

NON-STATUTORY EXECUTIVE POWERS AND JUDICIAL REVIEW

That non-statutory executive powers are subject to judicial review is beyond doubt. But current judicial practice challenges prevailing theories of judicial review and raises a host of questions about the nature of official power and action. This is particularly the case for official powers not associated with the Royal Prerogative, which have been argued to comprise a "third source" of governmental authority. Looking at non-statutory powers directly, rather than incidentally, stirs up the intense but ultimately inconclusive debate about the conceptual basis of judicial review in English law. This provocative book argues that modern judges and scholars have neglected the very concepts necessary to understand the supervisory jurisdiction and that the law has become more complex than it needs to be. If we start from the concept of office and official action, rather than grand ideas about parliamentary sovereignty and the courts, the central questions answer themselves.

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To Stefanie



CONTENTS

	Acknowledgements page x Table of Cases xiii
1	Introduction 1
2	Official Action beyond Statute 16
3	The 'Third Source' in the Courts 37
4	A Unified Category of 'Non-Statutory Executive Powers' 62
5	The Crown as Corporation 79
6	Public Law as the Law of Public Offices 114
7	Office in Action 147
8	Approaching Judicial Review 175
9	Competence, Conduct, and Validity 198
10	Moving beyond the Ultra Vires Debate 240
11	The Common Law Theory of Ultra Vires 257
12	The Borders of the Supervisory Jurisdiction 278
13	The Normative Foundations of Judicial Review 305
	Index 330



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This book is a significantly reworked version of a doctoral thesis submitted in January 2017. Most of the material is new. I have incorporated a number of recent scholarly sources and cases – not least the two landmark decisions on judicial review applications brought in the context of Brexit in 2016 and 2019. I have also reframed the argument to appeal to a broader audience and have expanded my treatment of the Anglo-Commonwealth jurisdictions. I hope it will provide something of interest for students, scholars, and practitioners alike.

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хi

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xii

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TABLE OF CASES

Adams v. Naylor [1946] 2 All ER 241

Adan v. Newham London Borough Council [2001] EWCA Civ 1916

Al-Khawaja v. Home Secretary [1984] AC 74

Al-Waheed and Serdar Mohamed v. Ministry of Defence [2017] UKSC 2

Allnut v. Inglis (1810) 12 East 527

Amalgamated Society of Engineers ν . Adelaide Steamship Company Limited (1920) 28 CLR 129

Anisminic Ltd v. Foreign Compensation Commission [1969] 2 AC 147

Ashby v. White (1703) 92 ER 126

Associated Provincial Picture Houses Ltd v. Wednesbury Corporation [1948] 1 KB 223

Attorney-General for New South Wales v. Perpetual Trustee Co Ltd [1955] AC 457

Attorney-General v. Corporation of Leicester [1943] Ch 86

Attorney-General v. De Keyser's Royal Hotel Ltd [1920] AC 508

Attorney General v. Edison Telephone Co of London Ltd (1880-81) LR 6 QB 244

Attorney-General v. Great Eastern Railway Co (1880) 5 App Cas 473

Attorney-General v. Great Southern & Western Railway Co of Ireland [1925] AC 754

Attorney-General v. Leeds Corporation [1870] LR 5 Ch App 583

Attorney-General v. Manchester Corporation [1906] 1 Ch 643

Attorney-General v. Mersey Railway Co [1907] AC 415

Attorney General (NSW) v. Quin (1990) 170 CLR 1

Attorney-General for New South Wales v. Perpetual Trustee Co Ltd [1955] AC 457

Attorney-General of Canada v. Cain [1906] AC 542

Attorney-General of Quebec v. Labrecque [1980] SCR 1057

Bacchus v. Servicio National del Trigo [1957] 1 QB 438

Baxter v. NSW Clickers' Association (1909) 10 CLR 114

Begum v. Tower Hamlets London Borough Council [2003] UKHL 5

Belhaj and Rahmatullah v. Straw [2017] UKSC 3

Bennet v. Easedale (1626) 79 Eng Rep 821

Black v. Canada (Prime Minister) (2001) 199 DLR (4th) 228

Boddington ν . British Transport Police [1999] 2 AC 143

Bradley v. Jockey Club [2004] EWHC 2164

British Broadcasting Corporation v. Johns [1965] Ch 32

British Launderers Association v. Borough of Hendon Rating Authority [1949]

