

SCC Arbitration Institute Annual Statistics Report 2025



Foreword from SCC Secretary General Caroline Falconer

It is with genuine pride and a measure of humility that I present the SCC's statistics for 2025.

The SCC registered a total of 213 new cases in 2025, marking the first time ever that the SCC has registered more than 200 cases in two consecutive years. That milestone alone would be cause for celebration. But when read alongside the world in which it was achieved, a world marked by geopolitical turbulence on multiple continents, and the profound economic dislocations that follow in their wake, it carries a deeper significance. In times of uncertainty, parties seek institutions they can trust. That trust, reflected in these numbers, is not something we take lightly.

In 2025, 568 parties from 50 different countries resolved their disputes at the SCC, the highest number of party nationalities ever recorded in a single year. Over the past ten years, parties from more than 90 countries have resolved their disputes at the SCC, but the pace of international diversification accelerated in 2025. Stockholm's position as a neutral, reliable seat is not a given; it is earned, year after year, through the quality of our processes and the integrity of our institution.

That quality is borne out by our efficiency figures, which in 2025 reached new standards. In proceedings under the SCC Expedited Arbitration Rules, 94% of cases were resolved within six months, with 45.5% resolved within just three months of referral. Under the SCC Arbitration Rules, 19% of cases were concluded within just 6 months, and 86% of cases were concluded within 18 months. The fact that parties are increasingly bringing higher-value disputes into the expedited track, with the average disputed amount reaching EUR 2.5 million in 2025, and that those disputes are being resolved with the same speed, speaks to the maturity and reliability of the SCC's proceedings as a forum for serious commercial arbitration.

2025 also marked a year of important institutional development. Two examples. We launched the SCC Council for Swedish Arbitration, a platform for dialogue, advocacy, and the continued development of Swedish arbitration law and practice. We also undertook a significant update of the SCC Platform, reinforcing our commitment to providing parties and counsel with a modern and efficient digital experience. These investments in our infrastructure and community reflect the SCC's determination to remain at the forefront of international arbitration.

On diversity, the picture in 2025 is one of both progress and continued resolve. The SCC Board appointed women in 49% of its arbitrator appointments, near parity, and a figure we are proud of. Across all appointments, however, women accounted for 32% of appointments, a decline from prior years that is driven in the main by party appointment practices. The decline in the proportion of women appointed by the parties, from 31% in 2023 to 28% in 2024 to 22% in 2025, is the primary driver of the overall decrease and highlights the gap between the appointment practices of the parties and those of the SCC Board. This is a challenge we name directly, because transparency is the first step towards change. The SCC will continue to work with parties, counsel, and the wider arbitration community to make progress on this front.

I wish to express my sincere gratitude to the arbitrators, counsel, and parties who placed their confidence in the SCC in 2025. My deepest thanks go to the SCC Secretariat and staff, the institution's engine, whose professionalism, dedication, and care make everything in this report possible.

We look forward to serving you in the year ahead.

A portrait of Caroline Falconer, the SCC Secretary General. She is a woman with long, light brown hair, smiling warmly at the camera. She is wearing a dark blazer over a light-colored, possibly cream or white, top with a decorative beaded necklace. Her right hand is visible in the lower left, resting on a dark surface, with a ring on her ring finger and red nail polish. In the bottom right corner of the image, there is a white signature that reads "Caroline Falconer".

Caroline Falconer

SCC Arbitration Institute

Welcome to the world's most modern arbitration institute

The SCC Arbitration Institute (commonly referred to as the SCC) is one of the world's most established and frequently used institutions for international commercial dispute resolution. The SCC provides a neutral forum and an impartial process for the resolution of commercial and investment disputes worldwide, operating entirely without commercial or political interests as a non-profit and independent entity within the Stockholm Chamber of Commerce.

The SCC administers disputes under its own SCC Arbitration Rules and SCC Expedited Arbitration Rules, which are applicable to both commercial and investment arbitration. In addition, the SCC administers disputes under the UNCITRAL Arbitration Rules and regularly acts as appointing authority. The SCC also provides other dispute resolution services, including mediation, which offers parties a consensual process for dispute resolution, as well as SCC Express, introduced in 2021, which allows for the resolution of certain disputes within three weeks for a fixed fee and is particularly suited for long-term contractual relationships.

The SCC's vision is to provide a user-friendly and relevant dispute resolution services, time-efficient and cost-effective processing, and access to impartial and highly skilled arbitrators.

Arbitral awards rendered in SCC proceedings are enforceable under the New York Convention.

The SCC has played a historically significant role in resolving East-West trade disputes during the Cold War, and has since continued to develop its procedures and services in response to evolving global commercial and legal needs. The SCC has also played a notable role in investor-state dispute settlement, having administered more than 130 investment disputes since 1993.

The SCC maintains an international presence through outreach initiatives, including conferences, seminars, and dialogue with legal practitioners, contributing actively to the development of international arbitration.



Executive Summary

The SCC registered a total of 213 new cases in 2025. This is a new record at the SCC, with more than 200 cases registered two years in a row. Of the 213 cases, 107 (50%) were international disputes and 106 (50%) were Swedish disputes. The near-perfect balance between international and domestic cases reflects the SCC's dual role as both a leading forum for cross-border commercial arbitration and an indispensable institution for Swedish domestic dispute resolution.

A total of 568 parties from 50 different countries resolved their disputes at the SCC, the highest number of party nationalities ever recorded in a single year. This milestone underscores the SCC's growing global footprint and the increasing confidence that parties worldwide place in Stockholm as a seat for international arbitration.

Of the 213 registered cases, 114 disputes (54%) were administered under the SCC Arbitration Rules, and 82 cases (38%) were administered under the SCC Expedited Arbitration Rules. In addition, 3 Emergency Arbitrator proceedings, 1 case under the SCC Mediation Rules, and 2 proceedings under the UNCITRAL Rules were registered. 1 case concerning fund holding services was registered and 6 appointments of valuation experts were also made. The span of procedural frameworks utilised demonstrates the SCC's capacity to accommodate a wide variety of dispute resolution needs, from complex multi-party arbitrations to time-sensitive emergency proceedings and valuation matters.

Of the arbitrations concluded in 2025 under the SCC Arbitration Rules, 85.5% of cases were resolved within 18 months of referral. The proportion of cases resolved within 6 months of referral was 18.8%. These figures reflect the sustained efficiency of the SCC's case management and the effectiveness of its procedural rules in ensuring the timely resolution of disputes.

Of the proceedings under the SCC Expedited Arbitration Rules, 45.5% of cases were resolved within 3 months and 48.5% within 3 to 6 months from referral. In total, 94% of cases under the SCC Expedited Arbitration Rules were resolved within 6 months. This high rate of timely resolution confirms that the SCC Expedited Rules continue to deliver on their core promise of speed without compromising procedural fairness.

In 2025, a total of 289 appointments of arbitrators were made, with arbitrators from 33 countries on 4 continents, the highest number of arbitrator nationalities ever recorded in a single year. The record diversity of arbitrator nationalities is a further indicator of the SCC's international standing and its ability to draw upon a truly global pool of arbitral expertise.

In 91% of cases under the SCC Arbitration Rules, the tribunal consisted of three arbitrators, while in 9% the tribunal consisted of a sole arbitrator. This shows that most cases under the SCC Arbitration Rules are complex.

In 2025, 14 challenges to arbitrators were registered. The SCC Board rendered decisions in 9 cases, of which 6 applications were rejected and 3 were sustained. In 4 cases, the arbitrator chose to resign voluntarily, and 1 case was dismissed. In 7 out of 14 cases (50%), the challenge resulted in a decision in favour of the challenging party or in the voluntary resignation of the arbitrator. The rate of successful challenges reflects an upward trend in recent years, signalling the SCC Board's rigorous approach to safeguarding the integrity and impartiality of arbitral proceedings. Since 2022, the numbers of challenges made to arbitrators have increased each year.

In 2025, 3 Emergency Arbitrators were requested. In all cases, the emergency arbitrator was appointed within 12 hours. The average time for an emergency decision from referral to the emergency arbitrator was 5 days. The claimant achieved full success in 1 case and partial success in 2 cases. The speed of appointments in 2025 illustrates the effectiveness of the SCC's emergency arbitration mechanism as a practical tool for urgent interim relief.

Of all arbitrators being appointed in SCC arbitrations in 2025, women were appointed in 32% and men in 68% of all appointments. Of the arbitrator appointments made by the SCC Board, 49% went to women, compared to 22% of party-appointed arbitrators and 50% of those appointed by co-arbitrators. Whilst the overall proportion of women appointed in SCC arbitrations remains below parity, the SCC Board's near-equal split and the co-arbitrators' perfectly balanced appointments in 2025 demonstrate meaningful progress in specific areas. The lower rate of female appointments by the parties indicates that further efforts are needed to achieve gender balance across all categories of appointments.



Photo from SCC Arbitration Week 2025

213

204



For the first time in SCC's history, we've surpassed 200 cases in two consecutive years.

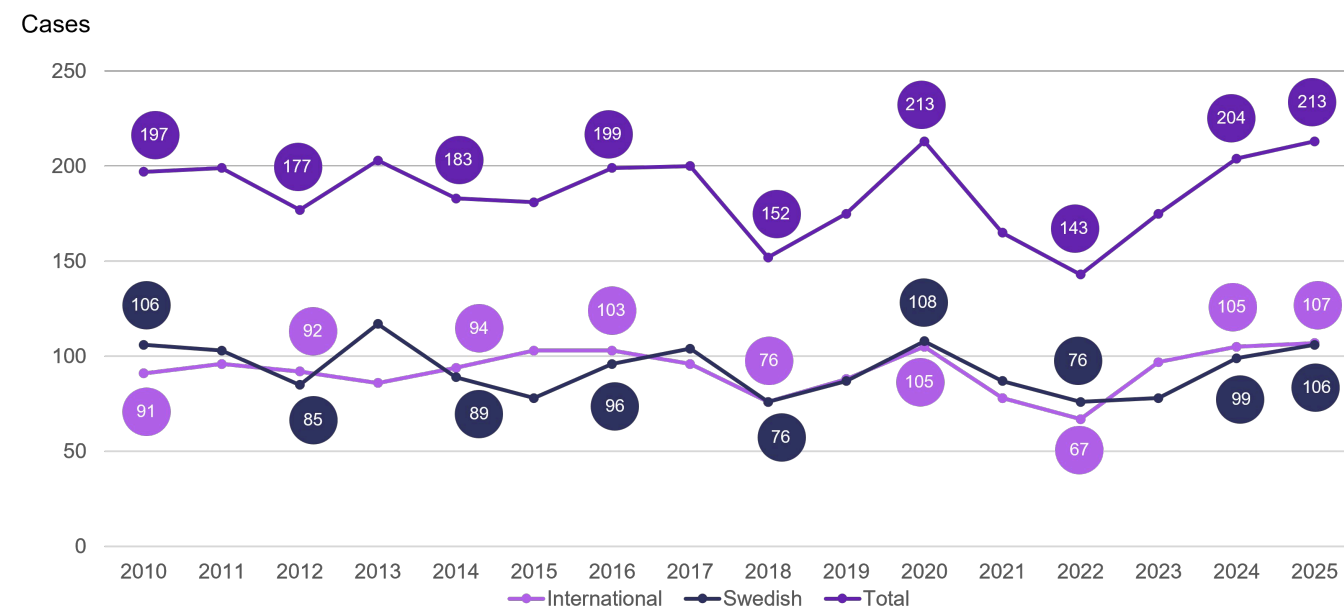


Caseload

More cases, more parties, more countries: The SCC strengthens its international position

In 2025, the SCC registered 213 new cases. Of these, 107 (50%) were international disputes and 106 (50%) were Swedish disputes (involving only Swedish parties). Of the cases administered under the SCC Arbitration Rules, 59% were international and 41% were Swedish. Of the cases administered under the SCC Expedited Arbitration Rules, 60% were Swedish and 40% were international. In 26% of all 213 cases, none of the parties were Swedish.

