



THE LEGAL PROFESSION

XIV SEMINARIO DE ESTUDIO COMPARADO
DE SISTEMAS JUDICIALES EUROPEOS A
TRAVÉS DEL LENGUAJE JURÍDICO

SAN PEDRO 2012

Solicitors and barristers

- **SOLICITOR:** Member of the legal profession chiefly concerned with advising clients and preparing their cases and representing them in some Courts. They may also act as advocates before certain courts or tribunals.
- **BARRISTER:** A member of the bar, the branch of the legal profession which has **rights of audience** before all courts.
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- **RIGHTS OF AUDIENCE:** entitlement to appear before a court in a legal capacity and to conduct proceedings on behalf of a party [before High Court: Higher Court Qualification required].

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Barristers

- The Bar: collective term for Barristers
- Barristers are “instructed” (hired) by solicitors. Since 2004 members of the public may approach a barrister directly, but it is very rarely done.
- Solicitors give barristers the “brief”: written instructions to counsel to appear at a hearing on behalf of a party. The brief is prepared by the solicitor and it sets out the facts of the case and the case/s relied upon.

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