



## Sebastian Bates

Call 2021

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Sebastian Bates joined Chambers as a tenant in 2022 after completing pupillage under the supervision of Lionel Stride, David R. White, and Nicholas Chapman.

He is developing a varied practice, with particular focus on extradition, personal injury, public law, and public international law, and accepts instructions in all of Chambers' core areas of work.

Sebastian read law at the University of Oxford. He represented the University in the Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition and interned at Columbia Law School's Human Rights Institute, the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York, and the Trial Chamber of the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia.

After graduating from Oxford as the best student in his year in public international law, he clerked for Justice Froneman at the South African Constitutional Court. He was then a research assistant on the Quill Project at Pembroke College, Oxford, and subsequently completed an LLM at Yale Law School. At Yale, he was a Salzburg Cutler Fellow in International Law and an executive editor of the *Yale Journal of International Law*. He volunteered for the Temporary Restraining Order Project and was a summer fellow in the Veterans Legal Services Clinic at the Jerome N. Frank Legal Services Organization.

From 2019 to 2020, Sebastian was a Robina Fellow in the Registry of the European Court of Human Rights.

## Expertise

### Extradition & Interpol

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Sebastian is regularly instructed to appear in Westminster Magistrates' Court on behalf of requested persons. His expertise on the European Convention on Human Rights means that he is well-equipped to argue that an extradition would be incompatible with the Convention.

### Personal Injury

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Sebastian very frequently appears in the County Court on behalf of both claimants and defendants in Stage 3 hearings, applications, and trials on the small claims and fast tracks, including in cases with a credit hire element.

He contributes to the PI Brief Update monthly newsletter and will be the author of the revised chapter on defences in the forthcoming sixteenth edition of *Bingham's Personal Injury and Motor Claims Cases*.

As a pupil under the supervision of Lionel Stride and David R. White, Sebastian gained experience in high-value claims and claims involving allegations of fraud. He demonstrated proficiency in drafting pleadings and advice.

## Public Law

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Sebastian was exposed to a range of public law work as a pupil under the supervision of Nicholas Chapman. By way of illustration, Sebastian assisted in advising the Home Secretary as to the procedural duty under s 55 of the Borders, Citizenship and Immigration Act 2009.

As a pupil, Sebastian also assisted David Barr KC in advising HM Government as to the availability of damages for breaches of retained European Union law and David R. White in advising a public sector client as to the domestic implementation of the Chicago Convention.

This built on the experience in public law that Sebastian had developed working in courts in the United States and South Africa and at the Jerome N. Frank Legal Services Organization.

## International Law

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Sebastian's academic and practical background means that he is well-grounded in public international law, including international criminal law, international humanitarian law, international human rights law, and the law of the sea.

As a pupil, Sebastian assisted David R. White in advising a prospective applicant to the European Court of Human Rights as to the application of the European Convention on Human Rights and the competence of the Court with respect to a British Overseas Territory.

Sebastian is currently advising the Kipsigis and Talai peoples in relation to human rights violations, including with respect to applications to the European Court of Human Rights (with Rodney Dixon KC, Aidan Ellis, and Anne Coulon).

He is also advising as to an extradition from Serbia to Bahrain in defiance of an interim measure granted by the European Court of Human Rights (with Rodney Dixon KC).

## Education

- PGDip Legal Practice (Bar) (Merit), BPP University
- LLM, Yale Law School



- MA (Jurisprudence) (First Class), Keble College, University of Oxford

## Memberships

- Defence Extradition Lawyers' Forum (DELF)
- Personal Injuries Bar Association (PIBA)