Economic torts seek to protect a person in relation to his trade, business, or livelihood. However, he will only be protected from certain kinds of interference, principally those inflicted intentionally or deliberately. Nor will an intention to harm suffice, on its own, to ground liability. There are three broad sub-categories of liability: those torts based on the defendant’s wrongful interference with the claimant’s pre-existing legal rights (inducing breach of contract and inducing breach of statutory duty, in particular); the tort of interference with trade or business by unlawful means; and the tort of conspiracy. This chapter considers each of these in turn followed by an outline of the statutory immunities in relation to trade disputes.
15. The Economic Torts

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