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

George Molyneaux

"George is a phenomenal lawyer and a major force in complex litigation!"

— CHAMBERS AND PARTNERS, 2026



Year of call:	**2015**
Degree:	**BA Modern History (Oxford): 1st class, top of year; DPhil History (Oxford); GDL (City): Distinction, top of year; BPTC (City): Outstanding, top of year**
Languages:	**French (working knowledge), German (working knowledge)**

George has a broad practice across all of Chambers' main areas of work, with extensive experience of working both as sole counsel and as a member of large teams. He has appeared unled before a wide range of courts and tribunals. His experience of led work includes heavy Commercial Court trials, complex judicial reviews, numerous applications to the European Court of Human Rights, and 13 Supreme Court or Privy Council appeals.

George is ranked in Chambers and Partners and/or Legal 500 for Administrative & Public Law, Civil Liberties & Human Rights, Employment, Energy, Environmental Law, Group Litigation, International Human Rights and Telecoms Regulation. He has also been shortlisted for Human Rights and Public Law Junior of the Year at the Chambers UK Bar Awards and Employment Junior of the Year at the Legal 500 Bar Awards. Recent feedback includes:

- "George is a phenomenal lawyer and a major force in complex litigation!" - Chambers UK, 2026
- 'George is a pleasure to work with – he has forensic attention to detail, is extremely hardworking and efficient, and very bright.' - Legal 500, 2026
- "George is a complete expert in his field. His written and oral submissions are excellent." - Chambers UK, 2025
- "An incredibly clever and astute barrister, who has an enviable combination of technical knowledge and tactical." - Legal 500, 2025
- "He is clearly a master of his area. He can analyse an issue succinctly and provides focussed advice. A junior who is years ahead of his call."- Legal 500, 2024
- "He has absolute command of the material and the issues in the case, and is able to suggest pragmatic and creative solutions. His written work and his tribunal advocacy are excellent."- Chambers UK, 2024
- "He has a unique superpower in that he is able to strategise and handle very complex cases in a totally calm and efficient manner."- Chambers UK, 2023
- "Explains things clearly, easy to work with, and dedicated to finding a legal solution where it is not obvious what can be done."- Legal 500, 2023

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George's clients include individuals (ranging from vulnerable prisoners to billionaires), NGOs (including Liberty, JUSTICE, the AIRE Centre, the Public Law Project, the Good Law Project, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees and the International Commission of Jurists), political parties, trade unions, foreign governments, UK government departments, regulators, and businesses large and small. He is a member of the Attorney-General's B Panel of Counsel, the Public International Law B Panel, and the Equality and Human Rights Commission's Panel of Counsel.

Highlights of George's work include:

- Acting for Ukraine against Russia in proceedings before the European Court of Human Rights, involving mass and gross violations of multiple Convention rights (Ukraine v Russian Federation (11055/22, 9 July 2025 [GC])).
- Acting for Close Brothers in a Supreme Court appeal concerning undisclosed commissions in the motor finance sector - one of The Lawyer's Top 10 appeals for 2025 (Close Brothers Ltd v Hopcraft v Close Brothers Limited [2025] UKSC 33, [2025] 3 WLR 423).
- Acting for the Manchester Ship Canal in a Supreme Court appeal which established that private law nuisance claims can be brought against sewerage undertakers in respect of polluting discharges into watercourses - one of The Lawyer's Top 10 appeals for 2023 (United Utilites Water Ltd v Manchester Ship Canal Co Ltd [2024] UKSC 22, [2025] AC 761).
- Acting for the UN High Commissioner for Refugees in the successful challenge to the government's plan to transfer asylum seekers to Rwanda (R (AAA (Syria)) v SSHD [2023] UKSC 42, [2023] 1 WLR 4433).
- Acting for a financial trading company in a judicial review challenge to the lawfulness of a decision to cancel nickel trades worth $12 billion - one of The Lawyer's Top 20 Cases for 2023 (R (Jane Street Global Trading, LLC) v The London Metal Exchange [2023] EWHC 2969 (Admin)).
- Acting for the former CEO of the London office of a sovereign wealth fund, in Employment Tribunal and Employment Appeal Tribunal proceedings involving issues of state immunity and diplomatic status (Al-Ateeqi v Kuwait Investment Authority (Employment Tribunal, 2024-)).
- Acting for the Serious Fraud Office in defence of long-running civil claims brought by the subject of one of its former criminal investigations, including an 11-week Commercial Court trial which was one of The Lawyer's Top 20 Cases for 2021 ([2022] EWHC 1138 (Comm), [2023] EWHC 3280 (Comm); [2025] EWCA Civ 1307).
- Acting for thousands of claimants against Shell, in claims arising out of pollution from oil installations in Nigeria (Alame and others v Shell plc [2023] EWHC 2961 (KB), [2024] EWHC 510 (KB), [2024] EWCA Civ 1500, [2025] EWHC 1539 (KB)).
- Acting for the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions before the High Court, the Court of Appeal and the Supreme Court in (ultimately successful) defence of a complex claim concerning the interaction of the EU Settlement Scheme and entitlement to Universal Credit (R (Fratila) v SSWP [2021] UKSC 53, [2022] 3 All ER 1045).
- Acting for the Foreign Secretary in a judicial review brought by the parents of Harry Dunn, who was killed when his motorbike was hit by a car driven by the wife of a member of US Embassy staff (R (Charles & Dunn) v SSFCA [2020] EWHC 3185 (Admin), [2021] 1 WLR 1394).
- Acting in the Supreme Court in two of the leading cases on jurisdiction and parent companies' duties of care in relation to the acts/omissions of their subsidiaries (Lungowe v Vedanta Resources plc [2019] UKSC 20, [2020] AC 1045 and Okpabi v Royal Dutch Shell plc [2021] UKSC 3, [2021] 1 WLR 1294).

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- Acting for the Government of North Macedonia before the European Court of Human Rights, in defence of applications brought by, among others, the former Prime Minister and the former Minister of the Interior (Taleski & others v North Macedonia (77796/17 - ruled inadmissible); Mijalkov v North Macedonia (26853/19 - pending)).
- Acting for the Government of Iceland before the European Court of Human Rights in a very high-profile Article 6 case relating to judicial appointments (Ástráðsson v Iceland (26374/18, 1 December 2020 [GC])).

George has a strong commitment to pro bono work, and has been nominated (by the Citizens Advice Bureau) for Young Pro Bono Barrister of the Year at the Bar Pro Bono Awards.

Before training for the Bar, George was a Prize Fellow of All Souls College, Oxford, where he wrote a book on Anglo-Saxon history.

EXPERIENCE

Public & Regulatory

George regularly acts (both led and unled) for claimants, defendants and interveners in a wide range of public law cases. His clients include individuals, NGOs, government departments, regulators and businesses operating in regulated industries.

George is a member of the panels of counsel maintained by the Attorney-General (both the general B panel and the Public International Law B panel) and the Equality and Human Rights Commission, and a member of the committee of the Young Public Law Group. He also has a strong commitment to pro bono work, and has been nominated by the Citizens Advice Bureau for Young Pro Bono Barrister of the Year at the Bar Pro Bono Awards.

George is ranked in Chambers & Partners (Administrative and public law) and Legal 500 (Administrative law and human rights), and has been shortlisted for Human Rights and Public Law Junior of the Year at the Chambers UK Bar Awards.

Highlights of George's experience include:

- Acting for JUSTICE in the Supreme Court in the leading case on the proper approach to appeals against citizenship deprivation decisions (U3 v SSHD [2025] UKSC 19, [2025] AC 1510)

- Acting for the UN High Commissioner for Refugees in the Supreme Court in the successful challenge to the UK government's plan to transfer asylum seekers to Rwanda (R (AAA (Syria)) v SSHD [2023] UKSC 42, [2023] 1 WLR 4433)

- Acting for the claimant financial trading company in a challenge to the lawfulness of a decision to cancel contracts for the sale and purchase of nickel futures on the London Metal Exchange - one of The Lawyer's Top 20 Cases for 2023 (R (Jane Street Global Trading, LLC) v (1) The London Metal Exchange; (2) LME Clear Ltd [2023] EWHC 2969 (Admin))

> *"George is extremely clever and hard-working. He is a go-to junior for complex commercial public law work."*
>
> — CHAMBERS AND PARTNERS, 2026

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- Acting for the Claimant in a high-profile challenge to the use of personal devices/accounts and auto-deletion functions for communications about government business (R (All the Citizens Ltd) v (1) Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport; (2) Minister for the Cabinet Office [2022] EWHC 960 (Admin), [2022] 1 WLR 3748)

- Acting for the Gas and Electricity Markets Authority in the High Court and the Court of Appeal in complex litigation regarding issues of domestic public law and retained EU law (R (SSE Generation Ltd) v Competition and Markets Authority [2022] EWHC 865 (Admin), [2022] 4 WLR 76; [2022] EWCA Civ 1472, [2022] 4 WLR 115)

- Acting in the Privy Council in a challenge to a decision of Gibraltar's telecommunications regulator (Gibfibre Ltd v Gibraltar Regulatory Authority [2021] UKPC 31)

- Acting for the Foreign Secretary in a judicial review brought by the parents of Harry Dunn, who was killed when his motorbike was hit by a car driven by the wife of a member of US Embassy staff (R (Charles & Dunn) v SSFCA [2020] EWHC 3185 (Admin), [2021] 1 WLR 1394).

- Acting for Stonewall and LGBT Foundation in the Supreme Court in a case about voter identification pilot schemes, which was one of The Lawyer's Top 10 Appeals for 2022 (R (Coughlan) v Minister for the Cabinet Office [2022] UKSC 11, [2022] 1 WLR 2389).

- Acting for Detention Action in the Supreme Court in a case concerning the status of asylum appeals which were determined under ultra vires procedural rules (R (TN) (Vietnam) v SSHD [2021] UKSC 41, [2021] 1 WLR 4902).

- Acting for the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions before the High Court, the Court of Appeal and the Supreme Court in (ultimately successful) defence of a complex claim concerning the interaction of the EU Settlement Scheme and entitlement to Universal Credit (R (Fratila) v SSWP [2020] EWHC 998 (Admin), [2020] PTSR 1424; [2020] EWCA Civ 1741, [2021] 3 All ER 1043; [2021] UKSC 53, [2022] 3 All ER 1045).

Cases

The Manchester Ship Canal Company Ltd v Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

[2025] EWCA Civ 676, [2026] Env LR 4

Acted for the appellant canal owner in an appeal relating to an order authorising the compulsory purchase of a right to discharge from a sewer into the canal (with Tom de la Mare KC and Charles Morgan).

R (Criminal Injuries Compensation Authority) v First-Tier Tribunal (Social Entitlement Chamber)

[2025] UKUT 262 (ACC)

Acted for the interested party, who had been attacked by a dog, in a judicial review claim regarding entitlement to compensation under the Criminal Injuries Compensation Scheme 2012 (unled).

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R (Thakrar) v Secretary of State for Justice

(Court of Appeal, pending)

Acting for the Secretary of State in an appeal concerning prolonged segregation of a prisoner (with Sam Grodzinski KC and Myles Grandison).

Cubic Transportation Systems Ltd v Transport for London

(TCC, 2025-)

Acting for the claimant in a procurement challenge relating to a contract for the provision of revenue collection services for TfL (with Sir James Eadie KC and Sarah Hannaford KC).

IA and others v Secretary of State for the Home Department

[2025] EWCA Civ 1516

Acted for the respondent individuals in an appeal concerning family life for the purposes of Article 8 ECHR, in an immigration context (with Raza Husain KC and others).

R (Merrington) v Secretary of State for Justice

[2025] EWHC 3025 (Admin)

Acted for the Secretary of State in successful defence of a challenge to a decision not to transfer a prisoner to open conditions (unled).

Public procurement

(2025)

Advising a public body in relation to a public procurement issue (with Gemma White KC)

R (Clifford) v Secretary of State for Work and Pensions

[2025] EWHC 58 (Admin)

Acted for the SSWP in defence of a challenge to a consultation about potential changes to the work capability assessment (with Sir James Eadie KC and others).

Energy sector JR

(2025)

Advising a company in the energy sector on a potential judicial review of an Ofgem decision (with Robert Palmer KC).

clerks@blackstonechambers.com
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U3 v Secretary of State for the Home Department

[2025] UKSC 19, [2025] AC 1510

Acted for JUSTICE as intervener in an appeal concerning the proper approach to appeals against citizenship deprivation decisions in a national security context (with Tom Hickman KC).

R (CYS and others) v Director of the Serious Fraud Office

(Administrative Court, 2024-)

Acting for the defendant in a judicial review claim concerning the Code of Practice for Victims of Crime in England and Wales (unled).

R (Idrak) v Secretary of State for Justice

(Administrative Court, 2024-)

Acting for the SSJ in defence of a judicial review claim relating to the interpretetion of statutory provisions relevant to early release from prison (unled).

Property development JR

(2024-)

Advising a property developer on a potential judicial review claim (with Monica Carss-Frisk KC).

Hora v United Kingdom

(European Court of Human Rights, 1048/2020, 23 September 2025)

Acted for the applicant in an A3P1 complaint regarding the disenfranchisement of convicted prisoners (unled).

Private Bill advice

(2024)

Advised an individual regarding a private Bill being promoted in Parliament, including issues relating to compatibility with Convention Rights (unled).

University disciplinary proceedings

(2024)

Advising a student regarding potential private and public law proceedings against a university, in connection with a disciplinary process (unled).

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Eurasian Natural Resources Corporation Ltd v Director of the Serious Fraud Office (No. 2)

(settled, 2024)

Acted for the Director of the SFO in defence of claims of breach of confidence, misfeasance in public office and unlawful means conspiracy. The case settled on the second day of what had been due to be a 7-week trial (with Jonathan Hough KC and others).

R (J and P Engineering Services Ltd) v HMRC

(Administrative Court, 2024)

Acted for HMRC in successful defence of a judicial review challenge to a decision relating to the Disguised Remuneration Repayment Scheme (unled).

Vires and sub-delegation advice

(2024)

Advising a government department on issues relating to vires and sub-delegation (2024).

[Financial Services Companies] v [Foreign State]

(European Court of Human Rights, 2024-)

Acting for financial services companies in an application to the European Court of Human Rights which alleges violations of Articles 6, 13 and 14 and A1P1 (with Tim Otty KC).

Utilities regulatory issue

(2024)

Advising a utility company on a regulatory issue (with James McClelland KC).

R (AAA (Syria)) v SSHD

[2023] UKSC 42, [2023] 1 WLR 4433

Acted for the UN High Commissioner for Refugees in the successful challenge to the UK government's plan to transfer asylum seekers to Rwanda (with Angus McCullough KC and others).

