

Mohammad Rwashdeh

Special Counsel

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OVERVIEW

Mohammad Rwashdeh is a special counsel in the firm's Dubai office, based in the Dubai International Financial Centre (DIFC). He advises UAE and international clients on a broad range of contentious and non-contentious matters, with experience in commercial disputes, arbitration, employment, regulatory compliance, and commercial transactions.

Mohammad has extensive experience managing complex, multi-jurisdictional disputes and enforcement proceedings throughout the Middle East. His contentious practice encompasses commercial litigation and arbitration, employment disputes, insolvency-related disputes, intellectual property matters, construction and real estate disputes, and enforcement of local and foreign judgments and arbitral awards.

In his non-contentious practice, Mohammad advises on commercial contracting, distribution and agency arrangements, supply and channel partner relationships, employment and workplace compliance, regulatory matters. He also regularly advises clients on the regulatory and commercial risks associated with market-entry strategies, commercial relationships, and operational compliance requirements across the UAE and the wider region.

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

Before joining the firm, Mohammad served as Head Legal of an investment group owned by one of the UAE's leading higher education institutions, where he led the legal function and advised the board of directors on a wide range of strategic, regulatory, and commercial matters. In that role, he was responsible for overseeing legal risk management, corporate governance, regulatory compliance, and the drafting and review of policies, procedures, commercial agreements, and other key legal documentation.

Prior to that, Mohammad held senior legal positions in leading law firms in both Dubai and Jordan, advising clients on complex dispute resolution, employment, regulatory, and commercial matters. He also worked as an attorney at law and senior legal counsel in law firms in Dubai and Jordan. Mohammad has also been the head of legal, attorney general and government representative of the Public Security Directorate - Ministry of Internal Affairs in Jordan. He also headed the Intellectual Property Rights Protection Unit in Jordan.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Recognized by *The Legal 500 EMEA* as a Recommended Lawyer for Employment in United Arab Emirates, 2022-2026
- Recognized by *The Legal 500 EMEA* for Dispute Resolution: Arbitration and International Litigation as a key member of the UAE Dispute Resolution team, 2022-2023

PROFESSIONAL / CIVIC ACTIVITIES

- Member of Jordanian Bar Association
- Dubai International Arbitration Centre (DIAC) Roster of Arbitrators
- Fellow membership of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (FCIArb)

EDUCATION

- LL.M., University of Turin, 2009
- B.A., Mu'tah University, 1995

ADMISSIONS

- Bar of Jordan
- Dubai Department of Legal Affairs

LANGUAGES

- English
- Arabic

THOUGHT LEADERSHIP *POWERED BY HUB*

- 9 November 2026, Kuwait Issues New Arbitration Law
- 1 June 2026, Sanctions Regime: Overview, *Thomson Reuters Practical Law*
- 11 May 2026, Dubai Confirms the Allocation of Jurisdiction Over the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards
- 17 March 2026, Conflict in the Middle East: Rights and Remedies Under the Laws of the United Arab Emirates (UAE)

- 9 March 2026, The Impact of the New Civil Transactions Law on Construction Contracts in the United Arab Emirates
- 2026, Global Employer Guide
- January 2026, Arbitration World
- 8 December 2025, Abu Dhabi Court of Cassation Extends Arbitration Agreement in Main Contract to Parties to Related Contracts Arising Out of the Same Construction Project
- 2 September 2025, The UAE Confirms There Is No Requirement to Sign Every Page of the Arbitral Award
- 14 August 2025, The Dubai Court of Cassation Confirms the Power of Arbitral Tribunals to Issue Anti-Suit Injunctions
- 3 June 2025, Dubai Court of Appeal Annuls Anti-Suit Injunction Issued in ICC Arbitration Proceedings
- 27 February 2025, Abu Dhabi Court of Cassation Confirms Exclusivity of Grounds for Set Aside of Arbitral Awards
- 18 February 2025, Dubai Court of Cassation Holds Clause Providing for Court Provisional Measures Not a Waiver of Arbitration Agreement
- 22 January 2025, Dubai Court of Cassation Recognises the Concept of Without Prejudice Settlement Discussions
- 21 January 2025, Abu Dhabi Court of Cassation Reiterates the Exceptional Nature of Arbitration Agreements
- December 2024, Arbitration World
- 3 December 2024, The Dubai Court of Cassation Restores Ability to Award Legal Costs in ICC Arbitrations
- 21 November 2024, UAE Law on the Enforceability of Unilateral Arbitration Agreements
- 28 October 2024, Navigating the New UAE Competition Law: Moving Towards EU Principles? Part 4—UAE Prohibition on Abuse of Dominant Position and Article 102 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU)
- 21 October 2024, Navigating the New UAE Competition Law: Moving Towards EU Principles? Part 3—UAE Prohibition on Restrictive Agreements and Article 101 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU)
- 14 October 2024, Navigating the New UAE Competition Law: Moving Towards EU Principles? Part 2—UAE Merger Control vs. EU Merger Regulation
- 7 October 2024, Navigating the New UAE Competition Law: Moving Towards EU Principles? Part 1—Overview
- 28 August 2024, UAE Courts Demonstrate Willingness to Enforce Foreign Judgments
- 25 July 2024, Another Step Forward for Enforcement of Foreign Court Judgments in the United Arab Emirates