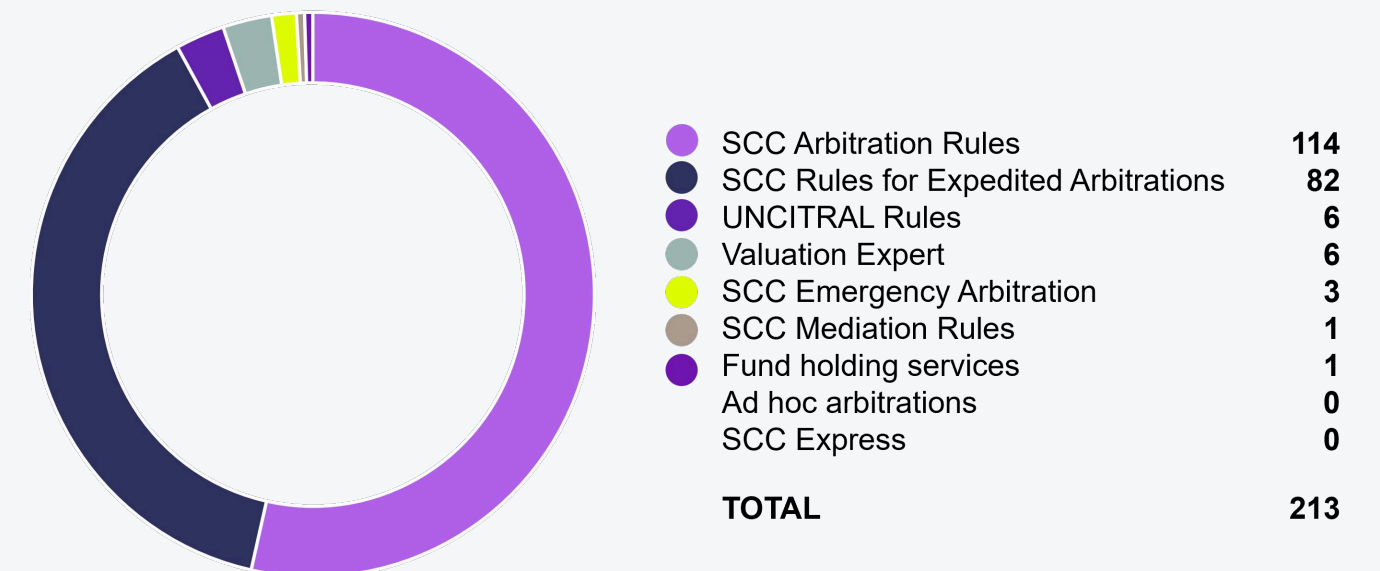
The 2025 caseload reflects a continued strong demand for the SCC's dispute resolution services across both the Swedish and international markets. The fact that the SCC Arbitration Rules attracted a higher proportion of international cases (59%) is consistent with the complexity and cross-border character of disputes typically submitted under those rules. The SCC Expedited Arbitration Rules, by contrast, continue to be the preferred mechanism for a majority of Swedish and Nordic parties, reflecting the particular suitability of streamlined proceedings for lower-value or less complex disputes.



Applicable Rules

Of the 213 cases registered at the SCC in 2025, 54% (114 disputes) were administered under the SCC Arbitration Rules, and 38% (82 cases) were administered under the SCC Expedited Arbitration Rules. In addition, 3 Emergency Arbitrator proceedings, 1 case under the SCC Mediation Rules, and 2 proceedings under the UNCITRAL Rules were registered. Finally, 1 case concerning fund holding services and 6 cases concerning the appointment of a valuation expert were also registered.

The continued dominance of the SCC Arbitration Rules and the SCC Expedited Arbitration Rules reflects the enduring appeal of these procedural frameworks for parties seeking structured, efficient dispute resolution. The presence of UNCITRAL proceedings administered by the SCC demonstrates the institution's capacity to serve parties who have opted for the UNCITRAL Arbitration Rules whilst benefiting from the SCC's administrative support. The registration of cases under the SCC Mediation Rules, as well as cases involving fund holding and the appointment of valuation experts, illustrates the breadth of the SCC's service offering beyond arbitration alone.

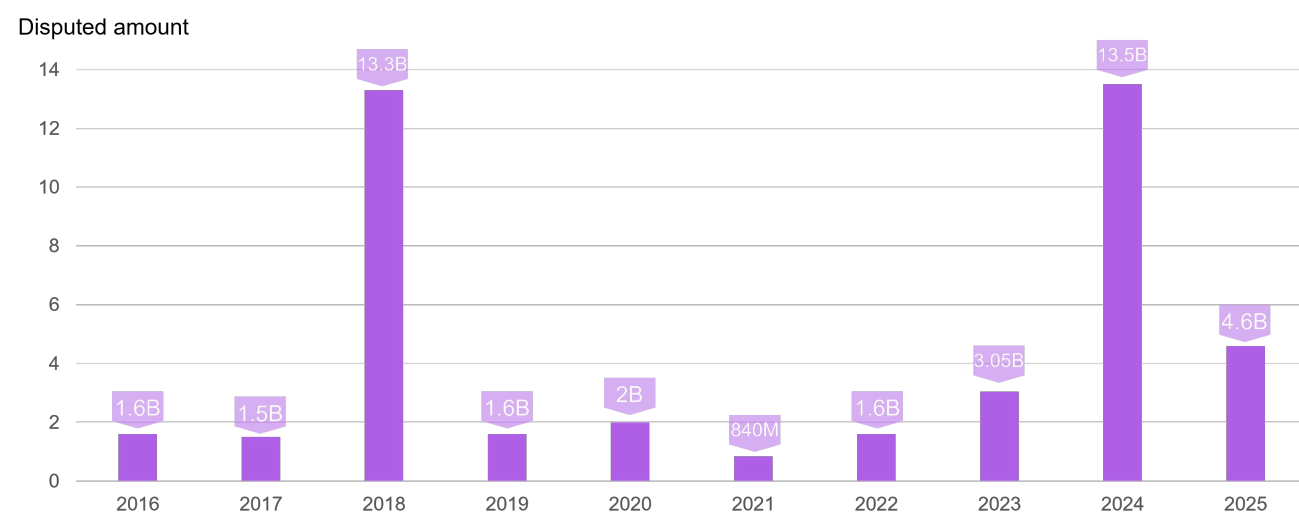


Over the past five years, disputes administered under the SCC Arbitration Rules have consistently accounted for the largest share of the SCC's caseload, and 2025 was no exception, with 114 cases (54%) conducted under those rules. However, the most notable trend across the period is the sustained growth of expedited arbitrations at the SCC. From 44 cases in 2022, the number of expedited proceedings rose to 49 in 2021, 67 in 2023, 71 in 2024, and 82 in 2025, representing 38% of all cases in 2025 compared to just 29% in 2022. This trajectory suggests that parties increasingly favour streamlined proceedings, whether driven by cost considerations, the nature of the disputes, or growing familiarity with the expedited format.



Trends in disputed amount

In 2025, the total amount in dispute was EUR 4.6 billion, a significant decrease from EUR 13.5 billion in 2024. This decline is primarily attributable to the exceptionally high figures recorded that year, which were driven by a small number of very high-value disputes. The 2025 figure is more consistent with recent trends, sitting closer to the EUR 3.05 billion recorded in 2023 and well above the EUR 1.6 billion recorded in 2022.



€16 million

Average disputed amount under the SCC Arbitration Rules

€2.5 million

Average disputed amount under the SCC Expedited Arbitration Rules

The average amount in dispute under the SCC Arbitration Rules fell sharply, from just over EUR 100 million in 2024 to just over EUR 16 million in 2025. Viewed in a broader context, the 2025 figure is more representative of the SCC's typical caseload: the average stood at EUR 31 million in 2023, before spiking in 2024 due to several outlier cases. The return to a lower average in 2025 suggests a broader distribution of case values and a greater number of mid-range disputes being brought under these rules.

The average disputed amount in cases administered under the SCC Expedited Arbitration Rules has fluctuated considerably over the past five years, and 2025 stands out as a remarkable outlier. After hovering in a relatively narrow band between approximately EUR 959,000 in 2022 and EUR 672,000 in 2024, the average leapt to EUR 2.5 million in 2025, more than three times the 2024 figure and the highest recorded across the entire period under review. This suggests that 2025 saw a number of high-value disputes being channeled into the expedited track, which may reflect growing confidence among parties and counsel in the ability of expedited proceedings to handle more complex and higher-stakes matters efficiently. A further contributing factor is that the SCC Board has raised the value threshold it typically applies when deciding which set of rules governs under combination clauses, from EUR 100,000 to EUR 1 million. The Board makes that decision based on the amount in dispute, the complexity of the case and other relevant circumstances, and it may depart from the threshold in either direction. Nevertheless, the higher figure means that a considerably broader range of disputes will ordinarily be referred to the Expedited Arbitration Rules.

