



LEIGH DAY

Channelling debate, discussion
and discourse on the immigration
and asylum topics of the day

Immigration
Summit | 2025

Welcome and Introduction 3

Programme 4

The Work of Leigh Day’s Immigration and Asylum Team 6

The Speakers 10

Adam Jones, Aderonke Apata, Adrian Berry KC, Lord Alf Dubs, Dr Chelvan, Debbie Ariyio, Diane Taylor, Emily Rowe, Fawzia Amini, Frances Swaine, Frances Webber, Freya Danby, Geoffrey Mboya, Grace Brown , Harj Narulla, Irungu Houghton , Issac Shaffer, Jacqueline McKenzie, James Wilson, Jerome Bond, Dr Juanita Cox, Karen Doyle, Kate Roberts, Professor Katharine Charsley, Kathryn Cronin, Kerry Smith, Larry Bottinick, Laurie Fransman, Lee Jasper, Luke de Noronha, Marcia Mascoll, Miranda Butler, Nadine Finch, Naga Kandiah, Naomi Jackson, Nath Gbikpi, Nick Armstrong KC, Oliver Oldman, Paola Uccella, Parosha Chandran, Phil Haywood, Piere Makhlouf, Raquel Roberts Dos Santos, Ravishaan Muthiah, Rebecca Fry, Shu Shin Lui, Simon Israel, Somaya Ouazzani, Sonali Naik KC, Sonia Lenegan, Dr Stephanie Motz, Toufique Hossain, Victoria Marks, Victoria Pogge von Strandmann, Waleed Sheikh , Yasmine Ahmed, Yumna Kamel, Zoe Bantleman

Our Sponsors 18

Awards 19

Introduction to our Immigration Summit 2025

The basic human condition of needing a home, a safe haven and to be free of persecution attracts so much anti-migrant discourse, justified by both theories of economic realities and the fear of cultural displacement, that we are faced with challenges for shaping the law, policy and practice.

The International Organisation for Migration (IOM) and the United Nations for Refugees (UNHCR) both indicate that there are over 120 million people displaced worldwide due to war, civil strife, climate catastrophes, poverty, slavery and discrimination, many within their own national borders or seeking safety in countries in the Global South – lesser developed countries have a disproportionate challenge.

National elections are swayed on the question of immigration and the narratives are known to have fuelled not just the UK riots of summer 2024, but the ongoing attacks on immigration NGOs, lawyers and judges. Today’s Summit is formed around a series of questions which informs all our work. We have invited leading thinkers and practitioners working on asylum, immigration, migration and Windrush, to explore these. We operate in a time when there are major challenges for our work, but equally so for colleagues in other countries.

The questions explore the themes: challenges to the rule of law, redress for victims of the Windrush Scandal, citizenship and nationality, the asylum-seeking process, immigration detention, the intersection between climate justice and migration, the juxtaposition between disfranchised communities and immigration, the right to family life, the provision of safe legal routes, mandatory deportation, access to resources, and the Refugee Convention.

I would like to thank you for attending, our sponsors for their generosity: Garden Court Chambers, Doughty Street Chambers, Kingsley Napley and 33 Bedford Row, our speakers and panellists, and moreover, the Leigh Day teams who have worked tirelessly to bring this event to you.

Jacqueline McKenzie

Partner and Head of Windrush, Immigration and Asylum Team - Leigh Day



Immigration Summit 29 April 2025 Leonardo Hotel

Morning

08:30	Registration
09:30	Musical interlude and welcome
09:35	Opening ceremony and awards
09.45	Opening address by Martyn Day
09:55	Keynote Address: Simon Israel introduced by Jacqueline McKenzie
10:20	Toufique Hossain and Zoe Bantleman in conversation with Sonia Lenegan
10:50	Coffee break
11:00	Summit Discussion: Deportation: Considering the impact of mandatory laws, are they compatible with the HRA? Chair: Jerome Bond, Diane Taylor, Karen Doyle, Phil Haywood and Luke de Noronha
12:00	Panels UK Riots and Discontent: Does anti-migrant discourse play a role? Safe Legal Routes: How do we choose which conflicts generate safe havens? Immigration Detention: Are there viable alternatives to detaining migrants? Right to Belong: How do citizenship laws shape identity and belonging? How do victims of the Windrush Scandal obtain redress seven years on?

Afternoon

13.15	Lunch
14:00	Lord Alf Dubs in conversation with Marcia Mascoll
14:30	Panels The Rule of Law: How do legal aid and other funding cuts undermine access to justice? Modern Slavery: Are restrictive immigration policies driving people trafficking? Asylum Claims: What role should the state play in determining credibility? Migration and Climate Justice: What legal frameworks can we develop to protect climate-vulnerable migrants? The Right to Family Life: Do immigration laws curtail the right to family life?
15:45	Tea break
16:00	Plenary of morning panels
16:30	Plenary of afternoon panels
17.00	Closing remarks
17:15	Reception



An overview of the past three years

Leigh Day was founded in 1987 by Sarah Leigh and Martyn Day – immigration law was one of its first practice areas. Over the years, the firm stopped offering direct client immigration services but continued to work on a series of public law claims which emanate from immigration and asylum matters. These matters have included cases on behalf of people who were unlawfully detained or falsely imprisoned in immigration removal centres and in major challenges to government policies and practices, with recent challenges including the treatment of Afghan citizens seeking entry to the UK, the Rwanda Plan and the treatment of Sri Lankan asylum seekers detained in Diego Garcia.

