Biography

Praised by clients for his "calm and measured" approach, Christopher Hutton advises clients on all aspects of UK and EU competition law. He represents clients before antitrust authorities in the UK and across Europe, including specialist sectoral regulators.

Christopher has been involved in many leading cases in the UK and Europe. He advises clients on a broad range of contentious antitrust matters, and his contentious practice includes global cartel investigations, regulatory investigations, antitrust damages cases and judicial reviews. He has advised and assisted clients in numerous precedent setting cases before the UK courts, including cases involving the most innovative antitrust litigation strategies.

Another focus of Christopher’s practice is helping clients navigate market investigations, sector reviews and market power inquiries. The outcome of such investigations can have a profound impact on businesses. Christopher works closely with clients, including those subject to some of the largest market investigations, to engage with antitrust authorities and safeguard their commercial interests.

Christopher also advises on transactional matters, including mergers and joint venture arrangements. He advises clients on the impact of competition law on

Languages

English

Practices

Antitrust and Competition

Industries

Aerospace and Defense
Automotive and Mobility
Financial Institutions
Consumer

Areas of focus

Abuse of Dominance and Restrictive Practices
their commercial arrangements, and on the design and implementation of competition compliance programmes.

Bringing his legal knowledge and commercial understanding to clients' problems, together with his experience within the legal division of the Office of Fair Trading, Christopher helps clients find the best possible outcomes in the most difficult and challenging circumstances.

Representative experience

Advising a large European financial institution on a major global investigation being conducted by antitrust and regulatory agencies, and associated litigation.

Advising an American multinational manufacturer on its defence of cartel damages claims in the English High Court.

Advising clients in various EU Member states in relation to national competition investigations.

Acting for a major international bank in relation to various investigations relating to LIBOR, FOREX and other financial products.

Representing an industry association in relation to the Financial Conduct Authority's credit card market study.

Advising Stansted Airport in relation to the Civil Aviation Authority's market power assessment.

Representing Ernst & Young in relation to a market investigation into the supply of audit services to large companies.

Advising a number of international groups in relation to a 'follow-on' damages claim brought in the English High Court.

Representing a leading retailer in relation to the OFT's Tobacco investigations and subsequent appeals to the Competition Appeal Tribunal.

Representing a leading retailer in relation to the OFT's Dairy investigations, including judicial review and defamation actions against the OFT.
Acting for a leading UK bank in an intervention in the General Court in Luxembourg.

Awards and rankings

- Awards and rankings Competition Litigation, Recommended, Legal 500 UK, 2020
- Competition, Who’s Who Legal, 2019
- Acritas Star, Acritas Stars Independently Rated Lawyers, 2018-2020

Latest thinking and events

- News
  - UK National Security and Investment Act – second Annual Report published
- News
  - Ahead of the competition – the CMA takes initial steps to shape UK regulation of AI
- News
  - The UK’s New Digital Markets Regime – DMCC Bill Deep Dive Part 1
- News
  - Shots fired – AG Opinion supports enforcement of record EU ‘gun-jumping’ fine
- News
  - Power to the CMA – UK publishes flagship draft Digital Markets, Competition and Consumers Bill
- News
  - Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) – Global Legal Guide