Irene Petrelli is a member of the Curtis, Mallet-Prevost, Colt & Mosle LLP International Arbitration group and leads the Italian arbitration team. Her practice focuses on investment treaty arbitration, international commercial arbitration, and public international law disputes. Ms. Petrelli has represented sovereign States and State-owned entities in connection with international arbitrations under the leading institutional and ad hoc arbitration rules, including those of the International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID), the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL), the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC), and the Chamber of Arbitration of Milan (CAM).

Notable cases include representation of Venezuela and its oil company against the multibillion dollar claims brought by the oil companies ConocoPhillips and ExxonMobil. Other recent arbitrations include disputes in the field of energy (oil & gas and power projects), taxation, banking, and telecommunications for clients in Africa and Asia.

In addition, Ms. Petrelli has experience assisting clients before the Court of Justice of the European Union and regularly advises State clients on various issues of public international law, including treaty interpretation and international human rights.

An Italian national, Ms. Petrelli is admitted to practice in Italy. She holds an LL.M. from Queen Mary University of London, where she served as a research assistant, and a law degree from Roma Tre University, where she worked as teaching assistant in international arbitration.

Ms. Petrelli is part of the faculty of the Certificate in International Commercial and Investment Arbitration organized by the University of Roma Tre, together with AIA, ICC and CAM, and speaks regularly on issues of international arbitration and public international law. She is recognized as a Leading Individual for Italy Dispute Resolution by Legal 500 EMEA 2022 and 2023, in which she is described as "dependable, self-assured and meticulous." She is also recognized among Who's Who Legal – Arbitration Future Leaders 2022 and 2023.

Prior to joining Curtis, Ms. Petrelli trained in the international arbitration group of a major Italian law firm and interned at the Singapore International Arbitration Centre.

Awards

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