clerks@blackstonechambers.com
+44 (0)20 7583 1770

Andrew Scott KC



"Andrew has a first-class legal mind and excellent judgement."
– CHAMBERS AND PARTNERS, 2026

Year of call:	**2010**
Appointed to silk:	**2022**
Degree:	**BA (Oxon) First Class; BCL (Oxon, Vinerian Scholar) Distinction; DPhil (Oxon); BVC (Outstanding)**

Andrew is a leading advocate practising in Commercial Litigation and Civil Fraud. He acts in among the most high-value and high-profile commercial and fraud disputes before the English Courts, typically in cases with an international or cross-border element.

Andrew is ranked in each of these practice areas in the leading UK legal directories, Legal 500 and Chambers and Partners. Recent comments include:

- "Andrew has a first-class legal mind and excellent judgement."- Chambers and Partners, 2026
- "Andrew is a total star. He is senior beyond his years."- Legal 500, 2026

Previous comments include:

- "Andrew is exceptionally charming, excellent in court and a fantastic cross-examiner. He is someone that you want on your team."- Chambers and Partners, 2025
- "Andrew is superb. An absolute star who is technically fantastic."- Legal 500, 2025
- "... exceptional in every way. His advice is always well considered, his drafting is succinct and effective and his oral advocacy is lasered."- Chambers & Partners, 2024
- "An extremely effective advocate, with a striking and unusual style on his feet. He has great judgement of key tactical and strategic issues."- Legal 500, 2024

As a junior, Andrew was named the Commercial Litigation Junior of the Year in the Chambers & Partners UK Bar Awards 2019. Andrew was also recognised in 2019 as one of the top ten Commercial Litigation juniors under 8 years' call by Legal 500 and selected by Legal Week as a star of the bar in 2014.

Andrew has also been recognised in the JUVE Patent UK Rankings on account of his work in cross-border patent litigation (in particular in cases involving jurisdiction disputes) and is again recommended in the 2023 edition.

clerks@blackstonechambers.com
+44 (0)20 7583 1770

EXPERIENCE

Commercial

Andrew is frequently instructed on commercial cases, both as a leader or as part of a team. He regularly appears in all divisions of the High Court and Court of Appeal, and has experience of a wide range of trial work and interlocutory proceedings.

Andrew has a particular interest and expertise in disputes about the English Court's jurisdiction and associated matters such as stays, anti-suit injunctive relief, and jurisdictional immunities. He has worked on a number of the leading cases in this field recent years, including several in the Supreme Court and the Court of Appeal.

"Andrew is unbelievably smooth under pressure and a great advocate. He is nothing but lovable to judges and clients alike."

— CHAMBERS AND PARTNERS, 2026

Cases

Republic of Mozambique v Credit Suisse & Ors

Commercial Court, 2020-2023

Leading Counsel for a group of Defendants in this high-profile multi-billion US$ civil fraud case arising from the financing of infrastructure projects in the Republic of Mozambique. The case involves allegations of bribery and the validity of guarantees given by the Republic. Various reported decisions have already been given and the case was tried over 12 weeks in 2023.

Banco Sabadell, S.A. v Cerberus Global NPL Associates, LLC

(Commercial Court, 2023-)

Leading Counsel for Defendant entities within the Cerberus group resisting claims for EUR365 million brought by one of Spain's largest banks under investment agreements and guarantees

BM Brazil 1 Fundo de Investimento em Particiapções Multistrategia & Ors v Sibanye BM Brazil (Pty) Ltd & Anor

(Commercial Court, 2023-)

Leading Counsel for the Claimant sellers pursuing claims arising out of the termination of SPAs in respect of Brazilian mining assets under which in excess of US$1 billion was payable. A 5 week trial is due to take place in 2024.

