



Conor Quigley QC

Year of Silk: 2003 Year of Call: 1985

“clearly the leading figure” in state aid cases

The Legal 500

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Practice Overview

Conor specialises in European and Competition Law and is widely regarded as the leading expert at the Bar in the law of state aid. He also has a wide ranging practice covering all commercial aspects of EU law, including taxation, environmental levies, commercial law, agriculture, banking and insurance regulation, public procurement, telecommunications, media, intellectual property, employment law, Brussels Regulation, immigration and extradition. Recent cases have included acting for: the International Air Transport Association (IATA) in the European Court challenge to the EU regime on airline emissions trading; Shannon LNG (a subsidiary of Hess Corporation) in proceedings in the Irish High Court relating to the tariff structure for use of the Irish gas transmission network; and for ALRO SA, a major Romanian aluminium producer, challenging a state aid decision of the European Commission concerning long-term electricity contracts.

Areas of Expertise

Competition Law and State Subsidies

Conor is widely regarded as the leading expert at the Bar in the law of state aid. He is the author of European State Aid Law and Policy, the third edition of which is due for publication in Summer 2014. He advises widely on all matters connected to state aid, particularly on the complex interaction of state aid and taxation, as well as on competition law generally and on sectoral regulation, particularly energy, media and telecommunications. Clients range from large conglomerates such as British Airways and the International Airline Group, to trade organisations such as the Federation of Racecourse Bookmakers and Big Four accountancy firms. He also has advised many

public sector clients, including the European Commission, the Treasury Solicitor, HMRC and a range of local government authorities, including Transport for Greater Manchester, the Scottish Government and Belfast, Derry, Manchester City Councils.

Case T-517/12, *ALRO v European Commission* (judgment pending)

Shannon LNG v Commission for Energy Regulation [2013] IEHC 561

AAH Pharmaceuticals Ltd v Pfizer Ltd [2007] EWHC 565 (Chancery Division – pharmaceuticals – distributions system)

International Power -v- NALOO [2003] ECR I-11421 - competition law - ECSC Treaty

IECC -v- European Commission [2001] ECR I-3947 (ECJ - competition law - abuse of dominance - postal services)

Irish Sugar Plc -v- European Commission - [2001] ECR I-5333; [1999] ECR II-2969 (ECJ/CFI - competition law - abuse of dominance - pricing)

Publishers Association -v- Commission [1996] ECR I-121 (ECJ - competition law - net book agreement)

R -v- Dearlove & Druker - (1988) Crim LR 323 (Court of Appeal - competition law -fraud)

EU Law

Conor has an eclectic range of cases across the spectrum of EU commercial law, covering matters as diverse as agriculture, commercial agency, employment law, environmental law, extradition, freedom of movement, motor insurance and taxation. He advises on all matters relating to EU law in general, including human rights law. He has appeared in proceedings in the European Court of Justice, the EU General Court, the House of Lords and Supreme Court, the Court of Appeal and the English and Irish High Courts.

Air Transport Association of America v Sec of State for Energy and Climate Change (Case C-366/10) [2011] ECR I-13755

Churchill Insurance Co Ltd v Wilkinson ([2012] EWCA 1166 – motor insurance – RTA s.151(8) indemnity – compatibility with Second Motor Insurance Directive – proportionality test)

Churchill Insurance Co Ltd v Wilkinson ([2011] ECR 12639 – motor insurance – general requirement to compensate victims)

Churchill Insurance Co Ltd v Wilkinson ([2010] EWCA 556 – motor insurance – RTA s.151(8) indemnity – compatibility with Second Motor Insurance Directive – reference to ECJ)

Louca v A German Judicial Authority, ([2009] UKSC 4 – extradition – European Arrest Warrant – repeated issuance of warrants - fundamental rights)

United Kingdom v Council (ECJ – judgment 18 December 2007 – Schengen Protocol – written submissions for Polish Government)

Cooper -v- Pure Fishing (Court of Appeal – 2004 - commercial agents - termination for fundamental breach)

Light -v- Ty Europe (Court of Appeal - judgment 25 July 2003 - commercial agency - sub-agents)

Lennox -v- ILCO (ECJ – [2003] ECR I-7091 - exports - agriculture - BSE)

RCO Support Services -v- UNISON [2002] ICR 751 (Court of Appeal - employment law - transfer of undertakings)

White -v- White and the Motor Insurers Bureau [2001] 2 All ER 43 (House of Lords - motor insurance - effect of directives)

R -v- Governor of Gibraltar, ex parte AS Marrache & Co (Gibraltar Court of Appeal, judgment 27 May 1999, not reported - import restrictions - liability of Member State for breach of EC Law)

Mellett -v- European Court of Justice [1998] ECR-SC (CFI - employment law - legitimate expectation)

R -v- MAFF, ex parte National Farmers Union [1998] ECR I-2211 (ECJ - agriculture - BSE - export restrictions)

