

# International dispute resolution (IDR) update

Read about recent news in our field and how we are working to impact change.

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Welcome to the “IDR update” from our world-ranked International Dispute Resolution Practice Group. This is a series of announcements that we send to our clients, friends and colleagues about recent news in our field and how we are working to impact change.

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## ● Firm's international arbitration practice ranked 9th in the world

We have once again been recognized as one of the world's most successful firms for international arbitration, with the firm ranked 9th in *Global Arbitration Review's* prestigious GAR 30.

Noting our firm has achieved "its highest ever finish," *Global Arbitration Review* attributed this to the firm's "success in winning big work" and observed that its position is "well above many of the firms it routinely pitches against." According to *Global Arbitration Review*, the firm has the second-largest case portfolio in the world by value of claims, totaling US\$250 billion.

The GAR 30 ranks firms primarily on the number of arbitral hearings conducted over a two-year period, the value at stake in those hearings and the number of hours billed to arbitration. It also considers activities that reflect a strong reputation, such as arbitrator appointments received by firm members and for a strong performance in GAR's sister publications, *Lexology Index: Arbitration*, a guide to the leading practitioners in the field as selected by their peers.

Read our [press release](#).



## ● Law360 names practice group of the year

We have been recognized by *Law360* as a winner of its Practice Groups of the Year awards for 2025 for International Arbitration. The awards honor the attorney teams behind litigation wins and significant transaction work that resonated throughout the legal industry this past year.

Read more about this [prestigious achievement](#).

## ● Victory for Geoplin

We received a complete victory in the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) arbitration on behalf of Geoplin in *Geoplin v. Gazprom*. Our team was led by [Michelle Glassman Bock](#), working with [Rostislav Pekař](#), [Stephen Anway](#), [Dr. Eveli Lume](#), [Marija Šćekić](#), Oleksandra Hnatiuk and [Tamara Benáková](#), with Helmut Ortner and Martin Hackl from Paragon Advocacy as Austrian law co-counsel.

The tribunal:

- Confirmed the validity of Geoplin's set-off
- Awarded €185.2 million in damages plus fees and costs

The dispute stemmed from Gazprom's drastic gas underdeliveries following the invasion of Ukraine. These actions forced Geoplin to buy gas at soaring spot-market prices, severely damaging the company economically.

Working closely with Geoplin during this high-pressure period, we devised a strategy to claim damages, set off invoices and ultimately terminate the contract after Gazprom cut supply entirely. The strategy enabled Geoplin to secure replacement supply in a volatile market.

Geoplin commenced ICC arbitration in May 2023 to confirm the termination and set-off, as well as to recover further damages. The tribunal issued its award granting Geoplin all requested relief.

## ● IDR win for Kosovo Energy Corporation

We have secured a major victory for Kosovo Energy Corporation J.S.C (KEK), the biggest energy company in Kosovo. The team representing KEK included [Luka Misetic](#), [Rostislav Pekař](#), [Matej Pustay](#), [Fëllënza Limani](#) and [Barbora Ohnoutková](#).

The case was an *ad hoc* arbitration administered by the Swiss Arbitration Centre. KEK claimed interest on late payments for electricity delivered to Kosovo Company for Distribution and Supply of Electricity J.S.C, and Kosovo Electricity Supply Company J.S.C. SH.A, two Kosovar companies owned by Turkish investors that are responsible for distribution and supply of electricity in Kosovo (Respondents). Before the dispute advanced to arbitration, the Turkish-owned entities maintained that the delays were justified under the *force majeure* provisions of the wholesale electricity supply agreement, citing the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. KEK (Claimant) challenged the applicability of the *force majeure* clause. The arguments presented during the arbitration proceedings remain confidential.

The tribunal, including Dr. Simon Gabriel (presiding), Peter Riznik and Prof. Dr. Ziya Akinci (co-arbitrators) rejected the Respondents' *force majeure* defense and awarded KEK the vast majority of the amount claimed and its costs.



## ● Victory for Turkmenistan

We are proud to announce a victory for our long-standing client, Turkmenistan, achieved by [Ali Gursel](#), [Raúl Mañón](#), [Bahar Charyyeva](#) and Mekan Karayev.

