

# CURRICULUM VITAE

1. **Family name:** Mahmudova
2. **First names:** Alida
3. **Date of birth:** 2 March, 1977
4. **Nationality:** Azerbaijan
5. **Civil status:** Married
6. **Contact info:** Email: [alida.mahmudova@khazar.org](mailto:alida.mahmudova@khazar.org)
7. **Education:**

Institution (Date from - Date to)	Degree(s) or Diploma(s) obtained
Baku State University 1998 – 2000	<b>Master's Degree in International Law</b>
Baku State University 1994 – 1998	<b>Bachelor Degree in International Law</b>

**8. Language skills:** Indicate competence on a scale of 1 to 5 (1 - excellent; 5 - basic)

Language	Reading	Speaking	Writing
English	1	1	1
Azerbaijani	1	1	1
Russian	1	1	1

**9. Membership of professional bodies:**

- Since 2022 - **member of Qualification Commission of Mediation Council, trainer of Academy of Justice for the mediator's basic training**
- Since 2021 July - **Certified Mediator, member of Mediation Council**
- Since 2007 - **Arbitrator** of the Azerbaijan Arbitration Centre
- Since 2008 - **Member** of Young International Arbitration Group (YIAG) of (LCIA) London Court of International Arbitration, UK
- Since 2008 - **Arbitrator** of the International Commercial Arbitration Court at the Ukrainian Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- Since 2012 - **Arbitrator and Mediator** of the Court of Arbitration at the Nowy Tomyśl Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Poland
- Since 2015 - **International Mediator** of the Athens' Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Mediation Centre, Greece
- Since 2002-2006, I was a **Member of Government Commission on WTO multilateral negotiations** (on behalf of **Supreme Economic Court**) and participated at the WTO Working Party (WP) meetings (2003-2004 in Geneva, Switzerland), as well as a Member of the working groups under the WTO Government Commission: on legislation issues; IPRs and services issues

**10. Other skills:**

**11. Computer skills:** Windows Sistemi, Microsoft Office, Word Microsoft, Excel Microsoft, Power Point, Internet Explorer, Corel Draw, Microsoft Outlook.

**12. Present position:** Founder/Director - **Bona Mente Consulting LLC Law Company**

**13. Years within the firm:** 25 years

**14. Key specialisation:** international law; international trade law; commercial/business law; administrative law; transportation law; agrarian law (including food safety issues); ADR (arbitration/mediation); business coaching.

**15. Key qualifications:**

- Over **24 years'** experience as a lawyer and/or legal consultant in private/public sector.
- Over **9 years'** experience as legal consultant in justice sector including **5 years'** as civil servant adviser in judicial bodies on commercial issues.
- Over **17 years'** experience in ADR area (arbitration/mediation).
- Over **15 years'** experience as legal consultant since 2007 at the international donor organizations (EU Delegation, World Bank, IFC, ADB, FAO, USAID) in improving of the national legal framework and institutional reforms with compliance to the WTO and EU requirements:
  - improvement of competitiveness, trade and investments legislation areas (including export/import issues);

- harmonization of Azeri national legislation with **EU and WTO specifications/requirements**;
- improvement of food safety system and conduction of regulatory and institutional reforms;
- conduction of judicial-legal reforms including the improving ADR system (arbitration/mediation), commercial courts system;
- facilitation of trainings programmes for capacity building of Ministerial staff including training of trainers and study tours.
- Extensive experience in developing donor funded projects for the Government of Azerbaijan particularly for the following Ministries: the Ministry of Economy, the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the President Office; the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Agriculture.
- Extensive experience in developing and implementing training programmes as well as their delivery both to the public and private sectors of Azerbaijan Republic for increasing their awareness on commercial/trade law, international food safety standards, WTO requirements and building capacity among the Government of Azerbaijan to ensure approximation of Azerbaijan legislation with international and European legislation and regulation.
- Extensive experience in commenting/drafting/amending the economic/trade legislation.
- Excellent knowledge of food safety sector regulations and standards in Azerbaijan and developed countries.
- As Senior Legal Consultant in “Bona Mente Consulting” LLC since 2008, provide comprehensive legal services and legal trainings for business (SME) in several industrial sectors (agriculture, food industry, textile, chemicals and pharmaceuticals, construction and building materials, energy generation as well as for financial institutes, advertising& tourism sectors, transport/logistics), export/import issues.
- UNEC lecturer on MBA Program - “Business Law”.
- Khazar University lecturer on MBA Program - “Mediation”.

