

Who's Who Adviser Handbook 2022



The definitive guide to individual advisory excellence

Corporate INTL Who's Who Adviser Handbook 2022



Welcome to the Corporate INTL Who's Who Adviser Handbook 2022

The handbook is the definitive guide to individual advisory excellence, detailing the services on offer from professional advisers all around the world.

For ease of reference, we have separated the profiles into four regional sections: Europe, The Americas, Asia & Oceania and Africa & the Middle East.

At the back of the publication you will find an alphabetical index of the individuals involved.

We hope that the Who's Who Adviser Handbook 2022 proves useful and helps our readers gain access to global legal advisers in a number of specialist practice areas.

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The Importance of Choosing the Right Business Legal Counsel

Selecting the right business legal counsel has always come with its potential pitfalls, and 2022 brings with it a fresh set of challenges in ensuring that a business's professional and financial needs are met.

Corporate clients expect to increase their UK legal spend this year, according to the 'State of the UK Legal Market 2022' report, published by Thomson Reuters. The survey of corporate buyers of UK legal services found the percentage of clients planning to increase their outside legal spend is at a five-year high. The report noted that firms must grasp their clients' strategic business challenges to earn and retain their business.

Currently, corporate buyers of UK legal services spend an average of £10 million (US\$13 million) on outside legal services annually – compared to the global average spend of £14.6 million (US\$19.9 million). Part of this is attributed to the fact that buyers

of UK legal services, on average, keep a higher percentage (44%) of their legal work in-house than the global average (38%).

Helping fuel this surge in anticipated legal spend is a shift in corporate legal priorities as businesses emerge from the depths of the pandemic. While COVID-related issues remain the top legal priority, other top legal needs include dealing with complex and changing regulations, such as those related to the aftermath of Brexit, along with helping manage company growth. The global economic recovery is also helping drive legal spend in the UK, with 70% of global multinationals saying they have legal needs in the UK, up from 68% a year earlier.

While the UK operations of global law firms are only a slice of the overall UK legal market, they provide some perspective on how the market has resumed growth mode. Demand for legal services in the UK grew 8.7% in 2021

compared with 2020, and was up 6% compared with 2019 – the last pre-pandemic year.

Understanding Clients' Business and Use of Technology Key to Client Favourability

Clients report that a deep understanding of their business is the most important skill for their law firms to have. A close second factor driving favourability is the desire for firms to have competency in legal technologies, including artificial intelligence. Less than one-quarter of corporations surveyed that use UK firms are currently using technologies such as legal analytics, AI-driven smart contracts, or legal project management, making it important for their law firms to possess such expertise.

"After having bounced back strongly in 2021, the UK legal market is poised for continued growth this year," said Lucinda Case, Head of Legal Professionals Europe, Thomson Reuters. "Businesses anticipate



an increased need for legal services such as regulatory work, mergers and acquisitions, and labour and employment. In particular, firms that emphasise a holistic approach that focuses on thoroughly understanding a client's business and applying business acumen supported by efficiency-enhancing technologies are likely to be sought after."

The Role of the Corporate INTL Who's Who Adviser Handbook 2022

Lawyers specialise in diverse areas of expertise and can assist with a range of issues at any stage of your business life cycle. The Corporate INTL Who's Who Adviser Handbook 2022 is intended as the ideal reference guide for business management, in-house counsel and investors when choosing the right adviser in the current climate. It covers the following regions: Europe, The Americas, Asia & Oceania and Africa & the Middle East, and contains profiles of advisers in a multitude of practice areas, including:

Trade Law

In its March poll of 689 business leaders, the Institute of Directors found only 11% agreed with the statement that the Ukraine crisis "won't significantly impact my business". While the direct effects, based on disruption to trading activities in the region, are expected to impact only 12% of businesses, the indirect effects mean that the vast majority will be impacted in some fashion:

- 71% expect to be impacted through higher energy prices;
- 52% through higher prices of other global commodities;
- 61% through its general impact on confidence and/or UK economic growth;
- 41% through its impact on global financial markets;
- The survey also found that 8 in 10 directors believe that UK companies should completely cease conducting business in the Russian market or trading with Russian companies.

Kitty Ussher, Chief Economist at the Institute of Directors, noted: "The devastating human impact of this conflict is, rightly, at the forefront of all our minds, and [the] data shows our members support our stance from the outset that ceasing business with Russia is the right thing to do, over and above any financial interest of individual firms. What we now realise, however, is the extent to which the whole of the UK economy is affected by the war through indirect channels as well. The primary mechanism is via higher energy prices, closely followed by the general impact on confidence, and through that the macroeconomic environment in the UK. Our members, who tend to be ambitious SMEs, also expect to be affected through their high exposure to other globally traded commodities such as wheat, oil and metals, that have also been affected by the conflict."

He added that around nine in ten business organisations in the UK expect to be affected, whether it is through higher costs, an uncertain operating environment, or "management bandwidth" – meaning that leadership teams must, with the right counsel, replan their operations at speed in light of a rapidly changing situation.

Intellectual Property Law

Safeguarding IP is invaluable for businesses; therefore, choosing the right representative is vital. IP filing activity grew during the global pandemic, even during the 2020 drop in worldwide economic growth, when innovative enterprises and individuals around the world overcame disruptions to drive WIPO's global IP services for patents, trademarks and designs to record-setting levels.

International patent applications filed via WIPO's Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) grew by 0.9% in 2021 to reach 277,500 applications – the highest ever level. Asia manifested its lead as the largest origin of international patent applications, accounting for 54.1% of all applications in 2021, up from 38.5% in 2011. WIPO's global trademark and design filing systems, used to protect and promote brands, each notched double-digit growth to mark new records, as did WIPO's anti-cybersquatting and arbitration and mediation activities. Although COVID-related restrictions kept people apart, it couldn't stop the



worldwide movement of fresh ideas, innovative products and new services – and was, in many ways, a boon for the field of IP law, prompting advisers in the areas of copyright and trademarks to devise new ways to fulfil their clients' needs.

Dispute Resolution

Dispute resolution can be separated into litigation and alternate dispute resolution (ADR). ADR is an alternative to using litigation to settle disputes, and its rising popularity can partly be attributed to the lower costs compared with litigation, and a greater emphasis on client confidentiality. Arbitrations often occur because parties agree that any future dispute concerning the agreement will be resolved by impartial individuals. It is important for a lawyer to be able to choose the best method of dispute resolution for their client, as litigation can be a costly and unnecessary route for a case that can be resolved through one of the ADR processes; however, sometimes a case must be taken through court. A notable legacy of the pandemic is the technological advancement that has allowed such disputes to be settled remotely, on digital platforms in an expedited manner, at a scale that was unprecedented prior to COVID-19.

Tax Law

As with the other practice areas outlined above, court cases concerning tax discrepancies did not, of course, ever go away, despite the tumult of recent years. As the courts continue to resume traditional and hybrid activity, they have arrived at many new practices that will influence legal and business relationships in the coming decades.

Financial Issues

Not all of the expert advisers featured in this edition are lawyers. Financial advisers can assist in meeting a specific financial goal or can provide a macro view of finances and the interplay of assets. On a more general level, a financial adviser can help to develop an overall business strategy. Your consultant's role is to synthesise detailed information about your financial situation and render advice encompassing investment, superannuation, retirement and succession planning, risk management and insurance. The best financial planners will devise a comprehensive roadmap for the future to ensure that clients make the most of their funds. This begins with a summary of the key findings drawn from an initial questionnaire, and will take into account net worth, assets, liabilities and liquid or working capital.

Considerations When Choosing an Adviser:

- What you want them to assist with – what kind of adviser;
- Their specific experience areas / specialisations – years of experience;
- Legitimate qualifications – i.e., when they were admitted to the bar;
- Past cases – success rate;
- Price for services – cost-effective: what you can afford with your current budget;
- Whether they are a boutique or a large firm.

One of the fundamental roles of a good adviser is helping the client achieve their objectives. They must be able to determine what a client needs, which is not always what they want. Often, clients seeking an adviser will know what they want, without adequately identifying what they require – or recognising what qualifies as an objectively “good” outcome. This is one of the roles of the adviser, alongside creativity, which is another crucial trait of a corporate consultant – they should be able to think “outside the box”.

EUROPE



In response to the European Council tasking at the Versailles Summit, the Commission and the High Representative presented an analysis of the defence investment gaps, and proposed further measures and actions necessary to strengthen the European defence industrial and technological base. Russia's aggression against Ukraine has significant implications for European defence, which is leading to increased military spending by Member States. The Commission and the High Representative aim to help Member States to invest together, better and in a European way.

Taking into account the analysis of investment gaps carried out by the European Defence Agency, the Commission and the High Representative examined three main types of gaps: defence expenditure, defence industrial gaps, and defence capability gaps.

- Defence expenditure: Member States have already announced increases in their defence budgets close to an additional €200 billion in the coming years. While these increases are essential, they come after years of substantial cuts and severe underinvestment. From 1999 to 2021, EU combined defence spending increased by 20% against 66% for the US, 292% for Russia and 592% for China.
- Defence industrial gaps: Despite the overall competitiveness of the sector, difficulties and gaps exist. Since demand is fragmented, the industry also remains structured along national borders, especially outside the aeronautics and missile sectors. Dependencies also exist for some key defence equipment for which the European defence industrial and technological base is not offering indigenous solutions.
- Capability gaps: Three urgent priorities have been highlighted – replenishing stockpiles, replacing Soviet-era legacy systems and reinforcing air and missile defence systems. Beyond these urgent capability gaps, the Joint Communication proposes to work on a number of specific strategic medium- to long-term capabilities in the air, land, maritime, space and cyber defence domains.

Measures to address these gaps

In order to support the closing of the gaps, the Commission and the High Representative set out a set of concrete measures designed to strengthen European defence demand through joint procurement and to reinforce supply through measures targeting the support to industrial manufacturing capacities.

A short-term EU instrument to reinforce defence industrial capabilities through joint procurement will be proposed for fast-track adoption – to support Member States to fill the most urgent and critical gaps in a collaborative way, based on the work of the Task Force. The Commission is ready to commit €500 million of EU budget over two years to incentivise Member States to address these needs in a collaborative way.

This short-term instrument will pave the way to an EU framework for defence joint procurement. To this end, in the third quarter of 2022, the Commission will propose a European Defence Investment Programme (EDIP) regulation. It will establish the conditions for Member States to form European Defence Capability Consortia (EDCC). Within an EDCC, Member States will jointly procure, for the use of participating Member States, defence capabilities that are developed in a collaborative way within the EU and will benefit from a VAT exemption.

Meanwhile, the Commission has set out plans in a Communication for the EU's response to address Ukraine's financing gap. This Communication follows on from the European Council call to address the consequences of the war in Ukraine via a dedicated Europe-led effort.

The EU has significantly stepped up its support, mobilising around €4.1 billion to support Ukraine's overall economic, social and financial resilience in the form of macro-financial assistance, budget support, emergency

assistance, crisis response and humanitarian aid. Military assistance measures have also been provided under the European Peace Facility, amounting to €1.5 billion, that will be used to reimburse Member States for their in-kind military support to Ukraine, and the mobilisation of an additional €500 million is under way.

The war resulted in a collapse of tax, export and other revenues, compounded by large-scale appropriation of assets and export goods, including in the agricultural sector, while essential expenditure skyrocketed.

Addressing Ukraine's significant short-term financial support to sustain basic services, address humanitarian needs and fix the most essential destroyed infrastructure has required a joint international effort. The Commission therefore envisages to propose granting Ukraine in 2022 additional macro-financial assistance in the form of loans of up to €9 billion, to be complemented by support from other bilateral and multilateral international partners, including the G7. A major global financial effort will be required to rebuild the country – to create the foundations of a free and prosperous country, anchored in European values, well integrated into the European and global economy, and to support it on its European path.

An international coordination platform, the 'Ukraine reconstruction platform', co-led by the Commission representing the European Union and by the Ukrainian government, will work as an overarching strategic governance body, responsible for endorsing a reconstruction plan, drawn up and implemented by Ukraine, with administrative capacity support and technical assistance by the EU. It brings together the supporting partners and organisations, including EU Member States, other bilateral and multilateral partners and international financial institutions.

In addition, the European Commission has presented the REPowerEU Plan to transform Europe's energy system: ending the EU's dependence on Russian fossil fuels, which are used as an economic and political weapon and cost European taxpayers nearly €100 billion per year, and tackling the climate crisis. The measures in the plan can respond to this ambition through energy savings, diversification of energy supplies, and accelerated roll-out of renewable energy to replace fossil fuels in homes, industry and power generation.

The green transformation will strengthen economic growth, security and climate action for Europe and its partners. The Recovery and Resilience Facility (RRF) is at the heart of the REPowerEU Plan, supporting coordinated planning and financing of cross-border and national infrastructure as well as energy projects and reforms. Energy savings are the quickest and cheapest way to address the current energy crisis and reduce bills. Therefore, the Commission proposes to enhance long-term energy efficiency measures, including an increase from 9% to 13% of the binding Energy Efficiency Target under the 'Fit for 55' package of European Green Deal legislation. Saving energy now will help us to prepare for the potential challenges of next winter; whereas, replacing coal, oil and natural gas in industrial processes will reduce greenhouse gas emissions and strengthen security and competitiveness. Energy savings, efficiency, fuel substitution, electrification, and an enhanced uptake of renewable hydrogen, biogas and biomethane by industry could save up to 35 bcm of natural gas by 2030 on top of what is foreseen under the 'Fit for 55' proposals.

Commercial Law



Dr. Michael Prager
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Admitted to the bar in 1992.

In addition to his studies at the University of Vienna, Dr. Prager spent a long time abroad and gained work experience in the USA as well as in several European countries. These experiences shaped him insofar as it is always an advantage for the client to look beyond the limits of one's own system when developing solutions.

Education and training:

- University of Vienna
- Magister Juris 1984
- Doctor Juris 1989
- Danube University Krems
- postgraduate European law studies 1998
- Introduction to US Law, Summer Courses Harvard University, Cambridge, Ma (2005)
- Santa Clara University, Silicon Valley, Ca (2007)

Experience:

- Associate 1988-1992
- Registration as a lawyer in 1992
- Founded his own office in 1993

Memberships:

- Austrian Bar Association (Vienna)
- European Air Law Association
- American Chamber of Commerce in Austria

Other activities:

- Member of supervisory boards (Austria & Germany)
- Member of Boards of Directors (Hong Kong) and
- Trusted Attorney of the US Embassy / Consulate in Vienna
- Member of the examination committee for the judicial examination at the Higher Regional Court of Vienna

Languages: German, English

PRAGER & PARTNER RECHTSANWALTS GMBH

We are lawyers specializing in litigation, corporate law and company law (including contract negotiations).

We represent clients in court and administrative proceedings in order to enforce their claims and interests. Even with large and complex problems, you have come to the right place: in the 27 years since our law firm was founded, we have been able to obtain numerous landmark decisions before the Supreme Court, the Administrative Court and the Constitutional Court, many of which have been published in the press and discussed in legal journals. For example: internet law; admissibility of keyword advertising contract law; damages law/construction law inheritance law; revision of construction law; and neighborhood law.

International Arbitration

Corporate M&A; Capital Markets



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Hauser Partners has more than 35 years of experience in complex cross-border commercial disputes, in particular in the fields of post-M&A disputes and construction disputes.

Wulf Gordian Hauser is, besides Austria, admitted to the bars of the state of New York, Washington, D.C. and the Principality of Liechtenstein. He has spent about 4 years practising law in Washington, D.C. in top-rated law firms there. His work there was very much focused on litigation and arbitration.

Wulf Gordian Hauser has participated in about 100 arbitrations, mostly cross-border and both as an arbitrator and a counsel to parties.

From 2012 to 2018, Wulf Gordian Hauser has been the Austrian representative in the International Court of Arbitration of the International Chamber of Commerce. He has done many arbitrations under ICC, VIAC, LCIA and UNCITRAL Rules as well as ad-hoc arbitrations.

As an expert in his field, he regularly gives lectures on arbitration-related topics. He is also a co-author of the VIAC Handbook on the 2018 VIAC Rules.

Mr. Hauser has started his career at Ernst & Young and therefore has a solid accounting background. He has been lead counsel to hundreds of cross-border M&A transactions, which is why he has also specialised expertise in post-M&A disputes. He has been appointed by the ICC as an expert of US GAAP under the ICC Rules of Expertise.

Engineering and construction disputes are another specialty of Mr. Hauser, and the ICC Bulletin has published one of his decisions under the FIDIC Red Book.

Real Estate Valuation

Real Estate Appraiser and Consultants;
Real Estate Expert Witness



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Isabella Reinberg is the managing director and co-owner of Reinberg & Partner Immobilienberatung GmbH based in Vienna, Austria. Throughout the course of her career Isabella Reinberg has acquired a profound knowledge in national and international real estate matters. Due to her high qualification as an Appraiser, she is able to assist the national court in Austria as a certified expert witness in the areas of real estate issues. Isabella Reinberg is widely appreciated among peers. Therefore, national professional organisations draw back on her expert view.

Reinberg & Partner has been active since the beginning of the 1990s, throughout Europe and has gained extensive know-how and expertise. We carry out national and international real estate valuations on behalf of well-known companies, public institutions as well as private and commercial clients.

Reinberg & Partner client-oriented services include:

- Evaluation
- Research
- Consulting
- Due Diligence
- Advisory
- Counseling
- Mediation

Based on the recent focus on sustainability, Reinberg & Partner emphasize an interdisciplinary approach based on the pillars of technology, law, economics and ecology. We think and act internationally, draw on a worldwide network and cooperate with local experts.

Reinberg & Partners' success is also due to the professional and highly qualified associates. Our academically trained staff act as a direct point of contact, which enable transparent and comprehensible actions.

Reinberg & Partner clients benefit from objectivity, neutrality and transparency. Our clients receive professional expert opinions based on all legal and ethical regulations and guidelines. Trustworthiness is our principle, which is the foundation of Reinberg & Partner's long-term business relationships.

Our strengths

Strong and deep regional knowledge, internationality in cooperation with partners, flexibility and responsiveness, excellent network, outstanding reputation, many years of experience, as well as highly trained staff, professional handling, good liquidity, crisis-proof, international expertise and furthermore independence.

Associations:

ARE, BDGS, HAUPTVERBAND DER
GERICHTSSACHVERSTÄNDIGEN, IMMOZERT, ÖBM, ÖVI,
RICS, TEGOVA

Tax Law

International Tax Law;
Real Estate Tax Law;
Private Foundations



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Mr. Andreas Valsky was born in 1967 in Stockerau, Austria and is owner and CEO of CTS Steuerberatung GmbH, a tax-law firm in Vienna, which concentrates on domestic as well as international tax-planning and furthermore renders full corporate services to clients.

Mr. Valsky started his professional career during his study of business administration at the University of Economics and Business Administration in Vienna in a middle-sized tax law firm. After finishing his study, he worked for KPMG in the tax law department for national and international clients. In 1997 he started his own business and in 2001 he became owner of CTS Steuerberatung GmbH.

Mr. Valsky contributed to the development of a study programme for an advanced college for national and international project management and he has given lectures at the several advanced colleges in Vienna on accounting, national and international taxation and contributed to a book, published in 2001 in Austria, dealing with transfer pricing planning in international tax law.

Mr. Valsky is member of the board of a large number of Austrian private foundations and has gained significant practice in this field of business.

International tax law, practiced by Mr. Valsky for more than 15 years, is another major field of business of his tax law offices.

Mr. Valsky is also active for charitable projects and is member and former president of the Kiwanis association in Stockerau, Austria.

Criminal Litigation

Business Litigation;
White Collar Crime; Fraud Law



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Dirk Libotte's practice covers all aspects of company-related criminal law and litigation. He has a broad range of experience in handling financial, tax, and economic criminal law matters (fraud, company fraud, money laundering, bribery, etc.). He has vast experience in handling company fraud and employee fraud matters in large companies and regularly acts before Belgium's Financial Services and Markets Authority (FSMA) in cases relating to market manipulation or insider trading.

Dirk represents clients in the banking, insurance, telecom, pharmaceutical, petro-chemical, real estate, food and feed, construction, and transport sectors, and he also assists clients in the world of sport. He acts both for alleged suspects and for victims of criminal acts.

As a partner in Arcas Law, which positions itself as the largest independent, dispute-resolution-only firm in Belgium, Dirk is conflict free, enabling him to represent his clients against various corporations and governmental institutions. His clients range from SME's to global corporations (and their directors and officers), (foreign) states and state entities.

Dirk and his team have cutting-edge expertise in complex litigation, both domestic and cross border. Their assistance covers both the investigation stage (pre-trial) and the proceedings before the courts. They can represent their clients before all courts, including the Belgian Supreme Court of Cassation, which is the highest appellate Belgian court.

Dirk has been ranked as a Leading Individual in Legal 500's Fraud and White-collar Crime section since 2017. He has been at the Brussels Bar since 1999, after graduating from KU Leuven (1999, magna cum laude). He also holds a Master degree in tax law (ICHEC, 2001). He regularly publishes and teaches on topics related to his area of practice.

Key clients include Deloitte, Ernst&Young, SGS Statutory Services, UPS, McCain, Brambles and UCB.

White Collar Crime

Fraud Law, Criminal Litigation,
Business Crime

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Niels Vos is a highly dedicated lawyer, specialised in white-collar crime (money laundering, falsification of documents, tax and financial fraud, embezzlement, violation of particular criminal laws, etc.). He represents a wide range of companies and corporate executives from all economic sectors. He assists both suspects and aggrieved parties in every phase of the criminal proceedings.

Niels Vos holds a Master of Laws Degree at KU Leuven (2014, cum laude). During his studies, he also studied a semester at the University of Stockholm (2013) and obtained a certificate in International Criminal Justice at VU Amsterdam (2014). Before being admitted to the Limburg Bar in 2015, Niels gained hands-on experience in complex international criminal cases at the Office of the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY). Niels won the pleading competition at the (then) Hasselt Bar and represented his bar at the Inter-Limburg Pleading Competition in Kerkrade (the Netherlands). Niels was admitted to the Brussels Bar in 2018.

Niels obtained the certificate for the Special Training on Cassation Proceedings in Criminal Cases (2018), which is required in criminal cases to plead before the Belgian Supreme Court. He also successfully completed the SUPRALAT Training on Strengthening suspect's right in pre-trial proceedings through practice-oriented training for lawyers (2020). He is therefore perfectly equipped to assist clients from the very beginning of a criminal investigation to the proceedings before the highest courts. Niels is also experienced in strategies resulting in out-of-court solutions such as an amicable settlement under criminal law. His goal is always to resolve disputes before they escalate and, if litigation becomes inevitable, to win cases or obtain the best outcome for his clients.

Niels's practice does not only cover criminal investigations and prosecutions. He also assists clients in investigations conducted by other bodies, such as the Financial Services and Markets Authority (FSMA). Even before the authorities have started any investigation, he performs a risk-analysis for his clients and discusses the most appropriate strategy. Furthermore, he assists companies in criminal due diligence and compliance programmes.

As of 2018, Niels has been affiliated with Arcas Law, a leading independent law firm that focuses on risk management and dispute resolution. Since criminal cases often also have civil aspects, the collaboration at Arcas Law between litigation experts in different fields, results in a full service at top quality.

Niels speaks at seminars on the criminal aspects of anti-money laundering and tax fraud and has published about criminal procedure.

A few examples of recent cases he handled include:

- Assisting the Belgian branch of a multinational corporation in a criminal investigation regarding alleged multimillion-euro VAT fraud and falsification of documents;
- Representing an auditor before the Sanctions Committee of the Financial Services and Markets Authority (FSMA);
- Advising of foreign investors in a criminal investigation concerning an alleged international stock fraud scheme;
- Legal assistance to a company in the recovery of stolen assets.

Intellectual Property Law

Enforcement of IP rights & Competition Law;
Business & Corporate Law;
Licensing Law & Technology Transfers



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Dr. Petra de Brantes, formerly Korejzová, has been working in the field of intellectual property protection since 1992, she became a Patent Attorney in 1995 and in 2004 she became an Attorney at Law and Partner of KOREJZOVA LEGAL; she has also been an established Attorney at Law with authorisation to represent clients directly in the Slovak Republic.

KOREJZOVA LEGAL has been one of the leading IP Law Offices specialized in intellectual and industrial property protection since 1992, when Dr. Zdeňka Korejzová founded KOREJZOVÁ & SPOL., Law and Patent Offices, following her long-standing practice since 1968 in former Czechoslovakia. In 2017 the company name was changed to KOREJZOVA LEGAL with extension of legal services to further fields of interest in the Czech Republic and Slovakia. In 2022 KOREJZOVA LEGAL celebrates 30 years of successful practice.

The main field of activity of KOREJZOVA LEGAL remains intellectual and industrial property protection and for this purpose it gathers attorneys at law along with patent attorneys, who can provide complex legal services in this field.

Patent Attorneys are specialized in protection of industrial property rights, such as patents for inventions, trademarks and designs, all within the international perspective.

Attorneys at Law provide legal services related to enforcement of intellectual property rights, with an overlap to other legal sectors, such as civil, corporate and business law.