This was a complex, precedent-setting case stemming from a default judgment in the Netherlands obtained by Dutch company Chemix under the rare *forum necessitatis* doctrine, bypassing a clause requiring Turkmen jurisdiction. Turkmenistan was unaware of the judgment until Chemix sought to enforce it in Germany by seizing agricultural equipment – an effort we immediately blocked.

We then reopened the Dutch judgment and appealed after the lower court refused to hear our defenses. A key issue was the validity of the contract under Turkmen law, which Chemix tried to justify using suspect “comfort letters” from BNP Paribas. Suspecting forgery, we filed a 1782 action in New York, prompting BNP to confirm the letters were fake and Chemix was never its client. This crucial evidence, the “BBL,” led the Amsterdam Court of Appeal to invalidate the contract and overturn both the original and subsequent Dutch rulings.

Thanks to the team’s perseverance and strategy, Turkmenistan avoided an unjust €31 million liability on a contract that never legally existed.

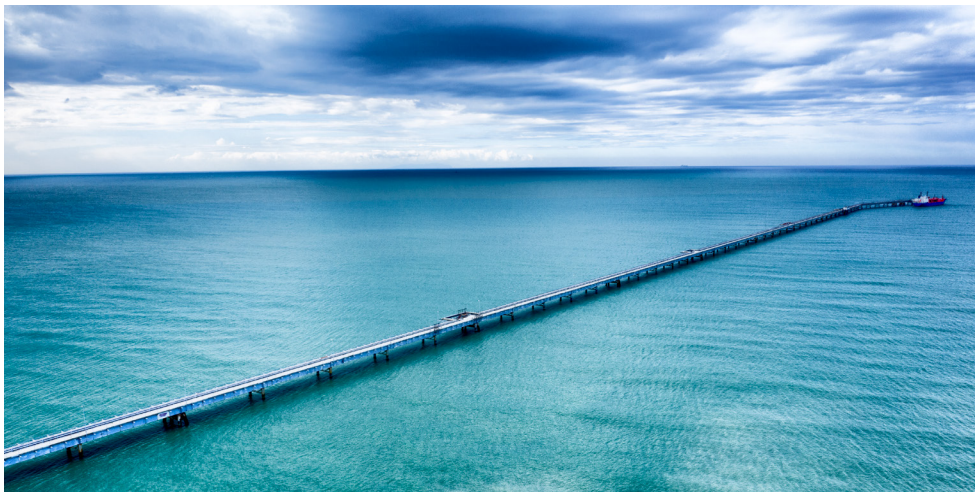


## ● Victory for Latvia in an Energy Charter Treaty arbitration

We secured a victory for our long-standing client, the Republic of Latvia, in an Energy Charter Treaty (ECT) arbitration brought by Swiss company RSE Holdings AG. The case, administered under UN Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) Rules at the Permanent Court of Arbitration, concerned regulatory changes to Latvia's electricity cogeneration tariffs.

The tribunal upheld Latvia's denial of benefits defense under Article 17(1) of the ECT, dismissed all of RSE's claims as inadmissible and awarded Latvia full legal costs. Significantly, the tribunal ruled that the denial of benefits clause applies retrospectively – a notable departure from prior ECT decisions. The award sets an important precedent for future denial of benefits defenses, and adds to the debate on double-hatting in investment arbitration. The client is extremely pleased with the early dismissal of all claims.

The team included [José Feris](#), [Dr. Eveli Lume](#), [Rostislav Pekař](#) and [Mailis Meier-Lutterodt](#).



## ● Victory for Libyan National Oil Corporation

Our Paris team has secured a full victory for the Libyan National Oil Corporation (NOC). The team representing Libya/NOC included [Carole Sportes](#), [Laure Perrin](#), [Amina Ben Ayed](#) and [Sara Love](#). The case was an *ad hoc* arbitration governed by the Arbitration Act 1996, initiated by Nour Marine, a Libyan company (Nour or Claimant). The Claimant owned an oil tanker operating in Libya (Vessel). From March 2013 to October 2014, NOC had successfully chartered the Vessel to supply fuel to other vessels in Libyan ports under a series of time charter parties entered into with Nour. The dispute arose from the seizure by armed militias, and the later destruction of the Vessel during the 2014 conflicts that took place in Benghazi and whether NOC, as charterer, had any liability in this respect, in particular as to its safe port obligations.