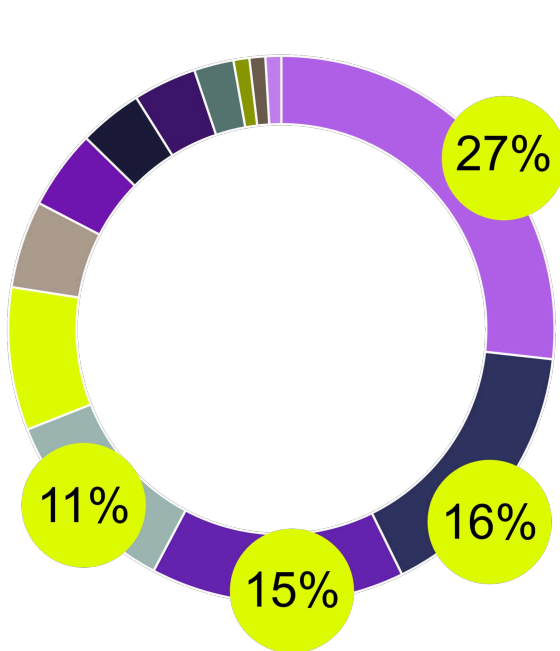
Industries

Real estate and construction disputes quadruple in three years, doubling in 2025 alone

The disputes brought to the SCC in 2025 spanned a wide range of industries, with real estate and construction emerging as the most common dispute category. The sector recorded 57 registered cases, double the 28 cases registered in 2024, and a dramatic rise from just 11–12 cases annually in 2022 and 2023.

This growth likely reflects a combination of factors: ongoing challenges in the Swedish construction market, increased contractual complexity in large-scale development projects, and growing awareness of the advantages of institutional arbitration in resolving construction disputes. The SCC's active engagement with the sector, including through its report "Ad hoc vs. Institutional Arbitration in Construction Disputes", has also contributed to raising the profile of institutional arbitration as a cost-efficient and trustworthy forum. The shift from retail and consumer products topping the list in 2024 to real estate and construction in 2025 illustrates how the SCC's caseload continues to evolve in response to broader economic conditions and sectoral trends.

The SCC is well known for handling arbitrations arising from the energy sector, including disputes relating to the purchase of oil and gas and the construction of wind farms and solar parks. In 2025, the energy sector accounted for 24 of the 213 registered cases, an increase from 20 cases in 2024.

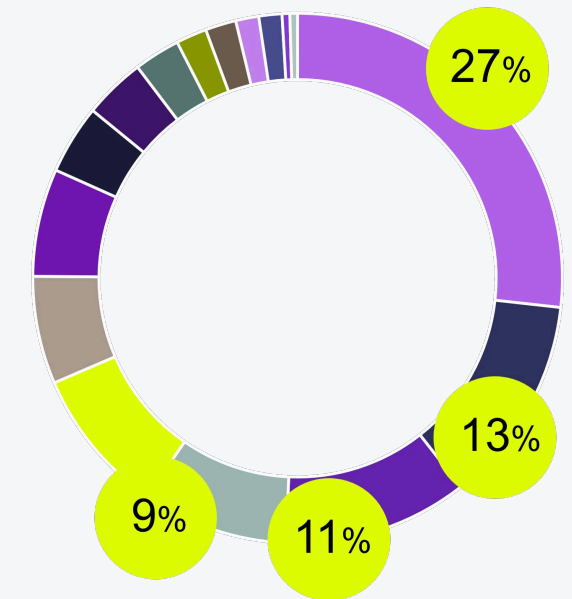


Contract Type

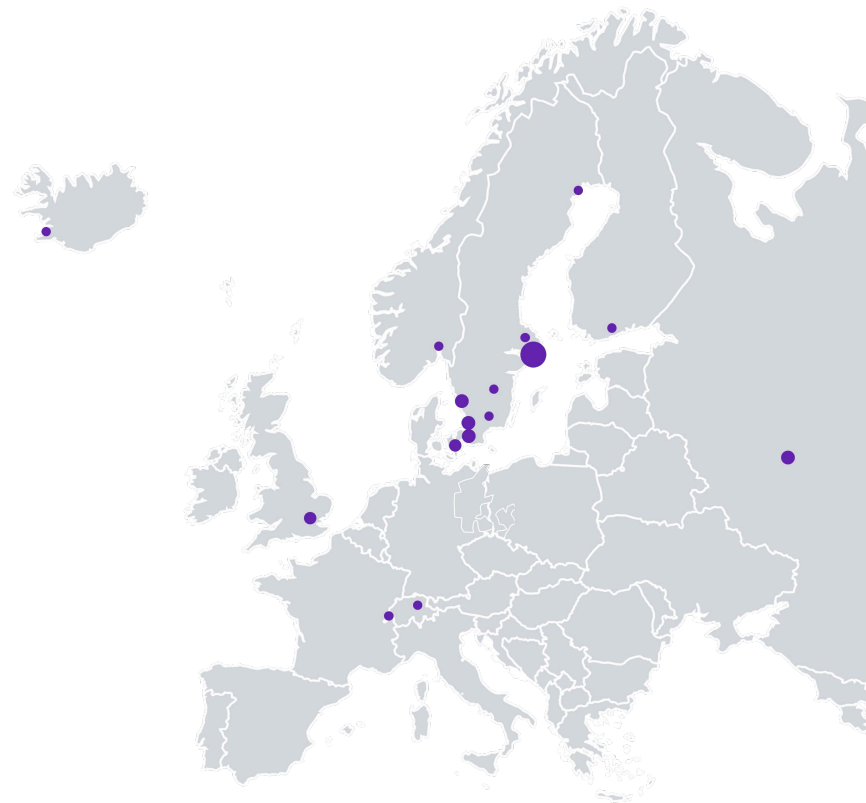
Business acquisitions remain the most common contract type

Business acquisitions have for a long time been a common type of contract underlying disputes brought to the SCC. In 2025, that contract type was the most frequent in new SCC arbitrations, with 57 registered cases. The same contract category topped the list in 2024 (57 disputes) and in 2023 (35 disputes). A significant increase is also observed in the real estate and construction contract category, from 11–13 cases in 2022, 2023 and 2024 to 27 cases in 2025.

Business acquisitions have now maintained their position as the most common contract type underlying SCC disputes for several years, reflecting the frequency with which transactional disputes, such as those arising from purchase price adjustments, warranty claims, and earn-out provisions, find their way to arbitration. The sharp increase in real estate and construction contracts mirrors the sector-level trends described above, reinforcing the picture of a significant structural shift in the SCC's caseload. The rise in credit and loan disputes, from 5 cases in 2024 to 19 in 2025, is similarly notable. However, when viewed against the broader trajectory of 8 cases in 2022 and 22 in 2023, the figures suggest considerable year-on-year fluctuation rather than a clear directional trend.



Seat of the arbitration



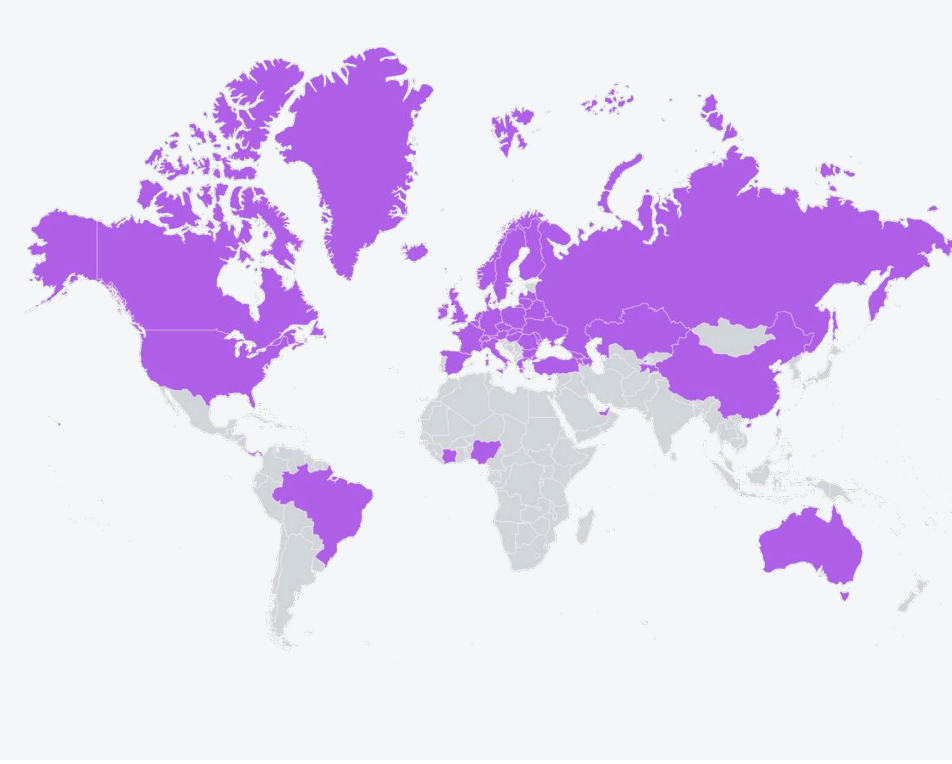
1. Stockholm	153
2. Malmö	12
3. Gothenburg	7
4. Moscow	4
5. Helsingborg	3
6. Copenhagen	3
7. London	2
8. Geneva	1
9. Helsinki	1
10. Hässleholm	1
11. Linköping	1
12. Luleå	1
13. Oslo	1
14. Reykjavik	1
15. Uppsala	1
16. Zurich	1
17. N/A	20
TOTAL	213

Stockholm's continued dominance as the preferred seat is consistent with its established reputation as one of the world's leading arbitration venues, offering a well-developed legal infrastructure, a robust arbitration law framework, and a judiciary experienced in matters connected to arbitral proceedings. The rise of Malmö to second place, overtaking Gothenburg, may reflect an increased interest in SCC proceedings among businesses in the south of Sweden.