BB Energy (Gulf) DMCC v Al Amoudi & Ors

Commercial Court, 2018- [2018] EWHC 2595 (Comm); [2021] 7 WLUK 20

Lead counsel for Defendant directors of a Moroccan oil refinery in claims for in excess of US$120 million in respect of alleged fraud and breach of duty under foreign law. The case is to be tried over 5 weeks in January 2021.

clerks@blackstonechambers.com
+44 (0)20 7583 1770

ED&F Man Capital Markets Limited v Come Harvest Holdings Limited & Ors

Commercial Court, 2019-21

Lead counsel for one of the main defendant groups in this US$280m+ civil fraud case arising from alleged forgery in the context of metal trades.

Macquarie Global Infrastructure Funds 2 Sarl (in liquidation) v Rodino

Commercial Court [2020] EWHC 2123 (Comm)

Sole counsel for Claimant investment fund in claims for damages and declarations of non-liability in respect of the Defendants' Luxembourg proceedings seeking damages of around EUR 68 million. Successfully resisted the Defendants' application to contest jurisdiction following which the dispute settled.

Skatteforvaltningen v Solo Capital Management LLP & Ors

[2022] EWCA Civ 234

Acting (with Lord Pannick QC) for the Danish customs and tax administration in its appeal in respect of a Commercial Court judgment striking out its claims as contrary to the "revenue rule" ([2021] 1 WLR 4237). In February 2022, the Court of Appeal held that this is not a Revenue claim and can therefore be pursued in the courts of this jurisdiction.

Bourlakova & Ors v Bourlakov & Ors

Chancery Division, 2020-

Sole counsel for one of the Defendants in claims for approximately US$1.2 billion arising out of the breakdown in marital relations between a Russian couple and the death of one of the spouses.

SAS Insitute Inc v World Programming Limited

[2019] FSR 30; [2019] EWHC 2496 (Comm); [2019] EWHC 2481 (Comm); [2020] 1 CLC 816 (CA)

Acting (with Monica Carss-Frisk QC) for the Claimant in this dispute concerning the enforceability of a US judgment for US$78 million. The case is a leading authority on the enforceability of foreign judgments and the grant of anti-suit/anti-enforcement relief. The case is presently before the Supreme Court.

VTB Commodities Trading DAC v JSC Antipinsky Refinery

Commercial Court, 2021-

Acting for the intervening oil trader in multi-million US$ claims under a cross-undertaking in damages and resisting counterclaims for alleged intentional wrongdoing in breach of Russian law.

clerks@blackstonechambers.com
+44 (0)20 7583 1770

Surkis v Poroshenko

[2021] EWHC 2512 (Comm)

Sole counsel for former Governor of the Central Bank of Ukraine acting on her successful application for summary dismissal of the claims against her for alleged unlawful means conspiracy and other intentional wrongdoing on grounds of state immunity, foreign act of state, and as having no real prospect of success.

Borro Ltd & Ors v Aitken

Chancery Division, 2020- [2021] EWHC 1902 (Ch)

Lead counsel for the Claimants in their claims for US$12 million damages arising out of alleged breaches of by the Defendant of his directorial duties.

Perella Weinberg Partners (UK) LLP v Codere SA

(Commercial Court, 2015 -)

Acting for financial service provider in respect of claims in the Commercial Court for relief in respect of a dispute arising under a letter of engagement and the commencement and continuance of foreign proceedings regarding it. The case is among the first to consider the new lis pendens rule under Article 31(2) of the Brussels I Recast Regulation.

Re OGX Petroleo E Gas SA

Acting (with Andreas Gledhill QC) for bondholers in a dispute with entities subject to Brazilian insolvency proceedings, including in English proceedings before the Chancery Division and in London arbitration. In the former, Snowden J gave what is the first judgment to consider duties of full and frank disclosure in recognition applications under the Cross-Border Insolvency Regulations [2016] EWHC 25 (Ch), [2016] Bus LR 121.

Exmek Pharmaceuticals SAC v Alkem Laboratories Ltd

[2015] EWHC 3158 (Comm); [2016] 1 Lloyd's Rep. 239

Acted (with Andrew Green QC) for the respondent in successfully resisting a challenge to an arbitral award, the case giving rise to issues concerning submission to the jurisdiction and waiver of rights under an arbitration agreement in the context of foreign proceedings brought in breach of such agreement.

