



Edward Bennett

Call: 2013

Edward is a highly respected advocate with a growing reputation in family and court of protection work, particularly focusing on international disputes concerning children or vulnerable adults, or complex and sensitive issues such as serious medical treatment.

Edward sits on the editorial board of the International Family Law Journal and was its General Editor from 2015 – 2020. In 2015, he was named Young Family Law Barrister of the Year at the Jordans (now Lexis Nexis) Family Law Awards.

Edward previously trained as a solicitor in the London and Prague offices of Allen & Overy. On qualification, he spent a year as the Judicial Assistant to the Rt. Hon. Lord Justice Lloyd in the Court of Appeal and a further year as Legal Adviser to the Head of International Family Justice for England & Wales, the Rt. Hon. Lord Justice Thorpe.

Outside the bar, Edward spent two years alongside his legal practice as a Research Assistant at the College of Arms.

International Family Law

Edward has significant experience in cases of international children cases at first instance and appellate level.

Notable International Family Law cases

- **Z v D (Art 13 Refusal of Return Order) [2020] EWHC 1857 (Fam)**
International child abduction.
- **Re PT (Abduction: Coronavirus: Grave Risk of Harm) [2020] EWHC 834 (Fam); [2020] Fam Law 822**
Child abduction during the Covid-19 pandemic.

London

2 Harcourt Buildings, Temple, London, EC4Y 9DB
T: +44 (0)20 7242 355
e: clerks@harcourtchambers.co.uk
DX: DX 373 LDE

Oxford

Churchill House, 3 St Aldate's Courtyard, 38 St Aldate's, Oxford OX1 1BN
T: +44 (0)1865 791559
e: clerks@harcourtchambers.co.uk
DX: DX 96453 Oxford 4

- **Re S (Abduction: Dismissal of Application) [2019] 1 FLR 354**
International child abduction.
- **AH v AMH (Summary Return of Child to Sudan) [2018] EWHC 2981 (Fam)**
Child abduction/first reported occasion a child returned to Sudan.
- **Re GP (A Child) (Abduction: Consideration of Evidence) [2018] 4 WLR 16**
International child abduction.
- **Re H (A Child) (International Abduction: Asylum & Welfare) [2017] 2 FLR 527**
International child abduction.
- **Re D (Children) (Child Abduction: Practice) [2016] 4 WLR 62**
International child abduction.

Private Law Children

Edward has wide-ranging experience of all private law children matters including, serious medical treatment, international child custody, relocation, forced marriage and stranded spouse cases, and international commercial surrogacy.

Notable Private Law Children cases

- **CS v FB (Incapacity: Interim Declaration) [2020] EWHC 1474 (Fam); [2020] Fam Law 1146**
- **V v M (Child Arrangements Order: International Relocation) [2020] 2 FLR 387**
- **Re HK (Serious Medical Treatment) (No 3) [2018] 1 FLR 125**
Withdrawal of life-sustaining treatment. Whether there should be police presence at the bedside when withdrawal of treatment is carried out.
- **MS v PS C - 283/16**
Court of Justice of the European Union – international child maintenance.
- **P v P [Case No 1 of 2016]**
International relocation – the first international children’s case ever before the courts of the Sovereign Base Areas of Akrotiri and Dhekelia.
- **Re C & D (Children) (Parental Order) [2016] 2 FLR 446**
International commercial surrogacy.

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- **AA v TT (Recognition & Enforcement) [2015] 2 FLR 1 - 1980**
European Custody Convention.

Public Law Children

Edward has significant experience representing all parties in public law cases, in particular in relation to child protection cases with an international element, and those where questions of serious medical treatment arise.

Notable Public Law Children cases

- **Re X (Care Proceedings: Jurisdiction and Fact Finding) [2020] EWHC 2742 (Fam)**

Court of Protection

Edward has significant experience in representing all parties, including Sovereign States, in Court of Protection cases and cases concerning vulnerable adults.

Notable Court of Protection cases

- **D (A Child: deprivation of liberty) [2015] COPLR 209**
16/17-year-olds and deprivations of liberty.

Civil & Other Areas Of Law

Edwards accepts instructions in ecclesiastical law.

Having spent two years at the College of Arms, Edward is one of the few juniors of the bar to have experience of contested peerage and baronetage disputes

Direct Access

Edward is qualified to accept instructions directly from members of the public under the Direct Access Scheme in appropriate circumstances.

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Appointments

- Editorial Board, International Family Law Journal (General Editor from 2015 – 2020)
- Called to the bar (Sovereign Base Areas of Akrotiri and Dhekelia) (2016)
- International Family Law Committee (2013)
- Solicitor (England & Wales) (2011)

Publications

- With E Devereux QC and R George, 'Domestic Child Abduction – Legal Responses' – Family Law Week (April 2017)
- With CM Pedreno and C Korah, 'Strike out or summary dismissal in 1980 Hague Proceedings: the guidance in Re D (Children) (Child Abduction: Practice) [2016] EWHC 504 (Fam)' April [2016] Fam Law (April 2016)
- 'Marriage, Civil Partnerships and Safeguarding the vulnerable adult', Local Government Lawyer (May 2015)
- 'Not only encouraged but essential': judicial collaboration in international family disputes' July [2013] Fam Law 845-851. Expressly approved and endorsed by Cobb J in N v K (No.2) [2014] EWHC 507 (Fam) (July 2013)
- 'Resolving family disputes in a globalised world: the role of judicial diplomacy' (Dec 12/Jan 13 issue Diplomat Magazine pp 32-33) (Jan 2013)

Memberships

- Family Law Bar Association
- Child Abduction Lawyers Association
- Court of Protection Bar Association

Education

- BA (Hons) History, University College London (2007)

Prizes

- 2015: Young Family Law Barrister of the Year (Jordan's Family Law Awards)
- 2013: Ede and Ravenscroft Prize (Inner Temple)

- 2007: MA Thomson Prize (UCL)
- 2007: Dean's List Commendation (UCL)

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Barristers regulated by the Bar Standards Board.

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