In July 2021, the firm established a Windrush, Immigration and Asylum team which was started by Jacqueline McKenzie. The team sits in the firm’s Human Rights department headed jointly by Gene Matthews and Jamie Beagent. In addition to the Windrush, Immigration and Asylum team, partners, including Waleed Sheik, Stephanie Hill and Tessa Gregory, conduct a series of public law challenges in immigration matters. Overall, the department has an active practice across a range of human rights matters, including abuse, the environment, prisons and actions against the police.

The Windrush Immigration and Asylum team is made up of Jacqueline McKenzie, Frances Swaine, Nath Gbikpi, Freya Danby, Rebecca Fry, Jerome Bond, Taylor Greyson and Salim Farah. Its work covers the range of matters that fall within the asylum and immigration jurisdiction, including cases involving articles 3 and 8 of the ECHR; asylum and refugee status; citizenship, nationality and Windrush; deportation and revocation of citizenship; modern slavery and trafficking; EUSS, and unlawful detention and false imprisonment. And in addition to these areas of practice, the team leads on the firm’s work on reparations for transatlantic slavery and is developing a practice on race discrimination.

The team is busy.

The team’s top 20 highlights include:

- 1. Submitting over 100 applications for compensation under the Windrush Compensation Scheme, securing millions of pounds for our clients, including in obtaining six figure payouts for victims upon review following nil decisions.
- 2. Obtaining entry clearance, extensions of leave, indefinite leave and citizenship, including following successful appeal hearings and including complex cases dealt with outside the rules.
- 3. Obtaining grants of asylum and humanitarian protection in a number of cases.
- 4. Enabling the return of individuals previously stranded abroad, including ex-deportees, victims of the Windrush scandals, and survivors of transnational marriage abandonment.
- 5. Intervening in a case before the ECtHR on behalf of Stonewall and African Rainbow Family – M.I v Switzerland application no 56390/21.
- 6. Appearing in the High Court for the high-profile Windrush Judicial Review claim of Jeanell Hippolyte v SSHD- [2024] EWHC 2968 (Admin).
- 7. Enabling foreign workers on British flagged fishing trawlers to remain in the UK to obtain treatment for trauma they suffered due to inhumane working conditions.

- 8. Obtaining in principle permission for a Palestinian baby to travel to the UK for life saving treatment from the British government by working with both the FCDO and the Home Office. The baby was eventually airlifted to Egypt.
- 9. Appearing in the Privy Council in the first hearing to appeal a decision taken by the church commissioners in over 20 years.
- 10. Obtaining compensation for 12 students in the History of Africa and African Diaspora programme at the University of Chichester from the Office of the Independent Adjudicator for Higher Education, following the discontinuation of their course and representing same students in an ongoing civil claim.
- 11. Ongoing Judicial Review challenging the limitations of the Migrants Victims of Domestic Abuse Concession.
- 12. Obtaining leave to remain in the UK, outside the rules, for a visitor who was injured in an unprovoked knife attack, and his mother who has become his carer.

In addition to managing cases, team members are involved in meetings, training and conferences in the UK and overseas. Ten notable events taken from the past two years include:

- 1. Jacqueline addressed Kenya’s Bandung Conference on reparations and restitution in November 2024.
- 2. Jacqueline and Jerome addressed the APPG on Reparations’ annual conference in 2023 and 2024.
- 3. Jacqueline, on the invitation of Ghana’s former president Nana Akufo-Addo, attended the Accra Conference on Reparations in November 2023.
- 4. The team held a round-table event on reparations in October 2024, with activists, lawyers and policy makers, including attorney Arley Gill, Chair of Grenada’s National Reparations Commission.
- 5. Jacqueline attended the meeting of the Secretariat for the UN Decade for People of African Descent, in Barbados in December 2024, in which she participated in workshops to set the priority for the next decade, including on reparations.
- 6. Frances co-organised and participated in an

- 13. Representing EU citizens stranded outside of the UK post Brexit and those in the UK who have failed to obtain EUSS before the deadline.
- 14. Representing one of the 6 men taken to an airbase for removal to Rwanda in June 2022 and getting a stay in the Admin Court.
- 15. Pursuing claims for false imprisonment for people detained pending removal to Rwanda after it was known the plan would not proceed.
- 16. Getting stays for people on Jamaica and Ghana deport charter flights.
- 17. Managing asylum claims for families brought to the UK from Diego Garcia.
- 18. Investigating a claim to British citizenship by 300 Kenyans whose fathers were British farmers.
- 19. Investigating a claim for individuals who were wrongly labelled “educationally subnormal” during the 1960s and 1970s.
- 20.Submitted a request to the Secretary of State for a Statutory Inquiry into the Windrush Scandal.

