

**Piraye Erdem**

Founder and Managing Partner

Department: Litigation, Arbitration

Languages: Turkish, English, French

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Biography

Piraye Erdem is the Founder and Managing Partner of Erdem & Erdem Law Office and leads Dispute Resolution Department. She has vast experience and an outstanding reputation in the field of dispute resolution, including arbitration. She represented many local and foreign clients in their commercial and administrative lawsuits and arbitration proceedings. She has almost 40 years of experience in the resolution of commercial disputes that involved M&A, agency and distribution contracts, construction agreements, service, equipment, hardware and software sale, supply, and installation agreements.

She specializes in advising clients on international commercial contracts, arbitration, recognition and enforcement of arbitral awards and foreign court judgments, law of obligations, labor law, foreign investments and mergers and acquisitions.

As Managing Partner, Piraye Erdem coordinates client relations and firm's practice among the practice groups. She supervises the daily operations of administrative departments and chairs firm's executive committees. Her job plays a crucial role in making sure the company complies with ethical and professional standards and in ensuring that firm rules and procedures are followed.

Practice Areas

- Litigation
- Arbitration
- Execution and Bankruptcy
- Administrative Law
- Labor Law
- Personal Injury
- Corporate Advisory
- International Commercial Contracts

Industries

- Heavy Industry
- Port
- Energy
- Financial Services
- Real Estate
- Information Technologies
- Insurance
- Mining
- Automotive
- Retail
- Health
- Construction and Infrastructure
- Sport
- Agribusiness and Food
- Technology and Media
- Telecommunication
- Tourism
- Transportation and Logistics

Representative Matters

Litigation

- Representing the group of companies, which operates in various fields such as port management, energy, mining and also owns a football team, in disputes arising from contracts, in all areas of commercial law, in disputes arising from corporate law and in administrative lawsuits regarding environmental impact assessment reports, zoning plans and other administrative disputes regarding ports and expropriation proceedings
- Representing a port operation company's Luxembourg based subsidiary in various commercial litigation concerning shareholding status and representation
- Representing a port operation company's Luxembourg based subsidiary in enforcement of an ICC award with an amount of USD 70,000,000
- Counselling claimants in the potential ICSID arbitration regarding an unlawful expropriation case
- Representing respondent in mediation and litigation proceedings regarding intellectual property rights infringement claim
- Representing claimant in a recognition and enforcement of a foreign court decision with a total amount more than USD 40,000,000
- Representation of a sovereign wealth fund in enforcement proceedings and litigation arising from the unlawful attachment of its shares in a Turkish Bank pursuant to an ICSID award of USD 40,000,000
- Representation of a company providing a worldwide online platform service in the road transportation sector in lawsuits in Turkish Courts for damages and labor law claims arising from the cessation of operation of its application, with a total value of approximately USD 25,000,000

- Representation one of the biggest fuel seller of Turkey in a case before the Swiss Chambers' Arbitration Institution regarding a dispute arising out of a share transfer agreement between two oil companies (the amount in dispute is very high and confidential)
- Representing a company operating in geothermal energy industry as the respondent/counter-claimant in arbitration proceedings for collection of agreement price and compensation for defects and late delivery before ICC
- Representing a Russian company operating in industrial production business and investment in negotiations with respect to a possible dispute with amount of 4 million USD to be resolved at arbitration under the ICC Rules
- Representing a company operating in defense industry as respondent/counter-claimant in arbitration proceedings before ICC
- Representing a South Korean prominent electronics manufacturer company as defendant in a lawsuit before Turkish Courts filed by a leading Turkish electronics manufacturer against eight global companies for compensation of damages arising from competition law violation allegations, advising the client's counsels in the lawsuit before Dutch courts filed with the same claims
- Representing a leading Turkish glass manufacturing company, which is also world's third largest manufacturer, in various disputes such as lawsuits for compensation of damages based on an agreement for sea transportation, labor law related compensation claims brought by a former senior employee, and commercial arbitration before ICC
- Representing a leading private bank in disputes arising from criminal law, competition law and law of obligations including in disputes before administrative court for the annulment of the Turkish Competition Board's decision stating that twelve banks, including our client, formed a cartel; and counselling the bank regarding daily issues and any kind of disputes arising from various subjects
- Following bankruptcy and litigation proceedings, representing client in a dispute arising from debtor's objection to bankruptcy request stemming from client's receivables
- Representation of a Russian construction company in several lawsuits and bankruptcy proceedings against a Turkish company claiming compensation for uncompleted construction in Libya (Amount is very high and confidential)
- Representing a Belgian insurance company for collection of receivables from a Turkish company
- Representing a Swiss chemical producer company in commercial matters
- Representing a Swiss supply chain provider company operating worldwide in disputes for collection of receivables against a Turkish company

