

RACHEL CHAMBERS

University of Connecticut Human Rights Institute
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EDUCATION

- 2013-2019 **PhD in Law**, University of Essex
Thesis: “Corporate misconduct, human rights and the challenges of extraterritorial solutions”
- 2006-2009 **LLM by Research**, University of Kent
- 2001-2002 **Bar Vocational Course**, Inns of Court School of Law
- 1995-1998 **BA/MA in Law**, University of Oxford

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

- 2018-present **Postdoctoral Research Associate**, University of Connecticut
- Research on corporate accountability mechanisms with a number of pipeline publications
 - Instructor with impressive teaching evaluations
- 2018 **Consultant, Human Rights**, UN Global Compact (UNGC) New York office
- Strategy and implementation of UNGC business and human rights programming
 - Design and production of content for UNGC Academy sessions on human rights and business
- 2013-2019 **Associate**, Essex Business and Human Rights Project
- University-based legal consultancy and advice work on business and human rights
 - Co-author of a major report for Amnesty International on the UK National Contact Point for the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises
 - Contribution to amicus briefs in two key business and human rights cases
- 2002-2013 **Barrister**, Cloisters
- Specialized courtroom advocate in highly competitive branch of legal practice in the U.K.
 - Cloisters is a leading London chambers specializing in personal injuries law, clinical negligence, employment and discrimination law and human rights law
 - Clients ranged from individual plaintiffs and their unions to multinational corporations
 - Leading counsel in two successful appeal cases
- 2000-2001 **Project Coordinator**, International Business Leaders Forum (IBLF)
- Coordination of a social enterprise project providing micro loans to disadvantaged young people
 - IBLF was a corporate social responsibility membership forum comprising major multinationals

PUBLICATIONS

- Book: Skinner, Gwynne, Chambers, Rachel and McGrath, Sarah, *Transnational Corporations and Human Rights: Overcoming Barriers to Judicial Remedy* (Cambridge University Press, 2020).
- Journal Articles: Chambers, Rachel and Yilmaz-Vastardis, Anil, “Human Rights Disclosure and Due Diligence Laws: The Role of Regulatory Oversight in Ensuring Corporate Accountability,” *Chicago Journal of International Law* (forthcoming).

Chambers, Rachel, “Parent Company Direct Liability for Overseas Human Rights Violations: Lessons from the UK Supreme Court,” *University of Pennsylvania Journal of International Law* (forthcoming).

Chambers, Rachel (2018), “An Evaluation of Two Key Extraterritorial Techniques to Bring Human Rights Standards to Bear on Corporate Misconduct: Jurisdictional Dilemmas,” *Utrecht Law Review*, 14, 22–39.

Yilmaz-Vastardis, Anil and Chambers, Rachel (2018), “Overcoming the Corporate Veil Challenge: Could Investment Law Inspire the Proposed Business and Human Rights Treaty?” *International and Comparative Law Quarterly*, 67, 389–423.

Chambers, Rachel and Yilmaz-Vastardis, Anil (2016), “The new EU Rules on Non-financial Reporting: Potential Impacts on Access to Remedy?” *Human Rights and International Legal Discourse*, 1, 18–40.

Chambers, Rachel (2009), “Is Home State Litigation the way to fill the Lacuna in Corporate Legal Accountability for Human Rights Violations Perpetrated in Host States?” *Journal of Comparative Law*, 4(2), 133–147.

Kinley, David and Chambers, Rachel (2006), “The UN Human Rights Norms for Corporations: The Private Implications of Public International Law,” *Human Rights Law Review*, 6(3), 447–497.

Book chapter:

Chambers, Rachel (2005), “The Unocal Settlement: Implications for the Developing Law on Corporate Complicity in Human Rights Abuses,” *Human Rights Brief*, 13(1), 14–16.

Non-refereed publications:

Chambers, Rachel and Tyler, Katherine, “The U.K. Context for Business and Human Rights” in *Corporate Responsibility for Human Rights Impacts: New Expectations and Paradigms*, 301-330 (American Bar Association, 2014).

Chambers, Rachel, Kemp, Sophie and Tyler, Katherine, “Report of Research into how a Regulator could Monitor and Enforce a Proposed U.K. Human Rights Due Diligence Law,” prepared for a coalition of U.K. NGOs (2020).

Chambers, Rachel and Goethals, Samentha, “Obstacle Course: How the U.K.’s National Contact Point Handles Human Rights Complaints under the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises,” prepared for Amnesty International (2016).

