

Jacqueline Renton

'Jacqueline is a leading barrister in the field of international cross-border children matters and has a wealth of experience in this area.'

'She gives every client, whether an international celebrity or asylum seeker client on legal aid, the same attention and diligence.'

'Extremely well-prepared and robust in court, she is strong in terms of both her written and oral advocacy. A future KC for sure.'

Chambers and Partners, 2025



Experience

Year of Call: 2007

Practice Areas

- International Children Law
- Private Children Law

Direct Access

Direct Access



PRO BONO
RECOGNITION
LIST
ENGLAND & WALES



Education

Private International Law Course, The Hague Academy of International Law, Den Haag 2007

Bar Vocational Course, Inns of Court School of Law, 2007

Diploma in Law, City University, 2006

BA (Hons) Theology and Politics, University of Bristol, 2005

Queen Mother Scholarship, Middle Temple, 2006

Queen Mother Scholarship, Middle Temple, 2005

Profile

Jacqueline is a leading senior junior who specialises in the field of international children law. Running alongside her international practice, she also has a substantial practice in complex / high conflict private children law disputes.

For many years, Jacqueline has been ranked in Band 1 in Chambers and Partners and the Legal 500. She is also ranked in The Spear's 500 Directory. She has been shortlisted for a number of awards over the years.

Jacqueline has appeared in a significant number of the most important decisions in this jurisdiction (and abroad) relating to the development of international children law. Her cases often involve complex and novel points of law, and she has played an important role in the development of this area of jurisprudence for many years. To date, she has appeared in 77 reported cases.

Jacqueline appears regularly in the High Court. She also has a substantial appellate practice having, to date, appeared in 16 appeals to the Court of Appeal and 6 appeals to the UK Supreme Court.

In addition to her domestic practice, Jacqueline has appeared before the Court of Justice of the European Union where she made oral submissions in the case of UD v XB [2019] C-393/18 (PPU), and has filed two amicus curiae briefs before the US Supreme Court.

Jacqueline is often against KCs. She has also had a number of leading briefs, both in the High Court and Court of Appeal, which has made her very experienced in undertaking appellate advocacy in legally complex cases.

Jacqueline has represented a number of celebrities over the years, as well as numerous UHNW / HNW clients. She also remains fully committed to publicly funded and pro bono work.

Jacqueline is a Fellow of the International Academy of Family Lawyers and a member of the International Family Justice Committee. She is the lead editor of the international section of 'Rayden and Jackson'. Jacqueline lectures in this jurisdiction and abroad, and has given expert evidence in the House of Lords as to the impact of Brexit on European family law.

International Children Law

Jacqueline has been a leading senior junior in the field of international children law for many years. She has appeared in a significant number of the most important decisions in this jurisdiction (and abroad) relating to the development of international children law. Her cases often involve complex and novel points of law, and she has played an important role in the development of this area of jurisprudence for

many years. To date, she has appeared in 77 reported cases.

Jacqueline's practice encompasses international child abduction (Hague and non-Hague), relocation, the recognition and enforcement of foreign orders, jurisdictional disputes, relocation, forced marriage and international contact disputes.

Jacqueline appears regularly in the High Court. She also has a substantial appellate practice having, to date, appeared in 16 appeals to the Court of Appeal and 6 appeals to the UK Supreme Court.

In addition to her domestic practice, Jacqueline has appeared before the Court of Justice of the European Union, where she made oral submissions to the court. She has also filed two amicus curiae briefs in Hague Convention 1980 cases before the US Supreme Court.

A full list of Jacqueline's reported cases can be accessed via the link at the top of the page.

Private Children Law

Jacqueline has been a leading senior junior in the field of private children law for many years. She has a substantial practice in private children law disputes. She is often instructed in relocation (external and internal) cases, and complex / high conflict child arrangement disputes. Her cases invariably involve allegations of domestic abuse and alienating behaviours.

Recently, Jacqueline has successfully developed the Hadkinson jurisdiction in children cases: **BR v SN [2024] EWHC 1512 (Fam)**, and set aside an arbitral award in a relocation case (this was a novel and legally complex application).

A full list of Jacqueline's reported cases can be accessed via the link at the top of the page.

Publications/Training

Lead editor of the international section of 'Rayden and Jackson'.

Memberships

- Family Law Bar Association
- Middle Temple
- Fellow of the International Academy of Family Lawyers.