- Representing a leading Turkish port operator in various disputes arising from commercial matters
- Representing a Romanian construction company in disputes for compensation of unpaid letter of guarantee against a construction company and one of the biggest banks of Turkey
- Representing an axial flow fans manufacturer company as the defendant in lawsuit with respect to the demurrage claims occurring at the customs by the carrier
- Representing the client with regards to the Hub&Spoke cartel allegations and following a lawsuit regarding the annulment of the administrative fine which was imposed by the Turkish Competition Authority
- Representing the biggest energy companies in Turkey in two arbitration cases where the disputes are in relation to the breach of energy supply contracts
- Representing an airport operation company as respondent in two arbitration proceedings before the ICC and Istanbul Chamber of Commerce with respect to disputes arising from operation of leased property at a Turkish airport
- Representing a construction company as the claimant and creditor in lawsuits and execution proceedings for collection of its receivables
- Representing a port operator before the administrative courts as an intervening party in two administrative lawsuits filed against the Ministry of Commerce for the cancellation of the temporary storage permit issued by the Ministry
- Representing an IT Start-up by intervening in an execution proceeding due to a procedural and illegal attachment made against it in an execution proceeding file to which it is not a party, and filing lawsuits arising from the law of execution against the procedural and illegal transactions made in the execution proceeding, as well as following the rationing processes and lawsuits related to the attachment process
- Representing a company working in the medium-density fiberboard industry against the Turkish Competition Authority and following a lawsuit regarding the annulment of the administrative fine based on cartel and concerted practice allegations in the MDF industry
- Representing a fertilizer company against the Turkish Competition Authority and following a lawsuit regarding the annulment of the administrative fine based on hindering and obstructing on-site inspections allegations
- Representation of an international research and data provision company in compensation and labor law cases totaling USD 26,000,000
- Representing a prominent company operating in fertilizer industry in administrative and commercial lawsuits, including legal actions related to unjust and unfair implementation of a communiqué issued by the Turkish Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry regarding tracking of the fertilizers

- Representing a leading payment systems company in disputes before administrative courts for the annulment of the Turkish Competition Board's decision concerning the rejection of the Client's individual exemption application
- Representing a leading Turkish energy supplier in a claim for damages for unjust termination of an electricity sales contract and in arbitration proceedings as a party to the dispute
- Representing a well-known sports club before FIFA, Court of Sports for Arbitration (CAS), Turkish Football Federation, Turkish Basketball Federation and courts and execution offices with regards to the claims initiated by the football players regarding unpaid wages and etc, attending mediation meetings on behalf of the club
- Representing a Dubai-based international real estate development and construction company in various lawsuits and enforcement proceedings for breach of contract in the client's largest residential project in Istanbul, with a total value of approximately USD 2,000,000
- Representing a port operation company in disputes before administrative court for cancellation of communiqués and decisions issued by the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure regarding the pilotage and towage services
- Representing a Belgian insurance company for collection of receivables from a Turkish company
- Representing a Swiss chemical producer company in commercial matters
- Representing a Swiss supply chain provider company operating worldwide in disputes for collection of receivables against a Turkish company
- Representing a Turkish and Greek joint venture in disputes against sub-contractors for compensation of damages
- Representation of a leading American paper manufacturing company in disputes arising out of enforcement proceedings against the company amounting to USD 1.000.000 and various enforcement law disputes.
- Providing consultancy services to an automobile parts manufacturing company on labor law issues, holding compliance meetings and providing training to managers on human resources practices, following up the processes as an intervener in investigation files related to workers
- Representing a group company and its subsidiaries operating in food industry and also producing olive oil, soap and etc. products, in several disputes arising from global commercial affairs, employment issues and several commercial relations
- Representing a leading Turkish construction company in the litigation for *culpa in contrahendo liability*