On October 10, 2014, NOC ordered the Vessel to sail to Marsa El Brega Port to load fuel and then return to the Port of Benghazi. On October 30, 2014, an armed militia group took control of the Port of Benghazi's dock area and boarded the Vessel, ordering the Vessel not to leave the port. The following day, the crew were forced to leave the Vessel, and the militias closed the port, where the Vessel remained moribund for the next three years. Thereafter, while it remained at the port and outside the control of either party, the Vessel sustained extensive damage from attacks arising in the ongoing Libyan civil war.

In the arbitration, the parties have asserted opposing positions as to whether the Port of Benghazi qualified as a safe port, particularly during October 2014, as well as other related claims.

The tribunal considered that none of the events highlighted by the claimant affected the smooth running of the port. The tribunal found that on and until October 10, 2014, when the Vessel was ordered to sail, the port was not unsafe from a reasonable shipowner or charterer's perspective. In addition, the tribunal considered that the port did not become unsafe, and that NOC should not have ordered the Vessel to leave the port. The tribunal, therefore, rejected all of the claimant's claims. Finally, the tribunal held that all of NOC's costs for resisting the application shall be paid to our client by Nour, subject to small deductions.

## ● Singapore team secures significant arbitration victory for Kleros Capital

A team led by [Barry Stimpson](#) has secured a significant victory for investment company Kleros Capital Partners Limited in an arbitration against Tata Power, with a tribunal ordering Tata to pay US\$490.32 million in damages, as well as interest and legal costs under Singapore International Arbitration Centre (SIAC) rules. [Henry Spence](#) also advised on the case.

Read the full [press release](#).

## ● Stephen Anway to join board of trustees of Foundation for International Arbitration Advocacy

Congratulations to [Stephen Anway](#), who will become a member of the board of trustees of the Foundation for International Arbitration Advocacy (FIAA). FIAA's main purposes are to provide specialized training in advocacy skills and techniques for international arbitration, and to provide a useful forum for arbitrators, counsel and academics to analyze and develop advocacy and dispute resolution skills and techniques for international arbitration.

Stephen will join a prestigious group of leading arbitration practitioners representing jurisdictions worldwide and major arbitral institutions to help accomplish these goals.

## ● New faces announced in International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID) tribunal appointments

The latest round of tribunals formed at the ICSID included first-time appointments for [Sabrina Aïnouz](#). We are proud to see another lawyer from our firm joining this esteemed institution and look forward to the impactful work that will come from Sabrina's appointment.

[Read more about who is sitting at ICSID](#) (subscription required).



## ● Lexology Index/GAR 2026

Lexology (formerly known as *Who's Who Legal*) and the *Global Arbitration Review* have recognized 18 of our lawyers in Lexology Index: Arbitration 2026. These lawyers are highlighted for their industry-leading experience in international arbitration (listed in the order in which they appear, based on geography):

[Stephen Anway](#) (New York and Washington DC)

[George von Mehren](#) (London, Cleveland and Astana)

[Sabrina Aïnouz](#) (Paris)

[Michelle Glassman Bock](#) (Brussels and London)

[Naomi Briercliffe](#) (London)

[Rodman Bundy](#) (Singapore)

[José Feris](#) (Paris)

[Karolina Latasz](#) (London)

[Jérôme Lehucher](#) (Paris and Astana)

[Dr. Eveli Lume](#) (Berlin)

[Raúl Mañón](#) (Miami)

[Rostislav Pekař](#) (Prague)

[Mária Poláková](#) (Prague)

[Matej Pustay](#) (Prague and Bratislava)

[Maximilian Rockall](#) (London)

[Marija Šćekić](#) (London)

[Thomas Wilson](#) (Abu Dabi, Dubai and Beirut)

In addition, Lexology Index recently recognized [Michelle Glassman Bock](#) as one of the world's leading practitioners in the energy industry in its Lexology Index: Energy 2025 report.

Read the full report on the [Lexology website](#). Michelle was also recognized as one of the world's leading practitioners in the [Lexology Index: Client Choice 2026 report](#).



# ● Legal 500

## United States

*Legal 500 United States* ranked our area in its most recent guide. It has also recognized [Stephen Anway](#) as a leading lawyer and [Carlos Guzmán Plascencia](#) as a leading associate.

Read our [press release](#).



