

Tobi Olasunkanmi

YEAR OF CALL: 2025



Practice Overview

Tobi is developing a broad practice across Brick Court's specialisms. He joined Chambers in June 2026 following the successful completion of his pupillage under the supervision of Tim Johnston, Hugo Leith, and Daniel Piccinin KC.

Tobi has particular experience of disputes involving technology, governments/regulators, and international law. Prior to transferring to the Bar, he was a Senior Associate specialising in international arbitration in London and Washington DC. Tobi also worked as a Senior Research Scholar advising on frontier AI governance at the Institute for Law & AI, a Teaching Fellow at Harvard, and a researcher for the UN Special Procedures. During pupillage, he assisted with competition, technology and public law disputes, including abuse of dominance, FRAND, and subsidy control proceedings.

Tobi holds a BA in Law from the University of Cambridge with First Class Honours and an LLM from Harvard Law School with Dean's Scholar Prizes. He received academic awards at both institutions for placing first in a number of classes. As a solicitor, he was selected as a Judicial Assistant to Lord Lloyd-Jones at the UK Supreme Court, and recommended to a legal directory as "*an Associate to Watch*".

Commercial

Tobi accepts instructions across all areas of commercial law. He has experience advising both commercial parties and state entities on a wide range of commercial disputes, both as a solicitor and since transferring to the Bar. His recent work includes:

Warner Bros & Ors v Nokia Corporation [2026] EWHC 1505 (Pat): Acted for Warner Bros in an

interim payment trial pending a final FRAND determination (as a pupil, assisting Daniel Piccinin KC)

Visa Inc & Ors v Luxottica Retail UK Ltd : Acted for Visa in appeal proceedings concerning enforcement of a settlement agreement and alleged sharp practice (as a pupil, assisting Daniel Piccinin KC)

Acting for a Part 20 Defendant in a breach of contract claim as well as the defence of claims of breach of contract, the tort of inducing breach of contract, and breaches of Section 2 and 18 of the Competition Act 1998 (as a pupil, assisting Hugo Leith, on a team with Tony Singla KC)

Advised on potential group litigation against a parent company for human rights abuses committed by its foreign subsidiary (as a pupil, assisting Tim Johnston).

ICC Case No. 24708/TO and ICSID Case No. ARB/19/31 Sierra Leone v SL Mining : Acted for the Republic of Sierra Leone in significant parallel arbitration proceedings valued at \$1.8 billion (as a solicitor). Coverage [here](#).

Sierra Leone v SL Mining Ltd [2021] Bus. L.R. 704 and Case No: CL-2020-00408: Represented the Republic of Sierra Leone in two High Court applications under section 67 of the Arbitration Act raising questions of jurisdiction and the foreign act of state doctrine (as a solicitor).

Aura Energy Limited v Sweden: Acted for the Kingdom of Sweden in a \$1.8 billion dispute under the Energy Charter Treaty (as a solicitor).

Cruz City v Unitech & Ors : Advised Cruz City in multi-jurisdictional enforcement proceedings concerning LCIA arbitration awards worth US\$500m, including applications for declaratory relief and resisting applications to set aside freezing orders in the Isle of Man, India, and Cyprus (as a solicitor).

ICSID Case No. ARB(AF)/23/2: Advised a Kellanova entity in an arbitration against the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela under ICSID Additional Facility Arbitration Rules (as a solicitor). Coverage [here](#).

Advised a major regulator on the EU GPAI Code of Practice and AI regulatory matters (as a solicitor).

Advised a major technology company on matters relating to the use of its technology and its interactions with regulators in different markets (as a solicitor).

Advised a government contractor on a £5.5 billion dispute against a state entity (as a solicitor).

Competition

Tobi accepts instructions across all areas of competition law. He has experience of claims concerning collective proceedings, competition damages, and regulated markets. His recent experience includes:

Gutmann v EE Limited and BT Group PLC: Acted for BT/EE in proposed collective competition law proceedings concerning the proposed defendants' 'loyalty penalty' charging practices (as a pupil, assisting Daniel Piccinin KC).

Ennis v Apple [2026] CAT 55: Acted for Apple in the first application to decertify collective proceedings following the Supreme Court's judgment in *Evans* (as a pupil, assisting Hugo Leith, on a team with Marie Demetriou KC and Daniel Piccinin KC).

JJH Enterprises Limited (trading as ValueLicensing) v Microsoft Corporation & Others [2026] EWCA Civ 872: Acting for Microsoft in an appeal regarding the jurisdiction of the Competition Appeal Tribunal over copyright issues, which arise in the context of a Competition Act 1998 claim (as a pupil, assisting Hugo Leith, on a team with Tony Singla KC)

Kent v Apple [2026] CAT 57: Acted for Apple in resisting an amendment application to extend the claim period up to the date of judgment (as a pupil, assisting Hugo Leith, on a team with Brian Kennelly KC).

