


Enhancing Global Dispute Resolution: The Role of the International Commercial Expert Committee in the China International Commercial Court

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ABSTRACT

This study examines the critical role of the International Commercial Expert Committee (ICEC) within the China International Commercial Court (CICC) in facilitating international commercial dispute resolution. With the expansion of globalization, cross-border disputes have become increasingly intricate, necessitating the creation of specialized institutions to ensure fairness, efficiency, and transparency. The ICEC, integrated into the CICC, leverages international legal expertise to provide mediation and advisory services, enhancing the court's legitimacy by incorporating foreign legal perspectives and promoting impartial decision-making. This paper specifically examines the ICEC's impact on resolving disputes related to the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI). It highlights its role in fostering cross-border judicial cooperation and reinforcing confidence among international businesses in the Chinese legal system. In addition, the study identifies challenges faced by the ICEC and CICC, including jurisdictional issues, the internationalization of legal practices, and the recognition and enforcement of judgments. By providing a comprehensive analysis, the paper aims to contribute to ongoing discussions on improving international commercial dispute resolution processes, emphasizing the ICEC's vital role in strengthening global legal frameworks.

Keywords: Global Dispute Resolution, Cross-border Integrity, CICC, Belt and Road Initiative.

INTRODUCTION

The China International Commercial Court (CICC) represents an advancement in international dispute resolution, specifically in the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) framework. Providing an effective and unified conflict resolution process that combines litigation, arbitration, and mediation in one unit is the main objective of CICC. This novel technique addresses the complexity of international commercial issues, which are composed of corporate procedures, multiple laws, and dialects. The key component of CICC's design is the idea of a 'one-stop' conflict settlement. By using different conflict resolution systems, the goal of CICC is to increase the accuracy and adaptability in solving disputes. All the functions of the CICC are performed with the help of the International Commercial Expert Committee (ICEC) as well as the guidance office of the CICC collectively (Shi & Wu, 2023). ICEC has a great role in successfully solving complicated issues among different countries. This is accomplished with the assistance of various experts with diverse legal skills.

Although the CICC has a unique structure for solving disputes, there are numerous challenges. The most important one is that the CICC works as a domestic court rather than an international one, which might discourage foreign parties from choosing it as a dispute settlement forum (Shan & Feng, 2021). Due to its judicial boundaries and traditional organizational design, it is difficult for CICC to attract foreign investors (X. Sun, 2020). Comparatively, the Singapore International Commercial Court (SICC) has a more open and internationalized approach that enables it to establish itself as a major hub for dispute settlement (X. Sun, 2020).

Significantly, the CICC is accommodating technology for resolving disputes. Online dispute resolution (ODR) techniques and other forms of cutting-edge technology hold great promise for making dispute resolution more accessible and efficient. For instance, algorithms are used to streamline the process of settling disputes in e-commerce transactions involving foreign trade. These algorithms can automatically record and organize dispute information (Shi & Wu, 2023). The larger trend of digital transformation in the legal sector aims to speed up legal processes and enhance access to justice, which can be ensured with this technological integration.

Mediation is an important and integrated component of the CICC's dispute resolution system. The increasing use of mediation in the context of the BRI reflects a larger shift towards the establishment of mediation as one of the preferred approaches for resolving business and investment disputes that span multiple borders (He & Zhao, 2021). The Convention on International Settlement Agreements Resulting from Mediation is also known as the Singapore Convention. It reinforces the growing movement by establishing a structure for enforcing mediated settlement agreements. The CICC's focus on mediation aligns with China's broader goal of creating a more streamlined and cooperative dispute resolution environment for BRI-related conflicts (Figure 1).