- event at the House of Commons, marking the 40th anniversary of the publication of the Swann report “Education for All”, and highlighting the scandal of educationally subnormal schools in February 2025.
- 7. Jacqueline delivered the keynote address at the Law Society’s Risk and Compliance Conference in London in March 2025
- 8. Nath co-organised and chaired a panel at ILPA’s Immigration and Family Law conference in March 2025
- 9. Nath has delivered a three-part masterclass on Immigration Law at the London School of Economics (LSE).
- 10. Jacqueline delivered a paper on reparations and Frances on immigration at the 24th Commonwealth Law Conference (CLC) held in Malta from the 5-9 April 2025. Both delivered papers to CLC in Goa in March 2023.

Individuals have also been recognised for their work. Jacqueline has received numerous awards and accolades, the most recent of which include:

- being in the top 100 people in the Black Power List, for the 3rd year in a row;
- receiving the GG2 Leadership and Diversity Awards Lawyer of the Year in 2022;
- winning the British Diversity Awards Hero of the Year in 2022;
- winning the Honours of Distinction – community achievement awards at the BLAC Awards in 2023;
- receiving the Lifetime Achievement Award by the Black Counsel Forum in October 2024.

In 2024, Frances was awarded an honorary doctorate from the University of Law for her work in setting up a law apprenticeship programme, and social justice, Nath was a finalist in the Immigration and Asylum Law category of the 2023 Legal Aid Layer of the Year Awards, and was recognised for her work for victims of domestic and honour based abuse in the IKWRO True Honour Awards 2025, and Taylor Greyson was a nominee at the BLAC Awards of October 2023, for his work on the Windrush scandal.

The team’s work is varied and arduous. A small sample includes:

Windrush compensation

A is a Jamaican national who lost his employment with an agency in 2008 and was unable to secure further employment. He only had a stamp to confirm his indefinite leave to enter in a very old, expired passport which was not acceptable to his employers, or other prospective employers at the time. He got into severe financial hardship and almost lost his house. He feared he would become homeless, and his mental health seriously declined to the point where he would rarely leave his house. Although he obtained status documents through the Windrush Scheme, he was still struggling financially and mentally.

He submitted his own initial claim on 21 March 2020 with substantial evidence of his loss of employment, earnings etc. He was awarded a £10,000 preliminary payment in March 2021 but in January 2021, the Windrush Compensation Scheme Team advised that this was an error and that he’d receive nothing. Ramya Jaidev, Freya and Jacqueline were instructed in his Tier 1 Review, resulting in an award of just under £290,000, in a case which raised fundamental questions about the quality of the initial caseworker and the treatment of unrepresented claimants.

Intervention: MI v Switzerland

Instructed by NGOs Stonewall and African Rainbow Family, Jacqueline was granted permission to intervene in the matter of M.I v Switzerland (application 56390/21) by the ECtHR. The intervention submissions provide an opportunity for Stonewall and African Rainbow Family to highlight the real risk of Article 3 ECHR harm to gay men from Iran, and how concealment/discretion is unlawfully used by Council of Europe Member States to disproportionately target lesbian, gay, and bisexual refugee applicants.

In a landmark judgment that could officially signal the end of the “discretion test” for refugees, the European Court of Human Rights acknowledged our intervention and noted our submissions that returning MI to Iran would require him to effectively prove that he is heterosexual in order to live discreetly – carrying the risk that failure to fit the heterosexual stereotype of the potential persecutor would mean that return would give rise to a risk contrary to Article 3. Instructed counsel was Dr S Chelvan of 33 Bedford Row.

Asylum

Nath was instructed by C and D, the same-sex parents of X, a child born in the UK. We claimed asylum for X, arguing that he would not be recognised or registered on return to C and D’s country of origin, preventing him from accessing education, social welfare, formal identity documents, immunisations etc. We argued this amounted to persecution. The Home Office initially refused the application. We then

Immigration

Rebecca represented a woman with end-stage kidney failure in her Article 3 (Medical) and Article 8 (Medical and Private Life) appeal to the First-Tier Tribunal (IAC). Client B is undergoing life-saving dialysis treatment several times a week in hospital. She had submitted her initial application for leave to remain with the assistance of a charity and instructed us to represent her in her appeal after her application was refused.