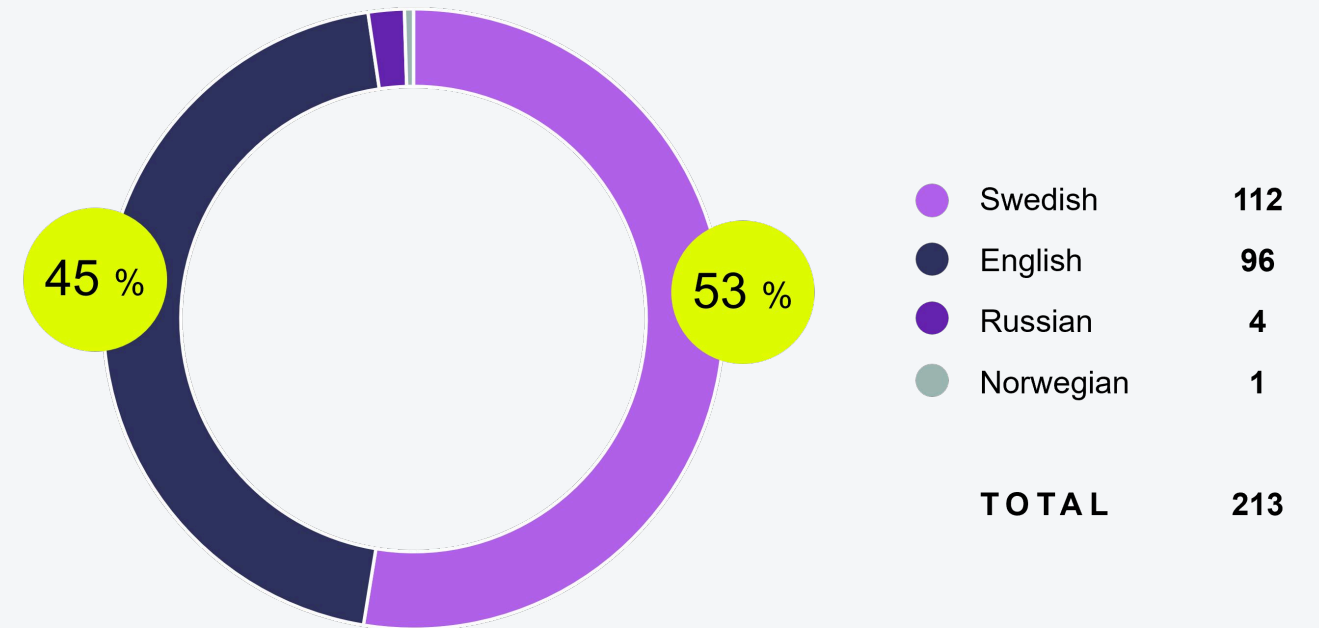
SCC arbitrations were also seated in all Nordic capitals: Copenhagen, Helsinki, Oslo and Reykjavik, as well as in London, Zurich, Geneva and Moscow. The presence of all Nordic capitals as seats of arbitration reflects the SCC's established position across the Nordic region, with parties in Denmark, Finland, Norway and Iceland choosing the SCC to administer their disputes while retaining a seat in their home jurisdiction. The selection of London, Zurich and Geneva, each a well-recognised centre for international arbitration, indicates that parties in certain cross-border disputes opt for a seat in an established arbitration hub outside the Nordics while benefiting from the SCC's institutional framework and case management. The inclusion of Moscow as a seat is consistent with the SCC's long-standing role as a neutral forum for disputes involving parties from Russia and the CIS region.

Seats outside Sweden accounted for 7,2% in 2022 (9 seats), 3,6% in 2023 (6 seats), 5,5% in 2024 (10 seats) and 7% in 2025 (14 seats).

In 72% of the cases commenced in 2025, Stockholm was selected as the seat of arbitration. Malmö was the second most frequently chosen seat, thereby surpassing Gothenburg compared to the 2024 statistics. Seats outside Sweden, in all Nordic countries, Great Britain, Switzerland, and Russia accounted for approximately 7% of cases in 2025.



Sweden	344	Singapore	3
Russia	21	Australia	2
Cyprus	15	Belarus	2
Denmark	14	British Virgin Islands	2
Germany	13	Canada	2
Great Britain	13	Czech Republic	2
Norway	12	Ivory Coast	2
Finland	11	Latvia	2
Armenia	10	Luxembourg	2
Netherlands	10	Spain	2
USA	10	Tajikistan	2
Poland	8	Turkey	2
Ukraine	8	UAE	2
Switzerland	5	Barbados	1
Italy	4	Brazil	1
Lithuania	4	Cayman Islands	1
Austria	3	Georgia	1
Azerbaijan	3	Greece	1
Belgium	3	Ireland	1
Bulgaria	3	Kazakhstan	1
China	3	Nigeria	1
France	3	Panama	1
Hungary	3	Romania	1
Iceland	3	Slovakia	1
Moldova	2	Taiwan	1



Nationalities of the parties

In 2025, 568 parties from 50 different countries resolved their disputes at the SCC. This represents a record in terms of party nationalities as the SCC has never before had parties from so many different countries in a single year. As each case involves at least two parties, these figures illustrate the truly international character of disputes administered by the SCC.

The record number of party nationalities is a landmark achievement for the SCC and a powerful testament to its global reach. The jurisdictional diversity of parties appearing before the SCC has followed a striking trajectory over the past several years. Between 2018 and 2021, the number of represented nationalities remained almost entirely static, holding within a narrow band of 42 to 44, a pattern suggesting a well-established but relatively stable international footprint.

From 2022 onwards, however, the picture shifted materially. The number of jurisdictions represented dropped briefly to 38 in 2022, when the total number of new cases dropped to 143, before rebounding to 40 in 2024 and reaching 50 in 2025, the highest figure ever recorded and a notable step change from the plateau that had persisted for much of the preceding decade. The leap from 40 to 50 jurisdictions in a single year suggests that SCC is attracting parties from markets that have not previously been represented in its proceedings to any significant degree.

Whilst certain jurisdictions, including the Nordic countries, Germany, Russia, and the Baltic states, remain consistent participants in SCC proceedings, the composition of the broader pool of participating nations shifts considerably from year to year. Over the past ten years, parties from more than 90 countries have resolved their disputes at the SCC, further underscoring the institution's established position as a truly global forum for dispute resolution.

Language of the arbitration

The languages used in disputes registered at the SCC in 2025 were Swedish, English, Russian, and Norwegian. Swedish was the most frequently used language of the proceedings, with 112 cases (52.6%), closely followed by English with 96 cases (45.1%). This represents a slight shift compared to 2024 and 2023, when English was the most frequently used language of the proceedings, accounting for 51% of cases in 2024 and 54% of cases in 2023.

Since 2022, SCC arbitrations have been conducted in Swedish, English, Russian, French, Polish, and Norwegian.

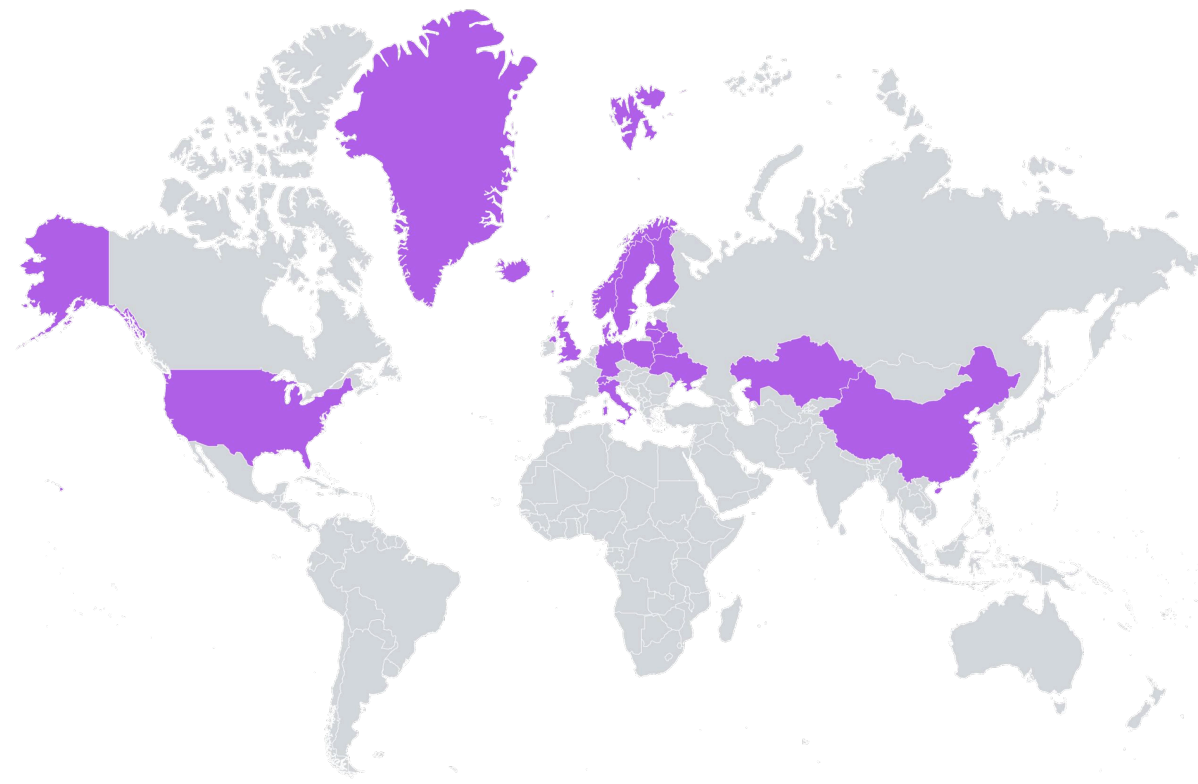
With domestic disputes accounting for 50% of the caseload, it is unsurprising that Swedish was well represented as a language of the proceedings. The narrow gap between Swedish and English underlines the bilingual character of the SCC's proceedings and the institution's equal capacity to serve parties in both Swedish domestic disputes and international disputes. The presence of Russian, French, Polish, and Norwegian as procedural languages further highlights the international diversity of the SCC's caseload.

Applicable law

For the cases commenced at the SCC in 2025, Swedish law was the most frequently applicable law (68%), followed by English law. This is consistent with the statistics from previous years.

The prevalence of Swedish law as the applicable substantive law reflects both the high proportion of domestic disputes and its frequent selection by international parties. English law's position as the second most common choice is consistent with its status as one of the most widely used governing laws in international commercial contracts, and underscores the SCC's role as a forum for cross-border disputes involving parties from common law jurisdictions or those who have contractually opted for English law.

Finnish law has featured as the governing law in SCC arbitrations in each of the last three years, most of these disputes being domestic Finnish.



Swedish law	145	Icelandic law	1
English law	8	Italian law	1
Finnish law	4	Kazakh law	1
Public international law	4	Chinese law	1
CISG	3	Latvian law	1
Norwegian law	3	Polish law	1
Danish law	2	German law	1
Lithuanian law	2	Ukrainian law	1
Swiss law	2	U.S. state law	1
Belarusian law	2	N/A	29

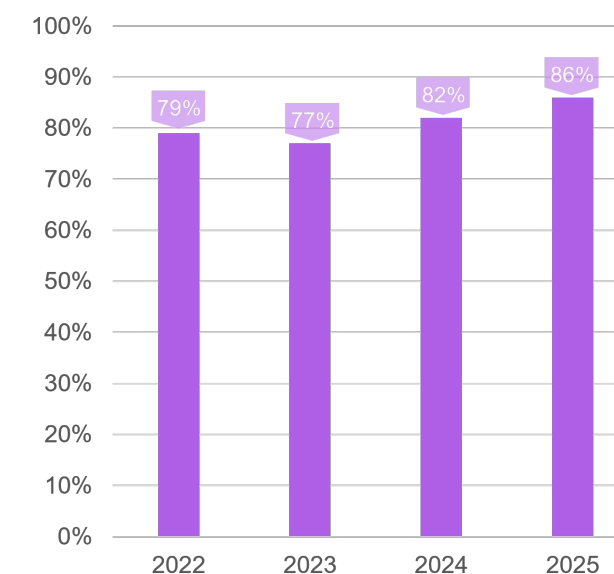
Time for rendering the final award

The following statistics are based on arbitrations concluded with an arbitral award in 2025. This means that cases initiated before 2025, but where the award was rendered in 2025 have been included.

