



Rhys Davies

Call 2004

✉ rdavies@tgchambers.com

☎ +44 (0)20 7583 1315

Rhys Davies is an international criminal law and international human rights law expert.

He is based in London and the Hague, and is ranked in the legal 500 as a leading lawyer in international crime. He represents business and political leaders, high net worth individuals and human rights defenders in the most sensitive cases.

Rhys also maintains a robust domestic common law practice across the spectrum of chambers' core areas with particular experience acting in civil litigation and insurance related work. He is expert in matters involving fraud and dishonesty.

Rhys has significant experience in complex international pro bono cases and was named International Pro Bono Barrister of the year by Advocate, the Bar's national pro bono charity, in 2021.

Rhys is a leading Interpol Red Notice lawyer. He is an authority on the removal of Interpol Red Notices and is a co-editor of the [Red Notice Monitor blog](#). He has extensive experience concerning politically motivated Red Notices as well as the use of transnational repression by foreign governments.

Rhys has a particular focus on the Middle East and the rights of journalists and has significant experience of in-country legal advice and assistance, most recently in the West Bank. He is experienced in leading campaigns to free British and other citizens detained abroad. He is a frequent speaker at human rights events at the United Nations in Geneva and the House of Commons. In the summer of 2023, Rhys attended the US Military Commissions hearings at Guantánamo Bay, Cuba, on behalf of the Association of Defence Counsel practising before the International Courts and Tribunals

Rhys often comments for broadcast media including Sky News, Times Radio and Al-Jazeera Television. Rhys has written for The Times and The Guardian newspapers, and The Economist and Newsweek magazines. He is frequently asked to advise on matters across the spectrum of international human rights law issues.

Expertise



International Law

Rhys is recognised as a leading junior in international criminal law. He is a member of the lists of Counsel for the International Criminal Court, the Kosovo Specialist Chambers and the Special Tribunal for Lebanon. Rhys is also a member of the list of lawyers for the United Nations Ombudsperson to the ISIL (Da'esh) and Al-Qaida Sanctions Committee.

Rhys has significant experience in matters before the United Nations Special Procedures mechanisms, with numerous ongoing cases concerning matters of torture, arbitrary detention and forced displacement. He has acted in matters before diverse international tribunals including the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights and the World Bank Sanctions System.

Rhys has in-depth experience of both the UK and US Magnitsky sanctions regimes and has worked closely with leading global campaigners on efforts to sanction human rights abusers and corrupt officials. Rhys acted as counsel to an ongoing Fact-finding panel of UK parliamentarians, which reported on breaches of the rights of British women in the UAE. He has significant experience of commissioning panels and investigations concerning international human rights abuses.

In addition to his work as a commentator, Rhys is much in demand as a speaker and moderator on panels concerning a broad range of international criminal law and international human rights law issues, with a focus on the Middle East, oppressive state conduct and the rights of journalists. Rhys has recently spoken at, and chaired, events at numerous sessions of the United Nations Human Rights Council in Geneva and at meetings at the House of Commons on matters including the use of the death penalty and the protection of prisoners in international law. He is the author of numerous articles concerning justice in the Middle East and is co-author of a recent article on the rule of law in despotic regimes.

For more information about Rhys's International Law, Reputation Management and Legal and Litigation Campaigns expertise please visit ihr-advisors.com.

Extradition & Interpol

Rhys is an expert Interpol Red Notice lawyer. He is a co-editor of the [Red Notice Monitor blog](#) and a noted authority on the removal of Interpol Red Notices. He has extensive experience concerning politically motivated Red Notices and regularly advises the victims of transnational repression by foreign governments. He has particular experience advising business leaders and high net worth individuals subject to Red Notices.

Rhys assisted former UK DPP Sir David Calvert-Smith in the drafting of the report "Undue Influence: The UAE and Interpol" published in April 2021 examining the UAE's influence over Interpol.

Rhys regularly lectures and writes on matters concerning Interpol, most recently being published in the Times newspaper and Newsweek Magazine.

Insurance

Rhys maintains a robust domestic common law practice across the spectrum of chambers' core areas. His

practice encompasses both criminal and civil domestic law, with his civil work often reflecting a criminal or pseudo-criminal outlook, particularly in cases involving civil fraud and dishonesty.

Rhys has a particular focus on fraud centred trial advocacy as well as advising on civil fraud and contempt proceedings, private criminal prosecutions, and proactive claims by insurers in cases of suspected dishonesty.

He has experience in a wide range of related areas, including fatal accident claims, criminal injuries compensation, costs, regulatory matters, and private criminal prosecutions.

Business & Human Rights

Rhys advises individuals, NGOs, governments and companies on matters concerning human rights and business. Rhys advises clients on how to prevent and remedy human rights breaches, with a particular focus on how to mitigate human rights risks in a commercial context.

Rhys has experience of across spectrum of business related human rights law, including advising on the Modern Slavery Act, the application of the United Nations Governing Principles on Business and Human Rights, and environmental, social and governance (ESG) issues. Rhys has particular recent experience of advising in relation to campaigns for divestment and boycott where companies are alleged to have been complicit, directly or indirectly, in rights breaches. Rhys has extensive experience in advising clients subject to allegations of criminal conduct, in particular, in relation to allegations corruption by repressive regimes as a tool for trans-national repression.

Appointments

Deputy District Judge

Awards

- International Pro Bono Barrister of the Year, Advocate (2021)

Education

- BVC, Inns of Court School of Law
- MA (Hons) Law, Trinity College, University of Cambridge



Memberships

- Admitted to list of Defence Counsel before the International Criminal Court
- Admitted to list of Defence Counsel of the Special Tribunal for Lebanon
- Admitted to list of Defence Counsel before the Kosovo Specialist Chambers
- Association of Defence Counsel practising before the International Courts and Tribunals
- International Criminal Court Bar Association
- Human Rights Lawyers Association
- International Bar Association
- Criminal Bar Association
- South Eastern Circuit

Recommendations

- “A leading advocate who is vastly experienced in UN special procedures applications and is able to advise clients in the most complex international cases” **Legal 500 2023**
- “A standout international lawyer. He is the go to barrister for submissions to the United Nations in complex cases.” **Legal 500 2022**
- “An excellent advocate. He is a sophisticated and highly effective communicator with a fierce intellect” and “fearless in his defence of Human Rights and individual freedoms.” Rhys has “particular expertise in the Middle East and representing clients before the United Nations Special Procedure Committees and Special Rapporteurs.” **Legal 500 2021**
- A “polished performer who provides tactically astute advice.” **Legal 500 2020**