



Fionnuala Connolly

Year of Call: 1996

Practice Summary

Fionnuala was Called to the Bar of Northern Ireland in 1996 and has an extensive public law practice with particular focus on planning and environmental law, immigration, EU law, human rights and inquests. She has significant advocacy and advisory experience before the higher courts and tribunals in Northern Ireland. Fionnuala regularly appears in inquests and is currently instructed in several high profile 'legacy' inquests into deaths which occurred during the 'troubles' in Northern Ireland. Fionnuala regularly advises and appears in EU law cases in judicial review having worked at the Court of Justice of the European Union (1999 – 2002). Fionnuala has been instructed in a number of significant judicial reviews before the High Court and Court of Appeal in Northern Ireland in recent years including:

Re Flaneurs' Application [2013] NI 17

Re Bassey's Application [2012] NI 218

Re Guardian Ad Litem's Application [2014] NIJB 165

Re Morrison's Application [2013] NIQB 67

Re DJ1 and DJ2's Application (Leave stage) [2013] NIQB 20

Re A and Ors' Application [2012] NIQB 86

Memberships

- Elected member of the Bar Council in Northern Ireland.
- Representative on behalf of the Bar Council in Northern Ireland on the United Kingdom Delegation to the CCBE (Council of Bars and Law Societies for Europe)
- President of the Franco-British Lawyers Society (Northern Ireland).
- Chairperson of the Bar Immigration Practitioner's Group (Northern Ireland).
- Chairperson of the Subcommittee on the Amendment to the Rules of the Inn of Court in Northern Ireland.
- Chair of the Bar Immigration Practitioners Group (Northern Ireland).
- Member of the Commercial Bar Association (Northern Ireland).

Education

- Common and Civil Law with French (LLB)
- Queen's University Belfast (1994)
- Certificate in Professional Legal Studies
- Institute of Professional Legal Studies QUB (1996)
- MA in French and Linguistics
- QUB (2007, Part-time)
- Teaching Experience
- Fionnuala has delivered lectures to trainee Solicitors and Barristers on immigration practice at the Institute of Professional Legal Studies, Belfast and regularly delivers CPD training lectures.

Appointments

- Member of the Panel of Legal Chairpersons of the Police Appeals Tribunal in Northern Ireland (2006 – 2015).
- Member of the Panel of Counsel to the Coroner (Northern Ireland)
- Member of the Attorney General for Northern Ireland's Panel of Counsel.