

## Gianna Seglias

YEAR OF CALL: 2024



### Practice Overview

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Before joining the Bar, Gianna worked as a public law caseworker at a leading legal aid firm, and as a research assistant at the Law Commission of England and Wales. In 2022 she was the Bonavero Fellow at the European Center for Constitutional and Human Rights in Berlin.

Gianna holds an LLB (First Class) from University College London and a BCL (Distinction) from the University of Oxford. Alongside her studies, Gianna worked as a research assistant in public international law and public law, and volunteered for a number of NGOs supporting migrants and refugees in the UK and Greece. She is fluent in German.

Gianna is committed to a pro bono practice.

### Commercial

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Gianna accepts instructions across all areas of commercial law. Her recent experience includes:

- Advising on potential group litigation against a parent company for human rights abuses of a foreign subsidiary (with Paul Bowen KC and Tim Johnston);
- *Johnson v FirstRand Bank Limited* [2025] UKSC 33 – acting for the Financial Conduct Authority as intervener in a Supreme Court appeal concerning the payment of undisclosed commissions in the motor finance industry, giving rise to issues of law regarding the extent of fiduciary duties, the tort of bribery and the relationship between regulatory rules and private law duties (as a pupil, assisting Jemima Stratford KC);
- *BSV v Bittylicious and Ors* [2025] EWCA Civ 661 – acting for the PCR in appeal of a certification decision in a class action concerning the delisting of the cryptocurrency 'Bitcoin'

Satoshi Vision' (as a pupil, assisting William Hooper);

- LetterOne Treasury Services S.A v Eisler Capital Multi Strategy Fund Ltd – acting for the plaintiff in a Cayman Islands claim regarding a compulsory share redemption (as a pupil, assisting William Hooper).

## Competition

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Gianna accepts instructions across all areas of competition law. Her recent experience includes:

- BSV v Bittylicious and Ors [2025] EWCA Civ 661– acting for the PCR in class action concerning the delisting of the cryptocurrency 'Bitcoin Satoshi Vision' (as a pupil, assisting William Hooper);
- Ennis v Apple and Kent v Apple– acting for Apple in two sets of collective competition law proceedings alleging abuses of dominance in relation to the 'App Store' (as a pupil, assisting Hugo Leith);
- Gutmann v EE Limited and BT Group PLC – acting for BT/EE in proposed collective competition law proceedings concerning the proposed defendants' 'loyalty penalty' charging practices (as a pupil, assisting Hugo Leith);
- Merricks v Mastercard – acting for Mastercard in collective proceedings brought on behalf of consumers in relation to card interchange fees (as a pupil, assisting Hugo Leith);
- CICC I & II v Mastercard – acting for Mastercard in opt in and opt out collective proceedings brought on behalf of merchants in relation to card interchange fees (as a pupil, assisting Hugo Leith).

## Public Law

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Gianna accepts instructions across all areas of public law and civil liberties/human rights. Before joining Brick Court, she was a caseworker at a leading legal aid firm, where she was involved in a range of public law matters including judicial reviews related to unlawful detention and removal. Prior to that, she was a research assistant on the public law team at the Law Commission. While at university, Gianna also acted as a research assistant to Professor Jeff King on a range of public law issues, including in support of his role as Legal Adviser to the House of Lords Constitution Committee.

Gianna's recent experience includes:

- Advising an individual pro bono on prospects of a claim against a local authority for breach of the Human Rights Act 1998;

- R (Caterpillar (Xuzhou) Ltd) v Secretary of State for Business and Trade [2025] EWHC 1124 (Admin) – acting for the Trade Remedies Authority in a judicial review concerning a trade dumping investigation carried out under the Taxation (Cross-border Trade) Act 2018 (as a pupil, assisting Tim Johnston);
- R (Cornwall Council) v Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government (2025) – acting for the defendant in a judicial review of a decision to recover funding awarded under the European Regional Development Fund due to alleged procurement irregularities (as a pupil, assisting Tim Johnston);
- Making written submissions on behalf of the Secretary of State for Transport in a licensing appeal in the Upper Tribunal (as a pupil, assisting Tim Johnston);
- Advising an environmental charity on standing under the Subsidy Control Act 2022 (as a pupil, assisting Tim Johnston);
- Advising a charity on the comparative legal risks to universities of maintaining a zero tolerance policy to drug consumption by students, as opposed to adopting a harm reduction policy (as a pupil, assisting Tim Johnston).

## International/EU

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Before coming to the Bar, Gianna undertook a range of public international law casework, assisting Professor Dapo Akande and Dr Miles Jackson. This included work on:

- Written and oral submissions in the Palestine Advisory Opinion in the ICJ;
- A submission to the HRC regarding alleged violations by Russia of the right to life of Ukrainian victims of a 2022 missile attack (with the Clooney Foundation for Justice, Legal Action Worldwide and Truth Hounds);
- A submission to the HRC regarding alleged violations by Türkiye of the right to life of Yazidi civilians killed in a 2021 attack on an Iraqi hospital (with the Accountability Unit).

At the European Center for Constitutional and Human Rights, Gianna worked on a communication to the ICC regarding alleged crimes against humanity committed against migrants in the Mediterranean. She also has a strong understanding of the Refugee Convention and ECHR as a result of her experience in asylum casework in the UK and Greece.

During pupillage, Gianna gained particular experience in respect of environmental matters and the interpretation of treaties. Her recent experience includes:

- Advising a government body on a human rights treaty in the context of a British Overseas Territory (as a pupil, assisting Tim Johnston);

- Case T-120/34 GLAN and CAN-Europe v Commission – acting for environmental NGOs in an application for the annulment of a European Commission decision regarding annual emissions allocations for the member states (as a pupil, assisting Hugo Leith);
- Advising an environmental NGO on standing under the ECHR (as a pupil, assisting Hugo Leith).

## Education and Qualifications

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### Education

2023–2024: PGDip in Bar Practice, Inns of Court College of Advocacy

2021–2022: Bachelor of Civil Law (Distinction), University of Oxford

2016–2020: LLB Law with German Law (First Class), University College London

### Employment

2023: Public Law Caseworker – Duncan Lewis Solicitors

2022–2024: Research Assistant to Professor Dapo Akande and Dr Miles Jackson (Public International Law) – University of Oxford

2022: Bonavero Fellow – European Center for Constitutional and Human Rights

2022: Volunteer Legal Assistant – European Lawyers in Lesvos

2020–2021: Research Assistant in Public Law – Law Commission of England and Wales

2017–2022: Research Assistant to Professor Jeff King (Public Law) – University College London

### Awards and scholarships

Gray's Inn: Bedingfield Scholarship

University of Oxford: Law Faculty Prize in Human Rights at Work, Law Faculty Prize in International Law and Armed Conflict, Wadham College Examination Prize, Wadham College Senior Scholarship

University College London: Dean's List, Faculty Research Prize, Simon Wallace Prize for Contract Law, Webber Prize for greatest proficiency in Year 1 exams, Faculty Undergraduate Scholarship for Excellence, Laidlaw Scholarship

Other: 'Deutschlandstipendium' Scholarship of the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (awarded for year abroad at the University of Cologne)