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Water and sewerage industry advice

(2023-)

Advising various clients on a range of confidential matters relating to the water and sewerage industry, including issues relating to the Water Industry Act 1991, the Reservoirs Act 1975, the Environmental Protection Act 1990, the Water (Special Measures) Act 2025, the Urban Waste Water Treatment (England and Wales) Regulations 1994, the Water Industry (Specified Infrastructure Projects) (English Undertakers) Regulations 2013, the Water Supply (Water Quality) Regulations 2016 and the Private Water Supplies (England) Regulations 2016 (mix of led and unled work).

Electricity sector advice

(2023-)

Advising Ofgem on a range of different issues relating to the electricity sector (unled).

[Bank] v [Foreign State]

(European Court of Human Rights, 2023-)

Acting for a bank in an application to the European Court of Human Rights in relation to a regulatory fine. The case raises issues under A1P1 and Articles 7, 13 and 14 (with Tim Otty KC).

[Individual] v [University]

(Internal university tribunal, 2023)

Acted for a university in a dispute about the status of a degree certificate, which raised various public law issues (unled).

Dan Kaszeta

(2023)

Advising a defence weapons expert on public law, Equality Act and Human Rights Act claims after his invitation to speak at a Ministry of Defence conference was revoked because he had expressed criticism of government policies. The government ultimately conceded that the decision was unlawful and withdrew 15 policy/guidance documents (with Ben Collins KC and Jane Russell).

Utilities enforcement

(2023)

Advising a regulator on potential enforcement action against a utility company (unled).

A.S.K. v United Kingdom

(European Court of Human Rights, pending)

Acting for the UK government in defence of allegations of violations of Article 5, in the context of immigration detention (with Sir James Eadie KC and Julie Anderson).

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Commencement powers

(2023)

Advising a government department on issues relating to commencement powers in legislation (unled).

Illegal Migration Bill

(2023)

Advising Freedom from Torture on the Illegal Migration Bill (with Raza Husain KC and others).

R (Jane Street Global Trading LLC) v (1) London Metal Exchange and (2) LME Clear Ltd

[2023] EWHC 2969 (Admin)

Acted for the claimant financial trading company in a challenge to a decision to cancel various trades in nickel futures. The claim raised issues under domestic public law and A1P1, and included a claim for over $15m in damages. It was one of The Lawyer's Top 20 Cases for 2023 (with James Segan KC).

R (Exolum Pipeline System Ltd) v The Crown Court at Great Grimsby

[2023] EWHC 2811 (Admin), [2024] 1 WLR 2471

Acted for a company in a challenge to a costs order made in the course of criminal proceedings. The case included issues of domestic public law and in relation to A1P1, together with the jurisdiction of the High Court in light of s.29(3) of the Senior Courts Act 1981 (unled).

Solicitors Regulation Authority investigation

(2022)

Advising a solicitor regarding an investigation by the Solicitors Regulation Authority (unled).

Public Law Project v The Information Commissioner

(First Tier Tribunal, EA/2021/0378)

Acted for PLP in a challenge to the refusal of a FOIA request for copies of submissions to the Independent Review of Administrative Law (with Kate Gallafent QC, and subsequently Gemma White QC)

Gas Act 1986 advice

(2022)

Advising on various public law issues relating to the Gas Act 1986 (unled).

clerks@blackstonechambers.com
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Eurasian Natural Resources Corporation Ltd v Director of the Serious Fraud Office

[2022] EWHC 1138 (Comm); [2023] EWHC 3280 (Comm); [2025] EWCA Civ 1307

Acting for the Director of the SFO in defence of a $93m+ claim for alleged misfeasance in public office and inducement of breach of contract/fiduciary duty. The matter was one of The Lawyer's Top 20 Cases for 2021. There was an 11-week trial in 2021, a further 2-week trial in 2023, an appeal to the Court of Appeal in 2025, and a 5-week trial is listed for 2026 (with Simon Colton KC and others).

Greenhouse gas emissions advice

(2022)

Advising a public body on legal obligations in relation to greenhouse gas emissions targets (with Kassie Smith QC).

Public law and human rights advice

(2022)

Advised a public body on wide-ranging public law and human rights issues (with Sir James Eadie QC).

Environmental JR

(2022)

Advising an environmental NGO on a potential judicial review (with Tom de la Mare QC).

Afghanistan immigration applications

(2021-2)

Advising Afghan citizens on immigration applications (unled, but in collaboration with various other Blackstone barristers).

Fisheries JR

(2021)

Advised a prospective claimant on a potential judicial review claim in relation to a fisheries issue (unled).

Parliamentary privilege advice

(2021)

Advising on issues relating to parliamentary privilege (unled).

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R (SSE Generation Ltd) v Competition and Markets Authority

[2022] EWHC 865 (Admin), [2022] 4 WLR 67; [2022] EWCA Civ 1472, [2022] 4 WLR 115

Acting for an interested party before the High Court and the Court of Appeal in a judicial review regarding transmission charges paid by generators of electricity. The case raises various issue of EU and domestic public law (with Kassie Smith QC and Amy Rogers).

R (All the Citizens Ltd) v (1) Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport; and (2) Minister for the Cabinet Office

[2022] EWHC 960 (Admin), [2022] 1 WLR 3748

Acted for the Claimant in a judicial review relating to the use of personal devices/accounts and auto-deletion functions for communications concerning government business (with Ben Jaffey QC).

R (Fratila) v Secretary of State for Work and Pensions

[2020] EWHC 998 (Admin), [2020] PTSR 1424; [2020] EWCA Civ 1741, [2021] 3 All ER 1043; [2021] UKSC 53, [2022] 3 All ER 1045

Acted for the SSWP in the High Court, the Court of Appeal and the Supreme Court in (ultimately successful) defence of a complex claim relating to Article 18 TFEU, the EU Settlement Scheme and the regulations governing entitlement to universal credit and other forms of social assistance (with Sir James Eadie QC and others).

R (Coughlan) v Minister for the Cabinet Office

[2022] UKSC 11, [2022] 1 WLR 2389

Acted for NGO interveners in a challenge to the lawfulness of pilot schemes which required voters to present proof of identity in order to vote. One of The Lawyer's Top 10 appeals for 2022 (with Tim Otty QC).

Gibfibre Ltd v Gibraltar Regulatory Authority

[2021] UKPC 31

Acted for a telecommunications operator in an appeal regarding the interpretation of the Access Directive (with James Segan QC).

R (Charles & Dunn) v Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs

[2020] EWHC 3185 (Admin), [2021] 1 WLR 1394

Acted for the Foreign Secretary in successful defence of a claim brought by the parents of Harry Dunn, who was killed when his motorbike was hit by a car driven by the wife of a member of US Embassy staff. The case raised issues relating to diplomatic immunity and Article 2 ECHR (with Sir James Eadie QC and others).

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R (TN (Vietnam)) v Secretary of State for the Home Department

[2021] UKSC 41, [2021] 1 WLR 4902

Acted for Detention Action in a case concerning the status of asylum appeals which were determined under ultra vires procedural rules (with Charlotte Kilroy QC and Jason Pobjoy).

SSE Generation Ltd v Gas and Electricity Markets Authority

(Competition and Markets Authority, 2021)

Acted for Ofgem in defence of an appeal regarding transmission charges paid by generators of electricity. The case raised various issues of EU and domestic public law (with Kassie Smith QC and Ligia Osepciu).

R (Wood Boilers LLP) v Gas and Electricity Markets Authority

(Administrative Court, 2020-1)

Acted for GEMA in defence of a legitimate expectation and A1P1 claim, in relation to the Domestic Renewable Heat Incentive Scheme. The case was listed for a 2.5-day hearing, but settled shortly before (with Alan Maclean QC).

State aid and procurement advice

(2020)

Advising a government department on various state aid and public procurement issues (unled).

Gibtelecom Ltd v (1) The Gibraltar Regulatory Authority (2) Gibfibre Ltd

(Supreme Court of Gibraltar, 2020-2023)

Acted for a telecommunications company in a regulatory dispute involving issues of EU law (with James Segan KC).

EU/competition law advice

(2020)

Advising a regulator on an EU/competition law issue (with Kassie Smith QC).

R (Vaidyanathan) v Secretary of State for the Home Department

(Administrative Court, 2020)

Acted for the defendant in successful defence of a challenge to a decision to refuse applications for British citizenship (unled).

Human rights advice

(2020)

Advised a foreign government on various human rights issues (with Lord Pannick QC).

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R (Purvis) v Secretary of State for Justice

(Administrative Court, 2020)

Acted for the defendant in successful defence of a challenge to a decision to transfer the claimant from one prison to another (unled).

Advertising Standards Authority investigation

(2020)

Advised a company regarding an investigation of one of its advertisements by the Advertising Standards Authority (with Brian Kennelly QC).

Contempt of court advice

(2020)

Advised a government department regarding a possible contempt of court (with James Eadie QC).

False imprisonment & Article 5 ECHR

(County Court, 2020)

Acted for a vulnerable individual in claims against a public authority for false imprisonment and breach of Article 5 ECHR. The case settled for a 5-figure sum (unled).

R (ENRC) v Director of the Serious Fraud Office

(Administrative Court, 2019)

Acted for the Director of the SFO in successful defence of a challenge to a decision to suspend a review of certain matters relating to an investigation (with James Segan and Tom Richards).

British Overseas Territory Brexit advice

(2019)

Advised the government of a British Overseas Territory on the implications of the EU-UK Withdrawal Agreement (unled).

A1P1, rationality, state aid, and procurement

(2019)

Advised a government department on various issues relating to A1P1, rationality, state aid and public procurement (with James Eadie QC).

Prisoner v Prison Operator

(2019)

Advising a prisoner on potential claims against the operator of a privatised prison, following an assault by another inmate (unled).

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Freedom of information

(2019)

Advised the government of a British Overseas Territory on a freedom of information issue (unled).

EU/competition law advice

(2019)

Advising a regulator on an issue of EU/competition law (unled).

Decriminalisation of same-sex sexual acts

(2019)

Advising an NGO regarding potential constitutional challenges in overseas jurisdictions to laws which criminalise consensual sexual acts between adults of the same sex in private (with Tim Otty QC and others).

Advising a political party

(2018)

Advising a political party on a constitutional issue (with Tim Otty QC).

Utilities enforcement

(2018)

Acting for a utility company in relation to enforcement action taken by its regulator (with Michael Fordham QC).

[Benefits Claimant] v Secretary of State for Work and Pensions

(Upper Tribunal, 2019)

Acted for an individual in a successful appeal regarding Employment and Support Allowance (unled).

Ingenious Games LLP and others v HMRC

[2019] UKUT 0226 (TCC); [2019] STC 1851

Acted for the Ingenious appellants in a high-profile and high-value tax appeal (with Pushpinder Saini QC and others).

Article 258 TFEU

(2018-19)

Advising a government department on potential infraction proceedings under Article 258 TFEU (with James Segan).

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Immigation appeal

(First-tier Tribunal, 2018)

Acted pro bono for the child of a refugee in a human rights appeal against a refusal of entry clearance for family reunion. UK Visas & Immigration withdrew the refusal following the lodging of the appeal (unled).

GDPR advice

(2018)

Advised several professional bodies in the financial services sector about the General Data Protection Regulation and various contractual issues (with Alan Maclean QC).

Tax JR

(2018)

Advised HMRC in respect of an application for judicial review of a decision relating to VAT offsetting (with Michael Jones).

Public sector pensions and discrimination

(2018-)

Advising a trade union on statutory interpretation, indirect discrimination and potential restitutionary claims in respect of a public sector pension scheme (with Alan Maclean QC).

EDF Energy (Thermal Generation) Ltd and others v Gas and Electricity Markets Authority

(Competition and Markets Authority, 2018)

Acted for GEMA, successfully defending an appeal to the CMA under section 173 of the Energy Act 2004. The case focused on the interpretation of an EU Regulation on charges for electricity transmission (with Alan Maclean QC and Iain Steele).

R (Bashir) v Secretary of State for the Home Department

[2018] UKSC 45; [2019] AC 484

Acted pro bono for the AIRE Centre, intervening in a case about whether the Secretary of State is obliged to permit refugees in the UK's sovereign base areas ("SBAs") in Cyprus to enter the metropolitan UK. The Secretary of State agreed to admit the Claimants after the Supreme Court held that the Refugee Convention applied to the SBAs (with Mike Fordham QC and others).

Community Protection Notices

(2017)

Provided pro bono advice to an organisation concerned about a local authority's issue of Community Protection Notices to homeless people, prohibiting them from leaving their belongings on the pavement (unled).

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

R ([Individual]) v ACCA

(2017)

Acted for the respondent accountancy regulator in successful defence of an application for judicial review of a disciplinary decision (with Shaheed Fatima QC).

Environmental JR

(2017)

Advising an environmental NGO on a potential judicial review (with Nathalie Lieven QC).

Commercial judicial review

(2017)

Acted unled for an interested party company, successfully resisting an application for permission to judicially review a decision of its regulator.

ECHR articles 8, 10 and 14 advice

(2017)

Advising a government department on articles 8, 10 and 14, and various issues of statutory interpretation (with James Eadie QC).

Legitimate expectation, A1P1 and contractual interpretation

(2017)

Advising a government department on legitimate expectation and A1P1 issues. The case also involves interpretation of a complex commercial contract (with James Eadie QC).

Flooding compensation

(2017)

Advising an environmental NGO pro bono on the availability of compensation (under statute and at common law) to persons affected by flooding and/or flood risk management activities.

Delegated legislation

(2016)

Advising pro bono on a potential judicial review of a Minister's failure to make delegated legislation (with Diya Sen Gupta and Daniel Cashman).

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Planning application - fracking

(2016)

Advised an environmental NGO pro bono in relation to a company's application for planning permission to frack for shale gas (unled).

Telecommunications data protection

(2016)

Advising a telecommunications company on data protection issues (unled).

Civil Liberties & Human Rights

George has experience of a broad range of civil liberties and human rights work, and regularly acts for individuals, NGOs, foreign governments and UK government departments. His experience includes domestic judicial review claims involving alleged breaches of various Convention Rights, applications to the European Court of Human Rights, and high-value private law claims against state and non-state defendants for alleged violations of fundamental rights (see also the "Damages Claims against the State" and "Group Litigation" sections of his CV).

George is a member of the panels of counsel maintained by the Attorney-General (both the general B panel and the Public International Law B panel) and the Equality and Human Rights Commission, and a member of the committee of the Young Public Law Group. He also has a strong commitment to pro bono work, and has been nominated by the Citizens Advice Bureau for Young Pro Bono Barrister of the Year at the Bar Pro Bono Awards.

George is ranked in Chambers & Partners (Civil liberties & human rights) and Legal 500 (Administrative law & human rights and International human rights & criminal law), and has been shortlisted for Human Rights and Public Law Junior of the Year at the Chambers UK Bar Awards.

