



Jack Sproson

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Jack Sproson operates a mixed domestic and international practice.

Domestically, he is developing a civil practice and is experienced in dealing with claims arising under the Equality Act and Human Rights Act, primarily in the context of individuals in the prison estate. He is also presently instructed by the Ministry of Defence to represent the interests of witnesses giving evidence to the Independent Inquiry relating to Afghanistan, which is examining allegations of unlawful killings by UK special forces soldiers in Afghanistan.

Jack is further enhancing his practice by developing a mixed practice across the full spectrum of Chambers' areas.

Internationally, Jack has a generalist practice encompassing public international law, international human rights law, international humanitarian law, and international criminal law. In this respect he has dealt with multiple issues arising in international courts and tribunals and UN Special Procedures. He has been instructed by and advised States and organisations on contemporaneous issues arising in numerous contexts, most heavily in respect of the conflicts in Syria and Ukraine. He has been involved in major multilateral diplomatic efforts in respect of chemical weapons use, and centrally involved in humanitarian advocacy at all levels (including at the United Nations) in respect of humanitarian assistance operations in conflict. Jack is also a Senior Legal Advisor at The Reckoning Project and has engaged in capacity building and transitional justice arrangements in both Afghanistan and The Gambia.

Jack is currently a Probationary Tenant at TGC.

Expertise

International Law

Jack has a varied practice in international law which encompasses public international law, international human rights law, international humanitarian law, and international criminal law.

- As part of his advisory practice, Jack has been instructed by States to advise in respect of the

Obligations of States in respect of Climate Change advisory proceedings before the International Court of Justice. Jack has a particular focus on humanitarian assistance in conflict, in the context of which he has advised States individually and in bilateral and multilateral advocacy. He has previously been invited to brief States and international organisations in closed settings on these matters and has submitted evidence to the International Development Committee's Inquiry on Humanitarian Access and Adherence to International Humanitarian Law.

- Jack is regularly instructed by NGOs to advise and advocate on issues of international law. During the incumbency of the Assad regime in Syria, he was instructed by several organisations in matters concerning cross-border humanitarian assistance; jurisdictional avenues to the International Criminal Court in respect of allegations of forced displacement to Jordan; and the possibilities for redress in respect of narcotics production and international trafficking to the region.
- In addition to his experience with NGOs in the Syrian conflict, Jack is also a Senior Legal Advisor to The Reckoning Project. In that context, he is regularly involved in submissions to international organisations, both within and outside of the UN concerning alleged Russian crimes and human rights violations committed during its invasion of Ukraine. He was also part of the team filing the first universal jurisdiction complaint in Argentina concerning alleged practices of torture against a Ukrainian complainant.
- Over the course of three years, Jack has played a leading role in supporting diplomatic and multilateral governmental process to explore avenues for international criminal accountability for the use of chemical weapons. This has included numerous States from around the globe, culminating in the formation of the State-led Working Group to Advance Proposals for International Criminal Accountability for Chemical Weapons.

Jack has supported several filings to the International Criminal Court. This has included a number of Article 15 communications and an *amicus* brief concerning the UK's request to provide written amicus submissions on the Court's exercise of jurisdiction over Israeli

- nationals in the context of the Oslo Accords. Jack also has experience in other criminal tribunals and has previously represented an individual at interview before the Kosovo Specialist Chambers, led by Mr. Ian Whitehurst (Exchange Chambers).
- Jack has experience in matters concerning the application of international legal principles in domestic jurisdictions. This has recently included assisting instructed counsel in their development of expert evidence in a sensitive matter concerning purported claims to diplomatic immunity made by an individual otherwise facing serious criminal charges.

Prior to joining the bar, Jack was involved in numerous projects in transitional justice settings. This included capacity building projects for both Gambian judges and prosecutors to assist in proceedings concerning Jammeh-era atrocities and a project to train Afghani legal practitioners in the investigation of international crimes.

Business & Human Rights

Jack has experience in the field of business and human rights both academically and in practice. He has previously assisted in developing practical advice on due diligence processes for major transnational corporations. He has also worked as part of teams to detail steps for corporations to avoid corporate complicity in international crimes, both in specific conflicts, such as in Ukraine, and more generally. Academically, Jack's LLM thesis focussed on the possibility of the application of international human rights duties to transnational corporations and the desirability and practicality of legal reforms which might assist

in this regard.

Civil Liberties & Human Rights

Since completing pupillage, Jack has been developing a civil practice largely focussed on civil liberties and human rights in the context of individuals in the prison estate. This has included claims relating to unlawful recall and false imprisonment, and numerous claims arising under the Equality Act and the Human Rights Act.

Inquests & Inquiries

In addition to a civil practice, Jack is developing a practice in public inquiries. He is presently instructed by the Ministry of Defence to represent the interests of witnesses giving evidence to the Independent Inquiry relating to Afghanistan, which is examining allegations of unlawful killings by UK special forces soldiers in Afghanistan.

Awards

- Goldie Scholar – The Honourable Society of Gray's Inn
- BTC Excellence Scholarship – BPP University
- Career Commitment Scholarship – BPP University

Education

- DPhil in Law (part time, ongoing) – The University of Oxford
- LLM (Public International Law) – Leiden University (*cum laude*)
- LLB – Durham University (First Class (Hons))

Publications

- Jack Sproson, Tsvetelina van Benthem, '[International Development Committee Inquiry: Humanitarian Access and Adherence to International Humanitarian Law: Written Evidence Submitted by Jack Sproson and Tsvetelina van Benthem](#)' (January 2025).
- Jack Sproson, '[The New Cross-Border Predicament in Syria](#)' (TIMEP, October 2023).
- Jack Sproson, Tsvetelina van Benthem, '[Three Legal Questions Arising From Reported Practices of Enforced Disappearance in Russian-Occupied Ukrainian Territories](#)' (EJIL: Talk!, September 2023).
- Jack Sproson, Ibrahim Olabi, '[With No Judge or Jury, Who Will Decide the Fate of 4.1 million Aid-Dependent Syrians? A Comment on the Legality of UN-Coordinated Cross-Border Aid Operations in Syria](#)' (EJIL: Talk!, January 2023).
- Toby Cadman, Jack Sproson, '[The Human Rights Act 1998 – Procedure and Domestic Remedies in Law](#)' in *Human Rights in Criminal Law* (Bloomsbury Professional, 2023).



- Toby Cadman, Carl Buckley, and Jack Sproson, '[The International Crimes Tribunal, Bangladesh; Courting Controversy](#)' in *The Jamaat Question in Bangladesh* (Routledge, 2023).
- Jack Sproson, Ibrahim Olabi, '[2014 Is Not 2022: Why The Continuation of UN-Coordinated Cross-Border Aid Into Syria Absent a UN Security Council Resolution Is Lawful](#)' (ARCS, November 2022).
- Jack Sproson and Carolyn Edgerton, '[Addressing post-TRRC Cases Presents The Gambia with Hard Questions in its Transitional Justice Journey](#)' (Guernica 37, 2021).