

Contact

Level 5, 99 Elizabeth St, Sydney NSW 2000
T: 02 8039 7203

christina.trahanas@omniachambers.com
omniachambers.com

Admissions

Date of admission to the Bar	2018
Date of admission as a lawyer of the Supreme Court of NSW	2009
Admissions in other jurisdictions	High Court of Australia New York New Zealand

Qualifications

**Bachelor of Laws (Hons I)
University of New South Wales (UNSW)**

Bachelor of International Studies in Languages with Distinction, UNSW

- Ranking: 1st in International Studies/Law; 7th in Law

LLM, New York University (NYU)

- Dean’s Graduate Award

**Foundations of Directorship Course,
Australian Institute of Company Directors (AICD)**

Previous experience

<p>Associate, Curtis, Mallet-Prevost, Colt & Mosle LLP, New York</p> <p>Working in the International Arbitration Group, in high-stakes and complex international commercial arbitrations and investment treaty arbitrations.</p> <p>Matters included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • representing a State-owned resources company in a multi-billion dollar arbitration administered by the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) against another State-owned resources company; • representing an Asian State in a billion-dollar arbitration and annulment proceedings administered by the 	2014–2018
-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----------

International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID) and brought by companies involved in the mining industry;

- representing a Central Asian State in several ICSID arbitrations brought by construction companies;
- representing a European State in ICSID annulment proceedings arising out of an arbitration brought by companies operating in the renewable energy industry; and
- representing a European State in an ICC arbitration brought by persons involved in the banking and finance industry.

Pro bono work with Her Justice, working on family, divorce and immigration law for low income women living in New York.

**Acting Senior Legal Officer and Legal Officer,
Office of International Law (OIL),
Australian Attorney-General's Department** 2023

**Solicitor, Government Law Practice Group,
New South Wales Crown Solicitor's Office** 2010–2011

**Research Director to James Spigelman AC KC,
then Chief Justice of NSW** 2009

**Tipstaff to Justice John Basten, Judge,
NSW Court of Appeal and NSW Court of Criminal Appeal** 2008–2009

Memberships

Member, Australian Institute of Company Directors 2023 to present

Member, International Committee, NSW Bar Association 2022 to present

Member, Education Committee, NSW Bar Association 2021 to present

Member, Bar News Committee, NSW Bar Association 2019–2021

Selected cases

Administrative, Public & Constitutional

***Whippy v The University of Sydney* [2023] NSWSC 1607**

Judicial review.
(Unled)

***Norkin v University of New England* [2023] NSWCA 194**

Statutory construction. Privacy.
(Led by S Free SC)

***Barngarla Determination Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC v Minister for Resources and Water* [2023] FCA 809**

Constitutional law. Judicial review. Public international law.
(Led by C Lenehan SC and C Tran, with J Wang)

***Lakes Oil NL and Innovation and Science Australia* [2023] AATA 811**

Merits review of decision that activities not “R&D activities” within the meaning of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997* (Cth).
(Led by T Wong SC)

***Kang v University of Sydney* [2022] NSWCATAD 135**

Review of claim under *Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009* (NSW) (GIPA).
(Unled)

***Coal of Queensland Pty Ltd v Innovation and Science Australia* [2021] FCAFC 54**

Appeal on question of law from AAT decision. Statutory construction.
(Led by S Free SC)

***TJYS and National Disability Insurance Agency* [2021] AATA 3409**

Merits review of supports under National Disability Insurance Scheme.
(Unled)

***Australian Pacific Touring Pty Ltd v Minister for Health* (Federal Court, NSD 398/2020) (settled)**

Validity of determination of emergency requirements relating to cruise ships during pandemic. Statutory construction.
(Led by A McInerney SC, with J Kennedy)

Class Actions

***White v UGL Operations and Maintenance Pty Ltd (No 2)* [2023] FCA 901**

Settlement of representative proceedings. Industrial law.
(Unled in the settlement hearing)

***Wreck Bay Aboriginal Community Council v Commonwealth* (FCA, settled)**

Representative proceeding. Tort and breach of statutory duties.
(Led by S Lloyd SC, S Free SC, A Munro, with C Gregory)

***Bogan v The Estate of Peter John Smedley (Deceased)* [2022] VSC 201**

Application for group costs order.
(Led by J Kirk SC and J Roy)

***Smith v Commonwealth* (Federal Court, NSD 1908/2016) (settled)**

Representative proceeding. Tort and breach of statutory duties.
(Led by J Kirk SC, S Free SC and A Munro, with A Lyons)

Climate Change

Australian Centre for Climate Responsibility v Santos Limited (Federal Court, ongoing)

Misleading and deceptive conduct. Alleged “greenwashing” of emission targets.

(Led by N Young KC and B Lim)

Commercial and Contract Law

William Inglis and Son Limited v Australian Turf Club Limited and SMEC Testing Services Pty Ltd (NSW Supreme Court, 2019/165012) (settled)

Breach of contract, misleading and deceptive conduct, negligence.

(Led by I Pike SC)

Competition and Consumer

Epic Games, Inc v Google LLC (Federal Court, NSD 190/2021, ongoing)

McDonald v Google LLC (Federal Court VID 342/2022, ongoing)

Competition law.

(Led by C Moore SC, R Yezerski SC, with P Strickland and W Liu)

Australian Securities and Investments Commission v BHF Solutions Pty Ltd [2022] FCAFC 108

Scope of National Credit Code and exemptions for continuing credit contracts.

(Led by G Kennett SC, N Williams SC and M Allars SC, with C Winnett)

Corporations and Insolvency

Violi v Livingstone (Liquidator), in the matter of Suria Global (L) Pty Ltd (Receivers and Managers appointed) (in liq) [2023] FCA 1363

Application to discharge examination summons.