Highlights of George's experience include the following:

- Acting for the Government of Ukraine against Russia in an inter-state case before the European Court of Human Rights, involving mass and gross violations of multiple Convention Rights (Ukraine v Russian Federation (11055/22, 9 July 2025 [GC])).

- Acting for the UN High Commissioner for Refugees in the Supreme Court in the successful challenge to the UK government's plan to transfer asylum seekers to Rwanda (R (AAA (Syria)) v SSHD [2023] UKSC 42, [2023] 1 WLR 4433).

- Acting for the Government of Iceland before the European Court of Human Rights in a very high-profile Article 6 case relating to judicial appointments (Ástráðsson v Iceland (26374/18, 1 December 2020 [GC])).

- Acting for the Government of North Macedonia before the European Court of Human Rights, in defence of applications brought under Articles 5 and/or 6 by, among others, the former Prime Minister and the former Minister of the Interior (Taleski & others v North Macedonia (16 February 2023 - ruled inadmissible); Mijalkov v North Macedonia (pending)).

"George Molyneaux is an incredibly clever and astute barrister, who has a big future ahead of him."

— CHAMBERS AND PARTNERS, 2026

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

- Acting for an individual in a claim arising out of the alleged involvement of the UK security services in kidnapping and torture in a foreign country.

- Acting for the claimant financial trading company in a $15m+ A1P1 claim, which was one of The Lawyer's Top 20 Cases for 2023 (R (Jane Street Global Trading, LLC v (1) The London Metal Exchange and (2) LME Clear Ltd [2023] EWHC 2969 (Admin)).

- Acting for the Foreign Secretary in defence of an Article 6 claim brought by the parents of Harry Dunn, who was killed when his motorbike was hit by a car driven by the wife of a member of US Embassy staff (R (Charles & Dunn) v SSFCA [2020] EWHC 3185, [2021] 1 WLR 1394).

- Acting for large numbers of claimants in claims arising out of alleged breaches of fundamental rights by natural resources companies operating in various African countries (e.g. AAA v Petra Diamonds Ltd (settled 2021) and Alame and others v Shell plc (ongoing)).

Cases

U3 v Secretary of State for the Home Department

[2025] UKSC 19, [2025] AC 1510

Acted for JUSTICE as intervener in an appeal concerning the proper approach to appeals against citizenship deprivation decisions in a national security context (with Tom Hickman KC).

IA and others v Secretary of State for the Home Department

[2025] EWCA Civ 1516

Acted for the respondent individuals in an appeal concerning family life for the purposes of Article 8 ECHR, in an immigration context (with Raza Husain KC and others).

R (Thakrar) v Secretary of State for Justice

(Court of Appeal, pending)

Acting for the Secretary of State in an appeal concerning prolonged segregation of a prisoner (with Sam Grodzinski KC and Myles Grandison).

Kovacevic v Bosnia and Herzegovina

(European Court of Human Rights, 43651/22, 25 June 2025)

Acted for the High Representative for Bosnia and Herzegovina in proceedings before the Grand Chamber regarding voting arrangements (with Tim Otty KC).

ECHR advice

(2024)

Advising the government of a British Overseas Territory on various ECHR issues, including territorial jurisdiction (with Lord Pannick KC).

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

[Prisoner] v Ministry of Justice

(2025-)

Acting for a former prisoner in a claim alleging sex discrimination, indirect disability discrimination, failures to make reasonable adjustments, and related violations of the Human Rights Act 1998 (unled).

[Prisoner] v (1) Ministry of Justice; (2) [NHS Trust]; (3) [Education provider]

(2025)

Acting for a prisoner in a claim for alleged failures to make reasonable adjustments, indirect disability discrimination and related violations of the Human Rights Act 1998 (unled).

[Prisoner] v (1) Ministry of Justice; (2) [NHS Trust]

(2025-)

Acting for a former prisoner in claims against the Ministry of Justice and an NHS Trust for alleged indirect discrimination by reference to religion and related violations of the Human Rights Act 1998 (unled).

Hora v United Kingdom

(European Court of Human Rights, 1048/2020, 23 September 2025)

Acted for the applicant in an A3P1 complaint regarding the disenfranchisement of convicted prisoners (unled).

Private Bill advice

(2024)

Advised an individual regarding a private Bill being promoted in Parliament, including issues relating to compatibility with Convention Rights (unled).

[Financial Services Companies] v [Foreign State]

(European Court of Human Rights, 2024-)

Acting for financial services companies in an application to the European Court of Human Rights which alleges violations of Articles 6, 13 and 14 and A1P1 (with Tim Otty KC).

R (AAA (Syria)) v SSHD

[2023] UKSC 42, [2023] 1 WLR 4433

Acted for the UN High Commissioner for Refugees in the successful challenge to the UK government's plan to transfer asylum seekers to Rwanda (with Angus McCullough KC and others).

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

[Bank] v [Foreign State]

(European Court of Human Rights, 2023-)

Acting for a bank in an application to the European Court of Human Rights in relation to a regulatory fine. The case raises issues under A1P1 and Articles 7, 13 and 14 (with Tim Otty KC).

A.S.K. v United Kingdom

(European Court of Human Rights, pending)

Acting for the UK government in defence of allegations of violations of Article 5, in the context of immigration detention (with Sir James Eadie KC and Julie Anderson).

R (Jane Street Global Trading LLC) v (1) London Metal Exchange and (2) LME Clear Ltd

[2023] EWHC 2969 (Admin)

Acted for the claimant financial trading company in a challenge to a decision to cancel various trades in nickel futures. The claim raised issues under domestic public law and A1P1, and included a claim for over $15m in damages. It was one of The Lawyer's Top 20 Cases for 2023 (with James Segan KC).

Dan Kaszeta

(2023)

Advising a defence weapons expert on public law, Equality Act and Human Rights Act claims after his invitation to speak at a Ministry of Defence conference was revoked because he had expressed criticism of government policies. The government ultimately conceded that the decision was unlawful and withdrew 15 policy/guidance documents (with Ben Collins KC and Jane Russell).

Google LLC and others v Russia

(European Court of Human Rights, 37027/22)

Acted for various Google entities in a case concerning violations of Articles 6 and 10 by Russia (with Tim Otty KC and others).

Ukraine v Russia

(European Court of Human Rights, 11055/22, 9 July 2025 [GC])

Acting pro bono for Ukraine in an inter-state case concerning mass and gross violations of multiple Convention rights (with Tim Otty KC and others).

Alame and others v Shell plc

[2023] EWHC 2961 (KB); [2024] EWHC 510 (KB); [2024] EWCA Civ 1500; [2025] EWHC 1539 (KB)

Acting for the claimants in complex group claims arising out of pollution from oil installations in Nigeria (with Phillippa Kaufmann KC, Anneliese Day KC and others).

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

Double jeopardy advice

(2022-)

Advising an individual on issues relating to the right not to be tried twice for the same alleged offence, in the context of Article 54 of the Convention Implementing the Schengen Agreement and Article 4 of Procotol 7 to the ECHR (with Tim Otty KC).

LQP v City of York Council

[2022] EAT 196

Acted for the appellant in a successful appeal regarding the proper approach to anonymity applications which involve Convention Rights issues, and applications for permission to amend (unled).

[Individual] v Security Services

(2022-)

Acting for an individual in a claim arising out of the alleged involvement of the UK security services in unlawful detention and torture in a foreign country, and breaches of data protection legislation (with Tom de la Mare KC).

R (Exolum Pipeline System Ltd) v The Crown Court at Great Grimsby

[2023] EWHC 2811 (Admin), [2024] 1 WLR 2471

Acted for a company in a challenge to a costs order made in the course of criminal proceedings. The case included issues of domestic public law and in relation to A1P1, together with the jurisdiction of the High Court in light of s.29(3) of the Senior Courts Act 1981 (unled).

[Prisoner] v Ministry of Justice

(2022-)

Acting for a prisoner in a claim for alleged breaches of Convention Rights and the Equality Act 2010 (unled).

Mijalkov v North Macedonia

(European Court of Human Rights, 2021-)

Acting for the Government of North Macedonia in respect of an Article 5 application, brought by the former head of the State Bureau of Security and Counter Intelligence (with Tim Otty KC).

Taleski and others v North Macedonia

(European Court of Human Rights, 77796/17, 16 February 2023)

Acting for the Government of North Macedonia in successful defence of applications raising various issues under Articles 5 and 6 ECHR (with Tim Otty KC).

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

Al-Hela v Biden

(United States Court of Appeals, District of Columbia Circuit, 2021)

Acting for the Commonwealth Lawyers Association as amicus curiae in a case about due process rights and access to evidence, in the context of a habeas corpus petition by a detainee at Guantanamo Bay (with Tim Otty QC).

Public law and human rights advice

(2022)

Advised a public body on wide-ranging public law and human rights issues (with Sir James Eadie QC).

Various claimants v [Natural resources company]

(2021-2023)

Acted for the claimants in a claim against a natural resources company, in respect of serious assaults allegedly perpetrated by security personnel. The case settled (with Tim Otty KC and others).

Ástráðsson v Iceland

(ECtHR, Grand Chamber, app. no. 26374/18, 1 December 2020)

Acted for the Icelandic government in a high profile Article 6 case before the Grand Chamber of the European Court of Human Rights, concerning in particular the nature of the "established by law" requirement (with Tim Otty QC).

R (Charles & Dunn) v Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs

[2020] EWHC 3185 (Admin), [2021] 1 WLR 1394

Acted for the Foreign Secretary in successful defence of a claim brought by the parents of Harry Dunn, who was killed when his motorbike was hit by a car driven by the wife of a member of US Embassy staff. The case raised issues relating to diplomatic immunity and Article 2 ECHR (with Sir James Eadie QC and others).

R (Wood Boilers LLP) v Gas and Electricity Markets Authority

(Administrative Court, 2020-1)

Acted for GEMA in defence of a legitimate expectation and A1P1 claim, in relation to the Domestic Renewable Heat Incentive Scheme. The case was listed for a 2.5-day hearing, but settled shortly before (with Alan Maclean QC).

Opinion on Hungarian Covid-19 legislation

(2020)

Advised the Open Society Justice Initiative regarding the compatibility with EU law of emergency legislation introduced in Hungary in the context of the Covid-19 pandemic (with Tim Otty QC, Tom de la Mare QC and Emily Neill).

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

Okpabi v Royal Dutch Shell plc

[2021] UKSC 3; [2021] 1 WLR 1294

Acted for NGO interveners in a case concerning jurisdiction and the circumstances in which a parent company may be liable in negligence for environmental damage associated with the activities of an overseas subsidiary (with Tim Otty QC and others).

AAA v Petra Diamonds Ltd

(2020-1)

Acted for the claimants in a claim regarding alleged human rights abuses by security personnel at a diamond mine in Tanzania. The case settled (with Tim Otty QC and others).

Shagang Shipping Company Ltd (in liquidation) v HNA Group Company Ltd

[2020] UKSC 34, [2020] 1 WLR 3549

Acted for Liberty (as intervener) in a case about the proper approach, in the context of a commercial dispute, to evidence which may have been obtained by torture (with Ben Jaffey QC and Natasha Simonsen).

Human rights advice

(2020)

Advised a foreign government on various human rights issues (with Lord Pannick QC).

Data protection claim

(2020)

Advising a prospective claimant on potential claims under domestic and EU data protection legislation (with Ben Jaffey QC).

R (Purvis) v Secretary of State for Justice

(Administrative Court, 2020)

Acted for the defendant in successful defence of a challenge to a decision to transfer the claimant from one prison to another (unled).

False imprisonment & Article 5 ECHR

(County Court, 2020)

Acted for a vulnerable individual in claims against a public authority for false imprisonment and breach of Article 5 ECHR. The case settled for a 5-figure sum (unled).

clerks@blackstonechambers.com
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Lungowe and others v (1) Vedanta Resources plc and (2) Konkola Copper Mines plc

[2019] UKSC 20; [2020] AC 1045

Acted for NGO interveners in a case concerning jurisdiction and the circumstances in which a parent company may be liable in negligence for environmental damage associated with the activities of an overseas subsidiary (with Tim Otty QC and others).

A1P1, rationality, state aid, and procurement

(2019)

Advised a government department on various issues relating to A1P1, rationality, state aid and public procurement (with James Eadie QC).

Prisoner v Prison Operator

(2019)

Advising a prisoner on potential claims against the operator of a privatised prison, following an assault by another inmate (unled).

Decriminalisation of same-sex sexual acts

(2019)

Advising an NGO regarding potential constitutional challenges in overseas jurisdictions to laws which criminalise consensual sexual acts between adults of the same sex in private (with Tim Otty QC and others).

Advising a political party

(2018)

Advising a political party on a constitutional issue (with Tim Otty QC).

Qassim v Trump

(United States Court of Appeals, District of Columbia Circuit, 21 June 2019)

Acted for the Commonwealth Lawyers Association as amicus curiae in a case about due process rights and access to evidence, in the context of a habeas corpus petition by a detainee at Guantanamo Bay (with Tim Otty QC).

Immigation appeal

(First-tier Tribunal, 2018)

Acted pro bono for the child of a refugee in a human rights appeal against a refusal of entry clearance for family reunion. UK Visas & Immigration withdrew the refusal following the lodging of the appeal (unled).

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

Prison race and disability discrimination

(County Court, 2017-19)

Acted for a prisoner in disability discrimination, race discrimination and Human Rights Act (Articles 8, 14 and A2P1) claims against the Ministry of Justice. The case settled (unled).

Community Protection Notices

(2017)

Provided pro bono advice to an organisation concerned about a local authority's issue of Community Protection Notices to homeless people, prohibiting them from leaving their belongings on the pavement (unled).

ECHR articles 8, 10 and 14 advice

(2017)

Advising a government department on articles 8, 10 and 14, and various issues of statutory interpretation (with James Eadie QC).

Legitimate expectation, A1P1 and contractual interpretation

(2017)

Advising a government department on legitimate expectation and A1P1 issues. The case also involves interpretation of a complex commercial contract (with James Eadie QC).

Commercial

George acts in a wide range of commercial matters, both as sole counsel and as a member of large teams. His experience includes fact-heavy Commercial Court trials, appeals to the Court of Appeal and the Supreme Court, and applications for freezing injunctions, specific disclosure, non-party disclosure and committal.

Highlights of George's experience include:

- Acting for Close Brothers in the Supreme Court in a very high-profile appeal concerning undisclosed commissions in the motor finance sector - one of The Lawyer's Top 10 Appeals for 2025 (Hopcraft v Close Brothers Ltd [2025] UKSC 33, [2025] 3 WLR 423).

