Oliver Jackson



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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.

> ***Exceptionally user-friendly and very detail-focused***
>
> LEGAL 500

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 Law & Human Rights

Oliver is recognised as a leading junior for Administrative Law and Human Rights in the Legal 500 and for Administrative and Public Law in Chambers & Partners. He is described as *"an excellent barrister to work with"*, *"incredibly approachable and hard-working"* and *"very responsive, always on top of his game, incisive and collaborative"*.

Oliver has been instructed on public law and human rights cases before the High Court, the Court of Appeal, the Supreme Court and the European Court of Human Rights. He has also recently drafted chapters for a leading practitioner's textbook on judicial review and the operation of the Human Rights Act 1998, to be published shortly.

> ***Very responsive, always on top of his game, incisive and collaborative***
>
> LEGAL 500

R (Evans) v Care Quality Commission

[2025] EWHC 2015 (ADMIN)

challenge to the first registration of a private provider of cross-sex hormones to 16-17 year old children (led by Tom Cross KC).

R (ALR) v Chancellor of the Exchequer

[2025] EWHC 1467 (ADMIN)

human rights challenge to the Government's private school fees VAT policy on behalf of parents of special needs children (led by Tom Cross KC).

R (EBB) v Gorse Academies Trust

[2025] EWHC 1983 (ADMIN)

wide-ranging challenge to use of isolation rooms at a high-performing Academy Trust (led by Jason Coppel KC and Hannah Slarks).

R (United Medical Associates Professionals) v NHS England (ongoing)

whether NHS England can make changes to the roles of Physicians Associates (led by Jonathan Auburn KC). Oliver successfully represented NHS England as sole counsel defending the application for an interim injunction.

R (Emeraldshaw Ltd) v Sheffield Magistrates' Court

[2025] EWCA CIV 1601

whether a commercial landlord was liable to pay non-domestic business rates despite granting a tenancy to a charity. Oliver made submissions on the public law issues to the Court of Appeal.

R (AB) v Bristol City Council

[2025] EWHC 893 (ADMIN)

challenge to a £90 million 'safety value agreement' between the Department of Education and a local authority to cover SEND overspends (led by James Goudie KC, leading Rita Dias).

R (Worcestershire County Council) v Secretary of State for Health and Social Care

[2023] UKSC 31

Successful Supreme Court appeal concerning which local authority is required to provide mental health aftercare services where a person moves areas (led by Andrew Sharland KC).

Crowter v United Kingdom

APP NO. 32192/23

ECtHR challenge on behalf of disability rights campaigners against s.1(1)(d) of the Abortion Act 1967 (led by Jason Coppel KC).

R (Gould) v Devon County Council

[2025] EWHC 96 (ADMIN)

on appeal to the Court of Appeal – whether a local authority had had regard to mandatory considerations in a service closure decision (led by Jonathan Auburn KC).

R (NN) v Michaela Community School

[2024] EWHC 843 (ADMIN)

Whether the Michaela Community School's ban on prayer rituals is compatible with pupils' right to freedom of religion (led by Jason Coppel KC and Tom Cross).

R (Lister) v Secretary of State for Education

AC-2024-LON-001359

Challenge to the Department for Education's high-profile draft guidance to schools on gender questioning children (led by Jo Clement KC and Tom Cross).

R (Fire Brigades Union and British Medical Association) v HM Treasury

[2023] EWHC 527 (ADMIN)

Judicial review by trade unions under article 6 ECHR and on domestic public law grounds to the operation of the cost control mechanism in public sector pension schemes (led by Nigel Giffin KC).

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

[2023] EWHC 3207 (ADMIN)

Challenge to the operation of the Child Maintenance Service (led by Sir James Eadie KC, First Treasury Counsel).

Attorney General for Bermuda v Ferguson

[2022] UKPC 5

Whether the constitutions of Bermuda and the Cayman Islands provide a right to same-sex marriage.

