

Peter Head

"He is excellent in all regards; he picks up on strategy and key points in every little detail."

– CHAMBERS AND PARTNERS, 2025

Year of call: **2008**
Degree: **MA (Cantab); LLB (first class)**



Peter is a senior junior practising in commercial law, with a particular emphasis on commercial fraud. He has been involved in some of the largest commercial and civil fraud claims in recent years. He has particular expertise in fraud claims with an insolvency or company law element, as well as insolvency and company law claims more generally (including unfair prejudice petitions). He is also an experienced practitioner in commercial arbitration.

Peter is ranked in Chambers UK, Chambers Global and Legal 500 for civil fraud, commercial litigation, and restructuring and insolvency. Recent comments include:

- "Peter is great to work with - responsive, intelligent and user-friendly." - Legal 500, 2025
- "He is excellent in all regards; he picks up on strategy and key points in every little detail." - Chambers & Partners, 2025

Recent cases include:

- His Excellency Sheikh Khalid Bin Ahmed Al Hamed and others v His Excellency Sheikh Hamed Bin Ahmed Al Hamed and another. Acting for the claimants in the enforcement of a UAE judgment for approximately £75 million.
- Magomedov v TPG and others. Acting for the one of the defendants to an alleged \$13.8bn fraud.
- Skatteforvaltningen (the Danish Customs and Tax Administration) v Solo Capital Partners LLP (in Special Administration) and ors. Acting for one of the defendants in a claim concerning an alleged \$1.5bn fraud.
- Arcelormittal USA LLC v Ruia and others. Acting for one of the world's largest steel companies in a \$1.5bn conspiracy claim arising out of a Minnesota iron ore pellet agreement.
- Suppipat v Narongdej and others. Acting for the Claimant in a \$1-2bn fraud claim relating to the sale of a wind energy business in Thailand.
- The Football Association Premier League Limited v PPLive Sports International Limited. Acting for the Premier League in a dispute arising out of a \$701m contract for broadcasting rights in China.

- Industrial and Commercial Bank of China v Ambani. Acting for an Indian businessman in relation to a claim under a personal guarantee for \$657m.
- AIG Financial Products Corp Inc v Gruber and others. Acting for AIG in a dispute with employees arising out of the US Government's \$85bn bailout of AIG in 2008.

EXPERIENCE

Civil Fraud, Asset Recovery & Injunctive Relief

Peter has wide experience of high value commercial fraud claims, injunctive relief, and associated enforcement issues. Many of his cases have cross-border elements, and often involve related insolvency and other proceedings in other jurisdictions. He has wide experience of obtaining and resisting freezing orders, proprietary injunctions, Norwich Pharmacal/Bankers Trust orders, and search orders.

“Peter is extremely thorough and a fantastic team member. His written work is fantastic, he has incredibly detailed knowledge of the law, and his oral advocacy is extremely measured and compelling.”

– CHAMBERS AND PARTNERS, 2025

Cases

His Excellency Sheikh Khalid Bin Ahmed Al Hamed and ors v His Excellency Sheikh Hamed Bin Ahmed Al Hamed and ors

[2024] EWHC 2448 (Comm)

Proceedings for the enforcement of a £75 million UAE judgment.

Magomedov v TPG and others

[2024] EWHC 1205 (Comm)

Acting for one of the defendants in a claim alleging a \$13.8 billion fraud. Claims in conspiracy; freezing orders; jurisdiction challenges.

Chowgule & Company Private Limited and another v Shirke and others

Commercial Court, 2023

Acting for one of the Defendants to an alleged \$130 million shipping fraud.

Skatteforvaltningen (the Danish Customs and Tax Administration) v Solo Capital Partners LLP (in Special Administration) and ors

Commercial Court, 2023

Acting for one of the defendants in this claim relating to an alleged US\$1.5bn fraud.

Goyal v BGF Investment Management Limited and others

[2023] EWHC 1180 (Comm)

Dispute arising out of the sale of a technology business with claims in deceit and unlawful means conspiracy.

Arcelormittal North America Holdings LLC v Ruia and others

[2022] EWHC 1378 (Comm)

Successful resistance of strike out and summary judgment application in proceedings alleging a \$1.5bn unlawful means conspiracy.

Morjaria and others v Mirza and others

Chancery Division, 2022

Joint venture dispute with related unfair prejudice and insolvency proceedings in Jersey.

