

Curriculum Vitae

Lee-Anne Germanos

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Profile

Legal researcher, project and case manager at a renowned South African civil society organisation. Admitted attorney of the High Court of South Africa. Experienced commercial litigator at one of the leading South African law firms, with expertise in administrative law, contractual disputes, civil procedure, land claims, evictions and mining litigation. Masters graduate in International Human Rights Law from the University of Oxford majoring in International Humanitarian Law, Women and Gender Related Rights, International Criminal Law and International Rights of the Child. Majored in International Relations and Economics in undergraduate degree.

Personal Information

Nationality: South African and Lebanese (citizenship for both nationalities)

Employment

Legal Researcher at Helen Suzman Foundation, report to Francis Antonie (October 2018 to present).

- Research, draft and publish articles pertaining to current legal, political and economic affairs (with a South African mandate). Project manager and initiative starter.
- Spearheaded and project managed the legal reform of the South African criminal justice system. Mad a submission to the South African Law Reform Commission ("SALRC") subsequent to an analytical legal publication and the hosting of a conference around the topic. The SALRC is currently considering the submission.
- Published analytical articles on: the legal position of the appointment, suspension and removal procedures for the heads of South African criminal justice system institutions; the judiciary's role in constraining South Africa's foreign policy to the prescripts of its constitution; and the legal treatment of sexual offences in the criminal justice system, sexual harassment in the workplace and sexual violence in armed conflict.
- Conducted investigative research into matters concerning large scale corruption/crime for the Commission of Inquiry into State Capture. Assisted in the drafting of a submission to the Commission of Inquiry into State Capture.
- Involved in, and case manage, high profile public interest litigation on corruption and constitutional issues.

Associate Attorney at Edward Nathan Sonnenbergs, Commercial Dispute Resolution Department, reported to Darren Band (May 2015 to February 2017).

- Conducted factual and legal analysis for purposes of developing case strategy.
- Drafted pleadings, legal opinions, memoranda, reports to client and legal correspondence.
- Reviewed agreements, correspondence and other voluminous evidentiary documents.
- Case managed arbitrations (particularly in respect of contractual disputes) and urgent court applications. Assisted counsel in formulation of legal argument.
- Managed client relations and junior colleagues.

Candidate Attorney at Edward Nathan Sonnenbergs, Commercial Dispute Resolution Department, reported to Julia Ferraz-Cardoso (January 2013 to April 2015).

- Reviewed and analysed client's documents for pleadings purposes.
- Drafted legal opinions, applications, reports to client and general legal correspondence.
- Drafted mining law related review application implicating a large number of mining rights held by the South African government (*Aquila v PAMDC*).
- Conducted Due Diligence exercises.
- Conducted extensive legal research.
- Appeared in the Magistrates' Court to oppose eviction application.

Publications

- *'Is the restitution of land in the 'public interest'?' (OxHRH Blog, 1 August 2018) <http://ohrh.law.ox.ac.uk/is-the-restitution-of-land-in-the-public-interest>*
- *'The Criminal Justice System: Radical reform required to purge political interference' (Helen Suzman Foundation, 14 December 2018) <https://hsf.org.za/publications/special-publications/the-criminal-justice-system-radical-reform-required-to-purge-political-interference.pdf>; and republished in Legalbrief Today as *'Stopping political interference in criminal justice'* (17 January 2019) <http://legalbrief.co.za/diary/legalbrief-today/story/stopping-political-interference-in-criminal-justice-system/>*
- *'South Africa's foreign policy and the Constitution' (Helen Suzman Foundation, 19 March 2019) <https://hsf.org.za/publications/special-publications/south-africas-foreign-policy-and-the-constitution.pdf>; and republished on Biz News as *'SA's dismal foreign relations record exposed – Helen Suzman Foundation'* (20 March 2019) <https://www.biznews.com/thought-leaders/2019/03/20/south-africa-foreign-policy-constitution>, and on Politics Web (20 March 2019) <https://www.politicsweb.co.za/documents/south-africas-foreign-policy-and-the-constitution->*
- *'Sexual Assault – Part 1: Sexual Offences in the Criminal Justice System' (Helen Suzman Foundation 18 April 2019) <https://hsf.org.za/publications/hsf-briefs/sexual-assault-i-sexual-offences-in-the-criminal-justice-system>*
- *'Sexual Assault – Part 2: Sexual Harassment in the Workplace' (Helen Suzman Foundation 18 April 2019) <https://hsf.org.za/publications/hsf-briefs/sexual-assault-ii-sexual-harassment-in-the-workplace>*
- *'Sexual Assault – Part 3: Sexual Violence as a Weapon of War' (Helen Suzman Foundation 18 April 2019) <https://hsf.org.za/publications/hsf-briefs/sexual-assault-iii-sexual-violence-as-a-weapon-of-war>*

Education

Post Graduate Studies

2019 Master of Studies (MSt) in International Human Rights Law, University of Oxford, United Kingdom

Undergraduate Studies

2013 LLB Law degree, University of Pretoria (Dean's merit list).

2011 Completed the Fall semester of 2011 in an LLM program (on exchange) at the International University College of Turin, Italy.

2011 BCom Law degree, University of Pretoria (Obtained 28 distinctions and majored in Economics and International Relations).

Language Proficiency

- English: Fluent (native)
- Lebanese Arabic: Fluent (spoken)