



Rosli Dahlan

A gifted lawyer, brilliant at assessing complex situations and finding business-oriented solutions.

Guided by his passion for the law, Rosli is a game-changer who exudes a strong presence in court. Conversant in both civil and shariah law, he is much sought after for his in-depth knowledge of conflict of laws. His wide network of regional and international contacts has enabled him to resolve contentious cross-border issues in the Asian region and internationally, including successfully securing the release of Malaysians detained in neighboring countries. He is highly regarded by Middle Eastern clients and counterparts.

With more than 30 years of experience in civil and commercial disputes, Rosli has a pre-eminent reputation in the resolution of the most complex, high value and high-profile disputes for every type of client, locally and internationally. Renowned in public, administrative and constitutional law matters, Rosli has won landmark cases that made inroads against the abuses by public authorities and government agencies in land acquisition, human rights, illegal deportations, fundamental liberties and prosecutorial misfeasance.

Rosli has appeared in several high-profile judicial review cases including against the Registrar of Societies for dissolving a political party from contesting in the general election; against various state governments for wrongful acquisition of private land; against the Inland Revenue Board for abuses in seizing private assets under the Anti-Money Laundering, Anti-Terrorism Financing and Proceeds of Unlawful Activities Act 2001. He acted against the Speaker of Parliament for tabling laws contrary to the Federal Constitution in Parliament.

Pragmatic Rosli has received numerous plaudits being described by clients as - “his biggest asset is his sincerity in making each case a learning experience and showing us what we need to do better to avoid similar disputes in future. His approach to inhouse counsel is both easy and unthreatening, making the “meticulous” expert a popular choice”; “... exudes a strong presence in court and in negotiations, and commands the respect of his adversaries”; “... goes out of his way to highlight risks and pitfalls without fear or favor”; “He is always ready to share and pass on his experience and knowledge, as well as helping us to build up our in-house legal expertise”. He also possesses “excellent business acumen”.

Within one year of establishing RDS, he is ranked as a Leading Individual for Dispute Resolution by Legal 500 Asia Pacific 2021, Malaysia Top 100 Lawyers 2021 by Asia Business Law Journal, Asia Super 50 Disputes Lawyers 2021 by Asia Legal Business, and by Chambers Asia Pacific 2021 for Dispute Resolution. Benchmark Litigation 2021 ranks him as a Litigation Star. Rosli is frequently in the news for the landmark and high-profile cases that he handled.

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Qualifications

- LLB (Hons) International Islamic University
- Advocate & Solicitor of the High Court of Malaya
- Peguam Syarie, Syariah Court of the Federal Territories

Practice Areas

- Appellate Counsel Work
- Commercial Fraud
- Corporate Debt Recovery & Insolvency
- International & Cross Border Disputes
- Civil, Corporate & Commercial Litigation
- Land Disputes & Land Acquisitions

Publications

- Author - Constitutional crisis? Much ado about nothing! (Malay Mail; The Edge CEO Morning Brief, 2021)
- Co-author – The MCO: An Islamic Perspective (Malay Mail, 2020)
- Editor & Contributor – Hishamudin Yunus: Celebrating Judicial Independence (2018)
- Author – Malaysian chapter for The Anti-Bribery and Anti-Corruption Review (The Law Review, 2016; Law BusinessResearch Ltd, 2018)
- Author – “Who is the Malay?” (2015) in Breaking the Silence: Voices of Moderation G25 Malaysia (Marshall Cavendish International (Asia) Private Limited, 2016)
- Author – ‘The Syariah Court: Its Position under the Malaysian Legal System’ in 2015 1 SHR cci
- Contributing Editor – The Malaysian Civil Procedure 2013 (Sweet & Maxwell Asia)
- Co-author – Malaysian chapter for Kluwer Quick Reference Guide to Global Anti-Corruption (Michael Burton, ed)
- Author – Malaysian chapter for AILA’s Global Immigration Guide: A Country-by-Country Survey by American Immigration Lawyers Association (2005)
- Author – Malaysian chapter for International Product Liability Law – A Worldwide Desk Reference (Aspatore Books, 2003)

Awards/Accolades

- Legal 500 Asia Pacific 2021- Leading Individual for DisputeResolution
 - Asia Business Law Journal - Malaysia Top 100 Lawyers2021
 - Asia Legal Business - Asia Super 50 Disputes Lawyers
 - Chambers Asia Pacific 2021 - Dispute Resolution
 - Asialaw 2019 - Leading Lawyer, Dispute Resolution
 - Expert Panel 2018 of The Law Reviews
 - Interlaw - Interlawyer of the Year 2015 which citation read “The award from Interlaw is given to an individual with outstanding qualities as a lawyer who has contributed to the organisation and his community”
 - International Law Office - Client Choice Awards 2011- 2014
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