Dates	Location	Company reference person	Position	Description
Since 05/2008 to present	Baku, Azerbaijan	<b>Bona Mente Consulting</b> LLC Law Company (Azerbaijan)  Alida Mahmudova info@bonamente.az	<b>Founder/ Director</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Conduct general management of the company via supervising development of the company strategy and business plans.</li> <li>■ Provide comprehensive legal services for business (including SME) in several industrial sectors (agriculture, food industry, textile, chemicals and pharmaceuticals, construction and building materials, energy generation as well as for financial institutes, advertising &amp; tourism sectors, IT): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Technical assistance and legal advice/consultancy on international trade; commercial law; contract law; corporative law; property rights (real estate);</li> <li>- Consumer rights protection;</li> <li>- Export/import issues;</li> <li>- Food safety regulation and management system;</li> <li>- Economic dispute settlement; (ADR) alternative dispute resolution (including arbitration, facilitation, mediation services);</li> <li>- Business coaching.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
09/2020 07/2022  110 days	Baku, Azerbaijan	<b>COWI (Belgium)</b> <b>European Union (EU)</b>  Marius Bordialba marius.bordialba@gmail.com	<b>Key Expert on Domestic and International Trade Policy implementation</b>	<p><b>Under the EU funded Project Strengthening capacity of the Government of Azerbaijan in the WTO Accession negotiations and other trade related activities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Support establishment and operationalisation of the trade remedy unit within the Ministry of Economy;</li> <li>■ Strengthen the capacity of the Ministry of Economy for better preparation, communication and coordination of WTO matters and other trade related activities;</li> <li>■ Support the Government of Azerbaijan in on-going WTO accession negotiations.</li> </ul>
02/2019- 11/2020  80 days	Baku, Azerbaijan	<b>FAO / Food Safety and Quality Officer / FAOR-AZE</b>  Irina Kireeva irina.kireeva@fao.org	<b>National Consultant on Food Safety and Food Safety Law</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Collect baseline information on the food safety control system, institutional arrangements in Azerbaijan, border control, priorities and key capacity needs of the government</li> <li>■ Collect baseline information on the national programme for Codex and capacity building needs</li> <li>■ Collect the most updated versions of the legislation relevant for food safety, including the latest institutional changes;</li> <li>■ Prepare a report with information on the current status of the food safety legislation with recommendations to revise the Draft Food Safety Law;</li> <li>■ Support the organization of the national workshops on food safety issues.</li> </ul>

03/2018-12/2020  150 days per year	Baku, Azerbaijan	<b>IFC Investment Climate and Agribusiness Competitiveness Project</b>  Lily Begiashvili lbegiashvili@ifc.org	<b>Legal Consultant</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Support in institutional development and strengthening of the Food Safety Agency, including capacity building, improvement of ICT and legislative framework;</li> <li>▪ Support in development of methodology and procedures for risk-based inspections, including checklists, risk-based targeting and planning, guidelines and standard operating procedures, procedures for on-site and off-site inspections; import/export regulation;</li> <li>▪ Conduct trainings for inspectors on international control practices, hazard analysis and critical control points principles and other relevant international standards;</li> <li>▪ Assist to develop procedures for annual plans of control and effective inspection plan;</li> <li>▪ Advise on institutional reform, including consolidation of remits, review of structure, staff numbers and competences.</li> </ul>
03/2018-09/2019  110 days	Baku, Azerbaijan	<b>ADB project Strengthening International Food Safety Standards in Agricultural Value Chains in the Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation Member Countries (CAREC)</b>  GulnaraOtten gulnara.otten@bsigroup.com	<b>National Consultant</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Conduct legal and institutional assessments in the CMCs, obtain necessary information timely and identify informal sources of information;</li> <li>▪ Conduct needs assessment for regulations, strategies and guidelines;</li> <li>▪ Liaise with national technical agencies;</li> <li>▪ Perform national training activities related to food safety;</li> <li>▪ Facilitate the National Food Safety Networks.</li> </ul>
05/2017-05/2019  60 days	Baku, Azerbaijan	Megapesca (Portugal) <b>European Union (EU)</b>  Ian Goulding ian@megapesca.com	<b>Legal/Training Expert</b>	<p>Under the <b>EU funded Project Strengthening the institutional capacity of the Government of Azerbaijan for official control of food and feed safety</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Legal drafting, assessment of the legislation and institutional reforms, legal consulting, trainings.</li> <li>▪ Advised the Government of Azerbaijan on the preparation of legal framework.</li> <li>▪ Facilitation of national dialogue regarding the formulation of a national food safety strategy and action plan.</li> <li>▪ Capacity building and awareness raising in the area of food safety.</li> </ul>
02/2015-02/2018  400 days	Baku, Azerbaijan	Ministry of Justice <b>World Bank (WB)</b>  Ramin Qurbanov raminqurbanov@gmail.com	<b>Legal Advisor</b> of the National Coordinator	<p>Under the <b>World Bank funded Judicial Services and Smart Infrastructure Project (JSSIP)</b>, activities implemented included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Supported the MoJ in developing and implementing measures to expand access to justice and improving judicial services.</li> <li>▪ Interpreted current and new national legislation, including technical guidance on laws, rules, Presidential decrees, Cabinet of Ministers resolutions and other normative acts.</li> <li>▪ Legal drafting, assessment of the legislation and institutional reforms in justice sector.</li> <li>▪ Provided legal advises on contracts and related legal documentation for the Project Implementation Unit (PIU).</li> <li>▪ Organized and implemented trainings and study tours for judges and judicial staff.</li> <li>▪ Drafted the ToR <b>“On Introducing Mediation and Strengthening Legal Profession”</b></li> </ul>
05/2015-12/2015  60 days	Baku, Azerbaijan	Ministry of Justice <b>World Bank (WB)</b>  Marina Naumovska marina.naumovska@gmail.com	<b>Legal Expert</b>	<p>Under the <b>World Bank funded Judicial Services and Smart Infrastructure Project (JSSIP): “Barriers to Expanding Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR): Needs Analysis, Review of Policy Options and Technical Support for Improving Policy and Institutional Framework and Capacity”</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Supported the MoJ in needs assessment of the ADR system including current legal, policy and institutional framework in Azerbaijan;</li> <li>▪ Supported in identification of the European and other international best practices on application of ADR mechanisms that would be appropriate for Azerbaijan;</li> <li>▪ Supported in developing of the Recommendations Package and Action Plan for improving of the design, administration and implementation of ADR in the country (including administrative/legislative measures; institutional strengthening actions; performance indicators for measuring the efficacy of ADR,</li> </ul>

