

RACHEL CHAMBERS

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Education

- 2013-2019 **PhD in Law**, University of Essex
Thesis: “Corporate misconduct, human rights and the challenges of extraterritorial solutions”
- 2006-2009 **LLM by Research**, University of Kent
- 2001-2002 **Bar Vocational Course**, Inns of Court School of Law
- 1995-1998 **BA/MA in Law**, University of Oxford

Professional appointments

- 2021-present **Assistant Professor of Business Law**, University of Connecticut, School of Business
- 2018-2021 **Postdoctoral Research Associate**, University of Connecticut, Human Rights Institute
- 2018 **Consultant, Human Rights**, UN Global Compact (UNGC) New York office
- Strategy and implementation of UNGC business and human rights programming.
 - Design and production of content for UNGC Academy sessions on human rights and business.
- 2013-2018 **Associate**, Essex Business and Human Rights Project
- University-based legal consultancy and advice work on business and human rights.
 - Co-author of a major report for Amnesty International and contribution to amicus briefs in two key business and human rights cases.
- 2002-2013 **Barrister**, Cloisters
- Specialized courtroom advocate in a highly competitive branch of legal practice in the U.K.
 - Cloisters is a leading London chambers specializing in personal injuries law, clinical negligence, employment and discrimination law and human rights law.
- 2000-2001 **Project Coordinator**, International Business Leaders Forum (IBLF)
- Coordination of a social enterprise project providing micro loans to disadvantaged young people.
 - IBLF was a corporate social responsibility membership forum comprising major multinationals.

Publications

Book:

Skinner, Gwynne, Chambers, Rachel and McGrath, Sarah, *Transnational Corporations and Human Rights: Overcoming Barriers to Judicial Remedy* (Cambridge University Press, 2020).

Journal articles:

Chambers, Rachel and Birchall, David (2024), "How European Human Rights Law Will Reshape U.S. Business," *20 UC Law Business Journal*, 20, 3-58.

Martin, Jena and Chambers, Rachel (2023), "The Securities and Exchange Commission as Human Rights Enforcer," *Virginia Law and Business Review*, 18(1), 93-147.

Chambers, Rachel (2023), "Litigating Corporate Human Right Information," *American Business Law Journal*, 60(1), 111-174.

Chambers, Rachel and Martin, Jena (2022), "Reimagining Corporate Accountability: Moving Beyond Human Rights Due Diligence," *NYU Journal of Law & Business*, 18(3), 773-843.

Chambers, Rachel and Berger-Walliser, Gerlinde (2021), "The Future of International Corporate Human Rights Litigation: A Transatlantic Comparison," *American Business Law Journal*, 58(3), 579-642.

Chambers, Rachel and Yilmaz-Vastardis, Anil (2021), "Human Rights Disclosure and Due Diligence Laws: The Role of Regulatory Oversight in Ensuring Corporate Accountability," *Chicago Journal of International Law*, 21(2), 323-366.

Chambers, Rachel (2021), "Parent Company Direct Liability for Overseas Human Rights Violations: Lessons from the UK Supreme Court," *University of Pennsylvania Journal of International Law*, 42, 519-579.

Chambers, Rachel (2018), "An Evaluation of Two Key Extraterritorial Techniques to Bring Human Rights Standards to Bear on Corporate Misconduct: Jurisdictional Dilemmas," *Utrecht Law Review*, 14, 22-39.

Yilmaz-Vastardis, Anil and Chambers, Rachel (2018), "Overcoming the Corporate Veil Challenge: Could Investment Law Inspire the Proposed Business and Human Rights Treaty?" *International and Comparative Law Quarterly*, 67, 389-423.

Chambers, Rachel and Yilmaz-Vastardis, Anil (2016), "The new EU Rules on Non-financial Reporting: Potential Impacts on Access to Remedy?" *Human Rights and International Legal Discourse*, 1, 18-40.

