

Christopher Hancock KC

SILK: 2000 | CALL: 1983

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Overview

Christopher has appeared before courts at all levels, including the High Court, Court of Appeal, House of Lords and Privy Council.

Christopher is a Centre for Effective Dispute Resolution (CEDR) accredited mediator and a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators. He is also an LMAA supporting member and sits regularly as a commercial arbitrator.

He is a former Chairman of the Commercial Bar Association (COMBAR).

Christopher was appointed as a Recorder in 2004 and a deputy High Court judge in 2008. He sits regularly as a judge of the Commercial Court.

Education

- Harvard Law School: LLM
- University of Cambridge, Trinity College: MA, First Class

Publications

- Contributor to MacGillivray on Insurance Law (Sweet & Maxwell 2017).

Professional memberships

- British Maritime Law Association (BMLA) Subcommittee on Charterers' Rights to Limit Liability (2008)
- BMLA Committee on Carriage of Goods by Sea (1987-2002)
- BMLAEDI Subcommittee: Chairman (2000)
- COMBAR: Former Chairman
- COMBAR: Chairman of North American Committee (2005-2007)
- COMBAR: Vice Chairman (2007-2009)
- Electronic Commerce Association Legal Advisory Group (1996-2000)
- LMAA: Supporting Member

Lectures/talks

- Electronic Bills of Lading and the Rotterdam Rules

Example cases

- *Vincent Tchenguiz v Grant Thornton and others*: a conspiracy/malicious prosecution claim seeking in excess of US\$2 billion against Grant Thornton and others for allegedly instigating and manipulating an unjustified major Serious Fraud Office investigation (with, amongst others, Charlotte Tan).
- *Jersey Football Association v UEFACAS 2016/A/4787*: represented the Jersey Football Association (JFA) in arbitral proceedings before the Court of Arbitration for Sport relating to an appeal against the UEFA Executive Committee's decision to reject JFA's application for UEFA membership.
- *The London Steam-Ship Owners' Mutual Insurance Association Ltd v The Kingdom of Spain and the French State ("The Prestige")* [2013] EWCH 3188 (Comm): acting for the insurers of the vessel owners in the Court of Appeal; the court upheld an High Court order dismissing Spain/France's challenges to the jurisdiction of the arbitral tribunal.

Recommendations

Christopher Hancock is a brilliant barrister. He is a master of his craft, his advocacy is fantastic and he zeroes in on the key issues. [Chambers UK Bar 2025](#)

When Chris is leading, the client gets an insight into how a commercial court judge thinks. He is one of the most commercial lawyers in the Bar. [Chambers UK Bar 2025](#)

Top of the game: his commanding advocacy is well-respected by both opponents and the bench. [The Legal 500 2025](#)

Christopher is a very strong silk and a leader in the space. [Chambers UK Bar 2024](#)

One of the cleverest and nicest people at the Bar. [The Legal 500 2023](#)

Very talented, but pleasant and fun to work with, he is one of the cleverest and nicest people at the Bar. [The Legal 500 2023](#)

Christopher is extremely clever and hugely experienced." "He is one of the leaders of the Bar. [Chambers UK 2022](#)

He is one of the leading shipping barristers. He is able to navigate through the most complex analysis. [Chambers UK 2022](#)

A veteran in shipping and commodities cases who works well as counsel or arbitrator. [The Legal 500 2022](#)

He is phenomenally bright and demystifies problems. [Chambers UK Bar 2021](#)

A first-class shipping silk who brings a user-friendly approach to commodities matters. [The Legal 500 UK Bar 2021](#)

He's superb with clients and takes things in his stride. [Chambers UK Bar 2021](#)

He has a very powerful mind when it comes to analysis. He breaks a problem down into its constituent parts and leaves no stone unturned. [Chambers UK Bar 2020](#)

He is a first-class all-round silk. [Chambers UK Bar 2020](#)

He is a very appealing advocate; measured clear and compelling. [The Legal 500 UK Bar 2020](#)

He did a very good job as an advocate and is obviously very experienced and skilful. [Chambers UK Bar 2020](#)

He is very good with clients. [The Legal 500 UK Bar 2020](#)

A first-class silk who is extremely user-friendly but has considerable gravitas and respect. [The Legal 500 UK Bar 2020](#)

Knowledgeable on the law, bright, sharp and a safe pair of hands. A very good advocate. [Chambers UK Bar 2019](#)

Extremely intelligent; he gives clients complete confidence in commodities trading disputes. [The Legal 500 UK Bar 2018](#)

He has an amazing mind and is the most down-to-earth person at the Bar. He explains in such a clear, helpful fashion. [Chambers UK Bar 2018](#)

He is a very smooth operator and a very nice guy, who is highly effective. [Chambers UK Bar 2018](#)

When you have something big-value he is outstanding. [Chambers UK Bar 2018](#)