements when requesting mentors and accordingly all Members are encouraged to apply as mentors.

* * *

As there were no other matters to be discussed or raised by the Members, the EC thanked the Members present for their participation and closed the GAM.

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MIDS AI
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

3rd Ordinary Meeting of the General Assembly

Monday, 18 November 2024

12:30 to 13:30 CET

Venue: Online





AGENDA

ITEM 1 Approval of the minutes of the 2nd General Assembly Meeting of 6 December 2023

ITEM 2 Presentation of the activities of the MAA in the previous year (December 2023-November 2024)

ITEM 3 Proposed activities of the MAA for 2024 - 2025

ITEM 4 Confirmation of Puloma Mukherjee's term as Secretary of the Executive Committee until the next elections in 2025

ITEM 5 Potential amendment to Article 20(3) of the MAA Statute

ITEM 5 Any other business



Item 1

Approval of the minutes of the 2nd General Assembly Meeting of 6 December 2023



Item 2

Presentation of the activities of the MAA from December 2023 – November 2024



Activities

Dec 23-Nov 24

- Increased membership, especially following 15th Anniversary conference
- Completed the Student Mentorship Programme for Class 2023-2024 and initiated the Student Mentorship Programme for Class 2024-2025
- Hosted MIDS alumni events and meet-ups in London, Washington DC, Mumbai, Hong Kong, Dubai and New York City
- Organized the 4th Annual MAA Conference in November 2024
- Increased our promotion of alumni activities, including speaking engagements and career accomplishments
- Fostered partnerships with UNIGE's Digital Law Center and the Cross-Examination Moot
- Launched the inaugural version of the MIDS Alumni Socials



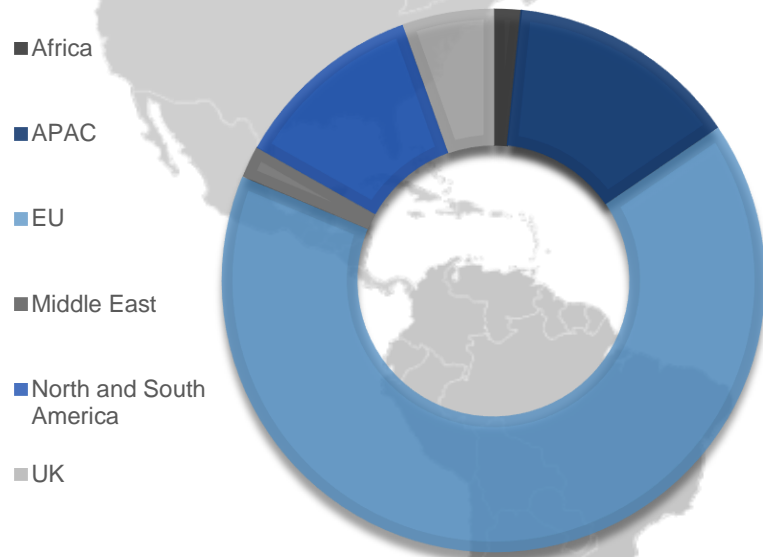
Item 3

Presentation and update of activities for the 2024 – 2025 term

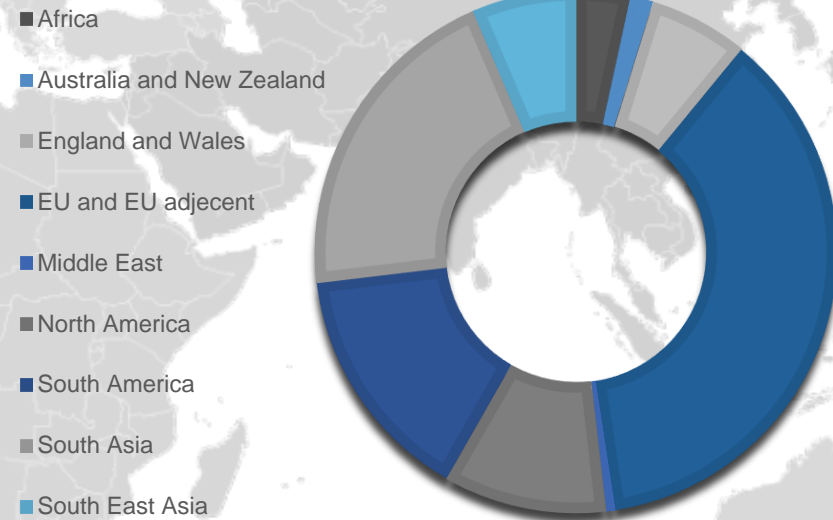
MEMBERSHIP

○ 369 Alumni are members across 16 batches

CURRENT LOCATION



BAR QUALIFICATION





Register as a Member

Membership is:

