



BAR COUNCIL NEWS UPDATE – FRIDAY 23 NOVEMBER 2018

Social mobility

The Times – The Times devotes a full page to the Bar Council’s #IamtheBar social mobility campaign in the run up to the Bar & Young Bar Conference.

The Times publishes three of the Bar Council’s social mobility advocates’ own stories of their careers, highlights a new #IamtheBar social mobility event, hosted by the Bar Council, and publicises this Saturday’s conference.

The Times reports: “Social mobility remains the biggest hurdle, given the high costs of qualifying, then staying at the Bar.... In the summer the Bar Council launched its #IAMTheBar campaign to profile barristers from non-traditional backgrounds. Many have shared their stories on Twitter. Some have been selected as social mobility advocates and next month a live-streamed panel discussion will take place.”

Brexit

New Law Journal – NLJ reports that barristers have been issued with guidance on what to do in the event of a no-deal Brexit. The authors of the [Bar Council guidance](#) agree no-deal remains a ‘genuine risk’ although its likelihood receded slightly this week. If the prime minister’s plan is accepted by Parliament and the EU, the shape of any agreement on professional services is ‘extremely uncertain’, the authors say.

Moreover, no-deal could impact on practitioners in family, personal injury and criminal cases where EU nationals are involved, and could affect domestic law derived from the EU, such as consumer protection, employment, or health and safety.

Bar & Young Bar Conference

[The Times](#) x 2– Andrew Walker QC, Chair of the Bar, writes in *The Times* ahead of the Bar & Young Bar Conference this Saturday about the decline of legal aid and what it means for the justice system.

He writes: “This year’s Bar Conference will focus on a Bar that is more diverse and fitter than ever for the future; but achieving that will depend on the public making the right choice. If their choice is to take justice and the rule of law for granted, then we will be without them when we need them most.”

Elsewhere in [The Times](#), five barristers are interviewed ahead of the Bar Conference to share their views on what life is like at the Bar. *The Times* writes: “The theme of this year’s Bar conference is “all bar one” – access, development, diversification. Here five junior barristers give their diverse views on the issues facing the Bar, including England’s only Afghan-born barrister.”

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The Bar Council ✓

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Chair of the Bar, Andrew Walker QC, writes today in [@TimesLaw](#): "If their (public's) choice is to take justice and the rule of law for granted, then we will be without them when we need them most." [#BarConf](#)



Legal aid cuts have failed the public purse and betray our values

In the second half of the 20th century our national decisions were informed by the experiences of war. Two values for which we fought were justice and fair play. In t...

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