

# Rita Dias

Call: 2023

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Rita practises in all of Chambers' core areas of practice including commercial, employment, public & human rights, public international law, information, technology & media, and sport.

She has worked on high-profile cases, with recent highlights including:

- Major High Court team move litigation.
- A significant decision of the High Court relating to a £90 million 'safety valve agreement' entered into between the Department of Education and a local authority.
- A challenge by a high net worth individual to a decision to transfer information concerning his personal finances to the Spanish tax authorities under international tax transparency legislation.

Prior to coming to the Bar, Rita graduated with a first-class degree in Law from the University of Cambridge, and a Distinction on the BCL from the University of Oxford. She was awarded the Eldon Law Scholarship in 2023.

Rita is a fluent Portuguese speaker. She particularly enjoys, and has experience with, using her language skills to assist in disputes with a lusophone angle.



# Expertise

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## Public Law and Human Rights

Rita accepts instructions in all areas of public law and human rights, including judicial review proceedings and claims under the Human Rights Act 1998.

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### R (AB & ors) v Bristol City Council

[2025] EWHC 893 (ADMIN)

A challenge to a £90 million 'safety valve agreement' between the Department of Education and a local authority (led by James Goudie KC and Oliver Jackson).

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**Acting unled for a University in relation to judicial review proceedings brought by a student.**

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### Churchill v Merthyr Tydfil Borough Council

[2023] EWCA CIV 1416

A landmark decision of the Court of Appeal, concerning Article 6 ECHR, confirming that the Court has the power to order parties to engage in alternative dispute resolution in appropriate circumstances (as a pupil, assisting Amy Rogers KC).

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### Judicial review proceedings concerning s. 39 FSMA

A judicial review claim concerning the jurisdiction of the Financial Ombudsman and the scope of responsibility of principals under s.39 FSMA for acts/omissions of appointed representatives (as a pupil, assisting Stephen Kosmin).

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### R (Kadas) v HMRC

Acting for HMRC defending a challenge by a high net worth individual to a decision to transfer information concerning his personal finances to the Spanish tax authorities under international tax transparency legislation (led by Rupert Paines).

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**Assisting the Ministry of Defence in relation to the Covid-19 Inquiry.**

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### Abbasi and another v Newcastle upon Tyne Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust and another

2023/0052

A Supreme Court appeal concerning the privacy and free speech implications of restricted reporting orders in the context of 'end of life' care cases (as a pupil, assisting Tom Cross and Raphael Hogarth).

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## Public International

Rita practises in all areas of public international law. For example, during the course of her pupillage she assisted Remi Reichhold, counsel for Mauritius, in relation to the ICJ advisory proceedings on the Obligations of States in Respect of Climate Change.

Rita specialised in public international law during the course of her studies, including both International Law of the Sea and International Economic Law on the BCL. She was a quarter-finalist in the global rounds of the 62nd Philip C. Jessup International Moot Court Competition, as part of the University of Cambridge team.

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## Employment

Rita accepts instructions across the full range of commercial and statutory employment law.

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### Aon UK Ltd and others v Howden Group Holdings Ltd and others

Counsel for Aon in a major reinsurance broking 'team move' claim taking place across the UK and Brazil (led by Amy Rogers KC and others).

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### Secretary of State for the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Respondent) v Public and Commercial Services Union (Appellant)

UKSC 2023/0075

The first case to reach the Supreme Court on the meaning and application of the Contracts (Rights of Third Parties) Act 1999. The case concerned whether a union, as a third party to the relevant employment contracts, could enforce a term providing for a facility for "check-off" arrangements (as a pupil, assisting Daniel Stilitz KC).

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### Instructed unled in several Employment Tribunal claims

Rita has been instructed unled in a range of discrimination and unfair dismissal claims. This includes experience of dealing with applications for anonymity orders in the context of such disputes.

