

Michael Mendelowitz is Head of Legal and Compliance at the UK branch of ERGO Versicherung AG (part of the Munich Re Group). Qualified as a barrister in both South Africa and England and subsequently as an English solicitor, he was, prior to taking up his current role, a partner in two international law firms: Barlow Lyde & Gilbert (BLG) from 1990 to 2007 and Norton Rose Fulbright from 2007 to 2014.

Michael's insurance and reinsurance experience covers a wide spectrum of classes of business, including international casualty and property catastrophe, marine, aerospace, professional indemnity and products liability. While in private practice, he was highly regarded for managing disputes over contract interpretation or materiality of underwriting information, allocation and aggregation of losses, long tail liability issues (including asbestos-related and environmental claims) and insurer insolvency. He was also regularly involved in corporate and other non-contentious work, such as advising on contract wordings for complex or structured reinsurance and alternative risk transfer transactions.

Michael led the BLG team which, following the terrorist attacks in the USA on 11th September 2001, advised and represented the company that was appointed to underwrite and manage the UK government-backed scheme for insurance and reinsurance of aviation war and terrorism liability risks.

He has been appointed as an arbitrator on some dozen occasions to arbitral tribunals hearing London market and international insurance or reinsurance disputes.

Michael was for 13 years the principal co-author and editor of *Reinsurance Practice and the Law*, a major loose-leaf textbook written by members of BLG's Reinsurance and International Risk team and published in loose-leaf format and on-line by Informa. He has contributed chapters to Tolley's *Insurance Handbook*, the second edition (2010) of *Professional Indemnity Insurance* (Insurance Institute of London - Research Study Group 228A), *Insurance Disputes* (Informa/LLP) – the third edition of which appeared in 2011, and is the co-author (with Professor Robert Merkin) of a chapter on reinsurance for the *Research Handbook on International Insurance Law & Regulation* (Edward Elgar Publishing, 2011). He has also written numerous articles for legal and trade journals and is a frequent speaker at conferences in the UK and overseas on topics such as arbitration and alternative dispute resolution, allocation of claims, "follow the settlements", insurance insolvency and liability for pollution and toxic torts.

Michael served as the Chairman of the British Insurance Law Association (BILA), the UK national section of AIDA, from 2014 to 2016. From 1990 to 2007, he was Assistant Secretary-General of AIDA and is now an honorary life member of the Association. He is also a member of the City of London Law Society Insurance Law Sub-Committee and the Chartered Insurance Institute.