Suppipat & ors v Narongdej & ors

[2021] EWHC 3259 (Comm)

US\$1-2 billion claim alleging a conspiracy to deprive a Thai entrepreneur of a majority interest in the leading renewable energy company in Thailand. The claim involved 17 defendants, parallel ICC arbitrations and ancillary proceedings in the BVI, Belize, Hong Kong and Singapore.

ArcelorMittal USA LLC v Ruia and others

[2020] EWHC 3349 (Comm)

Conspiracy proceedings for in excess of \$1.5 billion arising out of a North American mining contract. Related proceedings in the Cayman Islands, Mauritius and New York.

Arcelormittal USA LLC v Ruia and others

[2020] EWHC 740 (Comm)

Acting for ArcelorMittal in this \$1.5bn conspiracy claim arising out of an iron ore contract in Minnesota. Related proceedings in the Cayman Islands.

EM Solar Limited

Queen's Bench Division, 2019

Claim for injunctive relief and Bankers' Trust relief in relation to a company trading in solar panels.

Reignwood Group v Ni

Commercial Court, 2017-2018

Acting for the Reignwood Group in this joint venture dispute governed (in part) by Chinese law. Related proceedings in Luxembourg and the US.

Guralp Systems Ltd and others v Guralp

Commercial Court, 2015-2018

Acted for the defendant in a claim relating to alleged bribery of a foreign public official. Parallel investigation by the Serious Fraud Office.

Property Professionals + Limited v Jackson

2015-2018

£20m + claim by liquidators arising out of an alleged unlawful return of capital, including claims in conspiracy and deceit.

Sabbagh v Khoury and ors

[2017] EWCA Civ 1120

Acted for the successful appellant in this US\$600 million claim relating to one of the world's largest private construction and infrastructure companies.

CWY International Construction Company Ltd v Bilson

Queen's Bench Division, 2017

Proceedings to recover monies fraudulently procured by a solicitor.

Commercial

Peter's commercial practice takes in a wide variety of disputes including claims for and against financial institutions, joint venture disputes, professional negligence claims, company law claims, jurisdiction disputes, oil and gas disputes, and a range of general commercial and contractual claims. He is frequently instructed in very high value claims as part of a counsel team, and also has considerable advocacy experience as sole counsel.

“He is incredibly responsive, his advice is well thought through and he is very well-liked by clients, solicitors and more senior counsel. Peter understands clients and knows how to get the best out of them.”

— LEGAL 500, 2025

Cases

His Excellency Sheikh Khalid Bin Ahmed Al Hamed and ors v His Excellency Sheikh Hamed Bin Ahmed Al Hamed and ors

[2024] EWHC 2448 (Comm)

Proceedings for the enforcement of a £75 million UAE judgment.

Szafnauer v AMR GP Limited

King's Bench Division, 2024

Acting for a Formula 1 team principal in proceedings alleging constructive dismissal and unlawful deprivation of shareholdings.

Magomedov v TPG and others

[2024] EWHC 1205 (Comm)

Acting for one of the defendants in a claim alleging a \$13.8 billion fraud. Claims in conspiracy; freezing orders; jurisdiction challenges.

Wintermute Trading Limited v Terraform Labs Pte Limited

[2024] EWHC 141 (KB)

Acting for the successful appellant in proceedings relating to a claim brought under the Evidence (Proceedings in Other Jurisdictions) Act 1975.

Chowgule & Company Private Limited and another v Shirke and others

Commercial Court, 2023

Acting for one of the Defendants to an alleged \$130 million shipping fraud.

Goyal v BGF Investment Management Limited and others

[2023] EWHC 1180 (Comm)

Dispute arising out of the sale of a technology business with claims in deceit and unlawful means conspiracy.

Skatteforvaltningen (the Danish Customs and Tax Administration) v Solo Capital Partners LLP (in Special Administration) and ors

Commercial Court, 2023

Acting for one of the defendants in this claim relating to an alleged US\$1.5bn fraud.

Arcelormittal North America Holdings LLC v Ruia and others

[2022] EWHC 1378 (Comm)

Successful resistance of strike out and summary judgment application in proceedings alleging a \$1.5bn unlawful means conspiracy.

The Football Association Premier League Limited v PPLive Sports International Limited

[2022] EWHC 38 (Comm)

Dispute arising out of a \$701 million contract for broadcasting rights in Mainland China and Macau. Successfully obtained summary judgment for the Premier League for over \$200 million.

Barings (UK) Limited and others v Galapagos S.A.

