

WOJCIECH NICHOLAS ANDREW ZALEWSKI

Is a Polish-born (English) Barrister-at-Law (*One of Her Majesty's Counsel*), a qualified English Solicitor of the Supreme Court and a Public Notary. Before being Called to the Bar at the Honourable Society of Gray's Inn in 2004 (and eating no less than 12 qualifying dinners) he read Russian language and literature at the School of Slavonic Studies ('home' of Norman Davies, Minister Jacek Rostowski, and Professor Butterwick-Pawlakowski). He spent some time at the Kazan University which was once frequented by Nikolay Tolstoy and Lenin. He also travelled in the then Soviet Central Asia (Tashkent, Bukhara and Khiva), Belarus, Western Ukraine (Lvov) and the Baltic States before the Moscow Coup in 1991. He also holds a Masters' degree in (Medical) Ethics from the Imperial College and a Diploma in Law from Cambridge University.

He has had a varied legal career having first qualified with a top-tier City international law firm Reed Smith (Richards Butler) where he *inter alia* worked on the Polish accession to the EU formulating proposals to update the Polish Commercial Code and setting up of the British-Polish Chamber of Commerce under the patronage of the former Polish Premier Jan Krzysztof Bielecki. Whilst on secondment to the Warsaw office in Nowy Swiat he played a pivotal role in the issue of the Global Depository Receipts for KGHM Polska Miedz (London and New York) as part of the then very new state sector privatisation programme. At the Bar, his practice has embraced English Common Law (Crime: prosecution *and* defence as well as appointed Legal Privilege Review Counsel for the Serious Fraud Office), cross-border Family, Property, as well as Tax and Immigration Tribunal work and Extradition where he has had a number of officially reported cases. In the 2013/14 Parliamentary session, he was invited to give evidence to the UK Parliamentary Select Committee on the subject of the Lisbon Treaty 'Opt-in' regarding the EU criminal justice and cooperation measures. He has also been collaborating on cases with Manjit Gill QC (Queen's Counsel) who presented the 'Polish/ EU citizen' acquired rights' interested party arguments in the recent Lisbon Art 50 UK Supreme Court case of *Miller* [2017] UKSC 5.

Wojtek has had a keen interest in the British politics since the 1980's (briefly joining the Conservative Party as a student in 1988 post the 'Bruges Speech' and later the Conservative Lawyers' Association culminating in visits to No 10 and No 11 Downing Street under the Osborne-Cameron regime leading up to the EU referendum) and has recently been privileged to lecture on the English constitutional aspects of 'Brexit' at the Law Faculty of the Jagiellonian University in Cracov.