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### Gagliardi v Evolution Capital Management LCC

[2023] EWHC 1608 (COMM)

A claim concerning the first post-Brexit anti-suit injunction enforcing an employee's right to be sued in England (as a pupil, assisting Amy Rogers KC).

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## Guy Carpenter v Howden

High Court team move litigation against Howden and certain former employees of Guy Carpenter (as a pupil, assisting Amy Rogers KC).

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## Commercial Litigation

Rita practises across a broad range of commercial litigation. She has a particular interest in cases raising issues of private international law.

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## Aon UK Ltd and others v Howden Group Holdings Ltd and others

Counsel for Aon in a major reinsurance broking 'team move' claim taking place across the UK and Brazil (led by Amy Rogers KC and others).

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## Guy Carpenter v Howden

A High Court conspiracy and economic tort claim in the "team move" context involving alleged breaches of directors' duties, fiduciary duties and misuse of confidential information, as well as breaches of employment duties (as a pupil, assisting Amy Rogers KC).

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## Commercial Court fraud proceedings

This matter raised complex issues of private international law (as a pupil, assisting Amy Rogers KC).

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## Gagliardi v Evolution Capital Management LCC

[2023] EWHC 1608 (COMM)

A claim concerning the first post-Brexit anti-suit injunction under s.15C of the CJJA 1982 enforcing an employee's right to be sued in England (as a pupil, assisting Amy Rogers KC).

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## Secretary of State for the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Respondent) v Public and Commercial Services Union (Appellant)

UKSC 2023/0075

The first case to reach the Supreme Court on the meaning and application of the Contracts (Rights of Third Parties) Act 1999. The case concerned whether a union, as a third party to the relevant employment contracts, could enforce a term providing for a facility for "check-off" arrangements (as a pupil, assisting Daniel Stilitz KC).

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## Information, Technology & Media

Rita accepts instructions in data protection, media, privacy & information law matters. This includes advisory work and litigation under the UK GDPR, Data Protection Act 2018, Freedom of Information Act 2000 and Online Safety Act 2023.

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### Disputes concerning breaches of the UKGDPR

Recent matters have raised issues including: subject access requests, lawful processing & automated decision-making.

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### Matters relating to the Online Safety Act 2023.

### Experian v Information Commissioner

[2024] UKUT 105 (AAC)

Proceedings relating to an enforcement notice issued to the Appellant in respect of its data processing activities, these being undertaken whilst providing data services to clients in support of their offline marketing activities (as a pupil, assisting Robin Hopkins).

### A matter involving claims for misuse of private information and breach of confidence.

### Providing pre-publication advice to a national newspaper.

### Harrison v Cameron and ACL

[2024] EWHC 1377 (KB)

A High Court claim for a data subject access request, concerning questions relating to the meaning of "controller" and the mixed personal data exemption (as a pupil, assisting Robin Hopkins).

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## Abbasi and another v Newcastle upon Tyne Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust and another

2023/0052

A Supreme Court appeal concerning the privacy and free speech implications of restricted reporting orders in the context of 'end of life' care cases (as a pupil, assisting Tom Cross and Raphael Hogarth).

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## Sport

Rita accepts instructions in all areas of sports law.

## Achievements

## Education

- BVS, City Law School – Distinction
- BCL, University of Oxford – Distinction
- BA Law, University of Cambridge, Gonville & Caius College – First Class

## Awards

- Sir John and Lady Sophie Laws Scholarship, Bar European Group
- Eldon Law Scholarship, Faculty of Law, University of Oxford
- Princess Royal Scholarship, Inner Temple
- Duke of Edinburgh Entrance Award, Inner Temple
- Sir William McNair Prize for Law (2020 & 2021), Gonville & Caius College
- Honorary Senior Scholarship, Gonville & Caius College
- Sir William McNair Mooting Prize, Gonville & Caius College
- Tapp Scholarship (2018-2021), Gonville & Caius College

## Languages

- Portuguese