In support of our client’s appeal, we obtained expert reports from two nephrologists and a

Discrimination

Since July 2023, Jacqueline and Jerome have represented 13 master’s and PhD students in the History of Africa and African Diaspora programme at the University of Chichester, in their claim for breach of contract, breach of the public sector equality duty and discrimination for their mistreatment of the cohort during the course suspension process. The programme is led by Professor Hakim Adi, one of the UK’s pre-eminent historians and the first person of African heritage to become a professor of History in the UK. Despite the course’s strong reputation, in July 2023 the programme was suspended, due to an alleged lack of funding, and Professor Hakim Adi was made redundant in August 2023. In February 2025, the Office of the Independent Adjudicator (OIA) for Higher Education found the complaint made by students against the university was partly justified, ruling that the students had a legitimate expectation to be taught by an expert

submitted further evidence conclusively proving that X would not be registered by the authorities unless either C or D presented themselves as single parents. We submitted further that this would be a violation of their rights to family life, and require them to hide their sexual identity, in violation of well-established refugee law. On the morning of the appeal, the Home Office agreed that they would grant X refugee status.

country report by an expert specialising in access to healthcare. The evidence showed that there was a real risk of an interruption, if not an end, in her dialysis treatment if she were to be removed to her country of origin, and that this would either result in her death or seriously jeopardise her health. Following the submission of our evidence, the Home Office conducted a review and agreed to withdraw their refusal decision, with a view to granting B leave to remain. Instructed counsel was Rebecca Chapman of Garden Court Chambers.

under whom they had specifically enrolled to study. The university has been ordered to pay compensation to the affected students and a civil claim is ongoing.



Our panellists

Keynote speaker



Simon Israel has spent the past 40 years in journalism, most of which were dedicated to his role as a specialist correspondent for Channel 4 News where he has covered some of the most important stories of our time, including the murder of Stephen Lawrence, the 2010 urban uprisings, the Victoria Climbié Inquiry, numerous death in-custody cases, major terrorism cases, various aspects of the ‘hostile’ environment, the death of Ian Tomlinson, the Windrush Scandal including the death of Dexter Bristol, and more recently, the Tamil migrants on Diego Garcia, the UK domestic workers slave trade, and the Channel migrant boat deaths inquiry.

Simon studied maths and logic at Aberdeen University which he says he hated, but got involved in the student newspaper which he described as being great as there were no rules. So when he left university, he thought he was going to be a broadcast journalist in radio.

‘Commercial radio was booming, so there were loads of jobs out there. I did three months at the National Broadcasting School, Soho then started off in local radio. I then arrived in London LBC IRN and was there for an awful long time, maybe too long, probably. Working in local radio I really had a brilliant time. I went all over; India, South Africa, Bosnia during the war, Kenya, and various places in Europe. I did lots of things.’

He has received a series of awards, including four Royal Television Society awards. He states his street cred has been somewhat amplified with a brief appearance on an album by UK rapper, Dave.

Toufique Hossain and Zoe Bantleman in Conversation with Sonia Lenegan

Sonia Lenegan is an immigration, asylum and public law solicitor who has worked at ATLEU, Duncan Lewis and Hackney Community Law Centre. She was previously the legal director at the Immigration Law Practitioners’ Association and the legal and policy director at Rainbow Migration. Sonia is currently the editor of Free Movement and a consultant solicitor at Saltworks.



Toufique Hossain is director of public law at Duncan Lewis Solicitors specialising in strategic litigation and challenging unlawful government acts. He was one of the lead solicitors in the Supreme Court challenge to the government’s Rwanda plan and is ranked in both Legal 500 and Chambers. In Chambers, he is the sole solicitor ranked in three practice areas including, Immigration: Human Rights, Asylum and Deportation, and Administrative and Public Law.



Zoe Bantleman is the legal director of the Immigration Law Practitioners’ Association (ILPA), a barrister, and an editor of the Journal of Immigration, Asylum, and Nationality Law. In recent years, she has helped lead the opposition to the Nationality and Borders Act 2022, Illegal Migration Act 2023, and Safety of Rwanda (Asylum and Immigration) Act 2024.



Summit Discussion – Deportation: Considering the impact of mandatory laws, are they compatible with the HRA?

Jerome Bond (Chair of the Discussion) is a paralegal in Leigh Day’s Windrush, Immigration and Asylum team where he works on a range of deportation, asylum and immigration matters, including first instance applications and matters before the immigration tribunals.



Karen Doyle is a Justice First fellow and in her second year as a trainee solicitor at Wilson Solicitors LLP. She is well known for her years of campaigning for migrant rights with the group MFJ to stop deportation charters, particularly those to Jamaica.



Phil Haywood is a barrister at Doughty Street Chambers. Prior to being called to the Bar, he qualified as a solicitor and worked as a legal officer at the Refugee Legal Centre. His practice encompasses representation at the immigration tribunals, the High Court and the Court of Appeal.



Dr Luke de Noronha is an associate professor at the Sarah Parker Remond Centre at University College London (UCL) where he lectures on the MA on race, ethnicity and postcolonial studies. He has written extensively on the politics of immigration, racism and deportation, and has produced a podcast called Deportation Discs.



Diane Taylor is an author and journalist at the Guardian who writes extensively and breaks major stories on human rights, racism, injustice and migration.

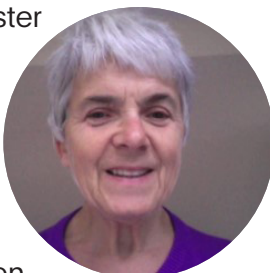


Panel – UK Riots and Discontent: Does anti-migrant discourse play a role?

