



## Ruth Keating

Year of call: 2017

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*“Ruth is incredibly bright and goes the extra mile to assist her clients. Her technical understanding of the law is exceptional.” The Legal 500, 2024*

Ruth Keating has a multi-disciplinary practice, with particular experience in energy and construction disputes, environmental and public law.

She regularly acts as junior counsel in the High Court, Court of Appeal and Supreme Court and as sole counsel in the High Court, adjudications and arbitrations. In addition to advisory and drafting work, Ruth has extensive trial advocacy experience, ranging from short to multi-week hearings and appellate work.

She is a member of the Attorney General’s C Panel of Junior Counsel to the Crown and is also called to the Bar of Ireland.

Ruth was previously a judicial assistant to Lady Arden and Lord Kitchin at the Supreme Court and a research assistant at the Law Commission of England and Wales.

## Areas of expertise

Environment

Construction and Energy

Administrative and Public

Commercial

## Construction and Energy

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Ruth has worked on a wide variety of different of disputes spanning litigation, adjudication and arbitration – acting as both sole counsel and junior counsel in a larger team. She routinely acts in adjudications and adjudication enforcement proceedings, drafts pleadings, provides advice and appears at both interim applications and trials.

She provides regular training on relevant topics in these areas and is a contributing editor to the current edition of Wilmot-Smith on Construction Contracts.

Ruth regularly records podcast episodes with Camilla ter Haar on the construction industry and climate change issues. They are joined by industry guests to discuss the big topics facing the sector in reaching net zero.

### Cases of note

Recent experience includes:

- Acting as junior counsel in respect of an ongoing dispute concerning a large football stadium. Ruth's work on this case involves a series of adjudications and preparation for litigation.
- Approved counsel for European Organization for Nuclear Research (known as CERN) to provide contract drafting and dispute resolution advice in respect of the building and infrastructure works at the CERN site in Switzerland and France, in particular in relation to FIDIC-based contracts.
- Instructed in a construction arbitration worth over USD 1.4 billion concerning termination, delay and consequential losses arising out of a large infrastructure under ADCCAC Arbitration Rules. (Led by Adam Robb KC.)
- *The Rugby Football Union v FM Conway Limited [2023] EWCA Civ 418* – junior counsel at first instance and on appeal. Issues included the scope of the co-insurance defence under an “all risks” project policy, the means by which identified and unidentified parties participate in a project policy and a contractor's insurable interest in the project property after the completion of its works. (Led by Karim Ghaly KC and Alexandra Bodnar.)
- Ruth frequently acts in building safety cases both in the TCC and FTT. She acted as junior counsel in *Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities v Grey GR Limited Partnership [2024] 4 WLUK 558* – the first application made by the Secretary of State for a remediation order under section 123 of the Building Safety Act 2022. Ruth also acted as junior counsel to a core participant in the Grenfell Tower Inquiry.
- Advising and acting as junior counsel in a dispute regarding a significant Low-to-Zero Carbon district heating network.
- Acting as junior counsel in an ongoing £60m defects and subsidence dispute.
- Acted as junior counsel in several arbitrations, including in respect of a nuclear power plant, a large casino and a significant airport project.
- Acted in several professional negligence claims against construction professionals - including appearing in several multi-day trials as sole counsel.

### Qualifications

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- Called to the Bar of Ireland, King's Inn (2019)), with rights of audience before the courts of the European Union
- Called to the Bar of England and Wales (2017)
- LLB, Trinity College Dublin (2014) (First Class)

## Prizes

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- Dispute Resolution International Bar Association Scholarship
- Megarry Scholarship – Lincoln’s Inn
- Advocacy Scholar – BPTC, University of Law
- Lord Denning Scholarship and Residential Scholarship – Lincoln’s Inn
- Hardwicke Entrance Award – Lincoln’s Inn
- Entrance Exhibitioner Award – Trinity College Dublin
- At university, Ruth was a keen debater on both a national and international level winning the Best Speaker Gold Medal and captained the winning teams against Harvard and Yale in the Student Economic Review debates. During her time at Lincoln’s Inn she was the Debating Secretary for the Inn.

## Additional Information

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- Ruth is an editor of the Sweet & Maxwell Environmental Law Bulletins.
- Ruth is a contributor to several books:
  - o She has co-authored, with Nigel Pleming KC, the chapter on Climate Change Litigation in the UK in ‘Climate Change Litigation: Global Perspectives’ (edited by Ivano Alogna, Christine Bakker and Jean-Pierre Gauci).
  - o A contributor to the current and forthcoming editions of Wilmot-Smith on Construction Contracts.
  - o A contributor to the forthcoming edition of ‘Nuclear Law: The Law Applying to Nuclear Installations and Radioactive Substances in its Historic Context’.
  - o A contributor to ‘The Law of Net Zero and Nature Positive’.
  - o A contributor to the forthcoming Legal Action Group book ‘Making Lawful Decisions: a guide for decision-makers on acting within the law’.
- She has also been a contributing author to several international journals and online sources including the BCDR International Arbitration Review, Judicial Review, the Trinity College Law Review and the King’s Inns Law Review, Oxford Business Law Blog, the Association of Regulatory and Disciplinary Lawyers Bulletin and the UK Constitutional Law Blog.

## Previous Employment

- Judicial assistant to Lady Arden and Lord Kitchin at the UK Supreme Court.
- Research assistant at the Law Commission of England and Wales – commercial and common law team.
- Associate at Ci – Web Summit, Collision, RISE, SURGE, MoneyConf and f.ounders.

## Pro bono

Ruth is happy to consider pro bono instructions.

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