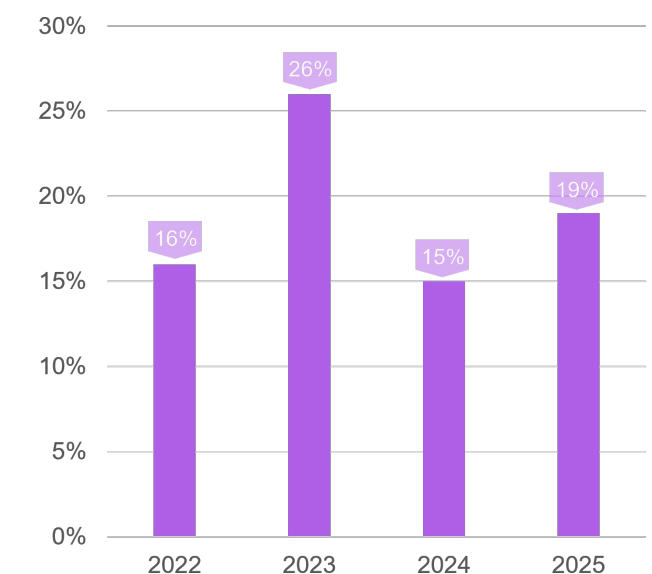
Time for rendering the final award under the SCC Arbitration Rules

Of the arbitrations concluded in 2025 under the SCC Arbitration Rules, 86% of cases were resolved within 18 months, representing an increase of just over 2 percentage points compared to 2024. An increase is also observed in the number of cases concluded within 6 months, from 15% in 2024 to 19% in 2025.

Award within 18 months from referral



Award within 6 months from referral

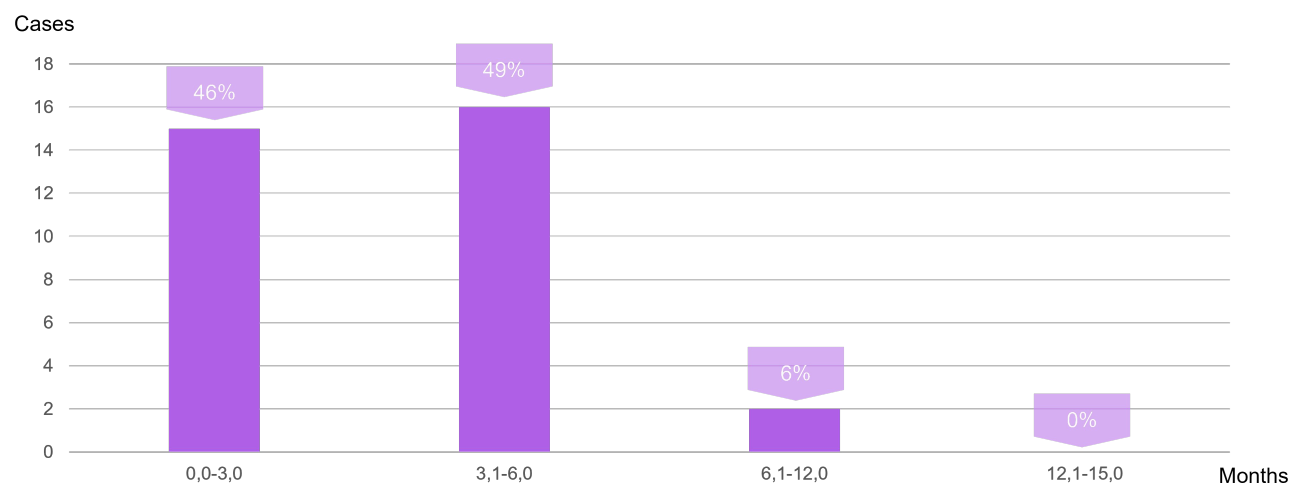


The improvement in both the 18-month and 6-month resolution rates reflects the SCC's continued focus on procedural efficiency and effective case management. The fact that more than four in five cases under the SCC Arbitration Rules are resolved within 18 months is a strong indicator of the institution's ability to administer even complex proceedings in a timely manner, including a number of disputes involving one or more sanctioned parties. The proportion of cases resolved within 6 months has fluctuated over the past four years, from 16% in 2022 to 26% in 2023, before declining to 15% in 2024 and recovering to 19% in 2025. Whilst the 2025 figure represents a notable improvement over 2024, it remains below the peak recorded in 2023, suggesting that the 6-month resolution rate is influenced by the particular characteristics of the cases concluded in any given year rather than following a clear directional trend.

The cases that generally take longer to resolve tend to be high-value construction disputes and high-value investment arbitrations. These categories of disputes typically involve complex factual matrices, extensive documentary evidence, and multiple rounds of expert testimony, all of which contribute to longer procedural timelines.

In 2025, it took an average of 70 days from the filing of the request for arbitration to the referral of the case to the arbitral tribunal (excluding six outliers due to unusually long or short durations to referral). The duration of this phase depends on the parties' submissions as well as their payment of the advance on costs.

Time for rendering the final award under the SCC Expedited Arbitration Rules



With regard to proceedings under the SCC Expedited Arbitration Rules, 45.5% of cases were resolved within 3 months and 48.5% within 3 to 6 months from referral. In total, 94% of cases under the SCC Expedited Arbitration Rules were resolved within 6 months in 2025. The corresponding figure for 2024 was 92%, and for 2023 it was 100%.

The consistently short durations under the SCC Expedited Arbitration Rules are a clear validation of the framework's design. With between 92 and 100% of cases resolved within 6 months, the SCC Expedited Arbitration Rules are delivering on their core objective of providing rapid, cost-effective dispute resolution. Nearly half of all cases are finalised within just three months of referral, a result that carries additional weight given the concurrent rise in the average disputed amount under those rules, which in 2025 reached EUR 2.5 million. The fact that parties are increasingly bringing higher-value disputes into the expedited track, and that those disputes are being resolved with the same speed and efficiency, speaks to the maturity and reliability of the SCC's expedited proceedings as a forum for serious commercial arbitration.

It typically takes two to three months from the filing of the request for arbitration to the referral of the case to the arbitral tribunal. The duration of this phase depends on the parties' submissions as well as their payment of the advance on costs.

The arbitrators

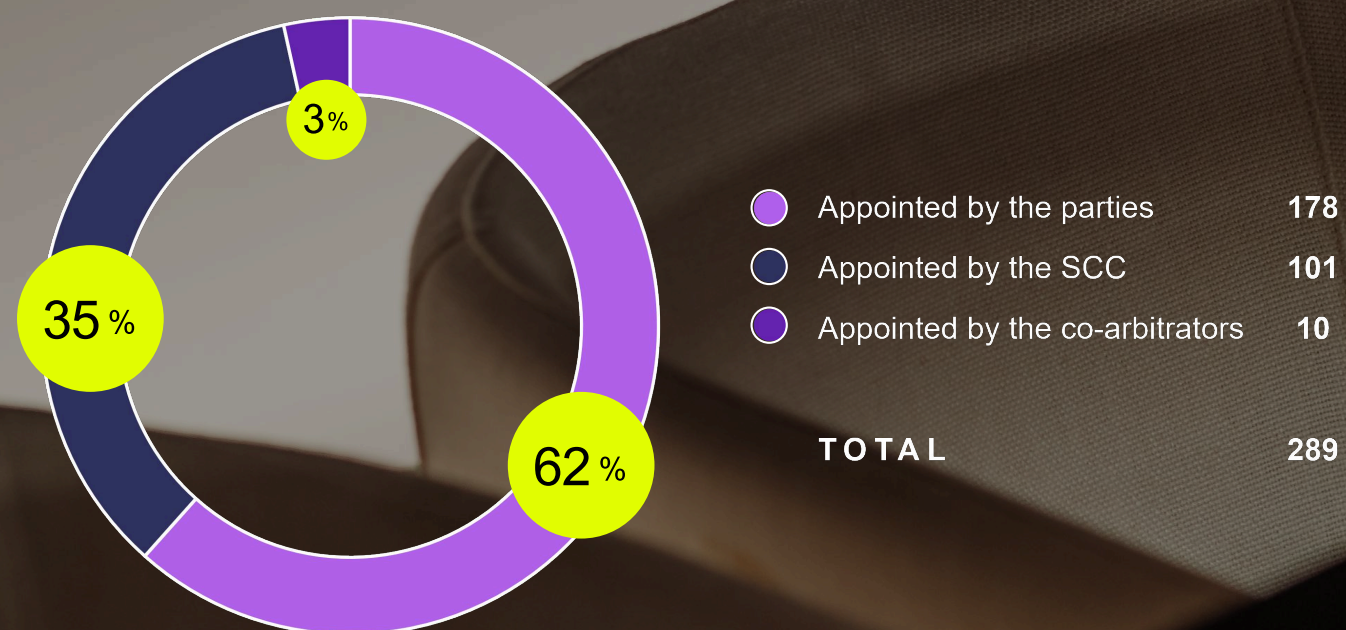
The following statistics are based on arbitrators appointed in 2025. This means that cases initiated before 2025, but where the appointment of arbitrators took place during 2025, have been included.

The appointment of arbitrators

In 2025, a total of 289 appointments of arbitrators were made. The parties made 178 appointments (62%) while the SCC made 101 appointments (35%). In 2024, the parties made 119 appointments (56%) while the SCC made 83 appointments (39%). Compared to 2024, the proportion of appointments made by the parties has thus increased slightly, even though the number of appointments made by the SCC in total was considerably higher in 2025 than in 2024. The co-arbitrators made only 10 appointments (3%) in 2025, which is consistent with the 2024 statistics, where co-arbitrator appointments accounted for 4% of the total.

The increase in the share of party appointments may in part reflect a greater willingness or ability among parties to agree on the appointment of sole arbitrator or chairperson, and in part be attributable to the increased use of a list procedure with the support of the SCC. It should be noted that an arbitrator appointed through a list procedure is recorded in these statistics as a party-appointed arbitrator, also when the arbitrator was included on the list by the SCC.

