

JULIUS NKAUFU, FCIArb
Barrister | Arbitrator | Mediator



Julius is a practising barrister, arbitrator, and mediator with over 26 years of experience in commercial and civil law, having worked in both the City of London and Cameroon. He advises and represents individuals, corporations, and state entities.

He has significant expertise in international arbitration and cross-border disputes.

He is a member of the ICC Court of Arbitration and chairs the ARD committee of the African Bar Association. He is on a few Arbitration Panels in different jurisdictions.

Julius has also participated in several international election observation missions under the Commonwealth and UK Foreign & Commonwealth Office (FCO), including:

- Zambian General Election (2016)
- Presidential Election in Sierra Leone (2018)
- Macedonian Referendum (2018)
- General Elections in Georgia (2021)

He lectures in International Arbitration at the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators and teaches international mediation on an ad hoc basis. Julius currently serves as Chair of the ADR Committee of the African Bar Association.

Education and Qualifications

- PGCert Energy Law – University of Derby | 2013 – 2014
- Legal Practice Course (LPC) – London Guildhall University | 1999 – 2000
- Common Professional Examination (CPE) – London Guildhall University | 1997 – 1999
- Master of Laws (LLM) – London Guildhall University | 1995 – 1997
- PGCert Education – University of Greenwich | 1996 – 1997
- Bachelor of Laws (LLB) – University of Yaoundé, Cameroon | 1989 – 1999

Professional Experience

- **The Barrister Group – Barrister** June 2024- Present
- **Julex Chambers — Founder & Barrister** March 2024-Present

Specialises in civil, commercial, and ADR matters.

- **Nkafu Arbitration Services (NAS)** Jan 2019-Present

Provision of arbitration and other ADR services, including assisting in organising international arbitration conferences.

- **African Development Bank — Chair, Sanctions Appeals Board,** May 2018 – 13 May 2025

- Led significant governance reforms aligning the Sanctions Appeals Board with practices of other leading multilateral development banks.
- Played a strategic role in modernising institutional governance structures.
- Oversees ongoing implementation of reforms to ensure efficiency and compliance with international standards.

- **Chartered Institute of Arbitrators,** March 2012 – Present
 - Member of the London Branch.
 - Delivers lectures and assessments for modules one, two, and three in international arbitration for the HQ.

- **Great James Street Chambers — Barrister** April 2014 – March 2024

Provided advocacy, advice, legal opinions, and representation in civil, commercial, arbitration, and mediation matters.

Key contributions:

- Headed the Africa Arbitration team.
- Acted as lead counsel in a major cross-border internet fraud case in arbitration, involving complex issues of digital security and multi-jurisdictional law.

- Mentored junior barristers in advocacy, legal research, and case strategy.

- **Julliz Solicitors LLP — Partner** **July 2010 – November 2014**
 - Headed the Civil, Commercial, and ADR departments.

Publications and Speaking Engagements

- Contributor to Kluwer Arbitration publication: *Arbitration in Africa* (2021).
- Regular speaker at international arbitration conferences.
- Articles published through the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators and other outlets.

Professional Memberships

- Fellow — Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (CI Arb)
- Member — International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) Court of Arbitration
- Support Member — London Maritime Arbitrators Association (LMAA)
- Chair — ADR Committee, African Bar Association
- Member — Worshipful Company of Arbitrators
- Member — Bar Pro Bono Unit

Expert Witness

Acts as a legal expert in Cameroon and OHADA law, and independently in the law of England and Wales.

Languages

- English
- French

MANIFESTO

I wish to stand for election as a Committee Member of the CI Arb London Branch to support the Institute and contribute to the ongoing development of arbitration and alternative dispute resolution.

Through my professional practice and institutional roles, I have gained experience in arbitration, professional governance, and promoting dispute resolution. I believe these experiences will enable me to contribute effectively to the work of the London Branch Committee and to support its members' interests.

What I would contribute to the Committee

- Support the objectives and activities of the CIArb London Branch
- Contribute to organising seminars, lectures, and professional events
- Share practical insights from my experience in arbitration and dispute resolution
- Assist in strengthening connections with arbitration practitioners internationally
- Support initiatives that encourage participation and mentorship for early-career practitioners
- Participate actively in Committee meetings and Branch activities

I would be honoured to contribute to the London Branch's continued work and to support its members in promoting excellence in arbitration and alternative dispute resolution.

Kind Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Nkafu', written in a cursive style.

Julius Nkafu