Chambers, Rachel (2009), "Is Home State Litigation the way to fill the Lacuna in Corporate Legal Accountability for Human Rights Violations Perpetrated in Host States?" *Journal of Comparative Law*, 4(2), 133-147.

Kinley, David and Chambers, Rachel (2006), "The UN Human Rights Norms for Corporations: The Private Implications of Public International Law," *Human Rights Law Review*, 6(3), 447–497.

Chambers, Rachel (2005), "The Unocal Settlement: Implications for the Developing Law on Corporate Complicity in Human Rights Abuses," *Human Rights Brief*, 13(1), 14–16.

Book chapters:

Chambers, Rachel, Dadush, Sarah and Smit, Lise, "Articles 10 and 11" in *Research Handbook on the European Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence Directive* (forthcoming)

Chambers, Rachel and Biel, Eric, "U.S. Measures to Give Legal Effect to Human Rights Due Diligence" in *The Current State and Future Trajectories of Human Rights Due Diligence Laws: New Legal Norms on Human Rights Due Diligence* (forthcoming)

Yilmaz-Vastardis, Anil and Chambers, Rachel, "Human Rights Due Diligence and Disclosure Regimes" in *The Current State and Future Trajectories of Human Rights Due Diligence Laws: New Legal Norms on Human Rights Due Diligence* (forthcoming)

Chambers, Rachel, "Judicial Remedy" in *Teaching Business and Human Rights*, 160-176 (Edward Elgar, 2023).

Yilmaz Vastardis, Anil and Chambers, Rachel, "Guiding Principle 3: General State Regulatory and Policy Functions" in *Research Handbook on the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights* 28-35 (Edward Elgar 2023).

Harper Ho, Virginia, Berger-Walliser, Gerlinde, and Chambers, Rachel, "Toward Corporate Group Accountability" in *Research Handbook on Corporate Liability* 294-317 (Edward Elgar 2023).

Chambers, Rachel and Martin, Jena, "United States: Potential Paths Forward after the Demise of the Alien Tort Statute" in *Civil Remedies and Human Rights in Flux: Key Developments in Selected Jurisdictions*, 351-369 (Hart 2022).

Chambers, Rachel and Tyler, Katherine, "The U.K. Context for Business and Human Rights" in *Corporate Responsibility for Human Rights Impacts: New Expectations and Paradigms*, 301-330 (American Bar Association, 2014).

Non-refereed publications:

Chambers, Rachel, Kemp, Sophie and Tyler, Katherine, "Report of Research into how a Regulator could Monitor and Enforce a Proposed U.K. Human Rights Due Diligence Law," prepared for a coalition of U.K. NGOs (2020).

Chambers, Rachel and Goethals, Samentha, "Obstacle Course: How the U.K.'s National Contact Point Handles Human Rights Complaints under the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises," prepared for Amnesty International (2016).

Chambers, Rachel and Batesmith, Alex, "Options for Criminal Prosecutions of UK Companies for Human

Rights Abuses Committed Outside England and Wales,” prepared for Traidcraft (2015).

Joseph, Sarah, Chambers, Rachel and Amis, Lucy, “Human Rights Translated: A Business Reference Guide,” published by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and others (2008).

Chambers, Rachel and Lake, Anna, “Youth Business International: Bridging the Gap Between Unemployment and Self-employment for Disadvantaged Youth,” published by the International Labor Organization (2001).

Selected conference papers:

“Human Rights Due Diligence: Views of the Process, From the Ground Up,” Global Business and Human Rights Scholars Association Conference (2024).

“Human Rights Due Diligence and Disclosure Regimes,” Academy of Legal Studies in Business Conference (August 2024).

“Is Human Rights Due Diligence Law Creeping into the United States?,” Mid Atlantic Academy of Legal Studies in Business Conference (2023).

“The SEC as Human Rights Enforcer,” Global Business and Human Rights Scholars Association Conference (2023).

“Litigating Corporate Human Rights Information,” Academy of Legal Studies in Business Conference (2022).