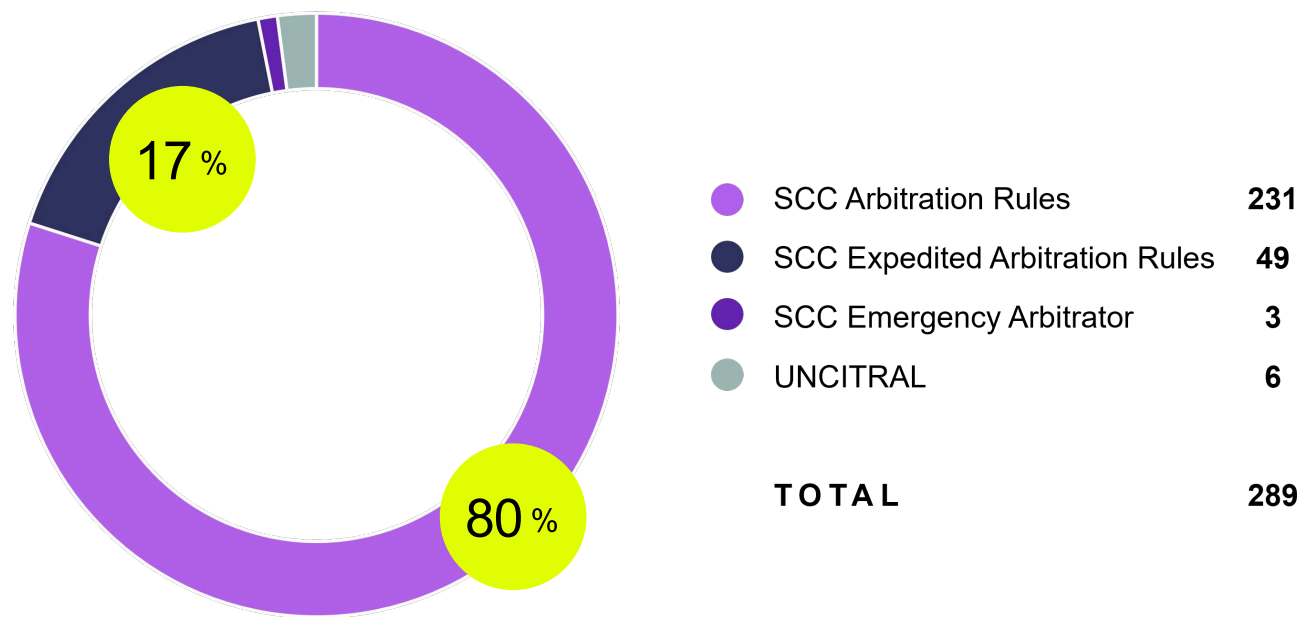
At the same time, the SCC's appointment of 101 arbitrators in 2025 represents an absolute increase over 2024, reflecting the overall growth in total appointments, and confirms the institution's active role in constituting tribunals where parties are unable or unwilling to agree on appointments. The stability of the co-arbitrator appointment rate at 3% is consistent with the SCC Arbitration Rules, under which the main rule is that the chairperson is appointed by the parties or the SCC Board.



Arbitrators appointed under the different SCC rules

In 2025, a total of 289 appointments of arbitrators were made, of which 231 appointments (80%) were made under the SCC Arbitration Rules, 49 appointments were made under the SCC Expedited Arbitration Rules (17%), 3 appointments were emergency arbitrators (1%), and 6 appointments (2%) were made in UNCITRAL proceedings administered by the SCC.

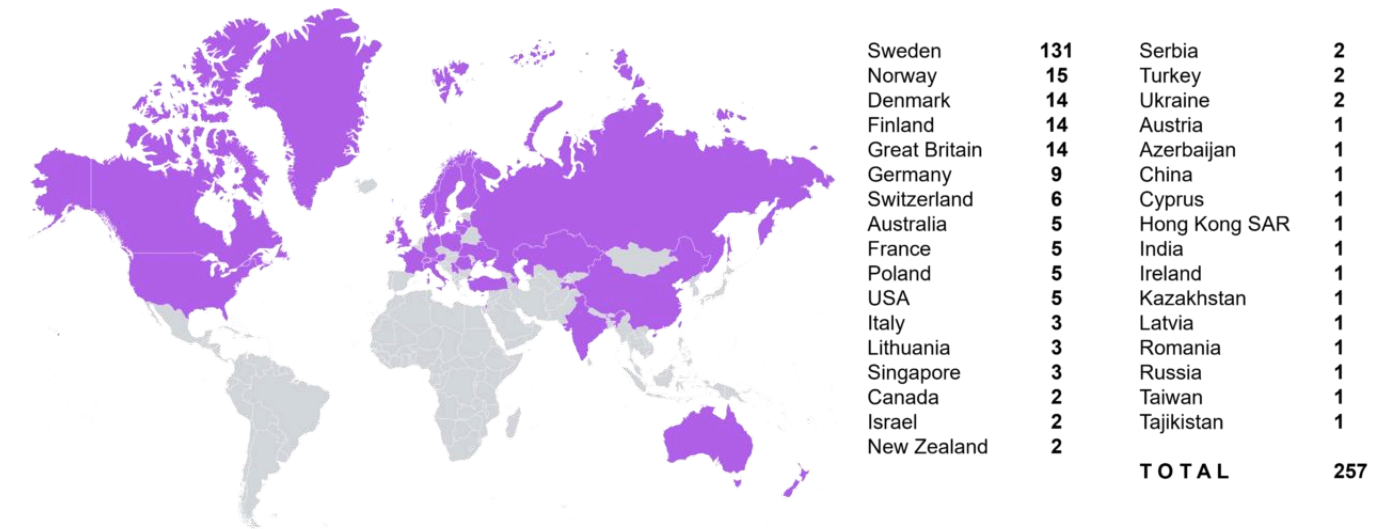
The distribution of arbitrator appointments broadly mirrors the distribution of cases across the various procedural frameworks. The SCC Arbitration Rules account for the largest share of appointments (80%) which is partly due to the vast majority (91%) of three member tribunals in those proceedings. The 17% share attributable to the SCC Expedited Arbitration Rules reflects the significant volume of cases administered under that framework, albeit with sole arbitrator appointments in each case. Emergency arbitrator appointments and UNCITRAL proceedings together account for the remaining 3%, reflecting the supplementary but valuable role of these procedures within the SCC's overall caseload.



Nationality of the arbitrators

In 2025, 289 appointments of arbitrators from 33 countries on four continents were made. This is the highest number of arbitrator nationalities ever recorded in a single year. By comparison, in 2024, 211 appointments of arbitrators from 26 countries were made, and in 2023, 250 appointments of arbitrators from 27 countries were made.

If an arbitrator has indicated more than one nationality, each nationality has been registered separately. Each arbitrator has been counted no more than once per category (claimant's arbitrator, respondent's arbitrator, and chairperson), regardless of how many appointments they received within that category. This is why the number of nationalities is lower than the total number of arbitrators appointed in 2025.



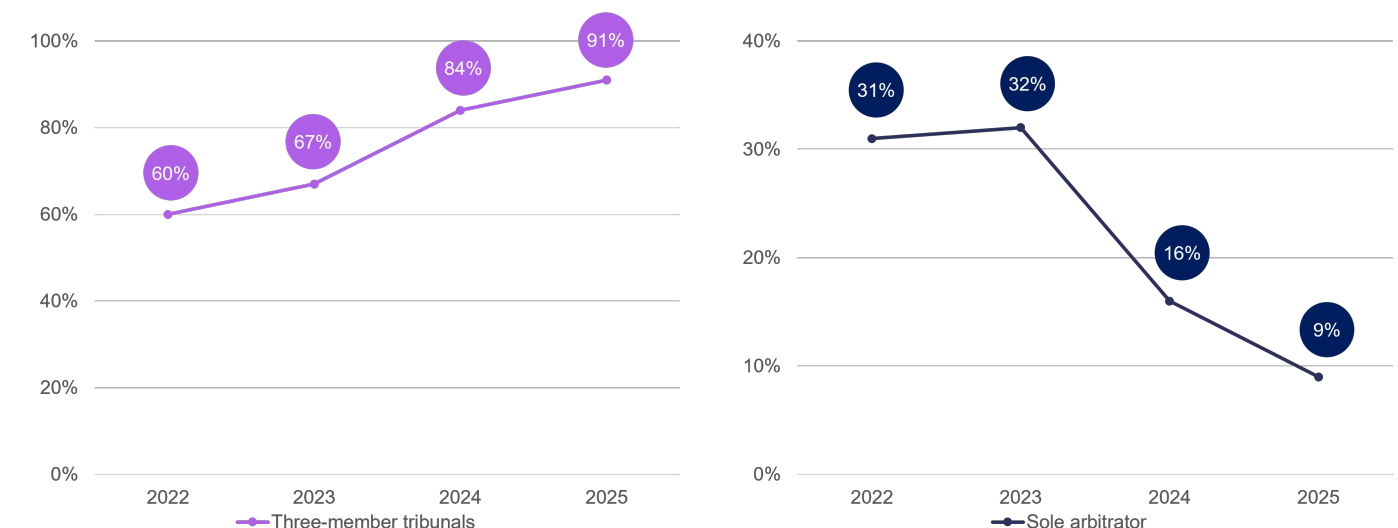
The record number of arbitrator nationalities, 33 countries across four continents, is a natural consequence of the exceptional jurisdictional diversity of the parties in SCC arbitrations in 2025.

With parties from 50 different countries, the demand for arbitrators with relevant linguistic, legal, and cultural expertise inevitably draws from a correspondingly broad pool of nationalities. This breadth of arbitrator nationality enhances the legitimacy of proceedings by bringing a wide range of legal traditions, professional backgrounds, and cultural perspectives to the resolution of international disputes.

Number of arbitrators in arbitrations under the SCC Arbitration Rules

In 2025, arbitrators were appointed in a total of 231 cases under the SCC Arbitration Rules. In 211 disputes (91%), the tribunal consisted of three arbitrators. In 20 disputes (9%), the tribunal consisted of a sole arbitrator.

The strong preference for three-member tribunals in proceedings under the SCC Arbitration Rules (91% of cases) reflects the suitability of that composition for the complex, high-value disputes typically administered under those rules. Three-member tribunals provide parties with the assurance of collective deliberation and a more comprehensive range of expertise, which is particularly valuable in technically or legally complex disputes.



The 9% share of sole arbitrator cases under the SCC Arbitration Rules indicates that the parties or the SCC Board are willing to opt for a more streamlined composition where the circumstances of the case permit.