Private Client Law



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Mette Sheraz Røvsing is an experienced lawyer practising within foundations, tax and private law with an emphasis on estate planning. She works on the administration of domestic estates as well as those with a cross-border aspect; she is also involved with broader aspects of private law, including divorces, generational changes, and associated issues involving company and tax law.

She has as background in tax law, litigating cases on behalf of the Danish Ministry of Taxation and advising the Danish tax authorities. Following her work with the legal adviser to the Danish government, she has considerable experience in international taxation and an excellent understanding of how to communicate and work with authorities.

Mette Sheraz Røvsing is an experienced litigator and represents clients in disputes before administrative bodies, district courts, high courts and the Supreme Court. She is partner and co-owner of Røvsing Advokater P/S in Copenhagen, a boutique law firm focusing on private clients.

WWL says: *Mette Sheraz Røvsing is a distinguished private client lawyer, highlighted for her profound expertise in tax and estate planning.*

Banking & Finance Law



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Edite Ligere's practice focuses on the regulation of artificial intelligence, global financial regulation, banking, insurance, human rights, consumer protection, charity law, data protection, machine learning and cyber security.

Selected Representations (publicly disclosed)

- AIG Inc. in the development of the first global insurance capital standard ("ICS").
- MetLife Inc. in the development of the activities based approach to the identification and mitigation of systemic risk in the insurance sector and the development of the ICS.
- Abu Dhabi Investment Council in various acquisitions.
- Scotiabank in various acquisitions.
- AmTrust in its \$218.7 million acquisition of ANV Holding B.V.

Selected Publications

- 'A "sui generis" interpretation of the rule of law?' Politeia, May 2021
- 'Kryptonite or Crypto Right?', Politeia, April 2021
- 'Liberty, Law and Lockdown', Politeia, January 2020
- Insurance: can systemic risk get any more systemic post Covid – 19? chapter in the OECD's New Approaches to Economic Challenges 'The Financial System'

Selected Speaking Engagements

- 'Going Green – Consistent with Economic Recovery?' Politeia, June 2021
- 'EU Trade and Cooperation Agreement' webinar, The European Institute of Columbia University, the European Legal Studies Center of Columbia University and the European American Chamber of Commerce in New York with British Consul General in New York and HM Trade Commissioner for North America Anthony Phillipson, Barney Reynolds, Partner and Member of the Executive Committee of Shearman & Sterling, Katharina Pistor, Professor of Comparative Law, Georges Ugeux, Chairman of Galileo Global Advisors Moderator and Adam Tooze, Professor of History Columbia University and Director of the European institute, 19 March 2021, U.K.
- 'Artificial Intelligence in Healthcare with Robert Kellar QC & Edite Ligere' Seminar, Leigh Day, London, July 2020
- In Conversation With...Robert Kellar QC & Edite Ligere', Artificial Intelligence; Real Headache? Seminar, DWF, London, March 2020
- Brexit: The Final Curtain. What are the Legal Implications for the UK and the EU? Contemporary History and Institutions of the Mediterranean Series, Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies, Bologna (date to be confirmed)
- Guest Professor in International Law and Human Rights, Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS) Europe; Bologna, November 2019

Appointments

- Politeia Think Tank, Director.
- General Council of the Bar of England and Wales (Elected member).
- Bar Council Law Reform Committee.
- Galileo Global Group, New York, NY, U.S.A., Senior Advisor.
- Philanthropy Board of the Institute of Cancer Research.
- Chairman of the Windsor Benefit Trust (for the advancement of music and the arts.)
- Member of various international and U.K. pro bono legal initiatives.
- Rights of audience in the courts of England and Wales.

Corporate Law

Commercial; Property;
Data Protection and GDPR

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Kate Partridge
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About Michelle Harris

Michelle has over 20 years' experience of advising individuals and corporates from start-ups to PLCs on the full spectrum of corporate matters, including mergers and acquisitions, joint ventures, re-organisations, directors' duties, shareholder arrangements, fund-raising, investments, management buy-outs/ buy-ins and other private equity and corporate finance transactions.

Michelle was a partner in a City law firm in London before leaving to establish her own successful legal consultancy business in 2013. She founded law firm illume Legal in January 2017 with Kate Partridge.

Michelle has been recognised in the London Super Lawyers list which recognises lawyers who have distinguished themselves and demonstrated excellence in their field of practice.

About Kate Partridge

Kate is an experienced corporate finance lawyer with broad ranging private practice experience. She has advised clients on everything from basic company secretarial matters to large multi-jurisdiction IPOs. She began her career in the private equity field and then moved to a general corporate practice at top City law firm.

Kate has supported startups in early stage funding rounds and enjoys assisting with structural and planning work as well as much larger corporate transactions.

Kate was awarded "Best Corporate Finance Lawyer (England)" in the Corporate Today 2022 and 2021 Global Business Awards.

About illume Legal

Awarded Best Corporate Finance Law Firm 2022, Global Business Award for Distinction in M&A Law 2022 and Female Founded Law Firm of the Year 2022.

illume Legal is a full service business law firm, founded in 2017 by Kate Partridge and Michelle Harris, two former City lawyers who could see that New Law had much to offer the world of corporate transactions. They believed the legal profession needed a shake up – for the benefit of both clients and lawyers alike.

At illume we use the latest technology and flexible working practices to deliver the very best service for our clients and the optimum work/ life balance for our lawyers.

Our lawyers combine technical brilliance with commercial acumen – we understand that clients don't want their lawyers to just recite the law to them at their expense, they want their lawyers to work in partnership with them and to become part of their team as trusted business advisors. Many of our clients have been with us for a long time and our lawyers have become their indispensable "external, in-house counsel".

illume's lawyers are all consultants, entrepreneurs in their own right. They understand business, because they run their own.

All our lawyers are at least 15 years PQE (post qualification experience), meaning your work will never be passed down to an inexperienced junior (which invariably leads to increased fees and a lack of commerciality on transactions). Our lawyers have trained and worked in private practice in large Magic and Silver Circle City law firms and/ or have held senior Head of Legal in-house positions.

Our fantastic team of corporate lawyers is supported by first class banking, commercial, employment, property, data protection and privacy, litigation, technology and intellectual property lawyers.

Our flexible business model allows us to provide City quality advice and experience without the City price tag. We understand that price transparency is absolutely key for our clients. At illume there will never be any nasty surprises on fees.

Put simply, we offer the very best parts of a City law firm but our clients don't have to contend with lawyers trying to meet their billable hours targets, the City law firm overheads or the antiquated structure.

We are illume.

Corporate Immigration Law



Farhan Farani
Managing Director
Farani Taylor Solicitors
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Farhan Farani is the founding Partner and Managing Director of Farani Taylor Solicitors. He completed his Bar Vocational Course from Lincoln's Inn in 2002 and thereafter he qualified as a Solicitor in 2012. He is passionate about creating a distinctive practice, recognised for delivering excellent bespoke services. During his time as lawyer he has worked with range of client's including HNW individuals, businesses, and investors.

Farhan specializes in Commercial Litigation and Dispute Resolution, especially matters related to contractual disputes and civil fraud claims. He has significant experience of managing complex High Court trials and other substantial hearings, as well as expertise in assisting clients to resolve disputes through mediation and other forms of alternative dispute resolution.

Farhan advises on a range of commercial and business agreements including supplier, manufacturing and distribution agreements, complex framework agreements, brand licensing and franchising agreements, sponsorship agreements, terms and conditions and contracts and non-disclosure agreements.

Notable Cases

Pakistan International Airlines, in a case concerning economic duress. ***Times Travel (UK) Limited v Pakistan International Airlines Corp [2021] UKSC 40.*** The Supreme Court of England ruled in a landmark decision that the doctrine of a lawful act of duress is limited in scope and does not apply to the case brought against Pakistan International Airlines Corporation (PIAC). This case had a significant impact worldwide as it related to the principles of economic duress in contract law. The following parties intervened in the Supreme Court 1. Ukraine 2. The Law Debenture Trust Corporation Plc3. All Party Parliamentary Group on Fair Business Banking

Represented Sir Chris Evans of Q-21 Group in a commercial dispute matter which was successfully mediated and settled outside court.

Aix Capital Holdings Ltd - Advised Client on the acquisition of Kashmir Premium Cricket League.

Butt -v- Avenue Marketing Limited – Representing a marketing company in a monetary dispute stemmed from a renowned housing association in Pakistan.

Hulkan Investment Group – Advised client about the terms of the agency agreement with their brokers in a finance agreement.

United Bank Limited – Advised client and drafted agreement for a Joint Venture between the bank and their partner on a Foreign Remittance Project.

Corporate Immigration Law

Immigration; Asylum and Human Rights; Global Citizenship



Amer Rahman
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Amer Rahman is a Partner at Farani Taylor and a rare find in today's legal world; a qualified lawyer since 1994. Amer holds specialism in Immigration, Asylum and Human Rights Law. With impressive skills to solve complex matters, he has successfully represented clients in both the High Court and Court of Appeal and continues to be instructed in complex Judicial Review matters. Amer holds particular interest in civil actions against Public Authorities, using both common law and remedies under the Human Rights Act 1998.

Amer also has experience in the European Court of Human Rights ('ECHR'); most recently, advised an ex-member of the House of Lords on a constitutional point. He has been involved in a range of high-profile cases, including recently advising a HNW family opposing extradition to India in relation to money laundering allegations. Amer uses a reliable steadfast approach throughout the entire process; from providing strategic advice to clients, preparing appeal paperwork, producing evidence in support, and attending Tribunals to represent clients.

Amer has built a reputation for resolving seemingly futile issues and continues to apply his expertise when handling matters such as in Business Immigration, highly Skilled Migrant applications. He has expertise in the Global Citizenship Programme and has assisted HNW individuals and business professionals to acquire Citizenship in the United Kingdom, European Union countries, Caribbean and Commonwealth Nations.

Amer is also experienced in Sports Law including advising on player commercial contracts, transfer agreements, disciplinary and regulatory and product endorsement and sponsorship deals. He is well-equipped on advising sport executives on not only the need to confirm to the regulations established by the authorities but understands the legal framework to ensure compliance with the law of the land and protects the business from risk. Amer has represented renowned sports personalities. Notably, leading the Legal Team representing the former Pakistan Cricket Captain, Mr Salman Butt at the Court of Arbitration for Sport, in *Lausanne (Salman Butt v. International Cricket Council CAS 2011/A/2364)*.

Most recently, Amer visited the Ukrainian refugee camps in Warsaw, Poland and offered his legal assistance to a number of vulnerable refugees. He advised them on the Family Scheme and Home for Ukraine Scheme. Amer continues to stand-by Ukrainian refugees in solidarity.

Hand & Plastic Surgery Expert Witness



Paul Smith
Consultant
Paul Smith Hand
& Plastic Surgeon

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Paul Smith is a highly skilled consultant who offers expert treatment and advice in the areas of Hand Surgery, Reconstructive Plastic Surgery including skin cancer management, and cosmetic surgery. He is one of the most experienced Congenital Hand Surgeons in the World and is a member of the Congenital Hand Anomaly Study Group of which there are only 30 members worldwide.

As a leading practitioner with over twenty five years' experience in the field, patients can be confident that they will receive the very highest standard of care and the best advice. He has both the expertise to reassure and a reputation to be trusted, helping patients make informed and positive decisions about their healthcare.

His team adopts a comprehensive approach, prioritising clinical excellence throughout the process - from offering sound and sympathetic advice before a procedure, right through to a commitment to effective aftercare. Valuable links with external healthcare professionals, such as hand therapists and physiotherapists, clinical nurse specialists, ensure all patients receive comprehensive and effective care.

Paul Smith trained in Glasgow, London and the United States at some of the premier training centres in the world.

He has been a consultant in practice for over thirty eight years. In that time, he has founded the Congenital Hand Surgery Centre at The Great Ormond Street Hospital, now one of the largest services in the world, and was instrumental in founding RAFT (the Reconstruction of Appearance and Function Trust) – a postgraduate institution funding research into plastic surgery. Paul was also responsible for founding the Hand Therapy Service at the Wellington Hospital, which has now become the London Hand and Wrist Unit. He has been awarded several prestigious prizes both at home and abroad, including the Pulvertaft prize for hand surgery, awarded by the British Society for Surgery of the Hand. He also was awarded first prize in the Resident Competition by the American Association for Hand Surgery.

Moreover, he has published in excess of sixty nine papers in peer reviewed journals, eighteen chapters in textbooks and is the joint author of Principles of Hand Surgery and was chosen as Editor and Co-Author of Lister's The Hand. His reputation and expertise are highly respected such that he has been invited as a visiting professor to esteemed institutions worldwide and has been the guest lecturer or invited speaker to the National Hand Societies of Canada, South Africa, Australia and the United States.

His Plastic Surgical training involved a research association with Canniesburn Hospital and clinical training in Edinburgh, London and the United States. He was Clinical Instructor in Plastic Surgery at Duke University Medical Centre, widely regarded as the premier training centre in the United States. Paul was exposed to the full spectrum of Plastic Surgery including Cosmetic Surgery under the tutelage of Professor Nicholas Georgiade, past President of the International Association of Aesthetic Plastic Surgery.

Immigration Law

Corporate Business Immigration



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Paul is a qualified lawyer, a chartered member of the Institute of Legal Executives and accredited by the Law Society to Advanced level 3 of the Immigration and Asylum Accreditation Scheme. This accreditation has been awarded to a very small proportion of specialist immigration and asylum lawyers.

Paul joined Barnes Harrild & Dyer in 2002 and established the immigration asylum and human rights department. In 2003 Paul secured a Legal Aid contract to provide free immigration legal services to the community and has successfully supervised the firms legal aid contract work and its private client operations since. In 2009 Paul was achieved partner status and in September 2015 was promoted to senior partner. Paul is well known by his peers in the profession as being a leading practitioner and his hard work was acknowledged by Legal 500, which recognised him as one of five leading individuals in the South East UK region for immigration law. The 2017 edition quotes;

'Barnes Harrild & Dyer is 'a firm of dedicated and reliable solicitors, whose determination and confidence is exemplary'. The team regularly represents asylum applicants and victims of trafficking, and has a strong track record in handling cases before the Immigration Tribunal, through to the Court of Appeal and the Supreme Court. Other areas of expertise include unlawful detention claims, Children's Act and care proceedings and business immigration matters. The 'friendly and trustworthy' Paul Turner is the key practitioner, and is praised by clients for his 'honest advice, proactive encouragement and drive to succeed'.

Paul is widely recommended to clients from all over the UK and abroad. Paul has worked on a substantial number of complex cases and his knowledge of the law and experience enables him to advise clearly and accurately achieving successful results in the most demanding of cases. Paul specialises in all areas of immigration asylum and human rights law and is experienced in performing work at all court levels up to the Supreme Court, but takes a particular interest in protecting those who have established family life in the UK, best interests of children, deportation of foreign criminals, European law, human rights and all matters of public law.

Paul is overall responsible for the successful development of the immigration law team. He is very active running a varied caseload of complex immigration cases. He is highly valued by the team for his supervisory skills and depth of legal knowledge. He is often called upon by his peers, such as counsel for his opinion. Mr Turner has also been instructed to provide expert opinions to the Family proceedings court concerning the impact of immigration matters in family and Children's Act and Care proceeding matters and in criminal trials.

One of Paul's most notable reported cases is R (on the application of Johnson) (Appellant) v Secretary of State for the Home Department (Respondent) [2016] UKSC 56, a matter that concluded in the Supreme Court. It is a rare event for a firm to succeed on appeal to the Supreme Court and this examples Paul's specialism.

Investment Management Law



Edyta Kniżewska
Founder
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My name is Edyta Kniżewska and I'm the Founder of FIT Legal Solutions, a specialist legal consultancy born out of the years of experience on the buy-side, sell-side and in private practice.

With a mission to positively disrupt the sell-side / buy-side collaboration, I have created FIT Legal Solutions to help market participants navigate through the maze of trading relationships. I strive to achieve quicker time to market for my clients by delivering more structured and tailored solutions to trading documentation negotiations.

I know from experience that a more personalised approach allows the buy-side to launch their products more seamlessly and the sell-side to better understand, often delicate intricacies of the buy-side processes, hence be more accommodating. I believe in fostering better business relationships.

I believe that by finding synergies between various organisations (with often conflicting priorities) and by fostering better communication, I can achieve extraordinary results for my clients.

People are the true force behind the success of any venture. My relationship driven and people-oriented approach to what can be an impersonal business of trading is what makes FIT Legal Solutions a very unique proposal. Bringing people together and finding the common ground is what I have tried, tested and perfected over the past decade.

By working with me, you are giving your business and clients access to a wealth of unique and invaluable experience. You will be replacing multiple touch points at each organisation with one passionate and skilled individual who cares about your business and aims at delivering nothing short of excellence.

I care greatly about what I do and strive to deliver excellent results. I'm far from knowing it all and continue learning as I grow in this profession. If therefore, after our initial conversation and assessment, I know I cannot add any value or solve your problem, you can rest assured that I will tell you upfront if that's the case.

I always stay close to the key regulatory and legal developments and am an active participant in the asset management sector. I'm proud to have built extensive, long-lasting network of relationships across the industry, not only within the buy-side and the sell-side, but also with multiple service providers, various contractors and individuals with whom I had a pleasure of working throughout my career. I respect and value them all greatly.

I consider time and data amongst the most precious commodities nowadays; you can therefore trust that I will always value your time and treat any and all information your share with me as strictly confidential.

When I'm not trying to find the FITtest solution for you, you can probably find me outdoors somewhere, hunting for new adventures, both around the world and around the corner. I'm an avid reader and a blogger. I enjoy travelling and meeting new people, so I will always be happy to come by for a cup of coffee and discuss how I can help you.

Patent Litigation

Transactional IP;
Pharmaceutical Regulatory



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Ralph Cox has specialised in contentious intellectual property matters, particularly patent litigation, for over twenty-five years. However, his practice covers all aspects of intellectual property, both contentious and non-contentious, and all industry sectors.

He has thus litigated patents, trade marks, designs, confidential information and licensing and other IP contractual disputes before the Patents Court, High Court and Intellectual Property Enterprise Court (IPEC). He has also worked with attorneys on a range of patent, design and trade mark matters before the European Patent Office, UK Intellectual Property Office and EUIPO and has regularly coordinated international IP litigation where multinational companies are involved or the infringing activities extend beyond the UK.

Within the patent field, Ralph's focus is on life sciences, advising clients on matters such as freedom to operate, research exemptions, litigation strategies and contractual issues as well as conducting litigation itself. He also advises clients on transactional and regulatory matters, being the lead author for "The Pharma Legal Handbook – United Kingdom (2020), and carries out due diligence exercises on product acquisitions and fund raisings.

Outside the life sciences sector Ralph has litigated patents as diverse as riflescopes, prenatal genetic tests, vanadium redox batteries, ultrasonic bonding of disposable nappies, porridge containers and DRAMs.

Ralph is a member of the BioLegis network of life sciences law firms. He is also recognised as a leading practitioner for patent litigation, and IP generally, in legal directories such as Chambers UK and Global, Legal 500, Managing IP Patent Stars and Intellectual Asset Management's Patent 1000. Recent directory entries include the comments:

"Ralph Cox is a highly impressive patent lawyer- I would rate him as exceptional, and one of the very best I have worked with. His knowledge of the industry and the law is exceptional, and he is equally at home dealing with contentious and non-contentious work. Ralph manages somehow to be able to absorb and process all of the detail while also maintaining a high-level view of the case, transaction or advice at hand, which means he is able to provide user-friendly commercial advice to clients." (Legal 500, 2021)

"Ralph Cox has unrivalled knowledge of patent law and practice – he is very good with clients and very supportive." (Legal 500, 2022)

Examples of Ralph's past patent litigation matters are:

- Omniparm v Merial (fipronil formulations for flea protection)
- Swarovski Optik v Leica (riflescopes)
- Illumina v TDL Genetics (genetic tests for foetal chromosomal abnormalities, e.g. Downs)
- Curt G. Joa v Fameccanica.Data (ultrasonic bonding of disposable nappies)
- Michael Dichand v Hydraredox Technologies Holdings Ltd (vanadium-redox batteries)
- Confidential (second medical use patents for cancer treatments)
- Confidential (catalysed particulate filters for NOx reduction in diesel vehicles)

Other patent matters:

- R v Secretary of State for Business (ex parte Napp) (patent related judicial review)
- Sturrock & Robson v Flexsteel (patent and other IP related ICC arbitration)
- Summit Therapeutics (patent due diligence)
- Confidential (patent and contractual due diligence on purchase and licensing in of medicines)
- Confidential (defence of negligence claims against patent attorney firms)

UK Visa Law

Immigration Law, Corporate Law, Family Law



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Emel Su Yilmaz completed her BA and MA degrees in Law in the UK. After graduating from Westminster University in the Law Department with honorary degree, she completed her MA at the University of Law. After completing her law studies, she gained experience in immigration law, corporate law, corporate immigration law at private law practices.

Specializing in immigration, asylum, human rights applications, corporate visa laws and family visas, she established her own immigration advisory firm, Global Immigration Law with more than 10 years' experience in the sector. Global Immigration Law is the sum of more than a decade of experience, knowledge and successful client relationships of Emel Su Yilmaz.

**Banking & Finance Law**

Capital Market; Corporate



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Tarja Wist is the founding partner of Wist Attorneys and an internationally highly esteemed banking and finance law and capital markets professional.

Tarja Wist has extensive experience in cross-border financings and international finance transactions, including syndicated lending, secured and asset-based financing, structured finance and securitisation, leasing, and debt and equity issuances. Throughout her 30 years' legal career, Tarja has advised numerous international and domestic banks, investment firms, finance companies, funds, other investors and corporations in various finance and capital markets transactions. Alongside her private practice, Tarja Wist has served as the Chair of the Specialist Group for Finance and Capital Markets Law of the Finnish Bar Association and as a Co-Chair of the Banking Law Committee of the International Bar Association. She has also been appointed as a member of the legislative working group of the Finnish Ministry of Finance for the implementation of the EU Takeover Directive in Finland and as a member of the legislative working group for the Securities Market Law Reform in 2012.

Tarja Wist is a member of the Finnish Bar Association and qualified to practice law in Finland.

Gaming Law

IP Litigation



Minna Ripatti
Founding Partner,
Legal Advisor
Legal Gaming Oy

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Minna Ripatti, the founder and CEO of Legal Gaming Attorneys, is one of Finland's leading gaming lawyers. She holds both law degree and business degree from University of Turku, Finland and LL.M. from University of Vienna, Austria.

Minna Ripatti is a Finnish attorney-at-law with extensive experience in gaming law. Minna Ripatti has spent over a decade abroad living and working in Austria, Switzerland and Malta. During this time, she worked as an expert gaming lawyer for a prominent Austrian law firm, in-house legal counsel for a large game provider and provided legal consultation for both B2C and B2B companies operating in the iGaming and Entertainment sectors. After living abroad Minna Ripatti returned to her roots in Finland and founded her own business: Legal Gaming Attorneys. Minna Ripatti is now the founding partner and legal advisor at Legal Gaming. With her skilled team she brings her clients the unique Nordic way of doing business, niche legal expertise and international network of top-notch legal professionals in the field of gaming.

Minna Ripatti is able to provide clients with quality legal advice since she and her team understand the gaming industry and how businesses operate in that sector. With her team at Legal Gaming Attorneys Minna Ripatti has built a group of dynamic lawyers and legal consultants following the vision of providing legal services tailor-made for companies operating in iGaming and Entertainment & Social Gaming and Esports sectors, from startups to global operators. Lawyers with business acumen is what the gaming industry needs.

Minna Ripatti is not just a traditional lawyer, she is a true gaming enthusiast who wants to be part of developing legal services in the fields of iGaming and Entertainment & Social Gaming and Esports sectors. With her selected team, she is able to provide top quality legal services.

At Legal Gaming our motto is "Your business is our business." and we work every day to meet our clients' high expectations and provide them the help and service they need.

Administrative Law

Public Business Law; Environmental
Health; Ecological Transition
and Green Deal



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Lawyer since 2011, Madeleine Babès has worked for nearly 8 years in the local civil service, in positions of responsibility, mastering the administrative machinery and general public law. She provides training and has given numerous courses for the National Centre for Territorial Civil Servants (CNFPT), mainly in public procurement law.

On the doctrinal level, she has an important activity since she participates in the publication of numerous articles in various specialised reviews, but is also co-author of works such as the practical guide to municipal elections, the code of public procurement, the code of administrative justice or the code of the environment with comments.

Administrative Law

Public Business Law;
Administrative Property Law;
Energy Law



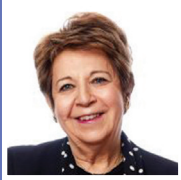
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Benjamin Huglo is a specialist in constitutional law, general administrative law, local authority law, administrative property law, administrative contract law and administrative litigation, subjects which he has taught at the Universities of Cergy-Pontoise and Panthéon-Assas, but for which he also has litigation experience.

After having worked in the administrative jurisdiction, at the Administrative Court of Caen and then at the Administrative Court of Appeal of Paris, Benjamin Huglo has been working since 2013 as a consultant for lawyers at the Council of State and the Court of Cassation as well as for lawyers at the Court of Appeal of Paris.

