

Philip Mead

Call: 1989
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AREAS OF EXPERTISE

International & Travel, Personal Injury, Employment & Discrimination, Insurance, Aviation

Philip is a member of the International and Travel Group of 12KBW with an established practice in the field of cross-border personal injury and employment law. He has been named as a Band1 or Star Individual in Chambers & Partners for several years in respect of International and Travel Claims and has appeared in the leading cases on jurisdiction and conflict of laws. Philip has particular expertise in the field of European law, in respect of the application of the Judgments Regulation, the Rome II Regulation and the Motor Insurance Directives.

Philip's personal injury practice involves claims of the utmost severity and includes the following areas: road traffic accident claims, direct actions against foreign insurers and compensation bodies, employer's liability claims, product liability claims, fatal accident claims, package holiday claims and maritime and aviation claims.

Philip's employment practice has involved peripatetic and overseas workers, seafarers, claims against foreign embassies and international organisations, in relation to claims for breach of contract, discrimination and breach of statutory rights.

Philip has received instructions directly from foreign lawyers and foreign clients. He is able to act on a direct access basis without the need to instruct an English solicitor.

Qualifications & Awards

Philip has been called to give expert evidence before the Legal Affairs Committee of the European Parliament.

Appointments & Memberships

Member of PIBA, Pan-European Organization of Personal Injury Lawyers (General Board Member for England and Wales) TATLA; ELBA; ELA; BEG; UKAEL.

Directories

He is a very skilled advocate, having dealt with such a wide range of work. – Chambers & Partners, 2026

Philip has good attention to detail; he is very lateral in his thinking and in his curation of solutions. – Chambers & Partners, 2026

He is loved by clients thanks to his client-handling style; when he talks to someone who needs him, he puts them at ease in awful circumstances. – Chambers & Partners, 2026

Philip is wise and experienced. His style is unflappable and always full of good humour. – Legal 500, 2026

Named as a Star Individual for Travel: International Personal Injury in Chambers & Partners 2017. Praised for being “completely on top of the myriad of European and international regulations,” he is often instructed in high-value claims arising from RTAs and package holidays. He predominantly acts for claimants against insurers, compensation bodies and employers. “He knows the area inside out and back to front.” “He is extremely experienced, well known and well recognised.” “Philip is an excellent advocate who has been involved in some of the leading cases on private international law and jurisdiction.”

Philip does excellent cross-border work and is knowledgeable about road traffic accidents where there is a foreign element. – Chambers & Partners, 2025

He can come up with an opinion on quirky points of law where most can't. – Chambers & Partners, 2025

He's very intellectual and knowledgeable when it comes to European law. – Chambers & Partners, 2025

His attention to detail is superb. Philip works very well with experts and has an excellent client manner, which quickly puts everyone at ease. – Chambers & Partners, 2024

Philip has a razor sharp mind. He could quite easily be in silk. A real shining light with an equally bright brain. – Legal 500, 2023

He is academically superb and at the top of tree in international travel. – Chambers & Partners, 2022

He has made EU personal injury law his own. – Legal 500, 2022

He is incredibly knowledgeable in relation to any claims involving cross-border disputes. He is an advocate of the highest calibre. – Chambers and Partners, 2021

He has a very good manner with clients and instantly puts them at ease. – Chambers and Partners, 2021

He provides pragmatic and commercial advice. – Chambers and Partners, 2021

He is one of the most innovative and informed counsel in the field of using EU Law, Conflicts of Law and comparative law in both domestic and cross-border tort law – particularly personal injury and travel law. – Legal 500, 2021

A true specialist in European law and foreign jurisdiction claims. He is excellent at distilling complex legal issues into practical guidance. – Chambers and Partners, 2020

Almost needs no mention as one of the barristers with a big brain for all things private international law. – Legal 500, 2019

Great on jurisdictional issues and a tactical mastermind – Legal 500, 2019

Philip's knowledge of cross-border issues is beyond impressive and he seeks innovative approaches to difficult issues. He teams that with an approachability and sensitive manner. – Chambers & Partners, 2019

He has an excellent breadth of knowledge in the area, and his advocacy skills come to the fore when dealing with complex issues. – Chambers & Partners, 2019

An absolute all-rounder; an intellectual with a very approachable and engaging manner. – Legal 500, 2018

He is outstanding with jurisdiction issues where he is quick to the point, explaining it easily to clients. – Legal 500, 2018

He has a great command of European law issues and how they affect domestic cases. – Legal 500, 2017

Extremely cerebral and on a higher plane when it comes to the machinations of Europe. – Legal 500, 2017

...an excellent advocate who has been involved in some of the leading cases on private international law and jurisdiction.
– Chambers & Partners, 2017