Frances Swaine (Chair of the Panel) is a consultant solicitor in Leigh Day’s Windrush, Immigration and Asylum team working with clients applying to the Windrush Compensation Scheme and those misclassified as educationally subnormal during the 1960s and 1970s. She is an experienced human rights lawyer with over 30 years in practice. Frances was Leigh Day’s first managing partner from 2010 to 2022.



Frances Webber is a former barrister specialising in immigration, refugee, and human rights law, a trustee of the Institute of Race Relations, and honorary vice-president of the Haldane Society of Socialist Lawyers. She has written extensively on immigration and migration, and her work includes co-editing Macdonald’s Immigration Law and Practice (5th and 6th eds, 2001 and 2005) and Halsbury’s British Nationality, Immigration and Asylum (4th ed, 2002 reissue).



Lee Jasper is a human rights and race equality campaigner with over four decades of leadership in immigration justice, including frontline advocacy on the Windrush Scandal. A former senior policy adviser to the Mayor of London on equalities and policing, he has advised UK home secretaries and led campaigns on immigration, detention, and deportation. He currently works as a consultant on matters of race, equalities and diversity.



Ravishaan Rahel Muthiah is director of communications at the Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants (JCWI) where he has led campaigns about the divisive use of social media during the August 2024 riots, climate migration, the mistreatment of migrant workers, rising refugee homelessness and the Hostile Environment policy. Prior to joining JCWI, Ravishaan ran parliamentary election campaigns.



Yasmine Ahmed is UK Director of Human Rights Watch. She has two decades of experience as a public international lawyer and human rights advocate. In her current role, she advocates for the United Kingdom's foreign and domestic policies to be consistent with human rights. Yasmine regularly appears in the media as an expert on human rights matters and law.



Panel – Safe Legal Routes: How do we choose which conflicts generate safe havens?

Peter Herbert (Chair of the Panel) is a retired barrister and judge who specialised in high-profile human rights, employment, family law, terrorism and deaths in custody cases in the UK and internationally, and was lead Counsel in the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR) for Jon Bosco Barayagwiza (2005).



Fawzia Amini served in Afghanistan as a former head of the legal department in the Ministry of Women's Affairs, a senior judge in the Supreme Court and as head of the Violence Against Women Appeal



Court. Now in the UK, she advocates for the protection of women in Afghanistan and works as a legal executive at Leigh Day.

Larry Bottinick has worked for UNHCR for over 30 years with postings including Indonesia, Czech Republic, Israel and Turkey. He is currently senior legal officer at the UNHCR and undertook emergency missions to Kosovo, the Great Lakes, and Guantanamo Bay (Haitian Boat people).



Miranda Butler is a barrister at Landmark Chambers where she specialises in public law, human rights, and immigration. She is also a deputy upper tribunal judge and was shortlisted for 'Legal Aid Barrister of the Year' at the 2024 Legal Aid Lawyer of the Year Awards.



Somaya Ouazzani is a UK-based lawyer and the co-founder and co-director of Children Not Numbers, advocating for vulnerable children globally. She has published academic articles on women's and children's rights and has completed humanitarian missions in various countries. In 2025, she was shortlisted for Woman of the Year by the Women & Diversity in Law Awards.



Panel – Immigration Detention: Are there viable alternatives to detaining migrants?

Waleed Sheikh (Chair of the Panel) is a partner at Leigh Day whose expertise covers matters relating to immigration detention, national security and discrimination issues arising from Israel's war in Gaza.



He acts on behalf of both individuals and charities and his work includes public and private law claims.

James Wilson is Director of Detention Action which campaigns for reform, particularly a strict time limit on immigration detention, and provides advocacy and support to people detained. Notable successes include involvement in challenging the Rwanda removals policy in 2022. James previously directed Gatwick Detainees Welfare Group.



Nick Armstrong KC is a barrister at Matrix Chambers specialising in immigration and other public law areas including social welfare law. He represented one of the victims' teams in the Brook House Inquiry and is acting in a number of cases concerning the safeguarding risks and systems in asylum hotels. Nick also sits as an assistant coroner.



Pierre Makhoul has worked in the field of immigration and asylum law since 1989, initially in private practice at Simons Muirhead and Burton solicitors, then at Hackney Community Law Centre before joining Bail for Immigration Detainees as its legal and assistant director. He is responsible for its Article 8 Deportation Advice Project.



Panel – The Right to Belong: How do citizenship laws shape identity and belonging?

Dr Juanita Cox (Chair of the Panel) is an academic and a former associate fellow at London Metropolitan University and a lecturer in Caribbean studies and



Black British history. From 2019-2024, she worked as a research fellow at the School of Advanced Studies on projects related to the Windrush Generation and the Windrush Scandal.

Adrian Berry KC is a barrister whose practice spans a range of public law areas concerning nationality, immigration, human rights, international protection, education, and social assistance. He is ranked Band 1 in Chambers & Partners and Tier 1 in Legal 500 for Immigration Law. He is the co-author of the current fourth edition of Franksman's British Nationality Law.



