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# Isabelle Agerbak



Year of call: **2024**
Degree: **BA Politics, Philosophy and Economics (Oxon, First Class), GDL (University of Law, Outstanding), BVS (City, Distinction)**
Languages: **Arabic (working knowledge)**

Isabelle accepts instructions in all areas of Chambers' practice, including civil liberties and human rights, public and regulatory law, commercial disputes, civil fraud and international law.

Recent highlights include:

- R (RKC1 & Others) v Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs: acting for the claimants, six children living in Gaza seeking to join their faither in the UK.
- R ([a family]) v Secretary of State for Defence: acting for the claimants, the surviving family of a member of the Afghan forces who was killed by the Taliban, challenging the Secretary of State's refusal to assist them under the Afghan Relocations and Assistance Policy.
- Public Institution for Social Security v Al Rajaan & Others: a complex civil fraud claim for US$1 billion, brought by the Kuwaiti Public Institution for Social Security against its former Director General and other defendants (as a pupil).
- Kovaević v Bosnia and Herzegovina: a case before the Grand Chamber of the European Court of Human Rights, concerning constitutional arrangements in Bosnia and Herzegovina (as a pupil).
- Eurasian Natural Resources Corporation Limited v Director of the Serious Fraud Office: a claim concerning alleged leaks of confidential information during the course of the SFO's investigation into ENRC (as a pupil).

Prior to starting pupillage, Isabelle worked in policy and public affairs, first at the Equality and Human Rights Commission, and then at Public Law Project, where Isabelle led the organisation's parliamentary advocacy, working on issues such as legal aid, refugee and migrant rights, and social security. Isabelle also spent time in Lebanon, where she was an intern in the office of the UN Special Coordinator for Lebanon.

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# EXPERIENCE

## Civil Liberties & Human Rights

Isabelle accepts instructions in all areas of civil liberties & human rights law.

### Cases

**Kovaević v Bosnia and Herzegovina**
App no. 436151/22 ECtHR

Case concerning constitutional arrangements in Bosnia and Herzegovina, in which the Applicant alleged violations of Article 14 (read with Article 3 of Protocol 1) and Article 1 of Protocol 12 of the ECHR. Assisting George Molyneaux, acting for the High Representative for Bosnia and Herzegovina.

**[Individual] v Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office and others**

Claim concerning steps taken by the UK Government which were alleged to have caused the claimant's abduction, imprisonment and assault abroad. Assisting George Molyneaux, acting for the Claimant.

**Smith v FA**
(pending, Administrative Court)

Judicial review proceedings concerning the Rainbow Laces Campaign. Assisting Ravi Mehta.

## Public & Regulatory

Isabelle accepts instructions in all areas of public law.

### Cases

**[Journalist] v ICO, Cabinet Office**

Proceedings in the Information Tribunal concerning the refusal of a request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, relating to an appointment to the House of Lords. Assisting Fraser Campbell KC for the Cabinet Office.

**R (on the application of De Silva) v Secretary of State for Justice**
[2025] EWHC 128 (Admin)

Judicial review concerning the claimant prisoner's detention conditions. Assisting Celia Rooney, acting for the Secretary of State.

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### R (on the application of Britannia) v HMRC

Judicial review of a decision concerning treatment of a major international shipping insurer for the purposes of VAT. Assisting Ravi Mehta for the Claimants.

### Advice to major environmental NGO concerning renewable energy

Advice on a potential challenge to the decision of a public body in relation to renewable energy. Assisting Ravi Mehta.

### Advice to environmental regulator

Advice to a public body concerning statutory environmental targets. Assisting Ravi Mehta.

### Smith v FA

(pending, Administrative Court)

Judicial review proceedings concerning the Rainbow Laces Campaign. Assisting Ravi Mehta.

### Telecoms and cybersecurity advice

Advising a telecommunications operator as to cybersecurity regulations. Assisting Ravi Mehta.

## Discrimination

Isabelle accepts instructions in all areas of discrimination law.

### Cases

### [Individuals] v [Housing Association]

Claim under the Equality Act 2010 concerning disability discrimination. Assisting George Molyneaux, acting for the Claimants.

## Data Protection, Freedom of Information & Privacy

Isabelle accepts instructions in all areas of data protection, freedom of information & privacy law

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## Cases

### [Journalist] v ICO, Cabinet Office

Proceedings in the Information Tribunal concerning the refusal of a request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, relating to an appointment to the House of Lords. Assisting Fraser Campbell KC for the Cabinet Office.

# Private International Law

Isabelle accepts instructions in all areas of private international law.

## Cases

### Al-Aggad v Al-Aggad & Others

Claim for breach of contract and unlawful means conspiracy in relation to inherited shares in a Saudi company. Assisting Shane Sibbel for the Claimant.

### PCA arbitration under bilateral investment treaty

Investor-state dispute concerning the enforcement of an award of the International Chamber of Commerce in excess of US$1.3bn, in the context of a significant telecoms/aerospace infrastructure project. The claims raised complex conflicts of laws, insolvency, and jurisdiction issues. Assisting Shane Sibbel, acting for the administrator appointed to the Claimants.

### Kovaević v Bosnia and Herzegovina

App no. 436151/22 ECtHR

Case concerning constitutional arrangements in Bosnia and Herzegovina, in which the Applicant alleged violations of Article 14 (read with Article 3 of Protocol 1) and Article 1 of Protocol 12 of the ECHR. Assisting George Molyneaux, acting for the High Representative for Bosnia and Herzegovina.