Re McQuillan

[2021] UKSC 55

Judicial review challenge to the lack of an article 2 ECHR compliant investigation into deaths and ill-treatment occurring during the Troubles.

United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (Incorporation) (Scotland) Bill & European Charter of Local Self-Government (Incorporation) (Scotland) Bill

[2021] UKSC 42

Devolution references concerning certain provisions of two Scottish Bills are outside the competence of the Scottish Parliament.

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

[2021] UKSC 26

Article 14 ECHR challenge to the two-child benefit cap.

Barking and Dagenham LBC v Persons Unknown

[2022] EWCA CIV 13

Whether final injunctions can be granted against gypsies and travellers who are unknown and unidentified at the time of the injunction (assisting Nigel Giffin KC).

R (Elan-Cane) v Secretary of State for the Home Department

[2021] UKSC 56

Judicial review challenge to the lack of a non-binary 'X' gender option on UK passports.

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

[2021] UKSC 46

Whether the Home Secretary was permitted to override a defective court order.

R (AB) v Secretary of State for Justice

[2021] UKSC 28

Challenge to the placement of children in solitary confinement at a Young Offenders Institution.

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

[2021] UKSC 7

Challenge to the decision to deprive Shamima Begum of her UK citizenship.

R (Friends of the Earth) v Heathrow Airport Ltd

[2020] UKSC 52

Challenge to the third runway at Heathrow Airport.

Employment

Oliver is recognised as a leading junior in employment law by the Legal 500.

He practices in all areas of employment law, with a particular interest in redundancy, dismissal, discrimination and trade union cases. His clients including employees, employers and unions.

Muda v Malaysia

[2025] EAT 193

whether a claim by a foreign citizen with UK permanent residence against her diplomatic embassy employer was barred by state immunity. Oliver appeared as sole counsel in the Employment Appeal Tribunal.

Uber BV v Aslam

[2021] UKSC 5

Whether Uber drivers are workers

Asda Stores Ltd v Brierley

[2021] UKSC 10

Whether female retail staff are entitled to compare themselves with male employees at distribution depots for the purposes of an equal pay claim.

Kostal UK Ltd v Dunkley

[2021] UKSC 47

Claim against an employer for bypassing a trade union in its negotiations with employees.

Newton v SJB Medical Ltd and anor

(ONGOING)

Disability discrimination claims arising out of an online automated recruitment test.

Diner v Fujifilm Sonosite Ltd

(SETTLED)

Harassment and unfair dismissal claim arising out of an alleged course of conduct by the claimant's manager.

Yentob v Impressco Ltd

(ET 2300835/2022)

claim for unpaid holiday pay and petrol expenses, acting pro bono for the claimant, settled the morning of trial with the respondent paying 100% of the sums claimed.

Tamiru v Tiffany & Co (UK) Holdings Ltd

(ET 2302460/2022)

claims against luxury jewellers for unfair dismissal, redundancy pay, notice pay and bonus pay successfully struck out.

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.

Mitchell v Novaplex Business Solutions Ltd

(ET 6013303/2024)

whether a Chief Operating Officer who had been dismissed for gross misconduct was entitled to notice pay and unpaid employer pension contributions

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.

European Union and Competition

Oliver has extensive experience in cases involving competition law, EU relations, and retained/assimilated EU law. He acted the landmark 'Volvo limitation' appeals concerning the status of CJEU judgments post-Brexit, and is comfortable dealing with intricate regulatory structures.

- Acting for one of the six big tech companies designated as a gatekeeper under the EU Digital Markets Act.

Stellantis NV (formerly Fiat Chrysler Automobiles NV) & others v NTN Corporation & others

N/A

follow-on damages claim arising from the automotive bearings cartel.

Daimler AG v Walleniusrederier Aktiebolag

[2019] EWHC 3197 (COMM) AND [2020] EWHC 525 (COMM)

follow on damages claim arising from the Roll-on/Roll-off international shipping cartel.

Ecolab Inc v Competition and Markets Authority

[2020] CAT 12

challenge to a decision of the CMA requiring Ecolab to divest its acquisition of a competitor.

