



GARDEN COURT CHAMBERS

Louise Hooper

YEAR OF CALL: 1997



Louise Hooper is a specialist asylum, human rights and immigration lawyer appearing before Courts and Tribunals at all levels in the UK. She has a broad range of experience of both clients and case types on all aspects of immigration, citizenship and asylum work.

Louise has a particular expertise in sex and gender-based violence claims.

"She is hard-working and generous and extremely responsive. Easy to work with collaboratively and always puts the client's interests first."

CHAMBERS UK, 2019

"Louise has dealt with a number of very complex matters and is always up for fighting a cause." "She has lots of knowledge and experience."

CHAMBERS UK, 2018

"Standout knowledge of unaccompanied minors." "Gets straight to the point and has an amazing analytical brain." "Committed, driven, a pleasure to work with and thoroughly

effective in the High Court."

CHAMBERS UK 2017

"Really strong on asylum laws and appeals."

LEGAL 500 2016

If you would like to get in touch with Louise please contact the clerking team:

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You can also contact Louise directly:

[+44 \(0\)20 7993 7765](tel:+442079937765)

IMMIGRATION: ASYLUM AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Louise has a broad range of experience of both clients and case types on all aspects of immigration, citizenship and asylum work, and is very familiar with the domestic and international jurisprudence on the Refugee Convention and other human rights conventions.

She has strong knowledge of UK citizenship law and EU residence and free movement rights. She also does a significant amount of unlawful detention work and is a volunteer for Asylum Support Appeal Project.

NOTABLE CASES

***TN(Vietnam) and US(Pakistan) v Secretary of State for the Home Department and Lord Chancellor* [2017] EWHC 59 (Admin)**

Established 2005 Fast Track Procedure Rules were *ultra vires*.

***Mutesi v SSHD* [2015] EWHC 2467 (Admin)**

No requirement of corroboration to establish whether or not a person was a victim of trafficking.

***HJ(Iran) v SSHD* [2009] EWCA Civ 172**

Relating to gay men in Iran. One of the groundbreaking refugee law cases of recent times establishing that

where "discretion" or "hiding" - here of sexuality - was necessary to avoid serious harm. Persecution under the Refugee Convention was established. Louise successfully obtained permission to appeal to the Court of Appeal prior to going on sabbatical.

HB(Ethiopia) v SSHD [2006] EWCA Civ 1713

Concerning delay in human rights cases (linked to *EB(Kosovo) v SSHD* which proceeded to the House of Lords see [2008] UKHL 41.

Rahman v SSHD [2005] EWCA Civ 1826

In which the Court of Appeal held there was a public law duty on the SSHD in a human rights case to ensure the court could determine the issue at hand by the provision of relevant information;

HM(Somalia) [2005] UKIAT 00040

The UKAIT recognised that women in Somalia formed a particular social group.

R (L) v Secretary of State for the Home Department [2003] EWCA Civ 25, [2003] 1 WLR 1230

On the introduction of the clearly unfounded certification regime and the failure to publish the relevant legislation.

INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS

Louise has a particular expertise in sex and gender-based violence claims including domestic violence, sexual and gender-based violence, sexual orientation and gender identity (S/GBV) as persecution and trafficking cases. This includes challenges to reasonable grounds and conclusive grounds decisions, refusals of residence permits, detention of victims of trafficking and breaches of the duty to investigate arising under policy and Article 4 ECHR.

NOTABLE CASES

HJ (Iran) v SSHD [2009] EWCA Civ 172

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TRAFFICKING AND MODERN DAY SLAVERY

Louise is a founder member of the Anti-Trafficking Legal Project set up in 2006 to educate other professionals in best practice in trafficking cases, provide publicly accessible legal and training materials free of charge, respond to proposed legislative changes at domestic and European level and develop a network of lawyers and other professionals across the UK.

NOTABLE CASES

Mutesi v SSHD [2015] EWHC 2467 (Admin)

No requirement of corroboration to establish whether or not a person was a victim of trafficking.

ADMINISTRATIVE AND PUBLIC LAW

TN (Vietnam) and US (Pakistan) v Secretary of State for the Home Department and Lord Chancellor [2017] EWHC 59 (Admin)

Established 2005 Fast Track Procedure Rules were *ultra vires*.

R (L) v Secretary of State for the Home Department [2003] EWCA Civ 25, [2003] 1 WLR 1230

On the introduction of the clearly unfounded certification regime and the failure to publish the relevant legislation.

BACKGROUND

Louise is a recognised expert on LGBTI, gender and domestic violence. She formed part of the GREVIO mission to investigate and report on the compliance of Austria with the Council of Europe Convention on Prevention and Combatting Violence Against Women and Domestic Violence (the Istanbul Convention) and is currently engaged by the Council of Europe to work on developing e-training materials.

Louise has travelled extensively around South and Central America. In 2008 she engaged in a misguided attempt to become a ski instructor, forgot to land a jump and decided maybe paperwork was actually more fun after all.

PUBLICATIONS

Refugee Status Claims Based on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity: A Practitioners' Guide

Louise Hooper and Livio Zilli (International Commission of Jurists (ICJ) 2016)

Macdonald's Immigration Law and Practice Chapters on family (2005) deportation (2007), human rights (2010) and trafficking in human beings (2013) in the UK practitioner text on asylum and immigration law (LexisNexis)

'Representing Trafficked Women and Children: An Unreported Nigerian Trafficking Case - FI (Nigeria)'

Women's Asylum News (Asylum Aid, Issue 72, February 2008)

TRAINING AND SEMINARS

Louise has extensive experience of developing, preparing and providing training in the fields of immigration, asylum and human rights law both domestically and internationally. Over 2016 this included:

- 'Concealment' and asylum - for the International Commission of Jurists at launch of the Practitioners Guide in both Geneva and London
- Best Practice: LGBTI asylum claims for the Immigration Law Practitioners Association
- Garden Court Chambers training on the Immigration Act 2016
- Bespoke training for the Children's Society
- The International Protection of Vulnerable Asylum Seekers - Gender, LGBTI and disability for the Council of Europe, UNHCR and Georgian Ministry for Refugees
- Anti-Slavery Day Conference, jointly held with the Human Trafficking Foundation and Anti-Trafficking Monitoring Group, co-organiser with others in chambers
- Trans Equality Legal Initiative, November 2016

EDUCATION

- BA (Hons)
- CPE

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

- Immigration Law Practitioners' Association
- Amnesty International
- Greenpeace

LANGUAGES

- Spanish (working knowledge)

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