

MIAMI'S 'VERY YOUNG' INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATORS UNITE

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A new group of young lawyers/arbitrators will help reinforce Miami's reputation as an international center for alternative dispute resolution.

Called the Miami Very Young Arbitration Practitioners (MIA-VYAP), the group joins a network of VYAPs across the globe that engage in thought leadership and networking. The members are arbitration specialists, all younger than 35 and Miami-based, along with law students who are interested in pursuing international arbitration as a career.

Membership is open to all law students or lawyers under the age of 35 with an interest in international arbitration.

The Miami group's mission is to foster an ongoing dialogue among the rising generation of the city's arbitration professionals through gatherings to discuss and debate topics of interest.

Its inaugural session featured Professor Manuel Gómez, an international arbitrator who is associate dean for graduate studies and Global Engagement at Florida International University College of Law. He addressed the practice of international arbitration in Miami and the role of young practitioners in promoting this specialty locally and abroad.

Miami hosts the annual ICC Miami Conference, which attracts over 500 practicing lawyers, arbitrators, mediators, and academics. This and other public forums showcase active debate and discussion and highlight the wellspring of practical and academic knowledge about alternative dispute resolution that can be found in Miami.

"Through its membership and its global network, MIA-VYAP will further the practice of arbitration both in Miami and across the globe," said co-founder Diego Pérez Ara of León Cosgrove LLP.

The other founders are Jordi Martínez-Cid of León Cosgrove, Lolita "Loly" Sosa of Actuate Law, and Maria A. Hernández a University of Miami School of Law student. They also comprise the executive committee, with the addition of Iván Bracho González of Hogan Lovells and Maria Gomez, a recent UM law grad.