Bromley LBC v. Greater London Council [1983] 1 AC 768

xiii



xiv

TABLE OF CASES

Brown ν . Tasmania (2017) 261 CLR 328

Brown v. West (1990) 169 CLR 195

Bugdaycay v. Home Secretary [1987] 1 All ER 940

Bugg v. DPP [1993] QB 473

Bumper Development Corporation Ltd v. Commissioner of Police for the Metropolis [1991] 4 All ER 638

Burmah Oil Co (Burmah Trading) Ltd v. Lord Advocate [1965] AC 75

Calvin's Case (1609) 7(5) Co Rep 1a

Canada (Prime Minister) v. Khadr [2010] 1 SCR 44

Canadian Doctors for Refugee Care v. Canada (2014) FC 651

Carratt v. Marley (1841) 1 QB 18

Case of Magdalen College, Cambridge (1572) 11 Co Rep 66b

Case of Proclamations (1611) 12 Co Rep 74

Church of Scientology v. Woodward (1982) 154 CLR 25

Clark v. University of Lincolnshire and Humberside [2000] EWCA 129

Clough v. Leahy (1904) 2 CLR 139

Cocks v. Thanet District Council [1983] 2 AC 287

Commonwealth v. Baume (1905) 2 CLR 405

Commonwealth ν . Colonial Combing, Spinning and Weaving Co Ltd (1922) 31 CLR 421

Communications, Electrical, Electronic, Energy, Information, Postal, Plumbing and Allied Services Union of Australia v. Queensland Rail (2015) 318 ALR 1

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Council of Civil Service Unions v. Minister for the Civil Service (1985) AC 374

Davis v. Commonwealth (1988) 166 CLR 79

Davy v. Spelthorne BC [1983] 3 All ER 278

De Portibus Maris (1787) 1 Harg Tr 78

Dickason v. Edwards (1910) 10 CLR 243

Dickson v. Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain [1967] Ch 708

Director of Public Prosecutions v. Head [1959] AC 83

Duchess of Kingston's Case (1776) 20 St Tr 355

Duchy of Lancaster Case (1561) 1 Plow 212

Durayappah v. Fernando [1967] 2 AC 337

E v. Home Secretary [2004] 2 WLR 1352

Earl of Shrewsbury Case (1611) 77 Eng Rep 798

Edwards v. Bairstow [1956] AC 14

Edwards ν . Canada (AG) [1930] AC 124 (JBPC)

Edwards v. Society of Graphical and Allied Trades [1971] Ch 354

Enderby Town Football Club Ltd v. Football Association Ltd [1971] Ch 591

Entick v. Carrington (1765) 19 St Tr 1020

Faramis v. Film Artistes Association [1964] 1 All ER 25

Farmer v. Cotton's Trustees [1925] AC 922

Farnell v. Bowman (1887) 12 AC 643

Fowler Developments Limited *v*. The Chief Executive of the Canterbury Earthquake Recovery Authority [2013] NZHC 2173



More Information

TABLE OF CASES

ΧV

Gilbert ν . Corporation of Trinity House (1886) 17 QB 795

Green v. Rutherford (1750) 1 Ves Sen 462 Groenvelt v. Burwell (1700) 1 Ld Raym 454

