

Luke Ilott

Year of call: 2025
Degree: BA History (Cambridge, Double Starred First), MPhil (Cambridge, Distinction), PhD, History (Cambridge), GDL (City, Distinction), PGDip in Bar Practice (ICCA, Distinction)
Languages: French (fluent), German (working knowledge), Russian (working knowledge)



Luke accepts instructions in all areas of Chambers' practice. He will commence practice in September following the successful completion of his pupillage.

Recent highlights of Luke's experience include assisting with the following cases:

- *R(C3) v Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs*: a judicial review claim in the national security context concerning the duties owed by the Foreign Secretary to a British national alleged to have travelled to Syria and aligned with ISIL before being held with her children in a detention camp run by non-state actors (assisting Natasha Simonsen, led by Dan Squires KC).
- *ASGC Holding LLC & Ors v Innovo Holding Ltd & Ors*: a complex fraud claim concerning the alleged diversion of assets, data and staff from a major UAE company group (assisting Harry Adamson, led by Andrew Green KC, for the Eighth and Ninth Defendants).
- *Al-Aggad v Al-Aggad*: a complex commercial dispute between members of a Saudi family involving allegations of unlawful means conspiracy and raising issues of Saudi law (assisting Shane Sibbel, led by Robert Weekes KC, for the Claimant).
- *Case T-869/25 Ezz Steel & Ors v Commission*: an application to the General Court of the European Union challenging an anti-dumping duty imposed by the European Commission on imports of hot-rolled steel from Egypt (assisting Ravi Mehta for the Applicants).
- *Hora v United Kingdom*: an application to the Grand Chamber of the European Court of Human Rights in an A3P1 complaint regarding the disenfranchisement of convicted prisoners (assisting George Molyneaux, led by Jason Pobjoy KC, for the Applicant).

Before coming to the Bar, Luke obtained a PhD in twentieth-century French political history and worked as a communications officer for a progressive campaigning organisation.

Alongside his studies, Luke volunteered as an advocate for people in UK immigration removal centres; overturned a SEND pupil's exclusion with the School Exclusion Project; assisted Prof. Meg Russell at the UCL Constitution Unit; and taught English at a prison in New Jersey.

EXPERIENCE

Commercial

Luke accepts instructions in all areas of commercial law.

Cases

Al-Aggad v Al-Aggad

A complex commercial dispute between members of a Saudi family involving allegations of unlawful means conspiracy and raising issues of Saudi law (assisting Shane Sibbel, led by Robert Weekes KC, for the Claimant).

ASGC Holding LLC & Ors v Innovo Holding Ltd & Ors

A complex fraud claim concerning the alleged diversion of assets, data and staff from a major UAE company group (assisting Harry Adamson, led by Andrew Green KC, for the Eighth and Ninth Defendants).

Kahlon v Liberty Steel Group Ltd & Ors

[2022] DIFC CFI 070 (26 Feb 2026)

A claim for over \$100m, understood to be the largest employment claim ever brought in the DIFC, including a personal claim in fraud against the Executive Chairman of the group (assisting Daniel Burgess for the successful individual Defendant).

Fraud claim

A very high value claim alleging unlawful means conspiracy and breaches of contract linked to a major corporate restructuring (assisting Harry Adamson, led by Andrew Green KC and Fraser Campbell KC).

Alaska Airlines Inc v Virgin Aviation TM Ltd & Anor

[2025] EWHC 2505 (Comm)

A claim by Alaska Airlines for breach of a contract for the exclusive use of the Virgin brand on certain routes (assisting Daniel Burgess, led by Shaheed Fatima KC).

RS Lender IV S.A.R.L. v Gil Marin

A debt claim for c. EUR 85m relating to funding for a Spanish property development. The case involves parallel Spanish criminal proceedings and a Luxembourg-law share pledge, raising complex issues about the operation of exclusive jurisdiction clauses (assisting Harry Adamson, led by Andreas Gledhill KC, for the Claimant).

Fisher v Dinwoodie

An appeal to the Court of Appeal concerning the correct procedure on an account of profits in a complex joint venture dispute (assisting Shane Sibbel for the Respondent).

Confidential commercial arbitration

An arbitration with its seat in Ireland concerning the EUR 320 million refinancing of an Irish Collective Asset-Management Vehicle and its impact upon bonus provisions within an asset management agreement (assisting Shane Sibbel).

Re: a shareholder dispute

Advising a major multinational investment banking and financial services group on a dispute about the misuse of information rights by a co-investor in a tech company (assisting Daniel Burgess).

Fraud dispute

Advising the defendants to a proposed claim in conspiracy and breach of directors' duties by the administrators of their former company (assisting Daniel Burgess).

Re: a settlement agreement

Advising on potential challenges to a settlement agreement worth \$40m (assisting Shane Sibbel).

Re: a divorce

Advising on civil causes of action arising out of divorce proceedings involving alleged misuse of a power of attorney and regulatory breaches by a company director (assisting Daniel Burgess).

Advice on contract dispute and remedies

Advising a consumer technology company on options for lawfully terminating a manufacturing contract (assisting Ravi Mehta).