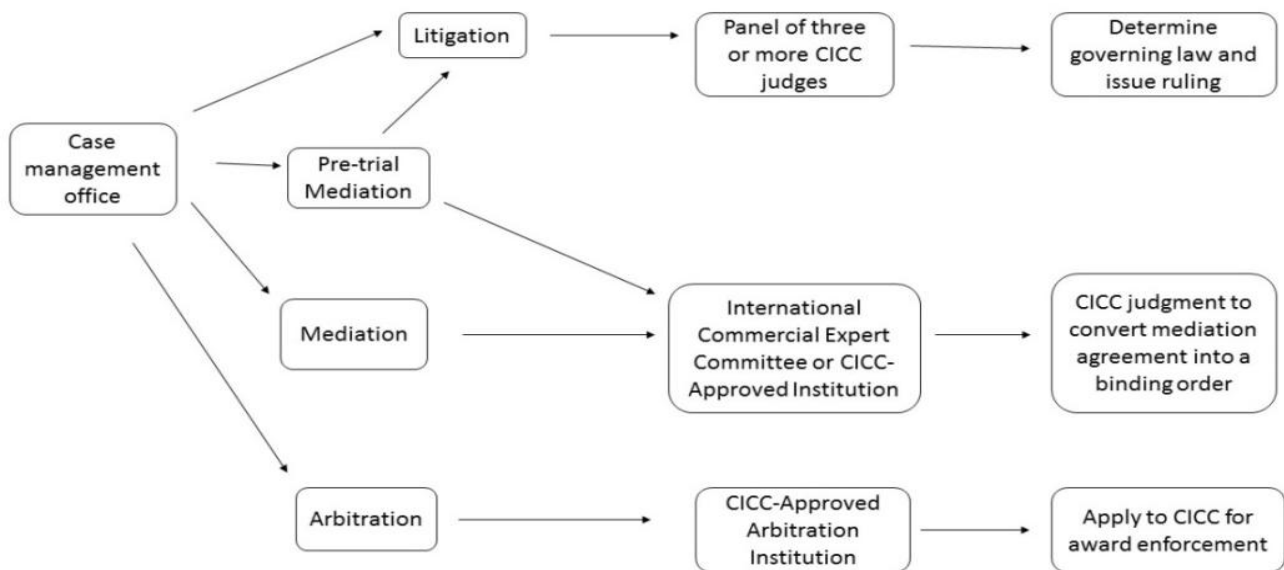


Figure 1. Structure of the Chinese International Commercial Court (Source: Supreme People's Court, Procedural Rules for the China International Commercial Court of the Supreme People's Court. <https://cicc.court.gov.cn/html/1/219/208/210/1183.html>)

CICC provides an audacious and creative approach to solving global economic issues regarding the BRI. Nevertheless, for the CICC to fully realize its potential, it must address the challenges posed by its isolated and traditional structure while also enhancing its global integration and inclusivity. The CICC's ability to provide a reliable and well-organized environment for the settlement of worldwide conflicts is largely dependent on the current improvement and development of its comprehensive conflict resolution framework, which is supported by new organizational and technological advancements.

OVERVIEW OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMERCIAL EXPERT COMMITTEE

The CICC is a significant advancement in the realm of international commercial dispute resolution, especially concerning the BRI. Founded in 2018 by the Supreme People's Court of China, the CICC strives to develop a comprehensive and varied system for resolving disputes by combining litigation, mediation, and arbitration into a cohesive platform (Shi & Wu, 2023; X. Sun, 2020). This innovative approach, often referred to as a "one-stop" platform, is designed to address the complexities of cross-border commercial disputes by providing a more efficient and effective means of resolution (He & Zhao, 2021).

It is expected that the ICEC will play a reliable and competent role in assisting in the efficient, easy, and economical settlement of international commercial disputes. It also seeks to bring China's dispute settlement procedure into line with accepted international standards (X. Sun, 2020). The SPC has extended the sphere of the ICEC to help the CICC's expansion into the international legal system. Since August 2018, the group has been enlarged to include 31 experts from 14 countries and regions. In December 2020, 14 individuals came from 6

countries in the second round and 24 from 11 countries in the third round. By March 2023, there were 61 professional members in ICEC, including members from the Special Administrative Region of Hong Kong, Taiwan, and Macao (Table 1). The expansion of the institute indicates that it utilizes the world's knowledge base to guide the trend of global legal compliance to resolve disputes (X. Sun, 2020).

Table 1. Members of the International Commercial Expert Committee from 2018 to 2023

S.No	Individuals	Country/Region	S.No	Individuals	Country/Region
1	Huang Jin	China	31	Fei Zongyi	China
2	Liu Jingdong	China	32	Gao Xiang	China
3	Lu Song	China	33	Liu Xiaohong	China
4	Shan Wenhua	China	34	Si Yuzhuo	China
5	Shen Sibao	China	35	Wang Junfeng	China
6	Shi Jingxia	China	36	Xiao Yongping	China
7	Wang Guiguo	China	37	Yi Xianhe (Sienho Yee)	China
8	Wang Liming	China	38	Zhang Yongjian	China
9	Zhang Yuejiao	China	39	Zhou Hanmin	China
10	Rimsky Yuen	Hong Kong	40	Anthony Neoh	Hong Kong
11	Anselmo Reyes	Canada	41	Viriato Manuel Pinheiro de Lima	Macao
12	Jingzhou Tao	France	42	Fatsah Ouguerouz	Algeria
13	Peter Malanczuk	Germany	43	Johan Achiel Erauw	Belgium
14	Anna Mantakou	Greece	44	Colin Ong	Brunei
15	Nayla Comair-Obeid	Lebanon	45	Ismail Selim	Egypt
16	Vladimir Kurilov	Russia	46	Maidan Suleimenov	Kazakhstan
17	David Unterhalter	South Africa	47	Amapola Grijalva	Mexico
18	Hi-Taek Shin	South Korea	48	Christopher Adebayo Ojo	Nigeria
19	Fuldien Li	Taiwan	49	Hamid Sharif	Pakistan
20	Philip Yang	Hong Kong	50	Michael Hwang	Singapore
21	William Blair	UK	51	Steven Chong	Singapore
22	George Bermann	US	52	Bart Magunda Katureebe	Uganda
23	Susan Finder	US	53	Gao Zhiguo	China
24	Du Xinli	China	54	Huang Huikang	China
25	Fan Yu	China	55	Huang Jiefang	China
26	Gao Yanping	China	56	Christopher Campbell-Holt	UK
27	Wang Han	China	57	Danny Patrick McFadden	Ireland
28	Jia Bingbing	China	58	Josefa Sicard-Mirable	Dominican Republic
29	Ding Ding	China	59	Mohamed S.Abdel Wahab	Egypt
30	Zhao Hong	China	60	Olufunke Adekoya	Nigeria
61	Teresa Cheng	China			

Source: China International Commercial Court, from 2018 to 2023

The ICEC has to be more functional in the context of CICC, and the one-stop platform is to be overhauled. In the past, there have been huge numbers of expert members who were present during biannual conferences but had minor participation in cases. Therefore, the ICEC needs to be restructured in such a way that it becomes capable of encouraging more diversity within the council. Increasing the number of Middle Eastern along with other countries from that region would be better because these countries have been experiencing problems with the judicial system (Figure 2). Theoretically, it is possible to optimize creative collaboration in the dispute resolution system by looking into the probability of sharing the ICEC expert members with local ICTs (X. Sun, 2020).