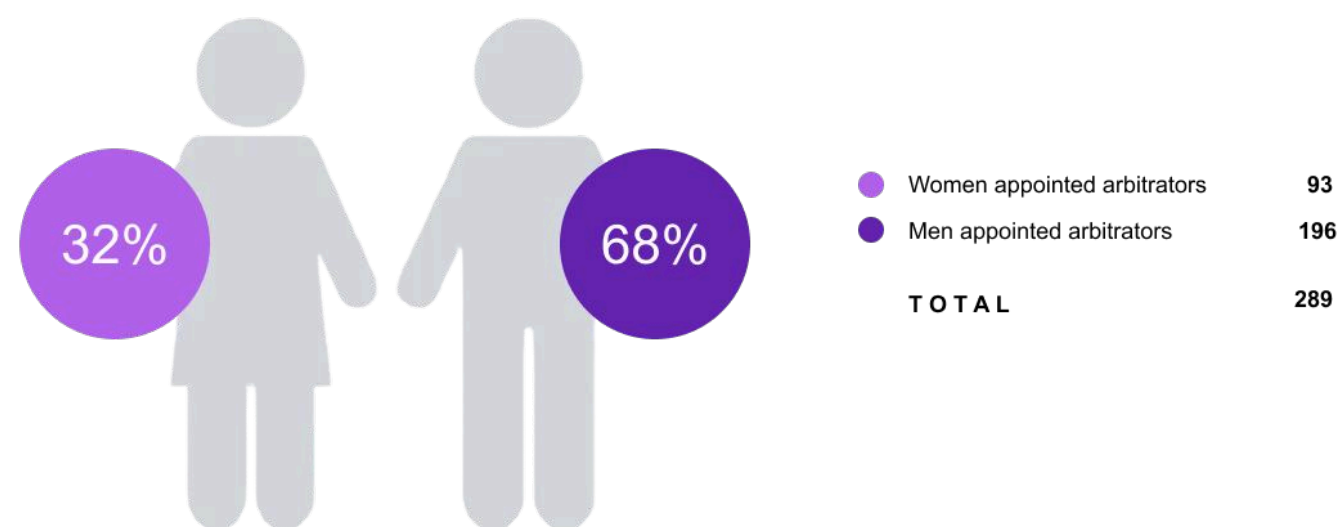
The 2025 figure of 91% three-member tribunals represents a marked increase compared to previous years. In 2024, 84% of tribunals consisted of three members and 16% of a sole arbitrator. In 2023, the corresponding figures were 67% and 32%, respectively, and in 2022, 60% and 31%. The significant rise in the proportion of three-member tribunals in 2025 suggests that the disputes brought under the SCC Arbitration Rules were, on the whole, of greater complexity or value than in preceding years, warranting the additional procedural safeguards afforded by a larger tribunal.

Gender statistics: All arbitrators appointed in SCC arbitrations

Women were appointed in 32% of all appointments to arbitral tribunals in SCC proceedings in 2025, while men were appointed in 68%. This is a slightly less balanced distribution than in the two preceding years. In 2024, 40% of appointees were women and 60% were men; in 2023, 39% were women and 61% were men; and in 2022, 34% were women and 66% were men.

The decline in the overall proportion of women appointed is a noteworthy development that warrants careful consideration. The figure not only represents a step back from the progress made in 2023 and 2024, but also falls below the level recorded in 2022 (34%), marking the lowest share of women appointed in the past four years.

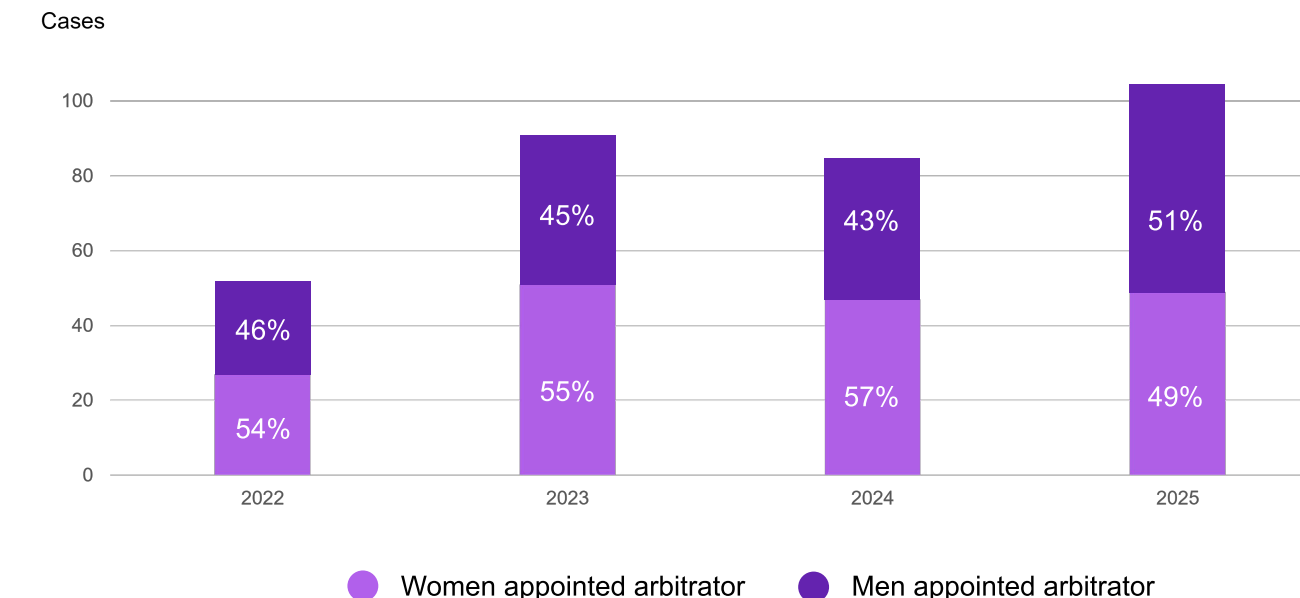
The overall gender distribution across all SCC proceedings is heavily influenced by party appointments, which account for the largest share of total appointments. As the data on party appointments demonstrates, there remains a significant gap between the appointment practices of the SCC Board and those of the parties themselves.



Gender statistics: Arbitrators appointed by the SCC

The SCC Board made 101 appointments of arbitrators in 2025. In 49% of these appointments, women were appointed, while in 51%, men were appointed.

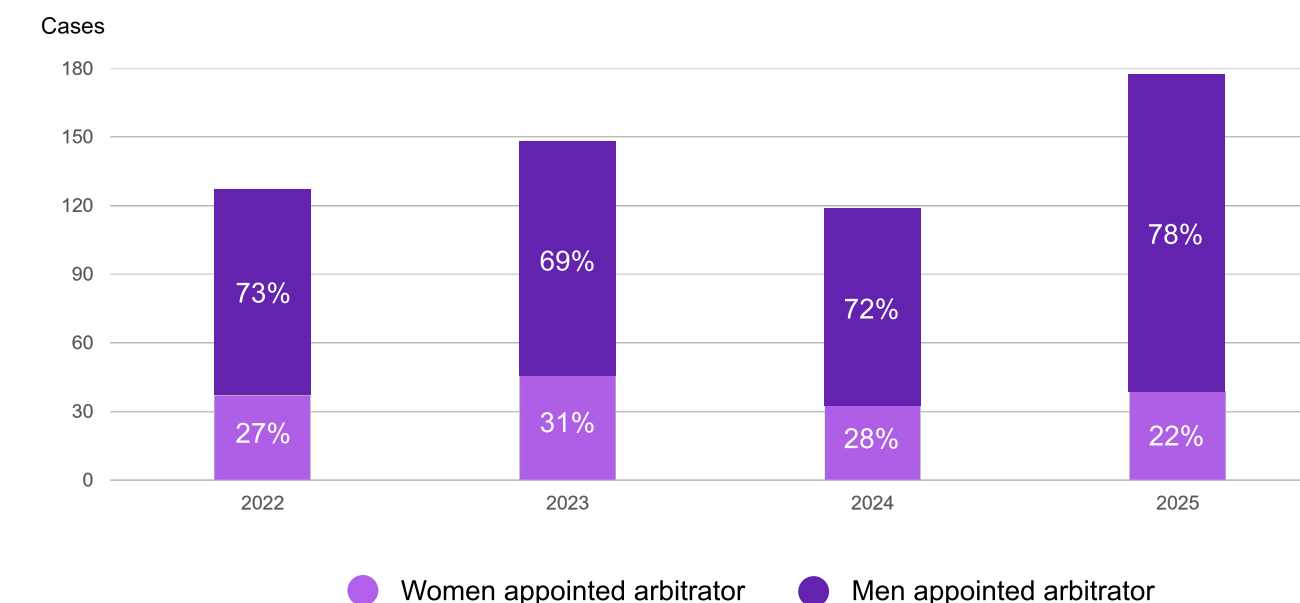
This is a slightly more balanced distribution than in recent years. In 2024, the SCC appointed 57% women and 43% men; in 2023, 55% women and 45% men; and in 2022, 54% women and 46% men.



The SCC Board's near-equal split in 2025, 49% women and 51% men, reflects the institution's sustained commitment to gender balance in its own appointment decisions. The Board's appointment practices contrast with those of the parties, underlining the influential role that institutional appointments can play in advancing gender diversity in arbitral tribunals.

Gender statistics: Arbitrators appointed by the parties

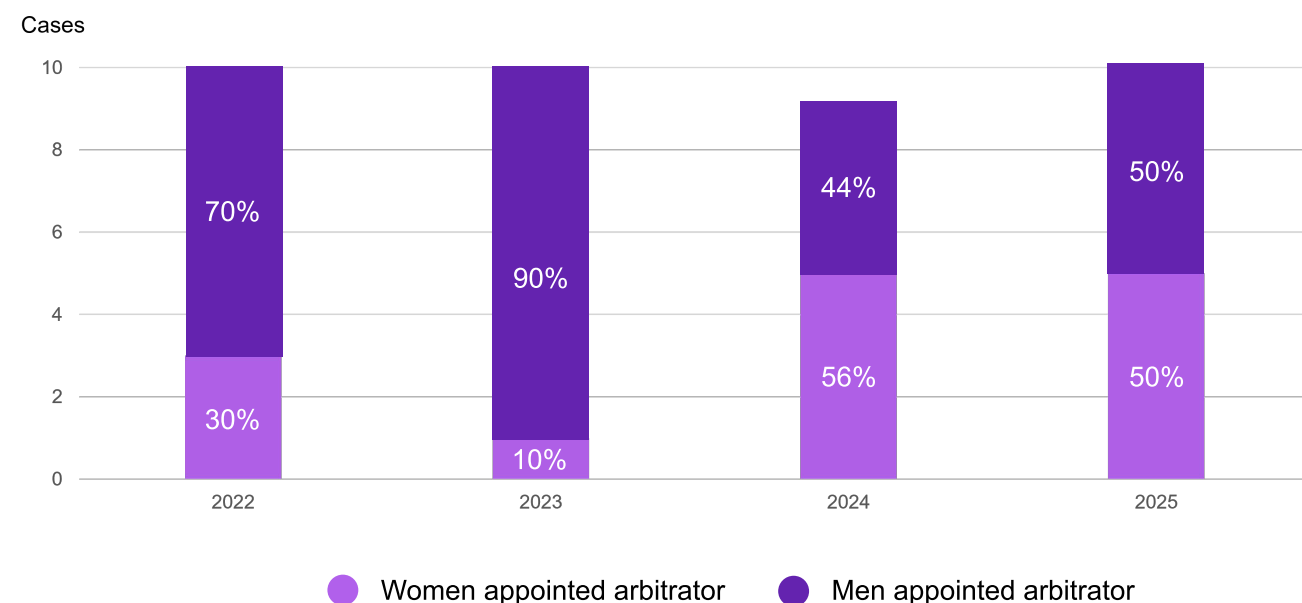
The parties appointed 178 arbitrators in 2025. In 22% of cases, women were appointed, while in 78% of cases, men were appointed. This represents a less balanced distribution compared to recent years. In 2024, the parties appointed 28% women and 72% men; in 2023, 31% women and 69% men; and in 2022, 27% women and 73% men.



