

Russia CIS Disputes Lawyer in London

There is an old adage that says the best niche is the one you find by accident.

As a boutique [litigation firm](#) we have been involved in successfully resolving a wide of range highly complex, multi-jurisdictional matters for an even wider range of businesses and individuals. However one of the fastest growing areas within our practice was one we discovered rather than planned, namely helping clients from Russia and CIS.

The unprecedented speed at which our Russian client list has grown and the incredible variety of work we are doing for those clients has allowed us to build a strong and well regarded practice within the Russian legal market. As a result we recently took stock and decided to analyse exactly why our approach has proven to be so successful for the individuals and businesses of Russian and CIS origin either based in the UK or operating under UK law.

International Dispute Resolution Involving Russian and CIS Parties

This article summarises our findings and sets out the approach we believe is best suited to resolving complex, cross-border disputes for the UK's growing Russian population and business community.

1. A comprehensive offering

We know our clients need to bank on the fact they can turn to us whatever dispute they might face, irrespective of what means will be required to find a resolution.

As litigation specialists we offer a wealth of experience in settling every type of dispute. We know exactly how to launch and manage direct legal action and how to undertake arbitration, contract negotiations, enforcement proceedings and fraud claims. We also have an extensive network of equally specialist associates we can call in to conduct asset traces, freezing orders, liquidations or any other action that may be required to help achieve the desired outcome.

And all of this experience is real, not just theory or training. We can point to concrete examples of not only the commercial and civil disputes we have resolved in the High Court but also to specific examples of multi-jurisdictional cases we have undertaken under the Rules of LCIA, ICC, SCC and other institutions.

2. All the required specialist support skills

An increasing number of the international commercial disputes we are resolving for our Russian clients revolve around intellectual property (IP).

Again this is one of our core strengths. By combining this rarer specialist knowledge with our litigation and arbitration expertise, we have been able to settle both domain name and trade mark disputes and help our clients enforce their IP more stringently and oppose claims of passing off.

In one recent case one of our Russian clients had been accused of infringing upon another company's trade marks and domain names. As the trade marks and domain names in question were pivotal to active gambling sites generating high levels of revenue for our client, any delay or obstacle to trading was going to prove hugely expensive.

Initial arbitration under WIPO's (the World Intellectual Property Organisation) supervision agreed there had been infringements and that their use of the offending marks and domains should cease though WIPO did say the client could appeal to the High Court. This is when the client came to us. We helped them launch a series of appeals that enabled them to continue to use the trade marks and domain names, and continue to generate revenue, for as long as was possible.

3. As a firm our ethos is more Russian than any other UK firm

As specialist litigators our only job is to get the best possible result for your clients as quickly as possible. That result could be a good old fashioned 'win' but, equally, it may be to postpone, disrupt or unsettle the other side.

When the best result isn't immediately obvious many firms will either approach a dispute cautiously or persuade their clients to extricate themselves entirely - and often without a fight - if they feel a traditional victory isn't possible.

We approach disputes in a very different way. We look at the variety of outcomes one *could* achieve and then assess the different ways those outcomes would benefit our client. We then balance that against an assessment of how those outcomes would damage the opposition.

We then apply the law to create a robust series of strategies designed specifically to overcome the potential obstacles experience has taught us will arise; continually reshaping and revising those strategies until the ultimate set of objectives have been realised and the other side is either beaten or exhausted.

4. We are established, experienced and respected UK litigators

In the majority of cases it is better if contracts relating to international multi-jurisdictional transactions with or between CIS entities are written under English law. This is simply because English is the most widely used language internationally due to its precision, well-developed legal principles and the lack of bias in the judiciary.

By extension this means that the best people to unpick a contract when a dispute arises is a native English speaking litigator. Not only will a native English speaker understand all of the nuances of the law and language employed, they will also know exactly how to use those nuances to best effect while they structure their litigation strategy and present their arguments to the relevant Court.

The other point to bear in mind is the litigation process in the CIS is complex and conducting proceeding in the UK and/or under English law can not only simplify the process and make it more cost-effective, but also make it much more likely that the desired result is attained.

5. A flexible, personal 'partner-only' service

While larger firms may offer the highest levels of personal service, the fact we are a boutique means we actually deliver it.

Our size dictates that our clients are our lifeblood. In order for us to survive, we know we have to remain available and accessible at any time of day to answer questions or provide updates on the progress made on a case.

Moreover, as we are a partner-only firm (in stark contrast to the more commonplace partner-led service many firms promote) you will only ever speak to the partner who is doing your work and who knows all of the ins and outs of your case. Not only will this mean you always receive an instantaneous answer, it also means no additional research or administrative costs will be added to your fees.

But our dedication to delivering the highest levels of personal service via a more informal approach shouldn't be confused with being a pushover when it comes to fighting tooth and nail for our clients' best interests.

The other facet of our service is to always be as enterprising, entrepreneurial and tenacious as we can in every aspect of our work; all the qualities we know ensures our clients achieve the best possible outcome from every dispute, every time.

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