“A Foreign Corrupt Practices Act for Human Rights,” Academy of Legal Studies in Business Conference (August 2021).

“Human Rights Disclosures: The Role of Litigation in Holding Companies to Their Word,” Ethical Leadership and Legal Strategies for Post-2020 Organizations Symposium (March 2020).

“Human Rights Disclosure and Due Diligence Laws: The Role of Regulatory Oversight in Ensuring Corporate Accountability,” Academy of Legal Studies in Business Conference (August 2020).

“The Future of International Corporate Human Rights Litigation: A Transatlantic Comparison,” American Business Law Journal Invited Scholars Colloquium (July 2020).

“Attributing Liability to Parent Companies for Human Rights Violations Framed as Transnational Tort Claims in the United States since Kiobel,” Interdisciplinary Research Workshop on Business and Human Rights, jointly organized by the BHRights Initiative and others (November 2019).

“Human Rights Violations Framed as Transnational Tort Claims against Corporate Actors: An Evaluation of Case Law and Global Trends,” Global Business and Human Rights Scholars Conference, University of Essex (September 2019).

“Corporate Reporting on Human Rights and Modern Slavery: From Disclosure to Accountability? The Contribution of Regulatory Oversight as Complement to Consumer and Market Supervision,” Australian Human Rights Institute (May 2019).

“Human Rights Violations Framed as Transnational Tort Claims against Parent Companies: An Evaluation of Case Law, Global Trends, and Implications for Corporate Groups,” Big Ten and Friends Business Law.

Awards, Honors and Grants

2024	Principal Investigator, 2025 Macy's Inc. Sustainability Challenge.
2020	Co-Principal Investigator, Research Grant, "Research into how a Regulator could Monitor and Enforce a Proposed U.K. Human Rights Due Diligence law", commissioned by a coalition of U.K. NGOs.
2020	Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) Research Training Support Grant competition winner.
2013	AHRC Studentship (full scholarship for doctoral study).
2001	Major Scholarship and Duke of Edinburgh Scholarship from the Hon. Society of the Inner Temple (scholarships for Bar Vocational Course).
1997	Allen Exhibition (academic distinction), University of Oxford.
1996	Cole and Cole Law Prize, University of Oxford.

Teaching

Teaching experience:

Fall '18-present **Instructor**, University of Connecticut

- Teaching undergraduate students "Business and Human Rights" and "Social Responsibility and Accountability in Business," with average teaching evaluation of 4.7 out of 5.

Fall '16 - Fall '18 **Senior Teaching Fellow**, SOAS, University of London

- Teaching graduate students "Multinational Enterprises in a Globalizing World – Economic and Legal Perspectives".
- Curriculum development, lectures, and tutorials for the highly evaluated Center for International Studies and Diplomacy course.

Fall '14 - Fall '16 **Teaching Fellow**, SOAS, University of London

- Tutorial for graduate students "Multinational Enterprises in a Globalizing World – Economic and Legal Perspectives".

Spring 2015 **Graduate Teaching Assistant**, University of Essex

- Tutorial for graduate students “Contract Law” and “Foundations of Property Law”.
- Grading of formative assessments for “Law of Obligations”.

Advising and mentorship:

Ongoing	Undergraduate Honors Conversion Supervisor, UConn.
Spring 2023	PhD Committee member.
Fall 2019	Undergraduate Independent Study Supervisor, UConn.
Spring 2015	Graduate Dissertations Supervisor (SOAS, Center for International Studies and Diplomacy).

Attainment:

2015	Associate Fellow of the Higher Education Academy (U.K.).
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Service

University:

2022 - present	Co-Director , UConn Business and Human Rights Initiative.
2021 - present	Member , the President’s Committee on Corporate Social Responsibility.
2018 - present	Steering Committee Member , UConn Business and Human Rights Initiative.