FMC Trading v MA Fastmove Ltd

[2026] EWCA Civ 763

An appeal to the Court of Appeal concerning procedural fairness where summary judgment was entered against one defendant while adjourning the application against a co-defendant to permit him to adduce further evidence (assisting Harry Adamson).

Claims arising out of an arbitration

Claims under s.423 Insolvency Act 1986 and s.68 Arbitration Act 1996 in respect of a concluded LCIA arbitration over a c.£20 million debt (assisting Shane Sibbel).

Advice for the BBC

Advising the BBC in relation to high-profile claims against it in respect of programmes made by third-party producers, raising conflicts of laws issues (assisting Natasha Simonsen, led by Tom Croxford KC).

Player-Club dispute

Advising a Premier League football club on a potential contractual claim by a former player (assisting Ravi Mehta).

Re: a football club

Advising the former owner on potential conspiracy and regulatory claims arising out of the sale of a football club (assisting Shane Sibbel, led by Nick de Marco KC).

Civil Liberties & Human Rights

Luke accepts instructions in all areas of civil liberties and human rights.

Cases

R(VT & Ors) v Commissioner for the British Indian Ocean Territory

[2025] BIOT CA (Civ) 1

A case concerning a number of asylum seekers held to have been unlawfully detained on the island of Diego Garcia for more than three years from 2021. The Claimants succeeded in showing that an application for permission to appeal by the Commissioner to the Privy Council was wholly devoid of merit (assisting Natasha Simonsen, led by Tim Otty KC for the successful Claimants/Respondents).

Hora v United Kingdom

An application to the Grand Chamber of the European Court of Human Rights in an A3P1 complaint regarding the disenfranchisement of convicted prisoners (assisting George Molyneaux, led by Jason Pobjoy KC, for the Applicant).

Soliman v Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office

A claim arising out of alleged involvement of the UK security services in unlawful detention and torture in Libya (assisting George Molyneaux, led by Tom de la Mare KC, for the Claimant).

R(C3) v Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs

A judicial review claim in the national security context concerning the duties owed by the Foreign Secretary to a British national alleged to have travelled to Syria and aligned with ISIL before being held with her children in a detention camp run by non-state actors. The case raises complex issues concerning disclosure under Closed Material Procedures, the extraterritorial application of human rights law, and common-law constitutional rights (assisting Natasha Simonsen, led by Dan Squires KC).

Data protection and human rights claim

A data protection and human rights damages claim arising out of a major leak of personal information by a public authority (assisting Ravi Mehta for the Claimants).

Advice on A1P1 and Article 6 ECHR claims

Advising on applications to the European Court of Human Rights under Article 6 and A1P1 in a case involving historic expropriation of assets and prolonged domestic proceedings (assisting George Molyneaux, led by Tim Otty KC).

False imprisonment claim

A claim for aggravated and exemplary damages for false imprisonment against the Ministry of Justice (assisting Natasha Simonsen).

Advice for the BBC

Advising the BBC on its response to claims alleging breaches of the Equality Act 2010, the Human Rights Act and public law in editorial decisions in relation to gender identity (assisting Natasha Simonsen).

Civil Fraud, Asset Recovery & Injunctive Relief

Luke accepts instructions in all areas of civil fraud, asset recovery and injunctive relief.

Cases

ASGC Holding LLC & Ors v Innovo Holding Ltd & Ors

A complex fraud claim concerning the alleged diversion of assets, data and staff from a major UAE company group (assisting Harry Adamson, led by Andrew Green KC, for the Eighth and Ninth Defendants).

Fraud claim

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Re: a football club

Advising the former owner on potential conspiracy and regulatory claims arising out of the sale of a football club (assisting Shane Sibbel, led by Nick de Marco KC).

Fraud dispute

Advising the defendants to a proposed claim in conspiracy and breach of directors' duties by the administrators of their former company (assisting Daniel Burgess).

Re: a divorce

Advising on civil causes of action arising out of divorce proceedings involving alleged misuse of a power of attorney and regulatory breaches by a company director (assisting Daniel Burgess).

Public & Regulatory

Luke accepts instructions in all areas of public and regulatory law.

Cases

R(C3) v Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs

A judicial review claim in the national security context concerning the duties owed by the Foreign Secretary to a British national alleged to have travelled to Syria and aligned with ISIL before being held with her children in a detention camp run by non-state actors. The case raises complex issues concerning disclosure under Closed Material Procedures, the extraterritorial application of human rights law, and common-law constitutional rights (assisting Natasha Simonsen, led by Dan Squires KC).

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Regulatory proceedings in environmental law

Advising a national regulator on its investigation into compliance with environmental targets (assisting Ravi Mehta).

Advice on motor finance redress scheme

Advising a financial services provider on a potential challenge to the Financial Conduct Authority's motor finance redress scheme (assisting Daniel Burgess, led by Jonathan Hough KC).

Football regulatory dispute

Advising a Premier League football club on a potential regulatory claim concerning disciplinary disputes and the handling of discrimination complaints (assisting Ravi Mehta).

EU & Competition

Luke accepts instructions in all areas of EU and competition law. In 2026, he was a John and Sophie Laws and Peter Duffy scholar of the Bar European Group.