Administrative Law

Environmental Law;
Urban Planning and Development;
International and EU Energy Law



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Corinne Lepage has a doctorate in law and, because of her experience, is developing a consulting practice, including strategic consulting, and litigation. She works with both large companies and start-ups, French and foreign public authorities and associations. Corinne Lepage follows major environmental, energy and environmental health cases and manages major pollution cases and natural and industrial disasters. She is one of the EU's specialists in these areas.

Co-founder, with Christian Huglo, of the law firm Huglo Lepage Avocats in 1978, she has held numerous public positions: member of the Conseil de l'ordre and Secretary of the Conseil (1987-1990), Minister of the Environment (1995-1997), Deputy and then First Deputy Mayor of Cabourg (1989-2001), MEP (2009-2014). She lectures in very large companies on the evolution of climate and environmental issues linked to economic issues.

Aviation Law



Grégory Laville de la Plaigne
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Grégory Laville de la Plaigne is a partner with the aviation and litigation practice and is based in the Paris office. He regularly acts for airlines and their insurers, or other actors of the aviation sector.

Grégory has involvement in most of the recent major air losses and by their very nature most of these cases have an international dimension.

He has significant experience in product liability matters and his strong dispute resolution background includes multi-jurisdictional litigation as well as international arbitration.

Grégory regularly advises airlines on regulatory and consumer protection matters including the setting up of their business in France, slots and also regarding their relationship with various authorities.

He speaks at various conferences such as the Beaumont Conference and regularly lectures in Aviation Law. Before joining Clyde & Co he was a lecturer and researcher in Public International Law at the University of Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne and a tutor in public law, international economic law and international investment law. Gregory has a Master (DEA) in Public Law from the University of Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne and was admitted to the Paris bar in 2011.

Family Law

International Family Law;
Criminal Family Law



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Elodie Mulon has devoted her professional practice exclusively to patrimonial and extra-patrimonial Family Law. She is a leader in the field of Family law and she is regularly consulted by public authorities and give conferences on this subject.

She is involved in major associations in this field. She is the President of the IDFP (Institute of Family Law), the President of CALIF (Arbitration Center for Family Disputes), a member of the Family Commission of the Paris Bar, of the Association of Collaborative Practitioners, of the National Association of Family Law Practitioners and of the Law and Procedure Association.

She is also a member of international associations such as the International Association of Lawyers and the International Association of Family Lawyers. She is an expert for the Paris Bar at the Family Commission of the Council of Bars and Law Societies of Europe. She is also in charge of training in Family Law at the Paris Bar School. Elodie Mulon has also held numerous positions in the representative instances of the legal profession (Treasurer and Secretary General of National Federation of Young Lawyers Associations, Vice-President of the Young Lawyer Association of Paris, Member of the Bar Council and Secretary of National Council of Bars).

She is the author of numerous articles and case law reviews in specialized legal journal. She is frequently solicited by the media for her insight into current events when family law issues are at stake. She is also the scientific co-director of the Gazette du Palais specialised in Family Law.

She is also a Knight of the National Order of Merit and a Knight of the Legion of Honor.

Intellectual Property Law

Wine Law



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Guillaume Marchais founded Marchais & Associés 20 years ago with the aim of combining both prosecution and litigation in the field of trademarks, designs, copyright and unfair competition.

Capital Markets Law

Intellectual Property;
Corporate; International Private Law



Ludovic Timbal Duclaux de Martin
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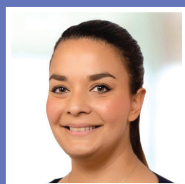
Ludovic Timbal Duclaux de Martin spent more than 10 years in magic circle law firms. He is seen as having an undeniable technical expertise with a strong capability to convey complex topics in engaging and accessible ways. He was seconded to an investment bank and, in 2006, to London for seven months (capital markets).

Ludovic holds a master's degree in business law (Maîtrise) from the University of Paris X - Nanterre, a postgraduate diploma in contract law (DEA) from the University of Paris XI - Sud, a specialized professional postgraduate diploma in international business (DESS) from the University of Paris X - Nanterre, a diploma of professional English from the University of London (British Institute in Paris) and a certificate in private law and contract enforcement in the United - States and in France (contract and arbitration) from Yale University & Paris II - Panthéon - Assas University (year 2015 - being top of the class for the paper research/thesis). Ludovic is a former speaker in the Master 2 business and tax law (bond market and derivatives), from Paris I - Panthéon - Sorbonne University & HEC.

In 2015, he created his own law firm. Between 2018 and 2022, Ludovic won numerous awards including the France 2018 business lawyer of the year global award (*CorporateLiveWire*). Me Ludovic Timbal Duclaux de Martin operates as an EIRL (Entrepreneur Individuel à Responsabilité Limitée) as of 01 July 2020. He is the Global 100 winner for the year 2019, named capital markets lawyer of the year by Global 100 - KMH Media Group and the 2019 regulatory lawyer of the year, receiving the InterContinental FINANCE & LAW 2019 country award (France). In 2020, Ludovic won, inter alia, the Individual Business Litigation Lawyer of the Year and the Individual Regulatory Lawyer of the Year – France Award (M&A Today). In 2021, he won the Business Litigation & Regulatory Lawyer of the Year in France (GLE).

In 2022 Ludovic is awarded the Corporate Finance Lawyer of the Year Award by *CorporateLiveWire* (2021/2022) and is a member of Leaders in Law for Corporate and also part of the Corporate INTL Who's Who (capital markets). Ludovic is regarded as dynamic.

Litigation



Sylvie Gallage-Alwis
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After 10 years practicing in a major international law firm, Sylvie Gallage-Alwis became one of the founding partners of the Paris office of Signature Litigation in January 2019. Since then, Signature Litigation has been the first cross-channel dispute resolution only firm, providing assistance in handling major and complex litigation, arbitration and regulatory investigations.

With 15 years' experience, Sylvie heads the firm's product liability practice. She specialises in all cutting-edge complex disputes linked to products, namely product liability, product safety, toxic tort, mass litigation/class actions, regulatory compliance, and the environment. She is involved in the most innovative pending legal topics for her clients, such as defending them against claims filed on the ground of planned obsolescence or deceit towards consumers. She is notably involved in the well-known Covid-19 vaccine and *dieselgate* litigation as well as in brand new climate change litigation, and the first claim filed against a manufacturer on the ground of the anxiety of developing a disease linked to the substances included in the product. In this scope, she is used to handle claims filed by NGOs, consumers' associations and to negotiate with the market surveillance authorities.

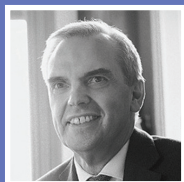
Sylvie is both an *Avocat à la Cour* in France and a Solicitor in England & Wales. She has been described by Who's Who Legal over the years as a *"dynamic and determined litigator"*, who is *"a firm favourite among clients"* as *"she always goes the extra mile to support her clients, and is proactive in seeking commercial solutions to disputes"*. She is listed as a Thought Leader and Global Elite in Product Liability by Who's Who Legal in 2022, being described as a *"star in the international world"* and a *"well-connected expert"*. She is one of the three Leading Individuals for Product Liability listed by The Legal 500 for France.

Sylvie also focuses her practice on general commercial litigation for her clients which are mainly international or non-French manufacturers facing litigation in France. She is also well-known for her expertise in Toxic Tort/Mass Litigation. As such, she has been involved in most pro-company case law rendered in recent years, notably in asbestos-related cases, with some cases mentioned in the French Civil and Social Security Codes because of the significant reversal in case law they represent.

Sylvie is an active member of the International Association of Defense Counsel (IADC), the Association of Defense Trial Attorneys (ADTA) and the International Consumer Product Health and Safety Organization (ICPHSO).

Competition Law

Mergers & Acquisitions; Corporate Law;
Banking and Capital Market Law



Ulrich Schnelle
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Ulrich Schnelle concentrates largely on European and German antitrust law, in particular on antitrust proceedings, compensation litigation under antitrust law and merger control. He further advises national and international companies on corporate law, on M&A transactions and distribution law. In all the legal fields Ulrich Schnelle practises in, he also represents clients before authorities and at court both in Germany and abroad.

Resumé: Ulrich Schnelle studied law at the universities of Passau, Geneva, Freiburg and Illinois. He obtained his doctorate at the University of Freiburg (Dr. jur.) and is an honorary professor of Nürtingen-Geislingen University of Applied Sciences for economics and the environment. In addition, he is a member and chairman of various supervisory boards. He speaks German, English, French and Russian.

Energy Expert WitnessPrice Revision, Damage Valuation,
Competition Matters

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Madjid Kübler is the managing director of Team Consult. He heads Team Consult's dispute resolution practice. Prior to Team Consult, he worked in senior positions at Accenture and Arthur D. Little.

He acted as Expert Witness in numerous arbitration proceedings and as Co-arbitrator in energy related disputes.

Madjid is a regularly invited speaker and chairman at national as well as international energy conferences. His applied research and expertise are frequently published in scientific and trade journals. Madjid is a member of the German Arbitration Institute (DIS) as well as the German section of the World Energy Council.

Since 1987, Team Consult offers independent strategic advisory services for global and local energy companies. The consultancy is a leading advisor for questions regarding the North-West European energy markets.

Development and trends in the international energy business are identified at an early stage. The range of products and services offered by Team Consult comprises: evaluation of long-term energy supply contracts, support in negotiation and dispute resolution, analysis of competition related matters, damage assessments, support for divestment/investment decisions (e.g. power plant projects, transportation/logistics, storages, renewables) and development of market entry strategies, market design and regulatory framework.

Team Consult's reputation as a highly skilled and experienced consultancy is based on its team members' wide range of practical experiences in the field of energy economics and related technologies.

Team Consult's experts have been assigned in disputes relating to natural gas, power and renewables for more than 35 years. Its clients in these regards have been international energy companies, regional and local utilities as well as leading law firms. Team Consult has supported its clients in disputes with a total worth of billions of Dollars.

Export Control Law

Trade & Customs; International Sanctions



Dr Harald Hohmann
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Harald Hohmann is an attorney specialising in export trade law, sanctions, and customs law (all: including EU and US Law). He advises and represents companies in Germany, EU Members, Switzerland, the USA, Japan, China and Israel in export, embargoes, and customs law; his clients include several world market leaders. Harald belongs to “Germany’s Best Attorneys” (Handelsblatt 2020-22), and Legal 500 rates the firm as a “Leading Law Firm 2021 and 2022” (ranking 2 Export Trade Law).

He is a “leading name in export trade and customs law” in a “highly recommended law firm for export trade and customs law” (Juve Handbook Commercial Law Firms). He is “very well known in the German and EU markets for his profound practitioner’s expertise in EU and US export control law, international sanctions, and customs law” (WWL).

Harald has 25 years of experience as attorney. In 2002, after six years at business law firms in Frankfurt/Main and after studies of Law in Münster/W and Geneva and after being Research Fellow at the University of Frankfurt, he founded Hohmann Rechtsanwälte in the medieval town of Büdingen near Frankfurt, now in the neighbour town Gelnhausen (www.hohmann-rechtsanwalte.com), with a world-wide network of co-operation partners in: EU, US, China, and Japan. Harald received a first PhD (with a thesis on international environmental law) and a second PhD (with a thesis on US, EU and Japanese export control law) from the University of Frankfurt.

Harald is known for EU and US export control law (incl. EAR, ITAR and OFAC regulations), EU and US embargoes (specialising in Iran and Russia sanctions), voluntary self-disclosures, contract and distribution law (incl. export financing issues), and operational issues in export and customs law. He is well connected to export and customs agencies of various countries; sometimes he gives advice to Legislature (in Berlin and Brussels). Harald is also well-known for his publications, among them seven books (as author or editor) in export trade law (including a work of reference, and a book on US export controls law now in the 4th edition 2020). In addition, he is known for his seminars/presentations, especially those held for the German Parliament (Bundestag Berlin), the ICC in Vienna, METI in Tokyo, and for various Chambers of Commerce, Management Circle, SMI etc. and for various in-house seminars. In addition, he is senior lecturer at the Universities of Frankfurt/M and visiting at Osaka City University.



BAHAS, GRAMATIDIS
& PARTNERS LLP

Greece

Commercial Litigation

Corporate Law (including M&A);
Competition Law; Investment Law



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Spyros G. Alexandris is founding Partner of Bahas, Gramatidis & Partners LLP, leading its Commercial Litigation, Arbitration & ADR practice. His expertise spans almost all fields of commercial and company law, as well as financial crime law.

Spyros is one of the most reputable attorneys in Greece and has been recognised by various professional bodies internationally numerous times as the International Commercial Litigation Lawyer of the year in Greece.

Spyros has built an impressive record in both national and international litigation and dispute resolution, with impeccable results over the years. He has acted for leading corporates in the energy, retail, agriculture, and gambling industries, among others, and has represented corporate clients and individuals in high-profile and complex cases that have attracted wide media coverage.

Throughout his career, Spyros has fought cases and/or appeared before all of the ECHR, the Court of Justice of the European Union (former ECJ) and the ICSID. Further to his active practice, Spyros has tens of publications in both Greek and International legal journals, and his expertise has shaped company law in Greece. He has served as a member of the law drafting committee for the new legislative framework governing Partnerships (Section Seven of Law 4072/2012) and many of the cases he has litigated have become reported authorities.

Spyros has given lectures in the postgraduate programme in the Democritus University of Thrace and has also sat as member of the examination committee in respect of the trainee lawyers' exams for the admission to the Athens Bar. Spyros is currently the Secretary General of the Association of Greek Commercialists and is also an active member of other professional bodies in Greece and a member of the editing committee of the legal journal, Nomiko Vima (NoB) which is published by the Athens Bar Association.

Data Protection Law



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Ioannis Giannakakis is an attorney at the Supreme Court of Greece and an experienced General Counsel having served in leading Greek (Babis Vovos International Construction Group) and international Companies, (ING, Unilever, Novartis, G4S) holding Senior & Executive Positions (GC, Head of Legal & Compliance, Data Protection Officer).

Ioannis holds a Bachelor of Laws (BSc) from the University of Athens and an LLM from Ludwig Maximilian University in Munich Germany.

He is a Data Protection Thought Leader, being the only Greek Privacy Professional designated as Fellow of Information Privacy (FIP) by the International Association of Privacy Professionals (IAPP) the highest Data Protection designation, awarded only to top Privacy Leaders worldwide. Moreover, Ioannis is the only Legal Professional in Greece, holding a triple Certification from International Association of Privacy Professionals (IAPP) as Certified Information Privacy Professional for Europe (CIPP/E), Certified Information Privacy Professional/United States, (CIPP/US) and Certified Information Privacy Manager (CIPM) plus a Certified GDPR practitioner from IT Governance and Certified DPO per ISO 17024:2013 On top of the above, Ioannis is a Certified Fraud Examiner (CFE) member of the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners (ACFE).

Ioannis has acted as European Project Leader for more than 17 GDPR Compliance Projects in Greece and the European Union and is one of the few Privacy Professionals in Europe able to test in practice the theoretical approach to GDPR Compliance for an international Group of Companies operating in 100 countries worldwide. Moreover, Ioannis is an accredited Data Protection Trainer & Instructor with the DPO Academy (www.dpoacademy.gr) a leading Data Protection Educational Organization in Greece, collaborating with TUV AUSTRIA and Nomiki Vivliothiki to provide Data Protection Officer Course leading to ISO 17024:2013 Certification.

Lastly Ioannis, as an International Advisory Board Member to Cyber Rescue Alliance (www.cyberrescue.co.uk) advises business and Organizations in Europe, on Cyber Resilience and Cyber Recovery best practices including C-Suite bespoke training, Cyber Attack simulations etc.

Tax Advisory

Telecommunications; Financial Services;
Consumer and Industrial Markets



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Georgia Stamatelou, Partner, Head of Tax and Legal, KPMG in Greece.

Georgia has 20 years of tax advisory experience with KPMG. She serves as the Partner, Head of Tax and Legal in KPMG's practice in Greece since 2014.

Georgia has been leading a team of 210 Advisors and 7 Partners in providing a full range of Tax, Accounting and Legal services to both multinational companies as well as major Greek Groups. As a tax professional she has specialized in tax compliance and tax advisory services in the areas of income tax, M&A and International Tax and issues pertaining to the application of double tax treaties.

She has been actively involved in a number of professional bodies (Hellenic Industries Association, AmCham, IFA) and has participated in expert boards with the Greek Tax Administration for the introduction and drafting of guidance on the Greek Tax legislation.

Insolvency

Insolvency / Restructuring; Investigations /
Fraud / Forensic Technology;
Litigation Support / Expert Evidence



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Kieran McCarthy is a Director of KRyS Global's Guernsey Office and has in excess of twenty years' experience in insolvency administrations, corporate restructuring and consulting to companies in financial distress. Previously, he was a Co-Founder and Partner in Baker Tilly Dublin leading both the Insolvency and Audit divisions.

Over the last two decades Kieran has assisted hundreds of companies, through finding innovative solutions to their financial problems. He has also acted for various financial institutions in both informal restructurings and as receiver in formal appointments.

- Administration
- Members' Voluntary Liquidation (solvent and insolvent)
- Court Liquidation
- Forensic accounting
- Expert Evidence
- Forensic Technology

Our insolvency work is Director led with an experienced local team in each office. We are known to be a steady set of hands, conflict free and willing to explore high risk situations which other firms would assess as reputationally risky. We are willing to explore cases which involve litigation and open to success-based remuneration and working with litigation funders. We welcome the opportunity of discussing a flexible hands-on solution to the most complex of situations.

Family wealth

Kieran is a published author in Family Business - A Survival Guide and advises several Irish and UK owner managed family businesses. Family business founders can often be in a lonely place, and he acted in the role of Consigliere where an owner needs a confidante to talk to, to bounce things off or to simply vent and let off steam when necessary. Every family business is different, and you really must have been in the trenches with the families, to really understand the challenges faced by family businesses today.

EDUCATION: Kieran McCarthy is Certified Public Accountant of Ireland and is a qualified member of the Irish Tax Institute and has a Diploma in Company Direction/ Governance.

INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE: • Property • Construction
• Financial Services • Health Care • Hospitality
• Investment Management • Retail • Hospitality • Luxury Good

PUBLICATIONS: Kieran published a book Family Business – A Survival Guide in 2004 with the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Ireland.

Data Protection

Freedom of Information;
Intellectual Property



Kate Colleary
Director
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Kate is a lawyer and a Director of Pembroke Privacy, a leading data protection consultancy based in Dublin. She is also Chairwoman and founding member of Strand Advisory, a global data protection, privacy and cyber-security consulting practice. She is the Irish Country Leader for the International Association of Privacy Professionals (IAPP), the world's largest and most comprehensive global information privacy community. Kate is a Certified Data Protection Practitioner (CIPP/E), a Certified Information Privacy Management Professional (CIPM) and a recognised expert in Data Protection and Freedom of Information law. She previously led the Data Protection and Intellectual Property (IP) team of an international law firm.

She has been a qualified practicing lawyer since 1999. She gained an honours degree in law from Trinity College Dublin in 1995. She is a consultant to the Incorporated Law Society of Ireland's Data Protection courses, and she lectures on the King's Inns Data Protection Certificate course. She was one of only three Irish lawyers nominated for a Women in Law Award by the UK's Lawyer Magazine. Kate is regularly asked to speak on data protection issues and to comment in the media.

Kate has many years of experience providing data protection compliance services, advice and training across a broad range of sectors both public and private. These services include external DPO services, EU Representative Services, advisory services, gap assessments, DPIA and DSAR projects, and training. Kate's experience and expertise in the practicalities of delivering data protection are invaluable to clients from a range of sectors including global technology, finance and telecoms companies, hospitals, government agencies and departments, local authorities and SMEs.

As Director of Pembroke Privacy, Kate leads a team of experienced data protection consultants working with clients both locally and around the globe. Kate's team has developed processes to assist clients with their data protection compliance obligations so that Pembroke Privacy's clients gain the benefit of significant data protection expertise delivered in a cost effective and efficient manner. She has developed products and tools, such as a gap assessments, maturity frameworks, compliance review processes and e-learning products to ensure that clients' expectations in a rapidly changing technical environment are continually met.



Labour & Employment Law



Anne O'Connell
Principal
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Anne O'Connell, Principal of AOC Solicitors has been practicing as a specialist employment lawyer for over 20 years. Anne holds an LLB Degree together with Diplomas in Employment Law and International litigation. Anne previously practiced with the Chief State Solicitors Office and two top tier Irish law firms before opening her own boutique specialist employment law firm, Anne O'Connell Solicitors (AOC Solicitors) in 2017. AOC Solicitors has recently been elevated to a tier two employment law firm in Ireland in the 2022 Legal 500 rankings; a significant achievement for a law firm that is only in its fifth year since inception.

Anne has built up a well-earned reputation as being a stand-out leader in the field of employment law in Ireland and has been named as a Leading Individual in Employment Law by Legal 500. She is the recipient of a number of high profile awards including, recently, the "Lawyer Monthly Women in Law Awards 2022". The Lawyer Monthly Women in Law Awards shine a spotlight on female legal experts who have influenced the wider legal profession in their jurisdiction.

Anne brings a high-calibre, strategic and practical approach to advising on employment law matters. Her clients include large multinational companies, semi-state companies and SMEs as well as a number of senior executive employee clients.

Anne has extensive experience in all areas of employment law both contentious and non-contentious and has represented clients in a number of high-profile and important legal cases.

Anne also lectures and tutors extensively on employment law topics and is a member of the Law Society of Ireland's Employment Law Committee.

Labour & Employment Law

GDPR; Personal Injury Law;
Senior Executive Employment Services



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Richard Grogan is the founder of Richard Grogan & Associates Solicitors. The Firm is recognised as having specialist Employment Law and Personal Injury expertise. While the Firm has been involved in some of the most high-profile Employment Law case in Ireland, the Firm is known as a solution based practice. The Firm while known as a Firm who will fight cases where they have to be fought but is known also as always open to seeking a resolution without litigation where possible. The Firm also provides detailed boutique services in drafting and advising on all contractual documentation including GDPR and Health & Safety issues.

Richard Grogan is recognised for his expertise in Employment Law, GDPR and Health & Safety Law. Richard has lectured and written extensively on Employment Law and Taxation. He is the co-author of Payroll and Taxation for Employers. Richard is an Accredited Mediator from CEDR and is a Member of the Mediators Institute of Ireland. Richard has appeared on national television, radio, and in the press, as a regular commentator on all areas relating to Employment Law.

Richard acts for both, employers and employees. Richard in 2018 added an additional service to the practice, which is our Reputational Risk and Crisis Management Practice which is dedicated to advising Senior Executives and Managers. Since Richard founded this Firm in 2009, confidentiality is the hallmark of the Firm. Richard's approach is that confidentiality is important for all his clients and therefore the Firm never discloses whom we act for.

In addition to being a qualified Solicitor and Accredited Mediator, Richard also qualified as a Tax Advisor from the Irish Taxation Institute. Richard has also lectured and written extensively on the area of Taxation of Employment Law Awards and Settlements and is regarded as a specialist in this area.

The Firm is a boutique Firm. It is not a full-service Firm. We only provides services in areas where we have expertise. That has been the founding principle which Richard has applied since he found the Firm and it is the basis of his continuing approach to providing quality advice and expertise to clients so that clients know they are getting advice from Solicitors with the appropriate expertise and experience dealing with their particular case.

Banking & Finance Law

Corporate M&A; Regulatory; Litigation



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Italian *avvocato* admitted to the Court of Cassation and English qualified solicitor.

Partner of BSVA Studio Legale Associato, heading the banking & finance department of the Firm, including restructuring and capital markets and, upon need, litigation.

He has handled, in his career, transactions for an aggregate value in excess of €75 billion, often drafting all relevant documents. He has been working in these areas of practice for over twenty-eight years. He has been assisting leading Italian and international banking groups and industrial companies in dozens of financial, banking, corporate and restructuring deals.

Based in Milan, he also assists clients in managing relations with regulatory authorities such as, among others, the Bank of Italy, Consob (the Italian securities and exchange commission), IVASS (the Italian insurance authority), the Italian Ministry of the Economy and Finance, the Italian Minister of Economic Development and the ECB.

He is reported as an expert in banking and finance law by several publications and researchers. He has been a contributor to national and international legal publications and a speaker at conferences and seminars in Italy and abroad. He serves as a chairman and as a board member of companies belonging to listed international groups and has chaired AmCham task force on insurance in Italy.

Admitted to the list of experts to the negotiation of settlements (*esperto negoziatore*), within the Italian Chambers of Commerce, in restructuring transactions, he is a correspondent for Italy of a leading banking & finance law journal, and has also contributed to the drafting, or revision, of some Italian laws and regulations in banking & finance and insurance matters.

He holds an Italian university law degree (*cum laude*) and an English university law degree and has passed the English solicitor finals at the College of Law in London.

Partner of a law firm since 2004, he has a work background in these areas of practice, in Milan and London, at top international and Italian law firms.

Banking & Finance Law

Private Funds; Corporate M&A; Insurance



Francesco Di Carlo
Founding Partner,
Co-Managing Partner
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Francesco Di Carlo has longstanding experience in advising funds and funds managers and, more in general, Italian and foreign financial institutions on banking, financial, insurance and company law matters.