- Representing Turkey's leading aviation and ground handling services company as defendant in the lawsuits in connection with a shareholders' dispute in a subsidiary
- Representing a Hong Kong based logistics company in an enforcement action of a UK court decision with a total amount of GBP 800,000 and in disputes and execution proceedings for collection of receivables
- Representing one of Turkey's leading paper manufacturing companies in an international dispute involving an international letter of credit dispute, involving damages of approximately €1,000,000
- Representing a tourism company as the claimant in the dispute with respect to the unjust acquisition of the shares owned by the company in a paper production company
- Representing a well-known Italian manufacturer of coffee products in negotiations, mandatory mediation and litigation regarding a dispute in which one of its representatives in Turkey claimed compensation
- Representing a real-person bank owner in Jordan in disputes for collection of his receivables
- Representing an agency and distribution company in disputes for compensation of damages regarding agency compensation, loss of benefits and commission receivables
- Representing a Norwegian citizen in negotiation process related to a real estate dispute arising from non-performance of a sales contract of a high value immovable located in Turkiye/Alanya
- Representing a Croatian steel wire production company in negotiation process related to a dispute arising from non-performance of a sales contract
- Representing a leading Italian machinery company for the collection of claims
- Representation of a leading Italian machinery company in relation to a significant amount of receivables, representation of a leading Italian machinery company in litigation, bankruptcy proceedings and enforcement proceedings for the collection of receivables
- Representing clients of a leading British law firm as local counsel in a series of litigation seeking compensation for material and moral compensation arising from personal injuries occurred in Turkey and providing legal opinion and technical expert reports to the lawsuits in English Courts
- Advising a reputable Canadian coating company in litigation initiated by one of its Turkish customers
- Representing a Swiss petrochemicals company in litigation for the enforcement of an award rendered by the American Arbitral Association (AAA) Commercial Arbitration Tribunal for the amount of approximately USD 1,500,000

- Representing clients of a leading British law firm as local counsel in a series of litigation seeking compensation for personal injury and bodily injury and consumer related claims
- Representing a leading consumer products company in a litigation for the claims of good will compensation and loss of profit due to unjust termination of the distribution contract
- Representing an Australian equity investment and trade company in a litigation for the recognition of arbitration award ruled by ICC Court of Arbitration
- Representing a leading regional export association in the litigation for the annulment of administrative fines imposed by the Turkish Competition Authority
- Representing an American association in the litigation for the return of the expropriated property
- Representing a leading American advanced micro control company in dispute seeking for compensation for the loss and damages due to breach of contract
- Representing a reputable Turkish packaging company in the litigation seeking compensation of the loss and damages for defective products
- Representation of a Turkish shareholder in approximately EUR 1,500,000 worth of litigation arising from a share transfer
- Representing a leading Turkish construction company in the litigation for the enforcement of the decision of Russian tribunals for an amount of TRY 1,250,000
- Representing a German company as shareholder in some leading Turkish machinery companies in a series of litigation for the collection of debts
- Representing a Russian bank in a series of litigation for commercial matters and bankruptcy claims
- Representing a French company in a litigation for the enforcement of an ICC award
- Representing an Italian mining company which holds licenses in Turkey, in litigation matters regarding labor law and other commercial issues, consulting on mining license issues
- Representing a German company in several cases based on labor law and commercial law and also advising on employment issues
- Representing a reputable food company as defendant in a litigation for trademark infringement and unfair competition claiming compensation
- Providing legal opinion to the lawsuits in English Courts regarding personal injuries occurred in Turkey
- Representing real-person shareholders as claimants against a Dutch company in the expedited ICC proceedings
- Representing shareholders and former company officials of a family-owned brick manufacturing company in various disputes arising from commercial and labor law

- Representing a minority shareholder and following several lawsuits with the claim for annulment of the general assembly meeting decisions, appointing the special auditor, and providing the right to information

Arbitration

- Representation of a group company's Luxembourg based subsidiary in enforcement of an ICC award with an amount of USD 70,000,000
- Representation of the one of the biggest fuel seller of Turkey, in a Swiss Arbitration case (disputed amount is very high and confidential)
- Representation of a company in geothermal energy industry in arbitration proceedings before ICC with total claim amount of USD 60,000,000
- Representation of a company operating in defence industry in arbitration proceedings before ICC with total claim amount of USD 1,500,000
- Representation of the clients in the expedited ICC proceedings with an amount of EUR 800,000
- Representation of an Australian equity investment and trade company in a litigation for enforcement of the arbitral award ruled by ICC Court of Arbitration for the amount of USD 800,000
- Representation of a French company in a litigation for the enforcement of an ICC award

Execution and Bankruptcy

- Representation of a sovereign wealth fund in various lawsuits and execution proceedings arising from unlawful attachments of the shares owned by the Client in a Turkish Bank on the basis of an ICSID award with a total amount of USD 40,000,000
- Representation of a construction company in lawsuits and execution proceedings for collection of its receivables with an amount of USD 25,000,000
- Representation of a Russian construction company in a series of litigation and bankruptcy claims for project related undertakings (amount confidential)
- Representation of a well-known sports club before FIFA, Turkish Football Federation and courts and execution offices
- Representation of a prominent Dubai based international real estate development and construction company in a series of lawsuits and execution proceedings with a claim of TRY 11,300,000 (appr. EUR 1,470,000)
- Representation of a Hong Kong based logistics company in enforcement of a UK court decision with amount of GBP 800,000
- Representation of a Russian bank in a series of litigation for commercial matters and bankruptcy claims (amount confidential)