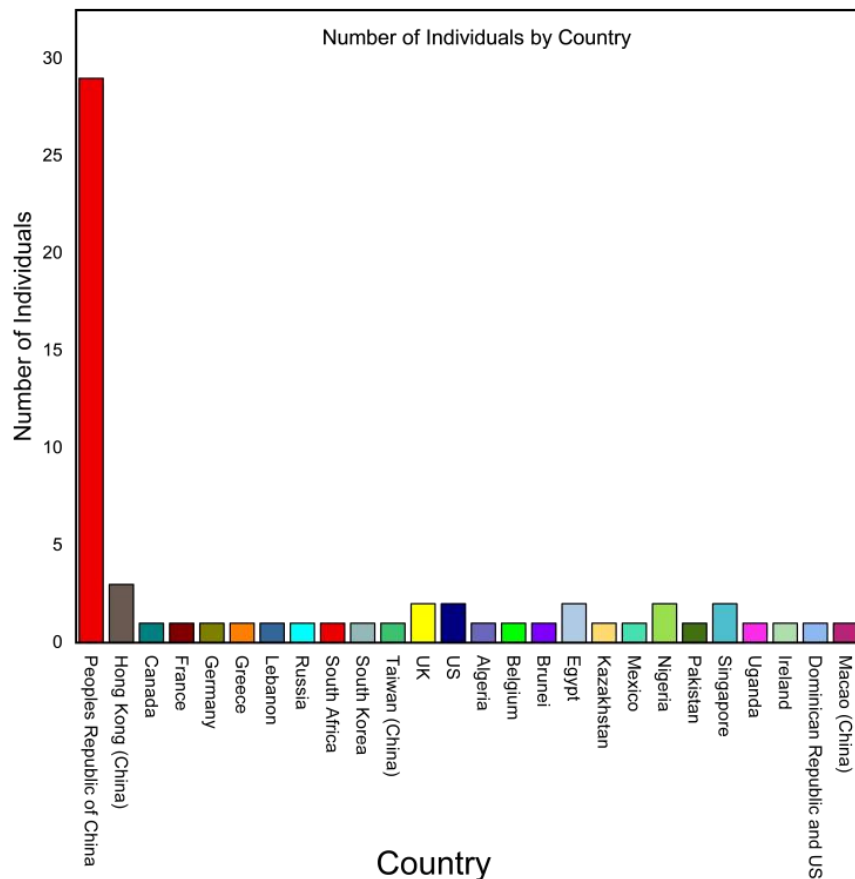


Figure 2. ICEC Members of Individual Country (Source: Data adapted from China International Commercial Court Experts Directory, 2024)

The evolution and establishment of the ICEC within the CICC reflect a significant stride in China's efforts to create a comprehensive and integrated dispute resolution mechanism. It has been tailored to the complexities of international commercial disputes, particularly under the BRI. The ICEC's role is particularly crucial concerning the CICC's objective of creating an integrated dispute resolution system. The ICEC's integration into the CICC framework represents a strategic innovation, combining domestic legal requirements with international expertise to create a more robust and effective system for resolving international commercial disputes (Fei, 2020). By providing professional analysis and enabling the seamless navigation of difficult international conflicts, the ICEC promotes this integration, ensuring that the CICC can properly manage cases involving many legal systems and cultural backgrounds (Shan & Feng, 2021; Yue & Han, 2021).

Despite having a forward-thinking design, the CICC and its ICEC are confronted with several obstacles. One of the most important concerns is the requirement for additional internationalization, as well as the enhancement of the recognition and enforcement of judgments, arbitration awards, and settlement of agreements. The efficiency of the ICEC is somewhat limited by these obstacles, and there is a request for the establishment of more diverse international treaties and clearer procedural mechanisms to support the activities of the CICC (Zuo, 2020). Moreover, the CICC system is more traditional than other international commercial courts (Figure 3). Thus, the CICC needs to be amended to enhance its values and competition globally (Mollengarden, 2019).

