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2 DIFC Mandatory  
Points  
(per session)!



# Laws of DIFC Commentaries

## Vol. 1 (Reissue) Commentaries Vol. 4 (New)

1 March 2021 | 10AM to 12PM (UAE time) | Online Training

### OVERVIEW

The DIFC Academy in partnership with LexisNexis Middle East invites you to the awarding ceremony and launch of The Laws of the DIFC, Volume 1 (Reissue) and Volume 4 (New) followed by a series of two live webinar lectures to be presented by Commentaries Authors.

#### Session 1 - 10AM to 12PM

- DIFC Insolvency Law by Simmons & Simmons + Baker Botts
- DIFC Security Law by Al Tamimi & Co
- DIFC Netting Law by Clifford Chance

#### Session 2 - 10AM to 12PM

- DIFC Companies Law by Jones Day
- DIFC Operating Law by Outer Temple Chambers

## TARGET AUDIENCE

Legal Consultants, Advocates, and Corporate Counsel with business interests in the DIFC or who are currently practising in the DIFC.

## OBJECTIVE / LEARNING OUTCOME

To update or acquire new information in specified areas of legal practice relevant to DIFC and the region.

## SPEAKERS



### Jacques Visser

*Chief Legal Officer, DIFC Authority*

Jacques Visser heads the Legal Affairs division of the DIFC Authority. In addition, he holds the position of Secretary to the DIFC Higher Board and the Boards of the DIFC Authority and DIFC Investments LLC. Mr. Visser also currently serves as DIFC's Security Registrar and Commissioner of Data Protection.

With over 20 years of experience as a financial services lawyer, Mr. Visser's expertise lie in multi-jurisdictional investment structures, funds, asset management and regulatory matters in emerging markets, as well as investment strategies and related M&A transactions. During his expansive career, he has established a number of landmark funds and investment structures relevant to the MENA region.



### Hussain Hadi

*Head of LexisNexis Middle East, LexisNexis Middle East*

Hussain Hadi heads the Middle East publishing arm of LexisNexis, which provides online access to legislation, regulatory news, case law, and practical guidance from across the MENA region. Prior to joining LexisNexis in 2011, his legal publishing experience includes roles at Oxford University Press and the Informa Group, where he managed a portfolio of commercial and banking law newsletters, books and websites. He launched the online version of the Lloyd's Law Reports: Insurance & Reinsurance and also developed a series of legal training courses across a range of areas including patents, reinsurance, and contract drafting.

Hussain has overseen the publication of over 200 leading practitioner works on commercial and international law, as well as managing a portfolio of business magazines including the first dedicated monthly law magazine in the Middle East. Having advised government and industry associations such as the Abu Dhabi Chamber of Commerce and the General Arab Insurance Federation, Hussain has chaired and spoken at conferences in UAE, UK, Oman, Bahrain and Jordan.



### Alya Hussein AlZarouni

*Executive Vice President - Operations, DIFC Authority*

In her role as Executive Vice President of Operations, Alya Al Zarouni oversees a number of internal functions, including Information Technology, Procurement, Administration, Corporate Development, Government Relations, Government and Registry Services. Her prime objective is to ensure DIFC Authority's internal operations are well aligned to support the delivery of the 2024 Strategy and objectives.

Prior to this role, Ms. Al Zarouni held the position of Senior Vice President – Operations at DIFC Authority, and before that was Senior Vice President - Government & Registry Services for five years. In this capacity, she was responsible for driving the strategic direction across the organisations Government Services, Registrar of Companies and Registrar of Properties offices.

Before this, Ms. Al Zarouni worked with the Programme Management Office at DIFC Authority, where she rose from Assistant Manager to Director of Government Services Office. During her tenure, she partly managed and assisted project managers in handling a number of complex projects in the Centre.

Ms. Al Zarouni earned both her BSc in Computer Science and MBA from the American University of Sharjah. She is a PMI Certified Project Management Professional (PMP), an LRQA certified ISO 9000:2000 Series Auditor/ Lead, and an LRQA Certified Internal QMS Auditor. Ms. Al Zarouni has also successfully completed the Young Leaders Program from the Mohammed bin Rashid Centre for Leadership Development.



