

Carter-Ruck

International Law
News & Insights

Welcome to our International Law News & Insights

Carter-Ruck specialises in sensitive disputes, when reputations, livelihoods and assets are at risk.

Contact us by phone 24/7 +44 (0)20 7353 5005

Tortured academic Matthew Hedges issues High Court claim against senior UAE officials

Matthew Hedges, the British academic who was falsely imprisoned and tortured in the UAE over a period of more than six months in 2018, has issued civil proceedings in the High Court in London against four of the senior UAE officials who were involved.

Mr Hedges is claiming damages against the four for assault, false imprisonment and the intentional infliction of psychiatric injury which occurred during the course of his detention in Abu Dhabi, UAE from 5 May 2018 to 26 November 2018. [Read more](#)

Matthew Hedges is advised by [Cameron Doley](#), [François Holmey](#) and [Amber Courtier](#).



Global Anti-Corruption (GAC) Sanctions Regime

[Magali Sharma](#)

Since exiting the EU, the UK has developed a range of autonomous sanctions regimes to meet foreign policy and national security objectives.

In July 2020, the UK introduced its first autonomous [human rights sanctions regime](#) which gave the UK the power to impose sanctions on individuals involved in serious human rights violations. This sanctions regime came into force on 6 July 2020. [Read more](#)

Tortured football fan Ali Issa Ahmad sends formal notification of civil claim to senior UAE officials

Ali Issa Ahmad, the British tourist who was falsely arrested and tortured in the UAE in 2019 after attending an Asian Cup football match, has sent formal letters of claim to six senior UAE officials. Mr Ahmad's case has been featured widely in the media. [Read more.](#)

Ali Issa Ahmad is advised by [Cameron Doley](#), [François Holmey](#) and [Amber Courtier](#).

Journalist Jane Cahane obtains misrepresentation judgment and damages in the High Court against The Investigative Journal and Mohamed Fahmy

The High Court in London has awarded damages of just over £80,000 for fraudulent and/or negligent mis-representation against Mohamed Fahmy and The Investigative Journal Limited (TIJ) following a claim brought by journalist and editor Jane Cahane. [Read more](#)

Jane Cahane is advised by [Cameron Doley](#), [François Holmey](#) and [Amber Courtier](#).

WorldECR



GUY MARTIN
Head of International Law

Guy Martin receives Honourable Mention for Practitioner of the Year in the WorldECR Awards

Carter-Ruck is pleased to report that Guy Martin is recognised in this year's WorldECR Awards and has been given an Honourable Mention in recognition of his outstanding work, vision and contribution in the fields of export control, sanctions compliance and non-proliferation. [Read more](#)

US Congress passes Libya Stabilization Act

[Noura Abughris](#)

On 28 September 2021, the US Congress passed the Libya Stabilization Act. This Bill authorizes the United States' support for efforts to strengthen good governance, including by providing assistance to unify Libya's financial and governing institutions as well as ensuring free and credible future elections in Libya. Importantly, this Bill provides for sanctions and aid related to the conflict in Libya; by providing statutory authority for an executive order dated 19 April 2016 imposing property and visa blocking sanctions on persons contributing to the violence in Libya. [Read more](#)

Carter-Ruck commended in The Times Best Law Firms 2022

Carter-Ruck is recognised in The Times Best Law Firms 2022 list for its core areas encompassing International Law, Reputation Management & Media and Commercial Disputes. This lists the top legal practices in England and Wales for business, public and private-client law. The firm is also commended for its Commercial Dispute Resolution, Entertainment and Sports practices. [Read more](#)



Human Rights Update: A Brief History of Economic Sanctions

[Noura Abughris](#)

The first recorded use of sanctions was in 432 BC, when the Athenian Empire banned traders from Megara from its marketplaces, thereby strangling the rival city state's economy. It was not however until the 20th century that the use of economic sanctions became more prominent.