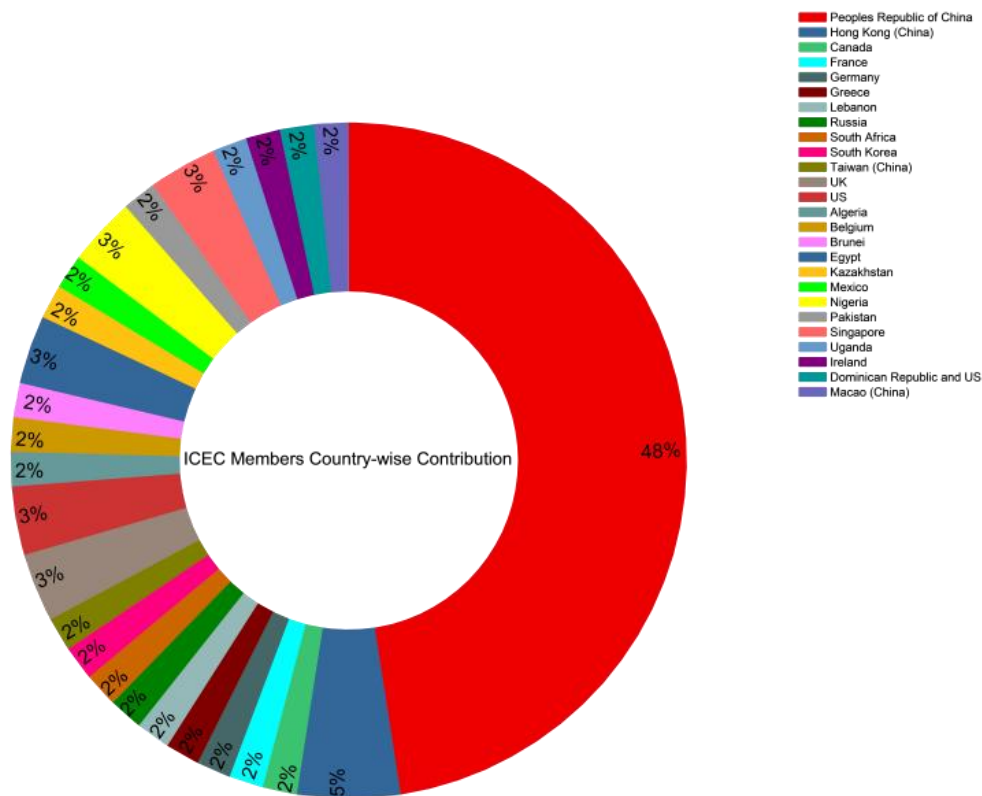


Figure 3. Country-wise Contribution of the Members of ICEC in Percentage (Source: China International Commercial Court Expert Directory, 2024)

The development of ICEC under CICC is a significant turning point in the field of dispute resolution. The main goal of CICC is to create an efficient and secure platform for the settlement of business problems. Integrating arbitration, litigation, and mediation, as well as the professional council, would ultimately sort out its achievements (Shan & Feng, 2021). The CICC needs to address the global problems related to enforcement mechanisms, internationalization, and the judiciary to fulfill its potential and gain more support in the international legal community (Fei, 2020).

Composition and Capability of ICEC

A key component of CICC is ICEC, which provides a specialized experience that is important for enhancing CICC's effectiveness and reliability. By analyzing the composition, area of expertise, and method of selection of ICEC members. This analysis aims to provide an in-depth understanding of the essential functions that are performed by ICEC members. ICEC members are professionals in the field of legislation, such as senior judges, legal professors, and experienced practitioners. This composition ensures that the committee can provide a wide range of expertise and perspectives, which is important for effectively negotiating the complicated nature of international economic conflicts. The ICEC participants are selected based on broad experience and a deep understanding of international commercial law (Huo & Yip, 2019). Due to such qualities, they can give specific advice that enhances CICC's abilities in settling conflicts (Chaisse & Qian, 2021). Similarly, the extensive selection procedure for ICEC members is to identify only extremely competent people. The criteria taken into account throughout the selection process include:

- **Professional Expertise:** Candidates must have substantial expertise in international commercial law, demonstrated through their professional achievements, academic contributions, and practical experience in the field (Shan & Feng, 2021; X. Sun, 2020).
- **Diverse Backgrounds:** The committee seeks to include members from various legal systems and cultural backgrounds to provide a holistic perspective on international commercial disputes (He & Zhao, 2021).
- **Judicial Experience:** Preference is given to senior judges and legal practitioners who have a proven track record of handling complex commercial cases (M. Chen, 2021).

The Supreme People's Court of China conducts nominations, assessments, and final confirmation as part of the selection procedure. This systematic approach assures that the ICEC is composed of qualified professionals

who can provide specific guidance to support the CICC's activities.

Role and Functions of the Expert Committee

The ICEC operating procedure is regulated by a complex structure of treaties, legislation, and CICC-specific procedural guidelines. This arrangement assures that the committee procedure follows international regulations and standards of excellence by clarifying its purpose, authority, and procedural norms (Figure 4). The Supreme People's Court of China supervises the ICEC and provides some necessary powers to perform its duties. The procedural rules of the CICC clearly define the advising role of the committee, guaranteeing that its advice is smoothly integrated into the legal system to improve the standard and uniformity of legal decisions (X. Sun, 2024).