Secretary of State for Health v Servier Laboratories Ltd

[2022] UKSC 44

to what extent findings made by the CJEU in judgments annulling an infringement decision of the EU Commission are binding in domestic private damages actions following on from that decision.

Volvo Limitation

[2023] CAT 49 (COMPETITION APPEAL TRIBUNAL); [2024] EWCA CIV 1559 (COURT OF APPEAL)

refused permission to appeal UKSC/2025/0021 (Supreme Court) – constitutional law arguments on how UK courts should deal with CJEU judgments post-Brexit.

Umbrella Interchange Fees Trial 1

[2025] CAT 37 (SIX-WEEK TRIAL ACROSS FEBRUARY AND MARCH 2024)

part of a multi-chambers counsel team jointly instructed in the Competition Appeal Tribunal by firms representing thousands of UK businesses in their competition law claims against Visa and Mastercard. First judicial finding in Europe that the Visa and Mastercard payment card schemes amount to an object infringement of Article 101 TFEU.

Commercial Litigation

Oliver has a particular interest in the overlap between commercial disputes and public law principles. His commercial clients have included FTSE 100 companies in the retail, gambling, luxury goods, hospitality and tech sectors. He has been instructed on matters ranging from the county court small claims track to heavy and complex commercial court trials.

R (Emeraldshaw Ltd) v Sheffield Magistrates' Court

[2025] EWCA CIV 1601

whether a commercial landlord was liable to pay non-domestic business rates despite granting a tenancy to a charity. Oliver made submissions on the public law issues to the Court of Appeal.

Cubic Transportation Systems Ltd v Transport for London

(ONGOING)

challenge by incumbent contractor to TfL's decision to award its contract for all of TfL's revenue collection services (worth £1.5 billion) to a competitor.

Lime v Liverpool City Council (ongoing)

challenge to the decision of Liverpool City Council to award a concession contract for e-bikes and e-scooters.

Pakistan International Airlines Corporation v Times Travel (UK) Ltd

[2021] UKSC 40

whether a contract can be avoided for lawful economic act duress. Critiqued academically in [2021] 8 JBL 701.

Tinkler v Stobart Group

[2022] EWHC 1375 (CH)

Successful defence to a claim to set aside a judgment alleged to have been obtained by fraud, upheld on appeal (assisting Richard Leiper KC and Daniel Isenberg).

Bott & Co Solicitors Ltd v Ryanair DAC

[2022] UKSC 8

Claim to recover monies said to be held under a solicitor's equitable lien.

FS Cairo (Nile Plaza) LLC v Brownlie

[2021] UKSC 45

Claim for tortious damages against a defendant out of the jurisdiction

Tinkler v HMRC

[2021] UKSC 39

The leading case on estoppel by convention.

Enka Insaat Ve Sanayi AS v OOO Insurance Company Chubb

[2020] UKSC 38

Dispute over the proper law of an arbitration agreement governing proceedings concerning liability for a fire at a Russian power plant.

Harcus Sinclair LLP v Your Lawyers Ltd

[2021] UKSC 32

Enforceability of a non-compete clause/solicitor's undertaking agreed between two law firms.

Secretary of State for Health v Servier Laboratories Ltd

[2022] UKSC 44

to what extent findings made by the CJEU in judgments annulling an infringement decision of the EU Commission are binding in domestic private damages actions following on from that decision.

Manchester Building Society v Grant Thornton UK LLP, Meadows v Khan

[2021] UKSC 20, [2021] UKSC 21

leading authorities on the scope of the duty of care in negligence.

T W Logistics Ltd v Essex County Council

[2021] UKSC 4

Challenge to the registration of a working commercial port as a town and village green.

Vodafone v Ofcom

[2020] EWCA CIV 183

Restitutionary claim by network operators for monies held by Ofcom after the quashing of earlier regulations.