Grace Brown, joint head of Garden Court Chambers, is a public law practitioner with a particular focus on human rights, immigration and refugee law. She is regularly instructed in judicial reviews and has worked on many Windrush cases challenging the apparent and intrinsic inequities and failings of both the Windrush Scheme and the Windrush Compensation Scheme.



Jacqueline McKenzie is a multi-award-winning partner at Leigh Day and the head of its Windrush, Immigration and Asylum team. She practices across a range of immigration, asylum, Windrush and human rights cases at both first instance and appellate levels, has a portfolio of race discrimination cases, and leads the firm's work on reparations. She is recognised as a leading lawyer in response to the Windrush Scandal and is regularly asked to provide commentary in the media and speak at events on Windrush and immigration matters.



Laurie Fransman KC is a leading immigration silk specialising in immigration, nationality, and asylum cases, with a focus on high-level protection cases. He co-authored the fourth edition of Fransman's British Nationality Law and contributes to policy development at NGO, governmental, and inter-governmental levels. He has helped draft constitutions and legislation in the UK and abroad.



Panel – : How do victims of the Windrush Scandal secure redress seven years on?

Freya Danby (Chair of the Panel) is a solicitor in Leigh Day's Windrush, Immigration and Asylum Team. Her work includes immigration, asylum, trafficking and Windrush cases, both status and compensation, and she has undertaken judicial reviews of Windrush decisions, unlawful detention and false imprisonment.



Anthony Brown is the co-founder of Windrush Defenders Legal C.I.C (WD Legal) who conduct pro bono surgeries to assist victims of the Windrush Scandal. WD Legal is campaigning for a 'Windrush Act'. Anthony faced the threat of deportation in 1983 when he fell foul of the 1971 Immigration Act after living outside the UK for more than two years.



Glenda Caesar is a Windrush Scandal survivor, campaigner and a director of the Windrush National Organization who has emerged as a key advocate for the Windrush cause. She speaks regularly in the media and at community events, and has been successful in assisting claimants with obtaining immigration status and applying for compensation.



Martin Forde KC is an award winning leading silk with a practice covering all aspects of health law and appears regularly in the regulatory and Disciplinary tribunals predominantly for medical practitioners. Martin was the independent advisor to the Home Office on the setting up of the Windrush Compensation Scheme.



Sonali Naik KC is an award winning barrister specialising in immigration, asylum, and nationality law who handles policy challenges and test cases. She is representing UNHCR in a Court of Appeal challenge to the refugee child family reunion policy (DM v SSHD, May 2025) and acted in the Supreme Court case 'Rwanda' litigation (AAA and others v SSHD, 2024).



Anna Steiner is a senior lecturer in law and director of the University of Westminster Legal Advice Clinic, and a practicing solicitor. Prior to qualifying as a solicitor Anna worked as an Immigration and Asylum Caseworker, is co-founder of the Windrush Justice Clinic and a co-authored The Windrush Compensation Scheme: Unmet Need for Legal Advice.



Lord Alf Dubs in Conversation with Marcia Mascoll

Lord Alfred Dubs was born in Prague, Czechoslovakia to a Jewish father, Hubert and an Austrian mother. He was one of 669 Czech-resident children saved by British stockbroker Nicholas Winton, and others, from the Nazis on the Kindertransport between March and September 1939. His father had fled to England the day the Nazis arrived in Czechoslovakia and met Alf at Liverpool Street station. Alf later said that he remembered leaving Prague station at

age six and not touching the food pack given to him by his mother for the next two days. His mother was initially denied a visa but was able to join him and his father in London shortly afterwards. He was educated at the London School of Economics and worked in local government and public policy before entering politics and becoming a Labour politician and leading refugee rights advocate. He was MP for Battersea from 1979-1987, including four years as shadow Home Office minister.



After leaving the House of Commons, Lord Dubs became Director of the Refugee Council and was appointed a Labour life peer in 1994. In 1997, he was appointed as a Minister in Northern Ireland, serving until the Good Friday Agreement. In 2016, he sponsored the "Dubs Amendment" to offer unaccompanied refugee children safe passage to Britain.

Lord Dubs currently serves on the British Irish Parliamentary Assembly and on the Justice and Home Affairs select committees.

Marcia Mascoll has over 20 years' experience working as a broadcast journalist and producer at the BBC and Channel 4. She is currently a freelance producer at Channel 4 news and has produced numerous reports on immigration and asylum matters, including providing extensive coverage of the refugee crisis in Lampedusa, Hungary, Calais, and the Windrush scandal.



Panel – The Rule of Law: How do legal aid and other funding cuts undermine access to justice?

Jeremy Bloom (Chair of the Panel) is a consultant solicitor at Duncan Lewis where

he acts in a number of public law and immigration related matters, including challenges to unlawful decisions, policies and practices of public bodies. Jeremy has represented a number of victims of the Windrush Scandal and worked previously at Amnesty International.



Naomi Jackson is the managing director of Social Workers Without Borders, which provides independent social work and offers education and campaigning at the intersection of social work practice and immigration policy. Naomi is also a postgraduate researcher in Law at the University of Liverpool with a focus on children's rights in the context of parental deportation.