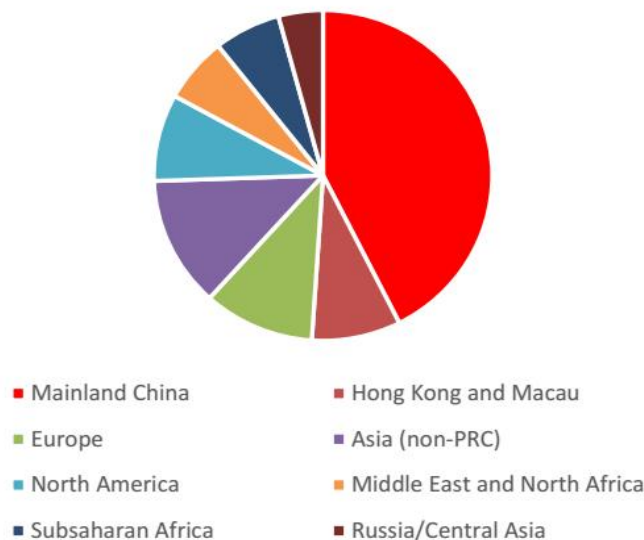


Figure 4. Members of the ICEC by Region (Source: China International Commercial Courts, Expert Committee)

Providing professional opinions on challenging legal issues and assisting in learning international commercial legislation, the ICEC performs a crucial advising role for the CICC (Y. Zhang, 2023). This advising role assures that the CICC remains updated on the most recent changes in international commercial law and makes its selections strong on judicial reasons. The committee is also in charge of providing advice on procedural matters, offering technical knowledge, as well as helping with drafting judicial judgments. Furthermore, the ICEC encourages the development of policies and regulations that increase the predictability and uniformity of the CICC's judgments (Moreira & Lin, 2025). The committee's performance of Such responsibilities is essential for enhancing the court's general performance and effectiveness.

The ICEC continues to be the court's major advising body, with the ability to discuss judicial and procedural matters concerning international trade conflicts. Some of the major tasks and activities are:

- **Providing expertise:** The ICEC membership is composed of legal experts, academicians, and practitioners with a wealth of experience in the areas of international trade law, commercial arbitration, and cross-border litigation (Zhu, 2020). They provide experts with particular skills and knowledge on the complex legal issues of global trade conflicts.
- **Guiding on matters of law:** The ICEC shares information with the CICC regarding legal principles, procedures, and best practices for resolving international commercial disputes (Tao & Zhong, 2019). By using this system, the participants of this committee can recommend multiple techniques for understanding and applying international legislation, rules, and agreements.
- **Supporting in case review:** The ICEC can help in CICC by assessing complicated issues, providing assistance from professionals, recommending methods for solving issues, as well as the arguments made by each of the disputing parties (Zheng & Chen, 2023).
- **Assisting with legal frameworks:** CICC operating standards, administrative laws, rules, and judicial structures are established and updated, along with the cooperation of ICEC (Tao & Zhong, 2019). Representatives of the committee may assist in designing laws, guidelines for processing cases, and other essential paperwork that support justice and efficiency in the resolution of conflicts.

- Fostering international collaboration: The CICC and legal professionals from other jurisdictions can be engaged to establish collaboration via ICEC (Y. Zhang, 2023). The committee serves as a forum for information exchange and arranges projects and conferences aimed at enhancing relations between the judiciary and the global legal community. To carry out its tasks, the ICEC acts as a vigorous supporting instrument of the CICC that aims to offer a neutral and balanced tribunal for the resolution of international business conflicts, eventually paving the way for the promotion of international trade and investment.

ROLE OF ICEC IN CASE MANAGEMENT AND PROCEDURES OF CICC

The ICEC is established under two main provisions: the CICC regulations and the ICEC Working Rules (Zadi, Hameed, & Chaudhary, 2021). The ICEC's integration into the CICC framework represents a strategic innovation, combining domestic legal requirements with international expertise to create a more robust and effective system for resolving international commercial disputes (Tao & Zhong, 2019). The ICEC's integration into the CICC framework represents a strategic innovation, combining domestic legal requirements with international expertise to create a more robust and effective system for resolving international commercial disputes (Y. Zhang, 2023). Interestingly, professionals in international law who are both Chinese and foreign nationals make up the ICEC. In January 2021, the SPC appointed 55 members to the ICEC; 20 of these are experts from the Chinese home market, while 35 are from outside of Mainland China but from Special Administrative Regions such as Taiwan, Macau, and Hong Kong (Gu, 2024). It is still unusual to find local or foreign mediation specialists who focus only on mediation. The majority of the specialists' backgrounds in international business law come from their work as professors, judges, litigators, and arbitrators (Gu, 2021).

Regarding geographic representation, the SPC selected three Singaporean jurists (Vijayan, 2020) and four African jurists to the ICEC for the first time in the most recent appointment round, which took place in December 2020. Notably, because of China's well-publicized BRI initiative expansion, these experts in international law are anticipated to assist in resolving legal concerns about China's worldwide infrastructure development program (R. Zhang, Noronha, & Guan, 2023).

The ICEC members are responsible for overseeing the mediation of CICC international commercial disputes and, as a result, publishing settlement contracts (Gu, 2024). Treaties, business rules, and the identification and implementation of foreign laws pertinent to the CICC cases are among the particular areas of international law on which ICEC offers advisory opinions (Gu, 2021). Implementing the One Stop Multi-Tier Dispute Resolution Platform, a primary objective of the CICC that has been outlined in the SPC and CICC Provisions, hinges on the ICEC's ability to mediate disputes. Furthermore, the ICEC's mediation power is revolutionary since it allows the CICC to base its decision on an ICEC mediation settlement agreement if the contesting parties achieve an agreement through mediation overseen by an ICEC member (Wang, 2020).

