

Marija Bračković

Senior Associate



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Overview

Marija is a senior associate in the Litigation and Dispute Resolution team based in London.

She has substantial experience in both domestic and international dispute resolution, including litigation and investigations. Her practice has an emphasis on high-profile and politically sensitive matters, such as cases relating to the proceeds of crime, an investigation into alleged LIBOR manipulation and allegations of international crimes. Marija has acted in matters in the UK, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Sierra Leone, Iraq and Cambodia, representing diverse clients including governments, political parties, non-governmental organizations and private individuals. She has particular experience in advising and acting for banks and financial institutions.

Prior to joining Dentons, Marija practiced at a leading set of barristers' chambers in London. Called to the bar in 2010, she is an experienced advocate and has appeared in all manner of proceedings, including jury trials, courts martial and tribunal hearings, as both a sole and junior advocate.

Experience

- **N v. The Royal Bank of Scotland Plc [2019] EWHC 1770 (Comm):** Acting for the bank in one of The Lawyer's Top 20 cases for 2019. After a five-week trial, the Commercial Court rejected the claim made after the bank froze accounts held by N and terminated the banking relationship without notice.
- **Confidential client:** Advising on suspected supplier irregularities. Conducting analysis of behavior identified during an external audit and advising on duty to report and investigate the issues identified.
- **UK energy sector charity:** Conducting an investigation into alleged misuse of funds by a subsidiary. Conducting interviews with senior members of staff, reviewing relevant material and reporting findings. Advising on applicable reporting obligations.
- **UK insurance company:** Carrying out review and remediation of Anti-Money Laundering policies and procedures in the context of a share purchase agreement negotiation.
- **European logistics company:** Conducting an investigation into allegations of fraudulent misrepresentation made in the course of negotiating a share purchase agreement.

- **International retail bank:** Advising on applicability and enforceability of notice made under section 2 of the Criminal Justice Act 1987 in cross-border SFO investigation.
- **European investment bank:** Assisting an international financial institution in relation to a multi-jurisdictional review of its Anti-Money Laundering and KYC policy and program. Reviewing and interpreting advice on local AML legislation and advising on the suitability of the bank's systems and controls.
- **UN assistance to the Khmer Rouge trials:** Representing the interests of an individual in a complex and multi-faceted investigation conducted by an International Investigating Judge. The investigation concerned numerous allegations of international crimes and raised complex evidential and legal issues. Advising international counsel on matters of international law, drafting filings, advising on strategy and reviewing evidence. Leading a team of four international lawyers and a case manager.
- **Large international bank:** Advising the financial crime team of a large international bank on a complex regulatory exercise. Working directly with senior management and bankers, advising on AML legislation and policy in London, Geneva and Monaco.
- **OHCHR investigation on Sri Lanka:** Working as a member of a team instructed to draft submissions for a comprehensive investigation into alleged systematic violations of international law during the 30-year civil conflict in Sri Lanka. Conducting investigations and interviews with key stakeholders and interested parties in Sri Lanka. Advising on complex points of international law and drafting reports for submission to the OHCHR.
- **Serious Fraud Office:** Secondment with the Serious Fraud Office working on the investigation into LIBOR manipulation. Investigating a bank's senior managers, advising on case theory and evidence analysis.
- Regularly instructed to advise on and act in proceedings under the Proceeds of Crime Act 2002.

Recognition

Honors and Awards

- Queen Mother Scholarship awarded by The Honourable Society of the Middle Temple 2008 and 2009.

Insights

- "Dentons' Business Crime and Investigations Podcast – Episode 4," Podcast, April 28, 2020
- "COVID-19: Managing the fraud risk in the current crisis," Dentons client alert, April 3, 2020
- "Dentons' Business Crime and Investigations Podcast – Episode 3," Podcast, December 18, 2019
- "SFO issues guidance on corporate co-operation," Dentons client alert, August 9, 2019
- "Dentons' Business Crime and Investigations Podcast – Episode 1," Podcast, July 29, 2019
- "N v. The Royal Bank of Scotland Plc," Dentons client alert, July 10, 2019
- "The Law Commission's report on reforming the SAR regime – Guidance over change?," Dentons client alert, July 9, 2019
- "Cybercrime attacks: Before and after – 12 things to think about in the regulated sector," Dentons client alert, October 24, 2019
- "Authorised Push Payment frauds – the Contingent Reimbursement Model (CRM) "Protecting victims or opening the floodgates?," Dentons client alert, October 17, 2018
- "Fraud, shift and cousenage," Dentons client alert, November 23, 2017
- "How to spot PEPs and what to do with them – the FCA's Finalised Guidance 17/5," Dentons client alert, July

Activities and Affiliations

Community Involvement and Pro Bono

- Marija regularly lectures and teaches. This includes training local prosecutors in Kenya for the International Justice Mission and teaching Public International Law on the Bar Professional Training Course at BPP Law School between 2012 and 2014.

Memberships

- Member, Criminal Bar Association
- Member, The Honourable Society of the Middle Temple
- Member, Board of Editors of the Human Rights Law Commentary

Prior and Present Employment

- Senior Associate, Dentons (2018 to present)
- Associate, Dentons (2017–2018)
- Barrister, 9 Bedford Row, (2012–2017)

Areas of focus

Practices

- Litigation and Dispute Resolution
- Banking and Finance
- White Collar and Government Investigations
- Public International Law

Issues and opportunities

- Fraud Prevention and Response Hub

Education

- College of Law, 2010, GLD and BVC
- University of Nottingham, 2007, LL.M., Public International Law
- University of Cambridge, 2006, Social and Political Sciences, BA (Hons)

Admissions and qualifications

- Barrister, Senior Courts of England and Wales, 2010

Languages

- Bosnian
- Croatian
- Serbian
- Slovenian