Directories

"Jacqueline is a leading barrister in the field of international cross-border children matters and has a wealth of experience in this area."

"She gives every client, whether an international celebrity or asylum seeker client on legal aid, the same attention and diligence."

"Extremely well-prepared and robust in court, she is strong in terms of both her written and oral advocacy. A future KC for sure."

Chambers & Partners, 2025

Band 1

'Jacqueline is a natural in court. She thinks quickly on her feet and is excellent at strategising.'

Legal 500, 2025

"A go-to barrister for anything complex."

“She is unflappable because she is confident in her own ability. She matches more experienced KCs in terms of her advocacy and knowledge.”

“Jacqueline works tirelessly for clients and is meticulous in her preparation which enables her to master the detail. A strong and effective advocate.”

Chambers and Partners, 2024

Band 1

‘Jacqueline is a phenomenal and extraordinary barrister. She is hugely supportive of clients and strives to achieve the best outcomes for them. She has excellent judgement, and invariably her call on the case is where it lands.’

Legal 500, 2024

Top Tier

“Jacqueline Renton is at the top of her game; she’s so knowledgeable on the law and good on her feet.” “A go-to for difficult international cases, she really fights for her client, is very astute tactically and no-nonsense in her approach. The client feels that she’s going to battle all the way and get them the outcome they want.”

Chambers and Partners, 2023

Band 1

‘Jacqueline has an encyclopedic knowledge of children abduction law. She is a passionate and highly intelligent advocate.’

Legal 500, 2023

Top Tier

“A lawyer with a first-rate mind who is tenacious and pays excellent attention to detail.” “Her legal knowledge and grasp of the most technical international family law issues is unsurpassable.” “Jacqueline is a tenacious barrister with almost unparalleled experience in the field of international children law. She displays utter determination when acting for her clients.

“Recent work: Represented the mother before the Court of Appeal in Re B, a case concerning the return of a child to France. Issues included habitual residence and whether a ‘third state return’ is legally permissible under the Hague Convention.

Chambers & Partners, 2022

Band 1

‘ One of the best junior children practitioners out there. ’

Legal 500, 2022

Top Tier

Focuses her specialised children practice on sophisticated international issues centring on jurisdiction, relocation and abduction. She is regarded as an expert in this area by sources, and has appeared before the CJEU on behalf of her clients.

Strengths: “An experienced and effective advocate with an encyclopedic knowledge of international children matters.” “A leading guru on child abduction and relocation, she takes her job very seriously.” “Undoubtedly one of the best juniors for leave to remove cases. She is fearless and you know it is going to be tough if she is on the other side, so it is always best to retain her first.”

Recent work: Represented Reunite International, a child abduction charity, in an appeal to the UK

Supreme Court to order the return of a child back to its father in Israel.

Chambers & Partners, 2021

Band 1

'A top level specialist in international children's cases and other private law children's cases of great difficulty. As well as a truly encyclopaedic knowledge of child abduction and other international children's work, in which she has long and comprehensive experience - she is a practitioner of exceptional quality.'

Legal 500, 2021

Top Tier

Focuses her specialised children practice on sophisticated international issues centring on jurisdiction, relocation and abduction. She is regarded as an expert in this area by sources, and has appeared before the CJEU on behalf of her clients.

Strengths: "A complete powerhouse in court, her advocacy is excellent and she is a match for any QC. She is extremely tenacious and hard-working." "She's great with clients, fantastic as an advocate and she cuts through the issues to get straight to the point."

Chambers & Partners 2020

Band 1

'A confident and fierce advocate.'

Legal 500, 2020

Top Tier

Cases

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|------------|---|---|---------------------------|
| 01/07/2024 | M v F | Jacqueline Renton Harry Langford | [2024] EWHC 1689 (Fam) |
| 19/03/2024 | R v M (Hague Convention; Withdrawal of Application and Art. 16 (Parental Responsibility)) | Christopher Hames KC Mark Jarman KC Michael Gratton KC Jacqueline Renton Mani Singh Basi Frankie Shama | [2024] EWHC 720 (Fam) |
| 06/12/2023 | Re T (Abduction: Protective Measures: Agreement to Return) | Teertha Gupta KC Paul Hepher Emma Spruce Jacqueline Renton Mani Singh Basi | [2023] EWCA Civ 1415 |
| 19/10/2023 | London Borough of Hackney v P & Ors | Henry Setright KC Jacqueline Renton Charlotte Baker Frankie Shama | [2023] EWCA Civ 1213 |
| 27/07/2023 | Re H (A Child) (Recusal) | Mani Singh Basi Jacqueline Renton Nadia Campbell Brunton | [2023] EWCA Civ 860 |