- Acting for the Director of the Serious Fraud Office in an 11-week trial, defending a $93m+ claim brought by the subject of a criminal investigation (ENRC v Director of the Serious Fraud Office [2022] EWHC 1138 (Comm), [2023] EWHC 3280 (Comm), [2025] EWCA Civ 1307, which was one of The Lawyer's Top 20 Cases for 2021).

clerks@blackstonechambers.com
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- Acting for a major professional services firm in the High Court and the Court of Appeal in a case concerning the proper construction of its LLP agreement (Joseph v Deloitte NSE LLP [2019] EWHC 3583 (QB), [2020] EWCA Civ 1457, [2021] 1 BCLC 325).

- Acting in the Supreme Court in two of the leading cases on jurisdiction and parent companies' duties of care in relation to the acts/omissions of their subsidiaries (Lungowe v Vedanta Resources plc [2019] UKSC 20, [2020] AC 1045 and Okpabi v Royal Dutch Shell plc [2021] UKSC 3, [2021] 1 WLR 1294).

- Acting in the Supreme Court in a leading case on the proper approach to hearsay evidence (Shagang Shipping Company Ltd (in liquidation) v HNA Group Company Ltd [2020] UKSC 34, [2020] 1 WLR 3549).

- Acting for the Claimant in a 3-week trial of an €89m civil fraud claim (Baturina v Chistyakov [2017] EWHC 1049 (Comm)).

- Acting for the defendant in a 7-day trial of a contractual and restitutionary claim relating to an alleged agency agreement (AMP Advisory & Management Partners AG v Force India Formula One Team Ltd (in liquidation) [2019] EWHC 2426 (Comm).

Cases

Hopcraft v Close Brothers Limited

[2025] UKSC 33, [2025] 3 WLR 423

Acted for the appellant lender in a successful appeal regarding payments of undisclosed commissions in the motor finance sector. The case was one of The Lawyer's Top 10 Appeals for 2025 (with Laurence Rabinowitz KC and others).

Eurasian Natural Resources Corporation Ltd v Director of the Serious Fraud Office

[2022] EWHC 1138 (Comm); [2023] EWHC 3280 (Comm); [2025] EWCA Civ 1307

Acting for the Director of the SFO in defence of a $93m+ claim for alleged misfeasance in public office and inducement of breach of contract/fiduciary duty. The matter was one of The Lawyer's Top 20 Cases for 2021. There was an 11-week trial in 2021, a further 2-week trial in 2023, an appeal to the Court of Appeal in 2025, and a 5-week trial is listed for 2026 (with Simon Colton KC and others).

Bilateral investment treaty claim

(2025)

Advising on a potential claim under a bilateral investment treaty (with Tim Otty KC).

Cubic Transportation Systems Ltd v Transport for London

(TCC, 2025-)

Acting for the claimant in a procurement challenge relating to a contract for the provision of revenue collection services for TfL (with Sir James Eadie KC and Sarah Hannaford KC).

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

Eurasian Natural Resources Corporation Ltd v Director of the Serious Fraud Office (No. 2)

(settled, 2024)

Acted for the Director of the SFO in defence of claims of breach of confidence, misfeasance in public office and unlawful means conspiracy. The case settled on the second day of what had been due to be a 7-week trial (with Jonathan Hough KC and others).

Telecom2 Ltd v Core Telecom Ltd

(County Court, 2021-2023)

Acted for the defendant in a dispute arising out of alleged breaches of regulatory obligations in respect of the routing of telephone calls. The matter settled (unled).

Hodgkinson v Mercedes AMG High Performance Powertrains Ltd

(High Court, QBD, 2021-2022)

Acted for the defendant Formula 1 power unit manufacturer in a garden leave dispute. The case settled in the run-up to a speedy trial (with Paul Goulding QC).

[Shareholder] v [Company]

(County Court, 2021-2022)

Acted for the defendant in a company law dispute. The case settled (unled).

Various claimants v [Natural resources company]

(2021-2023)

Acted for the claimants in a claim against a natural resources company, in respect of serious assaults allegedly perpetrated by security personnel. The case settled (with Tim Otty KC and others).

Okpabi v Royal Dutch Shell plc

[2021] UKSC 3; [2021] 1 WLR 1294

Acted for NGO interveners in a case concerning jurisdiction and the circumstances in which a parent company may be liable in negligence for environmental damage associated with the activities of an overseas subsidiary (with Tim Otty QC and others).

Restraint of trade advice

(2020)

Advising an LLP on the enforceability of contractual clauses in restraint of trade (unled).

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

AAA v Petra Diamonds Ltd

(2020-1)

Acted for the claimants in a claim regarding alleged human rights abuses by security personnel at a diamond mine in Tanzania. The case settled (with Tim Otty QC and others).

Sale of goods dispute

(2020)

Advised a buyer in relation to a Sale of Goods Act 1979 dispute. The case raised issues of quality/fitness, rights of rejection, and a potential restitutionary counterclaim (unled).

Shagang Shipping Company Ltd (in liquidation) v HNA Group Company Ltd

[2020] UKSC 34, [2020] 1 WLR 3549

Acted for Liberty (as intervener) in a case about the proper approach, in the context of a commercial dispute, to evidence which may have been obtained by torture (with Ben Jaffey QC and Natasha Simonsen).

Lungowe and others v (1) Vedanta Resources plc and (2) Konkola Copper Mines plc

[2019] UKSC 20; [2020] AC 1045

Acted for NGO interveners in a case concerning jurisdiction and the circumstances in which a parent company may be liable in negligence for environmental damage associated with the activities of an overseas subsidiary (with Tim Otty QC and others).

AMP Advisory & Management Partners AG v Force India Formula One Team Ltd (in liquidation)

[2019] EWHC 2426 (Comm)

Acted for the defendant in 7-day trial of a contractual and restitutionary claim relating to an alleged agency agreement (with James Segan).

Milner v Ryanair DAC

(County Court, 2019)

Acted for Ryanair in successful defence of a flight delay claim under Regulation (EC) 261/2004 (unled).

Company v Former Employee

(County Court, 2019)

Acting for a company in an unjust enrichment claim against a former employee, arising out of the issue to him of certain shares (unled).

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

Telecommunications contract advice

(2019)

Advising the government of a British Overseas Territory on the interpretation of a contract relating to a telecommunications cable (unled).

Bilta (UK) Ltd (in liquidation) and others v Tradition Financial Services Ltd and others

(Financial List, pending)

Acted for a financial services company in defence of claims alleging dishonest assistance and under section 213 of the Insolvency Act 1986, in connection with an alleged Missing Trader Intra-Community (MTIC) VAT fraud in the carbon credits market (with Andrew Green QC).

24 Seven Communications Ltd v British Telecommunications plc

(Commercial Court, 2018-19)

Acted for the claimant telecommunications company in a dispute about the Standard Interconnect Agreement and alleged artificial inflation of traffic. The case was listed for 5-day trial, but settled shortly before (with Alan Maclean QC).

Elsom v Greystone Financial Services Ltd

(Chancery Division, 2017 - 2019)

Acted for the claimant in various claims (including deceit, negligence and breach of statutory and fiduciary duties) against a financial adviser, in respect of tax advice. The case settled (with Kieron Beal QC).

Claim against independent school

(2018)

Advising a family in respect of a potential claim against an independent school (with Robert Howe QC).

Care homes - contractual dispute

(2018)

Advising a care home operator on a contractual dispute with a local authority (unled).

Rosalina Investments Ltd v New Balance Athletic Shoes (UK) Ltd

[2018] EWHC 1014 (QB)

Acted for the defendant sportswear supplier in successful defence of contractual claims brought by companies which hold rights to the image of a Premiership footballer (with Ian Mill QC).

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

Baturina v Chistyakov

[2017] EWHC 1049 (Comm)

Junior counsel in a 3-week Commercial Court trial of a €89m civil fraud case, arising in the context of a joint venture agreement. The case involved claims in deceit, breach of contract and breach of fiduciary duty (with Andrew Green QC and Adam Baradon).

Share option dispute

(Commercial Court, 2017)

Acted for the defendant in a dispute about an ex-employee's share options. The case settled shortly before trial (with Andrew Green QC).

Share sale dispute

(County Court, 2017 - 2018)

Acted for the vendor in a dispute about the sale of shares and related matters. The case involves a debt claim, counterclaims for breach of warranty and misrepresentation, and issues relating to reflective loss (unled).

Contractual interpretation - music rights

(2017)

Advising on the interpretation of contracts concerning rights to the music of a well-known artist (with Andrew Green QC)

Film finance dispute

(2017)

Advising a producer on a claim for breach of a film financing contract (unled).

Civil fraud - freezing injunction

(Commercial Court, 2017-18)

Acted for the claimant in a claim for deceit, breach of fiduciary duty and unjust enrichment. The proceedings included successful applications for freezing injunctions and third party disclosure. The case settled shortly before applications for committal and summary judgment were due to be heard (with Ian Mill QC).

Lombard North Central plc v Ramnial

(County Court, 2017)

Acted unled in successful application to vary an instalment judgment to require immediate payment. The case also involved issues regarding enforcement procedures and the respective jurisdictions of the High Court and the County Court.

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

Unpaid commission claim

(County Court, 2017-)

Acting for a music agency business in a claim against a prominent singer for unpaid commission (unled).

Consumer contract dispute

(County Court, 2017 - 2018)

Acted unled for an individual in a dispute with a car hire company. The case involves contractual interpretation, penalty clauses and the Consumer Rights Act 2015.

Assignment of judgment debt

(2017)

Advised (as sole counsel) on the drafting of an assignment of a judgment debt, and the potential implications for enforcement.

Employment

George acts both led and unled in a broad range of employment matters. His experience includes Employment Tribunal claims for unfair dismissal, wrongful dismissal, whistleblowing, holiday pay, deductions from wages, equal pay, direct and indirect discrimination (involving a range of protected characteristics), harassment and victimisation. He also has experience of judicial mediation; TUPE; employment status and IR35 issues; pensions disputes; issues of state and diplomatic immunity; appeals to the EAT; and High Court wrongful dismissal, partnership, employee competition and share option litigation. In addition to his discrimination work in the context of employment, George acts for and against service providers in County Court discrimination claims; for details, please see the "Discrimination" section of his CV.

George is ranked for Employment in both Chambers & Partners and Legal 500, and has been shortlisted for Employment Junior of the Year at the Legal 500 Bar Awards.

Highlights of George's experience include the following:

- Acting for the former CEO of the London office of Kuwait's sovereign wealth fund, in a case involving issues of state immunity and diplomatic status (Al-Ateeqi v Kuwait Investment Authority (Employment Tribunal and Employment Appeal Tribunal, 2024-)).

- Acting unled for the respondent in a 4-day trial, successfully defending allegations of direct race discrimination, harassment and victimisation (Bandama v Care Quality Commission (Employment Tribunal, 2023)).

- Acting for a leading Formula 1 power unit manufacturer in a high-profile garden leave dispute (Hodgkinson v Mercedes AMG High Performance Powertrains Ltd (QBD, 2022)).

"George has a very high level of expertise, as well as excellent client care and advocacy skills."

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- Acting unled in a successful appeal to the EAT on the proper approach to anonymity applications and amendment (LQP v City of York Council [2022] EAT 196).

- Acting unled for the respondent in a 5-day trial, successfully defending numerous allegations of discrimination and whistleblowing detriment (El Fath v Secretary of State for Justice (Employment Tribunal, 2022)).

- Acting for a major professional services firm in the High Court and the Court of Appeal in successful defence of a claim which turned on the proper construction of its LLP agreement (Joseph v Deloitte NSE LLP [2019] EWHC 3583 (QB), [2020] EWCA Civ 1457, [2021] 1 BCLC 325).

- Acting for a well-known footwear business in successful defence of a whistleblowing unfair dismissal claim brought by its former CEO (Shearwood v C&J Clark International Ltd (Employment Tribunal, 2019-2021)).

- Advising Carrie Gracie (the BBC's former China editor) and other journalists on equal pay claims against major media organisations.

Cases

Olatunji v Openreach Ltd

(Employment Appeal Tribunal, 24 July 2025)

Acted for the appellant in a successful appeal against an Employment Tribunal costs order. The appeal concerned the Tribunal's handling of the issue of ability to pay (unled).

Immunity advice

(2025)

Advising on various issues relating to immunities in the context of employment claims (with Tim Otty KC).

Al-Ateeqi v Kuwait Investment Authority

(Employment Tribunal and EAT, 2024-)

Acting for the claimant in a whistleblowing case which involves issues relating to alleged state immunity and diplomatic status. An appeal to the Employment Appeal Tribunal is pending (with Alison Macdonald KC).

Chowdhury v Red Carpet Estates

(Employment Tribunal, 2024-5)

Acted for the respondent in successful defence of a claim involving allegations of race, religion and disability discrimination (unled).

[Partner] v [Global law firm]

(2024)

Advised a partner of a global law firm regarding potential discrimination and whistleblowing claims against the firm. The matter settled (unled).

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

Bandama v Care Quality Commission

(Employment Tribunal, 2023)

Acted for the respondent at a 4-day trial, in successful defence of claims of direct race discrimination, harassment and victimisation (unled).

[Employee] v [Employer]

(Employment Tribunal, 2022-3)

Acted for the respondent in claims of alleged direct sexual orientation discrimination, harassment, victimisation and whistleblowing detriment. The case was listed for a 10-day trial, but settled in the run-up (unled).

Hodgkinson v Mercedes AMG High Performance Powertrains Ltd

(High Court, QBD, 2021-2022)

Acted for the defendant Formula 1 power unit manufacturer in a garden leave dispute. The case settled in the run-up to a speedy trial (with Paul Goulding QC).

LQP v City of York Council

[2022] EAT 196

Acted for the appellant in a successful appeal regarding the proper approach to anonymity applications which involve Convention Rights issues, and applications for permission to amend (unled).

El Fath v Secretary of State for Justice

(Employment Tribunal, 2022)

Acted for the respondent at a 5-day trial, in successful defence of multiple allegations of discrimination and whistleblowing detriment, and of constructive unfair dismissal (unled).

Carpenter v Football Association Ltd

(Employment Tribunal, 2022)

Acting for the respondent sports governing body in defence of a disability discrimination claim in relation to professional qualifications (unled).

Cunningham v Department for Work and Pensions

(Employment Tribunal, 2022)

Acted for the respondent in successful defence of an unfair dismissal claim (unled).

[Employee] v [Employer]

(County Court, 2021-)

Acting for the Defendant in a dispute about an employment contract (unled).

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

LLP pension scheme advice

(2021-)

Advising an LLP on issues relating to its pension scheme, including the implications of the Equality Act 2010 (unled).

Constructive unfair dismissal and breach of fiduciary duties advice

(2021)

Advising an employer regarding a threatened claim for constructive unfair dismissal, and a potential counterclaim for breach of fiduciary duty. The matter settled (unled).

