



Aviation Litigation and Regulation

The aviation industry is constantly changing and novel issues regularly arise. The international nature of aviation means that when disputes arise, they tend to be cross-border. Varying business cultures, legal frameworks and business practices can make the resolution of disputes time-consuming and potentially very costly.

Our global network of offices gives us an unparalleled reach and our aviation practice is highly praised in the marketplace.

Our experienced team of lawyers has been closely involved with many of the significant issues the industry has faced in the last 20 years we continue to be at the forefront when advising our clients on the likely challenges ahead. We are on hand to provide cost-effective assistance aligned to the client's commercial objectives and protection of its business.

CAPABILITES

- Representing airlines, manufacturers and aviation service providers and their insurers and reinsurers in the defence of death and injury claims arising out of incidents and accidents which may occur anywhere in the world.
- Providing emergency assistance to airlines in the immediate aftermath of an accident, including the establishment of interim fundings and making of emergency payments.
- Advising on and representing clients and their insurers in inquests, criminal investigations and public enquiries arising out of serious incidents and major accidents.
- Conducting complex commercial litigation on behalf of airlines in the English Commercial Court and High Court, and worldwide, including obtaining and seeking to set aside emergency injunctions and orders.
- Pursuing contribution claims by way of subrogation or otherwise in order to recover losses incurred by an airline, manufacturer or aviation service provider.
- Employing mediation and other alternative forms of dispute resolution to solve disputes without the expense of litigation.
- Representing airlines in the defence of claims involving bodily injury, delay, loss, damage or delay to baggage, disabled passengers or those with reduced mobility pursuant to the Montreal Convention 1999 and Regulation 261/04 and Regulation 1107/06 including liaising with regulatory bodies on behalf of airlines.
- Providing guidance on the incorporation of specific dispute resolution, arbitration, choice of law and jurisdiction clauses in commercial agreements.

KEY CONTACTS

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EXPERIENCE

- Assisting a major helicopter manufacturer and its insurers in relation to the handling of legal liability issues arising out of the forced ditchings of two EC225 and one AS332 Super Puma helicopter in the North Sea in 2012/2013.
- Assisting a major helicopter manufacturer and its insurers and handling claims which may arise out of the accident to an EC 135 helicopter which crashed into the Clutha Bar in Glasgow on 29 November 2013.
- Representing reinsurers in the handling of claims in 11 jurisdictions arising out of the crash of an Aerocaribbean operated ATR72 aircraft in Cuba in November 2010.
- Advising insurers/reinsurers on coverage issues relating to a claim for loss of aircraft spares and equipment resulting from a hangar fire in Saudi Arabia.
- Representing a major UK airline in connection with large passenger class action in New York, including conducting witness interviews, collection of information under Data Protection rules and providing ancillary regulatory advice on pricing and fares.
- Representing a major UK airline in a claim against it by a disabled passenger for damages as a consequence of the airline failing to meet his seating request on a flight from the UK to Cyprus. The case involved the application of Regulation 1107/06 in the context of the Montreal Convention 1999 and was won by the airline both at first instance and on appeal.
- Defending a major Asian carrier in the Commercial Court in respect of a claim for breach of contract, including allegations of tortious inducement of breach of contract and conspiracy to injure by unlawful means, arising from the sale of redundant fleet aircraft.
- Defending a major UK carrier in the High Court in respect of a claim for breach of contract arising out of the cessation of flying operations by the carrier at a regional airport in November 2006.
- Representing the government of a sovereign state in High Court judicial review proceedings concerning sovereignty over the airspace above an area of the territory of that State currently under foreign control.
- Defending six high profile carriers in passenger claims for compensation for delay following the CJEU decision in Nelson -v- TUI (reaffirming the decision in Sturgeon/Bock) which purports to extend the obligations to compensate passengers in the event of delay by reference to Regulation (EC) 261/04.

INSIGHTS

Publications

Regulation 261/04 - developments and trends

18 DEC 2017

Summaries and quotes from development and trends in relevant case law regulation 261/04

NEWS

DLA Piper continues to boost CEE region capability with new hires in Poland

5 September 2019

DLA Piper today announces the appointment of eight new lawyers in its Warsaw office into three key practice areas of Corporate, Finance & Projects (F&P) and Litigation & Regulatory. These hires follow the recent appointment of corporate partners Marek Sawicki and Jakub Marcinkowski from CMS.

DLA Piper announces launch of Artificial Intelligence practice

14 MAY 2019

DLA Piper announced today the launch of its Artificial Intelligence practice, which will focus on assisting companies as they navigate the legal landscape of emerging and disruptive technologies, while helping them understand the legal and compliance risks arising from the creation and deployment of AI systems.

DLA Piper establishes Litigation Regulatory offering in Dublin with partner hire

18 APR 2019

DLA Piper today announces the appointment of Caoimhe Clarkin as a Litigation & Regulatory partner in the firm's Dublin office. This is the seventh partner hire for DLA Piper in Dublin this year.

DLA Piper announces partnership promotions for 2019

1 APR 2019

DLA Piper is proud to announce that 77 lawyers have been promoted to its partnership. The promotions are effective as of April 1, 2019 in the United States and May 1, 2019 for EMEA and Asia Pacific. The promotions were made across many of the firm's practice areas in 43 different offices throughout 20 countries.

