



Joe-han Ho

Year of call: 2016

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Joe-han is a specialist commercial barrister who practises across the full spectrum of commercial and construction (including energy and infrastructure) disputes. He has appeared in the Court of Appeal, the High Court (including as sole counsel against King's Counsel), and specialist tribunals. He has a thriving arbitration practice and regularly appears before international arbitral tribunals.

Joe-han is frequently instructed on complex and high-value disputes with an international element. Many of his cases have a connection with the Far East, and he is regularly instructed by law firms in (for example) the PRC, South Korea, Malaysia, and Singapore. His clients range from ultra-high-net-worth individuals to leading public and private financial institutions. Joe-han grew up in the Far East and understands its culture. He also speaks Mandarin Chinese.

Joe-han is ranked in the Legal 500 (2024) as a Leading Individual, with clients commenting "*Fantastic intellectual ability, very responsive. Very much on top of his brief.*"

In addition to his counsel practice, Joe-han has extensive experience in ADR, and accepts appointments as arbitrator, mediator, and adjudicator. He is a CEDR-accredited mediator and is also on TECBAR's panel of accredited adjudicators.

Previously, Joe-han practised as a solicitor at Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton LLP where he focused on international arbitration and commercial litigation. He also held teaching positions at King's College London (trusts and equity) and Durham University (contract law). He is regularly published on a range of commercial law matters.



Areas of expertise

Banking and Financial Services

Civil Fraud

Commercial Contracts
Construction
International Arbitration

Civil Fraud

Joe-han has considerable experience in civil fraud disputes, where he has acted for both claimants and defendants. His expertise is complemented by his involvement in the USD\$300m Kazakhstan Kagazy litigation from 2013 (when the litigation commenced with a £72m Worldwide Freezing Order) to 2021 (enforcement proceedings against various trusts).

Cases of note

- ***X v Y*** – Acting for a Barbadian insurer in two ICC arbitrations with a combined value of US\$43.5 million concerning fraud, misrepresentation, and breach of contract.
- ***Kagazy Kazakhstan plc & Ors v Zhunus & Ors* [2020] EWHC 2431 (Comm); [2020] EWHC 698 (Comm); [2020] EWHC 128 (Comm)** - Enforcement proceedings of a USD\$300m judgment in the main proceedings against various trust entities, brought on the basis of tracing, resulting trust (to the fraudster), alternatively section 423 Insolvency Act 1986 (led by William McCormick KC).
- ***Townley & Anor v Inter Export LLC* [2018] EWCA Civ 2068** - A fraud claim brought by a Ukrainian company against the director of a contractual counterparty regarding the sale of sunflower oil. The appeal raised complex issues regarding Lord Tenterden's Act and the application of the tortious measure of damages (led by Hugh Jory KC).
- ***Alliance Bank JSC v Zhunus & Ors* [2015] EWHC 714 (Comm)**

Judicial remarks

Joe-han has appeared before various courts and tribunals, including the Court of Appeal, the High Court (including as sole counsel against Queen's Counsel in the Commercial Court), the County Court, and international arbitral tribunals. His appearances have been subject to judicial remarks, to which a selection is set out below.

- *"as Mr Jory [QC] and Mr Joe-han Ho point out, in their lucid and concise post-hearing written submission..."* ***Townley & Anor v Inter Export LLC* [2018] EWCA Civ 2068** (Lady Justice Arden, as she then was)
- *"This appeal was argued extremely skilfully by [Mr Ho]."* ***Dubai First PJSC v Wright* [2019]** (unreported) (Mr Justice Barling)
- *"... [Mr Ho's] excellent written closing outline submissions."* ***The Sky's The Limit Transformations Ltd v Dr Mohamed Mirza* [2022] EWHC 29 (TCC)** (HHJ Stephen Davies)
- *"... excellent submissions."* ***Bank of Baroda & Ors v GVK Coal Developers (Singapore) Pte Ltd* [2022]** (Mrs Justice Cockerill)

Memberships

- The Commercial Bar Association
- The Technology & Construction Bar Association
- The Inter-Pacific Bar Association
- The Chartered Institution of Arbitrators (Member)

Qualifications

Education

- 2007-2010, Durham University, LL.B. (ranked 1st in year)
- 2011-2012, Harvard Law School, LL.M.
- 2012-2013, University of Oxford, B.C.L.

Scholarships and Prizes

- 2016-17: Jarman Scholar, Inner Temple (ranked 1st in year in advocacy)
- 2023: Inter-Pacific Bar Association Scholar

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