## EMEA

We are delighted to share that the newly released *Legal 500 EMEA 2026* has ranked our IDR team across several jurisdictions.

### Group recognitions

- **Czech Republic** – Dispute Resolution – Tier 2
- **France** – Dispute Resolution – International Arbitration – Tier 2
- **Poland** – Dispute Resolution – Tier 5
- **Slovakia** – Dispute Resolution – Tier 2
- **Spain** – Dispute Resolution – Tier 5
- **United Arab Emirates** – Construction (including Disputes) – Tier 2, and Dispute Resolution – Arbitration and International Litigation – Tier 4

### Individual recognitions

#### Dispute Resolution

- [Eva Dragúňová](#) (Slovakia)
- [Rostislav Pekař](#) (Czech Republic)
- [Vladimír Polách](#) (Czech Republic)
- [Mária Poláková](#) (Czech Republic)
- [Tatiana Prokopová](#) (Slovakia)
- [Matej Pustay](#) (Czech Republic)

#### Dispute Resolution: International Arbitration

- [José Feris](#) (France)

#### Real Estate and Construction

- [Tatiana Prokopová](#) (Slovakia)
- [Lenka Landro \(née Vagundová\)](#) (Slovakia)

Read our [press release](#).

## UK

### Commercial Arbitration

*Legal 500 UK* has ranked our UK IDR Practice for Commercial Arbitration, stating:

“Squire Patton Boggs’ London practice comprises commodities and energy sector dispute experts (including upstream oil and gas conflicts). London and Cleveland-based [George von Mehren](#) and [Maximilian Rockall](#) are energy industry specialists; and [Peter Crossley](#) acts in disputes before a range of arbitral bodies. The practice further includes [Naomi Briercliffe](#), whose experience includes energy, mining, infrastructure, aviation, Technology, Media and Telecom (TMT) and private equity mandates; ‘model international arbitration lawyer’, [Michael Davar](#); and [Tim Flamank](#), who acts in both commercial and investment treaty disputes. [Miles Robinson](#), noted for his expertise in product liability matters, recently joined the firm.”

**Next Generation Partners** – [Naomi Briercliffe](#) and [Michael Davar](#)

**Practice head** – [George von Mehren](#), [Maximilian Rockall](#) and [Peter Crossley](#)

**Other key lawyers** – [Tim Flamank](#), [Michelle Glassman Bock](#), [Christopher Swart](#), [Katie Pritchard](#), [Bahar Charyyeva](#), [Marija Šćekić](#), [John Rollason](#) and [Miles Robinson](#)

### Public International Law (PIL)

*Legal 500 UK* also ranked our UK PIL practice for the first time, stating:

“The ‘incredibly responsive and transparent’ team at Squire Patton Boggs has a busy practice advising on investment treaty arbitrations, sovereign immunity issues and the enforcement of awards. [George von Mehren](#), London, Cleveland and Astana) co-chairs the firm’s global international dispute resolution group, while [Maximilian Rockall](#) and [Peter Crossley](#) co-head the London IDR offering. The ‘excellent’ [Naomi Briercliffe](#) focuses her practice on investor-state arbitration and general PIL issues, advising international organizations and sovereign states on International Court of Justice (ICJ) advisory opinions, the Law of the Sea issues and space law matters.”

**Next Generation Partner** – [Naomi Briercliffe](#)

**Practice head** – [George von Mehren](#), [Maximilian Rockall](#) and [Peter Crossley](#)

**Other key lawyers** – [Tim Flamank](#)

# ● Chambers

## Global

In the recently released *Chambers Global 2026*, our IDR team has been recommended for its specialist expertise across several locations.

Individual recognitions include:

### Arbitration (International)

[José Feris](#) (France, Latin America – International Counsel)

[Raul Mañón](#) (USA, Latin America – International Counsel)

### Arbitrators

[Eligiusz Krześniak](#) (Poland)

### Construction: Dispute Resolution

[Ravinder Bhullar](#) (United Arab Emirates)

[Thomas Wilson](#) (United Arab Emirates)

### Dispute Resolution: Arbitration

[Rodman Bundy](#) (Singapore)

[Michelle Glassman Bock](#) (Belgium)

### Dispute Resolution: Arbitration Counsel

[Rostislav Pekař](#) (Czech Republic, Star Individuals)

### International Arbitration

[Naomi Briercliffe](#) (UK)

[José Feris](#) (France)

[Maximilian Rockall](#) (UK, Up and Coming)

### International Arbitration: Counsel

[Stephen Anway](#) (US)

[Douglas Pilawa](#) (US, Associates to Watch)

### Public International Law: Global Market Leaders

[Rodman Bundy](#) (Singapore)

Read our [press release](#).