DLA Piper announces launch of Blockchain and Digital Assets practice

26 FEB 2019

DLA Piper announced today the launch of its Blockchain and Digital Assets practice, which will offer strategic advice on a global basis to address the needs of companies implementing blockchain technology solutions and creating and deploying digital assets.

Kate Brown de Vejar joins DLA Piper as global co-chair of International Arbitration

22 JAN 2019

DLA Piper announced today that Kate Brown de Vejar has joined the firm's Litigation practice as a partner in Mexico City and New York.

DLA Piper and IKM Advocates secure victory for the Republic of Kenya defeating a US\$2 billion ICSID claim

24 OCT 2018

In a decisive victory for the Republic of Kenya, DLA Piper and DLA Piper Africa member firm, IKM Advocates, have successfully defeated the claim estimated to be worth US\$2 billion in arbitration proceedings brought by a mining investor, Cortec Mining Kenya Limited. The claim was brought under the bilateral investment treaty (BIT) between the UK and Kenya dated 13 September 1999. The arbitration took place under the auspices of the World Bank's International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID), with the hearing taking place in Dubai in January 2018. The Tribunal issued its award on 22 October 2018.

DLA Piper hosts inaugural Afghanistan-UK Business Conference

18 SEP 2018

DLA Piper's London office yesterday hosted the first Afghanistan-UK Business Conference, organised by the Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan in London and the International Chamber of Commerce in Afghanistan. The event, aimed at further enhancing Afghanistan-UK bilateral business, trade and investment relations, was attended by over 100 participants including public

and private sector leaders, potential investors, NGOs and consultants, amongst others.

DLA Piper's GTGA team named Sanctions Law Firm of the year 2018

27 JUL 2018

DLA Piper's Global Trade and Government Affairs (GTGA) team has been named Sanctions Law Firm of the year, Europe, at this year's WorldECR Awards.

DLA Piper hires financial services and insurance sector team in Belgium

2 JUL 2018

DLA Piper in Antwerp has today been joined by a team of financial services and insurance sector lawyers from Baker McKenzie.

DLA Piper secures victory for Transatel SA in landmark telecoms dispute

20 JUN 2018

DLA Piper has secured a victory for the French telecommunications service provider, Transatel SA, in a dispute under telecommunications law before the Federal Network Agency (BNetzA). In this landmark procedure, the BNetzA ordered the German mobile network operator, Telefónica Germany GmbH & Co. OHG, to submit a draft agreement regarding access to regulated wholesale roaming services to Transatel.

DLA Piper announces partnership promotions for 2018

3 APR 2018

DLA Piper is proud to announce that 62 lawyers have been promoted to its partnership. The promotions are effective as of 1 April 2018 in the United States and 1 May 2018 for EMEA and Asia Pacific. The promotions were made across many of the firm's practice areas in 42 different offices throughout 20 countries.

DLA Piper Africa advises Adenia Partners on acquisition of controlling stake in Kanu Equipment Limited

23 MAR 2018

Kanu has been driving an expansion strategy across Sub-Saharan Africa in recent years and the business now operates in 13 countries, servicing the agriculture, construction and mining industries.

DLA Piper advises Timor-Leste on historic maritime treaty

6 MAR 2018

DLA Piper has been advising the Government of Timor-Leste, for more than four years, on its historic maritime treaty with the Australian Government, signed today at the United Nations Headquarters in New York, following the successful outcome of a compulsory conciliation process.

Four DLA Piper partners recognised in Jeune Afrique's Top 50 Lawyers in Francophone Africa 2017

20 FEB 2018

DLA Piper is delighted to congratulate Litigation & Regulatory partners Michael Ostrove and Alexander Brabant, Finance & Projects partner Eric Villateau, and Corporate partner Christophe Bachelet, on their inclusion in *Jeune Afrique's* Top 50 Business Lawyers in Francophone Africa 2017 rankings. This year, more DLA Piper lawyers than ever before have been awarded a place on the rankings, with partners scoring individual record rankings for the firm.

Businesses still not fully aware of Data Protection issues

31 JAN 2018

DLA Piper has released its second Data Privacy Snapshot report, finding that once again, company global privacy programs have gaps in meeting increasingly demanding global privacy principles. Significantly, it appears that many companies are falling short of data protection obligations under the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), which will start to apply from 25 May 2018.

Stephen Matthews joins DLA Piper's Litigation practice in New Jersey

17 JAN 2018

DLA Piper announced today that Stephen Matthews has joined the firm's Litigation practice as a partner in the Short Hills, New Jersey, office.

Six months until GDPR: companies still reporting low levels of preparedness

15 Nov 2017

For the over 200 organisations responding to DLA Piper's Data Privacy Scorebox online survey tool since the start of the year, the average alignment score with all key international data privacy principles was 31.5%, as against an 38.3% average score for respondents in the 2016 calendar year.

DLA Piper advising FirstRand on £1.1 billion takeover of Aldermore Group PLC

7 NOV 2017

DLA Piper is acting for FirstRand, South Africa's largest financial services institution, who have put forward a £1.1 billion recommended offer for approval by the shareholders of Aldermore Group PLC, ("Aldermore") a British specialist lender and savings bank

Ilaria Curti listed in GIR's 40 under 40

6 OCT 2017

Ilaria Curti, Rome-based lawyer in DLA Piper's Litigation & Regulatory practice, is featured in Global Investigations Review's (GIR's) 40 under 40 2017.
