Oliver Jackson



Call: 2019

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Oliver specialises in public law and human rights, employment, education, competition and EU relations, data protection, procurement, commercial, and public international law.

He is ranked as a leading junior by Chambers & Partners for administrative and public law and data protection; and by Legal 500 for administrative law and human rights, employment, data protection, and public procurement.

He has appeared in courts from Port Talbot and Great Yarmouth to the Supreme Court and the European Court of Human Rights. His clients range from individuals, journalists and NGOs to multinational businesses, government departments and foreign states.

> ***Oliver is an extremely good advocate. He is very thorough and helpful throughout.***
>
> CHAMBERS & PARTNERS

Oliver is regularly instructed in the most high-profile disputes. Recent cases include:

- The challenge to the Government's private school fees VAT policy.
- The challenge to the Michaela School's ban on prayer rituals.
- The constitutional law 'Volvo limitation' appeal on the status of CJEU judgments post-Brexit.

- The challenge to the registration of the first private provider of cross-sex hormones for 16-17 year old children.
- Whether employment claims by diplomatic staff are barred by state immunity.
- The leading Supreme Court appeal on mental health after-care services.

From 2020 to 2021 Oliver was a judicial assistant at the UK Supreme Court and the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, working on the most complex cases in the UK and from the Commonwealth. In 2024 he was elected to the Executive Committee of the Human Rights Lawyers Association.

He received a first-class degree in Natural Sciences from Cambridge University, where he graduated second in the year in his subject and won several scholarships and prizes. He has taught maths, physics and chemistry and enjoys cases that arise in a technical context.

Expertise

Public International

Oliver is experienced in a range of international law issues, with a particular expertise in cases concerning foreign acts of state and diplomatic immunity.

Muda v Malaysia

(ET 2203623/2021)

on appeal to the Employment Appeal Tribunal – whether a claim by a foreign citizens with UK permanent residence against her diplomatic embassy employer was barred by state immunity.

Onurcan v Malaysia

(ET 2203565/2021) (TWO JUDGEMENTS)

whether a claim by a senior embassy driver was barred by state immunity; and whether the claimant had agreed to vary his contract to accept a lower wage.

R (AG) v Barnet LBC & Secretary of State for the FCDO

[2022] EWCA CIV 1505

whether there is an exception to diplomatic immunity for cases involving torture and/or children (assisting Jo Clement KC).

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

[2021] UKSC 57

dispute over which President of Venezuela controlled gold reserves worth US$2 billion deposited in the Bank of England.

General Dynamics UK Ltd v Libya

[2021] UKSC 22

challenge to an attempt to enforce an arbitration award against the state of Libya.

Achievements

Articles and Publications

‘Public law in the Supreme Court 2020-2021’ [2023] 28 JR 129 (with Isabella Buono)

'Limiting an employer's right to dismiss on notice: *Aspden v Webbs Poultry* and *USDAW v Tesco*', UK Labour Law Blog, 22 February 2023 (freely available here)

'Unconscionability, uncertainty and lawful act duress' [2021] 8 JBL 701 (available here)

Education

- BA Natural Sciences, Cambridge University (First)
- Graduate Diploma in Law, City University (Distinction)
- Bar Professional Training Course, City University (Outstanding)

Awards

- Phoenicia Scholar (Bar European Group)
- Postgraduate Scholar (City Law School)
- Certificate of Honour (Middle Temple)
- JJ Powell Prize (Middle Temple)
- Queen Mother Scholarship (Middle Temple)
- Astbury Scholarship (Middle Temple)
- Simon Walker Prize in Natural Sciences (Christ's College, Cambridge)
- Graduate Scholar (Christ's College, Cambridge)
- Levy Plumb Bursary and Newton Trust Bursary (Christ's College, Cambridge)

Other

Before joining the Bar Oliver worked on the civil service fast-stream. He also advised on human rights issues at Liberty, advocated for the abolition of the death penalty at Reprieve, and volunteered as a caseworker at the Bar Pro Bono Unit. He has taken university courses on economic history and policy alongside his legal practice.

He is a trustee of Brass for Africa, an international development charity building resilience and life skills in refugee camps in Uganda, Liberia and Rwanda.

Oliver is an extremely good advocate. He is very thorough and helpful throughout.

CHAMBERS & PARTNERS, 2026

He is a good advocate, who makes sensible points.

CHAMBERS & PARTNERS, 2026

Very responsive, always on top of his game, incisive and collaborative.

LEGAL 500, 2026

Oliver communicates very easily.

CHAMBERS & PARTNERS 2025

Oliver has very good written advocacy.

CHAMBERS & PARTNERS 2025

He provides very clear strategic objectives and tailors his advice to that.

CHAMBERS & PARTNERS 2025

Oliver is really easy to deal with.

LEGAL 500, 2025

His written work is always very good.

LEGAL 500, 2025

An excellent advocate. He is diligent and able to robustly defend a case.

LEGAL 500, 2024