## Latin America

Our Latin American international arbitration practice has been recognized for the second consecutive year in *Chambers Latin America 2026* for International Arbitration – International Counsel. [Raúl Mañón](#), [José Feris](#) and [Carolina O. Soto Hernández](#) have been individually ranked.

View our [press release](#).

## UK

*Chambers UK* recognized the firm for Commercial Arbitration stating:

“Squire Patton Boggs is recognized for its work in the energy and liquified natural gas (LNG) space. The firm undertakes significant international arbitration, often arising from gas price review disputes. The team is also well-versed in representing high net worth individuals in proceedings across a range of arbitral seats. The firm has a notable presence in the Middle East and Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) regions.”

Up and Coming – [Maximilian Rockall](#)

Band 5 (Commercial Arbitration) and Band 3 (Public International Law) – [Naomi Briercliffe](#)

The firm was also shortlisted for *Chambers UK's* International Arbitration team of the year.



## Best Lawyers in America 2026

[George von Mehren](#), [Raúl Mañón](#), [Stephen Anway](#) and [Jonathan Taunton](#) were recognized in *The Best Lawyers in America 2026*. Additionally, [Douglas Pilawa](#) and [Isabel Manfredonia](#) were recognized in *Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch*.

## Latinvex Top 100 Lawyers

*Latinvex* has recognized [Raúl Mañón](#) as one of Latin America's Top 100 Lawyers for Arbitration & Litigation. This ranking recognizes leading lawyers from international law firms that are involved in the legal business across Latin America. The criteria used was a combination of factors, including recent track record on major deals and business, prominence of the firm in Latin America and rankings by third parties such as *Chambers and Partners* and *Legal 500*.

View the full list on the [Latinvex website](#).

## Lawdragon 500 Leading Global Litigators 2025

*Lawdragon* recognized six of our lawyers in its prestigious 500 Leading Global Litigators list:

[Stephen Anway](#) (New York and Washington DC)

[George von Mehren](#) (London, Cleveland and Astana)

[José Feris](#) (Paris)

[Raúl Mañón](#) (Miami)

[Rostislav Pekař](#) (Prague)

[Thomas Wilson](#) (Abu Dhabi, Dubai and Beirut)

View the full list on the [Lawdragon website](#).



## UK Attorney General Panel of Public International Law Counsel

Congratulations to [Naomi Briercliffe](#) on her appointment to the UK Attorney General's Panel of Public International Law Counsel to the Crown. Naomi has been appointed to B Panel, which is reserved for senior advocates addressing substantial cases, for a period of five years, beginning in January 2026. All departments of the UK government rely on this panel for advice and representation on public international matters.



## London Court of International Arbitration appointment

The London Court of International Arbitration selected [Karolina Latasz](#) as a new regional representative for its Young International Arbitration Group for Europe. Congratulations on this esteemed accomplishment!



## Future Shapers: Next-Gen Leadership Stories podcast

[Michelle Glassman Bock](#) was featured on episode 5 of BRG's Future Shapers: Next-Gen Leadership Stories podcast.

The podcast focuses on the experiences and insights of emerging leaders by delving into what has changed their perspective on leadership. Having grown up in the US and moved to Germany and now Belgium, Michelle discusses navigating the complexities of working in different countries.

Listen to the full episode on the [BRG website](#).

## Stephen Anway Reappointed to ICSID Panel of Arbitrators

Partner and global co-chair of the firm's International Dispute Resolution Practice Group [Stephen Anway](#) has been redesignated by the Slovak Republic to the Panel of Arbitrators of the International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID) for a term of six years. He was first designated to serve on the Panel of Arbitrators in December 2019, and he has also served on the Panel of Conciliators.

Read the [full press release](#).

