

Josephine Gillingwater

Call: 2024

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Josephine Gillingwater practices across Chambers' practice areas including public law and human rights, public international law, commercial law, employment and discrimination law, data and information law, procurement, and sports law.

Josephine was the Judicial Assistant to Lord Lloyd-Jones in the Supreme Court and the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council from 2025 to 2026.

As a Judicial Assistant, Josephine has worked on a number of the leading cases of the past year, including *The Kingdom of Bahrain v Shehabi* [2026] UKSC 25, concerning the territorial scope of the personal injury exception to state immunity, and *Infrastructure Services Luxembourg S.A.R.L. v The Kingdom of Spain* [2026] UKSC 9 concerning whether foreign states can rely on state immunity to resist the registration of ICSID awards.

Before coming to the Bar, Josephine worked in international arbitration at Freshfields, WilmerHale, and the London Court of International Arbitration (LCIA). She also worked at the International Law Commission of the United Nations. She has volunteered with several pro bono organisations including the Free Representation Unit (FRU), Advocate, the Environmental Law Foundation, and Support Through Court.

Expertise

Employment

Josephine practices across statutory and commercial employment matters. Her recent experience in this area includes:

- A preliminary hearing to determine whether the employment tribunal has international and territorial jurisdiction in a cross-border unfair dismissal and disability discrimination claim (as a pupil, assisting Andrew Smith).
- A claim for belief discrimination arising from the dismissal of an employee for the expression of anti-Zionist beliefs on social media (as a pupil, assisting Katherine Eddy).
- A preliminary hearing to determine whether the claimant has employment status to bring an unfair dismissal claim under the Employment Rights Act 1996 (as a pupil, assisting Judy Stone KC).

Achievements

Education

LLB (First Class Honours), University of Birmingham, 2017 – 2021

Visiting Student in the Faculty of Law, McGill University, 2019 – 2020

LLM in International Law (Summa Cum Laude), Geneva Graduate Institute, 2021 – 2022

PGDip in Bar Practice, Inns of Court College of Advocacy, 2023 – 2024

Awards

Lord Denning Scholarship, Lincoln's Inn

Sir John and Lady Sophie Laws Scholarship, Bar European Group

Pegasus Scholarship, Inner Temple