Alstom Transport UK Ltd v Network Rail Infrastructure Ltd

[2019] EWHC 3585 (TCC)

Challenge to the award of a contract for digital train control signalling system on the East Coast Main Line.

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.

Data Protection and Information

Oliver is recognised as a leading junior for data protection in both the Legal 500 and Administrative and Public Law. He has been described in this area as *"an extremely good advocate"* and *"exceptionally user-friendly and very detail-focused"*.

Oliver's experience ranges from advising government departments on narrow points of law to assisting Supreme Court justices decide class action claims. He frequently acts for journalists, members of the public, businesses, public authorities and the Information Commissioner in the First-tier Tribunal and in the Upper Tribunal.

> ***He is exceptionally user-friendly and very detail-focused. He is able to turn things around quickly and produce high-quality output.***
>
> CHAMBERS & PARTNERS

Bence v Cornwall Council & Information Commissioner

[2025] UKUT 420 (AAC)

landmark Upper Tribunal case involving the first finding in information law that a public authority was in contempt of court.

Amin v DEFRA

(ONGOING)

acting pro bono, freedom of information challenge seeking information from meetings between the DEFRA permanent secretary and the chair of Thames Water shortly before his resignation from Thames Water's parent company due to a conflict of interest.

Spiropoulos v Information Commissioner

[2025] UKUT 285 (AAC)

a first instance tribunal's reasons for resolving an evidential dispute can be inferred from the judgment as a whole.

Monetise Media Ltd v Information Commissioner

[2024] UKFTT 00959 (GC)

challenge to ICO decision to impose a £125,000 fine on a company for breach of Privacy and Electronic Communications Regulations 2003.

Powell v Information Commissioner

[2023] UKUT 221 (AAC)

whether the First-tier Tribunal gave adequate reasons for finding that anonymised information was personal data.

Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities v Information Commissioner

(EA/2022/0143 & 0144)

defending ICO decisions ordering the disclosure to journalists of information regarding the Government's Towns Fund on the basis that the information relates to the formulation or development of government policy.

MO v Information Commissioner

(EA/2022/0071)

challenge to ICO decision withholding the disclosure of information relating to the licensing of sex entertainment venues in Bristol.

Garrard v Cabinet Office

[2025] UKFTT 00343 (GRC)

acting pro bono, freedom of information challenge seeking briefing notes and readouts from meetings between Prime Minister Boris Johnson and Indian industrialist Gautam Adani.

Burton v Information Commissioner

[2024] UKUT 134 (AAC)

what is the extent of the First-tier Tribunal's jurisdiction to strike out an appeal on the basis that the grounds of appeal do not engaged the Tribunal's statutory jurisdiction.

Spotlight on Corruption v British Business Bank

(EA/2022/0014 & 0061)

defending the decision not to disclose the names of UK companies that received government-backed loans during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Lin v Information Commissioner

[2023] UKUT 143 (AAC)

Upper Tribunal appeal concerning the jurisdiction of the FtT to strike out vexatious claims.

Lloyd v Google LLC

[2021] UKSC 50

class action claim against Google for alleged abuse of personal data.

Education

Oliver is highly experienced in education law disputes and regularly acts for educational institutions, local authorities, students and parents. In 2024 and 2025 he acted in four separate high-profile education law judicial reviews, each of which was widely reported in the press.

R (AB) v Bristol City Council

[2025] EWHC 893 (ADMIN)

challenge to a £90 million 'safety value agreement' between the Department of Education and a local authority to cover SEND overspends (led by James Goudie KC, leading Rita Dias).

R (EBB) v The Gorse Academies Trust

[2025] EWHC 1983 (ADMIN)

wide-ranging challenge to use of isolation rooms at a high-performing Academy Trust (led by Jason Coppel KC and Hannah Slarks).

Public Procurement

Oliver is recognised as a leading junior in public procurement by the Legal 500.

He acts for both economic operators and contracting authorities, and is regularly instructed in the Technology and Construction Court and the Administrative Court on the largest procurement disputes.

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