...completely on top of the myriad of European and international regulations. – Chambers & Partners, 2017

He is a delight to work with and very much views litigation as a team approach. – Legal 500, 2016

He is very bright and knows EU law and cases to an extent that most people don't. He always makes time in the morning or the evening for a call, and he is a real brainbox. – Chambers & Partners, 2016

Recommended for cases involving conflicts of law. – Legal 500, 2015

Publications

Co-Author and editor of books on Personal Injury Compensation in Europe (2003) and (2005)

Cases

Colley v Shuker and MIB [2021] 1 WLR 1889: the application of directly effective rights under the Consolidated Motor Insurance Directive in relation to a claim against the MIB in respect of a vehicle where the driver was known to be uninsured but where the vehicle was insured. Appeal before CA.

Covea Insurance Plc v Greenaway [2021] 4 WLR 97: interpretation of an EU Directive in circumstances where there was no power to make a reference for a preliminary ruling to the CJEU; road traffic accident; liability of the insurer and/or MIB

Rai v Ministry of Defence (9 May 2016; QBD) Conflict of laws; torts; choice of law; Rome II Regulation, Articles 1(1) and 4; acta iure imperii; employer's liability

Cook v Virgin Media Ltd [2016] 1 WLR 1672 Conflict of laws; jurisdiction; Scotland; civil procedure; forum non conveniens; strike out; personal injury

Hoteles Pinero Canarias SL v Keefe [2016] 1 WLR 905 Conflict of laws; jurisdiction; direct right of action against an insurer; joinder of tortfeasor; Judgments Regulation, Article 11(3)

Hasan v Shell International Shipping Services (PTE) Ltd (14 January 2014; EAT) Jurisdiction of the Employment tribunal; breach of contract; discrimination on grounds of race; seafarers; unfair dismissal

Nemeti v Sabre Insurance Co Ltd [2014] PIQR P12 Civil procedure; personal injury; amendment of parties; limitation; foreign road traffic accident

R (on the application of the United Road Transport Union) v Secretary of State for Transport [2013] IRLR 890 Employment; working time; international drivers; EU law; principles of effectiveness and equivalence

Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis v Maxwell [2013] Eq LR 680 Employment; discrimination on grounds of race

and sexual orientation; victimisation; harassment; limitation

Edwards v Chesterfield Royal Hospital NHS Foundation Trust [2012] 2 AC 22 Employment; breach of contract; disciplinary procedures; loss of reputation; recoverable loss; unfair dismissal

Ministry of Defence v Wallis [2011] ICR 617 Jurisdiction of the ET; overseas employees; discrimination on grounds of sex; territorial scope; application of EU law

Jacobs v Motor Insurer's Bureau [2011] 1 WLR 2609 Conflict of laws; applicable law; compensation against Compensation Body; implementing EU Directives; foreign road traffic accident; uninsured driver

Diggins v Condor Marine Crewing Services Ltd [2010] ICR 213 Jurisdiction of the ET; seafarers; place of work; unfair dismissal

Knight v AXA Assurances [2009] Lloyd's Rep IR 667 Conflict of laws; proper law; measure of damages and interest; foreign road traffic accident

Spackman v London Metropolitan University [2007] IRLR 744 Employment; quantum meruit; deductions from wages; breach of contract; industrial action

Daniels v Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis (5 July 2006; QBD) Employment and personal injury; harassment; psychiatric harm; occupational stress

ASLEF v Brady [2006] IRLR 576 Employment; unfair dismissal; gross misconduct; fairness; reasons for dismissal

Lawson v Serco [2006] ICR 250 Employment overseas; jurisdiction of the ET; territorial scope; unfair dismissal

Chaudhary v STA Appeal Panel [2005] ICR 1086 Employment; jurisdiction of the ET; medical boards; race discrimination; right to a remedy; statutory appeals

Owusu v Jackson (Case C-281/02) [2005] QB 801 Conflict of laws; jurisdiction; EC law; forum non conveniens; Brussels Convention

Williams v J Walter Thompson Goup Ltd [2005] IRLR 376 Employment; disability discrimination; reasonable adjustments; constructive dismissal

Yearwood v Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis [2004] ICR 1660 Employment; discrimination; agency; liability of the principal; police officers

Susie Radin Ltd v GMB [2004] ICR 893 Employment; employee consultation; redundancy; protective awards

BMA v Chaudhary (No. 1) [2003] ICR 1510 Employment; abuse of process; doctors; promotion; race discrimination; time limits

Transco v O'Brien [2002] ICR 721 Employment; employer's duties; trust and confidence; enhanced redundancy payments

Mann v Secretary of State for Education and Employment [1999] ICR 898 Employment; collective redundancies; insolvency; redundancy payments; set-off