



# PROFESSOR PHILIPPE SANDS QC

## MAIN AREAS OF PRACTICE:

Public International Law  
International Arbitration  
Natural Resources and  
Environmental Law  
Public Law

**Called to the Bar** 1988  
**Appointed to Silk** 2002  
**Bencher** 2009

## CONTACT:

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Paul Venables, Senior Practice  
Manager  
paulvenables@matrixlaw.co.uk

## Languages

French  
Spanish  
Italian

Philippe has an extensive practice in all aspects of international law, acting as counsel and arbitrator. He has acted for states, international organisations, corporations, NGOs and individuals. He is Professor of Laws and Director of the Centre on International Courts and Tribunal at University College London, University of London.

## EXPERIENCE

Philippe's current workload includes advice and litigation concerning: maritime boundary disputes; international claims relating to natural resources, pollution and environmental assessment; international trade disputes (including agricultural preferences and genetically modified organisms); issues relating to the immunity of serving and former heads of state; international claims relating to the use of force; human rights; and cases relating to individual violations of international criminal laws.

He has appeared before many international courts, including the European Court of Justice; the International Court of Justice; the World Trade Organisation dispute settlement organs; the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea; the International Criminal Court; and the Special Court for Sierra Leone. He has appeared in arbitrations under the rules of the International Centre for the Settlement of Investment Disputes, the Permanent Court of Arbitration and the International Chamber of Commerce; the World Bank Inspection Panel; and the Special Court for Sierra Leone). Philippe also appears before the English courts. More recently, Philippe has accepted appointments as an arbitrator in several cases under ICSID and UNCITRAL rules.

He is active as arbitrator in the field of investment disputes, and in relation to sport. He is a designated Member of the Panel of Arbitrators established by the International Centre for the Settlement of Investment Disputes, and on the Court of Arbitration for Sport, and on the list of arbitrators in the field of natural resources and the environment maintained at the Permanent Court of Arbitration.

## SELECTED NOTABLE CASES

### ICC

**Prosecutor v Saif Al-Islam Gaddafi and Abdullah Al-Senussi Case ICC-01/11-01/11** (Counsel for the Government of Libya) (2012- present)

### ICJ

**Application of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (Georgia v. Russian Federation)** (Counsel for Georgia) (2008-2010)

**Violation of Article 11 of the Interim Accord of 13 September 1995** (The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia v Greece) (Counsel for FYROM) (2008-2011)

**Professor Philippe Sands QC:**

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## DIRECTORIES' RECOMMENDATIONS

“Very prominent, influential, extremely good and one of the big names of his age”

### Chambers & Partners 2015

“First class”

### Legal 500 2014

“Very incisive and dynamic.”

### Chambers & Partners 2013

Ranked as a leading silk in Environment, Public International Law and International Arbitration

### Legal 500 2012

“He combines expertise on the law with great tactical skill”

### Chambers & Partners 2011

“Intellectually brilliant, with outstanding analytic abilities and knowledge of the law”

“Not really challenged by anyone for the first tier” in Public International Law

### Legal 500 2010

**Proceedings Instituted by Australia against Japan** (Australia v Japan) (Counsel for Australia) (2010-present)

#### PCA

**Dispute Concerning Article 9 of the OSPAR Convention** (Ireland v UK, PCA) (Counsel, Ireland, Award of 2 July 2003)

**The MOX case** (Ireland v UK, PCA) (UNCLOS, Counsel, Ireland, since 2001-2007)

**Maritime boundary dispute between Guyana and Suriname** (UNCLOS, Counsel for Guyana, Award of 17 September 2007)

#### UNCLOS & ITLOS

**Maritime boundary dispute between Bangladesh and Myanmar** (2009-2012) (Counsel for Bangladesh)

**Maritime boundary dispute between Bangladesh and India** (2009-present) (Counsel for Bangladesh)

**Case concerning the Chagos Archipelago ‘Marine Protected Area’** (Mauritius v United Kingdom (2010-) (Counsel for Mauritius)

#### WTO

**Case concerning Genetically Modified Organisms** (US/EU, Argentina/EU, Canada/EU), (Counsel, EU) (2003-6)

#### Special Court for Sierra Leone

**Prosecutor v Charles Taylor**, appointed as amicus curiae by the Appeals Chamber on Head of State immunity under international law (2003)

#### Intergovernmental Negotiations

**Intergovernmental Negotiation for a Framework Convention on Climate Change and United Nations Conference on Environment and Development** (1989 to 1992; Legal Advisor to delegation of St. Lucia and to the Alliance of Small Island States).

**Preparatory Committee and Diplomatic Conference for a Statute for an International Criminal Court** (Legal Adviser to delegation of Solomon Islands) (1997-8)

## SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

*Principles of International Environmental Law* (3rd edition, Cambridge University Press, 2012) (1st. ed. Manchester University Press, 1995 (Vols. I, II and III), 2nd ed. CUP 2003)

*Selecting International Judges: Principle, Process and Politics* (With Kate Malleson, Ruth Mackenzie and Penny Martin) (Oxford University Press, 2010)

*The Manual of International Courts and Tribunals* (with Shany, Romano and Mackenzie), (2nd edition, Oxford University Press, 2010)

*Bowett's Law of International Institutions*, Sweet & Maxwell, 6th edition, 2009 (co-author with Pierre Klein, Universite Libre de Bruxelles)

Should you wish to instruct Philippe, his Senior Practice Manager Paul Venables would be delighted to discuss your requirements. Paul can be reached on e-mail at [paulvenables@matrixlaw.co.uk](mailto:paulvenables@matrixlaw.co.uk), or by telephone on +44 (0)20 7611 9405.