Gender reassignment advice

(2021)

Advising on various issues relating to the protected characteristic of gender reassignment and the Gender Recognition Act 2004 (unled).

Equal pay and sex discrimination advice

(2020)

Advising a television presenter on a potential equal pay and sex discrimination claim (with Jane Mulcahy QC).

Restraint of trade advice

(2020)

Advising an LLP on the enforceability of contractual clauses in restraint of trade (unled).

Shearwood v C&J Clark International Ltd

(Employment Tribunal, 2019-21)

Acted for the respondent footwear business in successful defence of a whistleblowing unfair dismissal claim brought by its former CEO (with Paul Goulding QC). Appeared unled in successful application for 100% of the costs of the proceedings.

Joseph v Deloitte NSE LLP

[2019] EWHC 3583 (QB); [2020] EWCA Civ 1457, [2021] 1 BCLC 325

Acted for an LLP in successful defence of a claim brought by a member who had been issued a notice of retirement (with Paul Goulding QC).

TUPE - unfair dismissal

(Employment Tribunal, 2019)

Acting for the alleged transferor in a TUPE unfair dismissal claim (unled).

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

Disability discrimination and unfair dismissal

(Employment Tribunal, 2019)

Advised the respondent to a disability discrimination and unfair dismissal claim. The case involved complex issues relating to a shareholder agreement, and settled at a judicial mediation (unled).

TUPE - unfair dismissal and consultation claims

(Employment Tribunal, 2019-)

Acting for the alleged transferee in a TUPE claim. The main issue is whether there was a TUPE transfer (unled).

Senior Executive v Ex-employer

(High Court, 2019 -)

Acting for a well-known business defending a high-value wrongful dismissal claim brought by a former senior executive (with Paul Goulding QC).

Ex-employee v Multinational company

(Employment Tribunal, 2019)

Acted for the claimant in claims for maternity discrimination and unfair dismissal. The case settled for a substantial sum at the end of the fourth day of a five-day trial (unled).

Company v Former Employee

(County Court, 2019)

Acting for a company in an unjust enrichment claim against a former employee, arising out of the issue to him of certain shares (unled).

Disability discrimination and unfair dismissal

(2019)

Acting for the respondent in a disability discrimination and unfair dismissal claim brought by an employee who had been imprisoned. The case raises issues relating to the frustration of contracts of employment (unled).

Confidential employment matter

(2019)

Advised the government of a British Overseas Territory on an employment matter (unled).

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

Pension scheme discrimination

(2019)

Advised a trade union regarding a potential sex discrimination claim in relation to the rules of a public sector pension scheme (unled).

Sex discrimination

(2018)

Advising on a potential sex discrimination claim (unled).

Sex/sexual orientation discrimination and whistleblowing

(2018)

Advising on potential claims relating to whistleblowing, sex discrimination and sexual orientation discrimination (unled).

Equal pay advice

(2018)

Advising a trade union on potential equal pay claims by its members (with Dinah Rose QC).

TUPE and asset preservation

(2018)

Advising a trade union on TUPE issues and measures to ensure that a potential defendant's assets are preserved pending determination of claims (unled).

Judicial mediation - disability discrimination and unfair dismissal

(Employment Tribunal, 2018)

Acted for a teacher in a judicial mediation of a disability discrimination and unfair dismissal claim. The mediation resulted in a substantial five-figure settlement (unled).

IR35 / employment status

(2018)

Advising a company in the legal sector on IR35 / employment status issues (with Jane Mulcahy QC).

Whistleblowing detriments

(Employment Tribunal, 2018)

Acted for the respondent in a successful application to strike out whistleblowing detriments claims (unled).

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

Whistleblowing and unfair dismissal

(2018)

Advising a deputy headteacher on potential whistleblowing and unfair dismissal claims (unled).

Judicial mediation - race discrimination and unfair dismissal

(Employment Tribunal, 2018)

Acted for 3 former casino workers in a judicial mediation, in respect of claims for race discrimination and unfair dismissal. The case settled at the mediation, with each claimant receiving a 5-figure sum (unled).

Whistleblowing and disability discrimination

(2018)

Advised a claimant on whistleblowing and disability discrimination claims. The case was listed for a 3-day hearing, but settled shortly before (unled).

Public sector pensions and discrimination

(2018-)

Advising a trade union on statutory interpretation, indirect discrimination and potential restitutionary claims in respect of a public sector pension scheme (with Alan Maclean QC).

Equal pay / sex equality

(2017-)

Advising several female employees on equal pay and other sex equality claims (with Jane Mulcahy QC).

Race discrimination, harassment, victimisation and wage deduction claims

(Employment Tribunal, 2018)

Acted for the respondents in claims alleging race discrimination, harassment, victimisation and unlawful deductions from wages. The case was listed for a 5-day trial but settled shortly before (unled).

Semakula v Smart Parking Ltd

(Employment Tribunal, 2018)

Acted for the respondent car park operator in an unfair dismissal claim, achieving a 100% reduction in compensation for contributory fault (unled).

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

Sports coach - unfair dismissal and wrongful dismissal

(2018)

Acted for a national-level sports coach in claims for unfair dismissal and wrongful dismissal. The case settled (with Pushpinder Saini QC).

Share option dispute

(Commercial Court, 2017)

Acted for the defendant in a dispute about an ex-employee's share options. The case settled shortly before trial (with Andrew Green QC).

Obhoo v Whitbread plc

(Employment Tribunal, 2017)

Acted unled for the claimant in successful claims for unfair dismissal and wrongful dismissal against a major hospitality company.

Working Time Regulations advice

(2017)

Advising an employer about various issues under the Working Time Regulations 1998, including night working and holiday pay (unled).

Wrongful dismissal and holiday pay

(Employment Tribunal, 2017)

Acted unled for the respondent in wrongful dismissal and holiday pay claim. The claimant withdrew his claim shortly after the preliminary hearing, and the respondent was awarded substantial costs.

Confidential information and database rights

(2017)

Acting for a company in the healthcare sector against its former senior executive, in claims for breach of confidence and breach of database rights (with Diya Sen Gupta).

Confidential information and restrictive covenants

(2016-17)

Acting for an employer in a claim against an ex-employee who has sought to set up a competing business. The case involves restrictive covenants, breach of confidence, breach of database rights and various economic torts (with Diya Sen Gupta).

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EU Law

George's practice encompasses a wide range of EU, competition and Brexit-related matters, and he is the Secretary of the Bar European Group. His experience includes private law competition claims under Articles 101 and 102 TFEU (and analogous provisions), regulatory disputes (especially in the telecommunications and energy sectors), and litigation concerning citizens' rights in the context of Brexit.

Highlights of George's experience include the following:

- Acting for claimant retailers in the Merchant Interchange Fee litigation before the Competition Appeal Tribunal (Primark Stores Ltd & others v Visa UK Ltd & others; Primark Stores Ltd & others v Mastercard Incorporated & others (CAT, 2022-2023)).

- Acting for the Gas and Electricity Markets Authority in defence of an appeal to the Competition and Markets Authority regarding various issues of EU law and domestic public law, and in subsequent litigation before the High Court and the Court of Appeal (SSE Generation Ltd v Gas & Electricity Markets Authority (CMA, 2021); R (SSE Generation Ltd) v Competition and Markets Authority [2022] EWHC 865 (Admin), [2022] 4 WLR 76; [2022] EWCA Civ 1472, [2022] 4 WLR 115).

- Acting for a telecommunications company in an appeal to the Privy Council regarding the proper interpretation of the Access Directive (Gibfibre Ltd v Gibraltar Regulatory Authority [2021] UKPC 31).

- Acting for the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions before the High Court, the Court of Appeal and the Supreme Court in (ultimately successful) defence of a complex claim concerning the interaction of the EU Settlement Scheme and entitlement to Universal Credit (R (Fratila) v SSWP [2020] EWHC 998 (Admin), [2020] PTSR 1424; [2020] EWCA Civ 1741, [2021] 3 All ER 1043; [2021] UKSC 53, [2022] 3 All ER 1045).

Cases

EU foreign relations advice

(2024)

Advising an NGO on issues relating to the EU's relationship with a non-European country (unled).

Primark Stores Ltd & others v Visa UK Ltd & others; Primark Stores Ltd & others v Mastercard Inc & others

(Competition Appeal Tribunal, 2022-)

Acting for various retailers in the Merchant Interchange Fee litigation (with Tristan Jones).

Double jeopardy advice

(2022-)

Advising an individual on issues relating to the right not to be tried twice for the same alleged offence, in the context of Article 54 of the Convention Implementing the Schengen Agreement and Article 4 of Procotol 7 to the ECHR (with Tim Otty KC).

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

Gibfibre Ltd v (1) Gibtelecom Ltd and (2) Rockolo Ltd

(Supreme Court of Gibraltar, 2021-2023)

Acted for the claimant telecommunications company in a claim for abuse of dominant position (with James Segan KC).

R (SSE Generation Ltd) v Competition and Markets Authority

[2022] EWHC 865 (Admin), [2022] 4 WLR 67; [2022] EWCA Civ 1472, [2022] 4 WLR 115

Acting for an interested party before the High Court and the Court of Appeal in a judicial review regarding transmission charges paid by generators of electricity. The case raises various issue of EU and domestic public law (with Kassie Smith QC and Amy Rogers).

Gibfibre Ltd v Gibraltar Regulatory Authority

[2021] UKPC 31

Acted for a telecommunications operator in an appeal regarding the interpretation of the Access Directive (with James Segan QC).

SSE Generation Ltd v Gas and Electricity Markets Authority

(Competition and Markets Authority, 2021)

Acted for Ofgem in defence of an appeal regarding transmission charges paid by generators of electricity. The case raised various issues of EU and domestic public law (with Kassie Smith QC and Ligia Osepciu).

Gibtelecom Ltd v (1) The Gibraltar Regulatory Authority (2) Gibfibre Ltd

(Supreme Court of Gibraltar, 2020-2023)

Acted for a telecommunications company in a regulatory dispute involving issues of EU law (with James Segan KC).

Tarar v Home Office

(County Court, 2021-)

Acting for the Defendant in a claim for alleged false imprisonment and Francovich damages, in relation to immigration detention (unled).

EU/competition law advice

(2020)

Advising a regulator on an EU/competition law issue (with Kassie Smith QC).

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State aid and procurement advice

(2020)

Advising a government department on various state aid and public procurement issues (unled).

Opinion on Hungarian Covid-19 legislation

(2020)

Advised the Open Society Justice Initiative regarding the compatibility with EU law of emergency legislation introduced in Hungary in the context of the Covid-19 pandemic (with Tim Otty QC, Tom de la Mare QC and Emily Neill).

R (Fratila) v Secretary of State for Work and Pensions

[2020] EWHC 998 (Admin), [2020] PTSR 1424; [2020] EWCA Civ 1741, [2021] 3 All ER 1043; [2021] UKSC 53, [2022] 3 All ER 1045

Acted for the SSWP in the High Court, the Court of Appeal and the Supreme Court in (ultimately successful) defence of a complex claim relating to Article 18 TFEU, the EU Settlement Scheme and the regulations governing entitlement to universal credit and other forms of social assistance (with Sir James Eadie QC and others).

British Overseas Territory Brexit advice

(2019)

Advised the government of a British Overseas Territory on the implications of the EU-UK Withdrawal Agreement (unled).

A1P1, rationality, state aid, and procurement

(2019)

Advised a government department on various issues relating to A1P1, rationality, state aid and public procurement (with James Eadie QC).

Milner v Ryanair DAC

(County Court, 2019)

Acted for Ryanair in successful defence of a flight delay claim under Regulation (EC) 261/2004 (unled).

EU/competition law advice

(2019)

Advising a regulator on an issue of EU/competition law (unled).

clerks@blackstonechambers.com
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Article 258 TFEU

(2018-19)

Advising a government department on potential infraction proceedings under Article 258 TFEU (with James Segan).

Bilateral investment treaty arbitration

(2018)

Acting for the claimant in a bilateral investment treaty arbitration, in respect of issues relating to the interaction of international and EU law (with Pushpinder Saini QC).

EDF Energy (Thermal Generation) Ltd and others v Gas and Electricity Markets Authority

(Competition and Markets Authority, 2018)

Acted for GEMA, successfully defending an appeal to the CMA under section 173 of the Energy Act 2004. The case focused on the interpretation of an EU Regulation on charges for electricity transmission (with Alan Maclean QC and Iain Steele).

Competition

George's experience of private, public and EU law makes him well-placed to act in competition matters. His experience includes both private law competition claims under Articles 101 and 102 TFEU (and analogous provisions) and regulatory disputes involving competition authorities (especially in the telecommunications and energy sectors).

Highlights of George's experience include the following:

- Acting for a claimant telecommunications company in a claim for alleged abuse of dominant position (Gibfibre Ltd v Gibtelecom Ltd (Supreme Court of Gibraltar, 2021-2023)).

- Acting for claimant retailers in the Merchant Interchange Fee litigation before the Competition Appeal Tribunal (Primark Stores Ltd & others v Visa UK Ltd & others; Primark Stores Ltd & others v Mastercard Incorporated & others (CAT, 2022-2023)).

- Acting for the Gas and Electricity Markets Authority in defence of an appeal to the Competition and Markets Authority regarding various issues of EU law and domestic public law, and in subsequent litigation before the High Court and the Court of Appeal (SSE Generation Ltd v Gas & Electricity Markets Authority (CMA, 2021); R (SSE Generation Ltd) v Competition and Markets Authority [2022] EWHC 865 (Admin), [2022] 4 WLR 76; [2022] EWCA Civ 1472, [2022] 4 WLR 115).

- Acting for a telecommunications company in an appeal to the Privy Council regarding the proper interpretation of the Access Directive (Gibfibre Ltd v Gibraltar Regulatory Authority [2021] UKPC 31).

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

Cases

Primark Stores Ltd & others v Visa UK Ltd & others; Primark Stores Ltd & others v Mastercard Inc & others

(Competition Appeal Tribunal, 2022-)

Acting for various retailers in the Merchant Interchange Fee litigation (with Tristan Jones).

Gibfibre Ltd v (1) Gibtelecom Ltd and (2) Rockolo Ltd

(Supreme Court of Gibraltar, 2021-2023)

Acted for the claimant telecommunications company in a claim for abuse of dominant position (with James Segan KC).

R (SSE Generation Ltd) v Competition and Markets Authority

[2022] EWHC 865 (Admin), [2022] 4 WLR 67; [2022] EWCA Civ 1472, [2022] 4 WLR 115

Acting for an interested party before the High Court and the Court of Appeal in a judicial review regarding transmission charges paid by generators of electricity. The case raises various issue of EU and domestic public law (with Kassie Smith QC and Amy Rogers).

Gibfibre Ltd v Gibraltar Regulatory Authority

[2021] UKPC 31

Acted for a telecommunications operator in an appeal regarding the interpretation of the Access Directive (with James Segan QC).