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| 27/07/2023 | Re S (Children: Parentage and Jurisdiction) | Michael Gratton KC Jacqueline Renton Nadia Campbell Brunton | [2023] EWCA Civ 897 |
| 24/07/2023 | H (A Child) (Recusal), Re | Jacqueline Renton Mani Singh Basi | [2023] EWCA Civ 860 |
| 05/07/2023 | Z v Z | Mani Singh Basi Jacqueline Renton | [2023] EWHC 1673 (Fam) |
| 08/03/2023 | W v Z | Jacqueline Renton Michael Gratton KC | [2023] EWHC 469 (Fam) |
| 17/01/2023 | R v T | Jacqueline Renton | [2022] EWHC 3362 (Fam) |
| 19/08/2022 | Re: X (Children) | Teertha Gupta KC Christopher Hames KC Jacqueline Renton Clarissa Wigoder | [2022] EWCA Civ 1167 |
| 10/05/2022 | H v R & Anor (2022) | Charlotte Baker Jacqueline Renton | [2022] EWHC 1073 (Fam) |
| 24/08/2021 | X (Children) (Article 61 BIIa) | Teertha Gupta KC Jacqueline Renton | [2021] EWCA Civ 1305 |
| 16/03/2021 | AB v CD | Mark Jarman KC Jacqueline Renton | [2021] EWHC 665 (Fam) |
| 16/03/2021 | AB v CD (Abduction; Undertakings) | Jacqueline Renton Mark Jarman KC | [2021] EWHC 665 (Fam) (16 March 2021) |
| 15/03/2021 | AA and BB [2021] EWFC 17 | Teertha Gupta KC Jacqueline Renton | [2021] EWFC 17 |
| 05/03/2021 | AB v CD | Michael Edwards Jacqueline Renton Sam King KC | [2021] EWFC 38 |
| 23/02/2021 | A (A Child) (1980 Hague Convention: Set Aside) | Christopher Hames KC Indu Kumar Teertha Gupta KC Andrew Powell Jacqueline Renton | [2021] EWCA Civ 194 |
| 15/09/2020 | B (A Child) (Abduction: Habitual Residence) | Christopher Hames KC Harry Langford Jacqueline Renton Charlotte Baker | B (A Child) (Abduction: Habitual Residence) |
| 07/08/2020 | E (Children) [2020] EWCA Civ 1030 | Jacqueline Renton Charlotte Baker Mark Jarman KC Lucy Logan Green | E (Children) [2020] EWCA Civ 1030 |

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| 21/02/2020 | K (Forced Marriage: Passport Order) | Henry Setright KC Deirdre Fottrell KC Jacqueline Renton Jonathan Evans | [2020] EWCA Civ 190 |
| 21/02/2020 | Re K (Forced Marriage: Passport Order) | Henry Setright KC Jacqueline Renton Jonathan Evans | [2020] EWCA Civ 190 |
| 15/11/2019 | Re I-L (Children) (1996 Hague Child Protection Convention: Inherent Jurisdiction) [2019] | Sam King KC Jacqueline Renton | |
| 15/11/2019 | I-L (Children) (1996 Hague Child Protection Convention : Inherent Jurisdiction) | Deirdre Fottrell KC Sam King KC Jacqueline Renton | [2019] EWCA Civ 1956 |
| 30/10/2019 | Re NY (A Child) | Henry Setright KC Mark Jarman KC Michael Gration KC Teertha Gupta KC Jacqueline Renton Christopher Hames KC Michael Edwards Charlotte Baker | [2019] UKSC 49 |
| 25/09/2019 | A (Children), Re (Rev 1) (2019) | Teertha Gupta KC John Tughan KC Cliona Papazian Jacqueline Renton | [2019] EWHC 2334 (Fam) |
| 02/07/2019 | AB v CD & C (2019) | Alex Verdan KC Sam King KC Jacqueline Renton Michael Edwards | [2019] EWHC 1695 (Fam) |
| 18/06/2019 | Re NY (A Child) (2019) | Teertha Gupta KC Mark Jarman KC Jacqueline Renton Michael Gration KC | [2019] EWCA Civ 1065 |
| 17/10/2018 | UD v XB | Teertha Gupta KC Jacqueline Renton Christopher Hames KC Brian Jubb Michael Gration KC | C-393/18 PPU |
| 30/07/2018 | A & B v C (2018) | Jacqueline Renton | [2018] EWHC 2048 |
| 14/06/2018 | RVH v TF (Non Hague Convention: Refusal of Summary Return) | Jacqueline Renton | [2018] EWHC 1680 (Fam) |
| 25/05/2018 | S (Abduction - Hague Convention Or BIIa) (2018) | Jacqueline Renton Charlotte Baker | [2018] EWCA Civ 1226 |
| 02/05/2018 | MC v AC | Jacqueline Renton | [2018] EWHC 1470 |
| 28/02/2018 | AG and AB (Children) (2018) | Jacqueline Renton | [2018] EWHC 381 (Fam) |

