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[International Arbitration](#)

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Benedict is a multilingual disputes lawyer who helps clients navigate complex international and commercial challenges with clarity and confidence. Qualified in both England and Ontario, he works with businesses and governments on matters that cross borders, legal systems, and industries.

Much of Benedict's practice focuses on international trade and investment. He guides clients through investor state disputes, trade and investment agreement negotiations, sanctions issues, and import-export questions. He has acted in cases under NAFTA, CPTPP, and numerous bilateral investment treaties, and is experienced with a wide range of arbitration rules, including UNCITRAL, ICSID, ICC, LCIA, ICDR, VanIAC, and ADRIC. Clients value his ability to translate technical trade obligations into practical, strategic advice.

Benedict is also widely recognized for his work in business and human rights and ESG. Rated Band 2 in Chambers Canada, he brings both academic depth — through a doctorate on transnational liability and human rights — and hands on experience, advising companies on supply chain compliance in Canada and around the world. He leads BLG's team supporting clients with forced and child labour reporting obligations, and serves on the Canadian Government's Legal Advisory Panel under the *Fighting Against Forced Labour and Child Labour in Supply Chains Act*.

In commercial and regulatory disputes, Benedict represents clients in contractual, procurement, fraud, shareholder, and economic loss matters, as well as disputes involving transport and healthcare organizations. He

appears before courts, arbitrators, and specialized administrative bodies, offering clear guidance at every stage of a dispute.

Benedict speaks English, French, Spanish, and Italian, and works comfortably with clients across jurisdictions and cultures.

Experience

- **International, Trade & Investment Law**
 - Advising the UK Government on various free trade agreements and negotiations, including the the UK's free trade agreement negotiations with the Gulf Cooperation Council.
 - Advising multiple clients in relation to Canadian economic sanctions.
 - Advising and representing a Canadian distributor in relation to tariffs and applicable exemptions.
 - Advising a Canadian manufacturer in relation to Canadian steel tariffs.
 - Counsel for Aecon in an investor-state claim against Ecuador under the UNCITRAL Arbitration Rules relating to the Quito international airport (See [PCA Case 2020-19](#)).
 - Advising Canadian mining company on applicable treaty law in relation to investments in Latin American State.
 - Advising an international precious metals investor on structuring investments in the context of applicable investment treaties.
 - Advising a Canadian mining company in respect of mining investments in a sub-Saharan African state and applicable treaty law.
 - Advising a Canadian Province on a proposed subsidy and investment framework for renewable energy.
 - Advising a state with respect to potential state-to-state claim on behalf of one of its state-owned entities.
 - Advising an energy company regarding its production sharing and joint operating agreements.
- **ESG and Business & Human Rights**
 - Legal counsel for the [Honourable Louise Arbour](#) appointed to carry out a review into the Canadian Armed Forces and Department of National Defence, in response to reports of harassment and sexual misconduct within Canada's military (See the [Report of the Independent External Comprehensive Review](#)).
 - Advising numerous Canadian and multinational organizations on their reporting obligations under the *Fighting Against Forced Labour and Child Labour in Supply Chains Act*.
 - Advising a Canadian Crown Corporation in respect of its human rights, trade and ESG compliance framework.
 - Advising a Canadian Crown Corporation on environmental compliance in respect of an international energy transaction.
 - Advising a Canadian shipping industry client on its third party and supply-chain compliance framework.
 - Counsel for a garment industry client in proceedings before the Canadian Ombudsperson for Responsible Enterprise.
- **Commercial Litigation & Arbitration**
 - Counsel before the Federal Court of Appeal for Canadian National Railway Company in various challenges of decisions of the Canadian Transportation Agency involving the regulation of western grain transportation (see *CN v Canada (Transportation Agency)*, [2023 FCA 245](#) and [2025 FCA 234](#)).
 - Counsel before the Ontario Superior Court and Ontario Court of Appeal for Alstom in proceedings against Bombardier Inc. seeking a stay in favour of concurrent international

- arbitration proceedings (see *Bombardier Inc. v. Alstom Rail Sweden AB*, [2025 ONSC 3679](#) and [2025 ONCA 779](#)).
- Counsel before the Ontario Superior Court for The Ottawa Hospital in a commercial dispute over a long-term contract for the provision of patient telephone and television services (see *The Ottawa Hospital v. Hôpital Inc.*, [2025 ONSC 4364](#)).
- Counsel for a large hospitality sector client in arbitration related to one of its managed properties.
- Counsel for a fresh produce importer in international arbitration proceedings under the Arbitration Rules of the Fruit and Vegetable Dispute Resolution Corporation.
- Counsel for an international engineering firm in an ICC arbitration arising out a large industrial project located in the Saudi Arabia.
- Counsel before the Federal Court in proceedings against the Government of Canada involving international law, diplomatic protection and human rights (see *Tepper v. Canada (Attorney General)*, [2020 FC 1046](#)).
- Counsel before the Federal Court in proceedings involving the regulation of pesticide products (See *David Suzuki Foundation v. Canada (Health)*, 2019 FC 1637).
- Counsel for the purchaser in arbitration arising out of an M&A dispute.