SSE Generation Ltd v Gas and Electricity Markets Authority

(Competition and Markets Authority, 2021)

Acted for Ofgem in defence of an appeal regarding transmission charges paid by generators of electricity. The case raised various issues of EU and domestic public law (with Kassie Smith QC and Ligia Osepciu).

Gibtelecom Ltd v (1) The Gibraltar Regulatory Authority (2) Gibfibre Ltd

(Supreme Court of Gibraltar, 2020-2023)

Acted for a telecommunications company in a regulatory dispute involving issues of EU law (with James Segan KC).

EU/competition law advice

(2020)

Advising a regulator on an EU/competition law issue (with Kassie Smith QC).

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+44 (0)20 7583 1770

State aid and procurement advice

(2020)

Advising a government department on various state aid and public procurement issues (unled).

A1P1, rationality, state aid, and procurement

(2019)

Advised a government department on various issues relating to A1P1, rationality, state aid and public procurement (with James Eadie QC).

EU/competition law advice

(2019)

Advising a regulator on an issue of EU/competition law (unled).

EDF Energy (Thermal Generation) Ltd and others v Gas and Electricity Markets Authority

(Competition and Markets Authority, 2018)

Acted for GEMA, successfully defending an appeal to the CMA under section 173 of the Energy Act 2004. The case focused on the interpretation of an EU Regulation on charges for electricity transmission (with Alan Maclean QC and Iain Steele).

Environment

George has substantial experience of environmental law, with a particular focus on water quality and industrial pollution. He also has experience of issues relating to greenwashing, climate change, air quality, fisheries and fossil fuel exploration. George is a member of the Attorney-General's B Panel, and his environmental law work draws on his wide experience of public, private and EU law.

George is ranked in Chambers & Partners for environmental law.

Examples of George's environmental law work include the following:

- Manchester Ship Canal Company Ltd v United Utilities Water Ltd [2024] UKSC 22, [2025] AC 761 – George acted for the Manchester Ship Canal in a Supreme Court appeal concerning the availability of private law nuisance claims in respect of discharges of sewage into watercourses. The case was one of The Lawyer's Top 10 appeals for 2023.

- Manchester Ship Canal Company Ltd v Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs [2025] EWCA Civ 676, [2026] Env LR 4 - George acted for the Manchester Ship Canal in an appeal relating to an order authorising the compulsory purchase of a right to discharge sewage into the canal. An appeal to the Supreme Court is pending.

"George's knowledge and experience are very impressive, and he demonstrates excellent client care skills and provides practical, pragmatic advice."

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- Alame and others v Shell plc [2023] EWHC 2961 (KB), [2024] EWHC 510 (KB), [2024] EWCA Civ 1500, [2025] EWHC 1539 (KB) – George is acting for thousands of claimants against Shell, in claims arising out of pollution from oil installations in Nigeria. George previously acted in an appeal to the Supreme Court on a jurisdictional issue in the same litigation: Okpabi v Royal Dutch Shell plc [2021] UKSC 3, [2021] 1 WLR 1294.

- Lungowe v Vedanta Resources plc [2019] UKSC 20, [2020] AC 1045 – George acted in the Supreme Court in the leading case on parent company liability for environmental damage, in the context of alleged liability for pollution from a copper mine in Zambia.

- Confidential advisory work – George has advised on many environmental matters, including water/sewerage issues; potential climate change litigation; misleading environmental claims in advertisements; and potential judicial reviews relating to air quality, fisheries and North Sea oil exploration.

Cases

ASA complaint regarding Assured Food Standards t/a Red Tractor

(15 October 2025)

Acted for River Action UK in a successful complaint to the Advertising Standards Authority regarding environmental claims in an advertisement for the Red Tractor farm assurance scheme (with Tom de la Mare KC).

The Manchester Ship Canal Company Ltd v Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

[2025] EWCA Civ 676, [2026] Env LR 4

Acted for the appellant canal owner in an appeal relating to an order authorising the compulsory purchase of a right to discharge from a sewer into the canal (with Tom de la Mare KC and Charles Morgan).

Manchester Ship Canal Company Ltd v United Utilities Water Ltd

[2024] UKSC 22, [2025] AC 761

Acted for Manchester Ship Canal in a successful appeal to the Supreme Court relating to the availability of common law causes of action in respect of sewerage undertakers' polluting discharges into waterbodies - one of The Lawyer's Top 10 Appeals for 2023 (with Tom de la Mare KC and others).

Alame and others v Shell plc

[2023] EWHC 2961 (KB); [2024] EWHC 510 (KB); [2024] EWCA Civ 1500; [2025] EWHC 1539 (KB)

Acting for the claimants in complex group claims arising out of pollution from oil installations in Nigeria (with Phillippa Kaufmann KC, Anneliese Day KC and others).

[Landowner] v [Chemical company]

(2025)

Advising a landowner on a potential claim against a chemical company following an escape of pollutants (unled).

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

[Farmer] v [Sewerage undertaker]

(2024-)

Advising a farmer on a potential claim against a sewerage undertaker, in relation to damage caused by an escape of sewage (unled).

Water and sewerage industry advice

(2023-)

Advising various clients on a range of confidential matters relating to the water and sewerage industry, including issues relating to the Water Industry Act 1991, the Reservoirs Act 1975, the Environmental Protection Act 1990, the Water (Special Measures) Act 2025, the Urban Waste Water Treatment (England and Wales) Regulations 1994, the Water Industry (Specified Infrastructure Projects) (English Undertakers) Regulations 2013, the Water Supply (Water Quality) Regulations 2016 and the Private Water Supplies (England) Regulations 2016 (mix of led and unled work).

Climate change advice

(2023)

Advising an NGO on potential litigation relating to climate change (unled).

Greenhouse gas emissions advice

(2022)

Advising a public body on legal obligations in relation to greenhouse gas emissions targets (with Kassie Smith QC).

Sewage advice

(2022)

Advising fishermen on potential claims in relation to discharges of sewage (unled).

Environmental JR

(2022)

Advising an environmental NGO on a potential judicial review (with Tom de la Mare QC).

Fisheries JR

(2021)

Advised a prospective claimant on a potential judicial review claim in relation to a fisheries issue (unled).

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

Okpabi v Royal Dutch Shell plc

[2021] UKSC 3; [2021] 1 WLR 1294

Acted for NGO interveners in a case concerning jurisdiction and the circumstances in which a parent company may be liable in negligence for environmental damage associated with the activities of an overseas subsidiary (with Tim Otty QC and others).

Lungowe and others v (1) Vedanta Resources plc and (2) Konkola Copper Mines plc

[2019] UKSC 20; [2020] AC 1045

Acted for NGO interveners in a case concerning jurisdiction and the circumstances in which a parent company may be liable in negligence for environmental damage associated with the activities of an overseas subsidiary (with Tim Otty QC and others).

Flooding compensation

(2017)

Advising an environmental NGO pro bono on the availability of compensation (under statute and at common law) to persons affected by flooding and/or flood risk management activities.

Environmental JR

(2017)

Advising an environmental NGO on a potential judicial review (with Nathalie Lieven QC).

Planning application - fracking

(2016)

Advised an environmental NGO pro bono in relation to a company's application for planning permission to frack for shale gas (unled).

Discrimination

George has considerable experience of equality and discrimination matters, including direct and indirect discrimination, harassment, victimisation, equal pay, and failure to make reasonable adjustments for persons with disabilities. He has experience of cases involving almost all protected characteristics, and is a member of the Equality and Human Rights Commission's Panel of Counsel.

Highlights of George's experience include:

- Acting unled for the respondent in a 5-day trial, successfully defending numerous allegations of race and religious belief discrimination (El Fath v Secretary of State for Justice (Employment Tribunal, 2022)).

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

- Acting for the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions before the High Court, the Court of Appeal and the Supreme Court in a complex case which concerned (among other things) the nature of the test for direct discrimination (R (Fratila) v SSWP [2020] EWHC 998 (Admin), [2020] PTSR 1424; [2020] EWCA Civ 1741, [2021] 3 All ER 1043; [2021] UKSC 53, [2022] 3 All ER 1045).

- Advising Carrie Gracie (the BBC's former China editor) and other journalists on equal pay claims against major media organisations.

Cases

[Prisoner] v (1) Ministry of Justice; (2) [NHS Trust]

(2025-)

Acting for a former prisoner in claims against the Ministry of Justice and an NHS Trust for alleged indirect discrimination by reference to religion and related violations of the Human Rights Act 1998 (unled).

[Prisoner] v (1) Ministry of Justice; (2) [NHS Trust]; (3) [Education provider]

(2025)

Acting for a prisoner in a claim for alleged failures to make reasonable adjustments, indirect disability discrimination and related violations of the Human Rights Act 1998 (unled).

[Prisoner] v Ministry of Justice

(2025-)

Acting for a former prisoner in a claim alleging sex discrimination, indirect disability discrimination, failures to make reasonable adjustments, and related violations of the Human Rights Act 1998 (unled).

[Partner] v [Global law firm]

(2024)

Advised a partner of a global law firm regarding potential discrimination and whistleblowing claims against the firm. The matter settled (unled).

[Individuals] v [Housing Association]

(County Court, 2024-2025)

Acted for two blind claimants in a reasonable adjustments claim against a housing association. The matter settled (unled).

[Individual] v [Local Authority]

(2024)

Advised a blind individual on a claim against a local authority in relation to failures to make reasonable adjustments to arrangements for voting at elections. The matter settled (unled).

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

Dan Kaszeta

(2023)

Advising a defence weapons expert on public law, Equality Act and Human Rights Act claims after his invitation to speak at a Ministry of Defence conference was revoked because he had expressed criticism of government policies. The government ultimately conceded that the decision was unlawful and withdrew 15 policy/guidance documents (with Ben Collins KC and Jane Russell).

Bandama v Care Quality Commission

(Employment Tribunal, 2023)

Acted for the respondent at a 4-day trial, in successful defence of claims of direct race discrimination, harassment and victimisation (unled).

El Fath v Secretary of State for Justice

(Employment Tribunal, 2022)

Acted for the respondent at a 5-day trial, in successful defence of multiple allegations of discrimination and whistleblowing detriment, and of constructive unfair dismissal (unled).

[Employee] v [Employer]

(Employment Tribunal, 2022-3)

Acted for the respondent in claims of alleged direct sexual orientation discrimination, harassment, victimisation and whistleblowing detriment. The case was listed for a 10-day trial, but settled in the run-up (unled).

[Prisoner] v Ministry of Justice

(2022-)

Acting for a prisoner in a claim for alleged breaches of Convention Rights and the Equality Act 2010 (unled).

Carpenter v Football Association Ltd

(Employment Tribunal, 2022)

Acting for the respondent sports governing body in defence of a disability discrimination claim in relation to professional qualifications (unled).

Gender reassignment advice

(2021)

Advising on various issues relating to the protected characteristic of gender reassignment and the Gender Recognition Act 2004 (unled).

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LLP pension scheme advice

(2021-)

Advising an LLP on issues relating to its pension scheme, including the implications of the Equality Act 2010 (unled).

Equal pay and sex discrimination advice

(2020)

Advising a television presenter on a potential equal pay and sex discrimination claim (with Jane Mulcahy QC).

Ex-employee v Multinational company

(Employment Tribunal, 2019)

Acted for the claimant in claims for maternity discrimination and unfair dismissal. The case settled for a substantial sum at the end of the fourth day of a five-day trial (unled).

Disability discrimination and unfair dismissal

(Employment Tribunal, 2019)

Advised the respondent to a disability discrimination and unfair dismissal claim. The case involved complex issues relating to a shareholder agreement, and settled at a judicial mediation (unled).

Pension scheme discrimination

(2019)

Advised a trade union regarding a potential sex discrimination claim in relation to the rules of a public sector pension scheme (unled).

Disability discrimination and unfair dismissal

(2019)

Acting for the respondent in a disability discrimination and unfair dismissal claim brought by an employee who had been imprisoned. The case raises issues relating to the frustration of contracts of employment (unled).

Sex/sexual orientation discrimination and whistleblowing

(2018)

Advising on potential claims relating to whistleblowing, sex discrimination and sexual orientation discrimination (unled).

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Equal pay advice

(2018)

Advising a trade union on potential equal pay claims by its members (with Dinah Rose QC).

Sex discrimination

(2018)

Advising on a potential sex discrimination claim (unled).

Judicial mediation - disability discrimination and unfair dismissal

(Employment Tribunal, 2018)

Acted for a teacher in a judicial mediation of a disability discrimination and unfair dismissal claim. The mediation resulted in a substantial five-figure settlement (unled).

Judicial mediation - race discrimination and unfair dismissal

(Employment Tribunal, 2018)

Acted for 3 former casino workers in a judicial mediation, in respect of claims for race discrimination and unfair dismissal. The case settled at the mediation, with each claimant receiving a 5-figure sum (unled).

Public sector pensions and discrimination

(2018-)

Advising a trade union on statutory interpretation, indirect discrimination and potential restitutionary claims in respect of a public sector pension scheme (with Alan Maclean QC).

Race discrimination, harassment, victimisation and wage deduction claims

(Employment Tribunal, 2018)

Acted for the respondents in claims alleging race discrimination, harassment, victimisation and unlawful deductions from wages. The case was listed for a 5-day trial but settled shortly before (unled).

Whistleblowing and disability discrimination

(2018)

Advised a claimant on whistleblowing and disability discrimination claims. The case was listed for a 3-day hearing, but settled shortly before (unled).

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

Prison race and disability discrimination

(County Court, 2017-19)

Acted for a prisoner in disability discrimination, race discrimination and Human Rights Act (Articles 8, 14 and A2P1) claims against the Ministry of Justice. The case settled (unled).

Equal pay / sex equality

(2017-)

Advising several female employees on equal pay and other sex equality claims (with Jane Mulcahy QC).

Disability discrimination

(County Court, 2017)

Acted unled for the defendant operator of a major sports ground in a claim brought by a visually-impaired person, who alleged a failure to make reasonable adjustments. The case settled.

Caste discrimination

(2016)

Advising on issues relating to caste discrimination (with Diya Sen Gupta).

Group Litigation

George has significant experience of group litigation, particularly (but not only) in the context of mass tort claims brought against English-domiciled parent companies and their overseas subsidiaries in respect of alleged human rights abuses and/or environmental damage.

George is ranked for group litigation in Chambers & Partners.

Highlights of George's experience include:

- Alame and others v Shell plc [2023] EWHC 2961 (KB), [2024] EWHC 510 (KB), [2024] EWCA Civ 1500, [2025] EWHC 1539 (KB) – George is acting for thousands of claimants against Shell, in claims arising out of pollution from oil installations in Nigeria. George previously acted in an appeal to the Supreme Court on a jurisdictional issue in the same litigation: Okpabi v Royal Dutch Shell plc [2021] UKSC 3, [2021] 1 WLR 1294.