The League of Nations, and later the United Nations, played a key role in forging country-based sanctions in the early 20th century, often lazily imposing such measures on countries they wanted to pressure into complying with a specific foreign policy objective. Country-based sanctions are a form of restrictive measure imposed by one country or entity on another with the aim of limiting the target country's trade and business relations. Cuba, Iran, Libya, North Korea, Syria and Vietnam are all countries that have had country-based sanctions imposed upon them. [Read more](#)

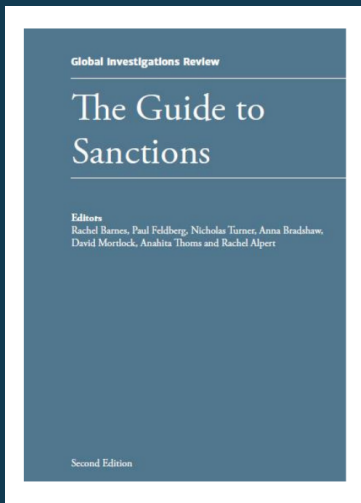
Carter-Ruck are again recommended in the latest edition of leading law directory Legal 500 for International Arbitration and Public International Law.



Legal 500 reported that **'The team is excellent, technically strong and is particularly good at dealing with cases that have political and geopolitical sensitivities and are very well-known and trusted in global political circles.'**

Carter-Ruck's other core practice areas - [Reputation Management & Defamation](#) and [Commercial Litigation](#) - also continue to be commended.

Visit the lawyers page on our website [here](#)



Global Investigations Review: The Guide to Sanctions (Second Edition) featuring Carter-Ruck

Carter-Ruck are pleased to be contributors to the Second Edition of Global Investigations Review's Guide to Sanctions published in August 2020. The UN Sanctions chapter was co-written by [Guy Martin](#) and [Charles Enderby Smith](#).

[Download the Sanctions Guide](#)

Sanctions Challenges

- Carter-Ruck has been instructed by pre-existing clients in relation to a designation by the UK under its new autonomous sanctions framework, in this instance under its Myanmar regulations. The firm are instructed to challenge the measures under the Sanctions and Anti Money Laundering Act 2018 and, should the matter

proceed to court, it is likely to be one of the first such legal challenges to the UK's post-Brexit sanctions regime. The clients have been successful previously in annulling sanctions imposed by the EU, a case in which Carter-Ruck was also instructed.

- Carter-Ruck has been instructed by a new client who has been subjected to restrictive measures by the EU and the US under their respective Belarussian sanctions regimes. The firm will be challenging these measures on behalf of its client, working with US counsel where appropriate.
- Carter-Ruck continues to advise the family of the late former Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak in relation to their challenges to sanctions imposed upon them by the EU (and related matters).

On 3 December 2020 the EU Court of Justice ordered the annulment of sanctions imposed on the family in 2016, 2017 and 2018. Notwithstanding the CJEU's decision to annul these sanctions, the Mubarak family has continued to pursue legal proceedings in the European General Court in relation to sanctions imposed upon them on later dates. The family has been determined to pursue these cases until their conclusion in order to obtain further judicial recognition that all of the EU's measures were unlawful from the outset. The Carter-Ruck team was back before the European Courts on 30 September of this year to conclude these challenges, and judgment is awaited.

European Investment Law and Arbitration Review - Micula v Romania: a saga of lasting significance

Jennifer Harvey, Lawrence Northmore-Ball and Amber Courtier have produced a very substantial review on the implications of the Micula case in "Micula v Romania: a saga of lasting significance" to be published in the December 2021 issue of European Investment Law & Arbitration.



Our International Team

Carter-Ruck's **International** team understand nuanced geopolitical situations and how they impact on their clients' interests. The firm has extensive experience in contentious matters with an international, diplomatic or political context.

Expertise

- International arbitration in all forums
- Cross-border litigation
- Human rights investigations
- Economic sanctions and restrictive measures
- Petitions to national and international organisations for relief from restrictive measures and travel bans
- Regulatory issues including proceedings and investigations

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