(Led by D Priestley SC)

In the matter of OneSteel Manufacturing Pty Ltd and Tahmoor Coal Pty Ltd (Supreme Court of NSW, Judgment of Black J, 16 August 2021)

Winding up application. Extension of timetable.

(Led by S Mirzabegian SC)

Kelly (Liquidator), in the matter of Halifax Investment Services Pty Ltd (in liquidation) v Loo [2021] FCA 531

In the matter of Halifax New Zealand Limited (in liquidation) [2021] NZHC 1113 (High Court of New Zealand)

Insolvency. Application for judicial advice and directions. Trusts. Distribution of funds. Joint final hearing in the Federal Court of Australia and in the High Court of New Zealand.

(Led by A Leopold SC and E Holmes)

Nation Energy (Australia) Pty Ltd v Paltar Petroleum Ltd (Administrators Appointed) [2019] FCA 1473

Leave to bring interlocutory proceeding against a company in liquidation under 471B of the *Corporations Act 2001* (Cth) and leave to settle proceeding under s 240 of the *Corporations Act 2001* (Cth).

(Unled)

International Law and Arbitration

***Greylag Goose Leasing 1410 Designated Activity Company v P.T. Garuda Indonesia Ltd* [2022] NSWSC 1623**

Foreign states immunities.
(Led by A Leopold SC)

***Epic Games, Inc v Google LLC* [2022] FCA 66**

Stay application. Private international law.
(Led by N Hutley SC, J Hutton and R Yezerki)

***Muhammet Çap & Bankrupt Sehil İnşaat Endustri ve Ticaret Ltd. Sti. v. Turkmenistan* (ICSID Case No. ARB/12/6)**

Investor–state arbitration.
(Unled)

Planning and Environment

***AMP Macquarie Pty Limited v Valuer–General of NSW* [2022] NSWLEC 114**

Appeal against Valuer–General’s determination of land value.
(Led by A Galasso SC)

***Mullaley Gas and Pipeline Accord Inc v Santos NSW (Eastern) Pty Ltd* [2021] NSWLEC 110**

Judicial review of development consent.
(Led by R Lancaster SC)

***Muswellbrook Shire Council v Hunter Valley Energy Coal Pty Ltd (No 3)* [2019] NSWCA 216**

Construction of development consent.
(Led by R Lancaster SC)

Practice and Procedure

***Gillies v State of NSW* [2023] NSWSC 1520**

Application for trial by jury of interlocutory matter.
(Unled)

***Bogan v The Estate of Peter John Smedley, Deceased* [2022] VSC 645**

Discovery.
(Led by E Bennett SC)

***William Inglis & Son Limited v Australian Turf Club Limited* [2022] NSWSC 800**

Waiver of legal professional privilege.
(Led by I Pike SC)

***Nature Conservation Council of NSW Inc. v Minister for Water, Property and Housing* [2022] NSWLEC 69**

Application for leave to rely on expert evidence.
(Led by A Mitchelmore SC and A Shearer)

***Robinson v State of NSW* [2021] NSWSC 1571**

Application for summary dismissal.
(Unled)

***White v UGL Operations and Maintenance Pty Ltd* [2021] FCA 587**

Release from implied undertaking.
(Led by Y Shariff SC)

Mullaley Gas and Pipeline Accord Inc v Santos NSW (Eastern) Pty Ltd
[2021] NSWLEC 24

Application for leave to rely on expert evidence.
(Unled)

Hy-Tec Industries (Queensland) Pty Ltd v Tweed Shire Council (No 2)
[2020] NSWLEC 5

Costs. (Unled)

**Property
and Equity**

Aust-One Investment Pty Ltd v New World Investments Pty Ltd
[2023] NSWCA 22

Construction of registered easement. Enforceability of positive covenants.
(Led by R Higgins SC)

**Regulatory
Proceedings and
Investigations**

Environment Protection Authority v Hardman Chemicals Pty Ltd
[2020] NSWLEC 8

Sentencing. Non-compliance with licence condition.
(Unled)

Secretary, Department of Planning and Environment v Singtel Optus Pty Ltd
[2019] NSWLEC 44

Proceedings on penalty.
(Led by R Lancaster SC)

**Royal
Commissions,
Inquiries and
Inquests**

Inquest into the death of Bernard Gore, November 2019 and July 2020

Appeared as counsel assisting.
(Led by A Mitchelmore SC)

Publications

'Substantive Protection' in *Business Guide to Trade and Investment, Volume II: International Investment* (International Chamber of Commerce and International Law Institute 2018) (co-authored with Claudia Frutos-Peterson)

'Conflicts of Interest' in *Handbook on Third-Party Funding in International Arbitration* (Juris Publishing, 2018) (co-authored with Miriam Harwood)

'Third-Party Funding: Security for Costs and Other Key Issues' in *Investment Treaty Arbitration Review* (Law Business Research, 2nd ed, 2017) 103 (co-authored with Miriam Harwood and Simon Batifort)

'Investment Arbitration: Jurisdiction and Procedure' in *International Arbitration Review* (Law Business Research, 6th ed, 2015) 1 (co-authored with Miriam Harwood and Simon Batifort)

'*BG Group v. Argentina*: The US Supreme Court and Judicial Review of Investment Treaty Awards' (2014) 108 *American Journal of International Law* 750 (co-authored with Anthea Roberts)

'Recent Developments in the Maritime Boundaries and Maritime Zones of the Pacific' (2014) 31 *Australian Yearbook of International Law* 41

'Australian Legislation Concerning Matters of International Law 2009' (2013) 30 *Australian Yearbook of International Law* 261