His expertise is mainly focused on the incorporation and authorization of financial industry players and funds, M&As, assistance on Italian and international corporate reorganizations, provision of cross-border reserved services, structuring of remuneration plans and policies, structuring of club deals, financial and insurance products, support to family offices and private bankers in relation to issues and needs of private clients. He assists intermediaries with the administrative stage of the penalty proceedings initiated by Supervisory Authorities. Francesco also developed significant experience with the regulatory supervision of listed companies, with particular regard to the protection of minority shareholders, corporate governance, related-party transactions, reporting obligations, market abuse and public offerings. He is often involved in innovative projects related to legislative changes in his areas of practice. He has been working for years with the major Italian and international Authorities.

Since 2016, he has been reported as a reference professional in his areas of expertise by Who's Who Legal Italy, Who's Who Legal Private Funds. The guide describes him as "one of the leading advisers in the Italian funds industry, assisting asset managers and investment funds", and adds that he is "well known for his international expertise in investment funds and his dynamism on matters of structuring and management" and a "highly experienced private funds lawyer with a superior reputation for providing expert advice to financial institutions funds and asset managers". He is also ranked in the main law directories; he has been included for years (2016, 2017, 2018, 2019 and 2021) in LegalCommunity's list of 50 Italian advisers who have left their mark in business advisory; he is a winner of the LegalCommunity Finance Award for Professional of the Year in the finance regulatory category (2018-2021), the Lawyer of the Year Award in the Banks category at the TopLegal Industry Awards (2020), the Lawyer of the Year by Blue Financial Communication - Forbes at the Private Banking Awards (2020). He is considered by clients as "a star of the practice, with a great knowledge of the market and attitude to problem solving", with "undisputed leadership in the agreement". Sources add: "Once again, in 2018, his track record has been remarked by the importance of his clients, the complexity of the questions dealt with and impressive volumes."

He holds offices in major companies engaged in his practice areas. He is currently Chairman of the Board of the Statutory Auditors of Mediobanca S.p.A., Statutory Auditor of Italiaonline S.p.A. and Director of Milano Investment Partners SGR S.p.A.. He is also Director of Oliver Twist ONLUS Foundation.

WWL says: Francesco Di Carlo is highly regarded for his profound understanding of foreign and Italian funds and his continued support to family offices and private bankers.

Capital Markets Law



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EuroLegalNet is a network of lawyers that makes available appropriate legal counsel and assistance to Italian and international clients. The expertise of EuroLegalNet lawyers is derived directly from their academic and professional endeavours, most of which have been pursued through work for international law firms and multinational corporations.

The EuroLegalNet lawyers are particularly knowledgeable in assisting Italian companies with international expansion and in working with foreign individuals and companies intending to set up business in Italy or having a conflict with Italian counterparties or the need to maintain working relationships with them. In addition, the EuroLegalNet lawyers are capable of tackling and solving legal issues, from both a technical and an operational standpoint, resorting where necessary to the support offered by a network of lawyers, professionals, and qualified academics in a range of different sectors and countries.

Francesco Ferrini

He graduated in law from the University of Ferrara in 1993. During the 1991-1992 academic year, he was an Erasmus student at the University of Leeds, United Kingdom. In 1998, he completed a master's degree in law (LL.M.) at the Wake Forest University School of Law in the United States of America. He is a member of the European Corporate Governance Institute. He has worked in Rome and Milan for national and international law firms, and in Washington, DC, USA, for Arnold & Porter as visiting foreign lawyer. Between 2005 and 2008, he was ABN AMRO Bank N.V.'s legal director for Italy. He has been a member of the Italian Bar Association since 1996 and he started his own practice in 2009.

A specialist in banking law, capital markets law, and international financial operations, his current practice is focused on providing counsel in court and out of court regarding:

- corporate and commercial law, including: (i) commercial contracts; (ii) corporate restructuring and insolvency; (iii) the Italian law 231/2001 and organizational model of companies in Italy; (iv) private placements, initial public offerings, corporate reorganizations and recapitalization; (v) governance of public companies and closely held corporations;
- financial transactions, including financing coordinated by banks and financing for acquisitions (both national and international);
- legal assistance to Chinese companies domiciled in Italy listed on international Stock-Exchanges.

He is fluent in English, Spanish and Chinese through a dedicated China practice team.

Commercial Law

Corporate; M&A; Real Estate

**Christian Caserini****Partner****LCA Studio Legale****Tel: +39 02 7788751****christian.caserini@lcalex.it****www.lcalex.it**

Christian's practice focuses mainly on commercial and corporate law and M&A transactions. He also deals with real estate, shipping and transportation law.

He advises companies on commercial agreements (e.g. leases, supply, distribution and franchising) and related obligations. He also regularly advises national and international clients in the industrial and commercial sectors by supporting the entrepreneurs and the top management in all business-critical aspects in particular in connection with M&A, joint ventures and commercial transactions, as well as with respect to any issue concerning corporate governance and business law.

During his professional experience he has the opportunity to work as in-house counsel at both national and multinational companies, supporting entrepreneurs on a day-by-day basis in a wide range of sectors, with a strong problem-solving attitude.

Christian got his Law Degree at the Catholic University of Milan in 2001. He has gained almost 20 years of experience at "Pavia e Ansaldo" Law Firm in Milan, where he was a Partner from 2015 to 2019. Christian is a member of the International Bar Association.



Corporate Law

International Law; Industrial Law



Lucia Myriam Netti
Senior Regional Partner EMEA
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Lucia Myriam Netti is the Senior Regional Partner at Horizons, overseeing the advisory's activities in EMEA regions.

In her faceted role with the advisory, Lucia adeptly serves companies in developing business operations abroad. With expertise in transnational business negotiation and corporate, international, and industrial law, she manages the EMEA team to formulate robust corporate structures and shareholders' protection for long-term profitable investment.

Lucia facilitates medium and multinationals transactions with a commitment to transparency. Specifically, she walks alongside clients to shape transparent, tangible and concentrate corporate solutions for their investments with the EMEA region. Therefore, clients are not faced with accumulating billable hours or projected misleading expectations, rather Lucia heads a client centric EMEA team, which strives for maximum client trust and transparency.

Her current work includes restructuring corporate architecture for Italian group, overseeing the development of eastern European investments and leading the global Anti-Money Laundering compliance programs in EMEA regions.

Additionally, at Horizons, a worldwide team in over 40 jurisdictions is leveraged to serve clients without language, geographical or cultural barriers. Namely, the client is designated a local team in their country or region to navigate them through unfamiliar jurisdictions. In the comfort of the client's home country or region, the Horizons team can deliver global results through local gateway and erase cultural and geographical obstacles.

Prior to joining Horizons, Lucia served a number of law firms, acted as legal consultant to governments

Lucia is a graduate of the University of Law of Turin (Italy).

She additionally holds a postgraduate degree from the School of the Legal Careers for Judges and Lawyers (Turin, Italy), as well as a Master in International Contracts in Milan (Italy).

An Italian national, Lucia is fluent in English and Italian.

Criminal Law

Corporate Criminal Law; White Collar Crime



Alessandro Gentiloni Silveri
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Alessandro Gentiloni Silveri graduated with distinction in Law at Rome's 'Roma Tre' University and started working in London, specializing in International criminal law and Extradition Law. He then returned to Italy, where he worked for prestigious Criminal law firms, gaining Court experience and know-how in advising individuals, public and private corporations in criminal-law-related matters.

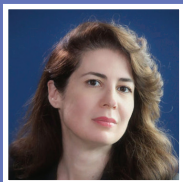
Throughout his career he has represented individuals and companies in a large number of criminal proceedings, specializing in the field of corporate criminal law and of International criminal and Extradition Law. His clients have included members of the sitting Italian government, members of the top management of global conglomerates, highest ranking officials of the Vatican City. He provides ongoing advice and support to domestic and foreign companies on criminal risk avoidance.

Thanks to the networking opportunities provided by several international memberships, Alessandro continuously travel the world. Not only does he appear in Criminal Court sessions in foreign countries and assist foreigners in Italy, liaising with local legal teams, but he also connects with reputed fellows to foster a global approach to ever more global legal issues, participating in conferences, lectures and seminars. He is capable of arranging cross-border legal teams with superb local Counsels and experts, at short notice.

He holds a Ph.D. in Criminal Law. Throughout his doctoral studies, and currently, he focused in particular on the issue of the criminal liability of collective entities, within the meaning of Legislative Decree 231/2001. He has written a considerable number of publications, both as a scholar and in the general media.

He has been the speaker at numerous conferences in Italy and abroad. He lectures in Criminal Law at Rome's 'Luiss Guido Carli' post-graduation Master's programs. He has held lectures at various training and advanced courses on Criminal Law.

Labour & Employment Law



Laura Cinicola
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Laura Cinicola is Partner of LabLaw Studio Legale Rotondi & Partners and Head of the firm's international practice.

Her practice focuses on providing both national and international clients counsel on all areas of Italian employment and labour law including company transfers, contracts, detachments, disciplinary procedures, the harmonization of workplace policies (also across borders), employment related litigation, non-competition agreements, and restructurings.

She is also extremely well versed in advising both start-ups and established businesses on HR management, corporate protection know-how, and cross-border project management.

Laura is the co-head of the firm's German Desk – advising German businesses with activities in Italy as well as Italian businesses looking to do business in native German speaking jurisdictions. She works closely with the members L&E Global to facilitate international business and strategic workplace management across borders.

Career

Laura commenced her legal career in 2004 and since the first day has exclusively dedicated her practice on Italian Employment and Labour Law. She has gained a wealth of experience over the years working with notable Italian firms such as Gianni Orioni Grippo Cappelli & Partners and the Italian Employment boutique Toffoletto. She joined the LABLAW team in 2017 as a Senior Associate and co-head of the firm's German Desk.

Professional associations

Laura is a member of the Italian Employment Lawyers Association (AGI) and the European Employment Lawyers Association (EELA).

Speaking engagements

- 2022 – Women in Charge | Stati Generali Mondo del Lavoro
- 2019 – Workplace diversity, a multicultural organization | L&E Global Webinar
- 2019 – Brexit and the Impact on Immigration | L&E Global Webinar

Articles & publications

- Die "neue" ausserordentliche Kurzarbeit – LinkedIn, October 2018
- Die Neuigkeiten des Decreto Dignita'. Ein Todesstoß für die Flexibilität italienischer
- Unternehmen – LABLAW Blog, July 2018

Education

Graduated in Law from the University of Milan – 2000.

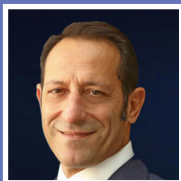
Bar Associations

Registered with the Milan Bar since April 2004.

Languages

English, French and German.

Labour & Employment Law



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Francesco Rotondi is the Founding and Managing Partner of LabLaw Studio Legale Rotondi & Partners.

He provides 360° Labor Law and Industrial Relations counsel to numerous important Italian companies as well as international businesses with operations in Italy. He boasts a solid experience assisting with reorganization and restructuring plans, extraordinary operations, trade union litigation, the management of employment contracts, and with the organization of agency networks in the commercial and credit sectors.

Francesco is particularly well known for managing complex reorganizations and corporate restructuring, top management labor issues and litigation, in addition to providing counsel on future scenarios of labor law and the individual work contracts – advising on new types of employment contracts for the digital economy.

Francesco commenced his professional career in 1991 at Trifirò & Partners, where he became Partner. In 2001, he joined Hammonds Rosotto as a Partner and Head of the Employment and Industrial Relations Department.

In 2006, Francesco Rotondi founded LabLaw – one of the top employment and labour law firms in Italy.

Professional associations

Francesco Rotondi is a member of the International Bar Association (IBA), the Italian Employment Lawyers Association (AGI), the European Employment Lawyers Association (EELA). In addition, Francesco is a Member of the Board of Directors of the National Association of Personnel Directors (AIDP) of Lombardia, a Member of CONFINDUSTRIA, as well as being a member of the Scientific Committee of Employment Law & Practice at IPSOA – the Italian Professional institution of Corporate Organisation.

Publications

Francesco Rotondi is Director of the Licosia Edizioni series “Il lavoro è cambiato. Let’s change the rules”, born in 2018 with the aim of developing an evolutionary vision of labour law; he is also the Editorial Director of KongNews, an online journalistic publication specialised on labour, business, economy, with over 250,000 unique monthly readers.

Since 2021, Francesco Rotondi has also been the Director of the Editorial Series “Lavoro: spunti di vista e punti di svista” published by FrancoAngeli, which aims to address the most relevant and topical issues concerning labour law, always through the perspective of two different authors with opposing points of view. The aim is not to highlight differences but to learn more about the ideas of each in order to promote points of contact.

A columnist for the most important newspapers, he has always been the author of numerous essays and scientific publications on labour law and collaborates with many specialised journals in the field of labour law, including: Diritto & Pratica del Lavoro, IPSOA; Il Lavoro nella Giurisprudenza, IPSOA; Guida al Lavoro, Il Sole 24 Ore; Avvocati 24, Il Sole 24 Ore; Il Quotidiano Unico, IPSOA; Guida alle Paghe, IPSOA; Leggi di Lavoro, rivista giuridica dei consulenti del lavoro, Fondazione Studi Consulenti del Lavoro; Sintesi, rassegna di giurisprudenza e dottrina, Commissione Studi e Ricerche dell’Ordine dei Consulenti del lavoro; HR online, AIDP; Dir. Pers, AIDP.

Education

Degree from the Catholic University of Milan, J.D. 1991.

Bar Associations

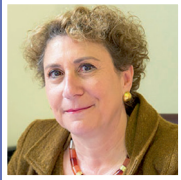
Member of the Bar Association since 1994.

Languages

English and French.

Public Procurement Law

Public Entities; Energy; Environment



Anna Romano
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Satta Romano & Associati

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Anna Romano joined the Firm as partner in 2008 and became Name Partner in 2013.

She acquired relevant experience in all sectors of Public law, especially in the fields of procurements and public supply contracts, public entities, public as well as general economic interest services, Energy and Environment.

She often assists public administrations and main economic operators, public and private, to whom she provides support in Court and in extra judiciary issues (participation in tender proceedings, proceedings in front of Supervisory and independent Authorities). She oversees public-private partnerships, and relevant extraordinary corporate transactions.

She acts as counsel in cases related to public law or midst public law brought in front of Italian and European courts (before administrative judges and ordinary ones; Courts of Auditors, Arbitral Tribunals).

She is a member of Arbitral Tribunals.

She has worked with public entities and institutions, where she has also held the position of member of the Supervisory Board.

She acts as independent expert for public entities, before the judiciary authority and in International arbitration proceedings.

Since 2004 she is Adjunct Professor of Law and Legislation of public works (module I) – Public and Environmental Law at Roma Tre University.

She teaches Public Law at the Postgraduate School for legal professions at La Sapienza University.

She often gives speech in conferences, masters and post graduate courses. These include, among others: Environmental Law at La Sapienza University and Public Contracts and tender procedures in light of the new directives on public procurement contracts at Roma Tre University.

She has authored articles on Public Law relating to tenders and contracts, energy and environment, transparency and corruption.

She is member of the scientific Board of the online magazine ApertaContrada and collaborates with the legal journal "Il foro amministrativo – Consiglio di Stato".

Mentioned in her activity fields as an outstanding lawyer by the primary Italian and international Directories, she is a Supreme Court Lawyer, registered at the Rome Bar Association.

International Arbitration

Estate Planning;
Asset Protection; Tax Law

Dr. Mario A. König, LL.M.
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Mario A. König was educated at the University of Graz from 1991 to 1997, gaining a Mag iur in 1997 and a Dr iur in 2004; and at Fordham Law School, New York from 1998 to 1999, gaining a Master of Laws (LLM) in 1999.

He took the New York Bar examination in 1999, the Austrian Bar examination in 2002 and the Liechtenstein Bar examination in 2007. He was admitted to the New York Bar in 2001 and to the Liechtenstein Bar in 2009.

He practised as a judicial clerk at the Provincial Court of Appeal, Graz, from 1997 to 1999, was a trainee attorney in Vienna from 2000 to 2004 and has been a member of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (MCIArb) since 2003. He was an associate at Marxer & Partner from 2004 and has been a partner since 2009.

He advises clients in the process of setting up structures such as trusts, foundations and corporate legal entities, mainly in the context of tax and succession planning, and in implementing proper governance mechanisms. He also acts as arbitrator and party representative in ad hoc arbitral proceedings and arbitrations conducted under the Liechtenstein Rules in disputes involving trusts and foundations. He regularly publishes articles and contributes to the Liechtenstein Chapter of international arbitration treatises.



Real Estate Law

Property and Lease Management;
Real Estate and Investment Vehicles;
International Operations



João Ricardo Nóbrega
Coordinating Partner
and Lawyer
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- Partner at RSA since 2007 and Managing Partner
- Coordinator of the Real Estate and Investment Vehicles Activity Area
- Coordinator of the Property and Lease Management Activity Area
- Lawyer at RSA since 2004
- Member of the Bar Association since 2004

Practice Areas

- Real Estate Law
- Property and Lease Management
- Real Estate and Investment Vehicles
- International Operations
- Hiring and Registrations

Academic Education

- Postgraduate in Forensic Procedural Practices at the Catholic University of Portugal
- Degree in Law from the Faculty of Law of the Catholic University of Portugal

Other References

- Guest Lecturer at the Postgraduate Course in Real Estate Law at the Faculty of Law of Lisbon and Porto of the Catholic University (1st, 2nd and 3rd EDITION)
- Guest lecturer of the Specialization Course in Real Estate Management, ISEG
- Guest Lecturer at the Postgraduate Program in Real Estate Law, Universidade Autónoma de Lisboa (UAL)
- Trainer of the Specialization/Graduation Course in Real Estate Law, APEMIP
- Trainer in the area of Legal Regime for Tourist Enterprises, Real Estate Investment Funds, Urban Planning and Land Management, Urban Rehabilitation, IFE (International Faculty for Executives)
- Guest speaker at various seminars/conferences in Portugal, Brazil and Angola on topics of Real Estate Law and Foreign Investment (Investment Vehicles, Golden Visa/Non-Habitual Resident)
- Co-author of several publications in the field of Real Estate Law and Investment Vehicles, namely:
 - "Legal Regime of Real Estate Investment Funds" (Annotated and Commented)
 - "Guide to Real Estate Law" – Vols. I, II, IV and V
 - "Real Estate Investment Funds" – Angola and Portugal
 - "Real Estate Investment Funds", Brazil
 - "Real Estate Investment Funds", Angola
 - "Regulatory Framework for Collective Investment Undertakings (Real Estate Investment Funds and Real Estate Investment Companies)", Angola

Awards and Distinctions

- Chambers and Partners/Europe, 2019, Real Estate
- Legal 500 – 2013 European, Middle East and Africa Ranking in the Real Estate area
- Corporate Intl Magazine 2012
- Global Award for: Real Estate Investment Funds Lawyer of the year in Portugal

Languages

- English, Italian and Spanish

Real Estate Law



António Raposo Subtil
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António Raposo Subtil is the Founding Partner of RSA. His practice covers public litigation and arbitration, real estate law, investment projects and vehicles, general litigation, corporate and governance, and company revitalization and restructuring.

He was Chairman of the Greater Lisbon Board of the Portuguese Bar Association during the three-year period from 2005-2007, and Member of the Consultative Council for Justice of the Ministry of Justice by appointment by the Portuguese Bar Association in 2002. He has been registered in the Portuguese Bar Association since 1989.

Academic Training

- Doctorate in Juridical Science (academic part) (Universidade Autónoma of Lisbon, 2012)
- Post Graduate Studies in Leasing Law (Faculty of Law of the University of Lisbon, 2002)
- Master's Degree (academic part) in Juridical/Economic Science (Faculty of Law of the University of Lisbon) 1999)
- Bachelor's Degree in Law (Faculty of Law of the University of Lisbon, 1986)

Other References

- Guest lecturer and Co-ordinator of the Postgraduate Course in Real Estate Law from the Universidade Autónoma of Lisbon (2009-2011)
- Lecturer of the Specialisation Course in Real Estate Management promoted by ISEG (2005-2008)
- Lecturer in Real Estate Law and Real Estate Investment Vehicles in courses promoted by the International Faculty for Executives (2007-2009)
- Lecturer of the Specialisation Course/Graduation in Real Estate Enterprises promoted by the APEMIP (2006-2007)
- Co-ordinator of the Post-Graduate Course in Management for Lawyers of EGE/Portuguese Catholic University (2004-2006)
- Lawyer and Arbitrator for various cases of arbitration
- Guest speaker at various seminars/conferences in Portugal and Brazil on Real Estate Law themes
- Author and Co-Author of various publications on Real Estate and Financial Law including:
 - Legislação do Sistema Financeiro de Angola – Colectânea de Legislação Lusófona, Vida Económica (Legislation of the Financial System of Angola – Collection of Legislation in the Portuguese-Language), November 2016
 - Legislação do Sistema Financeiro de Moçambique (Legislation of the Financial System of Mozambique), Vida Económica, August 2013
 - Guia Prático da Recuperação e Revitalização de Empresas (Practical Guide to Corporate Recovery and Revitalisation), Vida Económica, October 2012
 - Contrato e a Intervenção do Juiz (The Contract and the Intervention of the Judge), Vida Económica, September 2012

Awards and Distinctions

- BEST LAWYERS INTERNATIONAL 2021 – Distinction in the areas of Litigation and Real Estate Law
- CHAMBERS EUROPE 2018 – Band 4 – Real Estate Law Portugal
- CHAMBERS EUROPE 2017 – Band 4 – Real Estate Law Portugal
- BEST LAWYERS INTERNATIONAL 2017 – Distinction in the areas of Litigation and Real Estate Law
- CHAMBERS EUROPE 2015 – Band 3 – Real Estate Law
- CHAMBERS EUROPE 2013 – Notable Practitioner – Real Estate Law
- Corporate Intl Magazine 2011: Global Award for: Real Estate Lawyer of the year in Portugal
- CHAMBERS EUROPE 2011 – Real Estate Law – Portugal
- CHAMBERS EUROPE 2010 – Real Estate Law – Portugal
- CHAMBERS EUROPE 2009 – Real Estate Law – Portugal
- CHAMBERS EUROPE 2008 – Real Estate Law – Portugal

International Financial Advisory



Thomas Griffin
Head of Central Europe Client
Services/Area Manager
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deVere Group is the world's largest independent financial consultancy group. International investors and expatriates employ us to find financial services products that suit their medium to long-term requirements for insurance, investments, savings and pensions. With in excess of US \$9 billion of funds under administration and management, deVere has more than 70,000 clients in over a hundred countries.

How I Can Assist You

I assist my clients reach, and frequently exceed, their financial goals. Working closely with you, we will devise, implement and manage a bespoke financial strategy and solution to help you create, grow and maximise your assets:

My journey with my clients starts with establishing values to be adhered to and then, on this foundation, we build a changeable set of intended consequences. Subsequently, I discuss and implement the most effective way of growing and protecting the client's wealth and assets for the future and to the benefit of their families and beneficiaries.

The deVere Group are the market leaders in QROPS (Qualifying Recognised Overseas Pensions Schemes) allowing expats to confidently and cost effectively move their UK pension to a more secure, transparent and actively managed HMRC approved scheme.

Specialties: UK pension, QROPS, QNUPS, EURBS, Savings Plans, Inheritance tax planning, Trusts, Portfolio Management, Pension & Retirement Planning, Education Fee Planning, Lump Sum and Offshore Investment, Life Insurance, Wills, Foreign Exchange, International Mortgages, International Healthcare, Fund Platform, Online Trading, Private Banking.

Banking & Finance Law

Capital Markets; Corporate Law



Björn Wendleby
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Björn Wendleby is specialized in the area of financial regulation, mainly within exchange and securities law, banking and finance legislation, asset management, AML as well as sustainability regulations. Björn has significant regulatory experience representing clients in contacts with the Swedish Financial Supervisory Authority (Sw. Finansinspektionen).

In his daily work, Björn provides advice in a variety of matters relating to authorizations with the Financial Supervisory Authority and in various implementation projects. He has over the years participated in a number of long-term projects implementing new legislation, such as MiFID/MiFID 2, PSD/PSD 2, AIFMD and AMLD.

Björn's client portfolio includes banks, investment firms, payment institutions and fund managers, including market leaders such as Skandinaviska Enskilda Banken and Carnegie. During his career, Björn has held a number of senior legal positions, among others in the Swedish Financial Supervisory Authority, Skandinaviska Enskilda Banken and ABG Sundal Collier.

Björn is ranked in band 1 by Chambers Europe 2022 in Banking & Finance, Regulatory in Sweden. He has been ranked for nine consecutive years. According to a recent report clients say: "He is number one in Sweden when it comes to funds and related advisory services."

Björn is also recommended as a Global Leader – Private Funds Regulatory – and a National Leader, Sweden Private Funds 2021 and 2022, by Who's Who Legal. WWL says "Björn Wendleby draws high praise for his excellent financial services practice and comprehensive knowledge of private funds."