- 24 July 2024, Dubai Court of Cassation Confirms That Contractual Preconditions to Arbitration Are Matters of Admissibility and Not Jurisdiction
- 6 June 2024, Dubai Creates New Entity to Resolve Jurisdictional Disputes Between the DIFC Courts and Other Judicial Bodies
- 23 February 2024, The Dubai Court of Cassation Raises Questions Over an Arbitral Tribunal's Power to Award Legal Costs
- 23 January 2024, Update - UAE Consumer Protection and E-Commerce Laws
- 13 December 2023, Dubai Court of Cassation Rules That an Arbitration Clause Extends to Subsequent Purchase Orders
- June 2023, Arbitration World
- 6 March 2023, ICC Arbitration Seated in Abu Dhabi Held To Be Subject to the Supervisory Jurisdiction of the Courts of the Abu Dhabi Global Market
- 27 January 2023, Updates to UAE's Unemployment Insurance Scheme
- 19 December 2022, Dubai Courts Refuse Enforcement of an Arbitral Award Against a Foreign Party
- 6 December 2022, The UAE Launches Unemployment Insurance Scheme
- 22 November 2022, Swearing an Oath Remains a Requirement for Witnesses in Onshore UAE Arbitration
- 11 October 2022, Abu Dhabi Court of Cassation Confirms Seven-Day Time Limit to Raise Objections to the Commencement of Arbitration Proceedings
- 20 September 2022, The UAE Has Taken a Significant Step Forward in Confirming the Enforceability of UK Court Judgments in the UAE Under the Principle of Reciprocity
- 19 May 2022, UAE Law on the Signing of Arbitral Awards
- 18 March 2022, Recent Judgment Highlights Potential Pitfalls in Technology Transfer Agreements in Egypt
- 10 February 2022, New UAE Federal Data Protection Law
- 9 February 2022, Executive Regulations of the New UAE Labour Law
- 29 November 2021, New UAE Labour Law
- November 2021, Arbitration World
- 27 October 2021, The UAE Introduces New Grounds for the Federal Supreme Court and Local Court of Cassation to Retract Their Decisions or Judgments
- 5 October 2021, The UAE Introduces the Concept of a New Single-Tier Court
- 1 October 2021, The United Arab Emirates Clarifies Previous Uncertainty Regarding Payment Orders

- 28 September 2021, Saudi Arabia Approves a New Judicial Fees Law
- 8 September 2021, New Legislation for the Mediation of Onshore Disputes in the United Arab Emirates
- 23 August 2021, Update – DIFC Intellectual Property Legislation
- 23 August 2021, Board of Directors of the Dubai International Financial Centre (DIFC) Authority Issues IP Legislation Update
- 9 August 2021, Dubai Court of Cassation Finds that the Interests of Justice Can Override an Agreement to Arbitrate in Circumstances Where a Dependent Contract Does Not Also Provide for Arbitration
- 6 July 2021, The Abu Dhabi Court of Cassation Confirms that Representatives Acting Under a Power of Attorney Must Have Express and Unambiguous Authority to Bind a Principal to Arbitration
- 17 June 2021, Change to Interest Rates Applied by the Courts in Dubai
- 25 November 2020, Update on Foreign Direct Ownership and Investment in the UAE
- 14 April 2020, Arbitration World
- 9 April 2020, COVID-19: The Ministerial Resolution No. (281) of 2020 Regulating the Remote Work in Private Sector during the Period of Application of Precautionary Measures to Curb the Spread of Coronavirus
- 31 March 2020, COVID-19: Issuance of Ministerial Resolution No. 279 of 2020 - What Employers in the United Arab Emirates Need to Know
- 11 March 2020, COVID-19: Force Majeure in the United Arab Emirates
- 20 February 2019, A Step Forward for Expedited Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards in the United Arab Emirates