Kerry Smith has worked at the Refugee Legal Centre, the International Committee of the Red Cross in Ethiopia and Colombia, as a gender adviser at Amnesty International UK, Save the Children and Plan International UK. In May 2018, she became chief executive of the Helen Bamber Foundation which works with survivors of trafficking and torture.



Victoria Pogge von Strandmann is the legal director of the Public Law Project and before this was head of the public law and human rights department at Simpson Millar Solicitors. She has spent more than a decade specialising in defending the rights of children, young people and vulnerable migrants.



Paola Uccellari is CEO at Young Roots, a charity supporting children and young people seeking safety in the UK. Previously, she held senior



leadership positions at the Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants, the Law Society, the Equality and Human Rights Commission, the Children's Rights Alliance for England and the Equal Rights Trust.

Panel – Modern Slavery: Are restrictive immigration policies driving people trafficking?

Rebecca Fry (Chair of the Panel) is a solicitor in Leigh Day's Windrush, Immigration and Asylum team covering Windrush cases, asylum and other human-rights-based immigration claims in the first instance and before the immigration tribunals.



Debbie Ariyo OBE is founder and CEO of AFRUCA Safeguarding Children, a charity promoting the protection of children in Black and ethnic communities. She is a noted expert in modern slavery and child trafficking and chair and founder of the UK BME Anti-Slavery Network.



Kate Roberts is head of policy at Focus on Labour Exploitation (FLEX), working to highlight and reduce risks of exploitation in the mainstream economy. With over 15 years of experience in workers' rights, campaigning, and anti-trafficking work, she has expertise in policy and advocacy.



Parosha Chandran is professor of practice in modern slavery law at King's College London and a multi-award-winning human rights barrister at One Pump Court Chambers. A world-leading authority on human trafficking law, she has represented



victims at the ECtHR and advises on international legal texts.

Shu Shin Luh is a barrister at Doughty Street Chambers with expertise in community and health care, mental health and capacity, education, housing, welfare benefits, human trafficking, immigration and asylum, and deprivation of liberty both in the context of immigration detention and the Court of Protection.



Victoria Marks is co-founder and director of the Anti-Trafficking and Labour Exploitation Unit (ATLEU) and an experienced social welfare lawyer. Victoria has represented survivors of trafficking and slavery across a range of legal issues including securing housing and support, recovering compensation from traffickers and in Human Rights Act claims.



Panel – Asylum Claims: What role should the state play in determining credibility?

Oliver Oldman (Chair of the Panel) is a senior associate in the Immigration Team at Kingsley Napley. His practice covers a range of personal immigration law matters, with a particular focus on complex international protection claims.



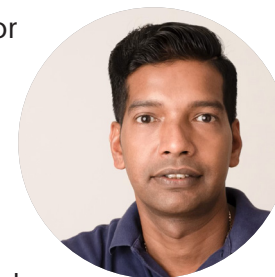
Aderonke Apata is a multi-award-winning human rights activist and barrister (unregistered). Aderonke founded the African Rainbow Family in 2014 amidst her thirteen-year journey to being granted asylum in the UK having fled Nigeria in 2004 after being sentenced to death for being a lesbian.



Dr S Chelvan is the head of Immigration and Public Law at 33 Bedford Row Chambers and adjunct professor at the Centre for International Law and Globalisation, University of Southampton law school. He was profiled in December 2024 by The Times as their Lawyer of the Week for his role as leading counsel for the UK gay and refugee charities who intervened in the case of MI v Switzerland.



Naga Kandiah is a senior solicitor at MTC Solicitors and a highly respected and commended immigration, asylum, deportation and human rights lawyer known for his dedication to defending vulnerable individuals.



Dr Stephanie Motz is an attorney at RISE law firm in Zurich and a public and international law expert specialising in international human rights, migration, criminal and international criminal law. She litigates before national and international bodies, including the ECtHR and the UN human rights committees in Geneva.



Panel – Migration and Climate Justice: What legal frameworks can we develop to protect climate vulnerable migrants?

Adam Jones (Chair of the Panel) is a solicitor at the Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants and the lead lawyer for JCWI's 'Climate Justice is Migrant Justice' project, representing clients affected by the climate crisis. He is a founding member of the Immigration Climate Collective, a group for legal professionals to share information and ideas on



how best to represent individuals faced with the impacts of the climate crisis.

Emily Rowe is chair of the Climate Emergency Working Group at Refugee Legal Support and a founding member of the Immigration Climate Collective. She was an accredited delegate at CoP 29 in Azerbaijan.



Geoffrey Mboya is a renowned Kenyan youth advocate and community organizer redefining how urban communities engage with the climate crisis. Based in Nairobi, he leads grassroots civic and environmental initiatives and brought Kenya's frontline realities to COP27 and COP28.



Harj Narulla is an experienced climate barrister who acts in a range of domestic and international climate litigation. He was involved in world-first climate litigation before national, regional and international courts and represented the Solomon Islands before the International Court of Justice in its advisory proceedings on climate change, where his submissions substantially focused on climate displacement, migration and relocation. Earlier in his career Harj worked as refugee lawyer on Manus Island and in Greece.



