

## Manuel Casas

CALL: 2020 (ENGLAND & WALES); 2016 (NEW YORK); 2012 (VENEZUELA)

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Languages: Spanish (native); Portuguese (fluent); French (proficient)



### Overview

Manuel is developing a broad practice across all of Chambers' areas of expertise, including general commercial law, international arbitration and public international law.

He comes to the Bar with almost ten years of legal experience. Manuel initially qualified as a lawyer in Venezuela, where he practised as a litigator for several years. After leaving Venezuela, he worked as a judicial fellow at the International Court of Justice, in The Hague, and then spent four years at WilmerHale, first as senior associate and then as counsel, where he specialised in international arbitration (investment treaty and commercial) and public international law.

Manuel has acted or advised in matters in more than ten different jurisdictions, including the United States, Brazil, and Russia, and enjoys working as part of international teams.

Additionally, Manuel is committed to pro bono work, with a particular emphasis on migratory issues and freedom of expression. Manuel worked as a volunteer in the Colombian-Venezuelan border and has acted in freedom of expression cases before the European Court of Human Rights.

### Publications

- 'Jurisdictional Consequences of Withdrawal from the ICSID Convention', *Max Planck Encyclopedia of International Procedural Law*.
- 'Shelter from the Storm? The International Legality of Granting Migratory Rights to Hong Kongers', *EJIL:TALK!* (9 July 2020).
- 'Denunciation of the ICSID Convention', *Jus Mundi Wiki notes* (23 June 2020).
- Book Review: 'The Cambridge Handbook of Immunities and International Law', Vol. 37, Issues 1, 2020, *Journal of International Arbitration*.
- 'Functional Justiciability and the Existence of a Dispute: a Case of Jurisdictional Avoidance?', Vol. 10, No. 4, 2019, *Journal of International Dispute Settlement*.
- 'When the Bell Doesn't Save You: Favianca and Jurisdiction After ICSID Denunciation', *Kluwer Arbitration Blog* (4 January 2018).
- 'Nationalities of Convenience, Personal Jurisdiction, and Access to Investor-State Dispute Settlement', Vol. 49, No. 1, 2016,

- 'Granier v Venezuela: Deviation of Power and Media Pluralism', Vol. 110, No. 1, 2016, *American Journal of International Law*.

## Professional memberships

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- Spanish Arbitration Club
- Young ICCA

## Education

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- Yale Law School: LLM (2015)
- Universidad Católica Andrés Bello: LLM, *summa cum laude* (2014)
- Universidad Católica Andrés Bello: Abogado (LLB), *summa cum laude* (2011)

## Example cases

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- Acted for a North American company in a multi-billion dollar M&A dispute with a Latin American party in the pulp and paper sector (ICC Rules, Brazilian law).\*
- Acted for a pharmaceutical company in an investment treaty arbitration against a Latin American State for claims of denial of justice (UNCITRAL Rules).\*
- Acted for a Russian rail company in an investment arbitration against a CIS State arising from the expropriation of its investment (ICSID Additional Facility Rules).\*
- Advised a Latin American mining company in a potential claim against the United States arising from the revocation of a mining permit (US-Chile FTA).\*
- Advised a financial services group regarding potential claims against a State in the Balkans regarding the indirect expropriation of their business (several bilateral investment treaties).\*
- Acted for a US private equity firm in two commercial arbitrations against another US private equity company in a post-M&A dispute involving claims of corruption (ICC Rules, Brazilian law).\*
- Advised a Middle Eastern investor in the chemical industry against a Middle Eastern State for denial of justice (OIC Treaty).\*
- Acted for several journalists in claims before the European Court of Human Rights for violation of their physical integrity and right to freedom of expression.\*
- Acted for a Latin American metallurgical company in an investment arbitration under ICSID Rules against Venezuela for the expropriation of its assets.\*

\* work done before transferring to the Bar.

## Recommendations

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