Tseitline v Mikhelson

[2015] EWHC 3065 (Comm)

Acting for the defendant in this jurisdiction challenge, including on grounds relating to personal service. Phillips J's judgment is the first reported case to consider the requirements of personal service in the context of foreign defendants, who do not speak or understand English. The case is presently on appeal to the Court of Appeal.

clerks@blackstonechambers.com
+44 (0)20 7583 1770

Libyan Investment Authority v Société Générale SA & Ors

(Commercial Court, 2015 -) [2015] EWHC 550 (QB); [2016] EWHC 375 (Comm)

Acting for the individual known as Person B in these high profile Commercial Court proceedings in which the LIA seeks relief in respect of an alleged fraudulent and corrupt scheme in connection with Gaddafi-era trades (with Andrew Hunter QC). There are "confidentiality club" orders are in place by reason of the security situation in Libya.

A v B

[2015] EWHC 1944 (Comm); K v S [2015] EWHC 1945 (Comm)

Acting for the respondent in successfully resisting arbitration claims challenging an LCIA arbitration award ordering payment of sums in excess of US$72 million (with Alan Maclean QC). The claims were dismissed following trial over 5 days. See also, dealing with interim relief at an earlier stage of the proceedings: Y v S [2015] 1 Lloyd's Rep 703.

Sabbagh v Khoury & Ors

[2014] EWHC 3233 (Comm)

Acting for the "anchor" defendant resisting claims in excess of US$600 million (with Andrew Hunter QC). The defendants' jurisdiction challenge was heard over 5 days in July 2014, and substantially upheld on the ground that the principal claim (>US$500 million) was unarguable. The case is presently on appeal to the Court of Appeal.

AMT Futures Ltd v Marzillier, Dr Meier & Dr Guntner Rechtsanwaltsgesellschaft mbH

[2015] 2 WLR 187 (Popplewell J) and [2015] 3 WLR 282 (Court of Appeal)

Acting for the claimant in claims for damages against a German law firm for inducing the claimant's former clients to sue in Germany, in breach of contractual terms providing for English law and jurisdiction (with Thomas de la Mare QC). The case is the leading domestic authority on the application of Article 5(3) of the Brussels I Regulation to claims for inducing breach of contract. The case is presently on appeal to the Supreme Court.

Petter v EMC Corp

[2015] EWHC 1498 (QB) (Cooke J) [2015] IRLR 847 (Court of Appeal)

Acting for the claimant employee in a cross-border dispute with his former employer (with Paul Goulding QC). The case is the leading authority on the English Court's jurisdiction in cross-border employment disputes and its power to grant anti-suit relief to protect weaker parties (such as employees) under the Brussels I Recast Regulation. The case is presently on appeal to the Supreme Court.

UKFI v Mammadov; SWFC v KSM

(Commercial Court, 2015)

Acting as sole counsel for the claimants in this dispute arising from the abortive sale of Sheffield Wednesday Football Club. The Commercial Court (by summary judgment) upheld the claimants' case on liability and a claim to recover a £1,000,000 sponsorship fee. Following an assessment of damages hearing November 2015, damages in excess of £10,000,000 were awarded.

clerks@blackstonechambers.com
+44 (0)20 7583 1770

Standard Bank plc v EFAD & ors

[2014] EWHC 1834 (Comm)

Acted for the claimant bank in multi-million US$ claims against Kuwaiti defendants, arising out of an Islamic finance facility (with Robert Anderson QC). The defendants' jurisdiction challenge was successfully resisted at first instance.

Thai-Lao Lignite (Thailand) Co Ltd v Laos & Ors

(Commercial Court) [2013] 2 All ER (Comm) 883 (Popplewell J)

Acting for the Central Bank of Laos in successfully discharging on state immunity grounds a freezing order affecting its assets (with Robert Howe QC).

Sibir Energy plc & ors v Tchigirinski & ors

[2012] EWHC 1844 (QB)

Acted for the claimant oil company, seeking to recover approximately US$400 million misappropriated monies, in response to an appeal against HHJ Mackie QC's decision on jurisdiction over co-defendants under Article 6(1) of the Brussels I Regulation (with Andrew Hunter QC).