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- "Settlement of Civil Disputes in the Dubai International Financial Centre (DIFC): Overview," *Practical Law UK*, 1 March 2026
- "Settlement of Civil Disputes in the United Arab Emirates: Overview," *Practical Law UK*, 1 March 2026
- "Regulation of Downstream Oil & Gas," *Lexis Nexis Middle East*, 5 July 2024
- "Economic damages: a reconsideration of retrospective valuation," *Law Business Research*, Middle Eastern and African Arbitration Review 2023
- "Can we use freelancers?," *Lexis Middle East HR* Alert, June 2022
- Co-author, "Recent Judgment Highlights Potential Pitfalls in Technology Transfer Agreements in Egypt," *The Licensing Journal*, Volume 21 Number 4, April 2022

- "A review of the law in the United Arab Emirates regarding the exceptional nature of arbitration agreements," An extract from Volume 13, No. 1 – 2021 of the International Journal of Arab Arbitration. The IJAA is available on Kluwerarbitration.com.
- Patent License Agreement, Comparative Study, In Arabic Language, Text Book, Published by Dar Wael, 2018

NEWS & EVENTS

- 12 April 2022, K&L Gates Recognised in *The Legal 500 EMEA 2022* Edition

AREAS OF FOCUS

- Commercial Disputes
- Employment Disputes
- Employment Issues in Business Transactions
- Global Employer Solutions
- Government Contracts and Procurement Policy
- Human Resource Advice and Compliance
- International Arbitration
- International Trade, Investment Controls, and National Security
- IP Litigation
- Public Policy and Law

REPRESENTATIVE EXPERIENCE

- Advised the Ministry of Commerce and Industry on the drafting of Qatar's new public-private partnership law.
- Advised a Middle Eastern country on a fully revised insolvency law, benchmarking against leading jurisdictions and consulting multiple government entities.
- Advised a UAE technology company regarding joint venture, corporate, intellectual property, assignment of computer programs and licensing matters.
- Advised and represented a UAE airline company on redrafting its article of association and on various corporate matters.
- Advised and represented many well-known trademark and copyright owners in Jordanian and UAE civil court actions and related criminal proceedings arising out of infringements of intellectual property rights.

- Advised a UAE company in a dispute before the UAE Federal Court regarding the termination of a distribution agreement.
- Represented prominent UAE construction companies in Dubai civil court proceedings arising out of construction contracts and subcontracts.
- Represented a prominent UAE real estate and development company in Dubai, Sharjah and Umm Al Quwain civil court proceedings arising out of share purchase agreements.
- Represented a US oil and gas pipeline company in a Dubai civil court proceeding arising out of a supply agreement dispute.
- Conducting anti-corruption due diligence on foreign agents and business partners in the UAE, Saudi Arabia, Qatar and Jordan.
- Advising a German company regarding intellectual property issues and termination of franchise agreements in Kuwait, Qatar and Egypt.
- Reviewing and advising Qatari Authority regarding drafting and amending its law and regulations.
- Defending a UAE company against concurrent claims asserted in two Ras Al Khaimah civil court actions, a Ras Al Khaimah criminal court action, and a DIFC-LCIA arbitration, in respect of allegations of fraud concerning the quality of processed tobacco, claims for unpaid invoices and losses arising from the procurement of raw materials.
- Advising an international company on the UAE RoHS regulations.
- Represented and advised a multinational security company in relation to multiple employment disputes before UAE courts, which were favorably resolved.
- Advising and representing a US client regarding estate and inheritance in the UAE.
- Advising and representing an international organization in an employment dispute in Jordan, which was favorably resolved prior to litigation.
- Advising an Indian steel company regarding a dispute with UAE companies arising out of unpaid invoices and in respect of insolvency law.
- Advising an international organization regarding termination of a custody agreement in connection to electronic devices and software.
- Advising and representing a UAE entity in a Fujairah civil court action and related criminal proceedings arising out of an unlawful administrative decision taken by the Fujairah Municipality.
- Advising a UAE company regarding assignment of intellectual property rights (including trademarks, copyright, patent and et alia).
- Advising and representing a US company in a Dubai civil court action and related criminal proceedings arising out of a loan agreement dispute.

- Advising a US company regarding termination of a distribution agreement in Iraq.
- Advising a UK company in an insolvency proceeding before Dubai courts.
- Representing a Japanese company in a civil and criminal proceedings in Dubai civil court.
- Representing a US/UK cooling company in a dispute with its distributor in Dubai civil court.
- Representing a German cement company in an ICSID arbitration relating to a dispute concerning the privatization of a cement plant in Iraq.
- Representing a contractor in a DIFC seat arbitration under the DIFC-LCIA rules relating to a dispute with a joint venture partner concerning MEP works for an airport.
- Advising a US company on the UAE and DIFC insolvency law and trust law.
- Advising a Dubai-based hotel operator regarding the termination of a hotel management agreement resulting from material breaches, which was favorably resolved prior to arbitration.
- Advised UAE lender banks regarding its debtor insolvency proceedings before ADGM courts.
- Advising a UK company on a sale and rental of equipment agreement in the UAE.