

Robert C. Helander

Helander is an international lawyer and development executive. He has lived and worked in the Middle East and Latin America. For many years he chaired the Latin America/Emerging Markets departments at leading international law firms (Surrey & Morse, Jones Day and, more recently, Kaye Scholer). Earlier in his career he served as a senior executive at International Basic Economy Corporation (“IBEC”).

He currently is managing partner at InterConsult LLP, where he focuses on issues of corporate governance/restructuring and is involved in international dispute resolution for the New York and London insurance and reinsurance markets and serves as an impartial arbitrator. He is a commercial arbitrator for the American Arbitration Association and the International Centre for the Settlement of Investment Disputes (“ICSID”) of the World Bank and has served as an umpire in matters administered by and under the rules of the International Chamber of Commerce.

He has advised companies in connection with merger and acquisition opportunities and led teams that pioneered access to international capital markets for initial offerors. He has worked in Iran, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Hong Kong, Malaysia and every country in North, Central and South America, with the exception of Canada, Belize, Honduras and Nicaragua. He is currently engaged on matters in Venezuela, Dubai, Belgium and Italy.

Helander served as president of the American Chambers of Commerce in both Iran and Peru and was vice-president of the Association of American Chambers of Commerce in Latin America (“AACLA”). He has long been associated with the Council of the Americas, and is a founding member of the board of its parent organization, the Americas Society, where he has served as secretary, chairman of the audit committee and counsel.

He was an early pioneer in microfinance lending in Latin America, as a founding director of ACCION Comunitaria del Peru and subsequently as a director and president of ACCION International.

He served as chairman of the Americas Fund for Independent Universities and the Fund for Multinational Management Education. He is chairman of the international council of the Escuela Superior de Administracion de Negocios (“ESAN” in Peru) and serves on the boards of the Near East Foundation, The International Center of New York, IESA Foundation (Venezuela), the University of the Andes Foundation (Colombia), the Institute for the Study of the Americas and the Americas Endowment (Organization of American States). In 1971 he was elected to the Council on Foreign Relations.

Helander was admitted to the bars of the District of Columbia, the states of Illinois and New York and several federal courts, including the United States Supreme Court. He has served as the chief delegate of the American Bar Association to the Interamerican Bar Association and is the author of the Latin America chapter in ‘The Lawyers Guide to International Business Transactions’ (ALI-ABA). He is an honors graduate of Amherst College (Phi Beta Kappa, magna cum laude), Harvard Law School (Simpson Fellow) and of the executive management program (PMD) of the Graduate School of Business at Harvard. He is fluent in Spanish and has a reading knowledge of French and Italian.

The government of Peru conferred its highest distinction on him, *El Orden del Sol*.