



Lucas Bastin KC

Barrister

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Admissions & Qualifications

2022: Appointed Silk (UK)

2013: Admitted to Bar (UK) (also admitted to NSW Bar in 2025)

2007: Admitted as Solicitor in New South Wales

2006: LLB, First Class Honours, University of Sydney

John George Dalley Prize (highest ranked student in final LLB year), University of Sydney

Jessup Moot World Champion (Best Finalist Oralist)

ICRC International Humanitarian Law Moot World Champion

Corrs Prize in Industrial Law, NSW Law Society Human Rights Prize, and Beauchamp Prize in Literature, University of Sydney

ELSA WTO Moot World Champion

Wentworth Medal, University of Sydney

2004: BA, First Class Honours, University of Sydney

Cases

Lucas has wide experience in all form of international disputes, including commercial litigation, commercial arbitration, investment arbitration, and public international law disputes

Commercial litigation

Lucas has led large and complex disputes before all levels of English courts, including in the Supreme Court. He has particular experience in arbitration-related court proceedings (in which he has been instructed in some of the largest set aside and enforcement proceedings in the UK), e.g.:

Quaid-e-Azam Thermal Power (Private) Ltd v Sui Northern Gas Pipelines Ltd – challenge to an arbitral award under s 68 of the Arbitration Act 1996, with proceedings for challenge to procedure adopted by tribunal

Ras al-Khaimah Investment Authority v India – challenge to an arbitral award under s 67 of the Arbitration Act 1996, with proceedings for substantive challenge to jurisdiction finding of tribunal

Infrastructure Services Luxembourg S.a.r.l. & Energia Termosolar B.V. v Kingdom of Spain – appeal to the Supreme Court on issue of adjudicative immunity under the State Immunity Act 1978 in light of Article 54 of the ICSID Convention, and related issues

The Kingdom of Spain – several different proceedings relating to enforcement of arbitral awards under the Arbitration (International Investment Disputes) Act 1966

Czech Republic v Diag Human SE and Josef Stava – challenge to an arbitral award under ss 67/68 of the Arbitration Act 1996, with proceedings for summary dismissal, security for costs, security for the Award, disclosure, permission for expert evidence, bar under s 73, admissibility, and substantive challenges, and several points taken to Court of Appeal

General Dynamics United Kingdom Ltd v State of Libya – application for enforcement of award under s 101 of the Arbitration Act 1996, with proceedings for challenge to service under the State Immunity Act 1978, challenge to recognition order, and enforcement against assets, with issue of service appealed to Supreme Court

Tethyan Copper Company Pty Limited v. Islamic Republic of Pakistan – application for enforcement of award and other interlocutory steps before in the British Virgin Islands, with proceedings for challenge to recognition order, full and frank disclosure, enforcement against assets, and key points taken to Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court

Commercial arbitration

Lucas is vastly experienced in international commercial arbitration, having acted under all the major arbitral rules and in all the major seats. He is experienced not only in leading such disputes, but also coordinating a strategy involving commercial arbitration but also involving other disputes in other fora. He has acted across a wide variety of sectors, and across all regions of the world, e.g.:

Central Asian company v Central Asian entity – acting for the company in a contractual arbitration under ICC Rules in relation to the transfer and operation of a power plant (details not public)

Kansanshi Mining Plc v Republic of Zambia, ICSID Case No. ARB/20/17 – acting for the company in a contractual arbitration under ICSID Rules in relation to a dispute arising out of a significant copper mining operation in Zambia

African Petroleum Gambia Limited and APCL Gambia B.V. v. Republic of The Gambia, ICSID Case No. ARB/17/38 and ICSID Case No. ARB/17/39 – acting for the State in two commercial arbitrations under ICSID Rules commenced pursuant to two separate contracts in the oil and gas sector.

Mongolian company v Russian State-owned entity – acting for the Mongolian company in a contractual arbitration under SIAC Rules in relation to a dispute arising out of a large mine in Mongolia (details not public)

New Tel Ltd and Network of The World Ltd v The Republic of South Sudan, 23822/GR/PAR/FJT – acting for the State in a contractual arbitration under ICC Rules in relation to a dispute arising from a telecommunications licence

UK company v Middle Eastern government department – acting for the company in a contractual arbitration under ICC Rules in relation to a construction project in the Middle Eastern country (details not public)

Central American company v Central American country – acting for the company in a contractual arbitration under IACAC Rules in relation to a dispute arising from a concession agreement for a large mine in the country (details not public)

Petrokazakhstan Ventures Inc v Orient Petroleum (Central Asia) Ltd, ICC Case No. 22674/TO – acting for the respondent company in a contractual arbitration under ICC Rules in relation to the operation and management of an oil/gas project in Kazakhstan

