

# ARMESTO & ASOCIADOS

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ÁRBITROS

## **FRANCISCA SEARA CARDOSO**

*Armesto & Asociados*  
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Francisca Seara Cardoso is a Portuguese lawyer specialised in commercial law and arbitration.

### **Experience in Arbitration**

In 2019, Francisca Seara Cardoso joined *Armesto & Asociados* to work in a team with the founding partner Juan Fernández-Armesto. Francisca acts as secretary and assistant to arbitral tribunals in arbitration proceedings, including international, *ad hoc* and administered arbitrations involving both commercial and investment disputes.

Most of the cases are administered by ICC, PCA and Spanish or Latin America arbitral institutions. As to *ad hoc* arbitrations, most of them are subject to the UNCITRAL Rules.

Before joining *Armesto & Asociados*, Francisca Seara Cardoso worked for five years as an associate at the Portuguese law firm *Morais Leitão*, where she gained extensive experience as counsel in domestic and international arbitrations (with a particular focus on Portuguese-speaking countries, such as Angola and Mozambique), in a variety of industry sectors, including energy, M&A, construction, corporate, among others.

### **Professional Memberships**

- Member of the Portuguese Bar
- Member of the Associação Portuguesa de Arbitragem (APA)
- Member of the ICC Young Arbitrators Forum

### **Professional Experience**

In 2015, Francisca Seara Cardoso joined *Morais Leitão*, in Lisbon, Portugal, where she worked as counsel not only in domestic and international arbitrations, but also in commercial disputes before the Portuguese courts. She was also a member of Team Genesis – a specialized multi expert team within *Morais Leitão*, with a particular focus on entrepreneurship and innovation – and of the Social Responsibility Committee of the firm. During her internship, Francisca spent one year in the Banking and Finance practice group.

Additionally, Francisca Seara Cardoso was a lecturer of Business and Economic Law at Católica Lisbon School of Business and Economics.



Previously, Francisca worked as an intern in the Mergers & Acquisitions team of the Portuguese law firm Vieira de Almeida & Associados. Prior to that, Francisca completed an internship in the Tax team of the Portuguese law firm Morais Leitão.

### **Education**

Francisca Seara Cardoso holds a Bachelor's degree in Law from the Lisbon School of Law of the Universidade Católica Portuguesa, where she was awarded a merit scholarship. During her undergrad, Francisca completed an exchange program at Fundação Getúlio Vargas, in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

Francisca Seara Cardoso also holds a Master's degree (LL.M.) from the London School of Economics and Political Science (London, United Kingdom), with a specialisation in corporate and commercial law, obtained in 2014.

More recently, in 2018 Francisca Seara Cardoso completed a post-graduate program in Commercial Litigation, at Faculdade de Direito da Universidade de Lisboa, Lisbon, Portugal.

### **Languages**

- Portuguese (mother tongue)
- English (bilingual)
- Spanish (bilingual)

### **Publications**

- “Portugal: charting a path towards a corporate arbitration-friendly jurisdiction” – Young Arbitration Review, 2018;
- “P2P Lending” (co-authored with Luís Roquette Galdes and João Lima da Silva) – FinTech desafios da tecnologia financeira, Almedina, 2017 (1st Edition) and 2019 (2nd Edition);
- “*Uma revolução chamada crowdfunding*” (co-authored with Luís Roquette Galdes) – IV Congresso de Direito das Sociedades em Revista, Almedina, 2016;
- “Fifth International Arbitration Meeting of Coimbra” (co-authored with Filipe Vaz Pinto) – Young Arbitration Review, 2015.