**David Russell QC**  
*Barrister, Outer Temple Chambers*

David commenced legal practice in 1974. He is admitted to practise in Australia, England and Wales (Lincoln's Inn), the Courts of the Dubai International Financial Centre, New York (as a Legal Consultant), New Zealand and Papua New Guinea.

He currently practises in Dubai, London, and Abu Dhabi (Outer Temple Chambers), Sydney (Ground Floor Wentworth Chambers) and Brisbane (Sir Harry Gibbs Chambers). He has acted for Commonwealth and State Governments as well as individuals and corporations. David was President of the Taxation Institute of Australia from 1993 to 1995, and of the Asia Oceania Tax Consultants' Association from 1996 to 2000.

**Other key activities include:**

- Chairing the DIFC's Wealth Management Review Working Group, which recommended restructuring of the DIFC's wealth management offer;
- Subsequently drafting the Foundations Law and amendments to the Trust Law (peer reviews available if required);
- Following Chambers' redraft of the Companies Law, Drafting the Companies Regulations, Operating Law and Regulations (which cover the whole gamut of the regulation of the resitereed entities in the DIFC);
- Drafting the Common Reporting Standard Law and Regulations and Ultimate Beneficial Ownership Regulations;
- Drafting the Astana International Financial Centre Trust Regulations;
- Drafting the Ras al Khaimah Foundations Regulations;
- On a Pro Bono basis, reviewed the KIFC's Trust Law.



**Peter Manning**  
*Partner, Simmons & Simmons*

Peter is a restructuring and special situations partner advising on all aspects of rescues and re-constructions. He has extensive experience in insolvency and corporate re-construction law, both contentious and non-contentious.

He has acted for a broad range of clients, including banks, insolvency practitioners, debtors and creditors. Recently an increased proportion of his work has been advising directors of financially distressed companies. Peter has been ranked as a leading practitioner by Chambers every year since 2003.



**Philip Punwar**  
*Partner, Baker Botts*

Philip Punwar is a practising barrister and a partner in the international arbitration and dispute resolution group of Baker Botts L.L.P.

Philip is an experienced civil and common law practitioner. Over the past 25 years he has appeared in a wide range of commercial proceedings in court and arbitration under English, UAE, DIFC and International law. He has recently acted in arbitration proceedings arising out of aircraft charter agreements, agreements for the provision of armed security and logistics in areas of conflict, sub-development agreements, construction agreements, operating agreements, distribution agreements, production sharing agreements and diverse joint venture agreements. Philip has also advised clients seeking to pursue investment treaty claims. He is an active arbitrator and mediator.



**Mark Brown**  
*Partner, Al Tamimi & Company*

Mark Brown is a Partner in the Banking and Finance practice in Abu Dhabi.

Mark is a specialist banking and finance lawyer with significant experience advising financial institutions with respect to transactional lending, product development, customer insolvency and legislative change. Mark's experience also extends to assisting corporate borrowers from a range of industries, debt capital markets transactions and advising on UAE projects.



**Dustin Appel**  
*Senior Associate, Baker Botts*

Dustin's practice focuses on commercial litigation and international arbitration, particularly in the energy sector. Drawing on his economics and accounting background, he often works with clients and experts regarding damages modeling and other financial aspects of litigation.

Prior to law school, Dustin worked for several years in Russia and Central Asia in the freight forwarding industry providing logistics services to the energy and mining sectors. Dustin is proficient in written and spoken Russian. Dustin then entered public accounting, where he worked on audit and tax engagements for clients as varied as securities broker-dealers, construction contractors and heavy equipment lessors. He also has experience in industry accounting in the oilfield services sector. Dustin continues to maintain a license as a Certified Public Accountant.



**Habib Motani**  
*Partner, Clifford Chance*

Habib Motani is a leading international financial markets lawyer, with particular expertise in relation to derivatives, securities lending, repo, netting and collateral and clearing and settlement systems.

He specialises in OTC and securitised derivatives, structured capital markets products including derivative linked retail and wholesale structured products, investment banking sales and trading advisory work, Islamic derivatives, securities lending and repos, netting and collateral and their regulatory capital treatment and in the infrastructure aspects of the financial markets, such as payment and settlement systems, clearing systems, prime brokerage and custody.



