

# Lucy Geddes Barrister

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## Education and qualifications

### Admissions

- NSW Bar 2023
- Solicitor, Supreme Court of New South Wales; High Court of Australia 2014

### Qualifications

- MSc Women, Peace and Security, with distinction 2018 19  
The London School of Economics and Political Science
  - Awarded best overall performance in MSc Women, Peace and Security.
  - First in cohort: *International Criminal Law: Prosecution & Practice; Advanced Issues in Women, Peace and Security; Gender & Militarisation.*
  - Recipient of the Lionel Murphy Foundation Postgraduate Scholarship.
- Graduate Diploma in Legal Practice; The College of Law 2014
- Bachelor of Laws; Bachelor of Arts; University of New South Wales 2012

## Prior work experience

### Senior Solicitor, Strategic Litigation, Public Interest Advocacy Centre July 2021 May 2023

- Conducted strategic litigation across PIAC's asylum seeker and equality and discrimination practice areas, including NDIS, coronial, intentional tort and personal injury matters.
- Responsible for stakeholder engagement and developing civil society coalitions and cross-sector support for PIAC's asylum seeker advocacy. Media spokesperson (radio, TV and print).
- Wrote reports, submissions and articles relating to asylum seeker rights.

### Teaching Fellow, Research Associate + Advisor, UNSW May 2021 present

- Teach Introducing Law and Justice to 30 first year undergraduate LLB students.
- Teach Court Process, Evidence and Proof to 60 final year undergraduate LLB students.
- Research support for Emeritus Professor Andrea Durbach, formulating the design of a digital archives pilot project focused on Apartheid-era death penalty case ('Upington 25').
- Advisor for Diplomacy Training Programme/DFAT course 'Human Rights Leadership to Influence Policy', undertaken by 30 Indonesian human rights defenders.

### Head of Legal Action Worldwide (LAW) Sri Lanka (Colombo) October 2019 June 2021

- Oversaw LAW Sri Lanka's programme providing technical assistance to Sri Lanka's transitional justice institutions and creating pathways for victims to access them.
- Managed a budget of \$2,300,000 USD, a team of five full-time staff, 10 legal consultants, partnerships with six civil society organisations and LAW's global network of SGBV experts.
- High-level internal and external stakeholder engagement, including providing strategic advice to the international humanitarian, diplomatic and donor communities in Sri Lanka and to LAW's global Senior Management team.
- Designed and established Sri Lanka's inaugural Gender Justice Legal Network.
- Co-chair of the UK Preventing Sexual Violence in Conflict working group (UK-GAPS).

### Legal researcher (pro bono), REDRESS (London) February June 2019

- Research assistance for the UK universal jurisdiction prosecution of Agnes Taylor during the first Liberian civil war.

### Lawyer, Victoria Legal Aid (Melbourne) September 2015 September 2018

- Lawyer in the criminal and civil justice teams responsible for complex file work with carriage of a number of high-impact public interest litigation cases. Appeared regularly before all Victorian courts and tribunals.
- Jointly represented the plaintiffs in a landmark human rights case (*PBU v Mental Health Tribunal* [2018] VSC 564).
- Contributed to law reform submissions and parliamentary inquiries, including as a media spokesperson on national television (7.30 Report) and radio appearances.

- Research Associate**, Australian Human Rights Centre, UNSW January 2015 August 2017
- Research assistance for Australian Research Council project ‘Combating sexual violence against women post-conflict through ‘transformative’ reparations: problems and prospects’, focusing on comparative perspectives in South Africa, Peru, Guatemala, Japan, Timor-Leste and Sierra Leone.
- Solicitor**, Cater & Blumer (Griffith, NSW) October 2013 May 2014; March August 2015
- Solicitor-advocate in the NSW Local and District Courts in criminal law matters.
- Law Clerk to Chief Justice Mogoeng**, Constitutional Court of South Africa June December 2014  
Johannesburg, South Africa
- High-level legal research tasks on issues relating to South African constitutional law as well as memoranda on comparative jurisprudence.
  - Prepared summaries and analysis of parties’ submissions, contributed to the preparation of drafts of decisions, orders and parts of judgments; speech writing.
- Law Clerk to Vice-President Tarfusser**, International Criminal Court April September 2013  
The Hague, The Netherlands
- Working in both French and English, produced high-level legal research regarding substantive and procedural questions of international criminal law and international humanitarian law, including appellate processes, focusing on the Democratic Republic of Congo and Kenya.
  - Managed documentary evidence, including analysis of evidence and victims’ testimony.
- Intern**, Centre for Applied Legal Studies April September 2013  
Johannesburg, South Africa
- Evidence analysis for the legal team participating in the Marikana Commission of Inquiry representing the South African Human Rights Commission.

