

T. 020 7404 3447 (Practice Manager, Jason Housden)  
E. rabindersingh@matrixlaw.co.uk

Call to the Bar: 1989 Appointed QC: 2002



## Main Areas of Practice

Public and Administrative law    Human Rights law  
Employment law    Commercial law  
European Community law    Media law

Date of birth: 1964  
Degrees: BA (Camb),  
LLM (Berkeley)

## Professional Experience

1992-2002 Member of the Panel of Junior Counsel to the Crown (on the 'A' Panel 2000-02)  
1997-2002 Additional Junior Counsel to the Inland Revenue (common law)  
2001 Barrister of the Year award, The Lawyer magazine  
2003 Appointed Deputy High Court Judge  
2003 Appointed Visiting Professor of Law, London School of Economics  
2004 Appointed Recorder of the Crown Court  
2006 Human Rights Lawyer of Year (Liberty/Justice)  
2006-08 Chair of the Constitutional and Administrative Law Bar Association  
2009- Bencher of Lincoln's Inn

## Skills and Abilities

### Experience in advocacy at all levels;

From the Employment Tribunal to the House of Lords, the Privy Council, the European Court of Justice and the European Court of Human Rights, he has experience of public inquiries as well as court work. Rabinder has appeared in more than 30 cases in the House of Lords.

### Breadth of practice;

Rabinder has undertaken cases ranging from commercial and tax disputes through to media law, mental health and prisoners' rights. He has particular expertise in cross-disciplinary work, with the ability to handle issues of public law, EC law and international law as they impact on commercial and employment.

### Diversity of clients;

Rabinder regularly acts for a range of clients, including individuals, companies, local authorities, central government and Non-Governmental Organisations.

## Recent Cases

[R \(JS \(Sri Lanka\) v SSHD \[2010\] UKSC 15](#) (relationship between international criminal law and Article 1F of Refugee Convention).

[Ahmed & Others v HM Treasury \[2010\] UKSC 2](#) (asset freezing orders pursuant to UN Security Council Resolutions).

[Gillan v UK \[2010\] ECtHR](#) (stop and search under s.44 Terrorism Act incompatible with ECHR).

[Rodriguez v Minister of Housing of Gibraltar \[2009\] UKPC 52](#) (discrimination in allocation of housing against same-sex partners and Constitution of Gibraltar).

[RB \(Algeria\) v SSHD \[2009\] HL](#) (deportation and memoranda of understanding with states where risk of torture).

[EM \(Lebanon\) v SSHD \[2008\] HL](#) (deportation where interference with right to respect for family life of mother and child).

[Malcolm v Lewisham LBC \[2008\] HL](#) (disability discrimination legislation and action for possession by landlord).

[S & Marper v UK \[2008\] ECtHR](#) (retention of DNA profiles of acquitted persons incompatible with ECHR).

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## Cases continued

### Public law

Rabinder has appeared in many of the leading cases in public law over the last 15 years, including:

- The case about whether the Hunting Act 2004 is compatible with human rights law and EU law [2007]
- The case about a police officer's willingness to disclose transsexuality [2004] - HL
- The cases concerning whether the war in Iraq was contrary to international law [2002 and 2008]
- The case regarding whether London Underground should have a Public Private Partnership (PPP) [2001]
- The case about whether General Pinochet was too ill to stand trial [2000]
- The case of whether the Fayed brothers should be given British nationality [1998]
- The case about whether Derek Bentley should be given a posthumous pardon [1994]

### Human Rights

Rabinder has also appeared in many of the important cases under the Human Rights Act, including:

- The case about the extraterritorial application of the HRA [2007] - HL
- The case about whether prisoners should have the right to vote [2005] - Grand Chamber, ECtHR
- The case about whether asylum seekers are entitled to some minimum level of state support [2005] - HL
- Regarding whether detention of suspected international terrorists without trial is permissible [2004] - HL
- Whether same-sex partnerships have the same tenancy rights as heterosexual couples [2004] - HL
- Whether the planning system is compatible with the right to an independent tribunal [2001] - HL

### Recent Publications

- Co-author of Beatson, Grosz, Hickman & Singh, Human Rights: Judicial Enforcement in the UK (2008)
- The 2007 Statute Law Society Lecture: Interpreting Bills of Rights [2008] Statute Law Review 82
- The 2005 MacDermott Lecture - The Use of International Law in the Domestic Courts of the UK [2005] 56 NILQ 119
- Equality - the Neglected Virtue [2004] EHRLR 141
- Privacy Postponed? (2003) EHRLR Special Issue 12 (with J. Strachan)
- The Right to Privacy in English Law [2002] EHRLR 129 (with J. Strachan)
- Contributor, Privacy & the Media - the developing law (2002, Matrix)
- The Declaration of Incompatibility [2002] Judicial Review 237
- The Place of the HRA in a Democratic Society, in J. Jowell and J. Cooper (eds), Understanding Human Rights Principles (2001)
- Is There a Role for the Margin of Appreciation after the Human Rights Act? [1999] EHRLR 15 (with M. Hunt and M. Demetriou)
- Privacy & the Media after the Human Rights Act [1998] EHRLR 712
- The Future of Human Rights in the United Kingdom: Essays on Law and Practice (1997, Hart Publishing)

### What the directories say

Legal 500 2009/10 ranks Rabinder Singh QC as a leading silk in human rights and civil liberties; he is praised for his "real strength" on human rights cases with a constitutional bend, and that test the limits of jurisdiction and application of the Human Rights Act. In Chambers & Partners 2010, Rabinder is described as a "superbly skilled public lawyer" who has featured in many of the headline cases of the day.

Legal 500 2008/2009 recommends Rabinder Singh QC as a leading silk in Admin and Public Law, "leading public law silk"; Commercial litigation, "commands respect"; Human Rights and Civil Liberties, "excellent and authoritative" and Immigration and Nationality.

Chambers & Partners 2008 recommends Rabinder Singh QC as a leading silk in Administrative and Public law (joint 1st), "everything you could ask for in a barrister - just amazing."; Civil Liberties (joint 1st), "a name that carries gravitas"; Competition/European Law (joint 1st), "excellence in advice and oral advocacy", and Immigration and Local Government law.