- Opt-in only
- Free (contributions are welcome, but not mandatory)



Student Mentorship Programme

- Started in 2019 and managed by the Association since 2021-22.
- Pairs current students with alumni for advice related to the MIDS:
 - Academic advice: selection of courses, thesis related advice
 - Career advice: assistance with preparing for internship interviews, CV review

“The [Mentorship Programme] is the perfect complement to the MIDS as it combines professional and academic advising, that is helpful in navigating a very challenging experience, and opens the doors to the amazing and unique MIDS alumni network.”

Mentee, María Rosario Tejada, Class of 2023-24

“I am just grateful to have the opportunity to give back to the MIDS and also it's a very interesting journey to understand the current challenges and expectations of MIDS students

Mentor, Tomás Navarro Blakemore, Class of 2014-15

.....

Student Mentorship Programme 2024-25

- Incorporated feedback from previous year
- Mentors assigned based on a variety of factors specified by the students:
 - objectives for the academic year (career v. course-related)
 - post-MIDS career paths (counsel, academia, IOs, AI's)
 - qualifying jurisdiction
 - areas of expertise, interest



Regional desks and national chapters

EUROPE DESK

- Alessandra Sardu
- Victor Stoica

London Chapter

- Trisha Mitra-Veber
- Nora Fredstie
- Puloma Mukherjee

Paris Chapter

- Emiliano Represa
- Tania Singla

Swiss Chapter

- Alptug Tokeser
- Anna Kozmenko

AMERICAS DESK

- Blanca Mendoza
- Swarupa Madhavan

**North America
Chapter**

**South America
Chapter**

MIDDLE EAST & AFRICA DESK

- Amr Arafa

APAC DESK

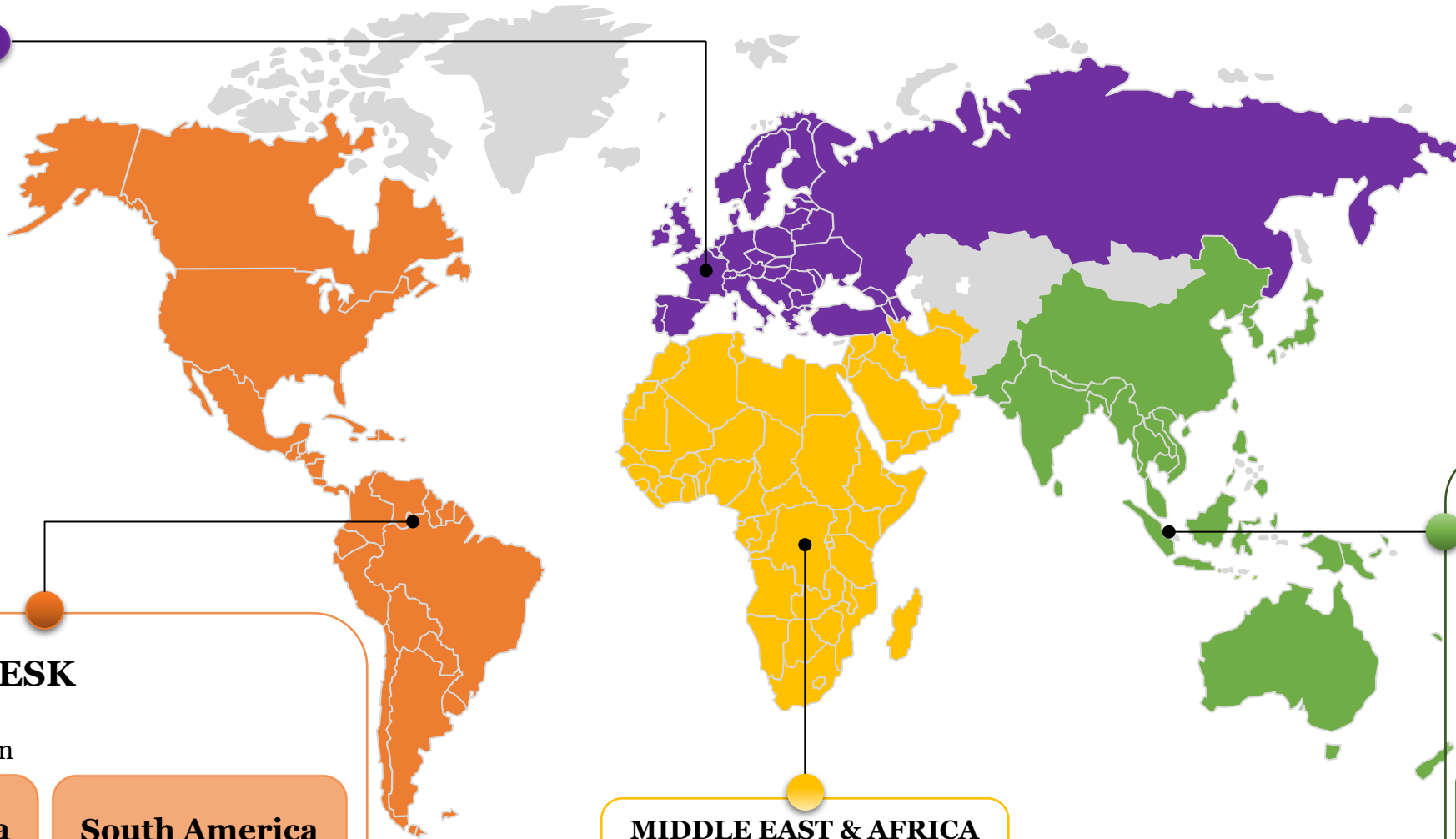
- Christine Sim
- Sicen Hu

Mumbai Chapter

- Shreya Gupta
- Shruti Sabharwal

Singapore Chapter

- Christine Sim





Regional Desks and National Chapters



- Organized based on current location of Members
- Prioritize and encourage in-person interaction between Members
- Constituted by the Members who first expressed interest following a call for interest, with new call for interest expected in the near future
