

Omar Soliman

YEAR OF CALL: 2012

Overview

Omar has developed a practice across a spectrum of chambers' practice areas, with a particular focus in domestic and international crime, international human rights, and regulatory law.

Omar has a busy domestic criminal practice representing clients accused of a wide range of criminal offences and appears regularly in the Youth, Magistrates' and Crown Court.

As part of his international practice, Omar has been instructed in proceedings before the Kosovo Specialist Chambers (KSC) and the International Criminal Court (ICC).

Omar is developing a regulatory law practice and has appeared on behalf of the Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC), Social Work England (SWE) and the Health Care Professionals Council (HCPC) in disciplinary proceedings.

Direct Public Access

Omar accepts instructions under the direct access scheme, allowing members of the public to instruct him directly to advise them on or represent them in suitable cases.

Professional Memberships

The Honourable Society of Inner Temple
Criminal Bar Association

Human Rights Lawyers Association (HRLA)

Association of Young International Criminal Lawyers (AYICL)

Arab Lawyers Forum

Extradition & International

Omar has a busy international practice and has been instructed in the following matters:

Instructed as Legal Consultant on the defence team of Mr. Isni Kilaj in the case of *The Specialist Prosecutor v. Hashim Thaçi, Bashkim Smakaj, Isni Kilaj, Fadil Fazliu and Hajredin Kuçi* before the Kosovo Specialist Chambers (KSC). The team is led by Iain Edwards and Co-Counsel, Joe Holmes. According to the public indictment, Mr. Hashim Thaçi (the former President of Kosovo) is alleged to have provided the Co-Accused Smakaj, Kilaj, Fazliu and Kuçi with confidential information about prosecution witnesses, and is alleged to have instructed them to influence the testimonies of prosecution witnesses in the ongoing war crimes trial. Mr. Kilaj is charged with Attempted Obstruction and Contempt of Court.

Instructed as a Legal Associate on the Haradinaj defence team in the case of *The Prosecutor v. Hysni Gucati and Nasim Haradinaj* before the Kosovo Specialist Chambers (KSC) In January 2022, Omar was admitted to the List of Specialist Counsel before the KSC as Co-Counsel.

Instructed as Legal Adviser (with a focus on defence investigations) on the Abd-al-Rahman defence team in the case of *The Prosecutor v. Ali Muhammad Ali Abd-al-Rahman* (“*Ali Kushayb*”) before the International Criminal Court. Mr Abd-al-Rahman is alleged to be a commander of the Arab militia in Darfur, Sudan commonly known as the Janjaweed. He is charged with 31 counts of murder, rape, forcible transfer, persecution and torture as crimes against humanity and war crimes, arising out of the conflict in West Darfur between August 2003 and April 2004.

Part of the team that assisted the Dutch government in holding Syria accountable for breaching its international obligations, particularly under the Convention Against Torture (CAT). This involved the collection of evidence and ensuring the necessary input from Syrian victims.

With Toby Cadman, and the South Asia Justice Campaign, Omar co-authored two reports exploring human rights concerns in India. The first, *“Preventive Detention under the Indian National Security Act (1980) and its Compatibility with International Human Rights Law,”* is the first detailed analysis of the NSA and suggests that the relevant provisions in the NSA and the Indian Constitution violate international human rights. The second, *“Perception of Judicial Independence and Impartiality at the Indian Supreme Court,”* is an analysis of emblematic cases and conduct of judges showing that several factors contribute to the appearance of bias and selective justice, undermining the protection of minorities.

Omar’s experience in international human rights includes drafting numerous complaints to United Nations Special Procedures, including the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention and various Special Rapporteurs.

In May 2022, Omar delivered training on *“Accountability Mechanisms for Crimes Committed in Syria,”* to a group of Syrian lawyers from Lawyers & Doctors for Human Rights (LDHR) in Turkey.

Criminal Defence & Criminal Prosecutions - Private & Public

Omar regularly appears in the Youth, Magistrates’ and Crown Court. He regularly advises individuals on appeal against conviction and sentence.

Recent Cases include:

R v. MG – Snaresbrook Crown Court [2025] – Appeal on sentence allowed for 3 x Assault by Beating of an Emergency Worker, 3 x Racially Aggravated s.4A Public Order Act and 2 x simple s.4A Public Order Act. Sentence overturned from 1 years’ custody to 40-week Suspended Sentence Order (SSO) – with an Alcohol Treatment Requirement (ATR), unpaid work and compensation payments.

R v. ANS – St Albans Crown Court [2025] – represented defendant with learning difficulties,

indicted on two counts of sexual assault.

R v. JA – St Albans Crown Court [2025] – instructed to represent at sentencing, defendant indicted on two counts of strangulation, ABH, assault by beating, breach of a Restraining Order and a breach of a SSO.

R v WDS – Court of Appeal (Criminal Division) [2024] where appeal on sentence allowed. Direction made for 25% credit to be awarded based on when the appellant's guilty plea was entered (at the adjourned PTPH). Matter corrected on appeal, sentences quashed for two counts (Conspiracy to Produce and Supply a Controlled Drug of Class B). The appellant was entitled to a reduction to his 6-year sentence (72 months) – as such his sentence was reduced to 4 years 6 months (54 months), to run concurrently.

R v MD – Woolwich Crown Court [2024] – instructed to represent defendant indicted on two counts of assault of an emergency worker.

R v. CB – Chelmsford Crown Court [2024] – currently instructed to represent defendant indicted as part of a four-handed affray.

R v. PC & TK – Snaresbrook Crown Court [2024] – currently instructed to represent defendant indicted for conspiracy to cultivate Class B drug (Cannabis).

R v. JC – Inner London Crown Court [2024] – instructed to represent defendant indicted for racially aggravated intentional harassment.

R v. AS – Maidstone Crown Court [2024] – instructed to represent defendant indicted on two counts of theft and fraud.

R v. KAM – Guilford Crown Court [2024] – currently instructed to represent defendant indicted for possessing documents with intent to deceive.

R v. MG – Guilford Crown Court [2024] – instructed to represent defendant appealing conviction for harassment.

R v ARM – Croydon Crown Court [2023] – three convictions (Failure to Provide Specimen, Driving Without Due Care and Failure to Stop) quashed following appeal, preserving the defendant's good character.

Professional Discipline & Regulatory

Omar has a busy regulatory law practice, acting on behalf of regulators in professional discipline matters.

Omar is an experienced case presenter for the NMC (Nursing and Midwifery Council). Omar acts for the NMC regularly in fitness to practice proceedings and registration appeals. Omar is skilled when dealing with highly sensitive subject matter and can handle complex substantive hearings with ease. Having a multidisciplinary practice including criminal work, Omar can effectively cross examine witnesses, having performed forensic case analysis.

Recent cases include:

NMC v. BA [2025] – acting for the NMC in substantive hearing. Obtained a result of 9 charges found proved out of a possible 10. Given the seriousness of this matter, a strike off was sought and obtained.

NMC v. CME [2024] – acting for the NMC in substantive hearing. Obtained a result of 12 charges found proved out of a possible 14. Given the seriousness of this matter, a strike off was sought and obtained.

NMC v. JKM [2024] – acting for the NMC in complex multi-week substantive hearing. Obtained a result of 8 charges found proved out of a possible 9. A Suspension Order was sought and obtained.