



Nicolas Patrick

Partner
HEAD OF RESPONSIBLE BUSINESS

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Nicolas Patrick is Head of Responsible Business at DLA Piper International. In this role Nicolas has responsibility for the firm's pro bono practice, which delivers more than 200,000 hours of free legal services annually, as well as other community investments including the firm's Foundation, global scholarships, social mobility programmes, and the firm's global partnership with UNICEF, through which DLA Piper has donated more than £2 million to promote justice for children, plus £6 million in pro bono legal services.

Nicolas also heads the London Boardroom Advisory Service, providing strategic advice to the boards of multi-national corporations and global NGOs. Nicolas regularly provides advice to senior executives on business and human rights and reputation issues.

EXPERIENCE

Nicolas' legal practice focuses on human rights with a focus on child rights, refugee rights and access to justice. Nicolas is a trusted adviser to global NGOs, corporations, UN agencies and governments. Recent work includes:

- Supporting implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child in Bangladesh through domestic legislative reform
- Supporting UNICEF to ensure children are included in the transitional justice programme in The Gambia
- Human rights observation visits to African prisons and disability institutions in Eastern Europe
- *Norrie v NSW Registrar of Births, Deaths and Marriages* - Australian High Court Case establishing the right of transgender people to have their gender accurately recorded on identity documents
- Drafting the baseline shadow report on Australia's implementation of the Disability Convention for the inaugural UN treaty body review

Nicolas has advised the following organisations:

- UNICEF

RELATED SERVICES

- Litigation, Arbitration and Investigations
- International Business and Human Rights

RELATED SECTORS

- Technology

RELATED SITES

- Pro Bono
- New Perimeter

- UNHCR
- WFP
- UNGC
- UNAIDS
- Amnesty International
- ActionAid
- Human Dignity Trust
- Several governments in fragile and developing countries

CREDENTIALS

Professional Qualifications

- Solicitor of the Supreme Court of New South Wales

Recognitions

- Recognised by Who's Who Legal as the 2015 Global Expert of the Year, for pro bono
- In 2014, Nicolas was named Advocate of the Year at the Australian Law Awards. The award recognizes an individual who has enabled positive change within the legal profession in Australia.
- Recognised as a leading pro bono lawyer by Who's Who Legal 2013 which ranked DLA Piper as a 'top 10' pro bono practice globally.

Memberships

- Trustee, LawWorks
- Pro Bono Council Member, Thomson Reuters Foundation / TrustLaw
- Pro Bono Council Member, PILnet, the global network for Public Interest Law
- Chairman, Redfern Legal Centre (previous role)
- Commonwealth Attorney-General's International Pro Bono Advisory Panel
- Director, Public Interest Law Clearing House (previous role)
- Advisory Board Member, Human Rights Law Centre
- Advisory Board Member, New Perimeter
- Board Member, Legal Information Access Centre, State Library of New South Wales (previous role)
- Executive Member, Australian Lawyers for Human Rights (previous role)
- Law Society of New South Wales
- Association of Pro Bono Counsel

INSIGHTS

As a leading pro bono lawyer, Nicolas is a regular commentator on pro bono and access to justice. Nicolas has been a speaker at the National Pro Bono and Access to Justice Conference of the Law Council of Australia, the PILnet European Pro Bono Forum, the South East Asia Pro Bono Conference and the Pro Bono Institute Conference in Washington DC and is regularly quoted and published in the mainstream and legal press. Nicolas was invited to give evidence before the Australian Senate's Inquiry into Access to Justice, and has also given evidence to the Low Commission into the future of advice and legal support in the UK.

Publications

DLA Piper's Commitment to Sustainable Development Goal 16

18 JUL 2018

The private sector has a crucial role to play in the achievement of the SDGs. As a law firm, we have the ability to make a significant contribution to the objectives set out in Goal 16, which include targets related to rule of law, access to justice, accountable institutions and non-discrimination. Some examples of our work follow.

- *The Australian In-House Counsel Pro Bono Guide*
- *The In-House Counsel Pro Bono Guide, United Kingdom*

Events

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NEWS

DLA Piper named Corporate Citizen Firm of the Year at 2018 Australasian Law Awards

18 MAY 2018

DLA Piper has been named Corporate Citizen Firm of the Year at the Australasian Law Awards held in Sydney on Thursday 17 May 2018, in recognition of the firm's pro bono and responsible business initiatives.