- MAA EC has taken a more active role in guiding regional desk activities
- Activities will include:
 - New call for expressions of interest for regional desk / national chapter leads, as well as expressions of interest in establishing new regional desks / national chapters
 - More regular engagement with regional desks to discuss new initiatives and provide feedback from activities undertaken
 - Continuing to assist the regional desks with the organization of events and alumni get-togethers
 - Exploring opportunities for larger scale events in locations with regional desks



Global Events Desk

- 4th MAA Annual Conference on 15th November 2024 - with greater participation from MIDS alumni outside Europe, focus on alumni pursuing public international law and / or academia, and enhanced social media outreach. Aim is to do more!
- Launch of the inaugural MIDS Alumni Socials. MAA to consider replicating it in different cities - with the alumni's support.
- The Mumbai Chapter (= Anindya Basarkod, Khaitan & Co.) helped successfully organize the Second Edition of the MIDS Alumni Roundtable ahead of the India ADR Week 2024.
- Increased focus on obtaining sponsorship for MAA events and building relations (e.g., the conference cocktail) to increase the MAA's autonomy and set a template for future initiatives.
- Expect a Call for Expression of Interest for MIDS alum to organize events in other regions, with the MAA's support.





MIDS Alumni
Association Executive
Committee
MIDS Alumni Association

Followers 1,227

The CIDS Geneva Center for International Dispute Settlement and the MIDS Alumni Association Executive Committee are delighted to announce the 4th MIDS Alumni Association (MAA) Annual ...more

4th MIDS Alumni Association (MAA) Annual Conferenc... - 2 pages



4th MIDS Alumni Association (MAA) Annual Conference 2024

Friday, 15 November 2024

Auditorium A1-B, The Graduate Institute (IHEID), Chemin Eugène-Rigot 2, 1202 Geneva, Switzerland

[Register here](#)

PROGRAMME

08:30 - 09:30 MAA General Assembly (online)

