Derivatives

Derivatives advice for complex trading, hedging, collateral and regulatory challenges

Our derivatives lawyers advise sell-side and buy-side clients on transactions, documentation, regulation, disputes and lifecycle events across all major asset classes. Our sell-side and buy-side lawyers work together as one integrated practice, combining experience from both sides of the market.

With an integrated international network and strong relationships with local advisers, we support clients on complex cross-border derivatives matters worldwide.

Helping clients manage trading, hedging and derivatives risk

We work with global banks, broker-dealers, hedge funds, institutional investors, asset managers, sovereign wealth funds, corporates and asset owners. Our established buy-side and sell-side practice gives us deep experience on both sides of the market, helping us understand different commercial priorities and transaction perspectives.

"Law Firm of the Year 2026" - Risk Awards 2026

Our derivatives expertise

We provide comprehensive support across all derivatives asset classes and transaction types, including:

- Interest rate, FX, inflation, equity, credit, commodity and energy derivatives
- Securitisation, facility-linked and deal-contingent hedging
- Prime brokerage, including synthetic and FX prime brokerage
- Total return swaps, market access and funded or unfunded equity swaps
- Quantitative investment strategies and structured repos
- Central clearing for OTC and exchange-traded derivatives
- Credit support, security, collateralisation and UMR-compliant documentation
- Defaults, close-out, disputes and lifecycle events
- ESG-linked derivatives and transactions, including the Liquidity and Sustainability Facility (LSF)

Supporting the full derivatives lifecycle

We advise throughout the derivatives lifecycle, from negotiation and collateral arrangements through to amendments, defaults and early termination or close-out. When market conditions or counterparty issues create challenges, we help clients assess their position and take practical next steps.

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Joining up transactional, regulatory and contentious advice

Our regulatory advice covers EMIR, MiFID and MiFIR, BMR, CSDR, FSMA, SFDR, AIFMD and UCITS. We also advise on documentation and implementation issues arising from central clearing, margin and collateral requirements, including UMR compliance, working with disputes specialists where matters become contentious.

Combining specialist advice with efficient delivery

Our partner-led team combines specialist advice with technology and AI-enabled delivery, including for large-scale documentation and repapering projects. This helps deliver efficient, consistent and risk-managed outcomes while keeping specialist lawyers involved where their judgement is required.

> *"Simmons & Simmons has deep legal knowledge, takes an innovative approach, and delivers solutions based on deep business insight"* - Chambers 2026

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