				technical/advisory/training support requirements with costs and timeline etc.).
05/2014-01/2015  80 days	Baku, Azerbaijan	Ecorys (Poland) <b>European Union (EU)</b>  Elena Diaconu <a href="mailto:elena.diaconu@ecorys.com">elena.diaconu@ecorys.com</a>	<b>Comprehensive Institution Building (CIB) Coordinator</b>	Under the <b>EU funded Project Support to Institution Building in Azerbaijan (SIBA)</b> , activities implemented included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Supported the Programme Administration Office (PAO) in identification and formulation of Twinning and CIB projects.</li> <li>■ Supported the PAO in M&amp;E in Public Institution Building Activities and raising visibility of these activities in Azerbaijan.</li> <li>■ Supported oversight process of the Comprehensive Institution Building/Institution Reform Plans (CIB/IRPs) through developing, organizing and implementing all events (workshops, seminars, conferences and trainings).</li> </ul>
12/2010-09/2013  full time	Baku, Azerbaijan	Sibley International LLC (USA) / <b>USAID</b>  COP - Melani Schultz <a href="mailto:mschultz@internationaldevelopmentgroup.com">mschultz@internationaldevelopmentgroup.com</a>	<b>Legal Expert</b>	Under the <b>USAID funded Azerbaijan Competiveness and Trade Project (ACT)</b> , activities implemented included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Participated in evaluation and assessment of national trade legislation with the aim to align it to EU rules and standards and WTO issues accession requirements.</li> <li>■ Supported the Government of Azerbaijan (GOAJ) in drafting of recommendations on amendments to the national trade legislation.</li> <li>■ Supported in setting up and design of working units under relevant ministries (Ministry of Economy, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Agriculture, State Customs Committee, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Office of the President) on approximation of Azerbaijani national legislation to EU and WTO requirements.</li> <li>■ Developed action plans for facilitation a robust public-private dialogue (PPD).</li> <li>■ Participated in development of action plans for capacity building of Ministries personal including training and training of trainers activities.</li> </ul>
05/2008-09/2010  full time	Baku, Azerbaijan	Chemonics International Inc. (USA) / <b>USAID</b>  COP -William Garrison <a href="mailto:wbgarrison@gmail.com">wbgarrison@gmail.com</a>	<b>Legal and Trade Expert</b>	Under the <b>USAID funded Trade and Investment Reform Support Program in Azerbaijan (TIRSP)</b> , activities performed included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Supported the GOAJ in its efforts to draft and implement key trade legal/regulatory and institutional reforms to <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- bring Azerbaijan's foreign trade regime into full conformity with the WTO requirements particular SPS and TBT agreements;</li> <li>- review and align the national trade legislation of the Azerbaijan Republic to WTO SPS standards;</li> <li>- establish a sound and effective institutional framework for enforcement and administration of EU-related laws.</li> </ul> </li> <li>■ Supported the GOAJ's efforts to develop a maximally transparent and efficient trade/investment project design enabling environment for the development of the non-oil sector through further improving the stability, predictability, and market-friendliness characterizing the investment climate in critical areas; including competition law, international trade, import/export regulations, customs issues, SPS/TBT, IPR, investor protection and corporate governance reforms.</li> <li>■ Actively participated in organization of workshops, seminars, conferences and trainings on trade remedies including SPS/TBT issues.</li> </ul>
12/2015-01/2016  14 days	Baku, Azerbaijan	Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia, REUTD <b>FAO</b>  Eleonora Dupouy <a href="mailto:Eleonora.Dupouy@fao.org">Eleonora.Dupouy@fao.org</a>	<b>National Consultant in Food Safety Control and Inspection</b>	Under the <b>FAO funded REU/ Regional Food Safety Programme</b> , activities performed included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Analyzed key national legislative acts related to food inspections, as well as general organization of official control related to food inspections in private sector and state-owned enterprises/institutions.</li> <li>■ Collected structured information on food safety regulatory and institutional framework, procedures and practices for food inspection.</li> <li>■ Developed criteria on implementation of risk-based inspection.</li> <li>■ Evaluated the overall application of risk analysis framework at national level in food safety system, institutional capacity for food safety risk assessment, risk management, risk communication and institutional setup/architecture as reflected in the national legislation framework and operated in practice. Indicate in conclusions area that would require capacity building.</li> <li>■ Drafted the Report with main conclusions on the regulatory and institutional framework for official food inspections, considering both the entrepreneurship and consumer protection perspectives and recommendations for further raising inspections' efficiency in the country and capacity building needs in relation to the application of risk analysis framework in the operation of the overall national food safety control</li> </ul>