Professional:

2020 - present	Co-Director , Teaching Business and Human Rights Forum.
2019 - present	Governance Committee Member , Teaching Business and Human Rights Forum.
2019 - present	Steering Board Member , Business and Human Rights Practitioners Network.
2014-2018	Advisory Board Member , Lawyers for Better Business.
2009-2016	Independent Member , London Borough of Haringey.
2013-2015	Working Group Member , International Arbitration Tribunal on Business and Human Rights.

Ad hoc invitations to give expert opinion / advice:

- Periodic strategy meetings with the UN Global Compact Human Rights Program.
- Academic roundtables on a business and human rights treaty hosted by Notre Dame University.
- NGO workshop on holding U.K. companies to account for human rights violations on Assam tea plantations.

- NGO-led discussion “Righting Remedy: Dialogue between Practitioners Using Judicial and Non-Judicial Mechanisms to Support Victims of Corporate Human Rights Abuses”.

Voluntary work:

2001-2002 **Intern**, Amnesty International, Human Rights Defenders Program
 1999 **Volunteer**, JUCONI (Junto con los Niños), Puebla (educational project for street children)

Invited talks and guest lectures

Distribution of Responsibility in Protecting Human Rights in the context of Business and Human Rights and Climate Change workshop, 2023

Duke University, Human Rights in Practice event, guest speaker, 2022

Rutgers University, Global Business Regulation course, guest speaker, Fall 2018, 2019, 2020 and 2021.

Leitner Center for International Law and Justice at the Fordham Law School, Corporate Social Responsibility Program, guest speaker, Fall 2017 and Spring and Fall 2018; 2019 Summer Human Rights Program, guest speaker.

Columbia Law School, Business and Human Rights course, guest speaker, Spring 2018.

“The Legal Perspective: How Companies Manage the Complexities of Human Rights Practices Cross-Border,” Reframing Human Rights conference, Bard College, Annandale-on-Hudson, New York (2017).

Oxford and George Washington Universities, Summer School in International Human Rights Law, guest speaker, Summer 2016.

“The State Duty to Protect Human Rights: National Action Plans, Legislative Developments,” Teaching Business and Human Rights Forum, Columbia University, 2015.

“International Arbitration Tribunal on Business and Human Rights: Reshaping Access to Remedy,” Business and Human Rights - Developments at the United Nations Human Rights Council, Oxford Institute for Ethics, Law and Armed Conflict, University of Oxford, 2014.

“Rights, Regulation and Remedy: The Extractive Sector and Development,” Advocates for International Development speaker meeting, 2012 (with Katherine Tyler).

“Public International Law, Corporations, Individuals and the State,” roundtable discussion hosted by the Lawyer magazine and the Open University, 2012.

Speaker and workshop chair on the subject of disability discrimination under EU law and the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities at the Academy of European Law, Trier, Luxembourg, 2012.

“Human Rights and the Public / Private Sector Divide,” chair of panel and speaker at University of Essex Business and Human Rights Symposium, 2010.

Submissions to policy makers

Co-authored a submission to the State Department Federal Register Notice on the National Action Plan on Responsible Business Conduct (2022).

Co-authored a submission to the UN Secretary-General's Special Representative on business and human rights consultation on the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (2011).

Invited to work with Amnesty International on a submission to the EU on the review of the Brussels I Regulation (2009).

Co-authored with Richard Hermer QC a submission to the U.K. Parliament Joint Committee on Human Rights' inquiry into business and human rights (2009).

Co-authored with Professor David Kinley a submission to the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights' review of the Norms on Business and Human Rights (2004).

Research fellowships

Sept-Dec '16 / Jun-Aug '23

Research Fellow, British Institute for International and Comparative Law

- Conducting research.
- Interacting with other research fellows to develop our scholarship and enhance our respective projects.

Sept-Dec 2016

Research Assistant, Monash University, Melbourne

- Working on the 'Human Rights Responsibilities of Multinational Corporations' project at the Castan Center for Human Rights Law.