



Karim Ghaly KC

Year of call: 2001 | Silk: 2017

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“Karim combines incandescent intelligence with an unparalleled work ethic, and he is often said to be one of the very top talents of his generation.”

The Legal 500 2022

Karim Ghaly KC specialises in the litigation and arbitration of substantial commercial disputes in the fields of construction and engineering, energy and natural resources, infrastructure, insurance, and PPP/PFI.

He has acted as counsel or arbitrator in complex disputes arising out of projects in Africa, Asia, the Caribbean, Europe, the Middle East, North America, South America and the UK.

Karim is recognised as one of the leading advocates in his areas of practice. He is recommended for Commercial Dispute Resolution, Construction, Energy and Natural Resources, International Arbitration, PPP/PFI and Professional Negligence by Chambers and Partners, Chambers Global, The Legal 500, The Legal 500 Middle East and Who’s Who Legal.

Areas of expertise

Construction, Engineering and Infrastructure Disputes

Energy and Natural Resources

Insurance and Reinsurance

International Arbitration

PPP/PFI

PPP/PFI

“Noted for his deep understanding of the mechanisms of PFI and PPP disputes.” Chambers and Partners 2022

Karim has extensive experience of international PPP and UK PPP/PFI disputes. He has represented funders, public sector partners, project SPV and contractors. He has a deep knowledge of the issues that commonly arise in such projects, including the operation of payment mechanisms, benchmarking and market testing, SFPs and unavailability, termination and valuation on termination and funders’ step-in

rights. Karim has acted in PPP/PFI projects concerning hospitals, power generation facilities, roads, social housing and waste facilities.

Cases of note

- **Resource Recovery Solutions v Derbyshire County Council & Derby City Council** – represented the public sector partners in £170m TCC dispute arising out of a PPP agreement for the provision and operation of an Energy from Waste plant.
- **ICC Arbitration** – acted for ProjectCo in a US\$20m dispute arising out of a social housing PPP project in the Middle East.
- **Adjudication** – represented ProjectCo in a £70m dispute arising out of a social housing PFI project.
- **Barts Health NHS Trust v Capital Hospitals Limited** – represented ProjectCo in a Commercial Court dispute concerning the omission of services.
- **Adjudication** – Acted as adjudicator in a c£20m dispute over the operation of the payment mechanism in an NHS PFI agreement.

Recommendations

Karim is recommended for Commercial Dispute Resolution, Construction, Energy and Natural Resources, International Arbitration, PPP/PFI and Professional Negligence by Chambers & Partners, Chambers Global, the Legal 500, the Legal 500 Middle East and Who's Who Legal.

Recent quotes from clients, as reported by these directories, include:

"Very hard-working and a brilliant strategist, he's a proper legal chess player who out manoeuvres the opposition"; "He just exudes confidence and ability so clients are happy to listen to him." Chambers and Partners 2022.

"Extremely effective in cross-examination, fantastic on his feet." Chambers and Partners 2021.

"An extremely talented oral advocate and a brutally effective cross-examiner." The Legal 500 2021.

"Commercially astute and great to work with." Who's Who Legal 2021.

Memberships

Member of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators.

Member of the London Court of International Arbitration.

Member of the International Council for Commercial Arbitration.

Member of the Society of Construction Law.

Fellow of the Society for Advanced Legal Studies, University of London.

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