10:00 - 10:30 Registration

10:30 - 11:00 *Keynote Address*

Michael E. Schneider | Founding Partner & Senior Counsel, LALIVE, Geneva

11:00 - 12:30 *"We're losing the ISDS fight"? If so, what next?*

- Stuti Gadodia | Counsel, Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer, Frankfurt
- Marija Šobat | Senior Associate, Gaillard Banifurami Shelbaya Disputes, Paris
- Abhileen Chaturvedi | Partner, Cyril Amarchand Mangaldas, Mumbai
- Iris Koberg | Legal Counsel, Permanent Court of Arbitration, Vienna
- Moderator: Adetola Adebisin | Associate, Stephenson Harwood, London

12:30 - 13:30 Lunch

13:30 - 15:00 *Navigating Corruption-related Claims in Commercial Arbitration*

- "Issy" Yi Se Park | Associate, Morgan Lewis, Dubai
- Vanessa Zimmermann de Meireles | Senior Associate, Luther, Hamburg
- Anirudh Krishan Gandhi | Partner Designate, Saraf & Partners, Delhi
- Efremena Iluezi-Ogbandu | Associate, Littlaters, London
- Moderator: Juan Camilo Jiménez-Valencia | Counsel, Hanotian & van den Berg, Brussels

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Scott Falls and 83 others

1 comment · 4 reposts



Like



Comment



Repost



Send

4,369 impressions

[View analytics](#)

Social Media

- 1200+ followers
- High impact of publications (often over 2000 impressions)
- Promoting the work, achievements and contributions of MIDS alumni.
- Increased requests from MIDS alumni for social media outreach - keep them coming!
- Contributing to the development of international arbitration!



Social Media

How to get involved!

- Like, share and comment on MAA posts
- Share your news, content, career moves, publications with us
- TAG us in your posts so we can like and share

Add us on Social Media!

MAA Executive Committee



MAA LinkedIn Group Page



Alumni

Are you a recent alumnus? Join the Alumni Association now! [↗](#)

New MIDS Website

- New MAA page with access to statutes and GAM materials
- Links for easy registration and donation to the MIDS Alumni Scholarship
- Alumni profiles no longer public facing
- Introducing alumni portal in the coming months
 - New alumni profiles
 - Ability to filter and search profiles
 - Additional features (message board, etc.)



MIDS ALUMNI SCHOLARSHIP

- Established by the MIDS to grant a MIDS student a partial scholarship in the form of a partial tuition fee waiver
- Financed through donations collected from Alumni.
- For more information see:
<https://mids.ch/admissions/scholarships/>
- We welcome all further donations to help achieve the objective of helping more students access a MIDS education

If you wish to donate, please visit:

<https://mids.ch/community/alumni/#mids-alumni-scholarship-fund>





Item 4

Confirmation of Puloma Mukherjee's term as Secretary of the Executive Committee until the next elections in 2025



Item 5

Potential amendment to Article 20(3) of the MAA Statute

Original Provision	Revised provision	Explanatory Notes, if any
<p>Article 20.3</p> <p>20.3. Vacancy during the term of office: In the event of dismissal or resignation during the term of office, the Executive Committee may appoint a provisional replacement member of the Executive Committee, until the next meeting of the General Assembly.</p>	<p>Article 20.3</p> <p>20.3. Vacancy during the term of office: In the event of dismissal or resignation during the term of office, the Executive Committee may appoint a replacement member of the Executive Committee, who's term of office shall last until the next election of the Executive Committee, unless the General Assembly decides, by majority vote, to remove the replacement member in accordance with paragraph (1) of this Article.</p>	<p>This amendment has been proposed in order to facilitate the continuous functioning of the EC in the exceptional case of the resignation of one of its Members. The replacement Member appointed by the EC in accordance with this provision would hold office until the next elections, unless there are exceptional circumstances justifying his/her removal.</p>



Item 6

Any other business



RAHUL DONDE
Co-Chair



**SEBASTIAN
COULON BAUER**
Co-Chair



**PULOMA
MUKHERJEE**
Secretary



SCOTT FALLS
Regional Desk
Coordinator



**HARSHAD
PATHAK**
Global Events
Coordinator

Get in touch!

contact.alumni@mids.ch