

Sarah Pearce

Partner

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OVERVIEW

Sarah Pearce is a partner in the firm's Data Protection, Privacy, and Security and Technology Transactions and Sourcing practice groups. Sarah is an experienced cyber, privacy and data security lawyer focused on regulatory compliance, incident response, and AI. Sarah advises multinational organizations on global data privacy regimes (including, in particular those in the UK and EU), cyber security risks and incident response, regulatory investigations and data governance. She assists clients in identifying, evaluating and managing global privacy and information security risks and has extensive experience supporting data strategies and compliance programs, including international data transfers, marketing-related issues, and risk management associated with the collection and use of data. Sarah has managed multiple high-profile, international security incidents and regularly advises clients on cybersecurity incident preparedness activities, regulatory investigations and enforcement proceedings.

Sarah assists clients in identifying, evaluating and managing global privacy and information security risks and compliance issues. Sarah is well versed in the latest EU cyber and data regulatory frameworks, advising clients on NIS2, DORA the Cyber Resilience Act and the EU AI Act. With a background in commercial contracts, Sarah routinely advises clients on the privacy and data security provisions of complex commercial and technology-related contracts, as well as those arising in the context of corporate transactions.

Sarah is a frequent author and speaker at international conferences on related privacy, cybersecurity and AI issues.

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

Sarah's extensive experience includes providing investment firms with data privacy and cybersecurity advice, including the development of international data transfer strategies and the preparation of related contractual documentation. She also guides clients regarding data privacy and AI compliance issues arising in the workplace, including the implementation of employee monitoring tools and CCTV systems.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Recognised by *Chambers UK* for Data Protection & Information Law, UK-wide, 2021-2027

- Recognised by *The Legal 500 United Kingdom* as a Recommended Lawyer for Data Protection, Privacy and Cybersecurity in London, 2026

PROFESSIONAL / CIVIC ACTIVITIES

- Member, Global Data Commons International Task Force
- Officer of the Technology Committee, International Bar Association

EDUCATION

- Legal Practice Course, University of Law, 1999
- LL.B., King's College, London, 1998
- Maitrise, University of Paris I - Panthéon-Sorbonne, 1998

ADMISSIONS

- Solicitor of the Senior Courts of England and Wales

THOUGHT LEADERSHIP *POWERED BY HUB*

- November 2026, Global Data Protection Insights
- 22 October 2026, ICO Publishes Report on Data Protection Compliance of Generative AI Foundation Model and Calls for Evidence
- 28 September 2026, EU KIDS Act
- 19 August 2026, Cyber Resilience Act Part One: Companies Prepare for First Notification Obligations to Apply as Commission Publishes Implementation Guidance
- August 2026, Global Data Protection Insights
- 06 August 2026, EU-US Data Privacy Framework Under the Spotlight Following FTC Independence Ruling
- 31 July 2026, EU Digital Omnibus on AI Enters Into Force
- 28 July 2026, EU AI Act: Final Guidelines on Transparency Obligations under Article 50
- 29 June 2026, EDPB Adopts Common Data Breach Notification Template

NEWS & EVENTS

- 21 October 2026, AI in Employment: Navigating UK/EU Data Protection Risks
- 15 October 2026, K&L Gates Practices, Lawyers Recognised in *Chambers UK* 2027 Guide

- 15 June 2026, K&L Gates Welcomes London Data Partner

MEDIA MENTIONS

- 15 June 2026, *International Financial Law Review* | K&L Gates taps Hunton Andrews Kurth partner for London growth

AREAS OF FOCUS

- Technology Transactions and Sourcing
- Cybersecurity Risk and Response
- Data Protection, Privacy, and Security

INDUSTRIES

- Advertising and Marketing
- Consumer Beauty and Aesthetics
- Consumer Goods and Services
- Financial Services
- Global Advisory
- Luxury Products and Fashion
- Media and Entertainment
- Physical AI and Autonomous Systems
- Technology

EMERGING ISSUES

- Artificial Intelligence (AI)

REPRESENTATIVE EXPERIENCE

- Advised a global technology company on global data privacy compliance and cybersecurity-related matters.
- Advised a multinational media client on AI governance issues, including developing standard contract terms and AI policies for compliance with the EU AI Act and other AI laws, frameworks and emerging global standards.

- Advised a client in the beauty sector on complex, cross-border cybersecurity incidents and data breaches. Successfully handled investigations with the UK Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) and various EU supervisory authorities.
- Advised a multinational client in the financial services sector on global privacy compliance programs, including compliance with the EU and UK General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), and DORA.
- Advised a global manufacturer of smart home devices on the application of the Cyber Resilience Act, including engagement with local EU regulatory bodies.
- Advised a multinational retail client on its cross-border data transfer strategies and mechanisms to legitimize international data flows, including Standard Contractual Clauses (SCCs) and the EU-US Data Privacy Framework.
- Advised a luxury consumer brand on compliance regarding the use of cookies and other tracking technologies.
- Advised a client in the financial services sector on a broad range of data privacy and cybersecurity matters, including the development of international data transfer strategies and the preparation of related contractual documentation.
- Provided advice to a consumer retail client on data privacy and AI compliance issues arising in the workplace, including in respect of the implementation of employee monitoring tools and CCTV systems.
- Served as global privacy counsel to a luxury goods group. Work included assisting the client in developing a global privacy framework, cross-border transfer documents and responding to DSARs.