Insolvency, Administration & Restructuring Law

Company Reorganisation;
Liquidation; Economic Family Law



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As a leading insolvency lawyer, Rolf Åbjörnsson is a well-known name in business, media and politics. He also has experience of many criminal cases, and 8 years in parliament (KD).

Rolf Åbjörnsson has had leading roles in managing several of the Swedish business community's most famous bankruptcies and legal processes.

Tax Planning Law

Private Clients; Commercial and
Contracts; Inheritance

Jean-Blaise Eckert
Partner
Lenz & Staehelin

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Jean-Blaise Eckert is considered as a leading lawyer in tax and private client matters in Switzerland. He is the co-head of the tax group of Lenz & Staehelin. He advises a number of multinational groups of companies as well as HNWI's. Jean-Blaise Eckert is a frequent speaker at professional conferences on tax matters. He is Secretary General of the International Fiscal Association.

Education and Professional Experience

- 1987 University of Neuchâtel (lic. iur.)
- 1989 Admission to Neuchâtel Bar
- 1991 Berkeley University (MBA)
- 1991 Joined Lenz & Staehelin
- 1994 Certified Tax Expert
- 1999 Partner at Lenz & Staehelin
- 2016 Certified Specialist SBA Inheritance Law

Memberships

Secretary General of the International Fiscal Association (IFA)

Other Activities

Board Member of Compagnie Financière Richemont SA, PSA International SA, Gonet & Cie SA and Banque Paris Bertrand SA.

Appraisals

- "An excellent tax lawyer" (Chambers, 2020)
- "A very structured guy who is easy to deal with" (Chambers, 2019)
- "Exceptionally knowledgeable" (Chambers, 2019)
- "A highly skilled practitioner" (Legal 500)

Publications (Selection)

- Eckert J., The Tax Disputes and Litigation Review 2021 - Switzerland, in: The Law Review, 9th edition, March 2021, 235-245
- Eckert J., Hinnny P., Corporate Tax 2021 - Switzerland, in: Chambers Global Practice Guides, April 2021
- Eckert J., Tax 2020 - Switzerland, in: The Legal 500 Country Comparative Guides, October 2020
- Eckert J., Benoit-Gonin J., The Transfer Pricing Law Review 2020 - Switzerland, in: The Law Reviews, 4th edition, July 2020, 247-255
- Eckert J., Tax Controversy 2020 - Switzerland, in: Chambers Global Practice Guide, June 2020
- Eckert J., The Tax Disputes and Litigation Review 2020 - Switzerland, in: The Law Reviews, 8th edition, February 2020, 305-315
- Hinnny P., Eckert J., Droit fiscal 2020, Recueil de textes avec renvois, index et remarques, Zurich 2020

Criminal Law

Criminal Defence; Investigations;
White-Collar Crimes



Mustafa Tirtir
Founder
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Avukat Mustafa Tirtir, Attorney at Law, and his team in Mustafa Tirtir Hukuk Bürosu (Mustafa Tirtir Law Firm) look forward to providing legal services to you for your matters in criminal law.

Mustafa Tirtir was born in Kayseri, Turkey in 1975. He started his legal education in Istanbul University Faculty of Law in 1995 and received his bachelor's degree in law in 1999. He registered into Istanbul Bar Association and completed his legal traineeship with his professor in criminal law, Prof. Dr. Köksal Bayraktar, before moving on to founding his own firm after working with Prof. Dr. Bayraktar for 11 years. He is the founder of Mustafa Tirtir Law Firm.

In 2014, Mustafa Tirtir received his master's degree in law from Istanbul Commerce University with his thesis titled *Telekomünikasyon Yoluyla İletişimin Denetlenmesi* (Wiretapping). He then started his PhD programme in Istanbul Medipol University, which is ongoing. Currently, Mustafa Tirtir teaches the courses legal profession law and notice law in Istanbul Medipol University High Vocational School of Justice.

Furthermore, Mustafa Tirtir is a compliance board member of Turkish Criminal Law Association, a disciplinary board member in Turkish Green Crescent, and a board member in the association of his birthplace, Develi. Mustafa Tirtir is also registered to European Criminal Bar Association. To note, he is a certified mediator in Turkey.

Today, Mustafa Tirtir has been managing his own firm for more than a decade and specialises almost solely on criminal law. He has been a lawyer to both victims and the accused in many ground-breaking cases such as the murder of Başak Cengiz, which was widely reported on in Turkey. Mr. Tirtir still has cases where he represents real or legal persons from all around the world. His cases stretch from white collar crimes to aggravated murder. In addition, law firms around Turkey knock on Mustafa Tirtir Law Firm's door for assistance regarding criminal law matters not just in Istanbul but the whole of Turkey. This unique expertise makes his firm the primary choice for criminal law matters.

Under his leadership Mustafa Tirtir Law Firm is ready to provide you with premium legal assistance with best possible legal solutions to all problems you may have regarding criminal law. The firm has within it experts of criminal law who will work tirelessly to resolve your cases in your favour with perfect adherence to confidentiality and a professional demeanour. We recognise the difficulty of operating in different legal jurisdictions as international persons and look forward to assisting you to ease the situation.

THE AMERICAS



The economies of Latin America and the Caribbean face a complex juncture in 2022 due to the war between Russia and Ukraine, which ushers in a new source of uncertainty for the world economy. This is negatively affecting global growth, now estimated at 3.3%, a percentage point below original projections before the hostilities began. At the regional level, lower expected growth will be accompanied by higher inflation and slow employment recovery.

According to estimates released by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), average growth of 1.8% is predicted for the region in this context, where the conflict in Ukraine has heightened inflation, increasing financial volatility and costs. The economies of South America will grow by 1.5%, Central America and Mexico 2.3%, while 4.7% growth is expected for the Caribbean economies (excluding Guyana).

The new figures were announced by the organisation's acting Executive Secretary, Mario Cimoli, to the ambassadors for the Group of Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean (GRULAC) during a meeting held at the UN headquarters in New York.

According to ECLAC, the conflict will also negatively affect world trade dynamics, causing a decrease in foreign demand in Latin America and the Caribbean. The region's main trade partners – the US, China and the EU – will see lower growth rates than those expected before the conflict began. In the case of the US, growth will be 2.8% (1.2 percentage points lower than previous projections). Projected growth for China is at 5% (0.7 percentage points less than before the hostilities); and for the EU, growth of 2.8% is expected (1.4 percentage points lower than pre-conflict).

The war has also caused an increase in commodity prices, primarily in fossil fuels, some metals, food and fertilisers. This price increase is in addition to higher costs observed due to disruptions in supply chains and exacerbated interruptions in maritime transport. The price hikes have given impetus to world inflation rates, in some countries reaching historic highs in 2022. In the face of the persistent and increasing inflation, higher interest rates in developed countries can be expected.

The UN regional commission adds that monetary adjustments in the countries of the North have accentuated the tightening of global financial conditions witnessed in recent months, causing greater volatility in financial markets. Alongside the increase in global aversion to risk resulting from the conflict, this has jeopardised capital flows to emerging markets. These trends may be accentuated in the coming months, especially if inflationary pressure persists in developed economies and the central banks in these economies deepen contractive monetary policies, including rate hikes and the reversal of monetary stimuli (asset purchases).

As in the rest of the world, inflationary dynamics have accelerated in Latin America and the Caribbean, warned ECLAC. Regional inflation is estimated at 7.5%, and many central banks in the region anticipate sustained high inflation for the remainder of 2022, given the greater uncertainty abroad, especially in higher international energy and food prices, and disruptions in global supply chains, as well as persistent high transportation costs.

In response to higher inflation, monetary policy in central banks has become more restrictive, and the majority have significantly raised interest rates, which in most cases have reached levels similar to those observed in 2017.

Retreating fiscal momentum is expected to accelerate during 2022 – in step with the evolution of macroeconomic conditions and increased financing costs. Public expenditure will contract, reinforcing the reduction observed in 2021 and reducing fiscal policy contributions to growth.

Although labour markets are showing signs of recovery, this has been slow and incomplete. The pace of job creation in 2022 is expected to decline along with the slowdown projected for growth in the region. The combined factors of greater labour participation and lower job creation will drive higher unemployment rates this year, warns ECLAC.

States Parties to the Escazú Agreement Call for Joint Action to Promote Latin America and the Caribbean's First Environmental Treaty

The first meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP 1) to the 'Regional Agreement on Access to Information, Public Participation and Justice in Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean' – known as the Escazú Agreement – was held in April at ECLAC's headquarters in Santiago, Chile. It concerned a call by the States Parties and other nations that are in the process of ratification or accession, to foster joint action and multilateralism to give fresh impetus to the region's first environmental treaty, and thereby move forward on environmental protection and the social inclusion and economic development of all its inhabitants.

The meeting – wherein participants reviewed progress on the Agreement's implementation and moved ahead with making it operational – was officially inaugurated by the President of Chile, Gabriel Boric, at a ceremony that also featured the participation of Epsy Campbell Barr, Vice President of Costa Rica (virtually); Cecilia Nicolini, State Secretary for Climate Change, Sustainable Development and Innovation

of Argentina; Andrea Sanhueza and Karetta Crooks-Charles, elected representatives of the public; and Mario Cimoli, Acting Executive Secretary of ECLAC).

President Boric remarked: "The Escazú Agreement comes into being as a response to the urgent needs of our region, which regrettably has become the most dangerous area in the world for environmental defenders. And it embodies deep desires on the part of the peoples living in this corner of the Global South: desires for peace, desires for justice, desires for decisive action amid the climate crisis and the environmental degradation that we are facing."

Meanwhile, the Vice President of Costa Rica, Epsy Campbell, said that with the Escazú Agreement, the people of Latin America invoke one of their most cherished values: the love of nature. "We have run out of time – climate change is overtaking us. And the most vulnerable communities are women, indigenous peoples and Afro-descendent peoples; they are the poorest people who are bearing the brunt of this crisis. In this context, the Escazú Agreement serves as a framework instrument of high standards for Latin America and the Caribbean to foster responsible investment and provide distinct actors with the tools to improve transparency and environmental safeguards."

ECLAC's Acting Executive Secretary Mario Cimoli added that the Escazú Agreement is the first binding regional treaty on the environment, and it includes the world's first provision on human rights defenders in environmental matters. "It is an instrument for social transformation and the deepening of democracy," he stated, also explicitly highlighting that the Agreement generates greater investment and is the basis for new technologies – which will be crucial in "providing direction for growth, but not just any growth: it must include distribution and allow for keeping the environmental aspect clear".

Commercial Law

Mergers and Acquisitions;
 Corporate Services;
 International Finance Services



Gillian M. H. Clarke
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A partner since 2002, Gillian heads our corporate department and brings more than 25 years of experience in corporate and commercial work to the role.

She works closely with many international law firms and accounting firms and advises both domestic and international corporate and private clients on business entity formation, corporate structuring and tax planning, mergers & acquisitions, and varied and complex international financial transactions.

Following on the heels of a B.Sc. (Hons.) in management studies, Gillian earned her LL.B (Hons.) from the University of the West Indies, Cave Hill in 1986. She then received her Legal Education Certificate from the Norman Manley Law School in Jamaica in 1988. She joined the legacy firm of Clarke & Co. as an associate that same year, having been admitted to the Bar in Barbados.

Gillian is an accredited mediator with the Centre for Effective Dispute Resolution (CEDR) in England. She is also a member of the Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners (STEP). Outside the firm, Gillian is a trustee of the Barbados Gallery of Art Trust and the Peter Moores Barbados Trust.

Department

Corporate Department

Practice Areas

Mergers and Acquisitions
 Corporate Services
 International Finance Services
 Corporate Governance
 Securities
 Insurance and Reinsurance

Memberships

The Barbados Bar Association
 Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners (STEP)
 International Bar Association
 The Centre for Effective Dispute Resolution (CEDR)

Admissions

Barbados, 1988

Education

LEC. – Norman Manley Law School, Jamaica, W.I. – 1988
 LL.B. (Hons.) – University of the West Indies, Cave Hill Campus, Barbados, W.I. – 1986
 B.Sc. (Hons.) – University of the West Indies, Cave Hill Campus, Barbados, W.I. – 1984

International Business Law



Kaye-Anne Greenidge
Chief Executive Officer
Invest Barbados

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www.investbarbados.org

Kaye-Anne Greenidge holds a Bachelor of Science in Economics and Accounting, as well as a Master of Science in Business and Financial Economics. An Economist by training, she worked as a Senior Economist in the Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs until 2007. Desirous of learning all aspects of Business and Finance, she then entered the world of banking and credit.

During her twelve year stint in banking, the former executive banker managed an extensive portfolio, providing financial and investment solutions to players in a wide range of industries.

In September 2019, Kaye assumed the role of CEO of Invest Barbados, the national investment promotion agency.

Kaye has a love for teaching and this aspect of her life began in 1995. She is currently a certified online lecturer/facilitator with the Cave Hill School of Business, University of the West Indies. She believes that knowledge should be shared and the greatest satisfaction one can have, is knowing that the knowledge imparted has charted the course of success for the recipient.

International Business Law



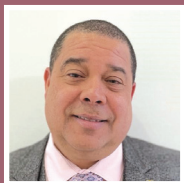
Renatta Mohammed
Director, Investment
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Renatta S. Mohammed is a qualified and experienced professional in the field of Business Development, Marketing, Public Relations and Communication – having held leadership positions in the public and private sector, finance, trade, education and hospitality industries with award-winning success in managing transformation.

Equipped with an MBA (Henley, UK), she understands international business and is a previous Communication Chair of the Barbados International Business Association (BIBA) and Executive Director, AmCham Barbados. She has represented international brands across the Caribbean, last serving as the Caribbean lead for CPA Canada and PR Consultant to the Guyana Telephone Company (GTT). She is the Director, Investment and Marketing at Invest Barbados, the investment promotion agency of the Government of Barbados.

International Business Law



Shane Thomas
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Shane A. Thomas, born in Barbados and married to Angela from Scotland. Has an Honours Degree in Tourism Management from the University of the West of Scotland. As a proud Barbadian Shane developed business links in Scotland to foster closer ties with Barbados and Scotland. It was from this passion that he was able to establish Barbados as the first Caribbean Island to have its own official tartan named the Island of Barbados tartan which is officially registered on the role of tartans in Scotland.

In 2014 Shane started his own business Barbados House Ltd with the aim of developing business links between Scotland and Barbados. At the Commonwealth Games in Glasgow, he was invited by the Cultural department of Glasgow to represent Barbados at Emancipation Day and to make a presentation. Further to this he also represented Barbados at the Edinburgh Festival in 2015 to showcase food and drink of the island.

As a member of the Renfrewshire Business Network Shane opened the opportunity for Tourism and Business relations between the two countries and collaborated with Jo Smith, the President of the Renfrewshire Business Network to host the first trade and investment mission to Barbados from Scotland in 2020 however the global pandemic delayed this from materializing, the mission was eventually held virtually in November 2020 which then led to a physical mission to Barbados in November 2021. The success of the mission has encouraged the hosting of another mission in November 2022.

Shane continues to look for opportunities to represent and showcase Barbados as the place to Invest, work, live and play. He is a member of the Glasgow Chamber of Commerce, Edinburgh Chamber of Commerce, and the London Chamber of Commerce.

Shane also has a passion for helping where possible any fundraising to assist Barbados. In 2019 he led a fundraiser for musical equipment for the Barbados Youth Orchestra which was successful in raising £5,000.00.

Shane being from the island which is the birthplace of rum has a very keen passion to see the island as known for world class rum in the Scotland market. He is a Rummelier which is like that of a Sommelier in Wine education. Shane used his time during the pandemic to connect with rum aficionados and encouraged the first Rummelier conference in Barbados in November 2021 led by Founder and President of the Royal Rum Society, Mr Greg Hill. The conference was a huge success and there will be another conference in Barbados in October 2022.

Shane's dream is to see the expansion of business investment from Scotland to Barbados in the areas of Renewable Energy, Medical Tourism and Sports Tourism as well as develop direct trading links with the creation of a shipping line between Scotland and Barbados.

Architecture & Design



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DeMello & Associates is a complete design and building company working with clients based around the world seeking innovative design, new ideas and concepts.

Dennis Demello, partner of the firm, believes that creating composite engineered materials is key for construction feasible structures that function in sync with their surroundings.

"As such, we approach every project with an objective mind and focus on the façade fenestration and performance," he commented. "We provide an artistic architectural and engineering program that differentiates us from most competitors."

With an aim to ensuring excellence for the firm's clients, DeMello & Associates is a 100% digital company, from concept design works to construction documents ready for 3D printing. The firm explores the latest developments in the industry and strives to stay at the forefront of market developments to continue to offer its clients the service they expect.

Mr Demello believes that the future for the firm is bright, using modern technologies and improving upon old building design systems.

"3D printing and composite engineering of new building materials is a key trend and we will be keeping an eye on them to ensure that we offer clients cutting-edge services," he concluded.

Arbitration

Agribusiness Law; Corporate Law



Letícia Baddaury
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Letícia Baddaury graduated in Law and in Business from the most prestigious institutions of Brazil (São Paulo State University and Getúlio Vargas Foundation). She has a MBA in Agribusiness (São Paulo State University), a master in Civil Procedure (Londrina State University) and a certification in Negotiation by Harvard Law School.

She teaches Arbitration and ADRs at Londrina State University, where she also develops in gender diversity in arbitral tribunals and State courts. She gives lectures in arbitration and agribusiness events and teaches at specialization courses. Her academic work also includes articles, papers and legal opinions.

Letícia is involved in initiatives related to Diversity and Inclusion, as the Brazilian Arbitration Committee group of Diversity, the Diversity and Inclusion Committee of Alumni Getúlio Vargas Foundation (Business School). She is a PhD candidate in Sociology, researching gender equality in Brazilian State Courts.

Practicing corporate and agribusiness law for more than two decades, she is the founding partner of L. Baddaury Advocacia. During her career as a lawyer, she has had experience with both private and public sectors. Her practice as a lawyer involves both litigation and arbitration.

Letícia is member of the Board of Directors of Aurora Incorporadora Co and member of the Finance Committee of CIARB Brazil Branch.

She is a Fellow of Chartered Institute of Arbitrator (London-UK), the Malaysian Institute of Arbitrators and the Arbitrators and Mediators Institute of New Zealand, and her name is in the arbitrators' list of highly respected institutions in Brazil. Letícia is the coordinator of the Agribusiness Committee of the Brazilian branch of CIARB.

She is a Portuguese native speaker and has fluency in English. She also has an advanced level in French and Italian.

Commercial Litigation



Ana Tereza Basilio
Founder Partner
Basilio Advogados

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Basilio Advogados was founded by renowned Brazilian lawyers from some of the main law firms in the country. The firm acts in the corporate sector, providing services to large corporations from several industries, including utilities, mining companies, banks, construction companies and shopping malls, in addition to serving individual clients.

The firm relies on a multidisciplinary team, acting in several corporate sectors, prioritizing ethics in its relations and continuously pursuing excellence.

The firm's main practice areas include Litigation, Arbitration and Mediation, Real Estate Law, Succession Law, Consumer Law, Corporate Reorganization, Administrative-Regulatory Law, Environmental Law and Constitutional Law. In alignment with the constant evolution of social demands and technological resources, the firm's main purpose and institutional commitment is to provide excellence in legal services, with a tailor-made approach and distinctive practice based on giving each client personal attention while always seeking the most objective, fast and adequate solution for each issue.

The firm's staff can currently count on lawyers who were carefully selected from the competitive legal market. These are professionals of proven competence, who combine a consistent professional ethic and team spirit with an extensive and successful experience in several courts of the country. Most of Basilio Advogados' members have specializations and graduate degrees from the most prestigious universities in Brazil, the United States and Europe. The incentive to study is yet another aspect that sets the team's development culture apart.

Established in Rio de Janeiro, São Paulo and Brasília, Basilio Advogados has comfortable, functional and modern facilities to serve both its partners and clients. To be able to comply with the rigorous management of each commitment it takes on, the firm has an efficient support structure in all its units, which work in an integrated and harmonic way. The units are managed by a qualified team of employees, capable of providing the best services with practicality and transparency. A cohesive and involved team of interns is also part of the team, recruited from the best universities in the country and trained in accordance with a philosophy focusing on team work, cooperation and solidarity, in addition to technical improvement.



Dispute Resolution



Márcio Carpena
Lawyer
Carpena Advogados

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Attorney with specialized in the civil litigation area in regional, state and higher courts, in addition to the mediation and arbitration institutes. It also has experience in the areas of corporate law, contractual law and structured operations.

Professor at the School of Law of the Catholic University Pontifical of Rio Grande do Sul - PUCRS (since 2002) and at the School of Magistracy (Ajuris).

Speaker in congresses, seminars and colloquia of law, in Brazil and abroad.

President of the Brazilian Academy of Civil Procedural Law in the years 2003-2009.

Author of the work *"of the modern cautious process"*. Co-author of the works *"the guarantees of the citizen in the civil proceedings," "constitutional trends in family law," "critical views of the civil proceedings," "civil execution: studies in honor of Professor Humberto Theodoro Junior", "coercion and other themes of civil procedural law "*. Author of legal articles published in specialized journals, such as forensic magazine and process magazine - repro.

1st place in the National Competition Bonorino Butelli Judge - Association of the Judges of Rio Grande do Sul (1999).

Ranked in 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019 and 2020 by British Research Magazine Chambers & Partners - Legal Publishers (Chambers Latin America) in the dispute segment resolution.

Ranked in 2016 as "Highly Recommended" attorney in the Civil Segment & Commercial Litigation by the International Leaders League Organization.

Practice areas:

- Conflict resolution
- Commercial contracts
- Private Equity & Capital Market
- Mergers and acquisitions
- Academic training

Bachelor of Legal and Social Sciences by the Catholic University Pontifical of Rio Grande do Sul (1994/1998).

Master in Civil Procedural Law by the Catholic Pontifical of Rio Grande do Sul (2002).

Languages:

English, Spanish.

Intellectual Property Law



Ana Paula Jardim
Senior Partner
Luiz Leonardos & Advogados
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apjardim@llip.com
www.llip.com

Academic Background

- Registered in the Brazilian Bar Association.
- Member of ABAPI, AIPLA, FICPI, ABPI.
- Electrical Engineer. Attorney at Law. Industrial Property Agent.
- Degree in Electrical Engineering (Industrial Engineering) – Catholic Pontifical University of Rio de Janeiro, PUC/RJ (1997).
- Law Degree – Catholic Pontifical University of Rio de Janeiro, PUC/RJ (2002).
- Post-graduation in Intellectual Property Law – Catholic Pontifical University of Rio de Janeiro, PUC/RJ (2011).

Activity

- Partner Head of the Patent Department.
- Patent.
- Industrial Design.
- Software.
- Patent Litigation.

Languages

- Portuguese. English. French.

Luiz Leonardos & Advogados

Luiz Leonardos & Advogados mixes the expertise and resourcefulness gained over 100 years of work devoted to I.P. in Brazil with the advantages of a newly created framework, one that is more effective and personal in the interaction with our clients.

Luiz Leonardos & Advogados succeeded Momsen, Leonardos & Cia - which was founded in 1919 - after its split on April 30, 2012. With 15 partners, Luiz Leonardos & Advogados has over 60 experienced professionals dedicated to all areas related to intellectual property. Our goal is to assist our clients with efficiency at rational costs, fulfilling the demand of the current market.

The experience acquired by Luiz and Gustavo Leonardos in the area of the Intellectual Property has permitted the constitution of a highly specialized team, which makes Luiz Leonardos & Advogados one of the most important Brazilian firms of Intellectual Property at present.

Our team of engineers, biologists, attorneys and industrial property agents is characterized by its long time of work and gained experience in all fields of intellectual property, there including the interaction with the Brazilian Patent and Trademark Office (BPTO) in trademarks, patents, industrial designs, negotiation and evaluation of contracts, licensing, registration and consultancy services in software, domain names, copyrights, and related areas.

Intellectual Property Law



Gustavo Leonardos
Managing Partner
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Academic Background

- Registered in the Brazilian Bar Association
- Member of ABPI, ABAPI, AIPPI, INTA, LESI, ASIPI, ECTA.
- Attorney at Law.
- Law Degree – Faculty of Law of the State University of Rio de Janeiro, UERJ (1985).
- Master's Degree in Comparative Law – George Washington University Law School (1987).

Activity

- Managing Partner
- Judicial Litigation on Intellectual Property
- Technology Transfer
- Trademark Registration

Highlights

- Consultant for the Industrial Property Division Geneva, Switzerland (1989-1990), World Intellectual Property Organization – WIPO.
- Member (since 1993), Third Vice-President (1998-1999), First Vice-President (2000-2003) and President (2004-2007) of the Brazilian Association of Intellectual Property – ABPI. Permanent member of the Board of Directors of ABPI.
- President of the Brazilian Group (2004-2007) and Member of the Q94 Committee (World Trade Organization) of the Association Internationale pour la Protection de la Propriété Intellectuelle – AIPPI.
- First Vice-President (2004-2006) of the Inter-American Association of Intellectual Property – ASIPI.
- Member of the National Council Against Piracy and Intellectual Property Infringements of the Ministry of Justice (2005-2007).
- Awarded with the School of Magistrates of the State of Rio de Janeiro (EMERJ) Medal in 2007, for the outstanding services rendered to the Legal Culture and to the Brazilian Society.