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| 14/02/2018 | In the matter of C (Children) (2018) | Henry Setright KC Michael Gration KC Charles Hale KC Jacqueline Renton Michael Edwards Christopher Hames KC Mark Jarman KC | [2018] UKSC 8 |
| 25/08/2017 | FE v YE (2017) | Henry Setright KC Brian Jubb Jacqueline Renton | [2017] EWHC 2165 (Fam) |
| 12/07/2017 | Re C (Children) (2017) | Private: David Williams QC Jacqueline Renton Henry Setright KC Michael Gration KC | [2017] EWCA Civ 980 |
| 19/05/2017 | RE A (A Minor) (Fact Finding: Unrepresented Party) (2017) | Henry Setright KC Brian Jubb Private: David Williams QC Jacqueline Renton | [2017] EWHC 1195 (Fam) |
| 11/05/2017 | H v K (Return Order) (2017) | Jacqueline Renton | [2017] EWHC 1141 (Fam) |
| 26/04/2017 | F v M and A and Sec of State (2017) | Henry Setright KC Brian Jubb Private: David Williams QC Jacqueline Renton | [2017] EWHC 949 (Fam) |
| 26/04/2017 | F v M & Anor | Henry Setright KC Deirdre Fottrell KC Brian Jubb Jacqueline Renton | [2017] EWHC 949 (Fam) |
| 07/04/2017 | CS & Another v PD (2017) | Mark Jarman KC Jacqueline Renton | [2017] EWHC 1514 (Fam) |
| 20/10/2016 | Re R (Final) (2016) | Private: David Williams QC Charles Hale KC Jacqueline Renton Matthew Persson | [2016] EWCA Civ 1016 |
| 11/10/2016 | Re H (A Child) (2016) | Henry Setright KC Private: David Williams QC Brian Jubb Jacqueline Renton | [2016] EWCA Civ 988 |
| 29/09/2016 | Re Alcott (2016) | Jacqueline Renton | [2016] EWHC 2414 (Fam) |
| 27/09/2016 | Re Alcott (2016) | Jacqueline Renton | [2016] EWHC 2413 (Fam) |

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| 29/07/2016 | K v K | Jacqueline Renton | [2016] EWHC 2002 (Fam) |
| 13/04/2016 | In the matter of N (Children) [2016] | Henry Setright KC Michael Gration KC Private: David Williams QC Jacqueline Renton Michael Edwards | [2016] UKSC 15 |
| 21/03/2016 | Cicccone v Ritchie (No 2) [2016] | Alex Verdan KC Henry Setright KC Private: David Williams QC Jacqueline Renton Michael Gration KC | Cicccone v Ritchie (No 2) [2016] EWHC 616 (Fam) |
| 03/02/2016 | Cicccone v Ritchie (No 1) [2016] | Henry Setright KC Private: David Williams QC Michael Gration KC Jacqueline Renton | [2016] EWHC 608 (Fam) |
| 03/02/2016 | D (A Child) (International Recognition) [2016] | Henry Setright KC Private: David Williams QC Michael Gration KC Jacqueline Renton | [2016] EWCA Civ 12 |
| 04/12/2015 | In the matter of J (a child) | Henry Setright KC Teertha Gupta KC Private: David Williams QC Michael Gration KC Jacqueline Renton Michael Edwards | [2015] UKSC 70 |
| 16/11/2015 | L (Grave risk of harm) (Children's objections) [2015] | Andrew Powell Jacqueline Renton | [2015] EWHC 3300 (Fam) |
| 14/10/2015 | Re F (Child's Objections) (2015) | Private: David Williams QC Jacqueline Renton | [2015] EWCA Civ 1022 |
| 29/09/2015 | AT v SS (2015) | Jacqueline Renton | [2015] EWHC 2703 (Fam) |
| 13/08/2015 | Re N (Children) (2015) | Jacqueline Renton | AC9601862 |
| 29/07/2015 | Re C (A Child) (2015) | Jacqueline Renton | AC9101402 |
| 15/07/2015 | J v (1) C (2) B (2015) | Jacqueline Renton | [2015] EWHC 2047 |
| 22/04/2015 | IB v MM | Jacqueline Renton | [2015] EWHC 1502 (Fam) |