Tethyan Copper Company Pty Limited v Province of Balochistan, ICC Case No. 18347/VRO/AGF – acting for the regional government in a contractual arbitration under ICC Rules in relation to the refusal of a mining licence over very large-scale copper and gold deposits at Reko Diq, in Pakistan

Russian company v US company – acting for the Russian company in a contractual arbitration under ICC Rules in relation to a hospitality licensing and branding agreement affected by withdrawal of US company from Russia

Cluff Geothermal Company and Great Rift Drilling v Geothermal Development Company, LCIA Arbitration No. 173647 – acting for the claimant companies in a contractual arbitration under LCIA Rules in relation to non-payment of invoices in and withdrawal of licence regarding a geothermal drilling project in Kenya

Symbion Energy Holdings Ltd v Highland Power Ltd, ICC Case No. 24663/TO – acting for the claimant company in a contractual arbitration under ICC Rules in relation to the operation and management of a power plant project in Rwanda

International arbitration

Lucas is also vastly experienced in international investment arbitration. In addition to sitting as arbitrator and being a member of the ICISD Panel of Arbitrators and Conciliators, he is among the most experienced barristers acting as counsel in the world in this field. He has again acted under all the major arbitral rules, in a wide variety of sectors, and across all regions of the world, e.g.:

Eurohold Bulgaria AD and Euroins Insurance Group AD v Romania, ICSID Case No. ARB/24/28 – acting for the Respondent in an arbitration under ICSID Rules in a dispute in relation to the insurance sector

West African Aquaculture Ltd, Kurt Lennart Hansson and Martje Bolt Hansson v Republic of The Gambia (Annulment), ICSID Case No. ARB/18/10 – acting for the Respondent, as Applicant on Annulment, in annulment proceedings regarding an ICSID award in a dispute in relation to the farming sector

Artem Skubenko and others v Republic of North Macedonia, ICSID Case No. ARB/19/9 – acting for the Claimants in an arbitration under ICSID Rules in relation to a dispute regarding revocation of a mining licence

Rome Resources PLC and IM Minerals Limited v Republic of Mozambique, ICSID Case No. ARB/24/4 – acting for the Claimants in an arbitration under ICSID Rules in relation to a dispute regarding transfer of a mining licence in respect of rare earths

Alghanim v Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, ICSID Case No. ARB/13/38 – acting for the Respondent in an arbitration under ICSID Rules in a dispute in relation to allegations of breach arising out of taxation in the telecommunication sector

Alghanim v Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan (Annulment), ICSID Case No. ARB/13/38 – acting for the Respondent, as Respondent on Annulment, in annulment proceedings regarding an ICSID award in a dispute in relation to allegations of breach arising out of taxation in the telecommunication sector

A11Y Ltd v Czech Republic, ICSID Case No. UNCT/15/1 – acting for the Claimant in an arbitration under UNCITRAL Rules in relation to a dispute under a bilateral investment treaty in relation to various breaches of the treaty in the technology sector

City-State N.V. et al. v Ukraine, ICSID Case No. ARB/14/9 – acting for the Claimant in an arbitration under ICSID Rules in relation to a dispute under a bilateral investment treaty in the banking sector

Richard N. Westbury, Paul D. Hinks and Symbion Power Tanzania Limited v United Republic of Tanzania, ICSID Case No. ARB/19/17 – acting for the Claimants in an arbitration under ICSID Rules in relation to a dispute regarding termination of a power plant project

Valeria Italia S.r.l. v Republic of Albania, PCA Case No. 2018-49 – acting for the Respondent in an arbitration under UNCITRAL Rules in respect of claims in relation to an agricultural business

Shimon Mistriel Aykout, Michael Mistriel Aykout and Yaacov Afik v Republic of Cyprus – acting for the Claimants in an arbitration under a bilateral investment treaty

APCL Gambia B.V. v. Republic of The Gambia, ICSID Case No. ARB/17/40 – acting for the Respondent in an arbitration under ICSID Rules in relation to a dispute in the oil and gas sector

United Group B.V., Adria Serbia Holdco B.V., and Serbia Broadband–srpske kablovske mreže d.o.o. Beograd v Republic of Serbia, ICSID Case No. ARB/21/5 – acting for the Respondent in an arbitration under ICSID Rules in relation to a dispute in the telecommunications and entertainment sectors

Philip Morris International Inc. and others v Ukraine – acting for the Claimants in an arbitration under ICSID Rules arising out of regulation in the tobacco sector

APG SGA SA and D.O.O. za promet i usluge Alma Quattro Beograd v Republic of Serbia, ICSID Case No. ARB/21/13 – acting for the Respondent in an arbitration under ICSID Rules in relation to a dispute in the advertising and technology sectors

OI European Group v Venezuela (Annulment), ICSID Case No. ARB/11/25 – acting for the Claimant, as Respondent on Annulment, in annulment proceedings in relation to an ICSID award arising out of an expropriation of a large glass container manufacturing plant