Languages

Portuguese. English. French. Spanish.

Luiz Leonardos & Advogados

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Intellectual Property Law



Patrícia Aragão Lusoli
Senior Partner
Luiz Leonardos & Advogados
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plusoli@lip.com
www.lip.com

Academic Background

- Registered in the Brazilian Bar Association (OAB).
- Member of ABAPI, ABPI and INTA.
- Lawyer. Industrial Property Agent.
- Law Degree – Cândido Mendes Law School, UCAM (1998).
- Post-graduation in Intellectual Property Law – Getúlio Vargas Foundation, FGV/RJ (2000).

Activity

- Partner Head of the Trademark Department.
- Legal consultancy and administrative litigation in trademarks, business names, unfair competition, domain names and copyrights.

Highlights

- Co-Coordinator of the Trademarks Commission at the Brazilian Association of the Intellectual Property – ABPI (2014/2015).
- Co-Coordinator of the Antitrust Commission at the Brazilian Association of the Intellectual Property – ABPI (2016).

Languages

Portuguese. English. Italian. French. German.

Luiz Leonardos & Advogados

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Intellectual Property Law



Ricardo Pinho
Senior Partner
Luiz Leonardos & Advogados
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Academic Background

- Registered in the Brazilian Bar Association.
- Member of AASP, ABAPI (former President), ABPI (member of honor), ASPI, ASIPI, AIPPI, FICPI, INTA, LES and The Licensing Journal (Foreign Member of the Editorial Board).
- Law Graduation – Federal Fluminense University, UFF (1992).
- Post-graduation in Intellectual Property Law – FGV (2000).
- Post-graduation in AVIM, Higher Education Teaching – University Cândido Mendes (2015).

Activity

- Partner of the Litigation Department.
- Administrative Litigation.
- Licensing.

Highlights

- Who's Who Professional – 2009/2010 and 2013 Brazilian editions (trademarks).
- WHO'S WHO LEGAL BRAZIL – 2012 and 2015.
- Legal Analysis 500 – 2009/2010/2011 and 2015 (one of the most admired Brazilian Industrial Property Lawyers).
- Chambers Latin America Brazil – Leading Individuals – editions of 2007/2008/2009/2010/2011/2012/2013/2014/2015 and 2016.
- Chambers Global – editions of 2007/2008/2009/2010/2011/2012/2013/2014/2015/2016/2017.
- IAM 250 The World's Leading Patent Litigators – 2011.
- WTR 1000- editions of 2011/2012/2013/2014/2015/2016 and 2017 – ranked GOLD (individuals).
- IAM Patent 1000 – The World's Leading Patent Practitioners editions of 2012/2014 and 2015 – Listed in Silver Brazilian Individual Leaders and Licensing Individuals.
- Latin American Corporate Counsel Association's (LACCA) 2014 and 2016.
- MIP IP Star 2014/2015 – Patents and Trademarks.
- Best Lawyers in Brazil edition 2016 (bestlawyers.com).
- WIPR Leaders 2016/2017.

Languages

- Portuguese. English.

Luiz Leonardos & Advogados

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Litigation



André Smilgin
Partner
Pimentel, Vega, Smilgin,
Souza e Lima

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André Smilgin has his professional career dedicated to litigation and arbitration, having assisted parties involved in disputes in Brazil and other jurisdictions.

Throughout his 20-year experience, André Smilgin has practiced as a lawyer and as an arbitrator in domestic and international arbitration proceedings, managed by the main institutions and chambers of arbitration.

Since 2012, André Smilgin has been a Director, member of the Vice-Presidency of Arbitration of CBMA - Brazilian Center of Mediation and Arbitration. The experience acquired in the management of arbitration proceedings, allied with the practice as an arbitrator, makes him a distinguished lawyer.

André Smilgin is a member of the prestige Institute of Brazilian Lawyers – IAB, where he currently occupies the Vice-Presidency of the Committee of Mediation and Arbitration of the institute. He is also a permanent member of CBAR – Brazilian Committee of Arbitration and of the Committee of Arbitration of the Brazilian Bar Association, Chapter of Rio de Janeiro (OAB/RJ). He is the author of legal articles and he frequently participates in panels on issues related to civil procedure, arbitration, and mediation.

Before becoming a partner at PVS ADVOGADOS, he was a founding partner of Pinto de Miranda, Smilgin Advogados, boutique law firm specially dedicated to these practice areas. André Smilgin has also worked for many years in the renowned law firm Bocater, Camargo, Cost e Silva Advogados, where he engaged in projects with an intense interaction between the business law and the stock market and dispute resolution.

Significant Operations

- He worked in an international arbitration proceeding, under the rules of the International Chamber of Commerce – ICC, representing an important cement company, having as its object the exercise of stock option.
- He worked in the defense of the plaintiff in an international proceeding, in lawsuits filed in Brazil, by the defendants, aiming at suspending the arbitration proceeding.
- He worked in several lawsuits, involving business disputes related to the control of important telephone companies in Brazil.
- He represented one of the minority members of a known supermarket network, in an action for the partial dissolution of a company, filed by him, and in incidental actions, aiming at preserving the assets of the group and the effective exercise of its right of inspection.
- He worked in the defense of a minority shareholder, in lawsuits filed by the controlling shareholders of a known Brazilian cement company, aiming at the termination of the shareholders' agreement executed by the parties.
- He worked in the defense of the controlling shareholder of a public company, in a public civil action filed by the Federal Prosecution and the Prosecution of the State of Rio de Janeiro, aiming at the annulment of a business transaction and the recovery of alleged damages inflicted upon the minority shareholders of such company.
- He worked in an arbitration proceeding, under the rules of the Brazil-Canada Chamber of Commerce – BCCC, having as its purpose the termination of a contract for purchase and sale of shares.

M&A Law

Corporate; Private Equity;
Life Sciences & Healthcare



Renata Fialho de Oliveira
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Renata Fialho de Oliveira has over 20 years' experience working in the corporate and M&A area. She provides counsel to domestic and foreign clients on complex corporate, commercial, and international law issues, representing private equity firms, private acquirers and target companies in a variety of Brazilian and cross-border acquisitions, dispositions, spin-offs, restructurings and joint ventures.

In the area of mergers and acquisitions clients rely upon her advice across the full spectrum of issues, including advance preparation of prospective targets, stock sales and purchases, asset sales and purchases, strategic mergers, private equity, leveraged buyouts and joint ventures. She represents private equity and strategic investors in a wide variety of transactional matters.

Renata typically works for corporate clients, commonly multinational corporations, private equity funds and strategic investors (in many cases operational companies which are invested by private equity funds), as well for not-for-profit entities doing business in the healthcare sector.

Her clients include Clariant, Diaverum, Sociedade Beneficente Israelita Brasileiro Hospital Albert Einstein, Stratus, and InvestFarma.

Renata creates genuine bonds with her clients, which develop from her deep interest in their matters and concerns and intent to deliver results that best meet their needs.

"I am extremely technical, objective, collaborative, thoughtful, balanced with a proactive and creative attitude," she commented. "I am a deal maker, not a deal breaker. Personality-wise, I usually help foster a pro-deal environment while safeguarding my clients' interests."

Some of Renata's significant cases include:

- Sociedade Beneficente Israelita Brasileira's acquisition of all the assets linked to the health centre of Hospital Orion, in Goiânia.
- Clariant's acquisition of the remaining 70% of Brazilian personal care company Beraca it did not previously own
- Diaverum's Acquisition of ACS Brasil Cirurgica
- Diaverum's acquisition of CNTT – Clínica de Nefrologia e Transplantes do Tatuapé.
- Diaverum's acquisition of INEDI – Instituto de Nefrologia e Diálise Ltda
- McQuade Center for Strategic Research and Development, LLC's agreement with Aché Laboratórios Farmacêuticos S.A. (Aché) to co-develop a therapy with the potential to treat general anxiety disorder (GAD) and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD)
- InvestFarma's acquisition of FarmaDelivery
- Stratus SCP Brasil Coinvestimento II – Fundo de Participações Multiestratégia's acquisition 100% of Investfarma SA
- EBVentures acquisition of a minority interest in Labi Exames

Renata's recent awards include:

- Chambers and Partners, Life Sciences, 2022
- Análise Advocacia Mulher 2022, Corporate and Contracts
- Who's Who Legal, Life Sciences Legal Global Leader, 2022
- Análise Advocacia 500, Health Sector
- Who's Who Legal, Life Sciences National Leader, 2021
- Client Choice Award Life Sciences Brazil, 2021
- Who's Who Legal, Life Sciences Transactional, Global Leader 2021
- Who's Who Legal, National Leader, 2020
- Who's Who Legal, National Leader, 2019
- Legal 500, Corporate and M&A, 2018

Commercial Litigation

Class Action; Enterprise Risk / Bet The Farm
/ Company Litigation; General Counsel



Tom Arndt
Managing Partner
TWA Law

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Tom Arndt has extensive litigation and general counsel experience and a proven track record of success. Tom has participated in lawsuits at all levels of court across Ontario and Canada, including national and international class actions.

Tom's legal experience has been proven successful in: Class Actions; Contract Disputes; Real Estate Disputes; Torts; Shareholder Disputes; Infrastructure; Construction; Employment; IT/ IP; Professional & Director Negligence; Privacy/Third Party Record Requests.

TWA Law

With over 20 years of experience, we focus on class actions, complex commercial litigation and providing practical general counsel to a variety of clients. We are no stranger to adversity or challenge and are ready to provide our expertise. We have you covered.

In 2021, we won the prestigious Class Action Lawyer of the Year Award by global network International Advisory Experts.

TWA Law is member of Consulegis and Interlegis, international associations of legal and consulting firms allowing us to make sure you are covered around the world.

When you hire TWA Law, the other side will know you can go the distance, which allows you to focus on your business and interests.

Commercial & Business Litigation

Sometimes lawsuits are unavoidable. Whether you are a public company, a private business or an individual entrepreneur, you can look to us for advice on your most complex commercial litigation needs. If we cannot help you avoid the lawsuit, we will get you through it. We have deep-rooted experience pursuing complex, high-profile and highly confidential cases across broad range of legal areas.

With your objectives as our top priority, we strive to protect you and your business through carefully developed and customized litigation strategies.

Class Action

We know class actions. We have prosecuted and defended leading class actions involving thousands of clients and some of the largest corporations. We deliver teams of lawyers and experts experienced in dealing with this complex litigation. In 2021, we won the Class Action Lawyer of the Year Award given by global network International Advisory Experts based on our work in the previous 12 months.

Enterprise Risk / Bet The Farm / Company Litigation

Clients come to us when the stakes are high. We have a proven track record of achieving success in high-stakes litigation. Where the client's financial survival depends on the outcome of the case, we call it enterprise risk litigation, the entire enterprise is at risk. These cases can demand a different set of tools and expertise. They involve risk and reward analysis beyond typical lawsuits, with multiple parties, complex legal and factual issues and an in depth understanding of the parties' strengths, weaknesses, goals and concerns.

General Counsel

We provide practical general counsel to our clients. We invest in our client relationships to develop trust and to understand our clients' risk and reward thresholds. Our goal is to help you sleep at night knowing that you have the best practical and legal advice available.

Corporate Immigration Law



Heather Segal
Managing Partner
Segal Immigration Law

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Heather Segal is a principal at Segal Immigration Law and has more than 25 years of experience in immigration law.

Her experience includes sitting as an elected Director to the American Immigration Lawyers Association Board of Governors for ten years. She has volunteered on the National Liaison Committee with the US Department of Homeland Security, Customs and Border Protection and the Department of State National Liaison Committee.

She was voted by her peers as one of the world's leading and most highly regarded practitioners in Corporate Immigration Law in "Who's Who Legal Corporate Immigration". She speaks internationally and has published a chapter in the Hague Academy of International Law publication: The International Consequences of Natural and Industrial Catastrophes.

She is qualified to practice law in both Canada and the United States and focuses on work permits, consular work, inadmissibility, family applications and ports of entry. Ms Segal represents corporations of all sizes. In addition, she works with clients in the film and television industries, entrepreneurs and individuals alike. Her practice is centered on working efficiently in a practical manner to meet the immediate needs of clients and problem solve expeditiously.

She is a highly skilled strategist and is able to grasp issues quickly and find long term successful solutions. Ms Segal is known to be extremely responsive and engaged that makes her particularly a skilled and savvy advocate.

Ms Segal possess a Law Degree from Queen's University and a Master's of Law from the University of California, Berkeley, Boalt Hall School of Law.

Cyber Security Law



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David has a business law practice with focus on privacy, cybersecurity, and technology law. David is the National Co-Leader of the firm's Privacy & Cybersecurity practice and serves as breach coach and counsel in cyber incident response for clients across Canada and foreign based organizations with operations in Canada.

David regularly advises clients on responding to data breaches, cybersecurity matters, data governance, and data protection/privacy risks in M&A and other commercial transactions. He has a strong background in the Life Sciences/Biotech and Technology sectors and has hands-on experience in the US, Europe, and other cross-border settings.

David has helped Canadian and foreign-based clients in the private and non-profits sectors respond to a full range of cybersecurity and data breach incidents, including managing cross-border privacy and notification aspects of complex breaches. Over the past 18 months, David has advised and/or acted as breach counsel in the matters including the below:

- Response to and remediation of ransomware attacks as well as related extortion for data theft
- Business email compromise (BEC) and financial fraud
- Hacking and phishing attacks by external bad actors
- Data breach impacting sector-specific requirements
- Employee data and personal information theft
- Lost and stolen laptops and other mobile devices
- Vendor and service provider breaches
- Advising vendors/data processors

David has also assisted clients in responding to complaints made to Privacy Commissioners and with freedom of information requests.

In his work as privacy counsel, David provides strategic advice in M&A and other commercial transactions, promotional activities and compliant design of systems. As breach coach, he also advises on the privacy aspects of data breaches and cyber incidents. He was involved in compliance projects to prepare for the European General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and has years of experience in cross-border matters and in privacy/data protection law from a European Union and Nordic perspective. David has worked on comprehensive audits, policies & procedures, strategic training programs as well as transactional documentation, advising clients on Canadian federal and provincial legislation.

As a commercial lawyer, David assists clients in negotiating a variety of technology and related agreements, including SaaS, NDAs, service provider arrangements, data sharing, and research collaboration agreements. David also acts as de facto General Counsel for a number of technology-focused businesses and organizations, including those in the medical device sector.



THOMPSON
DORFMAN
SWEATMAN

Canada

Environmental Law

Natural Resources and Energy Law;
Municipal Law; Property Development



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John Stefaniuk engages in a broad practice with emphasis on environmental law, development, natural resources and energy, and municipal law matters. He has particular experience in relation to contaminated sites, mining and mine rehabilitation, forestry, Indigenous consultation and accommodation. He appears before government licensing bodies and administrative tribunals including the Manitoba Clean Environment Commission and Municipal Board, municipal councils, provincial legislative committees and in all levels of court in Manitoba in connection with environmental, resource, regulatory municipal and property issues.

John is a roster member of the Canadian Centre for Environmental Arbitration and Mediation. For 16 years he has been on the organizing committee for the annual Environmental Law Forum.

John is a contributing author to the legal texts *The Law of Climate Change in Canada* (Mahony) and *Contaminated Sites in Canada* (Griffiths) and a regular contributor to *Mid-Canada Forestry and Mining* magazine on issues of environmental and resource law and Indigenous rights and consultation.

John was elected Vice-President of the Canadian Bar Association and will represent its 37,000 members as President in 2023/24. He currently chairs its Finance Committee and has served on a number of committee and subcommittee roles. He is Past President of the Manitoba Bar Association and a former chair of the CBA National Environment Energy and Resource Law Section. John is a member of the Board of Trustees of the Canadian Foundation for Legal Research.

Labour & Employment Law



Cindy Watson
Founder and
Managing Partner
Watson Labour Law

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Cindy Watson is the founder and managing partner of Watson Labour Law.

A graduate of the prestigious Osgoode Hall, Cindy is an experienced and respected attorney, and for the past 30 years has specialized in social justice.

Cindy is a sought-after trainer and speaker in the corporate arena, helping to build bridges between men and women in order to aid in productivity, communication and heal gender bias.

Dedicated to breaking down barriers, securing pay equity and to ending discrimination: Cindy has a proven track record empowering, advocating, and motivating people to become the best version of themselves.

She is an international speaker, award-winning author and consultant, known for her passion, commitment and ability to inspire.

Watson Labour Lawyers

Watson Labour Lawyers exemplify exceptional representation, exclusively in union-side labour and employment law across Canada. Our dynamic team confidently offers strong, skilled, effective advocacy, providing consistent extraordinary results.

Our lawyers have experience in all areas of labour law, including: labour arbitration, labour board matters, court/appellate work, human rights, employment standards, occupational health and safety matters and workers' compensation law, pay equity, mediation, wrongful dismissal, and employment law. We also provide representation in non-litigation matters, such as training and educational seminars, contract and collective bargaining negotiations, public relations and media relations and political lobbying.

Our signature blend of passion, conviction, integrity and experience is unbeatable in and out of the courtroom.

Our firm represents unions both in the private and public sectors, in the provincial and federal spheres and in a diverse range of work including transportation, warehousing, construction, transit, health care, firefighting, service, retail and clerical.

We provide the highest quality legal services and support for our clients throughout Canada and The U.S. with offices in the GTA and Muskoka.

Awards

- 2013 – Private Union Law Firm of the Year
- 2014 – Best in Grievance Arbitration – Canada
- 2015 – Excellence in Labour Relations Law – Canada
- 2016 – Labour Law Firm of the Year – Canada
- 2019 – Business Excellence Award

Litigation

Surety



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Brendan Bowles is certified as a Specialist in Construction Law by the Law Society of Ontario, and was the recipient of the Ontario Bar Association's 2021 Award of Excellence in Construction Law.

Brendan is a partner with the firm Glaholt Bowles LLP and has specialized in construction law since his graduation from Queen's University Faculty of Law in 1998. He acts regularly for a variety of clients in the adjudication, mediation and arbitration of construction disputes, and has also litigated at all levels of Ontario courts, up to and including the Court of Appeal. He has significant experience in various types of construction claim cases, including: construction liens, construction deficiencies, contract disputes, delay claims, and professional negligence.

Brendan Bowles is devoted to providing first rate client service and advice. He is fortunate to be supported at Glaholt Bowles by a team of outstanding support staff, students, associates and partners, all of whom share his dedication to client service and excellence in the practice of construction law.

Brendan has experience as team leader in all manner of construction related disputes and contract issues. Construction and infrastructure projects are technically complex, document heavy and relationship driven. Resolving disputes and solving problems requires specialized knowledge of the law and a team who is prepared to understand and prioritize the client's business concerns and strive for strategic solutions to legal challenges. Brendan is prepared to "go the distance" when necessary, but the team at Glaholt Bowles will always challenge themselves to find creative, proportionate resolutions that allow their clients to get back to business.

Brendan's expertise and high standards of practice have been recognized by his peers; he is rated as "Most Frequently Recommended" in construction law by Lexpert, and is also the 2021 recipient of the Ontario Bar Association's Award for Excellence in Construction and Infrastructure Law. He is also certified by the Law Society of Ontario as a Specialist in Construction Law. In 2004 he was designated as an Associate in Canadian Surety Bonding by the Surety Association of Canada. From 2002 to 2017 he volunteered on the Executive for the Construction and Infrastructure Law Section of the Ontario Bar Association, serving as Chair of the Section in 2015–2016. Mr. Bowles was formerly a lecturer in construction law at Ryerson University and George Brown College and has also served as a guest lecturer at the University of Toronto, Faculty of Law. Presently, he is Vice Chair for The Advocates' Society Arbitration and Mediation Practice Group, and editor of the Canadian College of Construction Lawyers' Legal Update newsletter.

Outside of the office Brendan has served as a volunteer youth hockey coach and has also completed marathons, including the Toronto Marathon and Marine Corps Marathon.

Private Investigations Law

Investigative Research;
Locate Investigations;
Due Diligence Investigations



Axis Geffen
President, Senior Investigator,
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Axis Vero Incorporated

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Axis Geffen is the founder and president of Axis Vero Incorporated. Headquartered in Ontario, Canada with offices in British Columbia, Alberta and Saskatchewan and opening additional offices across Canada this firm is well recognized year after year for outstanding work in the field of Private Investigations.

Axis Vero Incorporated is relied upon to consistently provide timely, accurate reports covering topics from common domestic disputes to complex commercial fraud to its broad base of legal, corporate and government clients. Additionally, Axis is the only Non-Lawyer Notary Public and Private Investigator licenced in Ontario, Canada, which allows him to verify evidence, proof of evidence and complete necessary affidavits as recognized by all jurisdictions of the United States of America and numerous international courts.

Axis started his investigative career gathering intelligence and conducting covert undercover work, so it's no surprise that Axis Vero Incorporated has one of the best equipped and highly effective research divisions in Canada. He is relied upon by countless law firms and legal professionals to uncover hidden truths and many corporations rely on him to discreetly get to the bottom of internal issues. Even competing security and investigation agencies from around the globe subcontract his firm or defer to him directly for guidance, training or assistance completing complex investigations, locally and abroad.

Axis has a long history serving commercial airlines, international couriers, financial institutions, and foreign and domestic government agencies. Often engaged to assist in fraud investigations, terrorism concerns, harassment claims, or information verifications, Axis and his firm are well known throughout the industry for getting the job done right, cost-effectively, and the first time.

In addition to a highly effective investigative team, Axis Vero Incorporated also offers a robust digital forensics division and state-of-the-art technical surveillance countermeasures (TSCM) options. This means that clients know they can rely on Axis Vero Incorporated to assist with digital imaging of electronic devices, difficult data recovery, forensic analysis of those devices, and preparation of solid court-ready documentation but can also have their homes, offices, vehicles, etc. professionally swept for listening devices, tracking devices or other unauthorized electronic equipment. Axis and his firm are also relied upon regularly by several international consulates to provide security training, conduct internal investigations and consult on a variety of international matters.

Axis is a commissioned author and content provider for the Shulman & Partners LLP online knowledge base and provides articles concerning general safety, technology, and investigations as they pertain to family law matters, criminal issues, and civil law.

Axis and his firm remain proud members with active roles within several professional organizations, including, the California, Texas, and Florida Associations of Licenced Investigators (CALI, TALI, FALI), the International Association of Financial Crimes Investigators (IAFCI), and the World Association of Detectives (WAD), and the Ontario Insurance Adjusters Association (OIAA). Axis also proudly supports several charities by assisting with vetting, investigations, and various other support roles. Axis and his firm can be followed on multiple social media platforms but are most frequently active on LinkedIn or Twitter. For more information, please visit the company website or contact us by phone or email using one of the methods noted on this page.

Insolvency Law



Neil Dempsey
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Neil is Director with the Cayman Islands office, having joined the Firm in October 2020. Before joining KRYS Global, Neil has spent over 20 years in the UK insolvency and restructuring market, working with smaller, local accountancy firms through to a "Big Four" restructuring practice. In that time, he has dealt with a wide variety of corporate insolvency and advisory work, across many different business sectors.

Neil's experience includes several multi-jurisdictional cases. Of particular interest was an administration of a Scottish oil & gas service company where its primary contract was based in Nigeria.

Neil sits on the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Scotland's Insolvency Committee and participated in the Grampian Area Insolvency Practitioners' Group, which provided a platform for locally based insolvency practitioners and relevant legal practitioners to share methods of best practice, discussion over developing areas of legislation, and networking opportunities.

Selected Engagements

- CNS Subsea Limited
- HV VI Invest Quebec Limited
- J&I Smith (Bakers) Limited
- Realtime Worlds Limited
- Abesco Limited
- Subsea 7 (Vessel Company) Limited
- Performance Insurance Company SPC
- Energicon Holdings (Caymans)

Industry Experience

- Construction
- Hospitality
- Retail
- Manufacturing
- Real Estate
- Business Services
- Alternative Energy
- Intellectual Property
- Energy & Utilities
- Financial Services
- Food production and retail

Education

- Bachelor of Accountancy and Business Finance (BAcc)
- University of Dundee, UK

Certification

- Chartered Certified Accountant (FCCA)
- Licensed UK Insolvency Practitioner

Professional Associations

- Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA)
- Affiliate - Institute of Chartered Accountants of Scotland (ICAS)
- Cayman Islands Institute of Professional Accountants (CIIPA)
- Recovery and Insolvency Specialists Association (RISA)



Dominican Republic

Administrative Law

Public Private Partnership – Infrastructure;
Regulated Sectors (Aviation, Banking,
Energy, Telecom); Arbitration



Rafael R. Dickson Morales
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With more than 20 years of experience, Rafael has vast knowledge of administrative law and bidding processes, being its principal clients the public administration, financial institutions, aviation regulator and private entities and communication companies.

Rafael has been consultant for legal drafts and administrative regulations. Also, in terms of public procurement, he has led work teams in international public tenders for various projects and has also been a consultant for the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and the World Bank for issues related to public procurement and Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs). In terms of Public-Private Partnership (PPP) and infrastructure projects, he has provided advice on the development of private and public initiative projects.

