



Margaret Gallagher

MARGARET GALLAGHER
is a Fox Scholar at Lenczner Slaght.

Margaret completed her legal studies in the UK as a Lord Denning and Residential Scholar of the Honourable Society of Lincoln's Inn and will be called to the bar later this year.

Before embarking on a career in law, Margaret represented the rights of diverse groups nationally and internationally before UN Women, the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, the UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, and the Council of Europe while working in government institutions and NGOs. From 2022 to 2024, Margaret acted as Legal and Policy Manager of the Children's Rights Alliance, Ireland's leading NGO, working to ensure the government implements international legal standards to uphold children's rights.

Previously, Margaret was a desk officer in the Legal Division of Ireland's Foreign Ministry, where her work covered Law of the Sea, International Security Policy, Consular and Diplomatic Relations, Immunities and Privileges, UN Human Rights, the Initiative for a Multilateral Agreement on Extradition and Mutual Legal Assistance for atrocity crimes, the European Court of Human Rights, and Council of Europe. She also worked as a research assistant to the Dean of UCD Law School, an International Criminal Law fellow at the Article 33 Institute, a stagiaire at the Court of Justice of the European Union in the cabinet of Justice Colm MacEochaidh, and as an intern at REDRESS UK. At REDRESS UK, Margaret worked on the Nazanin Zaghari Ratcliffe case and assisted in conducting interviews with former dual national hostages and their families to compile a Magnitsky file.

Education

Inns of Court College of Advocacy
(2025) Bar Course Studies (Lord
Denning & Residential Scholar)
University of Pennsylvania (2020)
LLM (International Law with
Distinction) (Dean's Scholar)
University College Dublin (2019) BCL
(First Class Honours - Law with
French Law) (Entrance Scholar)
Université Toulouse 1 Capitole
(2017) Diploma (EU Law)

Practice Areas

Public Law

Contact

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RECOGNITION

- International Bar Association (2019)
Global Essay Competition Winner
- McCann Fitzgerald National Senior Negotiation Competition
Overall Winner (2018)
- Namati Lawyer's for Resource Justice
Fellowship (2016)
- National Model United Nations (2014-2015)
Outstanding Delegate to First Irish Delegation to the UN

- University College Dublin (2016)
Law Society Gold Medal for Outstanding Contribution
- University College Dublin (2017)
Arthur Cox Contribution to University Life Award for Outstanding Leadership
- University College Dublin (2019)
BOI Prize for Best Results, James C. Brady Prize for Top Scorer in Equity and Trusts Law, Federal Defender Programme Chicago Grantee
- University of Pennsylvania (2020)
Nominee to the International Court of Justice Clerkship; Nominee for the Penn Human Rights and the Rule of Law Fellowship

SELECT PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

- **Submission to Coimisiún na Meán on the Draft Online Safety Code for Video Sharing Platform Services** – Published by Children's Rights Alliance, Margaret Gallagher authored the article, *Submission to Coimisiún na Meán on the Draft Online Safety Code for Video Sharing Platform Services*. (Prior to joining Lenczner Slaght)
- **Submission to the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth on Youth Services** – Published by Children's Rights Alliance, Margaret Gallagher authored the article, *Submission to the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth on Youth Services*. (Prior to joining Lenczner Slaght)
- **Submission on the Reform of the Civil Legal Aid System** – Published by Children's Rights Alliance, Margaret Gallagher authored the article, *Submission on the Reform of the Civil Legal Aid System*. (Prior to joining Lenczner Slaght)
- **Submission in Response to the Draft Junior Cycle Social, Personal and Health Education Curriculum** – Published by Children's Rights Alliance, Margaret Gallagher authored the article, *Submission in Response to the Draft Junior Cycle Social, Personal and Health Education Curriculum*. (Prior to joining Lenczner Slaght)
- **23rd Irish European Law Forum** – Margaret Gallagher presented a paper at the 23rd Irish European Law Forum in UCD. The paper, *Critical Exploration of Human Rights – When Human Rights Become Part of the Problem*, examined how the human rights system and in particular the R2P doctrine and machinery for identifying genocide have failed the people of Xinjiang. This paper emanated from research Margaret conducted under the supervision of former UNHCHR, Zeid Ra'ad Al Hussein. (Prior to joining Lenczner Slaght)
- **Male Allyship and the Future of Work** – Margaret Gallagher was part of the research team led by Dr Ragnita de Silva de Alwis, Committee member of UN CEDAW, to examine a new understanding of leadership that is defined by differences in gender, race, demographics, male allyship, and changes in the political economy. The report, *Male Allyship and the Future of Work*, was featured on Thomson Reuters. (Prior to joining Lenczner Slaght)
- **Direct Provision in Ireland – A Domestic Attempt at Managing a Global Human Rights Concern** – Published by the International Bar Association, Margaret Gallagher authored the article, *Direct Provision in Ireland – A Domestic Attempt at Managing a Global Human Rights Concern*. (Prior to joining Lenczner Slaght)
- **The Children's Rights Alliance Report Card (2023-2024)** – Margaret Gallagher was the project manager and lead author of Report Card 2023 and 2024 for the Children's Rights Alliance. The Children's Rights Alliance Annual Report Card tracks how the Government is delivering on

its commitments to children in the Programme for Government. *(Prior to joining Lenczner Slaght)*

- **UCD Student Legal Service Journal** – Published by the UCD Student Legal Service Journal, Margaret Gallagher authored an article on the constitutional right of asylum seekers to seek work in Ireland. *(Prior to joining Lenczner Slaght)*

SELECT NEWS ARTICLES

- **Lenczner Slaght Welcomes Fox Scholar, Margaret Gallagher** – We are pleased to have Margaret Gallagher join us as our 2025/2026 Fox Scholar!
- **Justice Colm MacEochaidh, ‘Cearbhall O’Dálaigh – The Luxembourg Chapter’ Irish Journal of European Law 2021** – Margaret Gallagher was cited and the head researcher with Justice Colm MacEochaidh in the article, *Cearbhall O’Dálaigh – The Luxembourg Chapter*, of the Irish Journal of European Law. *(Prior to joining Lenczner Slaght)*

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

- Honourable Society of Lincoln’s Inn Member
- Journal of International Law UPenn Associate Editor (2019-2020)
- Journal of Law and Social Change UPenn Associate Editor (2019-2020)
- UCD Law Review Editor of Volumes 15 and 16 (2015-2016, 2017-2018)
- UCD Student Legal Service Journal Sub Editor (2017-2018)
- UCD Volunteers Overseas South India Project Volunteer (2015-2016)
- UCD Law Society Debates Convenor of the 105th Session (2015-2016)