

Year called 2001

Silk 2017

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“He’ll run any case the best it can be run.” “His cross-examination is absolutely devastating.”

Chambers & Partners

“A brilliant brain combined with amazing charm, possibly the most complete barrister I know.”

Legal 500 2019

Karim Ghaly QC specialises in the litigation and arbitration of substantial construction, engineering, energy, infrastructure and PPP/PFI disputes.

He has appeared before the Court of Appeal, TCC and Commercial Court in London, and a wide range of institutional and ad hoc arbitral tribunals, in cases arising out of projects in Africa, Asia, the Caribbean, Europe, the Middle East, North America and South America.

In addition to his work as counsel, Karim accepts a limited number of appointments as arbitrator.

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

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## PRACTICE AREAS

- Construction
- Commercial
- International Arbitration

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## SECTORS

- Energy
- Insurance/Re-Insurance
- Infrastructure

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## PRACTICE AREAS

### CONSTRUCTION

*"His consummate advocacy attracts praise from industry observers... He's got a fantastic manner that immediately generates trust."*

Chambers & Partners 2019, Construction

*"Very difficult to praise him highly enough."*

Legal 500 2019, Construction

Karim represents governments, private employers, contractors and professionals in domestic and international construction, infrastructure and engineering disputes. He has extensive experience of defective design and workmanship claims, delay claims, variation claims, unlawful termination claims and professional negligence claims against architects, engineers and surveyors.

Recent cases include:

- **ICC Arbitration** – representing the employer in a US\$500m claim/counterclaim arising out of a Caribbean infrastructure project.
- **ICC Arbitration** – acting for a contractor in a US\$100m claim/counterclaim arising out of an infrastructure project in the Middle East.
- **ICC Arbitration** – representing the contractor in a prolongation and variations claim which arises out of an infrastructure project in South America.
- **LCIA Arbitration** – advising an oil and gas field operator in a dispute arising out of an African offshore project.
- **Adjudication** – representing a Project Co in a dispute arising out of the M&E works to a major PPP housing project.
- **Accolade Wines Limited v (1) VolkerWessels Limited (2) Goodman Logistics Limited & Others; TCC** – representing the employer in a c£150m claim concerning piling and concrete slab defects.
- **Greenwich Millennium Village Ltd v Essex Services Group Plc; Court of Appeal** – representing the contractor in a claim arising out of defective mechanical works to an apartment complex. The issues before the Court of Appeal included the interpretation of contractual indemnities in a building contract.

## COMMERCIAL

*"Noted for his deep understanding of the mechanisms of PFI and PPP disputes."*

Chambers & Partners 2019

Karim's Commercial Court and commercial arbitration practice focuses on:

- PPP/PFI disputes.
- Energy disputes.
- Insurance disputes.

He has extensive experience of international PPP and UK PPP/PFI disputes concerning funding issues, operation of payment mechanisms, SFPs, termination and unavailability. Karim has acted in PPP/PFI projects concerning:

- Hospitals.
- Power generation facilities.
- Roads.
- Social housing.
- Waste facilities.

Recent cases include:

- A £70m dispute arising out of a social housing PFI project.
- A £50m dispute arising out a waste facility PPP project.
- A £15m dispute arising out an NHS PFI project.
- **Stena Oilfield Services Limited v Tullow Ghana; Commercial Court** – representing Tullow in a dispute arising out a contract for the provision of a drilling rig for a project offshore Ghana.
- **3M PLC v The States of Guernsey; Commercial Court** – representing 3M in a c£28m product liability claim.
- **LCIA Arbitration** – representing the guarantor in dispute over the enforceability of a contract of guarantee.
- **Barts Health NHS Trust v Capital Hospitals Limited; Commercial Court** – representing the Project Co in a hospital PFI dispute over the termination of services

## INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATION

*'A brilliant brain combined with amazing charm, possibly the most complete barrister I know.'*

Legal 500 2019, International Arbitration

*"...particularly impressive when handling construction and engineering disputes in China, Africa, South America and Europe."*

Chambers & Partners 2019, International Arbitration: Construction/Engineering.

Recent cases include:

- **ICC Arbitration** – representing a national oil company, as leader of a team of seven counsel, in a US\$500m claim/counterclaim arising out of a Caribbean infrastructure project.
- **ICC Arbitration** – acting for a contractor in a US\$100m claim/counterclaim arising out of an infrastructure project in the Middle East.
- **ICC Arbitration** – representing the contractor in a prolongation and variations claim arising out of an infrastructure project in South America.
- **LCIA Arbitration** – advising an oil and gas field operator in a dispute arising out of an African offshore energy project.
- **ICC Arbitration** – representing a subcontractor in a prolongation and variations dispute arising out of an infrastructure project in Abu Dhabi.
- **ICC Arbitration** – representing an oil and gas field operator in a dispute arising out of an energy project offshore China.

