

Ali Malek QC

Silk, 3 Verulam Buildings (former Head of Chambers); Bencher of the Honourable Society of Gray's Inn; Deputy High Court Judge (Commercial Court, London); Arbitrator; Chairman of COMBAR; P.R.I.M.E. Finance Expert



Ali Malek QC is recognised as one of the leading silks at the Commercial Bar. He is ranked in seven different practice areas in both the Chambers & Partners guide, and the Legal 500. Ali has a wide and substantial practice with many of his cases having a strong international element and he frequently appears in the leading banking cases. He is the co-author of the leading book Jack on Documentary Credits (with David Quest QC) and co-edited the previous edition of Paget on Banking. Apart from appearing in court he has a substantial practice in international arbitration (both as an advocate and arbitrator). He sits occasionally as a Deputy Judge in the Commercial Court in London.

Legal directories describe Ali as "one of the strongest commercial advocates at the Bar" and "a commanding presence in court and a superb advocate," Ali Malek is a silk "at the top of his game," sources agree. "Punchy" in cross-examination and when speaking to the Bench, he is recognised for his precise insight and his will to win. His practice is extensive, but he particularly excels in banking and fraud cases. "A stylish advocate with incredible judgement," he is noted for his "very attractive manner in court, which engages the attention of judges."

Ali Malek was referred to as "the go-to man for the most complex cross-border work" and "deservingly a star at the bar and a gentleman with it" by Legal 500 as well as "a superb leader, unrivalled in his ability to read the bench and present cases appropriately. He maximises the client's prospects" by Chambers and Partners.

Ali Malek has been involved in some notable recent banking cases: National Bank of Kazakhstan v The Bank of New York Mellon SA/NV [2017] EWHC 3512 (Comm) (attachment orders; status of branches and central bank immunity), Otkritie Capital v Threadneedle [2017] EWCA Civ 274, Rosserlane Consultants Ltd v Credit Suisse International [2017] EWCA Civ 91 (implied terms), Banco Santander Totta v Carris [2016] EWHC 1267; [2016] 4 WLR 49 (derivatives) and [2016] EWCA Civ 449. [2017] 3 All ER 838, Starbev v Interbrew Central European Holdings [2016] EWCA Civ 449 (Comm) (private equity) and Standard Chartered Bank v Ceylon Petroleum Company [2011] EWHC 1785 (Com) and [2012] EWCA Civ 1049 (derivatives).