Chambers, Rachel and Batesmith, Alex, “Options for Criminal Prosecutions of UK Companies for Human Rights Abuses Committed Outside England and Wales,” prepared for Traidcraft (2015).

Joseph, Sarah, Chambers, Rachel and Amis, Lucy, “Human Rights Translated: A Business Reference Guide,” published by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and others (2008).

Selected conference papers (10/15):

Chambers, Rachel and Lake, Anna, “Youth Business International: Bridging the Gap Between Unemployment and Self-employment for Disadvantaged Youth,” published by the International Labor Organization (2001).

“Human Rights Disclosure and Due Diligence Laws: The Role of Regulatory Oversight in Ensuring Corporate Accountability,” Academy of Legal Studies in Business Conference (August 2020).

“The Future of International Corporate Human Rights Litigation: A Transatlantic Comparison,” American Business Law Journal Invited Scholars Colloquium (July 2020).

“Attributing Liability to Parent Companies for Human Rights Violations Framed as Transnational Tort Claims in the United States since Kiobel,” Interdisciplinary Research Workshop on Business and Human Rights, jointly organized by the BHRights Initiative, the International Association for Business and Society and the European Society of International Law Interest Group on Business and Human Rights (November 2019).

“Human Rights Violations Framed as Transnational Tort Claims against Corporate Actors: An Evaluation of Case Law and Global Trends,” Global Business and Human Rights Scholars Conference, University of Essex (September 2019).

“Corporate Reporting on Human Rights and Modern Slavery: From Disclosure to Accountability? The Contribution of Regulatory Oversight as Complement to Consumer and Market Supervision,” Innovate Rights: New Thinking on Business and Human Rights, Australian Human Rights Institute (May 2019).

“Human Rights Violations Framed as Transnational Tort Claims against Parent Companies: An Evaluation of Case Law, Global Trends, and Implications for Corporate Groups,” Big Ten and Friends Business Law Research Symposium, Rutgers University (April 2019).

“Modern Slavery in Global Supply Chains: From Disclosure to Accountability?” Global Business and Human Rights Scholars Association, New York University (September 2018).

“An Evaluation of Two Key Extraterritorial Techniques to Bring Human Rights Standards to Bear on Corporate Misconduct: Jurisdictional Dilemmas,” Ucall Conference 2017 - Accountability and International Business Operations: Providing Justice for Corporate Violations of Human Rights, Labor and Environmental Standards, Utrecht University (May 2017).

“An Evaluation of Extraterritorial Techniques to Bring Human Rights Standards to Bear on Corporate Misconduct,” Business and Human Rights Young Researchers Summit, New York University and the University of St Gallen (April 2017).

AWARDS, HONORS AND GRANTS

2020	Co-Principal Investigator, Research Grant, “Research into how a Regulator could Monitor and Enforce a Proposed U.K. Human Rights Due Diligence law”, commissioned by a coalition of U.K. NGOs
2015	Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) Research Training Support Grant competition winner
2013	AHRC Studentship (full scholarship for doctoral study)
2001	Major Scholarship and Duke of Edinburgh Scholarship from the Hon. Society of the Inner Temple (scholarships for Bar Vocational Course)
1997	Allen Exhibition (academic distinction), University of Oxford
1996	Cole and Cole Law Prize, University of Oxford

TEACHING

Teaching Experience:

Fall 2018-present	Instructor , University of Connecticut <ul style="list-style-type: none">Teaching undergraduate students (mostly with majors in business or human rights) “Corporate Social Impact and Responsibility”, with average teaching evaluation of 4.7 out of 5
Fall 2016 - Fall 2018	Senior Teaching Fellow , SOAS, University of London <ul style="list-style-type: none">Teaching graduate students “Multinational Enterprises in a Globalizing World – Economic and Legal Perspectives”Curriculum development, lectures, and tutorials for the highly evaluated Center for International Studies and Diplomacy course
Fall 2014 - Fall 2016	Teaching Fellow , SOAS, University of London <ul style="list-style-type: none">Tutorials for graduate students “Multinational Enterprises in a Globalizing World – Economic and Legal Perspectives”

- Spring 2015 **Graduate Teaching Assistant**, University of Essex
- Tutorials for undergraduate students “Contract Law” and “Foundations of Property Law”
 - Grading of formative assessments for “Law of Obligations”

Advising and Mentorship

- Spring 2019/20 Undergraduate Honors Conversion Supervisor, UConn
- Fall 2019 Undergraduate Independent Study Supervisor, UConn
- Spring 2015 Graduate Dissertations Supervisor, SOAS, Center for International Studies and Diplomacy

Attainment:

- 2015 Associate Fellow of the Higher Education Academy (U.K.)