### [Individual] v Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office and others

Claim concerning steps taken by the UK Government which were alleged to have caused the claimant's abduction, imprisonment and assault abroad. Assisting George Molyneaux, acting for the Claimant.

### Public Institution for Social Security v Al Rajaan & Others

A complex civil fraud claim for US$1 billion, brought by the Kuwaiti Public Institution for Social Security against its former Director General and other defendants. Assisting Harry Adamson, for the First and Second Defendants.

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## Arbitration

Isabelle accepts instructions in all areas of arbitration.

### Cases

#### Arbitration: contractual issue

Dispute concerning the management of a large institutional fund invested in social housing in Ireland, where claims were made of breach of contract, conspiracy, causing loss by unlawful means, and negligence. Assisting Shane Sibbel acting for the Respondents.

#### PCA arbitration under bilateral investment treaty

Investor-state dispute concerning the enforcement of an award of the International Chamber of Commerce in excess of US$1.3bn, in the context of a significant telecoms/aerospace infrastructure project. The claims raised complex conflicts of laws, insolvency, and jurisdiction issues. Assisting Shane Sibbel, acting for the administrator appointed to the Claimants.

## Media & Entertainment

Isabelle accepts instructions in all areas of media & entertainment law.

### Cases

#### Estate of [artist] v A and others

Claim brought by the estate of a well-known recording artist against her record label, concerning sums withheld or deducted from royalty payments. Assisting Shane Sibbel for the Claimant.

## Commercial

Isabelle accepts instructions in all areas of commercial law.

### Cases

#### Al-Aggad v Al-Aggad & Others

Claim for breach of contract and unlawful means conspiracy in relation to inherited shares in a Saudi company. Assisting Shane Sibbel for the Claimant.

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### Dinwoodie v Fisher

An application to set aside a stay imposed without a hearing, following the Claimant's successful claim for breach of joint venture fiduciary duties. Assisting Shane Sibbel for the Claimant.

### Estate of [artist] v A and others

Claim brought by the estate of a well-known recording artist against her record label, concerning sums withheld or deducted from royalty payments. Assisting Shane Sibbel for the Claimant.

### PCA arbitration under bilateral investment treaty

Investor-state dispute concerning the enforcement of an award of the International Chamber of Commerce in excess of US$1.3bn, in the context of a significant telecoms/aerospace infrastructure project. The claims raised complex conflicts of laws, insolvency, and jurisdiction issues. Assisting Shane Sibbel, acting for the administrator appointed to the Claimants.

### Griffiths v Griffiths

Unfair prejudice petitions relating to two companies within a family business, complaining of the diversion of profits and assets and wrongful exclusion from information. Assisting Fraser Campbell KC for the Petitioner.

### [Advisor] v [Investor]

Claim for breach of contract and quantum meruit in relation to advisory services provided to a private equity consortium acquiring a major financial services firm. Assisting Fraser Campbell KC for the Claimant.

### AXA v Santander

Proceedings relating to the mis-selling of PPI in the 1990s and 2000s. Assisting Fraser Campbell KC for AXA, on consequential matters following judgment.

### Eurasian Natural Resources Corporation Limited v Director of the Serious Fraud Office

Claim concerning alleged leaks of confidential information during the course of the SFO's investigation into ENRC. Assisting George Molyneaux and Celia Rooney, acting for the SFO, defending claims of breach of confidence, misfeasance in public office and unlawful means conspiracy.

### Public Institution for Social Security v Al Rajaan & Others

A complex civil fraud claim for US$1 billion, brought by the Kuwaiti Public Institution for Social Security against its former Director General and other defendants. Assisting Harry Adamson, for the First and Second Defendants.

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### Contractual dispute advice

Advising a major European cycling team on an issue of contractual construction and choice of laws in the context of a sponsorship dispute. Assisting Celia Rooney.

### Alcatel Lucent SAS v Amazon Digital UK Ltd

[2025] EWCA Civ 43

Proceedings concerning infringement of a portfolio of standard-essential patents. Assisting Ravi Mehta for Amazon.

## Sport

Isabelle accepts instructions in all areas of sports law.

### Cases

### Contractual dispute advice

Advising a major European cycling team on an issue of contractual construction and choice of laws in the context of a sponsorship dispute. Assisting Celia Rooney.

### Smith v FA

(pending, Administrative Court)

Judicial review proceedings concerning the Rainbow Laces Campaign. Assisting Ravi Mehta.

## Environment

Isabelle accepts instructions in all areas of environmental law.

### Cases

### Advice to major environmental NGO concerning renewable energy

Advice on a potential challenge to the decision of a public body in relation to renewable energy. Assisting Ravi Mehta.

### Advice to environmental regulator

Advice to a public body concerning statutory environmental targets. Assisting Ravi Mehta.

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## Competition

Isabelle accepts instructions in all areas of competition law.

### Cases

**Alcatel Lucent SAS v Amazon Digital UK Ltd**
[2025] EWCA Civ 43

Proceedings concerning infringement of a portfolio of standard-essential patents.
Assisting Ravi Mehta for Amazon.

# ACHIEVEMENTS

### Awards and Scholarships

- Sir John and Lady Sophie Laws Scholarship, Bar European Group (2025)
- Bedingfield Scholarship, Gray's Inn (2022)
- BVS Scholarship, City University (2022)
- Dean's Award, University of Law (2022)
- Ann Ebsworth Scholarship, Gray's Inn (2020)
- Academic Prize, Worcester College (2019)

VAT registration number: 000

Barristers regulated by the Bar Standards Board