



BRUCE S. MARKS, ESQ.

INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATOR

CONTACT

- +1-215-569-8901
- marks@mslegal.com
- Philadelphia, PA
- www.marks-sokolov.com
- <https://www.linkedin.com/in/brucemarks>

EDUCATION

Bachelor's Degrees (1979)

University of Pennsylvania
B.S., Economics (Wharton)
B.A., Russian Language and Literature (cum laude)

Certification (1980)

Pushkin Institute in Moscow

J.D. (1984)

University of Pennsylvania
Law School

L.L.M. (1984)

University of Cambridge
England

BACKGROUND AND EXPERIENCE

As the founder and managing member of Marks & Sokolov LLC, Bruce has earned an international reputation as a litigator on matters involving the Russian Federation, Ukraine, and the West since 1998. He is known for his skilled trial advocacy and legal strategy in the U.S. and abroad. Bruce has successfully represented Russian and Western clients in commercial arbitration and civil litigation matters, with cases involving billions of dollars. He has engaged in groundbreaking litigation in which Russian bankruptcies were recognized under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code and Russian judgments were recognized and enforced in the United States. He represents plaintiffs and defendants.

KEY INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATION EXPERIENCE

London Court of International Arbitration

- Represented a subsidiary of a leading Russian gold mining company which purchased a target mining company in Kazakhstan. Persons related to the sellers then commenced arbitration against the target under contracts seeking payment of about \$70 million. Marks' client argued that the contracts were shams, designed to enrich former controlling persons of the target and made a counterclaim to claw back payments made under those contracts. In fraud litigation in the U.K., Marks was successful in obtaining a world-wide freezing order for several hundred million dollars, comprehensive search warrants for the sellers' premises and electronic devices, and a stay of the arbitration until a global settlement.
- Represented a prominent Ukraine businessmen against a Russian entrepreneur in a dispute related to the improper seizure of control in Ukrainian energy companies. Marks oversaw pre-arbitration injunction proceedings in Cyprus, and arbitration in England. The injunction remained in force during the arbitration.

Arbitration Institute of the Stockholm Chamber of Commerce

- Represented French and American claimants in an arbitration against a Russian buyer in a breach of contract claim and obtained an award for damages.
- Represented a trading partner of a Russian aluminum producer in arbitration proceedings with a breach of contract claim for the failure to pay for delivered goods. The case settled with payment.

Zurich Chamber of Commerce Arbitration Center

- Represented a trading partner of a Russian aluminum producer in an arbitration with a \$10 million claim in damages for lost profits and business disruption resulting from bankruptcy proceedings of the Russian plant.

International Chamber of Commerce in Paris

- Defeated a \$6.5 million arbitration claim by an American company against Marks' Ukrainian controlled client related to the cancellation of a contract to dismantle a steel mill in Ohio for shipment to Ukraine.

Court of Arbitration for Sport in Switzerland

- Served as an U.S. legal expert on behalf of a Russian athlete and his Russian professional team in the appeal of a decision involving the International Ice Hockey Federation.

Bar and Court Admissions

Pennsylvania
District of Columbia
New Jersey
U.S. Supreme Court

U.S. Court of Appeals:

USCA 2d Cir.
USCA 3d Cir.
USCA 10th Cir.
USCA 11th Cir.
USCA D.C. Cir.

U.S. District Courts:

USDC S.D.N.Y.
USDC E.D. Pa.
USDC D.N.J.
USDC D.D.C.

REPRESENTATIVE LEGAL CASES

- Represented the Russian Federation against Yukos Capital Limited involving defenses under the Foreign Sovereign Immunities Act in a \$5 billion claim based on an arbitration award under the Energy Charter Treaty in the District of Columbia.
- Represented the Russian Federation against Joint Stock Company State Savings Bank of Ukraine (JSC Oschadbank), involving defenses under the Foreign Sovereign Immunities Act in a \$1 billion claim, based on an arbitration award under the Russia-Ukraine Bilateral Investment Treaty in the District of Columbia.
- Represented NAO Tsargrad Media, ANO TV-Novosti and NO Fond Pravoslavnogo Televideniya in litigation brought by Google LLC in California federal court related to enforcement of the Russian judgements for billions of dollars outside the U.S. based on Google’s violation of its YouTube Terms of Services.
- Represented Avisma and VSMPO against foreign investors for recovery of \$150 million that was improperly diverted in a trade fraud scheme. The matter was settled.
- Represented trading partners of a Russian aluminum factory in a \$2.7 billion suit whose contracts were abrogated in a sham foreign bankruptcy proceeding. The matter was settled.
- Represented a U.S. company against Russia’s largest oil company for \$3.6 billion claim for denial of rights to develop one of the world’s richest diamond fields, in Colorado state court.
- Represented a Canadian company in \$1.5 billion suit against U.S. based entities engaged in a racketeering scheme to take over a substantial portion of the Russian oil industry in the Southern District of New York.

INTERNATIONAL LEGAL PRESENTATIONS

- XIII St. Petersburg International Legal Forum (May 2025)
- U.S. Chamber of Commerce in Moscow Global Summit (April 2025)
- XII St. Petersburg International Legal Forum (June 2024)
- Numerous legal conferences on Russia related matters in Moscow, New York, Novosibirsk, Philadelphia, St. Petersburg, Sochi, and Washington, D.C.

EDUCATION AND POLITICAL BACKGROUND

Bruce received a JD cum laude from the University of Pennsylvania Law School (1984); an LLM from the University of Cambridge, England (1984), and two undergraduate degrees, cum laude, from the University of Pennsylvania: BS, Economics (Wharton), BA, Russian. He also studied at the Pushkin Institute in Moscow in 1980. A former Pennsylvania State Senator, Bruce served as counsel to U.S. Senator Arlen Specter (R-PA) and represented President Donald Trump’s campaigns in 2016 and 2020.

