

Thomas K. Sprange, Q.C.

Partner

*Trial and Global Disputes / International
Arbitration and Litigation*



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Tom Sprange QC provides advocacy and strategic advice in significant, high-value and complex disputes. A partner in our Trial and Global Disputes practice, Tom acts in a wide range of disputes under local, private and public international law. He is described by his peers as: “a unique coming together of legal insight, commercial nous and practical living/implementation”, “a superb advocate”, “class act”, “remarkable,” a “super lawyer,” “a real star,” “fantastic”, “a very sharp legal mind”, “an excellent advocacy choice across dispute resolution forums”, “a sharp intellect” who praise “the precision, energy and tenacity he projects in front of tribunals and judges” and describe him as an “A-star advocate, he just walks in and understands everything”, and highlight his “great cross-examination skills.”

Tom frequently appears in the Chancery and Queens Bench divisions of the High Court and the Court of Appeal in England and in the DIFC in a broad array of disputes.

Tom has acted as counsel in more than 200 international arbitrations in the leading arbitration institutes, including the International Chamber of Commerce, London Court of International Arbitration, American Arbitration Association, Stockholm Chamber of Commerce and the International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes. He also regularly sits as an arbitrator.

He has experience working with clients in numerous sectors, including energy, mining, projects, telecommunications, technology, financial services, real estate, pharmaceuticals, fashion and sports.

Tom is the Managing Partner of the London Office.

He is ranked in the latest editions of the Chambers Global, Chambers UK, Chambers Europe, Legal 500 UK and Who’s Who of Commercial Arbitration, Asset Recovery and Construction directories for Arbitration and Dispute Resolution. He is described as: “a unique coming together of legal insight, commercial nous and practical living/implementation”, “a superb advocate”, “class act”, “remarkable,” a “super lawyer,” “a real star,” “fantastic,” “impressive,” “smart, percipient and energetic,” and “commercially astute and a great lawyer” with sources adding that “his advocacy skills are brilliant” and he has “experience in a range of sectors, including aviation, energy and finance.” and that “he is very responsive, sharp and quick to seize the key issues”. Sources also say Thomas is a “thoroughbred arbitrator who is incredibly smart,” a “heavyweight arbitration lawyer”

and “technically excellent and very creative, with a strong knowledge base and good problem-solving skills”. Furthermore, Thomas is said to combine a “Mensa-like intellect with a down-to-earth attitude” and “an unparalleled work ethic and outstanding attention to client needs”; possess “extensive commercial arbitration expertise”; to “not just go the extra yard in defending his client’s position, but the extra mile”; to be an “accomplished solicitor advocate”; "Tom is an extraordinary litigator. He has a sharp intellect from a legal standpoint and is commercially astute." "He is sensible as a solicitor and impressive as an advocate"; "He is an extremely high-quality advocate and his work is very impressive in this space". "An A-star advocate, he just walks in and understands everything". "He is clever, fast, reasonable, logical, knowledgeable, experienced and creative" and has "great cross-examination skills."

Matters

ICSID proceedings involving claims for \$2 billion arising from claims for expropriation and breaches of national security, acts of terrorism and acts of state.

An ICC arbitration regarding a \$35 billion Treaty dispute between two sovereign states relating to oil and gas transportation rights.

Commercial Court proceedings relating to a \$2.5 billion fraud and enforcement claim including freezing orders and actions in 25 jurisdictions worldwide.

Two related UNCITRAL arbitrations involving claims in excess of \$3.5 billion against the Government of India.

Commercial Court and related appeal proceedings with respect to a \$500 million claim for damages against a sovereign wealth fund.

LCIA proceedings with regards to claims exceeding \$1.5 billion with respect to Middle East based extractive industries dispute.

Commercial Court and related appeal proceedings with regards to \$68 billion sovereign wealth fund.

ICC proceedings relating to petrochemicals dispute including range of issues from defects, delay and interim relief.