- Various claimants v [Natural resources company] (settled, 2023) - George acted for a large group of claimants in a claim against a natural resources company, in respect of alleged assaults by security personnel in a foreign country.

- AAA and others v Petra Diamonds Ltd (settled, 2021) - George acted for several dozen claimants in claims regarding alleged human rights abuses by security personnel at a diamond mine in Tanzania.

"George is an exceptional advocate. His legal analysis is top-notch and he is a pleasure to work with."

— CHAMBERS AND PARTNERS, 2026

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+44 (0)20 7583 1770

- The Merchant Interchange Fee Umbrella Proceedings (CAT, 2022-2023) - George acted for Primark Stores Ltd and several related entities at certain stages of complex proceedings brought by numerous claimants against Visa and Mastercard.

- Lungowe and others v Vedanta Resources plc [2019] UKSC 20, [2020] AC 1045 – George acted in the Supreme Court in the leading case on parent company liability for environmental damage, in the context of alleged liability for pollution from a copper mine in Zambia.

Cases

Alame and others v Shell plc

[2023] EWHC 2961 (KB); [2024] EWHC 510 (KB); [2024] EWCA Civ 1500; [2025] EWHC 1539 (KB)

Acting for the claimants in complex group claims arising out of pollution from oil installations in Nigeria (with Phillippa Kaufmann KC, Anneliese Day KC and others).

AAA v Petra Diamonds Ltd

(2020-1)

Acted for the claimants in a claim regarding alleged human rights abuses by security personnel at a diamond mine in Tanzania. The case settled (with Tim Otty QC and others).

Various claimants v [Natural resources company]

(2021-2023)

Acted for the claimants in a claim against a natural resources company, in respect of serious assaults allegedly perpetrated by security personnel. The case settled (with Tim Otty KC and others).

Primark Stores Ltd & others v Visa UK Ltd & others; Primark Stores Ltd & others v Mastercard Inc & others

(Competition Appeal Tribunal, 2022-)

Acting for various retailers in the Merchant Interchange Fee litigation (with Tristan Jones).

Okpabi v Royal Dutch Shell plc

[2021] UKSC 3; [2021] 1 WLR 1294

Acted for NGO interveners in a case concerning jurisdiction and the circumstances in which a parent company may be liable in negligence for environmental damage associated with the activities of an overseas subsidiary (with Tim Otty QC and others).

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

Lungowe and others v (1) Vedanta Resources plc and (2) Konkola Copper Mines plc

[2019] UKSC 20; [2020] AC 1045

Acted for NGO interveners in a case concerning jurisdiction and the circumstances in which a parent company may be liable in negligence for environmental damage associated with the activities of an overseas subsidiary (with Tim Otty QC and others).

Damages Claims Against the State

George has extensive experience of damages claims against states and state bodies, and acts for claimants (ranging from vulnerable prisoners to large companies), UK public bodies and foreign governments.

Highlights of George's experience include:

- Acting for the Director of the Serious Fraud Office in long-running proceedings brought by the subject of a criminal investigation (ENRC v Director of the Serious Fraud Office [2022] EWHC 1138 (Comm), [2023] EWHC 3280 (Comm), [2025] EWCA Civ 1307, one of The Lawyer's Top 20 Cases for 2021).

- Acting for the Government of Ukraine against Russia in an inter-state case before the European Court of Human Rights, involving mass and gross violations of multiple Convention Rights (Ukraine v Russian Federation (11055/22, 9 July 2025 [GC])).

- Acting for the Government of Iceland before the European Court of Human Rights in a very high-profile Article 6 case relating to judicial appointments (Ástráðsson v Iceland (26374/18, 1 December 2020 [GC])).

- Acting for the Government of North Macedonia before the European Court of Human Rights, in defence of applications brought under Articles 5 and/or 6 by, among others, the former Prime Minister and the former Minister of the Interior (Taleski & others v North Macedonia (16 February 2023 - ruled inadmissible); Mijalkov v North Macedonia (pending)).

Cases

[Prisoner] v (1) Ministry of Justice; (2) [NHS Trust]

(2025-)

Acting for a former prisoner in claims against the Ministry of Justice and an NHS Trust for alleged indirect discrimination by reference to religion and related violations of the Human Rights Act 1998 (unled).

[Prisoner] v (1) Ministry of Justice; (2) [NHS Trust]; (3) [Education provider]

(2025)

Acting for a prisoner in a claim for alleged failures to make reasonable adjustments, indirect disability discrimination and related violations of the Human Rights Act 1998 (unled).

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

[Prisoner] v Ministry of Justice

(2025-)

Acting for a former prisoner in a claim alleging sex discrimination, indirect disability discrimination, failures to make reasonable adjustments, and related violations of the Human Rights Act 1998 (unled).

Eurasian Natural Resources Corporation Ltd v Director of the Serious Fraud Office (No. 2)

(settled, 2024)

Acted for the Director of the SFO in defence of claims of breach of confidence, misfeasance in public office and unlawful means conspiracy. The case settled on the second day of what had been due to be a 7-week trial (with Jonathan Hough KC and others).

[Financial Services Companies] v [Foreign State]

(European Court of Human Rights, 2024-)

Acting for financial services companies in an application to the European Court of Human Rights which alleges violations of Articles 6, 13 and 14 and A1P1 (with Tim Otty KC).

Hora v United Kingdom

(European Court of Human Rights, 1048/2020, 23 September 2025)

Acted for the applicant in an A3P1 complaint regarding the disenfranchisement of convicted prisoners (unled).

[Bank] v [Foreign State]

(European Court of Human Rights, 2023-)

Acting for a bank in an application to the European Court of Human Rights in relation to a regulatory fine. The case raises issues under A1P1 and Articles 7, 13 and 14 (with Tim Otty KC).

Eurasian Natural Resources Corporation Ltd v Director of the Serious Fraud Office

[2022] EWHC 1138 (Comm); [2023] EWHC 3280 (Comm); [2025] EWCA Civ 1307

Acting for the Director of the SFO in defence of a $93m+ claim for alleged misfeasance in public office and inducement of breach of contract/fiduciary duty. The matter was one of The Lawyer's Top 20 Cases for 2021. There was an 11-week trial in 2021, a further 2-week trial in 2023, an appeal to the Court of Appeal in 2025, and a 5-week trial is listed for 2026 (with Simon Colton KC and others).

Ukraine v Russia

(European Court of Human Rights, 11055/22, 9 July 2025 [GC])

Acting pro bono for Ukraine in an inter-state case concerning mass and gross violations of multiple Convention rights (with Tim Otty KC and others).

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

[Individual] v Security Services

(2022-)

Acting for an individual in a claim arising out of the alleged involvement of the UK security services in unlawful detention and torture in a foreign country, and breaches of data protection legislation (with Tom de la Mare KC).

Taleski and others v North Macedonia

(European Court of Human Rights, 77796/17, 16 February 2023)

Acting for the Government of North Macedonia in successful defence of applications raising various issues under Articles 5 and 6 ECHR (with Tim Otty KC).

Mijalkov v North Macedonia

(European Court of Human Rights, 2021-)

Acting for the Government of North Macedonia in respect of an Article 5 application, brought by the former head of the State Bureau of Security and Counter Intelligence (with Tim Otty KC).

Ástráðsson v Iceland

(ECtHR, Grand Chamber, app. no. 26374/18, 1 December 2020)

Acted for the Icelandic government in a high profile Article 6 case before the Grand Chamber of the European Court of Human Rights, concerning in particular the nature of the "established by law" requirement (with Tim Otty QC).

Tarar v Home Office

(County Court, 2021-)

Acting for the Defendant in a claim for alleged false imprisonment and Francovich damages, in relation to immigration detention (unled).

False imprisonment & Article 5 ECHR

(County Court, 2020)

Acted for a vulnerable individual in claims against a public authority for false imprisonment and breach of Article 5 ECHR. The case settled for a 5-figure sum (unled).

Prison race and disability discrimination

(County Court, 2017-19)

Acted for a prisoner in disability discrimination, race discrimination and Human Rights Act (Articles 8, 14 and A2P1) claims against the Ministry of Justice. The case settled (unled).

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

Prisoner v Prison Operator

(2019)

Advising a prisoner on potential claims against the operator of a privatised prison, following an assault by another inmate (unled).

Public International Law

George is a member of the Attorney-General's Public International Law B Panel, and has experience of several matters in this area.

Highlights of George's experience include:

- Acting for the former CEO of the London office of Kuwait's sovereign wealth fund, in a claim raising issues of state immunity and diplomatic status (Al-Ateeqi v Kuwait Investment Authority (Employment Tribunal and Employment Appeal Tribunal, 2024-)).

- Acting for the Government of Ukraine against Russia in an inter-state case before the European Court of Human Rights, involving mass and gross violations of multiple Convention Rights (Ukraine v Russian Federation (11055/22, 9 July 2025 [GC])).

- Acting for the Foreign Secretary in a high-profile judicial review claim regarding the scope of diplomatic immunity, brought by the parents of a man who was killed when his motorbike was hit by a car driven by the wife of a member of US Embassy staff (R (Charles & Dunn) v SSFCA [2020] EWHC 3185 (Admin), [2021] 1 WLR 1394).

- Acting for the AIRE Centre in the Supreme Court in a case about the territorial extent of the Refugee Convention (R (Bashir) v SSHD [2018] UKSC 45, [2019] AC 484).

Cases

Al-Ateeqi v Kuwait Investment Authority

(Employment Tribunal and EAT, 2024-)

Acting for the claimant in a whistleblowing case which involves issues relating to alleged state immunity and diplomatic status. An appeal to the Employment Appeal Tribunal is pending (with Alison Macdonald KC).

Bilateral investment treaty claim

(2025)

Advising on a potential claim under a bilateral investment treaty (with Tim Otty KC).

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

Kovacevic v Bosnia and Herzegovina

(European Court of Human Rights, 43651/22, 25 June 2025)

Acted for the High Representative for Bosnia and Herzegovina in proceedings before the Grand Chamber regarding voting arrangements (with Tim Otty KC).

State immunity advice

(2024)

Advising an overseas entity on various issues relating to state immunity (with Sam Grodzinski KC).

EU foreign relations advice

(2024)

Advising an NGO on issues relating to the EU's relationship with a non-European country (unled).

United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea advice

(2024)

Advising a public body on issues relating to the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (unled).

[Financial Services Companies] v [Foreign State]

(European Court of Human Rights, 2024-)

Acting for financial services companies in an application to the European Court of Human Rights which alleges violations of Articles 6, 13 and 14 and A1P1 (with Tim Otty KC).

Ukraine v Russia

(European Court of Human Rights, 11055/22, 9 July 2025 [GC])

Acting pro bono for Ukraine in an inter-state case concerning mass and gross violations of multiple Convention rights (with Tim Otty KC and others).

[Bank] v [Foreign State]

(European Court of Human Rights, 2023-)

Acting for a bank in an application to the European Court of Human Rights in relation to a regulatory fine. The case raises issues under A1P1 and Articles 7, 13 and 14 (with Tim Otty KC).

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

Google LLC and others v Russia

(European Court of Human Rights, 37027/22)

Acted for various Google entities in a case concerning violations of Articles 6 and 10 by Russia (with Tim Otty KC and others).

Mijalkov v North Macedonia

(European Court of Human Rights, 2021-)

Acting for the Government of North Macedonia in respect of an Article 5 application, brought by the former head of the State Bureau of Security and Counter Intelligence (with Tim Otty KC).

Taleski and others v North Macedonia

(European Court of Human Rights, 77796/17, 16 February 2023)

Acting for the Government of North Macedonia in successful defence of applications raising various issues under Articles 5 and 6 ECHR (with Tim Otty KC).

Ástráðsson v Iceland

(ECtHR, Grand Chamber, app. no. 26374/18, 1 December 2020)

Acted for the Icelandic government in a high profile Article 6 case before the Grand Chamber of the European Court of Human Rights, concerning in particular the nature of the "established by law" requirement (with Tim Otty QC).

R (Charles & Dunn) v Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs

[2020] EWHC 3185 (Admin), [2021] 1 WLR 1394

Acted for the Foreign Secretary in successful defence of a claim brought by the parents of Harry Dunn, who was killed when his motorbike was hit by a car driven by the wife of a member of US Embassy staff. The case raised issues relating to diplomatic immunity and Article 2 ECHR (with Sir James Eadie QC and others).

British Overseas Territory Brexit advice

(2019)

Advised the government of a British Overseas Territory on the implications of the EU-UK Withdrawal Agreement (unled).

R (Bashir) v Secretary of State for the Home Department

[2018] UKSC 45; [2019] AC 484

Acted pro bono for the AIRE Centre, intervening in a case about whether the Secretary of State is obliged to permit refugees in the UK's sovereign base areas ("SBAs") in Cyprus to enter the metropolitan UK. The Secretary of State agreed to admit the Claimants after the Supreme Court held that the Refugee Convention applied to the SBAs (with Mike Fordham QC and others).

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

Bilateral investment treaty arbitration

(2018)

Acting for the claimant in a bilateral investment treaty arbitration, in respect of issues relating to the interaction of international and EU law (with Pushpinder Saini QC).

Energy

George has substantial experience of work in the Energy sector, with a particular focus on regulatory issues in the electricity and gas markets. He is a member of the Attorney-General's B Panel and frequently advises and acts for Ofgem, drawing on his wide experience of public, private and EU law. He is ranked for Energy in Legal 500.

"George is a pleasure to work with – he has forensic attention to detail, is extremely hardworking and efficient, and very bright."

– LEGAL 500, 2026

Examples of George's work in the Energy field include the following:

- R (SSE Generation Ltd) v Competition and Markets Authority [2022] EWHC 865 (Admin), [2022] 4 WLR 76; [2022] EWCA Civ 1472, [2022] 4 WLR 115 – George acted for Ofgem in the High Court and the Court of Appeal in a case which raised complex questions of Retained EU Law in the context of electricity transmission.

- SSE Generation Ltd v Gas & Electricity Markets Authority (Competition and Markets Authority, 2021) – George acted for Ofgem in defence of an appeal to the CMA arising out of a major review of the Code which governs electricity transmission charges.

- R (Wood Boilers LLP) v Gas & Electricity Markets Authority (Administrative Court, 2021) – George acted for Ofgem in defence of a legitimate expectation and A1P1 claim, in relation to the Domestic Renewable Heat Incentive Scheme. The Claimant withdrew its claim shortly before the case was due to be heard.

- EDF Energy (Thermal Generation) Ltd and others v Gas & Electricity Markets Authority (Competition and Markets Authority, 2018) – George acted for Ofgem in successful defence of an appeal to the CMA in relation to the methodology for setting electricity transmission charges.