OI European Group v Venezuela, ICSID Case No. ARB/11/25 – acting for the Claimant in an arbitration under ICSID Rules arising out of an expropriation of a large glass container manufacturing plant

Gilward Investments B.V. v Ukraine, ICSID Case No. ARB/15/33 – acting for the Claimant in an arbitration under ICSID Rules arising out of alleged breaches in the aviation and airport construction sectors

Sudapet Company Limited v Republic of South Sudan, ICSID Case No. ARB/12/26 – acting for the Claimant in an arbitration under ICSID Rules and the South Sudanese Investment Promotion Act relating to an alleged expropriation

Boonyanit v Malaysia – acting for the Claimant in an arbitration under UNCITRAL Rules pursuant to the multilateral ASEAN Investment Agreement against Malaysia in the property sector

Fábrica de Vidrios Los Andes v Venezuela, ICSID Case No. ARB/12/21 – acting for the Claimant in an arbitration under ICSID Rules arising out of an expropriation of a large glass container manufacturing plant

Tethyan Copper Company Pty Limited v Islamic Republic of Pakistan, ICSID Case No. ARB/12/1 – acting for the Respondent in an arbitration under ICSID Rules in relation to the refusal of a mining licence over very large-scale copper and gold deposits at Reko Diq, in Pakistan

Tethyan Copper Company Pty Limited v Islamic Republic of Pakistan (Annulment), ICSID Case No. ARB/12/1 – acting for the Respondent, As Applicant on Annulment, in annulment proceedings relating to an award in relation to the refusal of a mining licence over very large- scale copper and gold deposits at Reko Diq, in Pakistan

Indorama International Finance Limited v Arab Republic of Egypt, ICSID Case No. ARB/11/32 – acting for the Claimant in an arbitration under ICSID Rules in relation to an investment in the textiles industry

Karmer Marble Tourism Construction Industry and Commerce Limited Liability Company v Georgia, ICSID Case No. ARB/08/19 – acting for the Claimant in an arbitration under ICSID Rules in relation to wrongful State conduct in the construction and hospitality sectors

Hydro S.r.l. and others v Republic of Albania, ICSID Case ARB/15/28 – acting for the Respondent in revision proceedings under ICSID Rules in relation to an ICSID award in light of new information obtained relevant to the award

Ras al-Khaimah Investment Authority v India, ad hoc arbitration under UNCITRAL Rules – acting for the Claimant in a dispute arising from a bauxite mining project

Navodaya Trading DMCC v Gabonese Republic, PCA Case No. 2018-23 – acting for the Claimant in a dispute arising from the termination of a mining licence in Gabon in alleged breach of the OIC Investment Agreement

Zaza Okuashvili v Georgia, SCC Case No. EA 2019/038 – acting for the Claimant in the jurisdiction phase of an arbitration under SCC Rules in relation to a dispute arising in the tobacco and distribution sectors

Diag Human SE and Mr. Josef Stava v Czech Republic, PCA Case No. 2018-20 – acting for the Respondent in an arbitration under UNCITRAL Rules in respect of the issues remitted for reconsideration

Maxis Communications Berhad and Global Communication Services Holdings Limited v Republic of India, PCA Case No. 2021-38 – acting for the Claimants in an arbitration under UNCITRAL Rules in respect of damage done to a large telecommunications project

ICS Inspection and Control Services Limited v Argentine Republic (II), PCA Case No. 2015- 12 – acting for the Claimant in an arbitration under UNCITRAL Rules in respect of breaches in respect of a border technology services project

Littop Enterprises Limited, Bridgemont Ventures Limited and Bordo Management Limited v Ukraine, SCC Case No. V 2015/092 – acting for the Claimant in an arbitration under SCC Rules in respect of alleged breaches of the Energy Charter Treaty in the natural gas sector

Omar Bin Sulaiman Abdul Aziz Al Rajhi v Sultanate of Oman, PCA Case No. 2017-32 – acting for the Claimant in an arbitration under UNCITRAL Rules in respect of alleged breaches of the OIC Investment Agreement in the construction sector

Mauritian investor v Asian State – acting for the Claimant in an arbitration under UNCITRAL Rules pursuant to a bilateral investment treaty in the information technology sector (details not public)

Public international law disputes

Lucas has acted for and advised governments, international organisations (including not-for-profit), corporations and individuals across a variety of fora on a wide variety of international law issues, including investment protection, State responsibility, State and head of State immunity, treaty interpretation, enforcement of decisions, extradition, WTO law (including live disputes before the Dispute Settlement Body), ECHR law, and EU and UN sanctions.

