

Zac Sammour

Call: 2014

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Zac is sought-after as both junior and sole counsel across a wide range of practice areas, including commercial, data protection, defamation, employment, privacy, public, public international and sports law.

Zac is recommended in the legal directories in six of his practice areas: civil liberties and human rights; employment, data protection, defamation and privacy, public and administrative law and sport. He is recommended for:

- **His advocacy:** *"He is an excellent, confident advocate"* (Chambers & Partners 2026); *"He is one of the best cross-examiners in the business"* (Legal 500 2025); *"His advocacy skills are some of the best I've seen"* (Chambers & Partners 2025);
- **His analytical ability:** *"Zac's ability to analyse complex legal issues is incomparable."* (Chambers & Partners 2026); *"Zac Sammour has a brilliant mind"* (Chambers & Partners 2026); *"Zac is an exceptional barrister. He is smart, insightful, thoughtful and tactically brilliant"* (Legal 500 2026)



He is excellent on paper, offering a thorough review of relevant law, and he makes cogent oral submissions which effectively bring out the strength of his case

CHAMBERS & PARTNERS,
EMPLOYMENT, 2022

- **His ability to work in a team:** *"Zac has fantastic leader qualities in someone who is so junior. He ensures the team operate effectively and he really delivers with high-quality work"* (Chambers & Partners 2026); *"Zac is a brilliant tactician and works seamlessly with solicitor teams to provide timely pragmatic and commercial advice"* (Legal 500 2026); *"He is down to earth, bright, and speaks clear, simple English. He is commercial and pragmatic"* (Chambers & Partners 2026).

Zac has appeared in high profile and complex cases in all of his practice areas, dealing with matters from free speech in the workplace (***Miller v University of Bristol***) to the regulation of online platforms (***TikTok v ICO***); arms exports during armed conflict (***Al Haq v Secretary of State for Business and Trade***) to large-scale team moves involving software copying and document misappropriation (***SS&C v Zilo***); and racism in sport (***Yorkshire Cricket Disciplinary Proceedings***) to the international obligations of occupying powers (***ICJ advisory opinion proceedings***).

Expertise

Public

Zac has a broad public law practice, and has appeared in a number of claims for judicial review. His work encompasses human rights, local government, asylum and constitutional law.

Zac has also acted in a number of other cases over the years, including: ***R on the application of Turkey v the Lord Chancellor & the Director of Legal Aid Casework*** [2017] EWHC 3403, a challenge to the operation of the statutory charge (led by Peter Oldham KC, instructed by the Anti-Trafficking and Labour Exploitation Unit); ***Leicester City Council in R (on the application of Jewish Human Rights watch) v Leicester City Council in both the High Court*** ([2016] EWHC 1512 (Admin)) and the Court of Appeal ([2018] EWCA Civ 1551), a challenge to a resolution of the Council calling for a boycott of goods produced in Israeli settlements in the Occupied Palestinian The Council successfully defended that claim in the Divisional Court and in the Court of Appeal (led by Andrew Sharland KC), and ***Gulf Center for Human Rights v the Prime Minister in both the High Court*** ([2016] EWHC 1323 (Admin)) and the Court of Appeal ([2018] EWCA Civ 1855), a challenge against changes to the Ministerial Code (led by Jason Coppel KC and Hannah Slarks, instructed by Deighton Pierce Glynn).



Zac is invaluable in high-level work.

CHAMBERS & PARTNERS, 2026

Al Haq v Secretary of State for Business and Trade

2008 EWHC 1583 (QB)

Zac acted for Al Haq in its challenge to the SSBT's decision not to suspend arms licenses for the supply of F-35 parts to Israel during the ongoing war in Gaza. Zac undertook the oral advocacy at the hearing before the Divisional Court on the Geneva Conventions, Genocide Convention and Articles of State Responsibility.

GB News v Ofcom

2008 EWHC 1583 (QB)

Another of the Lawyer's top 20 cases of 2025. Zac acts for Ofcom in a judicial review challenge to the lawfulness of its finding that GB News breached the Broadcasting Code in relation to its broadcasting of a "People's Forum" programme featuring the then Prime Minister, Rishi Sunak. Zac is led by Anya Proops KC.