Administrative Law

- Representation of a group company and its subsidiaries active in the energy sector in various commercial and administrative litigation concerning environmental impact assessment reports, zoning plans and other administrative disputes for ports and expropriation proceedings
- Representation of a prominent company operating in fertilizer industry in administrative and commercial lawsuits with total amount of 4 million USD
- Representation of a leading payment systems company in the administrative lawsuit with respect to the request for annulment of the Turkish Competition Board's decision concerning the rejection of the Client's individual exemption application
- Representation of a leading regional export association in the litigation for the annulment of administrative fines of approximately 1 million Turkish Liras imposed by the Turkish Competition Authority
- Representation of an airport operation company in two arbitration proceedings before the ICC and Istanbul Chamber of Commerce with respect to disputes arising from operation of leased property at a Turkish airport with total amount of EUR 8,000,000
- Representation of the client operating in industrial production business in negotiations with in relation to a possible dispute with amount of 4 million USD to be resolved at arbitration under the ICC Rules
- Representation of a Swiss petrochemicals company in litigation for the enforcement of an award rendered by the American Arbitral Association (AAA) Commercial Arbitration Tribunal for the amount of approximately USD 1,500,000

Labor Law

- Counselling a car parts production company in labor law matters, compliance meetings and providing trainings for executives related to human resources practices
- Representation of a group and its subsidiaries, which are activating in food sector and also producing olive oil, soap and etc. products, in several litigation matters arising from global commercial affairs, employment issues and several commercial relations
- Representation of a German company in several cases based on labor law and commercial law, and also consulted on employment issues

Mediation

- Representation of a well-known coffee products seller company in negotiation and mandatory mediation process related to a dispute based on compensation requests of one of its distributors

Personal Injury

- Representation of the clients of a leading British law firm as local counsel in series of litigation seeking compensation for personal injury and bodily injury and consumer related claims.

Education

- Dokuz Eylul University, Faculty of Law
- İzmir American College

Memberships

- Istanbul Bar Association
- International Bar Association
- Independent Member of the Board of Directors of Garanti Investment Trust Inc.
- Board of Trustees of the Health and Education Foundation
- Chairperson of the Board of the Health and Education Foundation
- İzmir American Collegiate Institute Alumni

Recommendations

- *“Piraye Erdem handles commercial and administrative disputes and arbitration proceedings” – Legal 500*
- The Legal director of a group company says:
“Piraye Erdem was highly knowledgeable, responsive and focused on our needs” – GAR 100

Publications

Newsletter Articles

- Decision of the Court of Cassation General Assembly of Civil Chambers on Choice of Law in Employment Contracts with a Foreign Element, Erdem & Erdem Newsletter, November 2024
- Decision of the Court of Cassation General Assembly of Civil Chambers Regarding the Role of Company Employees in the Assumption of Debt, Erdem & Erdem Newsletter, November 2023
- The Requirement to Obtain Defense Statement in the Termination of the Employment Contract for Just Cause by the Employer for Health Reasons, Erdem & Erdem Newsletter, May 2023
- The Recent Constitutional Court Decision Regarding an Employer's Right to Supervise and Audit an Employee's Communication, Erdem & Erdem Newsletter, November 2022
- A Recent Decision of the Court of Cassation General Assembly of Civil Chambers on the Conditions of Unquantified Debt Lawsuits, Erdem & Erdem Newsletter, November 2021

- The Unification of Judgments Decision of the Court of Cassation on Notification Law, Erdem & Erdem Newsletter, May 2021
- The Decision of the Court of Cassation of the Unification of Judgments holding that the Maturity Date on Time-Barred Bond Cannot Be Used as the Basis of Default, Erdem & Erdem Newsletter, November 2020
- An Important Decision of the Court of Cassation on Mandatory Mediation in Commercial Disputes, Erdem & Erdem Newsletter, May 2020
- The Review of the Decision of the Court of Cassation as a Result of the Appeal for the Sake of Law, Erdem & Erdem Newsletter, December 2019
- General Principles of Indemnity Claims for Personal Injury, Erdem & Erdem Newsletter, April 2019
- Decision of the General Assembly Regarding Arbitral Awards Subject to Action to Set Aside, Erdem & Erdem Newsletter, September 2018
- Decision of the Court of Cassation General Assembly on the Unification of Judgments holding that an Amendment cannot be filed after Reversal of the Verdict, Erdem & Erdem Newsletter, May 2018
- The Court of Cassation Decision of the Unification of Judgments holding that Receivables based on a Verdict may not be put into Enforcement Proceedings without a Verdict, Erdem & Erdem Newsletter, December 2017
- Operation of Economic Enterprises by Foundations, Erdem & Erdem Newsletter, November 2017