				system.
12/2013-12/2014  20 days	Baku, Azerbaijan	MegaPesca (Portugal) <b>European Union (EU)</b>  Ian Goulding <a href="mailto:ian@megapesca.com">ian@megapesca.com</a>	<b>National Legal Expert</b>	Under the <b>EU funded Project Strengthening the Legislative Base and Institutional Capacity</b> of the Government of Azerbaijan on the Food Safety Control and Certification System for Food Products, main duties included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Drafted the amendments to the normative legal acts.</li> <li>■ Drafted recommendations for the reform of the Food Safety System in Azerbaijan.</li> <li>■ Conducted and moderated at the workshops on regulatory reform and legal framework upgrading.</li> </ul>
11/2010-08/2011  60 days	Baku, Azerbaijan	Centre for European Constitutional Law (Greece) <b>World Bank (WB)</b>  Maria Mousmounti <a href="mailto:centre@cecl.gr">centre@cecl.gr</a>	<b>Legal Expert</b>	Under the <b>World Bank funded Judicial Modernization Project “Technical Assistance to Strengthen Judicial Legal Council”</b> , implemented the following main activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Evaluated donor-funded projects related to judicial system and legal reforms done so far in Azerbaijan.</li> <li>■ Developed recommendations for harmonization of national legislation with EU regulations resulting in reform of legal system.</li> <li>■ Introduction of best EU approach modules and design of the most suitable and applicable module for Azerbaijan aimed at strengthening of institutional capacity of Judicial Legal Council including development of Recommendations and an Action Plan/Matrix.</li> <li>■ Participated in development of methodology for efficient selection, evaluation of judges’ performance, promotion, and disciplinary action for judges.</li> <li>■ Participated in building capacity of professional associations of judges and developed study tours’ programmes.</li> </ul>
09/1998-07/2007  full time	Baku, Azerbaijan	(Supreme level) Economic Court of the Azerbaijan Republic	<b>Head of International Relations Department</b>  <b>Civil servant adviser</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Assisted in familiarization with EU legislation and development of a set of recommendations on draft of amendments to relative national legislation with the aim to ensure its approximation with EU.</li> <li>■ Actively participated in design of donor funded projects aimed to strengthening institutional and human capacity of courts.</li> <li>■ Participated in evaluation of donor funded and local projects related to judicial system and legal reforms.</li> <li>■ Participated in creation of the single judicial case-law on economic disputes with foreign elements.</li> <li>■ Participated in improving of the building capacity among judges through trainings and study tours to increase awareness on best international and European practices in judicial system in advanced EU countries.</li> </ul>