Re a joint venture dispute

Acted for the claimant in a major dispute arising from a joint venture in the hospitality sector. The dispute gave rise two LCIA arbitrations, proceedings in Switzerland, and various proceedings in the Caribbean, involving complex issues of contractual construction and company law (with Ian Mill QC, Robert Anderson QC, Shaheed Fatima, and Tom Mountford).

Djibouti v Boreh & Ors

(Commercial Court)

Until shortly before trial, acted for the principal corporate defendant in multi-million US$ claims arising out of infrastructure development projects in Djibouti (with Andrew Hunter QC).

Otkritie International Investment Management Ltd & ors v Urumov & ors

(Commercial Court)

Until shortly before trial, acted for the principal defendants, being two traders, their wives and companies, resisting claims for approximately US$180 million (with Andrew Green QC and Robert Weekes).

Dana Gas PJSC v Dana Gas Sukuk Ltd, Commercial Court

(Financial List) 2017

Junior Counsel for BlackRock successfully resisting a challenge to the validity of a US$850 million Islamic finance transaction. The case involved various complex cross-border issues as well as several applications for anti-suit injunctive relief in which Andrew acted as sole junior Counsel.

clerks@blackstonechambers.com
+44 (0)20 7583 1770

Civil Fraud, Asset Recovery & Injunctive Relief

Andrew has worked on a number of high-profile civil fraud disputes, both as a leader or as part of a team.

"His advocacy is precise and impactful, and his outstanding legal acumen allows him to consistently deliver commercially astute solutions,."

— CHAMBERS AND PARTNERS, 2026

Cases

Bourlakova & Ors v Bourlakov & Ors

Chancery Division, 2020-

Sole counsel for one of the Defendants in claims for approximately US$1.2 billion arising out of the breakdown in marital relations between a Russian couple and the death of one of the spouses.

ED&F Man Capital Markets Limited v Come Harvest Holdings Limited & Ors

Commercial Court, 2019-21

Lead counsel for one of the main defendant groups in this US$280m+ civil fraud case arising from alleged forgery in the context of metal trades.

Macquarie Global Infrastructure Funds 2 Sarl (in liquidation) v Rodino

Commercial Court [2020] EWHC 2123 (Comm)

Sole counsel for Claimant investment fund in claims for damages and declarations of non-liability in respect of the Defendants' Luxembourg proceedings seeking damages of around EUR 68 million. Successfully resisted the Defendants' application to contest jurisdiction following which the dispute settled.

BB Energy (Gulf) DMCC v Al Amoudi & Ors

Commercial Court, 2018- [2018] EWHC 2595 (Comm); [2021] 7 WLUK 20

Lead counsel for Defendant directors of a Moroccan oil refinery in claims for in excess of US$120 million in respect of alleged fraud and breach of duty under foreign law. The case is to be tried over 5 weeks in January 2021.

Skatteforvaltningen v Solo Capital Management LLP & Ors

[2022] EWCA Civ 234

Acting (with Lord Pannick QC) for the Danish customs and tax administration in its appeal in respect of a Commercial Court judgment striking out its claims as contrary to the "revenue rule" ([2021] 1 WLR 4237). In February 2022, the Court of Appeal held that this is not a Revenue claim and can therefore be pursued in the courts of this jurisdiction.

clerks@blackstonechambers.com
+44 (0)20 7583 1770

Republic of Mozambique v Credit Suisse & Ors

Commercial Court, 2020-2023

Leading Counsel for a group of Defendants in this high-profile multi-billion US$ civil fraud case arising from the financing of infrastructure projects in the Republic of Mozambique. The case involves allegations of bribery and the validity of guarantees given by the Republic. Various reported decisions have already been given and the case was tried over 12 weeks in 2023.

VTB Commodities Trading DAC v JSC Antipinsky Refinery

Commercial Court, 2021-

Acting for the intervening oil trader in multi-million US$ claims under a cross-undertaking in damages and resisting counterclaims for alleged intentional wrongdoing in breach of Russian law.

