

# Professor Jonathan Harris QC (Hon)

**Call: 2006**

**Silk: 2016**

Telephone: 0121 246 7010



## Commercial & Chancery Litigation Profile

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Professor Jonathan Harris QC (Hon.) practises in all core areas of commercial and chancery litigation. He has a pre-eminent reputation in the field of private international law and specialises in cross-border disputes (particularly disputes raising issues of jurisdiction, arbitration, anti-suit injunctions, recognition and enforcement of foreign judgments and choice of law- both under the European legislation and the common law rules). He also specialises in offshore litigation. He has also drafted firewall and asset protection legislation for a number of offshore jurisdictions. Jonathan was instructed as junior counsel for the successful appellant in the Privy Council in *Hutcheson v Spread Trustees*, a case concerning trustee exemption clauses in Guernsey.

He was also instructed as a junior counsel for the successful respondent in the landmark Supreme Court case of *Granatino v Radmacher* on pre-nuptial agreements.

He has been instructed in landmark offshore cases including *Charman v Charman* and *Mubarak v Mubarak*.

Jonathan is joint general editor (with Lord Collins of Mapesbury) of the leading work *Dicey, Morris and Collins, The Conflict of Laws* (and is also responsible for eleven chapters). He is author of *The Hague Trusts Convention* and co-author of *International Sale of Goods in the Conflict of Laws*. He has also contributed to two editions of *Underhill and Hayton, Law of Trusts and Trustees* and to *Benjamin's Sale of Goods* (8th edition). He is co-editor of the *Journal of Private International Law* and an editorial board member of *Trusts and Trustees*. He is a member of STEP and honorary member of ACTAPS.

He also holds the position of Professor of International Commercial Law at King's College, London on a part-time basis; and has been Visiting Professor at the National University of Singapore and Visiting Professorial Fellow at the University of New South Wales, Australia.

## What-the-Directories-Say

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- "He is a brilliant tactician and is particularly good at analysing problems that relate to complex cross-border issues. He is a leading authority on international conflicts of law work." - Chambers & Partners 2016
- "Absolutely fabulous; he is terribly intelligent." - Chambers & Partners 2016
- "Brings invaluable experience to complex trust cases, especially where there are jurisdiction and conflict of law issues." - Legal 500 2015

## Recent-Experience

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- Instructed extensively in high value commercial cases, especially where a private international law element is involved.
- Instructed in numerous international trusts matters in England, Bermuda and Jersey. Has also been instructed in several large-scale ancillary relief cases.
- Currently acting in a major cross-border insurance dispute.

## Reported-Cases

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- *Hutcheson v Spread Trustees* [2011] UKPC 13 - instructed as junior counsel in the Privy Council on behalf of the successful appellant in a landmark case on trustee exemption clauses in Guernsey and the sources of Guernsey law.
- *Granatino v Radmacher*, [2010] UKSC 42. Appeared as a junior counsel on behalf of the respondent in a landmark case heard by nine judges in the Supreme Court. The appeal concerned the weight to be given to a pre-nuptial agreement in ancillary relief proceedings. The appeal was dismissed.
- *Masri v CCIC & Ors* (2011 - Commercial Court) - conspiracy claim.
- *Masri v CCIC & Ors* (2011 - Commercial Court) - civil contempt of court claim in the Commercial Court.
- *OJSC Oil Co Yugraneft (In Liquidation) v Abramovich & Others* [2008] EWHC 2613 (Comm). Involved in successful application for reverse summary judgment.
- *General Motors Corporation v Royal & Sun Alliance Insurance* [2007] EWHC 2206 (Comm). Instructed in successful application for anti-suit injunction.
- *Sibir Energy Plc v Roman Abramovich & Others* (Court Of Appeal, Eastern Caribbean, 2006). Provided advice to defendants on choice of law issues in successful defence of the claim.
- *Re Parmalat Securities Litigation*;
- *Re Scor Holding (Switzerland) AG Securities Litigation*;
- *Re Alstom SA Securities Litigation*.

## Specialist-Areas

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Jonathan Harris is a member of the following specialist practice groups where detailed CV's can be viewed by clicking on the links below:

- Commercial & Chancery Litigation
- Commercial Fraud & Asset Tracing
- Contentious Wills, Trusts & Probate
- General Commercial
- International Arbitration
- International & Overseas
- Private International Law

## Publications

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- Dicey, Morris and Collins on the Conflict of Laws. Responsible for eight chapters in the 14th edition (2006) and 15th edition (2012), along with annual supplements.
- One of the editors of Benjamin's Sale of Goods (8th edition, 2010) and author of Part Eight of the book.
- Contributor of Conflict of Laws section of Underhill and Hayton, Law Relating to Trusts and Trustees (16th edition, 2003) and 17th edition (2006).
- The Hague Trusts Convention (2002) - (author).
- International Sale of Goods in the Conflict of Laws (2005) - (co-authored).
- Contributor to International Trust Laws.
- Author of a very substantial number of articles and book chapters in areas of private international law and trusts law.
- Co-editor and co-founder of the Journal of Private International Law.
- Editorial board member, Trusts and Trustees.

## Qualifications-and-Appointments

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- Professor of International Commercial Law, King's College, London
- M.A., B.C.L. (Jesus College, Oxford)
- Ph.D. (University of Birmingham)
- Currently acting as the legal advisor to the Ministry of Justice on the proposed EU Regulation on