In administrative litigation, he exercises a habitual practice in contentious administrative appeals against acts and actions of the Public Administration. Has successfully defended the administration, in the first litigation case in the Dominican Republic on unfair trade practices and safeguard measures, as well as the first action to revoke a favourable decision from the Public Administration.

He is currently a member of the Dominican Bar Association, member of the Ibero-American Forum of Administrative Law (FIDA), of the Management Office of the Center for Alternative Dispute Resolution of the Chamber of Commerce and Production of Santo Domingo (CRC), member of the National Association of Young Entrepreneurs (ANJE), member of the Dominican Association of Administrative Law (ADDA), Arbitrator of the Center for Alternative Dispute Resolution of the Chamber of Commerce and Production of Santo Domingo. Also, he is a national and international speaker and lecturer at various seminars, conferences and diploma courses on Administrative, Public Contracts, Regulatory and Competition Law.

Rafael has several publications regarding administrative law and public-private partnership, such as: "The new regime for Public-Private Partnerships in the Dominican Republic" ISBN: 978-9945-09-918-8, "Risk allocation in Public-Private Partnerships: A vision of Spain and Dominican Republic with other Ibero-American jurisdictions" ISBN: 978-84-1309-503-5, "the transparency in public bidding" ISBN 978-84-7351-594-8, Transparency in Public Contracts, ISBN :978-84-7351-594-8 and others.

International Arbitration



Francisco Xavier Paredes
Partner
Lauden Law

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Francisco Paredes is a partner at Laudenlaw. He is a specialist in dispute resolution, with a high profile in investment, international law, commercial and international arbitration. He has a strong background in international law and negotiation, with a particular focus on cases involving Sovereign States and transnational investment. Francisco has also extensive experience in the intellectual property field.

He has represented parties in large disputes, as well as investors in Ecuador to help structuring investments in the country. Francisco has also represented clients in disputes arising out natural resources contracts, construction, mining and distribution. He has experience in cases involving multiple jurisdictions and rules (ICC, ICSID, UNCITRAL).

Francisco worked for several years in prestigious law firms in France and in the United States. Also, he worked for the Attorney General's Office in Ecuador, where he gained significant experience in international investment arbitration.

Experience

- Representing a Latin-American country in a commercial arbitration brought by a former concessionaire in the oil sector (UNCITRAL).
- Representing a Latin-American country in a negotiation with a transnational company regarding corruption allegations.
- Representing a Latin-American State and a State Owned Company in two commercial cases brought by two power-generation companies (ICC).
- Representing the Republic of Ecuador in the investment arbitration brought by Occidental Petroleum Corporation and Occidental Exploration and Production Company (ICSID).
- Representing the Republic of Ecuador in the investment arbitration brought by Murphy Exploration and Production Company International (ICSID).
- Representing the Republic of Ecuador in the investment arbitration brought by Burlington Resources, Inc. and others (ICSID).
- Representing the Republic of Ecuador in the investment arbitration brought by Perenco Ecuador Limited (ICSID).
- Representing the Republic of Ecuador in two cases before the Court of Justice of the Andean Community related to commercial measures.
- Representing the Republic of Ecuador in the negotiation of two international financial agreements.
- Representing the Plurinational State of Bolivia in the investment arbitration brought by South American Silver Limited.
- Representing the Plurinational State of Bolivia in the investment arbitration brought by Quiborax Ltd., Non-Metallic Minerals Ltd. and Mr. Allan Fosk Kaplún.

Education

- Sorbonne University (Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne), Ph.D. candidate.
- Sorbonne University (Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne), Master in International Economic Law, 2013 (Magna Cum Laude).
- Sorbonne University (Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne), Master in International Law, 2012.
- Universidad Católica del Ecuador, Bachelor in Law, 2006.

Corporate Law

Mergers & Acquisitions;
Project Finance; Capital Markets



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Bernardo Canales is a Partner in the Firm with more than 25 years of experience in corporate transactions, including mergers and acquisitions, financing, private equity, joint ventures and corporate restructurings, aviation transactional law, as well as in real estate transactions, such as real estate investment vehicles for asset acquisition and sale, leasing, project design and development.

The following are some of the most recent relevant transactions in which Bernardo has participated:

- Bernardo led the team that assisted the Secretariat of Economic Development of the Government of the State of Nuevo León in the renegotiation of the investment contract and incentive agreement regarding the investment made in the State by KIA Motors Comp
- Bernardo led the purchase of a gold mine located in the State of Sonora, Mexico, for one of the largest mining companies in the country, through funding executed with Banco Nacional de Comercio Exterior (BANCOMEXT) and Fideicomiso para el Fondo Minero (FIFOMI) for a total amount of US\$89,000,000; he also participated in several transactions during the term of the referred credit, until documenting its payment in full.
- He represented the shareholders of a certain Mexican cardboard packaging company on the sale of 100% of the company's capital stock to a Fortune 100 company headquartered in Atlanta, Georgia.
- The creation of the first private RIT (FIBRA) in Mexico, representing the structuring agent and the trustee with respect to the issuer trust and the 14 issuances of real estate trust certificates carried out privately before INDEVAL, from 2015 to 2017, for a total amount of MXN\$1,900,000,000.
- Creation of a master trust to conglomerate and regulate multiple plots to constitute the different condominium regimes of the most important mixed-use development in the municipality of San Pedro Garza García, Nuevo León.
- He represented an important family business with strategic holdings in the clinical diagnostics industry, in the acquisition of certain clinical laboratories in the center of the country, for a total amount of MXN\$737,000,000.
- He represented a steel company in the joint-venture with an important Japanese company for the manufacturing of wiring for the automotive industry, for a total amount of US\$27,000,000.
- He has represented several families of Monterrey on the structuring and implementation of their estate planning for inheritance purposes.
- For more than two decades, Bernardo has advised buyers, sellers and brokers in various purchase, sale, leasing and/or financing transactions of all kinds of aircraft.



Joint Ventures Law

Commercial Law; Corporate Law;
Intellectual Property Law



Rafael Gimenez Camacho
Founder and Director
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Rafael Giménez Camacho is a graduate of the Universidad Iberoamericana in Mexico City and have a Master's degree in Commercial Law from the Escuela Libre de Derecho.

He taught Commercial Law and Commercial Procedural Law for four years at the Instituto Tecnológico de Estudios de Monterrey Campus Estado de Mexico, as a conferencist he has been invited at the International Congresses of the Universidad Panamericana since its inception on 2010, as well as at other universities. He was appointed in 2010 honorary member of Phi Delta Phi Chapter Ignacio Burgoa and is continuously consulted by various mass media in journals, radio and television media.

He is a founding partner of Giménez & Asociados Abogados, SC, a firm where he has practiced for twenty-two years and is a member of the Board of Directors in various companies of great national relevance.

Tax Law



Claudio Gonzalez Betancourt
Founding Partner
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Asociados, Abogados, S.C.

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Born in Mexico City, Federal District, graduated from Universidad Anáhuac del Norte. Partner in Gonzalez, Hernandez & Abogados, Asociados, S.C., specialized in national and international tax advisory and planning.

In 2004, he undertook a course in tax law at Universidad Panamericana and in 2007 he obtained his master's degree on taxation at such university.

Is an active member of the Barra Mexicana Colegio de Abogados, A.C. (Mexican Bar Association), has been a professor in different well-known universities, has participated as lecturer in different tax forums, and has written various articles specialized on tax matters.

His concentration area includes tax investigations and analysis with respect to mergers, spin-offs, transfers of shares, and in general, any type of corporate reorganizations, both national and international, based on domestic tax law and preparation of tax audits, meetings with tax authorities, federal and local, discussions and settlement of potential disputes, and preparation of tax opinions and strategies.

Member of the Professional and Strategic Collaboration Agreement with the firm ORTIZ HIDALGO Y HERNÁNDEZ, S.C.

Languages: Spanish and English.

Tax Law



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Born in Mexico City, Federal District, graduated from Universidad Anáhuac del Norte. Partner in González, Hernández & Abogados, Asociados, S.C., specialized in tax litigation.

In 2009, he obtained his master's degree at Universidad Panamericana (México).

Has been a professor in different well-known universities, has participated as lecturer in different tax forums, and has written various articles specialized on tax matters.

His concentration area includes tax counselling and planning, tax audits, customs law, administrative and constitutional law, representation of clients in federal and state tax administrative law and constitutional litigation, meetings with tax authorities, federal and local, discussions and settlement of potential disputes, and preparation of tax opinions and strategies.

Member of the Professional and Strategic Collaboration Agreement with the firm ORTIZ HIDALGO Y HERNÁNDEZ, S.C.

Languages: Spanish and English.

Tax Law



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Academic Record

- Attorney at Law - Graduate of the Law School of the National Autonomous University of Mexico. Generation 1969.
- Studied in Public Finances Specialization at the higher Studies Division of the National Autonomous University of Mexico. Generation 1969.
- Harvard Law School. Program of Instruction Lawyers.
- Juris Doctor Panamericana University. (Mexico City).

Professional Associations

- First President of the Mexican General Lawyers Advisory Council (2018).
- President of the Corporate Lawyers Mexican Association, A.C., for the period 1986-1988. (ANADE initials in Spanish).
- Co-Chairman of Tax Committee of the International Bar Association (IBA 1998-2002).
- Chairman of the International Corporate Taxation Committee of Lex Mundi (The World's Leading Association of Independent Law Firms) (2007-2010).
- Chairman of International Association of Financial Executives Institutes (IAFEI 2013-2015).
- Chairman of Tax Committee of the American Chamber of Commerce of Mexico, A.C. (2005-2009).

Teaching

- Tax Law Teacher at Universidad Panamericana in Master Degree in Tax Law (1982 to date).
- Professor of Administrative Law at Acatlán Professional Studies School in the National Autonomous University of Mexico (1978-1982).
- Professor of tax law at the Anahuac University Law Faculty. (1980-1983).

Some Accolades

- National Association of Business Lawyers.

Professional Practices

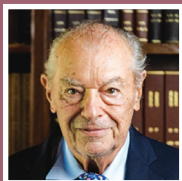
- Member of a prestigious Law Firm from 1970 to 2015. Partner in the consulting and tax litigation area.
- Administrative staff of the same Law Firm (from 1984 to 2015).
- Managing Partner of the aforementioned Law Firm (2008-2010).
- Founding Partner of the Ortiz, Hernández y Orendain, SC Law Firm (2015-2019).
- Founding Partner of the Law Firm Ortiz Hidalgo y Hernández, SC (2020).
- Member of the Professional and Strategic Collaboration Agreement with the firm González, Hernández & Asociados, Abogados, S.C.

Languages

- Spanish and English.

Commercial Law

International Private Law;
Banking and Finance; Privatizations



Guillermo F. Peroni, O.B.E.
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Born in Asuncion, Paraguay. Licensed in 1962 in Argentina and in 1968 in Paraguay.

Education: Universidad de Buenos Aires (Lawyer); Eisenhower Fellow for Paraguay, 1969-1970.

Author: "Paraguay: Laws & Economy", 1985.

President of the Association of the Financial Companies of Paraguay, 1981-1982; President of the Paraguayan American Chamber of Commerce, 1986-1987; President of the Paraguayan Chamber of Commerce of Argentina, 1996-1998 and 2002-2004.

Member: Paraguayan Bar Association; Inter-American Federation of Lawyers; American Society of International Law; International Bar Association.

Practice Areas: International Private Law, Banking and Finance, Privatizations, National and Foreign Investments, Investigation of Illicit Acts of Corruption in State Entities and Recovery of Defrauded Sums.

Languages: Spanish and English.

Peroni Sosa Tellechea Burt & Narvaja

Peroni Sosa Tellechea Burt & Narvaja ("PSTBN") is one of the largest and most prestigious firms in Paraguay. Founded in 1968, the firm's reputation stems from its commitment to serving the needs of clients in diversified areas of specialization. Over the last five decades PSTBN has been an active participant in legal innovation in Paraguay, advising the government on development strategies, working closely with the Congress in drafting and enacting new legislation, and has taken an active role in supporting university education.

PSTBN offers a broad range of legal services for clients involved in international and local transactions in Paraguay. Firm specialization includes mergers and acquisitions, foreign investment, maritime and aviation, telecommunications, banking and international finance, mineral and oil exploration projects, labor relations, general civil litigation, taxation, counseling before local government agencies and legislative bodies, maquila projects, franchising and licensing agreements and intellectual property matters.

Representation in the courts and administrative agencies of the government is an important activity of PSTBN, as plaintiffs or defendants in landmark cases. The intellectual property department, supported by the latest technology, covers every aspect of trademark, copyright and patent practice and commercial use within Paraguay by foreign and local companies.

PSTBN specializes in foreign investments and taxation, and has published important reference books titled Paraguay, Laws and Economy, Commercial and Investment Law (Paraguay), Temas de Derecho Tributario (Tax Law Matters), Regimen de Maquila (Maquila Regime) and Ley 125/91 Comentado y Concordado (Tax Law 125/91).

PSTBN is a member of several renowned international law firm networks and alliances. These memberships help our clients operate their businesses across borders and cultures with deep understanding of international law and customs, allowing them to expand their capabilities in new markets around the globe.

PSTBN and its attorneys devote significant time to the attention of pro bono matters, to Foundations and Non-Governmental Organizations.

Contract Law

Tort Law; Arbitration; Corporate Law



Gastón Fernández Cruz
Founding Partner
Estudio Fernández &
Vargas Abogados S.A.C.

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Gastón Fernández is an International Consultant and Expert on Peruvian Law, issuing several national and international legal opinions and intervening as an expert in international arbitrations before the ICSID (International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes), ICC (International Chamber of Commerce), CAIP (Paris International Chamber of Arbitration), IACAC (Inter-American Commercial Arbitration Commission), CCL (Arbitration Center of the Lima Chamber of Commerce), among others; and judicial proceedings before international judicial courts.

He has been the last Chairman of the Reform Commission of the Peruvian Civil Code (2016-2019). He has participated as amicus curiae ("friend of the court") in the VIII Pleno Casatorio Civil of the Supreme Court of Justice of the Republic of Peru (2015), invited as a legal expert to illustrate with his opinion the Supreme Court of the Republic of Peru.

Member of the lists of arbitrators of the Arbitration Center of the Lima Chamber of Commerce (CCL), the Arbitration Center of the American Chamber of Commerce of Peru (Amcham Peru), the Conflict Resolution and Analysis Center of the *Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú* (CARC-PUCP), the Arbitration Center of the Supervisory Body of Private Investment in Telecommunications – OSIPTEL and the Arbitration Center of the Lambayeque Chamber of Commerce and Production.

Main Ordinary Professor at the Law School of the *Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú* (from 1992 to date), being Full Professor of Torts and Law of Obligations courses; and Professor at the Graduate School of the *Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú* on the Master of Civil Law (from 2001 to 2007; 2018 to date), being also currently Director of that Graduate School of Civil Law (september 2017 – march 2024).

Professor Honoris Causa by *Universidad Nacional de San Agustín de Arequipa*; and Honorary Professor by *Universidad de Huánuco* and *Universidad Privada de Tacna*.

Former Ordinary Professor at the Law School of the *Universidad de Lima* (1985-2006), and Former Visiting Professor at the Law School of the *Università Degli Studi di Bologna, Italia* (1999-2000).

He has been and is a national and international speaker, both within the Republic of Peru and abroad, having participated at important foreign universities such as the *Università Degli Studi di Bologna*; *Università Degli Studi di Siena*; *Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore di Milano*; the *Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna in Pisa (Italy)*; and at the *Universidad de Castilla - La Mancha (Spain)*.

He has been a member of the Reform Commission of the General Arbitration Act of Peru (2006), as long as the Special Commission for the Comprehensive Reform of the Judicial Administration – CERIAJUS (2006).

He has written numerous articles on various law magazines specialized in Peru and abroad. Author of the books "La Cláusula Penal: Tutela contra el Incumplimiento vs Tutela Resarcitoria"; "Introducción a la Responsabilidad Civil: Lecciones Universitarias", "Limitación de Responsabilidad, Exoneración y Liberación del deudor", and "Escritos Reunidos de Derecho Civil Patrimonial" (In press). He has also been the subject of a Tribute Book entitled "Escritos Jurídicos en Homenaje al profesor Gastón Fernández Cruz" (In press).

Intellectual Property Law

General Practice; Domain Names Dispute
Resolution and Arbitration;
Infringement Actions



Jose de Pierola
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josedepierola

Intellectual Property Attorney, born in Lima, Peru, in 1944. Admitted to Lima Bar Association.

Founder of Pierola & Asociados in 1975.

Doctor in Law, Universidad Nacional Mayor de San Marcos (1974).

Forty seven years of professional practice in Intellectual Property Law and in Court litigation (Peruvian Court of Appeals for Intellectual Property Matters of the Peruvian Patent and Trade Mark Office, Lima District Court, Peruvian Supreme Court).

Member of the following associations:

Lima Bar Association

Peruvian Intellectual Property Association (APPI)

Alava Bar Association (Spain)

Fédération Internationale des Conseils en Propriété Intellectuelle (FICPI)

Association Internationale pour la Protection de la Propriété Intellectuelle (AIPPI)

Inter-American Association of Industrial Property (ASIFI)

American Bar Association

International Trademark Association (INTA)

American Intellectual Property Law Association (AIPLA)

European Communities Trademark Association (ECTA)

Languages:

Spanish, English, French

Some key clients: Calvin Klein Trademark Trust, Kia Motors Corporation, Hyundai Motor Company, Tommy Bahama Group, Inc., Coors Brewing Company, Yara International ASA, Marie Claire, Laureate Education, Inc., Anglo American plc, Consorzio per la Tutela del Formaggio Grana Padano, Lanificio Ermenegildo Zegna & Figli S.p.A., Alfasigma S.p.A., BP p.l.c., Castrol Ltd., Birkenstock Sales GmbH, BMC Software, Inc., Chart Energy & Chemicals, Inc., Deutsche Telekom AG, Daikin Industries Ltd., Williams-Sonoma, Inc., Gluten Intolerance Group of North America, Valve Corporation, Latex Occidental Exportadora, S.A. de C.V., Sunbeam Products, Inc., Pure Fishing, Inc., Barilla G.E.R.F. Lli S.p.A., Swatch AG, Umicore, M&K Holdings, Inc.

Labour & Employment Law



Rafael E. Aguiló-Vélez
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Rafael E. Aguiló-Vélez is a co-founder of Schuster Aguiló. He focuses his practice on labor and employment law and is an experienced trial lawyer in civil litigation. He has argued before the Puerto Rico office of the National Labor Relations Board and actively practices before federal and Puerto Rico courts and administrative agencies. He has tried hundreds of cases, and provides preventive counseling to employers as a skilled negotiator of settlements and collective bargaining agreements.

His experience includes representing corporate entities in the areas of: wrongful dismissal; discrimination; sexual harassment; wage and hour; workers' compensation; distribution contracts; torts; breach of contract litigation; and reductions in force.

Rafael frequently presents seminars to business organizations, as well as, customized seminars targeting the specific needs and business realities of each client. Before founding Schuster Aguiló, Rafael served as a special aide to the Secretary of Justice of Puerto Rico and ran his own private practice. Prior to his legal career, he held several management positions at a national retailer, was president of a home improvements company in Milwaukee and operated his own printing business.

Littler Puerto Rico

The Puerto Rico office was originally established in 1995 and has grown steadily, with an ever expanding base of corporate clients. We offer and emphasize the importance of preventive counseling and training, for which we maintain close communication with clients for consultation and advice before a matter reaches litigation, to minimize costs.

We represent clients in all areas of labor and employment, employee benefits and general commercial and business litigation matters before all Puerto Rico administrative and judicial fora, provide seminars and training sessions for clients and business community groups, and also engage in all areas of practice in connection with traditional Labor Law.

Our attorneys have experience achieving motions to dismiss and for summary judgment, and also routinely try cases to conclusion, at the trial and appellate levels in federal and Puerto Rico courts and administrative agencies.

Employment Law

We guide employers through the mine field laid by the interaction of myriad state statutes with federal laws and regulations, and the fact that Puerto Rico is not an employment at will jurisdiction.

Training on termination, documentation, sexual harassment and discrimination preventive practices, employment litigation under all federal and state statutes, non-competition agreements, workers' compensation, counseling on matters relating to plant closings, downsizings and workforce restructurings, and unjust dismissal actions are but some of the areas in which we routinely work with management.

We also help employers develop and implement employee relations' policies designed to minimize risk, assure compliance with statutes such as the FMLA and the ADA, and avoid costly and time consuming litigation.

In the area of agency representation, we regularly appear before the EEOC and various state and local fair employment practice agencies in response to administrative charges of discrimination.

Commercial Litigation

Dispute Resolution



Anthony "Tony" S. Gruchot
Partner
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Tony Gruchot is a Partner in the firm's Litigation and Dispute Resolution Practice Group.

Tony's practice primarily focuses on complex corporate and commercial disputes in industries ranging from construction to banking to insurance, debt recovery, enforcement of security and judgments, and receivership appointments, shareholder disputes, corporate reorganizations and restructurings.

His litigation practice crosses multiple practice areas, including admiralty litigation, marine cases and maritime law, professional liability, personal injury, product liability, family law including divorces, matrimonial disputes and child related matters, and employment.

In the Real Property sector, Tony has worked on mortgages, private and commercial leases, landlord and tenant matters, strata titles and trespass claims with a special interest in boundary and easement and title disputes.

Tony is recognised by the prestigious London-based Chambers and Partners with the Chambers Global 2022 "Band 3" ranking, in the area of General Business Law – Dispute Resolution.

Recent engagements include:

- Advising an international banking corporation on disclosure of information and successfully resisting a document production subpoena.
- Representing the owner of a multi-million-dollar property in an international title dispute.
- Advising on the solvent winding up of a banking corporation.
- Negotiating a major divorce settlement.

Admissions

- Bar of the Turks and Caicos Islands, 2012
- Bar of England and Wales, Barrister, 2006 (not practising)
- Roll of Solicitors of England and Wales, 2000 (not practising)

Awards

- Chambers and Partners, Band 3 Attorney, Chambers Global – General Business Law: Dispute Resolution (2022 and 2021)
- Chambers and Partners, Chambers Global, "Associate to Watch", General Business Law: Dispute Resolution (2020)
- Named a 2019 "Rising Star" by IR Global.
- Chambers and Partners, Chambers Global, "Associate to Watch", General Business Law: Dispute Resolution (2019, 2018 and 2017)

Community Involvement

- Social Secretary, The TCI Sailing Association, 2014

Public Service

- Court Connected Mediator (September 2021 to present)
- Sheffield and District Law Society, Deputy Vice President (2011), Treasurer (2008 to 2011)

Speaking Engagements

- *"Residential Landlord & Tenant Law"* and *"Possession Claims, A Landlord's Perspective"*, Sheffield, United Kingdom
- *"Sale of Goods for the Motor Industry"*, VW Headquarters, Milton Keynes, UK
- *"A Guide to Small Claims and Enforcement"*, VW Headquarters, Milton Keynes, UK

Publications

- Chambers Global Practice Guides: Litigation 2021, The Turks and Caicos Islands – Law and Practice
- Negotiating Effective Contracts and Dealing with Disputes, Turks and Caicos Islands (April 2019)

Membership

- The Honourable Society of Lincoln's Inn
- The Law Society of England and Wales
- The Turks and Caicos Bar Association

Commercial Litigation

Dispute Resolution



Stephen M. Wilson, QC
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Stephen Wilson QC is a Partner and head of the firm's Litigation and Dispute Resolution Practice Group in the Turks and Caicos Islands ("TCI").

Stephen has appeared in many of the TCI's headline cases involving disputes in the tourism and hospitality, banking, real estate, insurance and construction/building sectors. He has a broad range of experience with matters in the Admiralty, Shipping and Aviation, Banking and Finance, Corporate and Commercial, Employment and Labour, Insurance, Intellectual Property, and Property and Development sectors.

Stephen's Corporate and Commercial work has included complex corporate and commercial disputes comprising multi-jurisdictional claims, multi-party actions, contract breaches, and insolvencies and liquidations involving local and international parties, shareholder disputes, and corporate reorganizations and restructurings. He is also a leading lawyer in intellectual property litigation in TCI.

Stephen is recognised by the prestigious London-based Chambers and Partners as a top ranked attorney in the Chambers Global General Business Law – Dispute Resolution sector. He holds the distinction of a Band 1 ranking, which is the highest individual ranking. He has also been recognised by Chambers Global with their rankings for "Foreign Expertise" and "Expertise Based Abroad".