Recent English and DIFC Court Experience

Sierra Leone v. SL Mining [2021] EWHC 929 (Comm)

Shapoorji Pallonji and Co Pvt Ltd v Yumn Limited [2021] EWHC 862 (Comm)

ConocoPhillips v. Chrysaor E&P Limited [2021] 3 WLUK 524

Sierra Leone v. SL Mining [2021] EWHC 286 (Comm)

Motorola Solutions Inc v Hytera Communications Corp Ltd [2021] EWCA Civ 11

Hexagon Holdings (Cayman) Limited v. DIFC [2020] DIFCoA CFI 013/2019

C v. D Ltd and X [2020] EWHC 1283 (Comm)

Mohamed v. Breish [2020] EWCA Civ 637

Motorola Solutions Inc v Hytera Communications Corp Ltd [2020] EWHC 980 (Comm)

National Bank of Kazakhstan v Bank of New York Mellon SA/NV London Branch [2020] EWHC 916 (Comm)

Hexagon Holdings (Cayman) Limited v. DIFC [2019] DIFC CFI 013

Mohamed v. Breish [2020] EWHC 696 (Comm)

Tsareva v Ananyev [2019] EWHC 2414 (Comm)

Mohamed v Breish [2019] EWHC 1765 (Comm)

Chung v Silver Dry Bulk Co Ltd [2019] EWHC 1479 (Comm)

National Bank of Kazakhstan v Bank of New York Mellon SA/NV [2018] EWHC 3282 (Comm)

Stati v Kazakhstan [2018] EWCA Civ 1896

Montvale Invest Ltd (In Liquidation) v Terra Raf Trans Traiding Ltd [2018] EWHC 1507 (Ch)

Stati v Kazakhstan [2018] EWHC 1130 (Comm)

Monde Petroleum SA v Westernzagros [2018] EWCA Civ 25

Bank and Clients Plc v King [2017] EWHC 3099 (Comm)

Arcadia Energy Petroleum Ltd v Bosworth [2017] EWHC 3160 (Comm)

Stati v Kazakhstan [2017] EWHC 1348 (Comm)

Silver Dry Bulk Co Ltd v Homer Hulbert Maritime Co Ltd [2017] EWHC 44 (Comm)

Credentials

EDUCATION

LL.M., University of New South Wales, with distinction
L.P.A.B. Dip. Law, University of Sydney, Australia

ADMISSIONS

England and Wales
Law Society of New South Wales

Recognition

Ranked for Arbitration and Dispute Resolution

CHAMBERS GLOBAL, 2017

Ranked for International Arbitration and London Fraud

CHAMBERS UK, 2017

Ranked for International Arbitration

CHAMBERS EUROPE, 2017

Ranked for International Arbitration, Dispute Resolution and Civil Fraud

LEGAL 500 UK, 2017

Ranked for International Arbitration and Commercial Litigation

WHO'S WHO LEGAL

Insights

ARTICLE

June 1, 2021 • Source: The Investment Treaty Arbitration Review
Enforcement of Awards

June 1, 2021 • Source: The Investment Treaty Arbitration Review
Treaty Interpretation In Investment Treaty Arbitrations

CLIENT ALERT

February 19, 2021

English High Court Rules That Compliance With Pre-Arbitration Negotiation Periods Incapable of Challenge on Jurisdictional Grounds

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Events

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENT

December 9, 2020

Thomas Sprange QC, Isabel San Martin to Speak on ERA Pledge Young Practitioners Subcommittee Webinar

June 4, 2020

Thomas Sprange QC, Isabel San Martin to Speak on International Centre for Dispute Resolution Webinar About Virtual Hearings

May 18, 2020

Thomas Sprange QC, Viren Mascarenhas to Speak on Webinar About COVID-19 Pandemic and Investment Arbitration

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News

CASES & DEALS

June 30, 2021

King & Spalding Secures a Major Win in a Landmark Multi-Jurisdictional Award Enforcement Dispute

RECOGNITION

August 26, 2021

India Business Law Journal Again Recognizes King & Spalding Among Top Foreign Law Firms for India Work

July 16, 2021

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