Surkis v Poroshenko

[2021] EWHC 2512 (Comm)

Sole counsel for former Governor of the Central Bank of Ukraine acting on her successful application for summary dismissal of the claims against her for alleged unlawful means conspiracy and other intentional wrongdoing on grounds of state immunity, foreign act of state, and as having no real prospect of success.

Libyan Investment Authority v Société Générale SA & Ors

(Commercial Court, 2015 -) [2015] EWHC 550 (QB); [2016] EWHC 375 (Comm)

Acting for the individual known as Person B in these high profile Commercial Court proceedings in which the LIA seeks relief in respect of an alleged fraudulent and corrupt scheme in connection with Gaddafi-era trades (with Andrew Hunter QC). There are “confidentiality club” orders are in place by reason of the security situation in Libya.

Djibouti v Boreh & Ors

(Commercial Court)

Until shortly before trial, acted for the principal corporate defendant in multi-million US$ claims arising out of infrastructure development projects in Djibouti (with Andrew Hunter QC).

Standard Bank plc v EFAD & ors

[2014] EWHC 1834 (Comm)

Acted for the claimant bank in multi-million US$ claims against Kuwaiti defendants, arising out of an Islamic finance facility (with Robert Anderson QC). The defendants’ jurisdiction challenge was successfully resisted at first instance.

clerks@blackstonechambers.com
+44 (0)20 7583 1770

Otkritie International Investment Management Ltd & ors v Urumov & ors

(Commercial Court)

Until shortly before trial, acted for the principal defendants, being two traders, their wives and companies, resisting claims for approximately US$180 million (with Andrew Green QC and Robert Weekes).

Sibir Energy plc & ors v Tchigirinski & ors

[2012] EWHC 1844 (QB)

Acted for the claimant oil company, seeking to recover approximately US$400 million misappropriated monies, in response to an appeal against HHJ Mackie QC's decision on jurisdiction over co-defendants under Article 6(1) of the Brussels I Regulation (with Andrew Hunter QC).

AO Raiffeisenbank v Meridan Management Limited & Ors

BVI/LCIA Arbitration

Sole Junior Counsel for the Claimant bank in claims for conspiracy in the context of put options, for sums totalling in excess of US$50 million. Following the granting of urgent interim relief by the BVI Court the claims are being heard in LCIA arbitration.

Restructuring & Insolvency

Andrew has been involved in several high profile cross-border insolvency disputes, acting for officeholders, bondholders, and secured creditors in connection with proceedings in England and various foreign jurisdictions (including the Cayman Islands, the BVI, Singapore, and the Middle East). He frequently advises on restructuring transactions, in particular those with a foreign element.

Cases

Dana Gas PJSC v Dana Gas Sukuk Ltd

[2017] EWHC 1896 (Comm), [2017] EWHC 2340 (Comm), [2017] EWHC 2605 (Comm), [2017] EWHC 2928 (Comm), [2018] EWHC 278 (Comm

Acted for sukuk holders in these Financial List proceedings regarding enforcement of an $850 million Islamic finance transaction. Andrew appeared on various applications for interim anti-suit and other injunctive relief, including as sole Counsel in a successful application for an order restraining the debtor from paying a US$95 million dividend

Re Dalnyaya Step (LLC) (in liquidation)

[2018] Bus LR 789; [2017] 1 WLR 4264

Acted for applicants in successful application to discharge a recognition order made under the Cross-Border Insolvency Regulations 2006 on public policy and material non-disclosure grounds.

clerks@blackstonechambers.com
+44 (0)20 7583 1770

Nordic Trustee ASA v OGX Petróleo e Gàs S.A.

[2016] Bus LR 121

Acted for applicant bondholders in a successful application to discharge or vary a recognition order made under the Cross-Border Insolvency Regulations 2006 in respect of Brazil's largest corporate insolvency. The case is the leading authority on officerholders' duties of full and frank disclosure and fair presentation in applications for recognition.

Pons v PFP Holdings PTE Ltd (in provisional liquidation)

(QBD, 2018)

Acted for provisional liquidators appointed in a Singaporean insolvency in respect of English proceedings, including in connection with applications to vary a freezing order and for recognition under the Cross-Border Insolvency Regulations 2006.