Consequently, there are two separate routes through which mediation settlement agreements can be incorporated into a CICC judgment: mediations provided by Chinese mediation organizations recognized by CICC and those conducted by ICEC members appointed by CICC (Zheng & Chen, 2023). Since the latter method permits ICEC members and global legal experts to indirectly participate in "CICC judgment writing" via the mediation mechanism analogous to "semi-adjudication," it has a more substantial impact than the former (Cai & Godwin, 2019). The majority of the members of the ICEC have backgrounds in adjudication and advocacy. Therefore, the organization can be seen as a significant advancement in the internationalization of Chinese legal knowledge and judicial experience. Some have expressed concerns about the CICC's worldwide status, particularly about foreign judges (Z. Zhang, Dong, & Zhang, 2021). Yet, this is its most adaptable aspect of internationalization.

IMPACT OF THE ICEC ON CROSS-BORDER BUSINESSES

The ICEC has proven significant in advising international jurisdiction by offering an effective system for addressing issues affecting global trade. Due to its participation, legal consequences are now more predictable and regular, which has enhanced the stability of the financial system and promoted foreign investment and trade. The committee's structure, which includes experienced lawyers, academics, and senior judges with an abundance of legal experience, assures that CICC can efficiently handle all aspects of global commercial law (X. Sun, 2020). The ICEC's extensive membership enables it to offer a broad range of opinions and knowledge, which are essential for guaranteeing fair and successful conflict settlement.

ICEC has a limited effect on overseas legislation. While the ICEC's participation makes the CICC more international and proficient, this makes it more desirable to foreign enterprises as an opportunity for addressing disputes (M. Chen, 2021). The CICC's effectiveness and efficiency are further improved by its adaptation of

modern technologies and more realistic legal processes, making it an attractive choice for resolving international conflicts (Mollengarden, 2019). However, the CICC has a lot of hurdles to overcome that may confine its influence on global trade and the international judiciary. In addition, beyond its restrictive jurisdiction standards and traditional organizational structure, the CICC may be less attractive to international players seeking to resolve problems, considering that its functions resemble a domestic court (He & Zhao, 2021). The CICC's professional goal of bringing more foreign investors and investment opportunities to the Chinese platform may be compromised by this insularity.

Additionally, it is still challenging to acknowledge and implement orders granted by the CICC. The position of the CICC appears to be conservative in comparison with other global commercial courts, such as the Singapore International Commercial Court (SICC), which might hinder its ability to compete in the worldwide marketplace (Huo & Yip, 2019). The CICC needs to overcome such obstacles to achieve its maximum potential. To accomplish the said objective, it has to enhance its globalization, improve its activities, and promote acceptance and execution of its decisions (Qian, 2020). The ICEC's professional assistance and understanding significantly improve the CICC's capacity to settle international conflicts. However, the CICC needs to tackle its traditional organizational structure, restrictive jurisdictional standards, as well as difficulty with registration and implementation of decisions. It is supposed to have a more significant effect on the overseas judiciary and global trade. By accomplishing this, the CICC will be able to fulfill its target of becoming a globally recognized forum for settling international business disputes by creating more trust among international investors and enhancing its organizational competitiveness (Huo & Yip, 2019).

CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE INTERNATIONAL COMMERCIAL EXPERT COMMITTEE

Novel characteristics and potentials in the area of global commercial dispute resolution have been brought about by the formation of CICC and ICEC. However, several challenges need to be addressed to fully realize the potential of the ICEC. This analysis explores both the challenges and opportunities for the Expert Committee based on the provided research articles.

Challenges

Jurisdictional Limitations and Internationalization: The CICC operates primarily within a domestic framework, which restricts its jurisdictional reach and attractiveness to international parties. Compared to other international commercial courts, the CICC's approach is seen as conservative, which may deter foreign litigants from choosing it as their preferred forum for dispute resolution (de la Rasilla, 2021). Enhancing the internationalization of the CICC, including the recognition and enforcement of its judgments, is crucial for increasing its global competitiveness.

Integration of Dispute Resolution Methods: While the CICC aims to integrate litigation, mediation, and arbitration into a "one-stop" platform, the mechanism to effectively combine these methods is still insufficient. The procedural mechanisms need to be improved to ensure seamless integration and clarify the Expert Committee's duties (Zuo, 2020). This lack of integration can hinder the efficiency and effectiveness of the dispute resolution process.

Recognition and enforcement of judgments: One of the significant challenges is the recognition and enforcement of settlement agreements, arbitration awards, and court judgments. The CICC faces difficulties in this area, which undermines its credibility and influence on the international stage (X. Sun, 2024). Addressing this challenge requires updating the current legal regime and enhancing judicial cooperation with other countries.

Operational and Procedural Issues: The CICC's working procedures and institutional design need further refinement. The current conservative approach limits its ability to compete with other international commercial courts. Bold reforms are necessary to enhance the independence and efficiency of the CICC's dispute settlement institutions (Cai & Godwin, 2019). This includes improving the procedural design to better integrate international commercial litigation with arbitration and mediation (Shan & Feng, 2021).

Opportunities

Specialized Guidance and Expertise: The ICEC is composed of experts from diverse legal backgrounds, including senior judges, legal scholars, and seasoned practitioners. This diverse composition ensures that the CICC can effectively navigate the complexities of international commercial disputes. The specialized guidance provided by the ICEC enhances the professionalism and internationalization of the CICC, increasing its attractiveness as a dispute resolution forum (S. Zhang, 2020).

