



**Prof. Dr. Ziya Akinci**  
Founding Partner | Akinci Law Office

Email: [za@akincilaw.com](mailto:za@akincilaw.com)  
Linkedin: <https://tr.linkedin.com/in/dr-ziya-akinci-3708677>

Professor Ziya Akinci is a member of the Istanbul Bar and is a permanent professor of Private International Law at Galatasaray University and the Chairman of the Department of Private International Law. He regularly teaches international law and FIDIC Contracts at Bosphorus University. Professor Akinci has broad and extensive experience in international arbitration, recognised as a “*leading individual*” by Legal500 in construction matters and international business law and ranked as number one in Chambers&Partners in the sector of Dispute Resolution. Professor Akinci is both an accomplished counsel and arbitrator.

Professor Akinci has rendered legal services in construction projects and construction contracts such as highway construction disputes, energy distribution disputes, and water and waste management plant disputes. He has a wide range of experience in resolving construction disputes; providing consulting; preparing construction contracts; and providing advice on non-contentious matters in construction projects.

Prof. Akinci recognises the importance of the DAB procedure to efficiently resolve disputes, and is very experienced in DAB proceedings as both counsel and adjudicator for construction projects in Türkiye and abroad. As counsel, Prof. Akinci focuses on preserving clients’ rights and interests to avoid protracted disputes, and safeguarding claims for the DAB proceedings. As adjudicator, Prof. Akinci identifies the fair and efficient resolution of disputes drawing from his wealth of experience.

The vast majority of Prof. Akinci’s experience listed below regarding construction disputes are variations of FIDIC Contracts and have provided a broad expertise to approach construction matters with acumen. Notably, Prof. Akinci has prolifically published articles and books on International and Public Construction Law, with a specific focus on FIDIC Contracts and Construction Law.

Professor Akıncı is the most frequently appointed arbitrator in Türkiye and is appointed in arbitral tribunals around the world, with appointments in many international arbitration proceedings under the rules of different institutions such as ICC, LCIA, ICSID, DIAC, SIAC, SCAI, SCC, ITO, TOBB, and TRAC. In addition, Professor Akıncı has extensive experience in a range of different seats and governing law, including Turkish, French, Swiss, German, Iranian, Uzbek, Kazakh, and England & Wales. Professor Akıncı also has eminent experience in several roles as chairman, sole arbitrator and co-arbitrator.

Professor Akıncı has served as a member of the ICC International Court of Arbitration for 9 years. He is a member of the ICSID Panel of Arbitrators. As the founder and President of the Istanbul Arbitration Centre (ISTAC), Professor Akıncı continues to pioneer the development and use of international and local arbitration within Turkey.

Professor Akıncı is recognized individually as a “*fine strategist*”, “*highly respected for his ‘in-depth knowledge of the ‘science’ of arbitration*” and “*one of the key names in Turkey for international arbitration*”. Professor Akıncı has also been praised for his “*witness preparation and cross-examination skills*” and for “*understanding complex quantum arguments and convincingly identifying weaknesses in the other side*” in the Global Arbitration Review 100 for the year 2021.

Professor Akıncı has been listed in the “*Hall of Fame*” for dispute resolution by Legal 500.

Akıncı Law Office has consistently been selected as Global Arbitration Review’s 100 leading arbitration firms in the world, and one of the only firms in Turkey. Both the firm and Professor Akıncı are highlighted in Who’s Who Legal as a global leader in arbitration, mediation, litigation, and construction.

### **Professional and Academic Positions**

- Professor of Private International Law and Chair of the Department of Private International Law at Galatasaray University Faculty of Law
- Founding Partner at Akıncı Law Office
- President of Istanbul Arbitration Centre
- Co-chair of Publications Committee of Society of Construction Law of Turkey

### **Education**

- Istanbul University Faculty of Law, Private International Law Department, PhD (1992)
- University of Exeter (UK) Law Department, LL.M. (1991)
- Ankara University Faculty of Law, Private International Law Department, LL.M. (1987)

- Dokuz Eylül University (Izmir) Faculty of Law, LL.B. (1984)

### **Recognitions (selected)**

- Who's Who Legal – Thought Leader in **Construction** (2023)
- Who's Who Legal – Thought Leader in **Arbitration** (2023)
- Chambers & Partners – Band 1 Practitioner in **Dispute Resolution** (2023)

