

Chris Melville

Associated Partner

Ulaanbaatar

Biography

Chris Melville has been advising on emerging markets for over 15 years, first working in the Russian Federation in the late 1990s and now based in Ulaanbaatar where he is Office Managing Partner. He is an experienced adviser of international clients, foreign and domestic SOEs, and local companies on a wide range of mining and infrastructure projects, corporate, finance, M&A, and commercial matters.

Chris has an intimate knowledge of the local market and the typical issues that arise when investing in jurisdictions such as Mongolia, enabling him to provide strategic commercial advice and to develop appropriate solutions to difficult legal issues. Recently, he has worked a diverse range of matters from advising on all aspects of the development of a 315MW hydropower plant and related US\$1 billion financing, acting as counsel for the preferred bidder on a proposed 450MW coal-fired IPP, and advising on a farm-out of interests in conventional petroleum blocks to an international oil major. The breadth of Chris' knowledge and that of the Mongolian team he works with is well-placed to navigate the many political, economic, and other risk factors that keep clients awake at night when investing into emerging jurisdictions.

Starting his career with a focus on the energy and



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Languages

English
Russian

Practices

Business Restructuring and
Insolvency

Commercial

Corporate Governance

Banking and Loan Finance

Infrastructure, Energy, Resources,
and Projects

Joint Ventures

Mergers and Acquisitions

natural resources sector, Chris then spent several years in Moscow advising on transactions and litigation in metals and mining, before returning to London to advise Russian clients on international M&A and financing transactions. He moved to Mongolia in 2012.

Representative experience

Advising the Government of Mongolia on all aspects of the proposed 315 MW reservoir-based hydroelectric power plant project on Eg river.

Advising a Multilateral Development Bank in relation to a U.S.\$40m loan to a major Mongolian bank.

Advising a Mongolian Financial and Industrial Group as local sponsor in relation to a US\$1.2bn greenfield combined heat and power project in Ulaanbaatar.

Advising a major international mining OEM on the disposal of its Mongolian assets to one of its international dealers.

Advising a Multilateral Development Bank on the provision of a U.S.\$60m secured loan to a major Mongolian financial and industrial group.

Advising a Multilateral Development Bank on the provision of a U.S.\$57m secured loan to a major Mongolian food and beverage manufacturer.

Awards and rankings

- General Business Law, *Chambers Asia Pacific*, 2017-2018
- General Business, *Chambers*, 2015
- Commercial, *Legal 500*, 2015
- Leading Lawyer, *IFLR1000*, 2015

Latest thinking and events

- Hogan Lovells Publications
 - Mongolia Amends its Labour Law

Industries

Energy and Natural Resources

Financial Institutions

Real Estate

Technology & Telecoms

Areas of focus

Infrastructure/Energy M&A and Joint Ventures

PPPs (including P3 and PFI) and Government Contracts

Project Finance, DFI and ECA Finance

Carve-outs, Spin-offs, and Split-offs

Cross-border Mergers and Acquisitions

Special Committee and Independent Director Representations

Hogan Lovells China Desk

International Programs

Education and admissions

Education

Law Degree, The College of Law, Guildford, 1995

B.A., University of Cambridge, 1993

- Hogan Lovells Publications
 - Adoption of the Revised Law on Arbitration
- Hogan Lovells Publications
 - Legislative Update: Mongolia Revises its Law on the State Registration of Legal Entities *Client Alerts Ulaanbaatar*
- Hogan Lovells Publications
 - Legislative Update: Last Day of the Mongolian Parliament's Autumn Session *Mongolia alerts*
- Hogan Lovells Publications
 - Legislative Agenda for the Autumn Session of the Mongolian Parliament
- Hogan Lovells Publications
 - Mongolia's 100 day plan: Legal developments

Memberships

Member Law Society of England and Wales

Bar admissions and qualifications

Solicitor, England and Wales

Accolades

"Christopher Melville is an expert whose wide-ranging knowledge of Mongolian laws is critical to the success of [clients'] various operations in the country."

Chambers Asia 2014-15

"Level-headed and strategic".

Legal 500, 2016