- Confidential advisory work – George frequently advises on regulatory issues which arise in the Energy sector, including in particular in relation to the Gas Act 1986, the Electricity Act 1989, the Energy Act 2004 and the Climate Change Act 2008.

Cases

Energy sector JR

(2025)

Advising a company in the energy sector on a potential judicial review of an Ofgem decision (with Robert Palmer KC).

Electricity sector advice

(2023-)

Advising Ofgem on a range of different issues relating to the electricity sector (unled).

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

R (SSE Generation Ltd) v Competition and Markets Authority

[2022] EWHC 865 (Admin), [2022] 4 WLR 67; [2022] EWCA Civ 1472, [2022] 4 WLR 115

Acting for an interested party before the High Court and the Court of Appeal in a judicial review regarding transmission charges paid by generators of electricity. The case raises various issue of EU and domestic public law (with Kassie Smith QC and Amy Rogers).

Gas Act 1986 advice

(2022)

Advising on various public law issues relating to the Gas Act 1986 (unled).

SSE Generation Ltd v Gas and Electricity Markets Authority

(Competition and Markets Authority, 2021)

Acted for Ofgem in defence of an appeal regarding transmission charges paid by generators of electricity. The case raised various issues of EU and domestic public law (with Kassie Smith QC and Ligia Osepciu).

R (Wood Boilers LLP) v Gas and Electricity Markets Authority

(Administrative Court, 2020-1)

Acted for GEMA in defence of a legitimate expectation and A1P1 claim, in relation to the Domestic Renewable Heat Incentive Scheme. The case was listed for a 2.5-day hearing, but settled shortly before (with Alan Maclean QC).

EDF Energy (Thermal Generation) Ltd and others v Gas and Electricity Markets Authority

(Competition and Markets Authority, 2018)

Acted for GEMA, successfully defending an appeal to the CMA under section 173 of the Energy Act 2004. The case focused on the interpretation of an EU Regulation on charges for electricity transmission (with Alan Maclean QC and Iain Steele).

Telecommunications

George has significant experience of work in the Telecommunications sector, in particular arising out of his involvement in a long-running series of disputes concerning regulatory and competition issues in Gibraltar. His work in this area draws on his wide experience of public, private, EU and competition law. He is ranked for Telecoms Regulation in Legal 500.

"George is all over the detail of the case and his attention-to-detail is first-class."

— LEGAL 500, 2026

Examples of George's work in the Telecommunications field include the following:

clerks@blackstonechambers.com
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- Gibfibre Ltd v Gibtelecom Ltd (Supreme Court of Gibraltar, 2021-2023) – George acted for Gibfibre in a claim for alleged abuse of dominant position, in relation to the supply of communications services at the largest data centre in Gibraltar.

- Gibtelecom Ltd v (1) Gibraltar Regulatory Authority; and (2) Gibfibre Ltd (Supreme Court of Gibraltar, 2020-2023) – George acted for Gibfibre in a regulatory dispute regarding the extent of obligations to provide wholesale leased lines.

- Gibfibre Ltd v Gibraltar Regulatory Authority [2021] UKPC 31 – George acted for Gibfibre in an appeal to the Privy Council regarding the extent of a regulator's powers to address anti-competitive practices.

- Telecom2 Ltd v Core Telecom Ltd (County Court, settled 2023) – George acted unled for the defendant in a dispute arising out of alleged breaches of regulatory obligations in respect of the routing of telephone calls.

- 24 Seven Communications Ltd v British Telecommunications plc (Commercial Court, settled 2019) – George acted for the claimant in a dispute about the Standard Interconnect Agreement and alleged artificial inflation of traffic.

Cases

Gibfibre Ltd v (1) Gibtelecom Ltd and (2) Rockolo Ltd

(Supreme Court of Gibraltar, 2021-2023)

Acted for the claimant telecommunications company in a claim for abuse of dominant position (with James Segan KC).

Gibfibre Ltd v Gibraltar Regulatory Authority

[2021] UKPC 31

Acted for a telecommunications operator in an appeal regarding the interpretation of the Access Directive (with James Segan QC).

Telecom2 Ltd v Core Telecom Ltd

(County Court, 2021-2023)

Acted for the defendant in a dispute arising out of alleged breaches of regulatory obligations in respect of the routing of telephone calls. The matter settled (unled).

Gibtelecom Ltd v (1) The Gibraltar Regulatory Authority (2) Gibfibre Ltd

(Supreme Court of Gibraltar, 2020-2023)

Acted for a telecommunications company in a regulatory dispute involving issues of EU law (with James Segan KC).

24 Seven Communications Ltd v British Telecommunications plc

(Commercial Court, 2018-19)

Acted for the claimant telecommunications company in a dispute about the Standard Interconnect Agreement and alleged artificial inflation of traffic. The case was listed for 5-day trial, but settled shortly before (with Alan Maclean QC).

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

Telecommunications contract advice

(2019)

Advising the government of a British Overseas Territory on the interpretation of a contract relating to a telecommunications cable (unled).

Telecommunications data protection

(2016)

Advising a telecommunications company on data protection issues (unled).

Data Protection, Freedom of Information & Privacy

George has substantial experience of cases involving issues of data protection, freedom of information and/or privacy. His experience includes matters concerning the Public Records Act 1958, the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the Environmental Information Regulations 2004, the General Data Protection Regulation, and domestic data protection legislation.

Highlights of George's experience include:

- Acting for Dr Michael Lynch in a data protection claim against the Serious Fraud Office (Lynch v Director of the Serious Fraud Office (KBD, 2024, settled)).

- Acting for the claimant in a case regarding data preservation obligations in the context of the use of non-corporate devices (R (All the Citizens Ltd) v SSDCMS [2022] EWHC 960 (Admin), [2022] 1 WLR 3748).

- Acting for the Public Law Project in a challenge to the refusal of a FOIA request for copies of submissions to the Independent Review of Administrative Law (Public Law Project v Information Commissioner (EA/2021/0378)).

- Acting unled for the successful appellant in a case regarding the proper approach to anonymity orders in the Employment Tribunal (LQP v City of York Council [2022] EAT 196).

Cases

Maharaj v National Gas Company of Trinidad and Tobago

(Privy Council, 2025)

Acted for the respondent in an appeal concerning Trinidad and Tobago's Freedom of Information Act (with Sir James Eadie KC).

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

Abrahart v Department for Education

(FTT, 2025-)

Acting for the Department for Education in defence of an appeal under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (unled).

Carrick v (1) Information Commissioner; and (2) Department for Education

[2025] UKFTT 00903 (GRC)

Acted for the Department of Education in successful defence of an appeal under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (unled).

Lynch v Director of the Serious Fraud Office

(KBD, 2024)

Acted for the claimant in a claim under s.167 DPA 2018, in relation to a data subject access request. The case was listed for a speedy trial, but settled shortly before (with Lord Pannick KC and Julianne Kerr Morrison).

Recovery of public record

(2024)

Advising a public body on mechanisms to seek the recovery of a document of historical significance which had been disposed of by mistake. The case raised a mix of private and public law issues, including in relation to the Public Records Act 1958 (unled).

Austin v (1) Information Commissioner; (2) Crown Prosecution Service

[2024] UKFTT 866 (GRC)

Acted for the CPS in successful defence of an appeal relating to a request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (unled).

LQP v City of York Council

[2022] EAT 196

Acted for the appellant in a successful appeal regarding the proper approach to anonymity applications which involve Convention Rights issues, and applications for permission to amend (unled).

[Individual] v Security Services

(2022-)

Acting for an individual in a claim arising out of the alleged involvement of the UK security services in unlawful detention and torture in a foreign country, and breaches of data protection legislation (with Tom de la Mare KC).

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

Oxford Phoenix Innovation Ltd v The Information Commissioner

(First Tier Tribunal, EA/2021/0227)

Acted for an Oxford college as a respondent to a Freedom of Information Act appeal. The appellant withdrew the appeal by consent on the second day of a 2-day hearing (unled).

Public Law Project v The Information Commissioner

(First Tier Tribunal, EA/2021/0378)

Acted for PLP in a challenge to the refusal of a FOIA request for copies of submissions to the Independent Review of Administrative Law (with Kate Gallafent QC, and subsequently Gemma White QC)

R (All the Citizens Ltd) v (1) Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport; and (2) Minister for the Cabinet Office

[2022] EWHC 960 (Admin), [2022] 1 WLR 3748

Acted for the Claimant in a judicial review relating to the use of personal devices/accounts and auto-deletion functions for communications concerning government business (with Ben Jaffey QC).

Data protection claim

(2020)

Advising a prospective claimant on potential claims under domestic and EU data protection legislation (with Ben Jaffey QC).

Freedom of information

(2019)

Advised the government of a British Overseas Territory on a freedom of information issue (unled).

GDPR advice

(2018)

Advised several professional bodies in the financial services sector about the General Data Protection Regulation and various contractual issues (with Alan Maclean QC).

Covert recording admissibility

(2017)

Advised a professional body (in the financial services sector) on the admissibility of a covert recording in disciplinary proceedings (unled).

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

Telecommunications data protection

(2016)

Advising a telecommunications company on data protection issues (unled).

Immigration

George has substantial experience of immigration and nationality matters. At first instance, he has acted unled in cases regarding entry clearance, applications for British nationality and immigration detention. He has also appeared in Supreme Court appeals concerning citizenship deprivation (U3 v SSHD [2025] UKSC 19, [2025] AC 1510) the UK government's plan to transfer asylum seekers to Rwanda (R (AAA (Syria)) v SSHD [2023] UKSC 42, [2023] 1 WLR 4433), the status of asylum appeals determined under ultra vires procedural rules (R (TN (Vietnam)) v SSHD [2021] UKSC 41, [2021] 1 WLR 4902), the benefits entitlements of holders of pre-settled status (R (Fratila) v SSWP [2021] UKSC 53, [2022] 3 All ER 1045), and the territorial scope of the Refugee Convention (R (Bashir) v SSHD [2018] UKSC 45, [2019] AC 484).

Cases

IA and others v Secretary of State for the Home Department

[2025] EWCA Civ 1516

Acted for the respondent individuals in an appeal concerning family life for the purposes of Article 8 ECHR, in an immigration context (with Raza Husain KC and others).

U3 v Secretary of State for the Home Department

[2025] UKSC 19, [2025] AC 1510

Acted for JUSTICE as intervener in an appeal concerning the proper approach to appeals against citizenship deprivation decisions in a national security context (with Tom Hickman KC).

R (AAA (Syria)) v SSHD

[2023] UKSC 42, [2023] 1 WLR 4433

Acted for the UN High Commissioner for Refugees in the successful challenge to the UK government's plan to transfer asylum seekers to Rwanda (with Angus McCullough KC and others).

A.S.K. v United Kingdom

(European Court of Human Rights, pending)

Acting for the UK government in defence of allegations of violations of Article 5, in the context of immigration detention (with Sir James Eadie KC and Julie Anderson).

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

Illegal Migration Bill

(2023)

Advising Freedom from Torture on the Illegal Migration Bill (with Raza Husain KC and others).

Afghanistan immigration applications

(2021-2)

Advising Afghan citizens on immigration applications (unled, but in collaboration with various other Blackstone barristers).

R (Fratila) v Secretary of State for Work and Pensions

[2020] EWHC 998 (Admin), [2020] PTSR 1424; [2020] EWCA Civ 1741, [2021] 3 All ER 1043; [2021] UKSC 53, [2022] 3 All ER 1045

Acted for the SSWP in the High Court, the Court of Appeal and the Supreme Court in (ultimately successful) defence of a complex claim relating to Article 18 TFEU, the EU Settlement Scheme and the regulations governing entitlement to universal credit and other forms of social assistance (with Sir James Eadie QC and others).

R (TN (Vietnam)) v Secretary of State for the Home Department

[2021] UKSC 41, [2021] 1 WLR 4902

Acted for Detention Action in a case concerning the status of asylum appeals which were determined under ultra vires procedural rules (with Charlotte Kilroy QC and Jason Pobjoy).

Tarar v Home Office

(County Court, 2021-)

Acting for the Defendant in a claim for alleged false imprisonment and Francovich damages, in relation to immigration detention (unled).

R (Vaidyanathan) v Secretary of State for the Home Department

(Administrative Court, 2020)

Acted for the defendant in successful defence of a challenge to a decision to refuse applications for British citizenship (unled).

Immigation appeal

(First-tier Tribunal, 2018)

Acted pro bono for the child of a refugee in a human rights appeal against a refusal of entry clearance for family reunion. UK Visas & Immigration withdrew the refusal following the lodging of the appeal (unled).

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

R (Bashir) v Secretary of State for the Home Department

[2018] UKSC 45; [2019] AC 484

Acted pro bono for the AIRE Centre, intervening in a case about whether the Secretary of State is obliged to permit refugees in the UK's sovereign base areas ("SBAs") in Cyprus to enter the metropolitan UK. The Secretary of State agreed to admit the Claimants after the Supreme Court held that the Refugee Convention applied to the SBAs (with Mike Fordham QC and others).

ACHIEVEMENTS

Education

BA Modern History (Oxford): 1st class, top of year; DPhil History (Oxford); GDL (City): Distinction, top of year; BPTC (City): Outstanding, top of year

Prizes & Scholarships

- Scarman Prize (highest mark on BPTC), 2015
- Busfield Prize (highest mark in Opinion Writing on BPTC), 2015
- Bar Association of Commerce, Finance and Industry Prize (highest mark in the BPTC Commercial Practice Options), 2015
- Worshipful Company of Arbitrators Prize (highest marks in Civil Litigation and Commercial Law on BPTC), 2015
- Inner Temple Princess Royal Scholarship (BPTC), 2014-15
- 3 Verulam Buildings Prize (highest mark on GDL), 2014
- Inner Temple Princess Royal Scholarship (GDL), 2013-14
- Royal Historical Society Alexander Prize (best published article by a current or recent graduate student at a UK university), 2010
- Gibbs Prize (highest mark in Oxford Modern History finals), 2006
- H.W.C. Davis Prize (highest mark in Oxford Modern History preliminary examination), 2004

Publications

- The Formation of the English Kingdom in the Tenth Century (Oxford University Press, 2015) and several articles on medieval history.
- (with Michael Beloff QC and Shane Sibbel) "Stadia, Hillsborough, Health & Safety and Policing" in Nick De Marco QC (ed.), Football and the Law (Bloomsbury Professional, 2nd edition, 2022), pp. 331-340.

Memberships

- Administrative Law Bar Association
- Bar European Group
- Commercial Bar Association

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

- Employment Law Bar Association
- Employment Lawyers' Association
- Human Rights Lawyers' Association
- Justice
- Liberty
- Young Public Law Group

VAT registration number: 248640001

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