## Selected publications

- [‘50 Human Rights Cases that Changed Australia’](#), *Federation Press*, with Hamish McLachlan. Foreword by Hon Michael Kirby AC CMG. February 2023
- [‘A legislative vacuum: the healthcare crisis in onshore immigration detention’](#), *Court of Conscience* 16:45. December 2022  
February 2022
- [“Travelling with Durbach: Notes from a trip to South Africa researching reparations for victims of sexual violence”](#), *Australian Journal of Human Rights* 27:3, 591-596.
- [‘Healthcare denied: Medevac and the long wait for essential medical treatment in Australian immigration detention’](#), *Public Interest Advocacy Centre*. December 2021
- [‘A long road to justice for victims of sexual and gender-based violence: the case of Dominic Ongwen’](#), *ILA Reporter*. February 2021
- [‘Compensation Is Not Enough Afghan Victims Are Entitled Other Forms of Reparation’](#), *Opinio Juris*. December 2020
- [‘Policy Brief: UNSCR 1325 at 20: Past challenges and Future Possibilities of Implementing the Women, Peace and Security Agenda’](#), *Legal Action Worldwide Policy Brief Series*. December 2020
- [‘Universal jurisdiction to the rescue: a way forward for victims of Franco-era crimes of gender-based violence?’](#) *Oxford Human Rights Hub Blog*. January 2019
- [‘To shape our own lives and our own world: exploring the impact of women’s hearings on reparations for victims of sexual violence post-conflict’](#), *The International Journal of Human Rights*, 21:9, 1261-1280 (co-author with A. Durbach). August 2017

## Conference/workshop presentations/guest lectures, by invitation

- Chair of ‘Healthcare Denied in Australian Immigration Detention’, forum, which included Craig Foster, Thanush Selvarasa and Guy Coffey as speakers. December 2021

- *‘Memorialisation through art-making: possibilities for reparative truth-telling for women in Sri Lanka’*, presented at Performing Violence; Engendering Change conference, the London School of Economics. November 2021
- *‘Strategic Approaches to Influencing Change’*, guest lecture for Diplomacy Training Programme/DFAT course ‘Human Rights Leadership to Influence Policy’. September 2021
- *‘Strategic advocacy and human rights lawyering’*, guest lecture for UNSW LLB subject ‘International Human Rights Law’. March 2021
- *‘Gender and Transitional Justice’*, taught as part of the Advanced Diploma of Transitional Justice, Bandaranaike Centre for International Studies Sri Lanka. November 2019
- *‘The politics of absence and localisation of the Australian Women, Peace and Security National Action Plan: consequences and ways forward for settler-colonial states’*, presented at the SSSHARC Global Symposium on Gender, (In)Security, and Temporalities of Violence, University of Sydney. September 2019
- *‘Reparations for gendered harm in settler-colonial landscapes: decolonial prospects and possibilities’*, presented at Queen’s University Belfast workshop ‘Redressing Historical Institutional Abuse and Sexual Violence in Transitional Societies’. June 2019
- *‘Universal jurisdiction as a site of transitional justice: a new avenue of redress for Franco-era gendered harm’*, presented at University of Birmingham two-day conference ‘Memories of political violence, transitional justice and Europe across time and place: Interdisciplinary perspectives’. April 2019
- *‘Transitional Justice and transformative reparations for gendered harm’*, presented at the Women, Peace and Security Salon, The London School of Economics and Political Science. December 2018

## Awards

- Victoria Legal Aid “Everyday Human Rights Hero” 2017
- Victoria Legal Aid Civil Justice “Facaco” Award, awarded to a lawyer who embodies the Victoria Legal Aid values of fairness, care and courage 2017
- UNSW Law Faculty Overseas Travel Scholarship to study a subject in human rights law at Columbia University 2012