Diaspora Alliance v Secretary of State for Education

2008 EWHC 1583 (QB)

Zac acts for the Claimant in a challenge to the SSE's decision to adopt the IHRA working definition of antisemitism as the cornerstone of a proposed training programme for schools, colleges and universities, without making proper provision for the protection of free speech and equality obligations. The claim is currently stayed.

R (on the application of Tax Returned Ltd) v Revenue and Customs Commissioners

2008 EWHC 1583 (QB)

Zac acted for the Claimants in a challenge to the adoption of a new mandatory form for claims for PAYE tax relief. The Claimants obtained permission for their claim following a contested hearing in September 2022, in which the Court granted retrospective permission for service of the Claim Form by alternative means (judgment of Heather Williams J, [2022] BTC 29. Zac is led by Joanna Clement KC, and instructed by Hill Dickinson.

Good Law Project v Secretary of State for Health and Social Care

2008 EWHC 1583 (QB)

Acting for the Claimant in a challenge to the lawfulness of the Secretary of State's award of a number of high value contracts for the supply of PPE during the Covid-19 pandemic. The claim raised important questions as to the scope of the duties of equal treatment and transparency in the context of contracts awarded under regulation 32 of the PCR 2015, and resulted in a number of judgments on matters of procedure ([2021] 5 WLUK 226; [2021] 5 WLUK 316). Judgment on the substantive challenge is awaited.

Bouchti v Enfield LBC

2008 EWHC 1583 (QB)

Zac acted for the Claimant in a statutory review of orders providing for a lower traffic neighborhood in Enfield. The claim was dismissed by Eyre J in November 2022. Zac was led by Clive Sheldon KC.

R (on the application of the Palestine Solidarity Campaign) v Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government in the High Court

2008 EWHC 1583 (QB)

Zac acted for the Claimant in a challenge to guidance from the defendant Secretary of State which sought to prohibit the administering authorities of the local government pension schemes from adopting policies of boycott, divestment and sanction against foreign nations (led by Nigel Giffin KC, instructed by Bindmans). The Supreme Court held that the challenged part of the guidance was contrary to the Padfield principle.

Achievements

Education

London School of Economics, LLB (First Class)

Oxford University, BCL (Distinction)

Awards

- Sweet and Maxwell Prize for Best Performance in final year exams (LSE)
- Clifford Chance Prize for Best Performance in Property II (LSE)
- Archibald Jackson Prize (Somerville College, Oxford)
- Denning Scholarship (Lincolns Inn)
- Hardwicke Entry Award (Lincolns Inn)

Other

Zac enjoys combat sports and competed for several years at an amateur level in boxing and Muay Thai. Zac competed for Oxford in the 2013 Varsity Match, where he beat the Cambridge captain and won Oxford's award for Best Technical Boxer. He now competes (recreationally) in Brazilian Jiu Jitsu. He is a fan of Newcastle United FC.



An excellent advocate who demonstrates abilities well beyond his year of call. Both a razor-sharp mind and a natural manner with clients. A barrister who solicitors always trust to do a good job – a real star of the employment Bar

LEGAL 500, EMPLOYMENT, 2022



Zac is exceptionally bright, has an incredible work ethic and demonstrates abilities well beyond his year of call. Zac is a complete star and absolutely someone you want on your team

LEGAL 500, DATA PROTECTION, 2023



He does an excellent job and is very bright

CHAMBERS & PARTNERS, EMPLOYMENT, 2021



Zac is very flexible and will go the extra mile. He really thinks outside the box and is incredibly imaginative but has a down-to-earth demeanor

CHAMBERS & PARTNERS, EMPLOYMENT, 2024



Zac provides an excellent level of service for us in complex tribunal cases

CHAMBERS & PARTNERS, EMPLOYMENT, 2024



Zac is responsive, has great attention to detail, puts clients at ease and has strong advocacy skills

LEGAL 500, EMPLOYMENT, 2024



Brilliant mind with a good eye for detail. Works very hard – prepares assiduously

LEGAL 500, SPORTS LAW, 2024



Zac's cross-examination approach is tenacious and gives confidence that he is in complete control of the witness on the stand. His submissions are well crafted without being unnecessarily verbose; and he is excellent at managing lay clients, ensuring they feel involved and understand what is happening

LEGAL 500, EMPLOYMENT, 2023



Zac is very personable and is a very strong team player. He has a first-class knowledge and intellect and is very good on paper. He is a superb advocate and is definitely a junior star

LEGAL 500, DEFAMATION AND PRIVACY,
2023