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## SECTORS

### ENERGY

*“Respected silk held in high regard for the quality of his representation in disputes related to construction, engineering and energy. He is frequently engaged by large-scale, international clients to deal with issues all over the world... an excellent analytical lawyer...”*

Chambers & Partners 2019, Energy & Natural Resources

*‘A charismatic advocate who can present unattractive arguments attractively.’*

Legal 500 2019, Energy

Karim has advised and represented governments, private employers and contractors in power generation and oil and gas disputes arising out of onshore and offshore projects in Africa, Asia, the Caribbean, Europe, the Middle East and South America.

Recent cases include:

- **ICC Arbitration** – representing a national oil company, as leader of a team of seven counsel, in a US\$500m claim/counterclaim concerning an oil refinery,
- **ICC Arbitration** – acting for a contractor in a US\$100m claim/counterclaim relating to combined-cycle gas power plant.
- **Stena Oilfield Services Limited v Tullow Ghana; Commercial Court** – representing Tullow in a dispute arising out a contract for the provision of a drilling rig for a project offshore Ghana.
- **ICC Arbitration** – acting for a Chilean contractor in a dispute arising out of the construction of an LNG terminal.

- **LCIA Arbitration** – advising an oil and gas field operator in a dispute arising out of an African offshore energy project.
- **ICC Arbitration** – advising a contractor in relation to the delayed construction and installation of the deepwater infrastructure for a gas field in the South China Sea.
- **Adjudication** – representing a UK PPP in a £25m dispute concerning an offshore wind turbine drive train testing facility.
- **FIDIC DAB** – acting for a US engineering company in a power generation dispute arising out of a project in Nigeria.

## INSURANCE/RE-INSURANCE

Karim undertakes a range of insurance work including disputes over issues of coverage, non-disclosure, misrepresentation and breach of warranty.

He has substantial experience of CAR, professional indemnity and property insurance disputes arising from construction and energy projects. He also acts and advises in matters arising out of a range of marine business.

Recent cases include:

- **Arbitration** – representing the underwriter in a marine cargo coverage dispute.
- **Arbitration** – representing the underwriter in a property insurance coverage dispute.
- **Adjudication** – acting for a London NHS Trust in a dispute arising out of the insurance arrangements under a PFI contract.

## INFRASTRUCTURE

Karim has appeared as an advocate in disputes arising out of infrastructure projects in Africa, Europe, the Middle East, South East Asia and South America.

His work has included litigation, arbitration and adjudication arising out of the following projects:

- An airport terminal and runway project in the UAE.
- An oil refinery in the Caribbean.
- A combined-cycle gas power plant in the Middle East.
- London Heathrow Terminal 5.
- A road project in the UK,
- A deepwater gas project offshore China.
- A deepwater oil project offshore Ghana.
- A deepwater oil and gas project offshore Tanzania.
- A LNG terminal project in Chile.
- A nitrogen pipeline in the UAE.
- An offshore wind turbine drive train testing facility in the north of England.
- An onshore windfarm in England.

- A rig-building project in Indonesia.
  - A power generation project in Nigeria.
  - A landmark stadium development in the UAE.
  - The Dubai International Financial Centre Gate Village.
  - Three landmark mixed-use tower developments in Dubai, together with the related transport infrastructure; Two DIAC arbitrations
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## RECOMMENDATIONS

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

### QUOTES

*"Effective at explaining complicated and technical legal issues to clients." "He is dynamic, energetic and hard-working."* Chambers & Partners 2017

*"He sees every possible point and many that other counsel miss." "He can cut through to the nub of the issue quickly and does it in a very calm, relaxed manner."* Chambers & Partners 2016

*"A compelling advocate."* Legal 500 2015

*"Has a razor-sharp mind, and is very commercial in his approach." "A great analytical thinker who any client would love."* Chambers & Partners 2015.

*"A first choice for construction disputes in the Middle East."* Legal 500 2014

*"Superb."* Chambers & Partners 2014

*"He'll run any case the best it can be run."* Chambers & Partners 2014

*"Very bright and a very good advocate, he is extremely good with clients."* Chambers & Partners 2014

*"Absolutely excellent"* Chambers & Partners 2013

*"Extremely intelligent ... instils confidence and gains a client's trust quickly"* Legal 500 2013

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## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

### QUALIFICATIONS

BA (Oxon) Jurisprudence, First Class  
Scholar of St Edmund Hall, Oxford  
Princess Royal Scholar, Inner Temple  
Admitted as an advocate of the DIFC

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