Irūngū Houghton has advised and held national governments, international and continental multi-lateral processes publicly accountable for the last thirty years. He currently serves as Amnesty International Kenya's executive director where he leads a team of committed investigative researchers and campaigners working to end human rights abuses in Kenya.



Yumna Kamel is the co-founder and executive director of Earth Refuge, a legal think tank dedicated to climate migration, and a joint initiator of the open-source climate displacement case database. Yumna is also the senior legal education officer at the migration justice charity Right to Remain. She was awarded a public interest fellowship for commitment to social justice by the Pennsylvania Carey Law School.



Panel – The Right to Family Life: Do immigration laws curtail the right to family life?

Nath Gbikpi (Nath Gbikpi (Chair of the Panel) is a senior solicitor in Leigh Day’s Windrush, Immigration and Asylum team. She has an expertise across the range of asylum and immigration practice areas and has a caseload both at first instance and appellate levels. Nath is regularly asked to provide commentary and training on immigration and asylum law, including for ILPA and Free Movement, and recently delivered a programme of classes to LSE students.



Katharine Charsley is professor of migration studies in the School for Sociology, Politics and International Studies at the University of Bristol. Her areas of interest are gender, families and migration, and in particular transnational marriage and relationships. Her research includes work on British Pakistani transnational marriages and marriage-related migration.



Kathryn Cronin has an extensive immigration, asylum, and family law practice, with expert knowledge of the intersection between family and immigration law and on international adoption, surrogacy and transnational care and child placement. She advises parties, local authorities, and guardians ad litem on resolving immigration issues for parents and minors.



Nadine Finch is an honorary senior policy fellow at the School for Policy Studies, University of Bristol. She was previously a human rights barrister practising in the fields of child protection, human trafficking and migration and a judge in the Upper Tribunal of the Immigration and Asylum Chamber from 2015 to 2020.



Raquel Roberts Dos Santos has personal lived experience of the many challenges and trauma caused by the UK’s spouse migration policy. As an enforced single mother of nearly six years, project manager and volunteer at Reunite Families UK, Raquel provides support to other affected families whilst advocating for change.



Awards

Leigh Day’s Windrush, Immigration and Asylum team have decided that the Immigration Summit Awards for 2025 should go to:

Dawn Hill for being an outstanding champion of those affected by the Windrush Scandal



Dawn arrived in the UK from Jamaica in 1956 to study nursing and became a senior NHS manager. She was chair of the Black Cultural Archives when the Windrush Scandal became public and the first to set up meetings and surgeries to support its victims. Dawn, a former non-executive director of Guy’s and St Thomas’ Hospital Trust and current trustee of the Mary Seacole Trust, continues to be at the heart of the response to the Windrush Scandal.

Diane Taylor for her outstanding contribution to reporting on immigration and asylum matters



Diane is an author and journalist at the Guardian newspaper. She is renowned for getting beneath the surface of matters pertaining to migrants and asylum seekers and has been at the forefront of groundbreaking stories which includes, the Cranston and Manston inquiries, Bibby Stockholm, Tamil migrants stranded on Diego Garcia and the Rwanda Plan.

Kathryn Cronin for her outstanding contribution to law in the immigration jurisdiction



Kathryn has a first class reputation of representation in immigration, asylum and human rights cases. She is an expert on family proceedings involving immigration, nationality, international adoptions, surrogacy and transnational care, and is the principal author of Child Migration: Family and Immigration Laws published by Bloomsbury in 2024. Kathryn is ranked in Band 1 in Chambers UK and Tier 1 in The Legal 500 for immigration law.

Our Sponsors



Founded in 1975, Garden Court Chambers is committed to fighting injustice, defending human rights and upholding the rule of law across the UK and around the world.



33 Bedford Row
Barristers’ Chambers

33 Bedford Row is a leading common law set offering outstanding legal advice and advocacy in Civil, Criminal, immigration and Regulatory law including work with an international element.



Doughty Street was formed in 1990 and has an international reputation for all aspects of human rights law and civil liberties in multiple legal jurisdictions.

KINGSLEY NAPLEY
WHEN IT MATTERS MOST

For over 80 years, Kingsley Napley has been recognised for providing the highest quality legal advice and services and has been at the forefront of some of the UK’s most important judicial cases.

LEIGH DAY

Pushing the boundaries, taking a stand

Leigh Day is a law firm that works for individuals or communities who have been harmed or treated unlawfully. Our human rights, immigration, and public law specialists represent people from all over the world helping them to enforce their rights, challenge unlawful behaviour and secure accountability.

Contact us for an open and honest discussion

📍 Leigh Day
Panagram
27, Goswell Road
London
EC1M 7AJ

☎ +44 (0)20 3504 8519

✉ info@leighday.co.uk

✂ @leighday

🌐 leighday.co.uk

📍 DX 53326 Clerkenwell

Cover image: Zita Holbourne

Immigration
Summit ↓ 2025

LAWYERS AGAINST INJUSTICE