



Kelly Stricklin-Coutinho

Year of call: 2006

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"Kelly provides very impressive commercial advice and is an exquisite advocate. While for now she is a fantastic junior to add structure to a team, she will no doubt be knocking on the door of silk soon enough." Chambers and Partners 2023

Kelly is a leading senior junior practising in commercial and civil law.

She has particular expertise in competition law (including state aid and subsidies), EU law, tax law (corporation tax, income tax, VAT, environmental taxes and other direct and indirect taxes) and commercial disputes.

Her clients include multinationals, FTSE 100 and 250 companies, central and local government, high net worth individuals, charities and SMEs.

Kelly is a CEDR Accredited Mediator. She is a member of CEDR's Faculty and [CEDR's Panel of mediators](#) and a member of Sport Resolutions' Panel of Arbitrators and Mediators respectively. She mediates in all of her areas of practice, including co-mediation with HMRC. Kelly was appointed as Chair of Civil Mediation Council (CMC) in June 2024.

She is called to the Bar of the Republic of Ireland. She trained at the European Commission (DG Taxation and Customs), and was a Judicial Assistant to the Court of Appeal. Kelly has been appointed as a Legally Qualified member to the Civil Procedure Rule Committee (CPRC), starting from 12 July 2025 until 11 July 2028.



Areas of expertise

Tax

EU Law

Procurement

Commercial

Judicial Review

Mediators

Competition

Commercial

Kelly regularly advises on a range of commercial disputes, from contract disputes to cross border disputes with treaty law and EU law aspects, including acting in international arbitrations.

She has particular expertise in relation to commercial matters and disputes with a tax element, including tax issues in wider commercial projects, settlements, the tax treatment of damages, and the impact on commercial arrangements of changes in tax law.

Cases of note:

- **ICSID Arbitration** - Kelly acted in arbitral proceedings on behalf of the Claimants in ICSID arbitration proceedings relating to renewable energy, led by Christopher Staker.
- **The Foskett Panel** - Kelly is currently instructed as a legal advisor to the Foskett Panel, chaired by Sir David Foskett, which is re-assessing direct and consequential losses suffered by victims of the fraud at HBOS Reading, in line with the recommendations in the Cranston Review led by Sir Ross Cranston.
- **Utility Company v Energy Providers** - Instructed on behalf of the potential claimant in relation to a contract dispute with energy providers relating to commercial premises.
- **Advice to Waste Provider** - Instructed by Waste Provider to advise in relation to the impact of possible changes to tax law on contractual arrangements.

Recommendations

- *"Kelly is able to quickly navigate through the various aspects of the case and provide the desired analysis."* Chambers and Partners 2023
- *"Kelly provides very impressive commercial advice and is an exquisite advocate. While for now she is a fantastic junior to add structure to a team, she will no doubt be knocking on the door of silk soon enough."* The Legal 500 2023
- *"Very good and commercial advice and a fantastic junior to add structure to a team. An exquisite advocate."* The Legal 500 2023
- *"Experienced, knowledgeable and thorough junior with a niche in state aid."* The Legal 500 2021
- *"Her advice is always very practical in what is a complex area."* Chambers and Partners 2021
- *"Very hard-working and knowledgeable."* Chambers and Partners 2021
- *"An excellent junior for tax, EU and state aid cases."* Chambers and Partners 2020

Memberships

- Called to the Bar of the Republic of Ireland
- CEDR's Panel of Mediators

Qualifications

Education

- 2001 – 2004: The London School of Economics and Political Science: LLB
- 2004 – 2005: University of Cambridge: LLM
- 2005 – 2006: Inns of Courts School of Law: Bar Vocational Course

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