

**Hon.-Prof. Dr. Irene Welser** is partner at CERHA HEMPEL Rechtsanwälte GmbH and heads the Contentious Business Department of the firm, a team of 30 lawyers. She has been practising law for more than 25 years and has been acting as an arbitrator and as parties' counsel in more than 50 international and national arbitrations, mainly under the ICC, Vienna and UNCITRAL Rules. As of 2015, she has become the first female board member of the Vienna International Arbitral Centre (VIAC). Irene is also a passionate litigator and advises domestic and international clients in commercial and civil law. Recently, she has been mainly active as counsel in a complex series of nearly 20 interconnected shareholder disputes. Construction and building law, liability law, M&A disputes, contract law, aviation law, insurance, energy law and oil and gas disputes are other key areas of her practice. She is also general counsel to corporate clients and so combines her litigation and arbitration skills with a firm understanding of how to avoid or settle disputes.

Irene Welser was admitted to the Vienna Bar in 1992. She holds a Doctor's degree and in 2003 became the youngest Honorary Professor at the University of Vienna, lecturing in business and civil law and arbitration. She frequently speaks at seminars and conferences and has been co-organising the Vienna Arbitration Days. Her first main publication, *Warranties in Contracts on Works and Services* (1989), has become a standard text in this field. She is co-editor of the Austrian Yearbook on International Arbitration (2007 – 2020) and author and co-author of several further books and publications dealing with contract law, warranty and liability questions as well as arbitration issues, and has published more than 100 articles in Austrian and International law magazines. She is an examiner for the Bar Exam at the Vienna Bar and an IBA member. Irene is on the list of arbitrators of the VIAC and is also member of ASA, LCIA, Arbitral Women and is member of the board of the Chinese European Legal Association. The last years have seen her lecturing on international arbitration in Istanbul, California, Hong-Kong, Beijing, Seoul and Tokyo, in Brussels, Romania, Slovakia and at the Düsseldorf Arbitration School as well as at the Austrian Arbitration Academy and in the LL.M Programme "International Dispute Resolution" of Danube University Krems.

Irene is currently Global Chair Emeritus of the Litigation Arbitration Dispute Resolution Section of Lex Mundi.

Irene Welser speaks German, English, French and Italian.

**Contact: Hon.-Prof. Dr. Irene Welser**  
**CERHA HEMPEL Rechtsanwälte GmbH**  
**Parkring 2; A-1010 Vienna, Austria**  
T: +43 1 514 35-121  
E: irene.welser@cerhahempel.com  
www.cerhahempel.com