

Christopher Harris

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Christopher Harris is an English-qualified barrister and experienced trial advocate ranked as a leading practitioner for (inter alia) banking and finance, energy disputes, international arbitration and public international law by *Chambers & Partners* and *Legal 500*. Christopher has been recognised as one of the leading UK-based arbitration counsel for many years: in 2017 he won the **WWL Future Leader in Arbitration** award and the **Legal 500 International Arbitration Junior of the Year** award and in 2014 he was awarded **International Arbitration Junior of the Year** at the **Chambers Bar Awards**. *Chambers Global* and *Chambers & Partners* have ranked him alone as a **Star Individual** for arbitration for over two years and he was recognised as one of the top 100 barristers across all areas of law by the inaugural **Chambers 100** directory. He is also recommended by *Chambers & Partners* as an arbitrator.

Legal 500 2016

“He has unrivalled experience of BIT arbitrations and is often better than silks in this area.”

Chambers & Partners 2016

“His advocacy is very well presented, sleek and convincing”

Christopher is commonly retained as the lead advocate and has substantial experience of court and arbitration advocacy, as well as multiple appearances before the English Court of Appeal. He is particularly sought after for his **“razor-sharp mind and great oral advocacy”** and his **“highly effective”** cross-examinations, as well as being **“extremely good with clients”**. Christopher is equally at home as part of a larger team, and has been instructed in a number of the largest cases to come before the English courts in recent years including: *Yukos v. Russia*, *Cherney v. Deripaska*, the *Abyazov* dispute, the *Liverpool FC* litigation, and the *Algozaibi* litigation.

Christopher has been regularly retained for a number of years to provide expert advice to governments and individuals affected by international investment law, and as counsel in a range of arbitrations and annulment proceedings under the ICSID, UNCITRAL and SCC Rules. To date, Christopher has acted as counsel in

seventeen investment arbitration disputes, for both investors and States, making him one of the most experienced barristers practising in this area.

In addition, he also has significant experience of the enforcement of arbitration awards, and investment treaty awards in particular, before the English Courts. He authored the chapter covering England in the recent specialist publication “**Enforcement of Investment Treaty Arbitration Awards: A Global Guide**”, Globe Publishing (Feb 2015), J. Fourret (Ed). In recent years, his work in this area has included: Yukos v Russia; Gold Reserve v Venezuela; Stati v Kazakhstan; and Flemingo v Poland.

Christopher studied both French and Swiss law as part of his education and speaks French and German. He worked for a year in a Zurich law firm before commencing practice at the Bar in London.