

Dr Zhen Ye

Year of Call: 2016

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Commercial

Zhen Ye's busy commercial practice focuses on disputes arising from commercial contracts, insolvency proceedings and company law. A significant proportion of the matters in which she acts raise questions on the application of commercial and contract law to complex, multi-party arrangements.

Commercial litigation and contractual disputes

Zhen frequently acts in cases with an international element, and is instructed as both sole and junior counsel. She has a particular interest in cross-border commercial disputes and international arbitration, having studied competition law and financial regulations in a comparative context, and being involved in several international arbitration cases.

Recent and ongoing cases

Broderick [2022] EWHC – assisting David Parratt KC in a dispute concerning a partnership-at-will in £5m dispute between world famous sculptor and other partnership members and whether continued use of artistic moulds were in contravention of asserted Intellectual Property Rights.

DIFC franchise dispute: drafting pleadings in respect of a cross-border franchise dispute and advising on the successful defence to a jurisdiction challenge in the DIFC Courts.

Acting for the franchisor: in a multi-jurisdiction franchise dispute involving allegations of fee violations and breaches of contract. Led by David Parratt KC.

ATI & EC Ltd: Advising the client on challenging an LMAA's award under section 67 of the English Arbitration Act 1996.... Led by David Parratt KC.

GLAS SAS (London Branch) v. European Topsoho SARL and Ors: Commercial court claim by a trustee against the issuer of €250m Secured Exchangeable Bonds, claiming breach of a failure to pay on the maturity date. The underlying dispute concerns a battle for the control of a high-brand fashion company listed on Paris Euronext. Led by Francis Tregear KC.

GLAS SAS (London Branch) v. European Topsoho SARL and Ors: in an Application for Norwich Pharmacal Order. Led by Seb Oram

Phones 4U Limited v. EE Limited & Ors: Zhen as instructed by Mischon de Reya acting for Telefonica to assist in a junior capacity assisting in relation to proceedings brought by Phones 4U Limited (In administration) alleging conspiracy between EE, Vodafone, Telefonica and their parent companies (at the relevant time).

Toucan Energy Holdings Limited Toucan Gen Co Limited v Wirsol Energy Limited [2021] EWHC 895 (Comm); [2021] 4 WLUK 35: Zhen as instructed by Enyo Law to assist in a junior capacity in relation to the litigation of a dispute worth £7,000,000

within the context of the telecoms industry.

Company Law

Zhen regularly acts in complex corporate disputes, representing clients in contentious matters such as shareholder disputes, directorial breaches, and corporate governance challenges.

Recent and ongoing cases

SX-v- [M]QM (1); and CTMH Ltd (2) & Ors: Defending a complex unfair prejudice petition which sought changes to the company management arising from allegations of corporate misconduct. Led by David Berkley KC.

Partnership Dispute: advising in a partnership dispute over cross-border joint ventures.

Unfair Prejudice Petition: Successfully acting as sole counsel for the petitioner in an Unfair Prejudice Petition in the High Court.

Insolvency and restructuring

Zhen accepts instructions in a range of corporate and personal insolvency matters, with experience of acting for insolvency practitioners, directors, creditors, debtor companies, and trustees in bankruptcy.

Recent and ongoing cases

Injunctions: Successfully acting as sole counsel for the applicant in an Application for injunctions to restrain presentation and advertisement of winding up petition

Assets realisation: Successfully acting for the joint trustees in bankruptcy in proceedings to realise assets in the bankruptcy estate

Statutory demand: Successfully acting as sole counsel for a debtor in an Application to set aside statutory demand

IVAs: Advising debtors in relation to potential IVAs

Articles

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