



Sir Nicolas BRATZA

President of the European Court of Human Rights

Personal details

Date of birth: 3 March 1945

Nationality: British

Education and academic and other qualifications

- Wimbledon College 1956-1963
- Brasenose College, Oxford 1964-1967 (BA 1967: 1st Class Honours; MA 1971)
- Instructor, University of Pennsylvania Law School 1967-1968
- Qualified as Barrister-at-Law 1969
Called to the Bar by Lincoln's Inn
- Appointed Knight Bachelor 1998
- Hon. DU, University of Essex 2005
- Hon. LLD, University of Glasgow 2007

Relevant professional activities

(a) Judicial activities

- Assistant Recorder (part-time judicial post) 1989-1993
- Recorder of the Crown Court 1993-1998
- Judge of the High Court of Justice, Queen's Bench Division since 1998
- Judge of the European Court of Human Rights since 1998
- President of the European Court of Human Rights from 4 November 2011 to 31 October 2012

(b) Non-judicial activities

- Independent practice at the Bar of England and Wales from 1969 until 1998, specialising in commercial law, public law and human rights law in Chambers at 1 Hare Court, Temple, London

Junior Counsel to the Crown, Common Law, 1978-1988
Queen's Counsel 1988-1998
Bencher (member of governing body) of Lincoln's Inn since 1993
- Member of the Advisory Board (formerly Council of Management) of the British Institute of International and Comparative Law since 1999



- Member of the Editorial Board of the European Law Review since 2005

Activities and experience in the field of human rights

- Advised and appeared as Counsel in numerous cases before the European Commission and former European Court of Human Rights from 1970 until 1993
- Member of the European Commission of Human Rights 1993-1998 (Chamber Vice-President 1997-1998)
- Judge of the European Court of Human Rights since 1998 (Section President 1998-2000 and 2001-2007; Vice-President of the Court 2007-2011; President of the Court since 4 November 2011)
- Member of the Advisory Council of the British Institute of Human Rights (Governor of the Institute 1985-2002; Vice-Chairman 1989-1998)
- Member of the Editorial Board of the European Human Rights Law Review since 1995

Publications and other works

- Joint author of the title “Contempt of Court” in Halsbury’s Laws of England, 4th Edition (and Reissue 1997)
- Joint author of the title “Crown Proceedings” in Halsbury’s Laws of England, 4th Edition
- Various articles on human rights topics and the Convention system, including:
 - “The Legacy of the Commission to the new Court under the Eleventh Protocol” (jointly with Michael O’Boyle): [1997] EHRLR 211
 - “The Implication of the Human Rights Act 1998 for Commercial Practice”: [2000] EHRLR 1
 - “The Future of the European Court of Human Rights: Storm Clouds and Silver Linings” (Collection of lectures on European Human Rights Law – 2003)