The New Lottery Company Limited and Ors v The Gambling Commission [2026] CAT 14: Acted for the successful Intervener in the first case brought against a national regulator in relation to the subsidy control regime post-Brexit (as a pupil, assisting Marie Demetriou KC and Tim Johnston).

Merchant Interchange Fee Umbrella Proceedings : Acted for Mastercard in collective proceedings brought on behalf of consumers in relation to card interchange fees (as a pupil, assisting Hugo Leith).

Acted for a Part 20 Defendant in a "pay for delay" competition damages claim in the pharmaceutical sector (as a pupil, assisting Hugo Leith).

Public Law

Tobi accepts instructions across all areas of public law. He has experience advising commercial parties, public bodies and civil society organisations on a range of public law and regulatory matters, both as a solicitor and since transferring to the Bar:

The New Lottery Company Limited and Ors v The Gambling Commission [2026] CAT 14: Acted for the successful Intervener in the first case brought against a national regulator in relation to the

subsidy control regime post-Brexit (as a pupil, assisting Marie Demetriou KC and Tim Johnston).

R (National Association of Head Teachers) v Ofsted [2025] EWHC 2891 (Admin): successfully resisting permission and interim relief in a challenge relating to Ofsted's renewed framework for school inspection (as a pupil, assisting Tim Johnston, on a team with Sir James Eadie KC).

R (Artelia Ltd) v Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea: Acted for Artelia in a successful judicial review challenge concerning the lawfulness of RBKC's decision to adopt a policy to ban Artelia from being engaged in certain projects. The case would have been the first to consider the application of local authorities' barring powers under the Procurement Act 2023 (as a pupil, assisting Tim Johnston).

WML v SSWP [2026] UKUT 178 (AAC): Acted for the Secretary of State in an appeal concerning a claim for Income Support, Severe Disability Premium and Article 14 ECHR (as a pupil, assisting Tim Johnston).

Advised a major regulator on the EU GPAI Code of Practice and AI regulatory matters (as a solicitor).

Advised a major technology company on matters relating to the use of its technology and its interactions with regulators in different markets (as a solicitor).

R (Gwynt-y-Môr Offshore Wind Farm Ltd) v Gas and Electricity Markets Authority [2019] EWHC 654 (Admin): Acted for the First Interested Party in judicial review proceedings relating to renewable energy assets (as a solicitor).

Advised the Human Dignity Trust on constitutional and human rights litigation (as a solicitor).

International / EU

Tobi accepts instructions across all areas of international and EU law. He has experience advising on international and EU law matters, both as a solicitor and since transferring to the Bar:

Case T-579/22 ClientEarth v Commission : Acted for ClientEarth in an appeal to the CJEU concerning the European Commission's definition of "sustainable activities". This is one of the first cases addressing the application and meaning of the EU's Taxonomy Regulation (2020/852/EU) (as a pupil, assisting Tim Johnston).

Advised a major regulator on the EU GPAI Code of Practice and AI regulatory matters (as a solicitor).

Advised a UN Independent Expert on public international law matters (as a solicitor).

Advised a sovereign state on representations in support of a UN Human Rights Council Resolution

(as a solicitor).

ICSID Case No. ARB/19/31 *Sierra Leone v SL Mining* : Acted for the Republic of Sierra Leone in parallel arbitration proceedings valued at \$1.9 billion (as a solicitor).

Aura Energy Limited v Sweden: Represented the Kingdom of Sweden in a \$1.8 billion dispute under the Energy Charter Treaty (as a solicitor).

Advised the Human Dignity Trust on constitutional and human rights litigation (as a solicitor).

Education

2022-2023: Harvard Law School, Master of Laws, Dean's Scholar Prizes

2012-2015: University of Cambridge, BA in Law, First Class Honours

Selected Scholarships and Prizes

Pupillage

Bar European Group's Sir John and Lady Sophie Laws Scholarship

Harvard

Dean's Scholar Prizes for outstanding performance in public international law and human rights classes

Cambridge

William Charnley Prize for the college's top First Class Honours law finalist

E.M. Burnett Prizes for the highest marks across the university in two papers

Foundation Scholarship

Professional Experience and Qualifications

Professional Experience

2026-Present: Tenant, Brick Court Chambers

2025-2026: Pupillage, Brick Court Chambers

2024-2025: Senior Research Scholar, Institute for Law & AI

2018-2024: Associate and Senior Associate, Jenner & Block, London and Washington DC

2022-2023: Teaching Fellow, Harvard Law School and Researcher, UN Special Procedures

2016-2018: Trainee Solicitor, Freshfields

Professional Qualifications

Called to the Bar (Inner Temple): March 2025

Qualified as a Solicitor of the Senior Courts of England and Wales: March 2018

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