



## 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

## Administrative and Public

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Ruth regularly appears as both sole and junior counsel in judicial review challenges. She is a member of the Attorney General's C Panel of Junior Counsel to the Crown.

Ruth is called to the Bar of Ireland and has rights of audience before the courts of the European Union.

She is also a contributor to the 'Making Lawful Decisions: a guide for decision-makers on acting within the law' (September 2024).

### Cases of note

Her experience includes:

- Junior counsel, led by First Treasury Counsel, in several challenges to government funding decisions.
- Junior counsel, led by Andrew Tabachnik KC, representing the Solicitors Regulation Authority (intervening) in the Supreme Court appeal in *Competition and Markets Authority (Respondent) v Flynn Pharma Ltd and another (Appellants)* [2022] UKSC 14.
- Acted as junior counsel in several judicial review challenges concerning the COVID-19 vaccination programme, including: the priority groups for COVID-19 vaccination and vaccination for under-18s (led by Catherine Dobson and Ewan West). See for example *R(on the application of AB (a child by her mother and litigation friend)) v Secretary of State for Health and Social Care* [2022] EWHC 1996 (Admin).
- *SM v Lord Chancellor* [2021] EWHC 418 (Admin), acting as junior counsel, led by Catherine Dobson, in a case concerning access to legal advice under the Detained Duty Advice Scheme for immigration detainees held in prison.
- Acting as junior counsel, led by Victoria Butler-Cole KC and Steve Broach, in a proposed challenge to the lack of a national framework for treatment prioritisation during the Covid-19 pandemic, if demand for life-sustaining treatment outstripped available resources.
- Junior counsel in a judicial review claim concerning the remedies available for children making a discrimination claim in the First-tier Tribunal.
- Instructed as junior counsel by a core participant in the Grenfell Tower Inquiry.

### 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:
  - She has co-authored, with Nigel Fleming 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).
  - A contributor to the current and forthcoming editions of Wilmot-Smith on Construction Contracts.
  - A contributor to the forthcoming edition of 'Nuclear Law: The Law Applying to Nuclear Installations and Radioactive Substances in its Historic Context'.
  - A contributor to 'The Law of Net Zero and Nature Positive'.
  - 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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