Hamed v. R [2011] NZSC 101

Haughton v. Smith [1975] AC 476

Hazell v. Hammersmith and Fulham LBC [1992] 2 AC 1

Henly v. The Mayor of Lyme (1828) 130 ER 995

Hocking v. Director General of the National Archives of Australia [2020] HCA 19

Hodge v. R [1883] UKPC 59

Hoffmann-La Roche ν . Secretary of State for Trade and Industry [1975] AC 295

Hooper v. Lane (1847) 10 QB 546

HTV Ltd v. Price Commission [1976] ICR 170

ICC v. Union Pacific Rail Road Co (1912) 222 US 541

International Railway Company v. Niagara Parks Commission [1941] AC 328

Isbester ν . Knox City Council [2015] HCA 20

Isle of Ely Case (1609) 10 Co Rep 141a

J. H. Rayner (Mincing Lane) Ltd v. Department of Trade and Industry [1990] 2 AC 418

K ν. K [2007] All ER 202

Katz v. United States (1967) 389 US 347

Kinloch v. Secretary of State for India in Council (1882) 7 AC 619

Kirk v. Industrial Court of New South Wales (2010) 239 CLR 531

Kruse v. Johnson [1898] 2 QB 91

Laker Airways v. Department of Trade [1976] 1 QB 643

Lavender & Son v. Minister of Housing and Local Government [1970] 3 All ER 871

Law v. National Greyhound Racing Club [1983] 1 WLR 1302

Lee ν . Showmen's Guild (1952) 2 QB 329

London & Clydeside Estates Ltd v. Aberdeen District Council [1980] 1 WLR 182

M v. Home Office [1994] 1 AC 377

Malone v. Metropolitan Police Commissioner [1979] Ch 344

Malone v. United Kingdom (1984) 7 EHRR 14

McCloy v. New South Wales (2015) 257 CLR 178

McDonald v. Anishinabek Police Service (2006), 83 OR (3d) 132 (Sup Ct J (Div Ct))

McDonald v. Secretary of State for Scotland (1994) SC 234

McInnes v. Onslow-Fane [1978] 1 WLR 1520

Meridian Global Funds Management Asia Ltd ν. Securities Commission [1995] 2

Merricks v. Heathcote-Amory [1955] Ch 567

Minister for Canterbury Earthquake Recovery ν . Fowler Investments [2013] NZCA 588

Minister for Immigration and Citizenship $\nu.$ Li [2013] HCA 18

Modahl ν . British Athletic Federation Ltd [2002] 1 WLR 1192

Moyna v. Work and Pensions Secretary [2003] 1 WLR 1929

Mullins $\nu.$ McFarlane and the Jockey Club [2006] EWHC 986

Murphy v. Electoral Commissioner (2016) 90 ALJR 1027

Nagle v. Feilden [1966] 2 QB 633

New South Wales v. Bardolph (1934) 52 CLR 455



xvi

TABLE OF CASES

Newport Association Football Club Ltd ν . Football Association of Wales Ltd [1995] 2 All ER 87

O'Reilly v. Mackman [1983] 2 AC 237

Osgood v. Nelson (1872) LR 5 HL 636

Padfield v. Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food [1968] AC 997

Palmer v. Crone [1927] 1 KB 804

Pape v. Commissioner of Taxation (2009) 238 CLR 1

Pearlman v. Keepers and Governors of Harrow School [1979] QB 56

Peat's Case (1704) 6 Mod 228

Percy v. Hall [1996] 4 All ER 523

Perkin v. Proctor (1768) 2 Wils KB 382

Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Association of Canada v. British Columbia (Attorney General) (1997) 149 DLR (4th) 613

Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain v. Dickson [1970] AC 403

Pilbara Infrastructure Pty Ltd v. Economic Regulation Authority [2014] WASC 346

Pitt v. Holt; Futter v. Futter [2012] Ch 132, 204-205

Plaintiff M61/2010 E
 ν . Commonwealth of Australia; Plaintiff M69/2010 v

Commonwealth of Australia (2010) 243 CLR 319

Plaintiff M68/2015 v. Minister for Immigration and Border Protection [2016] HCA 1

Plaintiff S157/2002 v. Commonwealth (2003) 211 CLR 476

Platt v. Lock (1550) 1 Plow 35

Poplar Housing and Regeneration Community Association Ltd ν . Donaghue [2002] QB 48

Pramatha Nath Mullick ν . Pradyumna Kumar Mullick (1925) 27 Bom 1064

Quake Outcasts v. Minister for Canterbury Earthquake Recovery [2015] NZSC 27

R ν . Bembridge (1783) 22 How St Tr 1

R v. Board of Education (1910) 2 KB 165

R v. Campbell [1999] 1 SCR 565

R v. Cheltenham Commissioners (1841) 1 QB 467

R v. Cichon [1994] Crim LR 918

R v. City of London (1682) 8 State Trials 1039

R v. Commissioners for Special Purposes of Income Tax (1888) 21 QB 313

R v. Earl of Northumberland (1567) 75 ER 472

R v. Electricity Commissioners [1924] 1 KB 171

R v. Mayor of London (1692) 1 Show KB 274

R v. Nat Bell Liquors Ltd [1922] AC 128

R v. Ngan [2007] NZSC 105

R v. Roupell (1776) 2 Cowp 458

R v. Surgeons Company (Master) (1759) 2 Burr 892

R v. Wicks [1998] AC 92

R (A) v. Criminal Injuries Compensation Board [1999] 2 AC 330

R (Advertising Services plc) v. Advertising Standards Authority Ltd [1990] COD 42

