

## Anne-Marie Hutchinson OBE, QC (Hon)



"The queen of cross-border children law", she is "incredibly committed and conscientious with a deep knowledge of the law and an amazingly hard-working approach" Chambers, 2013.

Anne-Marie was admitted in 1985 and joined Dawson Cornwell in January 1998 as Head of the Children Department. She now heads up an expert and recognised team.

Anne-Marie specialises in all aspects of domestic and international family law and the international movement of children. She has a recognised expertise in international divorce forum and jurisdictional disputes on divorce, with particular expertise in international custody disputes, child abduction (Hague and non-Hague); the EU Regulation on jurisdiction in family matters, relocations and children's law private and public. She acts for the victims of forced marriage, abandoned spouses and Honour Based Violence and has assisted in the protection of 150 plus Forced Marriage victims. She has acted in the leading Forced Marriage and Stranded Spouse cases. Anne-Marie has acted for victims and threatened victims of Female Genital Mutilation.

Anne-Marie is also a specialist in surrogacy arrangements and surrogacy with an international element and co-parenting agreements. Anne-Marie advises in respect of complex domestic and international adoption applications and legal issues arising from the creation and implementation of surrogacy arrangements under The Human Fertilisation and Embryology Act 2008.

Anne-Marie is Co-Chair of the IAML Surrogacy and ARTS Committee.

Anne-Marie is accredited by Resolution as a specialist family lawyer with specialisms in forced marriage and honour based violence, child abduction and children law. She was awarded the inaugural UNICEF Child Rights Lawyer award in 1999. She received an OBE for her services to international child abduction and adoption in the 2002 Queen's New Year's Honours List. In 2004, she was selected as Legal Aid Lawyer of the Year for her work with the victims of forced marriage. In 2010, she received the International Bar Association's Outstanding International Woman Lawyer Award. In 2011 she received a True Honour Award from IKWRO. In 2011, she was awarded an "Albert" by the Albert Kennedy Trust in recognition of her work on an international level in defending the human rights of young lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people. In 2012, she was named International Family Lawyer of the Year in the Jordans Family Law Awards. Anne-Marie is the immediate Chair of the Women Lawyers' Interest Group of the International Bar Association and previous Chair of the Family Law Committee. She is the Chair of the Board of Trustees of Reunite: International Child Abduction Centre. She is a previous member

of the International Issues Committee of The Law Society of England and Wales. She is a Governor at Large of the International Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers. She is a Founding Fellow of the International Surrogacy Forum. She is also a member of numerous associations and committees including the International Society of Family Law, the Institute of Advanced Legal Studies, the International Centre for Missing and Exploited Children and many others. She is a member of the National Commission on Forced Marriage at the House of Lords.

She is a regular speaker and lecturer both within the United Kingdom and abroad and has made numerous television and press appearances. She is the UK correspondent for "International Family Law" published by Jordans and the consultant editor of International Child Law also published by Jordans. She is joint author of the text book "International Parental Child Abduction". She sits on the Editorial Board of the Child and Family Law Quarterly, published by Jordans, and is a contributor to Child Case Management Practice 2nd Edition (Family Law). She is the author of numerous legal articles.

Not only is Anne-Marie consistently named as one of the leading family lawyers in London in both Chambers and The Legal 500, but she is singled out by Chambers as the sole "star individual" for cross-border disputes. Anne-Marie is listed in Debrett's.

In 2013, Anne-Marie was listed in the top 100 UK Super Lawyers and the top 50 Women Super Lawyers.

In April 2014, Anne-Marie was an expert at the United Nations and UNICEF international Roundtable on China's draft Family Violence Law and in May 2014 was invited to be the UK expert for The Asia Pacific Regional Office of the Hague Conference on Private International Law.