Acting for the Republic of Albanian in proceedings before the International Court of Justice in Obligations of States in Respect of Climate Change (Request by the United Nations General Assembly for an Advisory Opinion)

Acting for a European State in relation to International Court of Justice proceedings relating to delimitation of a maritime boundary with its neighbour

Acting for the Claimant in an application before the European Court of Human Rights in relation to a breach of Article 3 of the European Convention of Human Rights

Acting for an Asian State in a dispute before a WTO Panel concerning health restrictions on imports of certain agricultural goods

Advising a sub-Saharan African State on the compliance with WTO law of certain investment- related domestic legislation

Advising an amicus curiae in its preparation and presentation of a submission to a WTO Panel in a dispute between several WTO Members in respect of certain tobacco measures

Advising a major international non-governmental organisation on the procedures within the WTO for introducing trade pricing negotiations to the agenda of the relevant WTO Councils and Committees

Heathrow Airport Limited, Global Blue (UK) Limited and WDFG UK Limited v Her Majesty's Treasury and The Commissioners For Her Majesty's Revenue And Customs, Case No: CO/3995/2020 – acting for the claimants in High Court and Court of Appeal proceedings on whether WTO law required HM Government to eliminate the system by which VAT paid on goods in the UK prior to a person flying out of the country is rebated at the airport, and VAT is not charged on products bought at the airport by a person flying out of the country

Advising an Asian State on claims to continental shelf entitlements by a provincial government

Advising a major international non-governmental organisation on various issues, including the WTO Customs Valuation Agreement and potential State-State litigation in respect of it, the method of treaty negotiation used in relation to the cluster munitions multilateral treaty, and the international law of women's rights

Advising numerous companies and individuals on the application of the EU and UN sanctions regimes applied in respect of Russia, Libya, Syria, Iran and other recent sanctions programs

Advising a Middle Eastern State on issues of head of State immunity and extradition obligations

Advising a Middle Eastern State on public international law issues, including the attainment of sovereignty by a self-determination movement in the region, head of State immunity, the means by which issues can be raised in the plenipotentiary forum of the United Nations and Arab League, and the commencement of international proceedings on the basis of alleged breaches of erga omnes obligations

Advising a Middle Eastern government on public international law human rights issues and potential civil claims for torture liability in the United Kingdom and the United States

Advising multi-national companies on issues of State immunity and recognition and enforcement of arbitration awards in the United Kingdom, Asia and the United States

Advising a French company in relation to the institutional law concerning the World Bank's lending agreements

Market Commentary

Chambers & Partners UK Bar 2025, Public International Law:

"His exceptional courtroom presence and mastery of the law make him an invaluable asset to any client seeking top-tier representation."

"Lucas shows unparalleled expertise and dedication in every case." "He is an unbelievable talent."

"Lucas is a peerless performer with clients, in front of tribunals and with his colleagues." "Lucas is superb on his feet and has incredibly deep knowledge of his field."

"He is really good at building rapport with arbitrator, and clients find him easy to work with." "Lucas Bastin KC is extremely responsive and an absolute delight to work with."

"Lucas possesses brilliant attention to detail and absolutely absorbs the facts of the case to use to his advantage."

"He is a brilliant PIL practitioner with deep academic knowledge of the field."

"Lucas is outstanding – immensely capable, full of balance and very good on client handling." "He is the pre-eminent barrister in investor-state arbitrations."

Chambers & Partners UK Bar 2025, International Arbitration: General Commercial & Insurance

"His insight is incredibly valuable."

"Lucas is unique in the sense that he has all the skills one would want in a silk, but he's also worked at a law firm, so he knows how best to run cases."

"He is unquestionably the best at what he does, at his level." "Words don't do Lucas justice."

"He is calm under fire in hearings and takes his time to consider his answers, which he then presents in a way that is very persuasive."

"Lucas Bastin is an amazing advocate." "Lucas is an encyclopedia of international law."

Chambers & Partners UK Bar 2025, International Arbitration:

"He is one of the most exciting junior KCs at the moment in the field."

"If you have him on your team, you have stacked the odds in your favour." "He is absolutely at the top of his game."

"Lucas's expertise, judgement and commercial input are second to none."

Legal 500 2025, Public International Law:

'Lucas is a fantastic and very persuasive advocate. His knowledge of public international law and state immunity is excellent, and he is able to combine his pure public international law knowledge with his practice at the commercial Bar to the advantage of his clients.'

Legal 500 2025, International Arbitration: Counsel

'Simply the best. Lucas is a class act. Lethal as an advocate. A forensic ability to interrogate and dissect exhibits, witnesses and experts but above all a thoroughly good bloke. Lucas is going places fast. Catch him while you can.'

Legal 500 UK Bar 2025, Energy:

'He is an absolute pleasure to work with.'

Chambers & Partners UK Bar 2024, Public International Law:

"He is the pre-eminent barrister in investor-state arbitrations."