R (Aegon Life Assurance Ltd) v. Insurance Ombudsman [1994] COD 426

R (Aga Khan) v. Disciplinary Committee of the Jockey Club [1993] 2 All ER 853

R (Armah) v. Governor of Brixton Prison [1968] AC 192



TABLE OF CASES

xvii

R (Bancoult) v. Foreign Secretary (No 1) [2000] EWHC Admin 413

R (Bancoult) v. Foreign Secretary (No 2) [2007] EWCA Civ 498

R (Bancoult) v. Foreign Secretary (No 2) [2009] 1 AC 453

R (Barclay) v. Secretary of State for Justice (No 2) [2014] UKSC 54

R (Bloom) v. London Beth Din (Court of the Chief Rabbi) [1998] COD 131

R (Briggs) v. Lloyd's of London [1993] 1 Lloyd's Rep 176

R (Brind) v. Secretary of State for the Home Department [1991] 1 AC 696

R (C) v. Secretary of State for Health [2000] EWCA Civ 49

R (Carlile) v. Home Secretary [2014] UKSC 60

R (Cart) v. Upper Tribunal [2008] EWHC Admin 3052

R (Cart) v. Upper Tribunal [2010] 2 WLR 1012

R (Cart) v. Upper Tribunal [2012] 1 AC 663

R (Datafin) v. Take-over Panel [1987] 1 QB 815

R (Evans) v. Chief Constable of North Wales [1982] UKHL 10

R (Evans) v. Governor of Blockhill Prison [2000] 3 WLR 483

R (Everett) v. Foreign Secretary [1989] 1 QB 811

R (Fewings) v. Somerset County Council [1995] 3 All ER 20

R (Fire Brigades Union) v. Home Secretary [1995] 2 AC 513

R (Flint Town United Football Club) v. Football Association of Wales [1991] COD 44

R (Football League Ltd) v. Football Association Ltd [1993] 12 All ER 833

R (Gilmore) v. Medical Appeal Tribunal [1957] 1 QB 574

R (Heather) v. Leonard Cheshire Foundation [2002] All ER 936

R (Holmcroft Properties) v. KPMG LLP [2016] EWHC Admin 323

R (Hooper) v. Secretary of State for Work and Pensions [2005] UKHL 29

R (HS2 Action Alliance Ltd) v. Secretary of State for Transport [2014] UKSC 3

R (Huddlestone) v. Lancashire County Council [1986] 2 All ER 941

R (Indian Association of Alberta) v. Foreign Secretary [1982] QB 892

R (Khawaja) v. Home Secretary [1984] AC 74

R (Kubis) v. Panel of the Federation of Communication Services Ltd [1998] COD 56

R (Lain) v. Criminal Injuries Compensation Board [1967] 2 QB 864

R (London) v. Central London County Court [1993] 3 WLR 1

R (Lumba) v. Home Secretary [2011] UKSC 12

R (Mahmood) v. Home Secretary [2001] 1 WLR 840

R (March) v. Secretary of State for Health [2010] EWHC Admin 765

R (Massingberd-Mundy) v. Disciplinary Committee of the Jockey Club [1993] 2 All ER 207

R (Miller) v. Brexit Secretary [2016] EWHC 2768

R (Miller) v. Brexit Secretary [2017] UKSC 5

R (Miller) v. Prime Minister [2019] UKSC 41

R (Mooyer) v. Personal Investment Authority Ombudsman Bureau Ltd [2001] EWHC Admin 247

R (New College London Ltd) ν . Home Secretary [2013] UKSC 51

R (Northumbria Police Authority) v. Home Secretary [1988] All ER 556

R (Page) v. Lord President of the Privy Council [1993] AC 682

R (Pierson) v. Home Secretary [1998] AC 539



xviii

TABLE OF CASES

R (Preston) v. IRC [1985] AC 835

R (Privacy International) v. Investigative Powers Tribunal [2019] UKSC 22

R (Professional Counselling Aids Ltd) v. British Pharmaceutical Industry Association Code of Practice Committee [1991] COD 228