Arbitration

Andrew has significant experience of high-value domestic and international arbitration, acting for a wide range of clients including major financial institutions, major corporates in other sectors, and in proceedings involving foreign states. He has appeared before a variety of tribunals in multiple jurisdictions both in ad hoc arbitration and institutional arbitration under ICC, UNCITRAL, LCIA, LMAA, and ICSID Rules. In addition to acting in arbitration of general commercial disputes in various contexts, Andrew is frequently instructed in insurance matters, typically acting for policyholders facing large exposures and pursing coverage claims under excess liability policies, often on the Bermuda Form.

"Andrew is very bright and considered. His preparation is first class and his advocacy compelling."

— LEGAL 500, 2023

Cases

[Confidential Financial Institution v Confidential Foreign State] (LCIA Arbitration)

Acting for major financial institution in multi-hundred million US$ dispute with a foreign state under a settlement agreement.

[Confidential Insured] v [Confidential Insurers] (London Arbitration, Bermuda Form) 2024-

Acting for the insured in multi-hundred million dollar arbitrations under the Bermuda Form, in the construction sector.

[Confidential Insured] v [Confidential Insurers] (London Arbitration, Bermuda Form) 2024-

Acting for the insured in multi-hundred million dollar arbitrations claims under liability insurance policies written on the Bermuda Form, in the chemicals sector.

clerks@blackstonechambers.com
+44 (0)20 7583 1770

[Confidential Insured] v [Confidential Insurers] (London Arbitration, Bermuda Form) 2023-4

Acted for major agricultural products company policyholder in insurance claim arbitrations

[Confidential Owner] v [Confidential Re-Fitter]

(LMAA arbitration)

Acting as sole counsel for a yacht owner in respect of a multi-million Euro dispute arising from the termination of a refit agreement.

[Confidential Owner] v [Confidential Charterer]

(LMAA Arbitration)

Acting for a charterer in respect of dispute arising from a "holiday charter", resisting claims for hire based on a counterclaim for damages in respect of loss of the value of the charter and/or loss of amenity and enjoyment.

[Confidential Insured] v [Confidential Insurers]

(London Arbitration, Bermuda Form) (2015-)

Acting for the insured in a US$50 million claim under a liability insurance policy written on the Bermuda Form (with Andrew Hunter QC).

Tennessee Valley Authority v Various Bermuda Insurers

(London arbitration) (2013-2015)

Acted for the successful claimant (a US public corporation) in a US$250 million series of liability insurance claims against major Bermudian insurers (with Andrew Hunter QC). One case settled, the others went to trial (each of 4 weeks). In addition to assisting with written submissions, Andrew cross-examined various expert witnesses.

[Confidential] v [Confidential]

(Austrian arbitration, under the Vienna Rules)

Acted as sole counsel for property investment fund in respect of a multi-million Euro dispute arising from a Croatian property development. The trial took place over 5 days and involved allegations of fraud and complex issues of Croatian law.

[Confidential] v [Confidential]

(Indian arbitration, under ICC Rules)

Acted for a manufacturer defending a claim for approximately US$40 million brought by distributor (with Andrew Green QC). In addition to assisting with written submissions, Andrew cross-examined the distributor's principal expert witness.

clerks@blackstonechambers.com
+44 (0)20 7583 1770

[Confidential] v [Confidential]

(London arbitration, under UNCITRAL Rules)

Acted as junior counsel for a property developer against a well-known investment bank in respect of multi-million US$ dispute under complex finance documentation.

[Reinsured confidential] v [Reinsurer confidential]

(2011) (London arbitration)

Acted for reinsured in this substantial reinsurance claim arising out of the destruction of a US naval dockyard by Hurricane Katrina (with Andrew Hunter QC).

[Investor confidential] v [State confidential]

(ICSID Arbitration)

Andrew was instructed as juge rapporteur to the Tribunal in this substantial investment treaty arbitration.