SERVICE

University:

- 2019-present **Adviser** to Kyle Muncy (Strategic Partnerships and Business Development) and the President’s Committee on Corporate Social Responsibility
- 2018-present **Steering committee member**, UConn Business and Human Rights Initiative

Professional:

- 2020-present **Co-chair of webinar series**, Teaching Business and Human Rights Forum
- 2019-present **Governance Committee Member**, Teaching Business and Human Rights Forum
- 2019-present **Steering Board Member**, Business and Human Rights Practitioners Network
- 2014-2018 **Advisory Board Member**, Lawyers for Better Business
- 2009-2016 **Independent Member**, London Borough of Haringey
- 2013-2015 **Working Group Member**, International Arbitration Tribunal on Business and Human Rights

Ad hoc invitations to give expert opinion / advice:

- Periodic strategy meetings with the UN Global Compact Human Rights Program
- An academic roundtable on a business and human rights treaty hosted by Notre Dame University
- NGO workshop on holding U.K. companies to account for human rights violations on Assam tea plantations
- NGO-led discussion “Righting Remedy: Dialogue between Practitioners Using Judicial and Non-Judicial Mechanisms to Support Victims of Corporate Human Rights Abuses”

Voluntary work:

- 2001-2002 **Intern**, Amnesty International, Human Rights Defenders Program
- 1999 **Volunteer**, JUCONI (Junto con los Niños), Puebla (educational project for street children)

INVITED TALKS AND GUEST LECTURES

Rutgers University, Global Business Regulation course, guest speaker, Fall 2018 and Fall 2019

Leitner Center for International Law and Justice at the Fordham Law School, Corporate Social Responsibility Program, guest speaker, Fall 2017 and Spring and Fall 2018; 2019 Summer Human Rights Program, guest speaker

Columbia Law School, Business and Human Rights course, guest speaker, Spring 2018

“The Legal Perspective: How Companies Manage the Complexities of Human Rights Practices Cross-Border,” Reframing Human Rights conference, Bard College, Annandale-on-Hudson, New York (2017) (with Paul Lalli, Global Counsel – Labor and Human Rights, General Electric Company)

Oxford and George Washington Universities, Summer School in International Human Rights Law, guest speaker, Summer 2016

“The State Duty to Protect Human Rights: National Action Plans, Legislative Developments,” Teaching Business and Human Rights Forum, Columbia University, 2015

“International Arbitration Tribunal on Business and Human Rights: Reshaping Access to Remedy,” Business and Human Rights – Developments at the United Nations Human Rights Council, Oxford Institute for Ethics, Law and Armed Conflict, University of Oxford, 2014

“Rights, Regulation and Remedy: The Extractive Sector and Development,” Advocates for International Development speaker meeting, 2012 (with Katherine Tyler)

“Public International Law, Corporations, Individuals and the State,” roundtable discussion hosted by the Lawyer magazine and the Open University, 2012

Speaker and workshop chair on the subject of disability discrimination under EU law and the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities at the Academy of European Law, Trier, Luxembourg, 2012

“Human Rights and the Public / Private Sector Divide,” chair of panel and speaker at University of Essex Business and Human Rights Symposium, 2010

SUBMISSIONS TO POLICY MAKERS

Co-authored a submission to UN Secretary-General’s Special Representative on business and human rights consultation on the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (2011)

Invited to work with Amnesty International on a submission to the EU on the review of the Brussels I Regulation (2009)

Co-authored with Richard Hermer QC a submission to the U.K. Parliament Joint Committee on Human Rights’ inquiry into business and human rights (2009)

Co-authored with Professor David Kinley a submission to the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights’ review of the Norms on Business and Human Rights (2004)

RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS

Sept.-Dec. 2016 **Research Fellow**, British Institute for International and Comparative Law

- Conducting research relating to doctorate
- Interacting with other research fellows to develop our scholarship and enhance our respective projects

Apr.-Dec. 2004 **Research Assistant**, Monash University, Melbourne

- Working on ‘Human Rights Responsibilities of Multinational Corporations’ project at the Castan Center for Human Rights Law