Innovation in Dispute Resolution Mechanisms: The CICC's "one-stop" diversified dispute resolution platform is an innovative approach that integrates litigation, mediation, and arbitration. This integrated system, supported by the ICEC, offers a streamlined and efficient means of resolving complex international commercial disputes (Fei, 2020). The use of cutting-edge information technology further enhances the efficiency and accessibility of the dispute resolution process (S. Zhang, 2020).

Enhancing Credibility and Influence: The CICC may strengthen its legitimacy and authority by confronting challenges regarding jurisdiction, globalization, and recognition, as well as the implementation of the decisions. The Expert Committee is essential to this approach because it offers professionals advice and encourages the combination of different dispute resolution techniques (Zuo, 2020).

Legal and Institutional Innovations: The CICC provides a chance to encourage the globalization of arbitration and other methods for settling disputes as a result of the rising institutionalization of the global arbitration and resolution framework, especially concerning the BRI. The ICEC may benefit from this opportunity to emphasize the CICC as a reputable and successful institution for resolving issues concerning international trade (Shi & Wu, 2023).

By offering specialized advice and experience, the ICEC can greatly improve the CICC's capacity to manage overseas conflicts. To fully take advantage of these prospects, the CICC must tackle its traditional institutional layout, jurisdiction constraints, and problems with judgment acceptance and enforcement. By achieving this, the CICC will be able to achieve its objective of developing into a globally recognized institution for addressing commercial disputes worldwide by creating greater confidence in foreign litigants and enhancing its structural efficiency.

Future Prospective

To pursue the purpose of the tribunal and raise its efficiency in settling disputes between parties under international trade law, it seems obvious that the ICEC will certainly continue to play its important role in the forthcoming years. In the future, the ICEC may fulfill several roles and responsibilities, which may include:

- The ICEC will play a role in assisting the CICC with advice on how to seize such opportunities and be adaptable in the face of changing legal and economic conditions at the international level. Committee members can furnish relevant information on modern technology inventions, existing legal reforms, and international business contexts, which may have a bearing on the way conflict issues are resolved.
- The ICEC could certainly see an expansion in the variety of its experienced team by hiring people with legal expertise from different sectors and regions of the world. Through the employment of such professionals, the committee can go beyond one-dimensional conflict management and develop a comprehensive approach to managing complex and multifaceted conflicts.
- The ICEC could improve dispute resolution by exploring new methodologies and introducing innovative methods and technology that can reduce proceedings, expand access to justice, and improve the quality of outcomes. Committee members may stress the importance of inventing unique approaches, such as internet-based interaction systems with artificial intelligence or dispute mediation methodologies.
- In an evolving world with an increasingly integrated and connected structure, the ICEC has a good chance of exerting a tremendous impact by enhancing collaboration and cooperation between the CICC and international legal institutions, organizations, and stakeholders. By participating in information-sharing activities, sharing knowledge, and building capacity, committee members will work together to advance the adoption of effective conflict-resolution strategies.
- The ICEC has been adjudicated to lobby for endorsing legislative and policy reforms nationally and globally. The remedies to be addressed are mainly resolving issues, preserving the value of justice, and allowing all corporate entities and individuals who are involved in international business. Those who seek legal redress, Members of the committee can attend political discussions, legislative meetings, and campaigning associated with bringing amendments to the international business law, with the intent of improving the legislative structure.

Considering this, it can be deduced that the ICEC is an incredibly useful tool for the CICC that provides it with the possibility to improve, expand, and gain its well-deserved reputation as an important international institution for commercial dispute settlement.

INTEGRATION OF THE ICEC INTO THE CICC FRAMEWORK

The ICEC serves as a pivotal component within the CICC framework; it is established to enhance the court's capacity to resolve international commercial disputes. Comprising a diverse group of legal professionals,

including judges, jurists, and arbitrators, the ICEC is selected for its expertise in international commercial law, ensuring that the CICC benefits from a broad spectrum of legal perspectives (F. Chen, 2022).

One of the primary functions of the ICEC is to provide expert advice on foreign laws, a critical aspect given the complexities of international commercial transactions. This assistance is particularly valuable in cases where the applicable law is foreign, ensuring that the CICC's decisions are informed by accurate and relevant legal principles. Additionally, the ICEC plays a significant role in mediating disputes, offering a platform for parties to resolve conflicts amicably, thereby reducing the need for prolonged litigation (Zheng & Chen, 2023). The committee's involvement in mediation is designed to be flexible, allowing for the conversion of mediation agreements into binding orders, thus enhancing the enforceability of settlements. The ICEC's integration into the CICC framework also addresses the challenge of incorporating international legal expertise within China's judicial system. While Chinese law mandates that judges must be Chinese nationals, the ICEC allows foreign experts to contribute meaningfully to the court's operations. This arrangement enables the CICC to benefit from international perspectives without contravening domestic legal requirements (W. Sun, 2018).

Furthermore, the ICEC's establishment reflects China's commitment to enhancing the rule of law in international commercial transactions, particularly in the context of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI). By integrating international legal expertise, the ICEC aims to provide a more neutral and efficient forum for resolving disputes arising from BRI projects, thereby fostering greater confidence among international stakeholders (X. Sun, 2024). The ICEC's integration into the CICC framework represents a strategic innovation, combining domestic legal requirements with international expertise to create a more robust and effective system for resolving international commercial disputes (Zhu, 2020). This integration not only enhances the CICC's capacity to handle complex cross-border cases but also underscores China's dedication to strengthening the rule of law in international commerce.

SUGGESTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

By implementing the following suggestions and recommendations, the ICEC can further strengthen its role as a leading institution for international commercial dispute resolution, particularly within the context of the BRI and beyond.

Enhancing Diversity and International Representation: Increasing the number of participants in the ICEC, which includes experienced legal practitioners of different jurisdictions, especially those involved in the BRI project. Because of this, the committee ensures diverse perspectives and cultural contexts to increase its ability to resolve the disputes of different legal systems successfully. It has also led to an increase in the reputation of CICC in the international court system and would be more appealing to overseas companies.

Strengthening the Training and Development of Committee Members: The ICEC should prioritize arranging professional development programs regarding settling disputes, commercial legislation, and conciliation for the ICEC staff. This might enhance the meetings and training sessions, as well as exchange initiatives with other international courts. As the modification happens in international commercial law, the committee participants need to be actively involved and adopt novel methodologies for solving disputes. This will lead to offering informed and relevant advice in the international legal system.

Promoting Transparency and Accessibility: Continuously releasing comprehensive details of the case, explanation, or reason behind the decision, and the mediation procedure can increase the transparency and accessibility of the ICEC. A detailed explanation of specific cases and live streaming can increase the trust of foreign investors in the legal system. The CICC may more effectively attract international petitioners by proving its commitment to justice and impartiality through more transparency in its proceedings.

Expanding Collaborative Networks: Official alliances and cooperative partnerships among the ICEC and other international jurisdictions should be established. Such collaboration will enhance the exchange of knowledge, conflict resolution techniques, and mutual dispute settlement procedures through conferences and research programs. Additionally, this network can offer a forum for discussion of recently developing issues in international business law, which might result in the creation of innovative solutions.

Introducing Technology and Innovation in Dispute Resolution: Establishing novel technologies like AI (Artificial Intelligence) for analysis of the case and blockchain for the management of evidence in ICEC's dispute resolution procedure leading to efficiency and effectiveness in the committee. Modern techniques' involvement can enhance the accessibility and accuracy of ICEC's system. When processing disputes, including individuals from various nations, a digital system would be highly beneficial in simplifying the arbitration procedure and lowering costs.

Regularly reviewing and updating procedural rules: To make sure that the ICEC procedures perform their duties accurately, it is important to continuously review the resolving procedures with modern techniques. As international laws and trade are dynamic, the procedural norms need to be current and adaptable. The CICC needs to be an effective and useful platform for regulating and settling conflicts in international commerce, along with continuous evaluations.

Creating Specialized Panels Inside the ICEC: Developing a specific and specialized panel in the ICEC that focuses on industries such as development, finance, and technology is crucial. To address important conflicts more skillfully, these panels can comprise specialists with in-depth expertise in these fields. Expert panels with particular industrial expertise will improve the standard of judgments and the investors' belief in these fields as international business conflict becomes more specialized.

CONCLUSION

The ICEC is like a backbone within the CICC framework, as it plays the most crucial part in the promotion of equitable justice across cross-border and international commercial dispute resolution. To promote a more trustworthy, truthful, predictable, and stable international business environment, enhancing fairness, efficiency, consistency, quality, and effectiveness of legal decisions, the integration of specialized expertise and knowledge of ICEC into the judicial process is essential and crucial.

The ICEC has significantly contributed to its extraordinary ability to overcome the disparity of diverse legal systems. From different jurisdictions, having different regulatory frameworks, procedural activities, and legal norms and traditions, different parties are involved in international commercial disputes in a growingly interlinked global economy. By bridging the gap between diverse legal systems, the ICEC manages to unite legal experts from different jurisdictions. Hence, it contributes to resolving differences to promote a more coordinated and balanced dispute resolution method. In this way, international investors and businesses build confidence in handling their respective legal matters and believe that the decisions are just and fair, following a globally informed point of view.

Moreover, the ICEC offers expert opinions and transparency in different cases that can solve complex legal matters. Hence, the international commercial dispute resolution is enhanced further. Otherwise, if ICEC is not involved, these cases could be hampered by conflicting practices and laws. As the international trade world is growing very fast, efficiency is essential, where financial and business operations and their outcomes can be impacted by time-dependent decisions. Regarding cross-border commerce, the risks and uncertainties are minimized by contributing more informed rulings and decisions by the ICEC.

With the evolution of global trade, the contribution of ICEC in the promotion of efficient and effective justice across borders will rise to a higher level and become more impactful. The key to its ongoing success is the committee's capability to evolve with the advancement of new developments that are technological advancements, the evolution of international regulations, and promising trade practices. It not only expands its expertise but also incorporates innovative practices in legal matters by constantly improving its processes.

In this way, the ICEC contributes its full potential to the CICC as a backbone for global dispute resolution. In a nutshell, the ICEC is doing two most important jobs: one is to enhance CICC's ability in international commercial disputes by delivering justice, and the second is to promote a more trustworthy, truthful, fair, efficient, predictable, and stable global business environment. It will continue to contribute to the growth of international trade and investment by making efforts to bring together different legal systems. Ultimately, it will improve the decision-making quality of the judicial system and boost the performance of international commercial dispute resolution processes.

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ETHICAL DECLARATION

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