



Wessen Jazrawi

Wessen plays a key role in both our competition and human rights & environmental practice areas. Providing access to justice for individuals and businesses – regardless of the practice area - lies at the cornerstone of her practice.

Expertise

At Hausfeld, she has worked on some of the most well-known competition cases of recent years, including the MasterCard / Visa interchange fee litigation and the Marine Hose cartel.

Prior to joining Hausfeld, Wessen acted in two cases before the Competition Appeal Tribunal, including the first follow-on action to have reached trial in the UK, *Enron Coal Services Limited v. English Welsh & Scottish Railway*.

Clients

Because of the nature of her practice, she represents people and corporates, both on an individual or group basis. For example, she advised a group of international retailers in proceedings relating to multilateral interchange fees and represented a large group of multinational companies in a private damages action following the global Marine Hose cartel.

PRACTICE AREAS

Competition Litigation

- Acting for a group of multinational retailers in claims for unlawful interchange fees against Mastercard and VISA. These complex proceedings, which involved losses in 18 European jurisdictions and related proceedings in the High Court and in the Competition Appeal Tribunal, included the first preliminary issue hearing on applicable law in competition litigation disputes, a hearing at the Court of Appeal on the “relation back” rule and preparation for a Supreme Court hearing.
- Advising on a collective consumer claim, including related insurance and funding issues.
- Represented a large group of multinational companies in a private damages action in relation to the global Marine Hose cartel.
- Acted for Enron Coal Services Limited against English Welsh & Scottish Railway Limited, which was the first follow-on action to have reached trial in the UK. This included two hearings before the Court of Appeal and a full trial in the Competition Appeal Tribunal.



PARTNER



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- Acted for Rapture TV plc in its appeal against a decision by Ofcom before the Competition Appeal Tribunal.

Human Rights and Environmental Disputes

Wessen acted on a pro-bono basis for the majority of the cases below.

- Acting for a group of farmers from the Copper Belt region of Zambia in pollution claims against UK-based mining company Vedanta Resources Limited and its Zambian subsidiary.
- Acted for the claimant/appellant, ex-police officer Andrea Brown, in a pivotal costs case on the clarification of the Qualified One-Way Costs Shifting Rules.
- Part of the legal team fighting to end #PeriodPoverty, working alongside Free Periods and the Red Box Project.
- Assisted in the drafting of the Communication submitted on behalf of 16 youth petitioners to the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, led by teenage activist Greta Thunberg.
- Acted in a high-profile judicial review on behalf of Avaaz relating to the Murdoch family's bid for Sky and the question of whether Sky would remain fit and proper to hold a broadcasting license if 100% owned by 21st Century Fox.
- Acted for the former employees of a mercury thermometer factory in India owned by Unilever plc who had suffered mercury contamination, ultimately obtaining a settlement for them.
- Exploring with a number of campaigning and parent groups, including Mums for Lungs, the possibility of bringing an action against the government on behalf of a group of children who have been affected by poor air quality in London.

WHAT OTHERS SAY

The Legal 500

Legal 500 confirmed that Wessen Jazrawi comes 'highly recommended'. - *Competition Litigation, 2020.*

The Law Society

The Hausfeld Human Rights team, of which Wessen was a key part, was shortlisted for *The Law Society* Legal Excellence Awards 2019 in the 'Access to Justice' category for its work on the 'Hausfeld, Free Periods and Red Box Project'.

Super Lawyers

Super Lawyers recognised Wessen as a Rising Star for Antitrust and Competition

Litigation in London – 2015.

EDUCATION

LLM in International Human Rights Law (Distinction), University of Essex
Legal Practice Course, Oxford Institute of Legal Practice
LLB in Law, (2:1), University of Kent

BAR ADMISSIONS

Solicitor, England and Wales, 2008

AFFILIATIONS & MEMBERSHIPS

Law Society Competition Section

NEWS & PRESS

Journalist of the specialist legal press, including GCR and Law360, often seek Wessen's comments on key judgments. Recent news and press that Wessen has contributed to can be found in the respective sections below. In other news:

"Unpaid intern takes on British fashion house Alexander McQueen", The Guardian 17 February 2014.

"Unpaid Intern Sues Alexander McQueen, Has The Culture of Working For Free Changed?" International Business Times 17 February 2014.

PUBLICATIONS

Wessen regularly authors opinion pieces on key judgments or legal developments, accessible via the 'Articles' section below.

IN THE NEWS

December 20, 2019

The 16 Committee on the Rights of the Child Petitioners, Including Greta Thunberg and Ridhima Pandey, Applaud Dutch Supreme Court Ruling in Urgenda

September 23, 2019

16 Young People File UN Human Rights Complaint On Climate Change

August 13, 2019

Andrea Brown's Costs Appeal Set to Impact Future Cases With a Personal Injury Element

July 30, 2019

Law Society Shortlists the Period Poverty Campaign for Their Legal Excellence Awards 2019

January 8, 2019

Hausfeld Engaged by the Free Periods Campaign

July 5, 2018

English Court of Appeal confirms unlawful nature of MasterCard and Visa interchange fees charged to retailers – and the law on pass-on in competition damages claims

EVENTS

December 2, 2019

CLSG Climate Change Panel Discussion – 5 December 2019, London

October 3, 2019

PLI's What European and U.S. Lawyers Should Each Know About Litigating Abroad – 2 December 2019, London

November 13, 2018

Thomson Reuters Competition Law Conference - 13 November 2018, London

ARTICLES

August 12, 2019

Mastercard's Purchase of Nets Will Lead to Antitrust Scrutiny

July 31, 2019

Mastercard Class Appeal Goes to Supreme Court

March 8, 2018

"The Battle for Waterloo" – Interchange claims to be determined under 18 national laws of the claimants rather than Belgian law

November 8, 2017

Excessive Pricing – a New Lease of Life in Europe?

September 13, 2017

Brexit

August 9, 2017

The UK Consumer Rights Act 2015 Two Years On: the Reforms to Collective Actions and CAT Procedure

PERSPECTIVES

December 11, 2019

Tribunal Adopts Practical Approach To Realities Of Collective Actions Funding