Public International Law

Consistently with the international focus of Andrew's practice, he is often instructed to appear in proceedings before the English Courts raising international law issues or to advise regarding them. He has a particular interest and expertise in relation to jurisdictional immunities and has appeared in some of the leading cases in this field in recent years.

Cases

Maduro Board of the Central Bank of Venezuela v Guaido Board of the Central Bank of Venezuela

[2020] EWHC 1721 (Comm), [2020] EWCA Civ 1249

Acted (with Brian Kennelly QC) for the Bank of England in this dispute between rivals claiming to represent the Central Bank of Venezuela. The case is a leading authority on the "one voice" principle.

Mohamed v Breish

[2019] EWHC 306 (Comm), [2020] EWCA Civ 637

Acted (with Tim Otty QC) for the Claimant in this dispute concerning recognition of rivals appointees as Chairman of the Libyan Investment Authority. The case is a leading authority on the "one voice" principle.

clerks@blackstonechambers.com
+44 (0)20 7583 1770

Surkis v Poroshenko

[2021] EWHC 2512 (Comm)

Sole counsel for former Governor of the Central Bank of Ukraine acting on her successful application for summary dismissal of the claims against her for alleged unlawful means conspiracy and other intentional wrongdoing on grounds of state immunity, foreign act of state, and as having no real prospect of success.

Al Attiya v Bin-Jassim Bin-Jaber Al Thani

[2016] EWHC 212 (QB)

Acting for the defendant, a former head of state, in successfully resisting English jurisdiction on grounds of state and diplomatic immunity (with Lord Pannick QC and Monica Carss-Frisk). The decision is among the leading cases on the principles applicable to the determination of an individual's status as "diplomatic agent" and Blake J's analysis (adopting in this regard the defendant's submissions) was upheld by the Court of Appeal in W v H [2016] EWCA Civ 176.

Thai-Lao Lignite (Thailand) Co Ltd v Laos & Ors

(Commercial Court) [2013] 2 All ER (Comm) 883 (Popplewell J)

Acting for the Central Bank of Laos in successfully discharging on state immunity grounds a freezing order affecting its assets (with Robert Howe QC).

Re the enforceability of a foreign tax assessment

Advising (with Lord Pannick QC) on the enforceability of a foreign tax assessment under mutual assistance regimes and international law principles of extraterritoriality.

Financial Services & Banking

Andrew was seconded to the Financial Services Authority for 5 months in 2012, and has since worked on a variety financial regulatory disputes for regulated individuals, entities, and regulators.

Cases

Tax planning scheme claims

Acting as junior counsel for claimants in claims before the Chancery Division of alleged misrepresentation and breach of contract in connection with a tax planning scheme challenged by HMRC (with Sam Grodzinski QC and Tom Cleaver).

Accounts and Actuaries Schemes proceedings

Acting as junior counsel for the Financial Reporting Council in proceedings under its Accountants and Actuaries Schemes (with Andrew Green QC, Andrew George QC, and Flora Robertson).

Proposed share holder class action

Acting as junior counsel in connection with a proposed shareholder class action under s. 90/90A FSMA based on findings in US regulatory proceedings (with Andrew Hunter QC and Tom Coates).

Regulatory fine enforceability

Advising a regulated individual regarding the enforceability in England of one of the largest regulatory fines imposed by the SEC on an individual trader (with Andrew Green QC).

Media & Entertainment

Andrew has acted for media and entertainment clients in a wide range of disputes.

"Fiercely intelligent, calm under fire and excellent considered advocacy."
— LEGAL 500, 2023

Cases

Sony ATV v WPMC

[2015] EWHC 1853 (Ch)

Acted for the claimant owners of copyrights in Lennon/McCartney songs in their successful claims for copyright infringement arising from the production of a documentary "The Beatles: The Lost Concert" (with Ian Mill QC).

Gameware Europe Ltd v (1) Sony Computer Entertainment Europe Limited; (2) System 3 Software Limited; (3) Mark Andrew Cale

(Chancery Division, 2013)

Acted for the principal defendants in this dispute concerning ownership and infringement of intellectual property in the well-known "James Pond" and "Creatures" computer games (with Andrew Green QC).