**Dan Partovi**  
*Partner, Jones Day*

Dan Partovi has 15 years of experience advising significant companies, private equity and sovereign funds, and government entities on complex international transactions in the United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, and across the MENA region. His focus includes M&A, joint ventures, international trade, complex commercial relationships, and structuring foreign direct investment into the Middle East.

Dan is experienced in sectors including hospitality, F&B, consumer goods, retail, real estate, financial services, energy, telecommunications, and manufacturing.

Dan is the author of the official commentary to the Companies Law of the Dubai International Financial Centre (published by the DIFC Academy and LexisNexis) and provides the legal community with continuing education on companies law and governance.

## ABOUT THE LAWS OF THE DIFC SERIES

In 2016 the Laws of the DIFC series were launched to provide a narrative statement of the Laws of the DIFC on a subject-by-subject basis in a similar way to the famous Halsbury's Laws of England. The series are designed to ensure those who are familiar with other common law jurisdictions, but not the DIFC, can quickly establish where they can rely on their existing understanding of the Common Law. In addition, it will also help those who regularly work in the DIFC have easy access to the latest legal position. Since then, four volumes have been issued.

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- A background and explanation as to why each law was issued;
- Information on the specific international laws which inspired the law with the differences and similarities between those laws highlighted;
- Information on cross overs with other DIFC Laws and the impact of relevant regulations (which are provided in the appendices).
- Provision by provision analysis including details of relevant DIFC and Common law cases.
- Clarifications on the meaning of the provisions
- Useful further reading for particular provisions including relevant Halsbury's references.

- The author's experience of how the provisions of DIFC Laws operate in practice.
- Updated Analysis of the 2019 DIFC Employment Law and its 2020 amendments.
- Updated Analysis of 2018 DIFC Companies Law
- Analysis of the impact of the JJT rulings on DIFC jurisdiction and the DIFC Court Law
- Relevant DIFC Regulations and Amending Laws
- Details of the latest relevant DIFC and Common law cases covering Arbitration, Company, Damages and Remedies, Obligations, Employment and Court Law in the DIFC.

**Volume 1:**

The Laws of the DIFC, Volume 1 is the first commentary in the series. Accredited DIFC Academy Specialist firms, with significant experience in litigation and providing advice in the DIFC have been allocated to re-write the six titles within this volume, which cover the following topics in this reissue:

- Arbitration Law
- Companies Law
- Damages and Remedies Law
- Employment Law
- Obligations Law
- Court Law

As well as providing an overview of the legislation in each area, the authors offer provision-by-provision commentary on each article:

- highlighting both similarities and differences with the common law or equivalent international provision making it easier for those more familiar with other common law jurisdictions to quickly see where the potential legal differences apply;
- providing details and explanations of important DIFC cases in the specific area giving practical advice on the likely DIFC Court treatment; and
- providing details and explanations of relevant cases and commentary from other common law jurisdictions (with references) which can be useful to those researching that area.

**Volume 4:**

The Laws of the DIFC, Volume 4 is the fourth commentary in the series. This book has a specific focus on Insolvency, with full coverage of the Insolvency Law and the Netting and Security Law which are also of relevance in this area. In addition, Volume 4 covers:

- 2020 Leasing Law
- 2019 Intellectual Property Law
- Operating Law, which impacts companies, partnerships, limited partnerships, limited liability partnerships and foundations.

**PRICING**

Per Session

USD230

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Payment needs to be settled within one month of receipt of invoice or before the first course date (of courses elected).

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LexisNexis Legal & Professional is a leading global provider of legal, regulatory and business information and analytics that help customers increase productivity, improve decision-making and outcomes, and advance the rule of law around the world. As a digital pioneer, the company was the first to bring legal and business information online with its Lexis<sup>®</sup> and Nexis<sup>®</sup> services. LexisNexis Legal & Professional, which serves customers in more than 130 countries with 10,000 employees worldwide, is part of RELX Group, a global provider of information and analytics for professional and business customers across industries.