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| 01/04/2015 | Re J (A Child) (1996 Hague Convention) (Morocco) (2015) | Henry Setright KC Teertha Gupta KC Jacqueline Renton | [2015] EWCA Civ 329 |
| 06/02/2015 | Re U-B (A Child) (2015) | Private: David Williams QC Jacqueline Renton | [2015] EWCA Civ 60 |
| 04/02/2015 | Re MM (A Child: Relocation) [2014] | Jacqueline Renton | [2014] EWFC B176 |
| 31/07/2014 | MD v (1) AA (2) DD (By his Children's Guardian) (2014) | Jacqueline Renton | [2014] EWHC 2756 (Fam) |
| 22/07/2014 | Re R (A Child: Habitual Residence) (2014) | Henry Setright KC Mark Jarman KC Jacqueline Renton | [2014] EWCA Civ 1032 |
| 16/05/2014 | LC v RRL & Others [2014] | Henry Setright KC Private: David Williams QC Christopher Hames KC Jacqueline Renton | [2014] EWFC 8 |
| 12/03/2014 | Re N (A Minor) [2014] | Jacqueline Renton | [2014] EWHC 749 (Fam) |
| 25/02/2014 | Re F (Abduction: Consent) [2014] | Jacqueline Renton | [2014] EWHC 484 (Fam) |
| 15/01/2014 | Re LC (Children) (2014) | Henry Setright KC Teertha Gupta KC Private: David Williams QC Christopher Hames KC Jacqueline Renton | [2014] UKSC 1 |
| 30/09/2013 | C v D [2013] | Jacqueline Renton | [2013] EWHC 2989 (Fam) |
| 09/09/2013 | In the matter of A (Children) (2013) | Alex Verdan KC Baroness Scotland KC Alistair G Perkins Private: Hassan Khan Michael Gration KC Jacqueline Renton Rachel Chisholm | [2013] UKSC 60 |
| 27/03/2013 | R v A | Jacqueline Renton | [2013] EWHC 692 (Fam) |
| 24/10/2012 | Re F (Child) (2012) | Jacqueline Renton | [2012] EWCA Civ 1364; 2013] 1 FLR 645 : [2012] 3 FCR 443 : [2013] Fam Law 37 : (2012) 156(41) SJLB 31 |
| 02/03/2012 | Sj v Jj [2012] | Jacqueline Renton | [2012] EWHC 931 (Fam) |
| 02/02/2012 | Z (A child) [2012] | Jacqueline Renton | [2012] EWHC 139 (Fam) |
| 09/12/2011 | A v T [2011] | Jacqueline Renton | [2011] EWHC 3882 (Fam) |

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| 18/11/2011 | EF v MGS [2011] | Jacqueline Renton | [2011] EWHC 3139 (Fam) |
| 16/11/2011 | SJ and Another v JJ and Another [2011] | Jacqueline Renton | [2011] EWHC 3450 (Fam) |
| 27/05/2010 | MA v DB (2010) | Jacqueline Renton | [2011] 1 FLR 724 : [2010] Fam Law 1161 |
| 10/12/2009 | W v W (2009) | Private: David Williams QC Jacqueline Renton | [2010] 1 FLR 1342 : [2010] Fam Law 228 : (2010) 154(1) SJLB 28 : [2009] EWHC 3288 (Fam) |