Universal Music Arts Entertainment Ltd v D'Arcangelo

(QBD, 2012)

Acted for the claimant in this claim arising from termination of an agency agreement.

Re a claim in respect of a movie soundtrack

Acting for a composer in respect of claims arising from the wrongful termination of his engagement to provide the soundtrack and score for a Christmas movie.

clerks@blackstonechambers.com
+44 (0)20 7583 1770

Burton v The Kills Ltd

(County Court, 2012)

Acting for the band resisting a claim brought by former tour crew, which settled at the start of a trial listed for 5 days.

Re contract review

Assisting a major record label in a review of artists' contracts, in the course of which Andrew gained experience of a wide range of recording, management, and other music industry contracts.

Gloucester Place Music v Simon Le Bon & Ors

[2016] EWHC 3091 (Ch); appeal pending

Sole Junior Counsel for the claimant owners of copyrights in Duran Duran songs in their successful claims for declarations that the band have severed copyright termination notices under the US agreement in breach of contract.

The case generated significant market and media interest: e.g. Ian Mill QC stared as Lawyer of the Week in The Times for this case.

RPC v Branco & anor

(Chancery Division, 2017)

Counsel for the Defendants (Paolo Branco and his company) in respect of this dispute arising from the production of The Man Who Killed Don Quixote

ACHIEVEMENTS

Education

BA (Oxon) First Class; BCL (Oxon, Vinerian Scholar) Distinction; DPhil (Oxon); BVC (Outstanding)

Prizes & Scholarships

- Chambers & Partners UK Bar Awards 2019 (Commercial Litigation Junior of the Year)
- Eldon Scholarship (most promising graduate of Oxford University intending to practise at the Bar, 2009)
- Vinerian Scholarship (best performance in the BCL)
- Oxford University Examination Prizes (restitution, jurisprudence and political theory, contract law, constitutional Law)

clerks@blackstonechambers.com
+44 (0)20 7583 1770

Publications

- Réunion revised? [2008] LMCLQ 113 (case note on Case C-98/06 Freeport v Arnoldssen)
- A Commentary on the Rome II Regulation: Choice of Law for Non-contractual Obligations [2008] LMCLQ 274 (co-written)
- 'The Scope of Non-Contractual Obligations' in J Ahern and W Binchy, eds., The Rome II Regulation on the Law Applicable to Non-Contractual Obligations (Brill, Leiden, 2009)
- Total Chaos? [2010] LMCLQ 536 (case note on Shell UK Ltd v Total Ltd [2010] EWCA Civ 180, co-written)
- 'The territorial scope of British employment legislation' [2010] LMCLQ 640
- 'International private law', in International Maritime and Commercial Law Yearbook, 2009- (co-written)
- 'Decisions of British Courts during involving questions of private international law' in British Yearbook of International Law, 2010- date
- Andrew was on the advisory group which assisted Professor Andrew Burrows in producing A Restatement of the English Law of Unjust Enrichment (OUP, 2012)
- The 'Cross-Border Disputes' chapter in P Goulding (ed) Employee Competition (3rd edn) (forthcoming) (co-written)

Research & Lecturing

Before coming to the Bar, Andrew was a Fellow of All Souls College, Oxford. His research addressed various topics in commercial private international law. At Oxford, Andrew was also a college tutor, teaching contract, tort, land and trusts law. He has also given graduate seminars on restitution and conflict of laws.

- Andrew has given lectures and seminars at practitioner and academic conferences, recent topics including:
- "The enforcement in the UK of foreign judgments obtained in breach of an arbitration clause" (London Shipping Law Centre)
- "What is a non-contractual obligation?" (Trinity College Dublin; Max Plank Institute, Hamburg)
- "From Samengo-Turner to Duarte" (British Institute in International and Comparative Law seminar at Herbert Smith)
- "The litigation (and arbitration) of international employment disputes" (New York University)
- "Characterization problems in employment disputes" (Trinity College Dublin)
- "Synergies between the Brussels I Regulation and Rome I and II Regulations" (British Institute of International and Comparative Law)

VAT registration number: 120638737

Barristers regulated by the Bar Standards Board