

Dr. Ali Abu Sedra

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Dr. Ali Abu Sedra is a pioneer in several areas of law and has played a prominent role in leading international businesses and projects. He provides legal, negotiating and strategic advice and services to governments, organizations, companies, and individuals. Dr. Ali Abu Sedra graduated from the Faculty of Law of the University of Benghazi in 1977 and worked as a legal advisor to a petrochemicals organization affiliated to the Ministry of Oil in Libya. He completed his education in the United Kingdom where he received a Diploma in International Organizations, a Master's degree in International Law and a PhD in International Economics Law at the University of Hull where he currently is a visiting scholar searching in international investment and economic law. He is a Member of the Chancellor's Circle of the University of Hull.

Special Economic Zones (Free Zones)

- Drafting the executive legislations and policies for the Jebel Ali Free Zone in the UAE and supervising their implementation for a period of five years.
- Establishing the specialized economic zone in Abu Dhabi (HCSES), the largest economic zone in the Arabian Gulf, starting from drafting the implementing legislations to execution: contracting with the largest development companies, drafting financing contracts, administration and construction contracts, as well as operation contracts. This included financing, managing, and developing business, forming international alliances to ensure the profitability of the zone, and contributing to the process of state development.
- Contributing to the establishment of a specialized economic zone in Dubai.
- Preparing a comprehensive national strategy for the success of free zones and specialized economic zones in Libya.
- Africa Gateway City: a project submitted to the Libyan authorities in 2008 and approved in 2010, but later suspended. It may now return in the form of an economic zone extending west from Sirte to a distance of 500 kilometers.
- Establishing the Hamriyah Port Free Zone in Dubai.

Governments

Dr. Ali Abu Sedra has provided services to many governments in many countries, including the Government of Libya, Government of Dubai, the Government of Abu Dhabi, the Government of Ajman, the Government of Qatar.

Sovereign Portfolios

Dr. Ali Abu Sedra was appointed chairman of the Libyan Investment Authority twice but returned to law practice. He provides specialized courses in international law and has affiliations with some of the largest international portfolios in the world.

Governmental Bodies and Institutions

Dr. Ali Abu Sedra has provided his consultancy services to Ajman Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Jebel Ali Free Zone, Palm Island, Dubai Customs, Ajman University, Abu Dhabi Presidential Palace, Ministry of Economy (Department of Economic Development Abu Dhabi), Qatar Cabinet Ministry, Abu Dhabi Higher Economic Zones Corporation, Foreign Ministry of Qatar, Prime Minister Office of Libya, Telecommunication Authority in Libya, and Ministry of Oil in Libya.

Negotiation

Dr. Ali Abu Sedra has participated in negotiations with the UAE team at the White House in the United States of America on free trade agreements between the two countries, in negotiations of oil and gas sharing agreements between Sharjah and Ajman and in the negotiations on behalf of the lawyers of the International Criminal Court in the case of those detained in Libya after the Libyan revolution of Libya. Presented Qatar before the International Court of Justice.

International Courts

Dr. Abu Sedra provides consultancy services to States on dispute before the International Court of Justice and the International Criminal Court.

International Arbitration

Dr. Abu Sedra provides consultancy services to his clients in cases before various international arbitration bodies.

Foundations

Founder in partnership with the Professor Surya P. Subedi of the London Foundation for International Law. (now named as Cottingham Consultancy)

Participated in establishing giant projects (the legal file), Palm Island Project (Dubai), the Presidential Palace (Abu Dhabi), the Specialized Economic Zones (Abu Dhabi), the Hamriya Port (Dubai), the Jebel Ali Free Zone (Dubai) and the Arbitration Center (Ajman).

International Law Offices

Dr. Abu Sedra has worked in cooperation with international law firms as a legal advisor or senior consultant such as Dentons, Orrick Herrington & Sutcliffe and Withers.

Specialized Scientific Knowledge

Dr. Ali Abu Sedra is specialized in special economic zones and international law governing sovereign portfolios as well as special laws, cyber law, international arbitration and international investment law. He is currently involved in setting international standards for what is known as Blockchain and establishing Smart Law Firm Group.

Arbitration

Dr. Ali Abu Sedra worked in the field of arbitration as an arbitrator and head of the arbitration tribunal at the Islamic Arbitration Center in Dubai and as a consultant for his clients before Abu Dhabi Arbitration Center.

Legislations

Dr. Abu Sedra has contributed to the drafting of many legislations, such as the UAE Arbitration Law, the UAE Real Estate Development Law, the UAE Consumer Protection Act, the Commercial Companies Law and the Law of Establishing the Specialized Economic Zone in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi. He has been the Director of the Department of Legislative Development in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi for seven years and the legal adviser to Dubai Ports Authority, the Government of Ajman and the Council of Ministers in the State of Qatar and in the largest real estate companies.

Dr. Abu Sedra has provided testimony as an expert in Libyan Law in regards to a case held in the High Court of Justice, Queens Bench Division.

Projects

Dr. Abu Sedra took over the legal files of the largest real estate projects related to real estate development companies in the UAE, Qatar, Jordan, Morocco, Syria and Libya.

Publications

Books

- Creating Special Economic Zones: Strategies, Challenges and Opportunities. A Case Study of Libya
- Unheard voices of the Next Generation; Emergent Leaders in Libya
- Unilateral Sanctions in International Law edited by Surya P Subedi QC; Use Of Cyber Means To Enforce Unilateral Coercive Measures In International Law

Articles

- Dispute Resolution in Special Excommunicated Zones: A Need For Libyan International Court
- Sustainable Special Economic Zones Driven by Industry Revolution
- Smart Cities and Special Economic Zones
- Unilateral Sanctions in International Law edited by Surya P Subedi QC; The Impact Of Unilateral Sanctions On Regional Integration Treaties With Special Reference To The Gulf Cooperations Council

- Establishing A Modern Free Zone in Libya
- Special Economic Zones and The International Order
- The Hill Magazine: The Turkey Libyan Maritime Limitation Agreement –
- The Hill Magazine: Lumos Be Adopted for The Fourth Industrial Revolution
- The Hill Magazine: Resolving Disputed, Maritime Border Is Vital for Regional Peace In Eastern Mediterranean.

Duties and Positions

Dr. Ali Abu Sedra has held senior positions and offices of leadership, including:

- Legal Consultant: for Petrochemicals in Libya, Ajman Chamber of Commerce, Dubai Customs Authority, Ports Authority and Free Zone Dubai.
- Director of Legal Department: Division of Business Legislation at the Department of Economic Development in Abu Dhabi.
- Legal Expert: Secretariat of the Council of Ministers in Qatar.
- Vice President of Ajman University for Foreign Affairs and Director of Legal Department.
- Director of the Legal Department of Charif Investment Limited, UK.
- Research Scholar: Hull University, UK.
- Member of the Board of Directors: National Telecommunications Company - Libya.
- Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Libyan Foreign Investment Authority.