## ICC Miami Conference

We were proud to sponsor the 23rd edition of the ICC Miami Conference on International Arbitration in December. Recognized as the leading event on arbitration and alternative dispute resolution (ADR) for Latin America, the conference delivered invaluable insights, featuring expert speakers and engaging discussions on the latest trends and developments in the field within the Latin American context. Our team members hosted a brunch for clients, colleagues and friends of the firm.

## Article authored by Italy team members featured in Daily Jus

[Letizia Ceccarelli](#) and Hoda Ghassabian co-authored an article titled, "The Art of Enforcement: How Italian Courts Support Arbitration," which was published in *Daily Jus*.

Read the full article on the *Daily Jus* [website](#).

## GAR Live: Women in Arbitration

We sponsored the 6th edition of GAR Live: Women in Arbitration. [Marija Ščekić](#) participated on a panel entitled "Politics and International Arbitration – How Immune is International Arbitration From Unwanted Attention." The panel discussed investor-state dispute settlement (ISDS) as a form of "lawfare," the effect of sanctions and *ad hominem* attacks on arbitrator availability, authenticity and the pro-environmental rebound. Several additional members of our team attended the conference, as well.

# Contacts



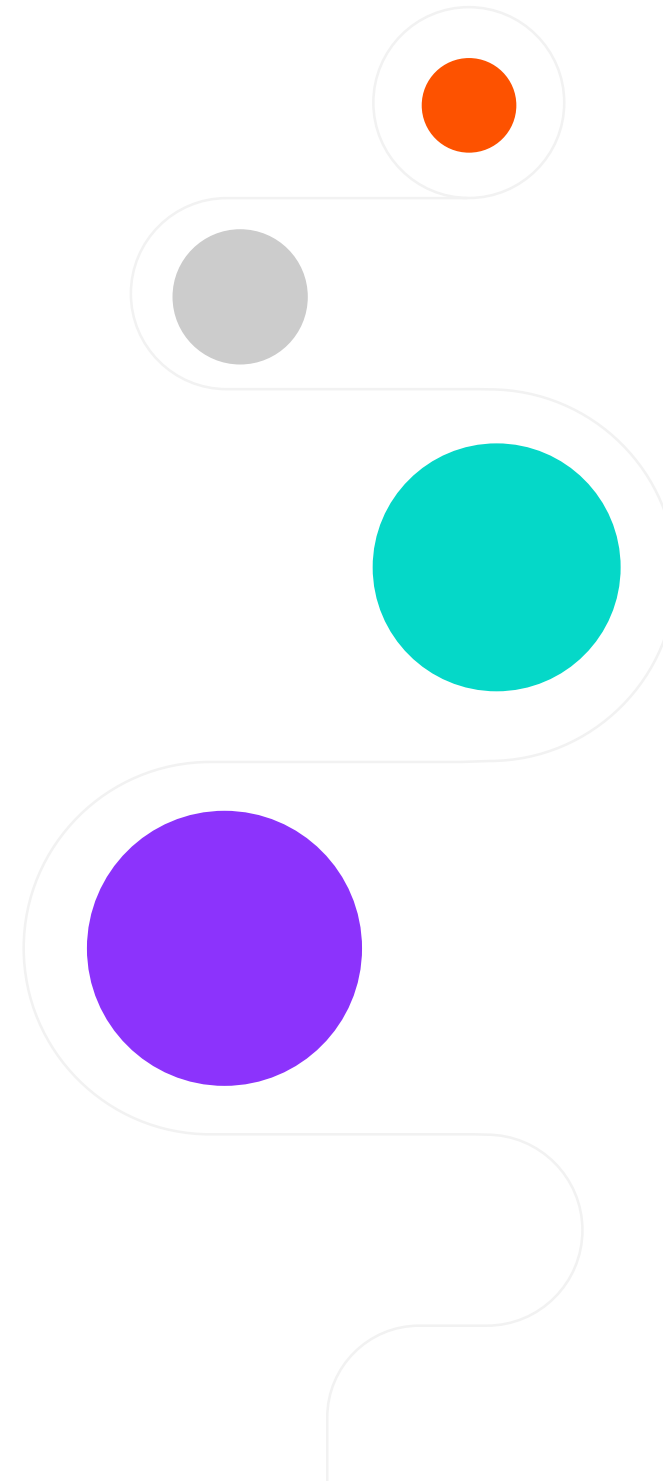
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