### **DAB Experience (representative matters)**

- DAB Chairman in a railway construction project between a Turkish-Italian Joint Venture and a Turkish ministry
- DAB Member in a construction project between a Turkish Company and a governorship in Turkey concerning a hospital construction
- Counsel in a number of DAB cases between a Turkish contractor company and a governorship in Turkey concerning a hospital construction
- Counsel in a DAB case representing a contractor company concerning a dispute of a construction project in South Sudan against the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of the Netherlands
- Counsel in a DAB case representing a Japanese contractor company against an Iraqi state-owned entity concerning a dispute regarding a harbor construction project in Iraq
- Counsel in a DAB case representing the Ministry of Science, Industry and Technology (MoSIT) against a Turkish Construction Company (almost every claim of MoSIT is accepted by the DAB)

### **Contract and Claim Management & Arbitration (representative matters)**

- Contract and claim management to a number of contractors in a nuclear power plant construction in Turkey
- Contract and claim management to a Turkish contractor in railway construction projects in Ethiopia and Tanzania
- Contract management to a Turkish contractor in a refinery construction project in Turkey
- Contract management to a Turkish contractor in a road construction project in Serbia
- Contract and claim management to a Turkish contractor in a road construction project in Romania
- Contract and claim management to a Turkish contractor in a wastewater treatment project in Ukraine
- Contract and claim management to a Turkish contractor in a wastewater treatment project in Afghanistan and Iraq
- Contract and claim management to a Turkish façade contractor in a number of construction projects in Turkey
- Contract and claim management to a Turkish contractor for an affordable housing project

in Kenya

### **Lectures and Speaking Engagements on Construction Law (selected)**

#### *Lectures*

- Lecturer in Private Law PhD Program at Galatasaray University | Title of the course: “International Construction Law”
- Lecturer in Graduate Program in Construction Engineering and Management of Boğaziçi University | Title of the course: “Legal Issues in Construction Engineering”

#### *Speaking Engagements*

- Speaker at 10<sup>th</sup> International Society of Construction Law Conference on “Adjustment of the Price in Lump Sum Contracts due to Increased Cost”, 20 October 2023
- Speaker at “Mediation and Arbitration Practices in Public Procurement and Private Construction Contracts” Conference, INTES-ISTAC Joint Conference, 22 March 2022
- Speaker at “Alternative Dispute Resolution Methods in Construction Sector” Conference, SCL Turkey, 9 February 2022

### **Publications on Construction Law (selected)**

#### *Books*

- Milletlerarası İnşaat Sözleşmeleri (*International Construction Contracts*), 1<sup>st</sup> Edition, Oniki Levha Publishing, Istanbul, 2023
- Milletlerarası Özel Hukukta İnşaat Sözleşmeleri (*Construction Contract in Private International Law*), 1<sup>st</sup> Edition, Dokuz Eylül University Faculty of Law Publications, İzmir, 1996

#### *Articles*

- Uluslararası Yapım İşlerinde Uyuşmazlık Çözümü ve ISTAC’ın Uyuşmazlıkların Çözümündeki Rolü (*Dispute Resolution in International Construction Works and the Role of ISTAC in Dispute Resolution*), in İnşaat ve Sanayi Dergisi, May-August 2023 Issue, pp. 66-77
- İnşaat Uyuşmazlıklarında Bilirkişi (*Experts in Construction Disputes*), in *International Construction Contracts and Dispute Resolution*, Oniki Levha Publishing, Istanbul, April 2018, pp. 47-59
- Milletlerarası İnşaat Sözleşmesinden Kaynaklanan Uyuşmazlıklar ve Talep Prosedürü (*Disputes Arising from International Construction Contracts and Claim Procedure*), in *Milletlerarası Özel Hukukta Sözleşmesel Meseleler*, Oniki Levha Publishing, Istanbul, 2018, pp. 269-283
- Proje Süreçleri ve Taşeron Yönetiminde Kazan-Kazan Stratejisi (*Project Processes and Win-Win Strategy in Subcontractor Management*), in *Taşeron Yönetimi ve Taşeron Sözleşmelerinde Uyuşmazlıklar* (Co-authors: Cemile Demir Gökyayla, Gökhan Gelişen, Cem Kafadar), 2018
- Monthly Akıncı Construction Bulletins