The decline in the proportion of women appointed by the parties, from 31% in 2023 to 28% in 2024 to 22% in 2025, is the primary driver of the overall decrease in female appointments across all SCC proceedings. This figure represents the lowest level of female appointments by parties in a four-year period, and highlights the gap between the appointment practices of the parties and those of the SCC Board. As party appointments constitute the largest single category of appointments, accounting for 62% of all appointments in 2025, the choices made by parties have a substantial impact on the overall gender balance of tribunals. Continued efforts to encourage parties to consider a broader and more gender-diverse pool of arbitral candidates will be essential to improving this figure in future years.

Gender statistics: Arbitrators appointed by the co-arbitrators

The co-arbitrators appointed the presiding arbitrator on 10 occasions in 2025. In 50% of cases, women were appointed, while in 50% of cases, men were appointed. The appointments made by co-arbitrators have become more gender-balanced in recent years. The corresponding figures for 2024 were 56% women and 44% men; for 2023, 10% women and 90% men; and for 2022, 30% women and 70% men.



When viewed over a longer time horizon, the development towards greater gender balance becomes even more apparent. During the period 2015–2017, the proportion of women appointed by co-arbitrators remained consistently low: 10% in 2015, 20% in 2016, and no women were appointed in 2017. Compared to these earlier figures, the more balanced outcomes observed in recent years reflect a meaningful shift towards increased gender diversity in co-arbitrator appointments.

The perfectly balanced split in co-arbitrator appointments in 2025 is a highly positive development. Given the relatively small absolute number of co-arbitrator appointments figures should be interpreted with some caution, as individual appointments have a proportionally larger impact on the percentage outcome. Nevertheless, the trend is an encouraging one.

Further information on arbitrator appointments


In 2026, the SCC will publish a report on arbitrator appointments, providing a comprehensive analysis of the 1,107 arbitrator appointments made in SCC arbitrations between January 2020 and December 2024.

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Overview of arbitrator appointments

Appointed by	Women	Men	Total
SCC	49 (49%)	52 (51%)	101
Parties	39 (22%)	139 (78%)	178
Co-arbitrators	5 (50%)	5 (50%)	10



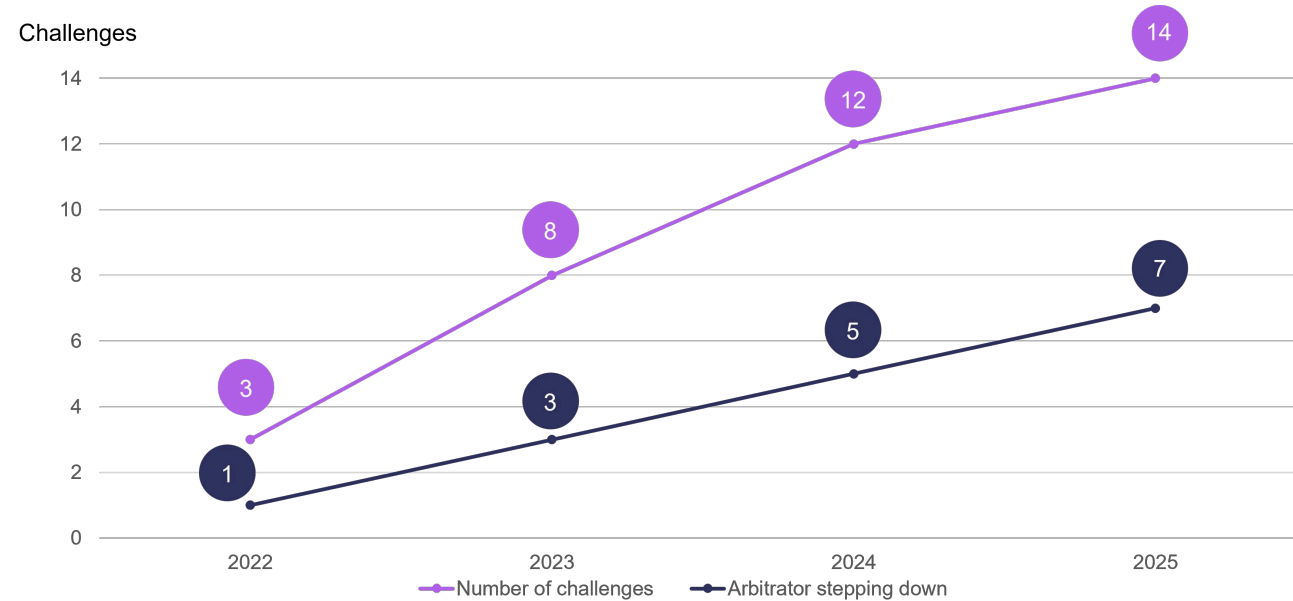
“At the SCC, we are firmly committed to diversity in arbitrator appointments. While we are pleased with the results of our own appointments, we are concerned that party-appointed arbitrators continue to reflect an increasing gender imbalance, with a predominance of male appointees, a trend we take seriously and remain dedicated to addressing.”

– Caroline Falconer, SCC Secretary General

Challenge to arbitrator

In 2025, 14 challenges to arbitrators were registered, a notably high number for a single year. In 4 of the cases, the arbitrator chose to resign following the challenging party's request. In 9 of the cases, the SCC Board rendered a decision on the challenge, of which 6 were rejected and 3 were sustained. The remaining case was dismissed prior to the SCC Board's examination of the merits, as the challenging party withdrew its challenge.

An increase is observed compared to previous years, both in the number of challenges and in the proportion of challenges resulting in a decision in favour of the challenging party or in the voluntary resignation of the arbitrator. In 2025, the challenge led to the arbitrator stepping down in 7 out of 14 cases (50%), compared to 2024 when it occurred in 5 out of 12 cases (approximately 42%), 2023 when it occurred in 3 out of 8 cases (approximately 38%), and 2022 when it occurred in 1 out of 3 cases (approximately 33%).



To explain the increase of the number of challenges, we need to look at the merits of them. One case of particular note, to further explain the increase in challenges in 2025, concerned the relationship between the arbitrator and the arbitrator's parent representing one of the parties.

A potentially emerging trend is the gradual increase in the proportion of challenges that result in either a sustained decision or a voluntary resignation. Over the four-year period from 2022 to 2025, the rate has risen from approximately 33% to 50%, suggesting a growing awareness among parties of the grounds on which challenges may succeed, and possibly a greater willingness to raise legitimate concerns about arbitrator impartiality or independence.

Further information about the challenges made in 2025 and their outcomes will be published in an SCC Practice Note on decisions on challenges to arbitrators. Such a Practice Note was last published in November 2025 regarding the SCC Board's decisions on challenges from 2020 to 2024.



Trend in challenges to arbitrators during 2022–2025

Arbitrator challenges hit a record high in 2025, with half of them resulting in the arbitrator stepping down.

Emergency arbitration

A party may find itself in a situation where a decision on interim measures is needed to provisionally secure the party's position before an arbitration has been commenced. In such cases, and when the dispute resolution clause refers to the SCC Arbitration Rules or the SCC Expedited Arbitration Rules, the party may apply to the SCC for the appointment of an emergency arbitrator. It provides parties with access to urgent relief at a stage where an arbitral tribunal has not yet been constituted, ensuring that the arbitral process does not leave them without an effective remedy in time-critical situations. The emergency arbitrator mechanism is one of the most significant procedural innovations in modern institutional arbitration and the SCC is proud to have been the first major international arbitration institute to implement such rules in 2010.

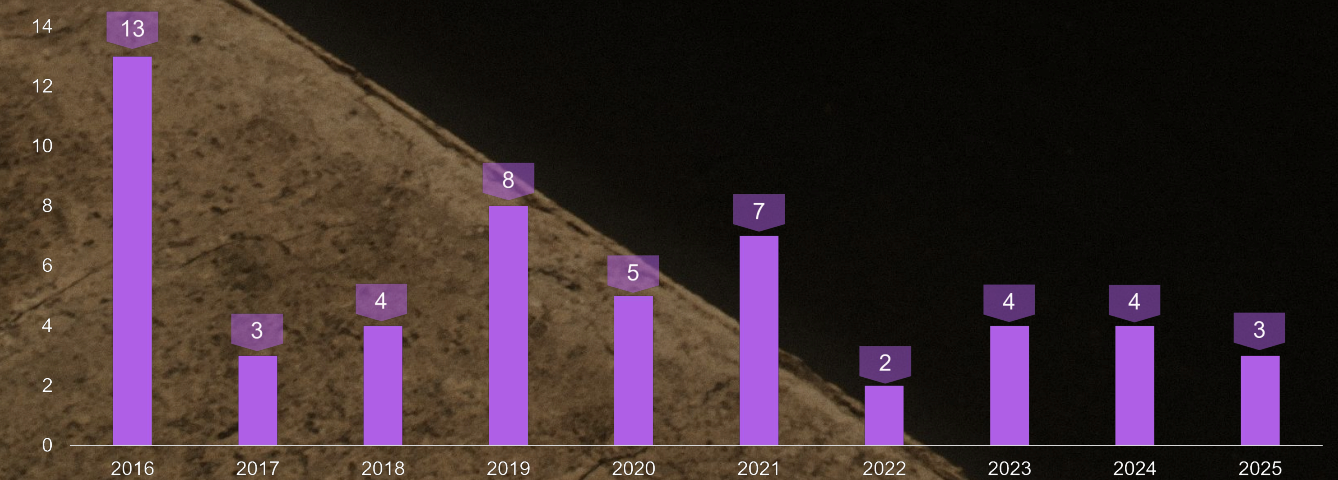
In 2025, 3 emergency arbitrators were appointed by the SCC. In all cases, the emergency arbitrator was appointed within 12 hours, well in line with the obligation of an appointment within 24 hours.

The average number of days for an interim decision from referral to the emergency arbitrator was 5 days. This represents an improvement compared to 2024, when the corresponding average was 7 days (4 emergency arbitrators), but in line with the emergency decisions in 2023 when 4 emergency arbitrators made decision in 5,25 days in average. The short duration in average between appointment and decision reinforces the picture of an increasingly efficient and effective mechanism.

Of the 3 emergency arbitrations in 2025, the claimant achieved full success in 1 case and partial success in 2 cases. In 2024, all requests were rejected in their entirety. In 2023, requests were rejected in full in half of the cases and partially granted in the other half. In 2022, all requests were likewise rejected. The year 2025 was thus a successful year for claimants in emergency arbitrations at the SCC.



Number of emergency arbitrations (2016–2025)





SCC
Arbitration
Institute