R (RAM Racecourses Ltd) v. Jockey Club [1993] 2 All ER 225

R (Ross) v. Life Assurance Unit Trust Regulatory Organisation [1993] QB 17

R (Shaw) v. Northumberland CC [1952] 1 KB 338

R (Siborurema) v. Office of the Independent Adjudicator [2007] EWCA Civ 1365

R (South Yorkshire Transport) v. Monopolies and Mergers Commission [1993] 1 WLR 23

R (Stewart-Brady) v. Press Complaints Commission (1997) 9 Admin LR 247

R (Suleiman Ali) v. Imam of Bury Park James Masjid Luton [1992] COD 132

R (Sunspell Ltd) v. Association of British Travel Agents [2001] ACD 16

R (The Insurance Service plc) ν . Advertising Standards Authority (1990) 2 Admin I.R 77

R (Tucker) v. Director General of the National Crime Squad [2003] EWCA Civ 57

R (UNISON) v. Lord Chancellor [2017] UKSC 51

R (Vijayatunga) ν . Judicial Committee of the Privy Council [1988] QB 322

R (Wachmann) v. Chief Rabbi of the United Hebrew Congregations of Great Britain and the Commonwealth [1992] 1 WLR 1035

R (Walsh) v. East Berkshire Health Authority [1985] QB 152

R (West) v. Lloyds of London [2004] EWCA Civ 506

R (Williams) v. Provincial Court of the Church in Wales [1999] COD 163

R (Wooller) v. The Benchers of Lincoln's Inn (1825) 107 ER 1277

Rahmatullah (No 2) and Serdar Mohamed v. Ministry of Defence [2017] UKSC 1

Re Ditfort; Ex parte Deputy Commissioner of Taxation (1988) 19 FCR 347

Re Racal Communications Ltd [1981] AC 374

Re Silver Brothers; AG Quebec v. AG Canada [1932] AC 514

Rex ν . Surgeons Company (1759) 2 Burr 892

Riche v. Ashbury Railway Carriage and Iron Co Ltd (1874) LR 9 Ex 224

Ridge v. Baldwin [1964] AC 40

Rolled Steel Ltd ν . British Steel Corporation [1986] 1 Ch 246

Roncarelli v. Duplessis [1959] SCR 121

Rooke's Case (1598) 5 Co Rep 99b

Roy v. Kensington, Chelsea and Westminster Family Practitioners Committee [1992] 1

AC 624

Ruddock v. Vardarlis (2001) 110 FCR 491

Schmidt v. Secretary of State for Home Affairs [1969] 2 Ch 149

Scott v. Avery (1856) 5 HL Cas 811

Secretary of State for Science and Education v. Tameside MBC [1977] AC 1012

Sharp v. Wakefield (1891) AC 173

Shergill v. Khaira [2014] UKSC 33

Shrewsbury & Atcham BC ν . Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government [2008] All ER 548



TABLE OF CASES

xix

Shrimpton v. Commonwealth (1945) 69 CLR 613

Sir George Reynel's Case (1612) 77 Eng Rep 871

Sir James Smith's Case (1692) 4 Mod 258

Sir Thomas Wroth's Case (1572) 1 Plow 455a

Smith v. East Elloe Rural District Council [1956] AC 736

Southern Pacific Co v. Jensen (1917) 244 US 205

Staatspresident v. United Democratic Front (1998) (4) SA 839(A)

Stevenage Borough Football Club Ltd v. Football League [1996] WLUK 36

Sutton's Hospital Case (1611) 10 Co Rep 1a

Tailors of Ipswich (1614) 11 Co Rep 53a

Terry v. Huntingdon (1668) Hard 480

Tesco Supermarkets Ltd v. Nattras [1972] AC 153

The Case of the Company of Horners in London (1642) 2 Roll Rep 481

The Case of the Marshalsea (1612) 10 Co Rep 68b

The Duke of Brunswick ν . The King of Hanover [1848] 2 HLC 4

Tito v. Wadell (No 2) [1977] Ch 106

Town Investments Ltd v. Department for the Environment [1978] AC 359

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