Cases

Case T-869/25 Ezz Steel & Ors v Commission

An application to the General Court of the European Union challenging an anti-dumping duty imposed by the European Commission on imports of hot-rolled steel from Egypt (assisting Ravi Mehta for the Applicants).

Health and Safety Executive v Information Commissioner's Office & Wildfish

A claim by an environmental campaign group concerning the Health and Safety Executive's duties in respect of information on pesticide usage under the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (assisting Ravi Mehta for the HSE).

Confidential sports arbitration

An arbitration between a sports club and the sport's governing body, raising issues of contractual construction and alleged abuse of dominance contrary to the Ch II prohibition in the Competition Act 1998 (assisting Ravi Mehta, led by Hugh Sims KC).

Regulatory proceedings in environmental law

Advising a national regulator on its investigation into compliance with environmental targets (assisting Ravi Mehta).

Good Law Project Ltd v Reform UK Party Ltd

[2026] EWHC 1458 (KB)

The first representative action under Article 80 UK GDPR, concerning alleged breaches of data protection law by the Reform Party in the run-up to the 2024 general election (assisting George Molyneaux, led by Andrew Sharland KC, for the Claimant).

Sport

Luke accepts instructions in all areas of sports law.

Cases

Confidential sports arbitration

An arbitration between a sports club and the sport's governing body, raising issues of contractual construction and alleged abuse of dominance contrary to the Ch II prohibition in the Competition Act 1998 (assisting Ravi Mehta, led by Hugh Sims KC).

Re: a football club

Advising the former owner on potential conspiracy and regulatory claims arising out the sale of a football club (assisting Shane Sibbel, led by Nick de Marco KC).

Player-Club dispute

Advising a Premier League football club on a potential contractual claim by a former player (assisting Ravi Mehta).

Football regulatory dispute

Advising a Premier League football club on a potential regulatory claim concerning disciplinary disputes and the handling of discrimination complaints (assisting Ravi Mehta).

Sports disciplinary arbitration

A confidential five-day arbitration before a sports disciplinary review panel concerning historic allegations of misconduct against a coach (assisting Daniel Burgess).

Data Protection, Freedom of Information & Privacy

Luke accepts instructions in all areas of data protection, freedom of information and privacy law.

Cases

Good Law Project Ltd v Reform UK Party Ltd

[2026] EWHC 1458 (KB)

The first representative action under Article 80 UK GDPR, concerning alleged breaches of data protection law by the Reform Party in the run-up to the 2024 general election (assisting George Molyneaux, led by Andrew Sharland KC, for the Claimant).

Paczkowska v Information Commissioner & Ors

An appeal to the Upper Tribunal concerning the applicability of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to records of complaints about judicial conduct (assisting Ravi Mehta for the Judicial Conduct Investigations Office and the Ministry of Justice).

Health and Safety Executive v Information Commissioner's Office & Wildfish

A claim by an environmental campaign group concerning the Health and Safety Executive's duties in respect of information on pesticide usage under the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (assisting Ravi Mehta for the HSE).

Data protection and human rights claim

A data protection and human rights damages claim arising out of a major leak of personal information by a public authority (assisting Ravi Mehta for the Claimants).

Arbitration

Luke accepts instructions in all areas of arbitration

Cases

Confidential commercial arbitration

An arbitration with its seat in Ireland concerning the EUR 320 million refinancing of an Irish Collective Asset-Management Vehicle and its impact upon bonus provisions within an asset management agreement (assisting Shane Sibbel).

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Sports disciplinary arbitration

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Environment

Luke accepts instructions in all areas of environmental law.

Cases

Regulatory proceedings in environmental law

Advising a national regulator on its investigation into compliance with environmental targets (assisting Ravi Mehta).

Health and Safety Executive v Information Commissioner's Office & Wildfish

A claim by an environmental campaign group concerning the Health and Safety Executive's duties in respect of information on pesticide usage under the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (assisting Ravi Mehta for the HSE).

ACHIEVEMENTS

Education

- PGDip in Bar Practice (Inns of Court College of Advocacy; Distinction)
- Graduate Diploma in Law (City, University of London; Distinction)
- PhD, History (University of Cambridge)
- MPhil, Political Thought and Intellectual History (University of Cambridge; Distinction and top of year)
- BA, History (University of Cambridge; Double Starred First Class)

Scholarships & Awards

- Peter Duffy and John & Sophie Laws Scholar, Bar European Group (2026)
- Exchange Chambers Opinion Writing Prize, ICCA (2025)
- Bedingfield Scholarship, Gray's Inn (2024)
- David Karmel Scholarship, Gray's Inn (2023)
- City Law School Scholarship for Academic Excellence (2023)
- Jane Eliza Procter Fellowship (2022-23)
- Quentin Skinner Prize, Cambridge (2018)
- Hamied Graduate Studentship, Cambridge (2017)
- Wohl Prize, Newling Prize, Jesus College Benefactors' Prize and Senior Keller Prize: Jesus College, Cambridge (2014-15)

VAT registration number: 000

Barristers regulated by the Bar Standards Board