



Dr Zhen Ye

Year of Call: 2016

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Commercial

Zhen Ye has a busy commercial practice focusing on disputes arising from commercial contracts, company law, and insolvency. A significant proportion of the matters in which she acts raise complex questions of commercial and contract law in multi-party and cross-border arrangements, frequently involving corporate governance, partnership structures, and distressed entities.

She is regularly instructed in cases with an international element and has experience acting as both sole and junior counsel in the High Court, Commercial Court, arbitral proceedings, and specialist international courts. Zhen has a particular interest in cross-border commercial disputes and international arbitration, informed by her academic background in competition law and financial regulation studied in a comparative context, and her involvement in a number of international arbitration matters.

Her commercial practice encompasses high-value contractual disputes, franchise litigation, shareholder and partnership disputes, unfair prejudice petitions, and insolvency-related proceedings, including urgent injunctive relief and asset realisation. She regularly acts for and against directors, shareholders, insolvency practitioners, trustees, creditors, and debtor companies.

Recent cases (Commercial)

- **Broderick [2022] EWHC** – Assisting David Parratt KC in a £5 million dispute concerning a partnership-at-will between a world-famous sculptor and other partners, including issues relating to continued use of artistic moulds and alleged infringement of asserted intellectual property rights.
- **GLAS SAS (London Branch) v European Topsoho SARL & Ors** – Acting in a Commercial Court claim brought by a trustee against the issuer of €250 million secured exchangeable bonds for failure to pay on maturity, arising out of a contested battle for control of a luxury fashion company listed on Euronext Paris. Led by Francis Tregear KC.
- **GLAS SAS (London Branch) v European Topsoho SARL & Ors** – Acting on a related application for a Norwich Pharmacal Order. Led by Seb Oram.
- **DIFC franchise dispute** – Drafting pleadings and advising on the successful defence of a jurisdiction challenge in the DIFC Courts in a cross-border franchise dispute.
Multi-jurisdiction franchise dispute – Acting for the franchisor in proceedings involving allegations of fee violations and breaches of contract across multiple jurisdictions. Led by David Parratt KC.
- **ATI & E C Ltd** – Advising on a challenge to an LMAA arbitration award under section 67 of the Arbitration Act 1996. Led by David Parratt KC.
Phones 4U Limited (in administration) v EE Limited & Ors – Acting in a junior capacity, instructed by Mischon de Reya for Telefónica, in proceedings alleging conspiracy between major telecommunications providers and their parent companies.
Toucan Energy Holdings Ltd & Anor v Wirsol Energy Ltd [2021] EWHC 895 (Comm) – Assisting in a £7 million Commercial Court dispute arising in the energy and telecommunications sector, instructed by Enyo Law.

- **SX v [M]QM & CTMH Ltd & Ors** – Defending a complex unfair prejudice petition seeking changes to company management and alleging corporate misconduct. Led by David Berkley KC.
- **Unfair Prejudice Petition** – Successfully acting as sole counsel for the petitioner in High Court proceedings.
- **Partnership dispute** – Advising in a partnership dispute arising out of cross-border joint venture arrangements.
- **Injunctions** – Successfully acting as sole counsel for the applicant in obtaining injunctions restraining the presentation and advertisement of a winding-up petition.
- **Asset realisation** – Acting for joint trustees in bankruptcy in proceedings to realise assets within the bankruptcy estate.
- **Statutory demand** – Successfully acting as sole counsel for a debtor in an application to set aside a statutory demand.
- **Individual Voluntary Arrangements** – Advising debtors in relation to proposed IVAs.

Articles

David Parratt KC and Zhen Ye they explore the practical implications of DIFC Courts confirming a defendant who attempted to cancel two court orders, focused on property located in Dubai, an Enforcement Order and a Receivership Order, that had been issued to support decisions made by an English court.

[View Article](#)

Dr Zhen Ye writes on the recent Court of Appeal case 'LLC Eurochem North-West-2 v Tecnimont S.P.A and another'.

[View Article](#)

Valbonne Estates Ltd v City Value Estates Ltd

[Dr Zhen Ye](#) has analysed the impact of this property dispute between two property developers, owned by members of the same ultra-orthodox Jewish community, over a failed purchase of the Beckton Arms in East London.

[View Article](#)

Recommendations

'Zhen is perceptive, analytical, and willing to listen to clients and solicitors.'

Legal 500 2026/Commercial Litigation/South Eastern/Leading Juniors - Tier 1

'Zhen has a very efficient and pragmatic approach to dealing with the technical requirements of the Insolvency Courts. She is exceptionally personable, a pleasure to deal with, and her advice is commercial at all times.'

Legal 500 2026/Company and Insolvency/South Eastern/Leading Juniors - Tier 1

"A heartfelt thank you for your exemplary handling of my dispute.
Your meticulous preparation and command of the brief was masterful"

Client

Academic qualifications

- BPTC, BPP Law School, London
- GDL, BPP Law School, London
- PhD, Financial and Securities Regulation, Cambridge
- MPhil Development Studies, Cambridge
- LLM Competition Law, University College London
- LLB, Jilin University, China

Professional qualifications & appointments

- Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators

Professional bodies

- The Chartered Institute of Arbitrators
- Liveryman of The Worshipful Company of Pattenmakers
- Chancery Bar Association
- Property Bar Association
- Technology and Construction Bar Association
- Society of Construction Law
- Inner Temple