R -v- MAFF, ex parte Hedley Lomas (Ireland) Limited [1996] ECR I-2553 (ECJ - liability of Member State for breach of EC Law - export restrictions)

R -v- Lomas [1992] ECR I-1781 (ECJ - agriculture)

Tax

Conor advises on a broad range of EU-related tax matters, including the interaction of State aid and taxation, excise duty directives, direct taxation and free movement, environmental levies, agricultural levies

R v Taylor & Wood [2013] EWCA Crim 1151 (excise duty – smuggling - -proceeds of crime – penalties)

White v The Crown, [2010] EWCA Crim 978 (excise duty – smuggling – proceeds of crime - value of personal benefit)

QRS 1 Aps -v- Frandsen - [1999] 1 WLR 2169 (Court of Appeal - taxation - fraud - Brussels Convention)

FMC -v- IBAP [1996] ECR I-389 (ECJ - agriculture - clawbacks - restitution)

R -v- Cousins [1995] 3 CMLR (Court of Appeal - excise duty - criminal law)

Human Rights

Private International Law

Telecommunications and Information Technology

Recommendations

Who's Who Legal UK Bar 2020
Competition

Who's Who Legal UK Bar 2019
Competition

Chambers Global 2019
UK, Competition Law

Chambers Global 2018
UK, Competition Law

Chambers & Partners 2018
Competition Law

Chambers & Partners 2017
Competition Law

Chambers & Partners 2016
Competition Law
Public Procurement

Chambers & Partners 2015
Competition Law
Public Procurement

The Legal 500 2015
EU and competition
Public Procurement

Quotes

"A leading state aid expert with vast experience and a deep understanding of the issues." (Chambers Global, 2019)

"A leading state aid expert with vast experience and a deep understanding of the issues." (Chambers & Partners, 2018)

"He is the leading barrister in the area of state aid." (Chambers & Partners, 2017)

"He has in-depth state aid knowledge and the ability to explain complex areas of the law in a clear and concise manner, which assists the court tremendously." (Chambers & Partners, 2016)

"A big name in state aid who has handled matters for a long time and written extensively on the subject." (Chambers & Partners, 2016)

"He's found a very simple very elegant and robust solution to our problem." (Chambers & Partners, 2015)

"He is very commercial - he won't just give you a legal answer, but also a practical one." (Chambers & Partners, 2015)

Publications

Books

European State Aid Law and Policy (Hart Publishing, Oxford, 3rd edition (forthcoming 2014); 2nd edition 2009; 1st edition 2003)

European Community Contract Law – The effect of EC legislation on contractual rights, obligations and remedies (Kluwer Law International, London, 1997)

Published in French as *Droit Communautaire Des Contrats* (Kluwer, 1998)

1992: *Completing the Internal Market* (Graham & Trotman, London, 1989 & 1991)

Contributions to Books

State Aid and the *Financial Crisis in Legal Challenges in the Global Financial Crisis*, ed. Ringe & Huber (Hart Publishing, 2014)

State Aid and abuse of law in *Abuse of Law - A New General Principle of EU Law*, (Hart Publishing, 2010)

Oxford Encyclopedia on European Law, Volume III, Competition Law, State aid section, ed. Toth (OUP, 2008)

State aid for research and development, in *The EC State Aid Regime*, ed. Sanchez Rydelski, (Cameron May, 2006)

General Taxation and State Aid, in *The Law of State Aid in the European Union*, ed Biondi, Eeckhout & Flynn (Oxford 2004)

Criminal law and EC law, in *European Community Law in the National Courts* ed. Andenas & Jacobs (Oxford, 1998)

EC Tax Law in *Practitioners Guide to EC Law*, Bar European Group/Bar Council of England & Wales (Cameron May, 1998)

Indirect taxation in *The Principle of Equal Treatment in EC Law*, ed. Dashwood & O'Leary (Sweet & Maxwell, 1997)

University Posts

Research Fellow, Institute of European and Comparative Law, University of Oxford, 2008-

Fellow in EC Law, Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford, 1991-1996

Honorary Research Fellow, Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford 1996-

Visiting Professor of EC Competition Law and State Aid, College of Europe, Natolin, Poland 2000-01

Professional educational offices

Chairman, Bar European Group, 1992-1994

Member, International Practice Committee, Bar Council, 1995-2000

Chairman, EU Law Section, Union International des Avocats, 2006-2010

Other

Called to English Bar (Gray's Inn) 1985

Called to Irish Bar (King's Inn) 1993

Queen's Counsel 2003

Called to Northern Irish Bar 2009

Education & Qualifications

King's College London, LL.B (1979)
University of Amsterdam, Dip. Eur. Int. (1980)
MA Oxon (1991)

Appointments

Arbitrator of the Shanghai International Arbitration Center's (SHIAC) New Panel. The term for the appointment is until August 2026.