[2022] EWHC 1633 (Ch)

Insolvency proceedings arising out of a €1bn debt restructuring

Morjaria and others v Mirza and others

Chancery Division, 2022

Joint venture dispute with related unfair prejudice and insolvency proceedings in Jersey.

Galapagos Bidco SARL v Kebekus & Ors

Chancery Division, 2022

Acting for a Luxembourg finance company in a dispute arising out of a €1bn debt restructuring.

Suppipat & ors v Narongdej & ors

[2021] EWHC 3259 (Comm)

US\$1-2 billion claim alleging a conspiracy to deprive a Thai entrepreneur of a majority interest in the leading renewable energy company in Thailand. The claim involved 17 defendants, parallel ICC arbitrations and ancillary proceedings in the BVI, Belize, Hong Kong and Singapore.

ArcelorMittal USA LLC v Ruia and others

[2020] EWHC 3349 (Comm)

Conspiracy proceedings for in excess of \$1.5 billion arising out of a North American mining contract. Related proceedings in the Cayman Islands, Mauritius and New York.

Industrial and Commercial Bank of China v Ambani

[2020] EWHC 272 (Comm)

Proceedings under a personal guarantee for a sum of \$657 million.

Arcelormittal USA LLC v Ruia and others

[2020] EWHC 740 (Comm)

Acting for ArcelorMittal in this \$1.5bn conspiracy claim arising out of an iron ore contract in Minnesota. Related proceedings in the Cayman Islands.

AIG Financial Products Corp Inc v Gruber and others

[2020] EWCA Civ 31

Acting for the successful appellant (AIG Financial Products Corp) in proceedings brought by 23 former employees for deferred remuneration in excess of \$100 million.

W Nagel (a firm) v Pluczenik Diamond Company N.V. and others

[2019] EWHC 3126 (QB)

Proceedings under CPR 71.

Industrial and Commercial Bank of China v Ambani

[2019] EWHC 3436 (Comm)

\$657 million claim under a personal guarantee; summary judgment; conditional orders.

Gruber and another v AIG Management France, SA and another

[2019] EWHC 1676 (Comm)

Quantum proceedings following judgment on liability in a claim arising out of the \$85 billion bail-out of AIG by the US Federal Reserve in 2008.

Reignwood Group v Ni

Commercial Court, 2017-2018

Acting for the Reignwood Group in this joint venture dispute governed (in part) by Chinese law. Related proceedings in Luxembourg and the US.

Pluczenik Diamond Company N.V. v Nagel

[2018] EWCA Civ 2640

Appeal in relation to the applicability of the Commercial Agents Regulations and assessment of damages for loss of profits.

Re Idverde

Chancery Division, 2018

Dispute under a Share Purchase Agreement raising pensions/actuarial issues in relation to a defined benefit scheme.

Naibu v Daniel Stewart and another

Chancery Division, 2018

£195 million claim arising out of the listing on AIM of a Chinese shoe and leisurewear manufacturer.

Gruber and others v AIG Inc and others

[2018] EWHC 3030 (Comm)

Acted for various companies in the AIG Group in this \$100 million claim by former banker employees.

Guralp Systems Ltd and others v Guralp

Commercial Court, 2015-2018

Acted for the defendant in a claim relating to alleged bribery of a foreign public official. Parallel investigation by the Serious Fraud Office.

Fannigan Holdings Limited v Doherty

[2017] BPIR 980

Acting for the successful appellant in relation to a £2 million statutory demand. Issues as to the definition of a debt at common law and the meaning of a debt for a liquidated sum under the Insolvency Act 1986.

Nagel v Pluczenik Diamond Company N.V.

[2017] EWHC 1750 (Comm); [2017] EWHC 2104 (Comm)

Acting for a De Beers Sightholder in a claim under the Commercial Agents Regulations 1993 and at common law.

CWY International Construction Company Ltd v Bilson

Queen's Bench Division, 2017

Proceedings to recover monies fraudulently procured by a solicitor.

Sabbagh v Khoury and ors

[2017] EWCA Civ 1120

Acted for the successful appellant in this US\$600 million claim relating to one of the world's largest private construction and infrastructure companies.

Agents' Mutual Limited v Moginie James Limited

[2016] EWHC 3384 (Ch)

Commercial and competition law claims relating to an online property portal.

Orb a.r.l. v Ruhan and others

Commercial Court, 2016

Multi-party litigation arising out of an alleged property joint venture.

Antigua Power Company Limited v The Attorney General of Antigua and Barbuda and others

2015, High Court of Antigua

Proceedings relating to the Antigua electricity supply.