Insights & Events

- Author, "Modern slavery compliance in Canada: Essential guidance for the 2026 reporting landscape", BLG Article, March 2026
- Author, "Healthcare supply chains: Managing modern slavery risks in hospital procurement", BLG Article, February 2026
- Author, "Tracking progress in modern slavery reporting: Insights from Public Safety Canada's 2025 annual report", BLG Article, October 2025
- Author, "One template, three jurisdictions: New guidance on modern slavery reporting in Canada, Australia, and the UK", BLG Article, September 2025
- Co-author, "[Law Over Borders Comparative Guides: Arbitration](#)", The Global Legal Post, June 2025
- Author, "Do you still need to report? Thoughts on the second reporting cycle under the Supply Chains Act", BLG Article, March 2025
- Author, "Mandatory supply chain due diligence: Canada pledges sweeping reforms to forced labour and child labour laws", BLG Article, January 2025
- Author, "Canada's Supply Chains Act (Modern Slavery Regulation) Resource Centre", BLG Article, December 2024
- Author, "Better guidance equals better reporting: Navigating the Supply Chains Act for year 2 reporting", BLG Article, November 2024
- Author, "Modern slavery reporting: Key lessons from Public Safety Canada's 2024 annual report to Parliament", BLG Article, October 2024
- Author, "ESG litigation and regulatory risks: Managing claims and liabilities for Canadian businesses", BLG Article, July 2024
- Author, "Seven lessons learned after year one of supply chain reporting in Canada", BLG Article, July 2024
- Author, "Private equity and venture capital sponsors: Are supply chain/modern slavery reporting requirements on your radar?", BLG Article, April 2024
- Author, "Updated guidance on preparing a modern slavery report in Canada", BLG Article, March 2024
- Author, "Do Canada's modern slavery reporting requirements impact investment managers?", BLG Article, February 2024

- Author, "How to prepare a "Modern Slavery Report" in Canada– Guidance now available!", BLG Article, December 2023
- Author, "Modern slavery and supply chain transparency in Canada: How to report", BLG Article, December 2023
- Author, "Modern slavery: A comparative overview of Canada's newest legal tools against forced and child labour", BLG Article, December 2023
- Author, "Canada prepares for modern slavery reporting", BLG Article, October 2023
- Thought Starters, BLG Perspective, September 2023
- Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) Trends: Why it's important and what you need to know, BLG Perspective, June 2023
- Author, "A matter of import: Thousands of business entities to start reporting under Bill S-211 as of 2024", BLG Article, May 2023
- Author, "Overlooked? Canada's new supply chain transparency law expands import ban on forced and child labour", BLG Article, May 2023
- Author, "What will Canada's modern slavery legislation mean for public companies in Canada?", BLG Article, January 2023
- Author, "Supreme Court of Canada clarifies when arbitration may be used in an insolvency situation", BLG Article, December 2022

Beyond Our Walls

Professional Involvement

- Member, CBA International Law Section, 2024
- Fellow, CI Arb, 2024
- Member, Young ICCA, 2023
- Member, ICC, 2022
- Member, LCIA, 2021
- Member, YIAG, 2021
- Member, ITA 2021
- Member, YCAP, 2018
- Member, CCLA, 2016

Awards & Recognition

- Recognized in the 2026 edition (and since 2024) of *Chambers Canada* (Business & Human Rights Law (Nationwide - Canada)).

Bar Admission & Education

- England and Wales, 2009
- Ontario, 2016
- LLM, European University Institute, 2010, Comparative, European & International Law
- PhD in Law, European University Institute, 2015
- MA, Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne, 2008, French and English law



- LLB, King's College London, 2008

BLG | Canada's Law Firm

As the largest, truly full-service Canadian law firm, Borden Ladner Gervais LLP (BLG) delivers practical legal advice for domestic and international clients across more practices and industries than any Canadian firm. With over 800 lawyers, intellectual property agents and other professionals, BLG serves the legal needs of businesses and institutions across Canada and beyond – from M&A and capital markets, to disputes, financing, and trademark & patent registration.

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