## 16. Other relevant information: (e.g., Publications)

### ■ **Publications: (articles in the national journals and newspapers):**

- “Role of the International Commercial Arbitration in Azerbaijan Republic” // “Arbitration” N.02, November – 2003;
- “Analysis of the UNCITRAL Model Law on Electronic Commerce and impact in preparation of National Law on e-commerce” // “Arbitration” N.07, March – 2004;
- “The Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Judgments and Arbitral Awards on Civil and Commercial Matters in Azerbaijan Republic” // “Arbitration” N.09, July – 2004;
- “Applicable law in judicial and arbitration practice” // “International Law” N.98, March;
- “Application rules of Conflict of laws in commercial law under regional agreements within [Commonwealth of Independent States \(CIS\)](#)” // “Arbitration” N.12, April – 2005;
- “International experience on food safety field” // “Voice of Consumers” N.23 – 2006.
- “Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points (HACCP) system in the food industry is assurance of consumer protection” // “Voice of Consumers” No.27 – 2007.
- “Review of international legislation on GMO regulations” // “Voice of Consumers” No.31 – 2007.

### ■ **Trainings/Courses/Study Tours:**

- 2020 January 21<sup>st</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> - **Mediation Training of Trainers Program** at the Academy of Justice within the EU - funded project “*Strengthening the institutional capacity of the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Azerbaijan in introducing Alternative Dispute Resolution mechanisms and provision of legal aid services to the population*”. (ADR Center, Italy).
- 2019 - **"BUSINESS MEDIATION IN AUSTRIAN STYLE: PRACTICIUM"** 16 academical hours (18-19 May 2019, Minsk).
- 2009 - **COCHRAN FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM** - Food Safety Program (FEBRUARY 22 - MARCH 7) / USDA / Washington, USA.
- 2008 - **Hague Academy of International Law**, Summer Course International Private Law / Hague, Nederland.
- 2007 - **Arbitration and Mediation Study Tour in Italy** / Chamber of National and International Arbitration of Milan; Venice Chamber of National and International Arbitration.

- 2006 - **Judges Study Tour** (including participation at the **mediation program** of the South Carolina Academy of Mediators & Arbitrators) / *USAID, World Learning, American Bar Association (CEELI)* / South Carolina, USA.
  - 2006 - **WTO Dispute Settlement Course** / World Trade Organization / Geneva, Switzerland.
  - 2005 - **Public International Trade Law Course** / International Development Law Organization / Bucharest, Romania.
  - 2004 - **WTO Dispute Settlement Course** / Joint Vienna Institute & World Trade Organization / Vienna, Austria.
  - 2003 - **Trade Policy Course** / Islamic Development Bank & World Trade Organization / Kingdom Saudi Arabia.
  - 2001 - **State Law & Administrative Reforms Course** / *Azerbaijan Republic President's Academy of the State Management* / Baku, Azerbaijan.
- **Presentations at the International Conferences/Workshops:**
    - **FAO Technical Meeting** "Appropriate food safety regulations in diverse food sectors" (27-28 November 2019, Belgrade/Serbia).
    - **IV International Mediation Festival** "Mediation for business, government and public organizations" (16-17 May 2019, Minsk).
    - **ADB Regional Workshop** "Strengthening international standards in agricultural value chains in CAREC countries" (4-6 December 2018, Astana).
    - **Workshop** "Application of the international standards within WTO" (2014, Baku).
    - **Workshop** "Harmonization of the National Food Safety System to the international standards" (2013, Baku).
    - **Workshop** "Application of the WTO Agreement on the (SPS) Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures and (TBT) Technical Barriers" (2011, Baku).
    - **International Conference** ARBITRATION AND MEDIATION IN COUNTRIES OF CENTRAL, EASTERN EUROPE AND IN SOME ASIAN COUNTRIES "ARBITRATORS AND MEDIATORS IN RESOLVING NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL DISPUTES" (25 October 2012, Baku, Azerbaijan).
    - **Scientific and Practical Conference** "International Commercial Arbitration in Ukraine and the World: Yesterday, Today, Tomorrow" (24-25 May 2012, Kiev, Ukraine).
    - **International Conference** "Commercial and Investment Arbitration in the CIS": new opportunities" (24 December 2010, Baku, Azerbaijan).
    - **Azerbaijan-Italy Arbitration Conference** "Arbitration and mediation: the Italian perspective" (Venice Chamber of Arbitration, 4 April 2009, Baku, Azerbaijan).
    - **International Conference** "Development and perspectives of international commercial arbitration and mediation in Azerbaijan" (23-24 April 2009, Minsk).