Rosserlane Consultants Ltd v Credit Suisse International

[2015] EWHC 384 (Ch)

Dispute arising out of the sale of the largest onshore oil and gas field in Azerbaijan.

FBME Bank Ltd v Elwes

[2012] EWHC 2209 (QB)

Acted for a Cypriot bank in a claim under personal guarantees.

Company

Peter has wide experience of company law disputes, including unfair prejudice petitions and derivative claims. Many of his company law claims have an international or cross-border element. He also has wide experience of arbitrating company law issues, and of seeking and resisting associated injunctive relief.

Cases

Magomedov v TPG and others

[2024] EWHC 1205 (Comm)

Acting for one of the defendants in a claim alleging a \$13.8 billion fraud. Claims in conspiracy; freezing orders; jurisdiction challenges.

Szafnauer v AMR GP Limited

King's Bench Division, 2024

Acting for a Formula 1 team principal in proceedings alleging constructive dismissal and unlawful deprivation of shareholdings.

Goyal v BGF Investment Management Limited and others

[2023] EWHC 1180 (Comm)

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Barings (UK) Limited and others v Galapagos S.A.

[2022] EWHC 1633 (Ch)

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AIG Financial Products Corp Inc v Gruber and others

[2020] EWCA Civ 31

Acting for the successful appellant (AIG Financial Products Corp) in proceedings brought by 23 former employees for deferred remuneration in excess of \$100 million.

ArcelorMittal USA LLC v Ruia and others

[2020] EWHC 3349 (Comm)

Conspiracy proceedings for in excess of \$1.5 billion arising out of a North American mining contract. Related proceedings in the Cayman Islands, Mauritius and New York.

Doherty v Fannigan Holdings Limited

[2018] EWCA Civ 1615

Court of Appeal decision in relation to whether a claim for a sum due under a Share Purchase Agreement was a liquidated debt.

Arbitration

Peter has extensive experience of arbitrations under LCIA, SIAC, ICC, SCMA and UNCITRAL rules, and related Court applications.

Cases

Confidential

LCIA, 2023

Dispute in relation to an oil and gas joint venture in Yemen

Confidential

LCIA, 2022

Dispute relating to a litigation funding agreement. With Lord Pannick QC.

Confidential

SCMA, 2020

A \$10 million dispute arising out of a steel contract.

Confidential

SIAC, 2020

Delhi-seated arbitration concerning pre-emption rights.

Dispute relating to share subscription agreements

ICC, 2019

\$1bn dispute relating to share subscription agreements. Led by Michael Bloch QC.

Dispute relating to pre-emption rights

LCIA, 2019-2020

€100m dispute between shareholders of a mining company in Sub-Saharan Africa, and a claim against its director and shareholder under a guarantee.

Investment dispute

LCIA, 2015

An LCIA arbitration arising out of the breakdown in the relationship between a Cayman based carried interest partner for certain special opportunity funds and a U.S. based placement agency.

Costa Rican dispute

LCIA, 2015

A dispute in relation to a Costa Rican joint venture.

Oil and gas dispute

UNCITRAL rules, 2013-2014

A \$400 million oil and gas dispute against an African state. Led by Joe Smouha Q.C.

Madoff claim

ICC, 2012

A claim by investors arising out of the Madoff fraud. Led by Alan Gourgey Q.C.

Claim to set aside enforcement of arbitration award

Commercial Court, 2012

A claim seeking to set aside enforcement of a Slovakian arbitration award.

ACHIEVEMENTS

Education

MA (Cantab); LLB (first class)

Prizes & Scholarships

- Buchanan Prize, Lincoln's Inn
- Eastham Scholarship, Lincoln's Inn
- Lincoln's Inn Mooting Competition, winner
- Mansfield Scholarship, Lincoln's Inn
- Hardwicke Entrance Award, Lincoln's Inn

Memberships

- COMBAR
- Chancery Bar Association
- Commercial Fraud Lawyers Association
- LCIA

Selected earlier reported cases

Civil Fraud, Asset Recovery & Injunctive Relief

- JSC BTA Bank v Ablyazov and others
- Jenington and others v Assaubayev and others
- Cadogan Petroleum plc v Tolley and others
- Royal Westminster Investments SA v Nilon Limited

Restructuring & Insolvency

- Official Receiver v Negus

Arbitration

- A dispute relating to a satellite supply contract
- A claim by a telecommunications operator arising out of a construction contract in Kuwait
- A claim by an Indian real estate management company with connected proceedings in Singapore, Mauritius and India

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