Chambers Review: *Stephen Wilson QC is a "very tenacious" litigator and well liked by clients. His litigation experience spans a variety of areas, including financial services, property and employment disputes. Peers rate him as a "good advocate," stating that "he's very bright and knows his stuff."*

Recent engagements include:

- Assisting multi-national construction company on entry into the TCI market and facilitating joint venture with local construction company.
- Successfully representing strata unit owners in landmark case regarding freedom to let strata properties.
- Leading Counsel in an arbitration involving a dispute between the major shareholder of a Hong Kong listed company and a Bahamian financial institution.
- Representing the minority shareholder of a Bahamian company with valuable interests in Asia.
- Representing the Receiver of a property development company in a dispute with the company's director.
- Advising the Joint Provisional Liquidators of a Bermudian reinsurance company in respect of a multi-million dollar property restructure in TCI.
- Representing the Official Liquidator of TCI companies involved in a \$220 million international foreign exchange Ponzi scheme.
- Advising developers and operators of major hotels and resorts in Providenciales and representing them in commercial and labour disputes.
- Advising the TCI branches of leading Bahamian and Caymanian commercial banks and representing them in commercial and labour disputes.
- Representing a leading TCI general contractor in multi-million dollar building and construction arbitration.
- Advising commercial airline operators entering the TCI market on labour and industrial relations matters.

Corporate & Commercial Law

Real Estate



Christopher J. Wells
Partner
Graham Thompson Attorneys
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cjw@gtclaw.com
www.grahamthompson.com

Christopher specializes in real estate transactions and conveyancing, sales and structuring for both high-end and private client matters and large commercial transactions.

His practice covers mortgage-backed financing and loans, property title due diligence and opinions, title insurance, subdivision, resort and hotel planning development and operation, commercial and residential leases and related tax matters and issues and in advising on and applying for all governmental and requisite approvals. He is based in the firms Turks and Caicos Islands office and works on both Turks and Caicos and Bahamas based matters.

Christopher is recognised by the prestigious London-based Chambers and Partners with their Chambers Global 2020 "Up and Coming" rankings distinction, in the area of General Business Law.

Recent engagements include:

- Representing the developer of a planned residential gated community (258 lots and 80 townhouses) in all matters of master planning and sales.
- Representing a major international debt fund as local counsel in a debt-for-equity swap of approximately US\$ 170 million, concerning a major Bahamian resort property and related joint venture interests, which included obtaining requisite multi-departmental Bahamian Government approvals for the acquisition, the assumption of casino management licenses, and a numerous relevant operating licenses.
- Advising investors and developers on the acquisition and sale of exclusive developments throughout the Bahamas.
- Providing advice to global financial institutions on commercial loan transactions, including numerous multi-jurisdictional transactions involving groups of international banks.

Education

- University of Kent Law School, Canterbury, United Kingdom
- The College of Law, Guildford, United Kingdom

Admissions

- Bar of the Turks and Caicos Islands, 2016
- Bar of England and Wales, 2005
- The Bahamas Bar, 2005

Awards

- Chambers Global "Up and Coming" ranking, General Business Law (2022, 2021 and 2020)
- Named to Citywealth Magazine's "Bahamas Future Leaders" List, 2014

Community Involvement

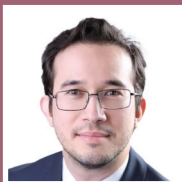
- Avid martial arts enthusiast holding instructor certificates in both Krav Maga and Kali.

Membership

- The Turks and Caicos Bar Association
- The Bahamas Bar Association

European Technology Law

Corporate; Data Privacy & Protection;
Financial Services



Paul Lanois
Director, Technology,
Outsourcing and Privacy
Fieldfisher

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Paul Lanois is a European technology and privacy professional at Fieldfisher and an attorney admitted to the bar in California, New York, the District of Columbia (DC) and the Supreme Court of the United States (SCOTUS).

Paul provides guidance on information governance, data protection, privacy, cybersecurity and digitalization. In particular, he advises businesses on a wide range of domestic and international privacy compliance matters, including issues related to privacy and data optimization, social media integrations, mobile apps, Internet of Things and connected devices, e-commerce and electronic payments. Paul also advises on cybersecurity matters, including on data breaches and incident response, risk assessments, policy development and compliance with industry standards, such as the Payment Card Industry Data Security Standard (PCI DSS).

Before joining Fieldfisher, Paul was Vice President and senior legal counsel at a leading international bank, Credit Suisse, at its headquarters in Switzerland as well as its Hong Kong office. As in-house senior legal counsel, he advised the bank on various matters, including its global compliance program, cross-border matters, the bank's digital transformation initiatives and the launch of new online services and products. Before that, he worked on technology transactions at large international law firms in London (United Kingdom) and Luxembourg.

Paul has written extensively on current developments in relation to cybersecurity, as well as American and European privacy law. For example, he was one of the lead authors of the Cloud Security Alliance's guidance "Observations and Recommendations on Connected Vehicle Security" published in 2017 which covered vehicle security connectivity, possible attack vectors of concern, and recommendations for securing the connected vehicle environment. He was also one of the lead authors of the Cloud Security Alliance's guide on "Future-proofing the Connected World: 13 Steps to Developing Secure IoT Products" published in 2016 and which provides a comprehensive guidance for product designers and developers.

Paul frequently speaks at conferences around the world and lead industry committees and organizations. He is also a member of the International Association of Privacy Professionals' Education Advisory Board and CIPT Exam Development Board. From 2018 through 2019, he was also a member of the IAPP's European Advisory Board.

Paul has received a number of awards, including the Association of Corporate Counsel's "Top 10 30-Somethings" award, the "ACC Advocacy Award", as well as the Transatlantic General Counsel of the Year award at The American Lawyer's Transatlantic Legal Awards. He was named a "Cybersecurity & Data Privacy Trailblazer" by the National Law Journal and an "Innovative Corporate Counsel" by Law 360.

Paul is a Systems Security Certified Practitioner (SSCP) from (ISC)², the world's largest non-profit association of cybersecurity professionals, and he is also a Payment Card Industry Professional (PCIP). In addition, he is a Fellow of Information Privacy (FIP) of the International Association of Privacy Professionals (IAPP) and a Certified Information Privacy Professional, with concentrations in Asian law (CIPP/A), US law (CIPP/US), European law (CIPP/E) and Canadian law (CIPP/C). He is also a Certified Information Privacy Manager (CIPM) and a Certified Information Privacy Technologist (CIPT).

Paul is fluent in both English and French. He also has an intermediate level of German.

Technology Law

Emerging Companies;
Litigation; Patent

Andrew R. Basile, Jr.
Shareholder
Young Basile

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Mr. Basile concentrates his practice on intellectual property litigation and technology transactions relating to software, hardware, electronics, semiconductors and the Internet.

An experienced patent attorney, he manages large patent portfolios and frequently provides clients with opinions and strategic advice in regard to infringement and other contested matters. He also handles a wide variety of technology-related commercial transactions including alliances and licenses. He provides intellectual property advice to issuers, underwriters, buyers and sellers in corporate transactions such as IPOs and mergers.

Honors/Distinctions

Mr. Basile maintains an AV rating from Martindale-Hubbell. He is listed the International Who's Who of Telecommunications Media & Technology Lawyers.

Publications

Mr. Basile speaks and writes frequently in the areas of intellectual property and technology transactions. He is a contributing author to the books *Online Law* (Addison Wesley), *Mass Market Software License Agreements* (Software Publishers Association) and *Internet Law for the Business Lawyer* (American Bar Association).

Representative Clients

Mr. Basile has worked with hundreds of clients, ranging in size from start-ups to Fortune 500 corporations. These include Nissan, Google, Juul, Apple, and GoPro.

He has also worked with numerous start-ups, helping them establish partnerships and distribution channels, tune business models, raise capital and bring products to market.

Professional Activities

Mr. Basile is a member of the State Bar of Michigan. He is a past officer and board member of the San Francisco Intellectual Property Law Association.

Education

- University of Michigan Law School, J.D., cum laude, 1989
- Princeton University, B.S. Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, 1986

Admissions

- State of California
- State of Illinois
- State of Michigan
- U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

Young Basile

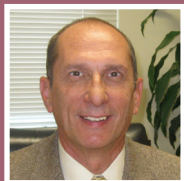
Young Basile is an intellectual property and litigation firm that represents leading global companies, regional technology-driven companies and emerging businesses. With a combination of deep technical knowledge and business acumen, we drive successful results for our clients' most important and complex matters. We deliver extraordinary value while advancing our clients' strategic business objectives.

Young Basile was built on four core principles: (1) Understanding our clients' strategic business objectives and ensuring that our efforts support those objectives; (2) Providing our clients with responsive, prompt service and personal attention; (3) Achieving high-quality results; and (4) Providing value through effective pricing and efficient service delivery. This combination of quality work, great service and value makes Young Basile the IP firm of choice for industry leading, technology-driven clients throughout the United States, Europe and Asia.

The firm's clients are drawn from a range of industries including automotive, robotics, machine tools, software, semiconductors, electronics, chemicals, materials, nanotechnology and medical devices. Representative clients include Google, Nissan, Synopsys, LeapFrog, Phillips, Comau and Yazaki North America.

Insurance & Reinsurance

Claims and Underwriting;
Contract Compliance; Due Diligence



Joseph Loggia
Vice President & CFO
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Joseph Loggia co-founded Buxbaum, Loggia and Associates, Inc. in 2000, and Buxbaum Loggia Ltd., our British company, to provide a comprehensive source of senior technical expertise to the insurance and reinsurance industry.

Mr. Loggia's experience of more than 50 years includes management of ceded and assumed reinsurance portfolios, audit assignments for major domestic and international reinsurers, and expert witness testimony. He served in senior executive positions for companies such as Armco, Home Insurance, Liberty Mutual and Northwestern National.

At Buxbaum Loggia, Mr. Loggia leads casualty and accident/health inspections and settlement teams for both insurers and reinsurers. He is highly regarded for his expert opinions and testimony, having been deposed as a fact and expert witness on more than 100 occasions in civil litigation and reinsurance arbitrations since 1986.

Mr. Loggia has provided expert services in numerous cases involving Workers' Compensation, Construction Defect litigation, Property Loss and EPLI issues. His decades of experience serve in evaluating and testifying on proper claims administration, including coverage analysis and good-faith claim decisions. He has represented policyholders, and primary and excess carriers in complex matters, upholding industry customs and practices.

Mr. Loggia is a Certified Arbitrator of ARIAS, and member of industry organizations including the American Bar Association (ABA), California Association of Independent Insurance Adjusters, Insurance & Reinsurance Legacy Association, and the International Association of Claim Professionals. He has been a featured speaker and panelist at conferences for the ABA, AIRROC, and Casualty Actuarial Society.

After graduating from the University of California, Los Angeles, he served as a captain in the U.S. Army and attended the University of LaVerne, College of Law.

Buxbaum Loggia

We are a California corporation and also have an established company in England. Our consulting firm engages in underwriting services, claim and accounting audits, run-off management, and expert witness reporting and testimony. We serve insurance companies, reinsurers, law firms, managing general underwriters and third-party administrators. We proudly represent clients on six continents.

Personal Injury Law



Bryce V. Durham
Attorney/Managing Principal
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Attorney Bryce Durham demonstrates seasoned professionalism and knowledge of personal injury through diligent care for his clients and in depth understanding of the legal system.

He is driven and highly motivated to fight on behalf of those enduring personal injury. His clients come first, EVERY time.

Bryce remains actively involved in his church, Hillside International Chapel and Truth Center, where he serves as Chairman of the Board of Directors.

Education

- University of Georgia, 1999
- Georgia State Law School, 2006

Associations

- Georgia Bar
- Georgia Trial Lawyers Association

Durham Law Group, P.C.

Durham Law Group, P.C. is a personal injury law firm that strictly handles personal injury claims for clients in need of an advocate in the southeast U.S. Take action and tell your story and we commit to listening. We understand the many aspects that impact your case and help guide you through the necessary steps to achieving justice and adequate compensation. Trust Durham Law Group P.C. with your personal injury case.

Durham Law Group, P.C. has offices in Downtown Atlanta and Tampa. Both offices are conveniently located to public transportation.

Client Stories

"Durham Law Group went above and beyond my expectations for my case! I didn't expect such a great outcome! Bryce was very Knowledgeable, Patient, Personable, Quick and Trustworthy. He always kept his word and was very understanding! He answered all my questions, even when I asked them several times! If myself or anyone I know ever need an awesome attorney/law firm. I would most definitely recommend!"

Lavella M.

"Bryce and his team of paralegals are the A-team! From intake with Laura to settlement with Nayeli. The level of genuine care for my case is not found anywhere else!"

Fredi A.

"Mr. Durham and my case manager handled everything! I didn't have to worry about anything but getting better. They maintain constant communication concerning my case. I will be recommending this firm to anyone I come in contact with!"

Timothy M.

"The Durham Law group gave my fiancé and I exceptional service regarding our claim. Bryce & Phylis worked hard to get us the money we deserved. They also worked to get our medical bills reduced! The staff was friendly and they kept us in the loop at all times. If you're looking for a great law firm to handle your accident claim I would highly recommend the Durham Law Group!"

Ashley J.

"We appreciate how attentive and professional my case manager and Mr. Durham have been from the day of our car accident onward. We could not have gone to a better law firm."

Tonie H.

"I came to Durham Law Group with my personal injury claim, and could not be more satisfied with the work that they did with my case. The professionalism, efficiency, and attentiveness the staff showed me throughout the entire process was beyond my initial expectations; very pleased!!"

Wanda B

Mining Law

Real Estate and Commercial Transactions;
Banking and Lender Services;
Business and Corporate Law



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Shareholder
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Fryberger, Buchanan, Smith & Frederick, P.A.
has 30 practicing attorneys providing a broad
array of legal services to the region since 1893.

Paul Loraas has been a shareholder of the Fryberger law firm since 2004 and focuses his practice on real estate law and commercial transactions, particularly representation of the mining industry and mineral holders for ferrous and non-ferrous projects in Minnesota.

Paul is a Board-Certified Real Property Law Specialist in the State of Minnesota and has been named a Super Lawyer by Super Lawyer Magazine for the years 2006, 2008 – 2022, representing the top 5% of all real estate attorneys in the State of Minnesota.

Reflecting his two and half decades of experience, Paul's practice is uncommonly broad, advising multi-national, national and local clients on a range of matters involving land and mineral tenure, mineral title searches, project development, sales, leases, and related project transactions.

Clients often retain Paul to assist with project development and maintenance work including the acquisition of surface and mineral rights, resolution of title issues, interaction with federal, state and local governmental agencies, and the negotiation and drafting of surface and mineral leases. As part of this practice, he has provided advice on a wide range of transactions, including corporate, real estate, and lending matters. Paul has extensive experience in working with geologists, surveyors, engineers, and other consultants who inform decision-making on engineering, scientific, and other technical issues related to mineral development projects.



US, New York

AI Solutions

Blockchain; FinTech; Voice AI



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www.ai-io.io

Chairman of AI.io, an industry leading data science and engineering company that envisions, conceptualizes, and delivers AI solutions that solve large scale business problems with a focus on healthcare primarily in healthcare. Terence is also the CEO of Veuu, a company that is pioneering the future of work in healthcare by solving problems that will allow hospitals to adjudicate a claim at the time of a patient discharge.

Terence is a recognized and prestigious member of the Forbes Technology Council and a monthly Forbes.com contributor on the topic of AI. Terence has been recognized as one of the top 50 AI influencers on Twitter in 2018 - 2022 by Cognilytica, and one of the Top 100 Big Data Influencers by Analytica in 2020 - 2022. As a sought-after AI thought leader, Terence participates as a keynote speaker to educate and assist business leaders and entrepreneurs to harness the power of AI and blockchain to solve business problems. Some of Terence's latest engagements include, the Future Proofing of Healthcare keynote at Big Data and AI World in London, The Future of Work keynote at the Tech Summit in Bermuda, and The Future of Healthcare at RFID Virtual Summit.

At AI.io, Terence is helping to propel advances in productivity by creating the future of work and changing how people live their lives in ways they could only have imagined. In January of 2019, AI.io in partnership with Wex, one of the largest industrial banks, announced the launch of Halo Travel, powered by Priceline Partner Network. Halo Travel is the first intelligent, voice-activated, and personalized chat bot for travel that combines virtual payments with the capability to book flight and hotel reservations all via voice. In early 2020, AI.io envisioned, conceptualized, and built innovative AI solutions in healthcare that seek to improve the quality of care by solving some of the boldest problems in the \$3.65 trillion U.S. healthcare claims, coding, and payments industry.

"I'm passionate about building big businesses, boosting efficiency across the board, and strengthening decision-making. Each morning I get excited by the thought of how to help business leaders transform their companies by bridging the gap of AI, blockchain, and big data to determine where they converge. As an AI thought leader, I am evangelizing the need for a new class of AI that is explainable, accountable, not biased, nor destructive."

Torts & Insurance Litigation

Aviation; Product Liability;
Civil Litigation



Ralph V. Pagano
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Mr. Pagano's practice is diverse, spanning complex legal matters involving technology, aviation, motor vehicles, premises liability, intellectual property, insurance, and commercial disputes. In addition to litigating hundreds of cases over his career, he is one of only a few lawyers that has litigated the rights of actors under the Screen Actor's Guild Commercials Contract.

Ralph has represented a wide range of clients including some of the most prestigious Fortune 100 and Fortune 500 companies in the world, to pro bono clients that need a voice. As a member of the Bar of New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Maryland, Ralph routinely handles matters in those jurisdictions as counsel of record. In addition, he has represented clients in all aspects of litigation in other jurisdictions throughout the United States. As a trusted advisor, Ralph works very closely with his clients to seek the most expedient and economical resolution possible and has engaged in various forms of Alternate Dispute Resolution to that end. However, when necessary, Ralph will take a case to trial and has done so a number of times.

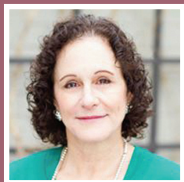
Before changing careers to become a lawyer, Ralph was an engineer with Western Union, RCA/GE American Communications and AT&T Bell Laboratories, making him well suited for the complex matters in which the Firm is engaged. He has united his technological and legal pursuits by becoming a registered patent attorney before the United States Patent and Trademark Office. Ralph furthers his interest in aviation by actively exercising his privileges as a licensed instrument-rated pilot. He has always been passionate about the Arts, and enjoys counseling clients in the Arts, and in all areas of his practice. Among his accomplishments, he has been recognized among his peers and clients by being bestowed with the highest assessment, an AV rating from Martindale Hubbell®, and has been recognized in Super Lawyers® for having attained a high-degree of peer recognition and professional achievement.

Ralph earned both Bachelor of Engineering and Master of Engineering degrees from Stevens Institute of Technology. He received his Juris Doctor degree from Fordham University School of Law, and subsequently earned a Master of Laws Degree in trial advocacy from Temple University, where he later served as an Adjunct Professor for that program to instruct other lawyers on the nuances of trying cases.

Ralph has written and delivered papers and speeches for major conferences and journals sponsored by, among others: ABA – Torts and Insurance Practice Section, ABA – Aviation Litigation Section, Aircraft Builders Council, Lawyer Pilots Bar Association, and the International Society for Optical Engineering. In addition, he has been cited in the U.K. Parliament's Select committee on Trade and Industry, relating to space regulatory matters.

Trademark Law

Copyright; Licensing;
Publishing/Literary Property



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Jessica R. Friedman (Yale Law School 1984, Princeton University 1981 summa cum laude) has practiced trademark, copyright, literary property/ media and licensing law in New York City for more than 30 years. Ms. Friedman advises and represents clients in connection with trademark selection, clearance, prosecution, licensing and policing, both in the U.S. and abroad through her network of foreign affiliates. Her trademark clients have included major media, publishing and non-profit organizations, smaller companies in various industries, and individuals launching new ventures.

Other matters Ms. Friedman handles include content, data and software development and licensing agreements, publishing agreements for authors and publishers, collaboration agreements, literary agency agreements, media agency agreements, MSA's and other commercial contracts, as well as online and mobile app privacy policies and terms of use. She also conducts fair use and work-for-hire copyright analyses, and prepublication reviews of manuscripts for libel and other legal issues and handles other matters related to the rights of privacy and publicity. For 14 years, she served as part-time general counsel to a healthcare communications company, so she is familiar with the way big companies work on the inside.

Ms. Friedman has written many articles about intellectual property, publishing and media issues, and she has lectured about and chaired panels on those subjects in various venues, including the Practising Law Institute, the New York City Bar Association, and the New York Technology Council (formerly the New York Software Industry Association). Currently, she is a member of the Committee on Copyright and Literary Property Committee of the New York City Bar Association, having already served several terms on that committee and on the Trademark Committee.

Ms. Friedman has an AV® Preeminent™ Martindale-Hubbell® Peer Review Rating (5.0 out of 5), which means that she has been acknowledged by her peers as having the highest ethical standards and legal ability. She also has been selected as a New York Super Lawyer® every year since 2010.

More information about Ms. Friedman's practice, including a representative list of trademark matters she has handled over her more than three decades in practice, is available at www.literarypropertylaw.com.



IMMIGRATION LAW FIRM, PLC

US, Tennessee

Immigration Law



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Linda Rose founded Rose Immigration law Firm in 1990. She has practiced immigration and nationality law for more than 30 years and is licensed in the states of Hawaii and Tennessee. She is also licensed to practice before the U.S. Supreme Court and the U.S. District Court of Middle Tennessee.

Ms. Rose earned her J.D. degree in 1986 from the University of Hawaii. She has a master's degree in public health, adding to her expertise in the health care professions, and a master's degree in anthropology, which makes her more attuned to cultural issues. In addition to her formal education, Ms. Rose has studied music during the summers at Berklee College of Music and has travelled to Ghana, Africa multiple times, to pursue her interest in music and foreign culture. She is particularly well-positioned to assist with music and entertainment-related immigration matters as well.

Ms. Rose is an active member of the American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA) and held an elected seat as a Director of the AILA Board of Governors for 14 years. She has served multiple terms on AILA's Department of Labor (DOL) Liaison Committee, which negotiates with DOL policy and practice procedures regarding PERM Labor Certification, H-1B Labor Condition Applications, and other processes controlled by DOL. She has also served on the AILA liaison committee known as ACES (Athletics/Arts, Culture, Entertainment, and Science). She was an approved candidate on the Fulbright Specialists Roster to teach a comparative immigration law course abroad.

Ms. Rose served as an Adjunct Professor at Vanderbilt University Law School for 17 years, where she taught Immigration Law and Policy. She also is a member of IMMLAW, the national consortium of select immigration attorneys. She lectures regularly to employers and attorneys and has written many articles on immigration law, including Prevailing Wages, PERM Labor Certification, H-1B Labor Condition Applications, and National Interest Waivers. On a personal note, Ms. Rose is of Portuguese and Italian descent, has lived in Mexico, and speaks Spanish. She practiced Go-Ju karate for 30 years. She enjoys jazz music and plays jazz vibraphone with her band RoseOnVibes Quintet (www.RoseOnVibes.com).



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Douglas Russo has practiced exclusively immigration law at Rose Immigration Law Firm, PLC since 2014. In 2021, he became the Owner and Managing Member of Rose Immigration Law Firm. Mr. Russo is licensed in the state of Tennessee and is admitted to the U.S. District Court of Middle Tennessee.

Mr. Russo earned his J.D. (cum laude) in 2014 from Belmont University College of Law in its inaugural class. He also has a bachelor's degree in music technology and performed bass guitar with Royal Caribbean and Holland America cruise lines, which gave him an interest in working with foreign national musicians. In addition to working with foreign national musicians, Mr. Russo assists businesses with their immigration needs, including H-1B, L-1, E-2, TN, and PERM cases. Mr. Russo's business clients include large retail and automotive companies, institutions of higher education, IT services providers, and other companies. He most often supports professionals in IT, engineering, education, and other fields.

Mr. Russo is actively involved in the American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA) and is a member of its publications committee. Mr. Russo often lectures to employers, attorneys, and universities on immigration issues and is active in the Nashville immigration community.

Dispute Resolution

Construction Law



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Jeff Jury is a nationally-recognized mediator and arbitrator, whose experience as a neutral is supported by significant trial, appellate, and administrative practice.

Jeff is a leader in the ADR field. Few neutrals can say that they have tried high-stakes cases as lead counsel; argued and won a case of first impression before their state's Supreme Court; written book chapters in two areas of practice; designed dispute resolution systems and process for organizations; and teach ADR related topics at the law school and graduate school level.

His practice ranges from negotiation consulting to serving as a neutral in many different forms of dispute resolution, including all forms of dispute resolution listed in the Texas Alternative Dispute Resolution Act, as well as designing customized processes.

Mediation

Jeff began mediating cases as a neutral in 1997. He has mediated cases in many locations in person before online mediation removed distance barriers, always striving to use approaches and techniques that match the situation. He is not a "water carrier." Jeff will follow up tenaciously if the case does not settle at mediation, because mediation is a process, not an event or ritual.

Arbitration

Jeff has served as arbitrator since 2002, primarily in the areas of Business Disputes, Construction and Health Care.

Negotiation Consultant – "Settlement Counsel"

Another set of eyes and ears can bring new ideas to the negotiating table. Lawyers have associated Jeff as non-neutral settlement counsel to assist in case evaluation, negotiation planning, and strategy development, both formally and confidentially.

Education/Training

In addition to teaching law school and graduate school courses, Jeff has made presentations to professionals from around the world on negotiation, public policy dispute resolution, and related dispute resolution topics. Many of these trainings are confidential, so most clients cannot be identified.

Some of the publicized trainings include programs sponsored by the prestigious Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs at the University of Texas. Jeff is a Fellow of the University of Texas Law School's Center for Public Policy Dispute Resolution, and participates in programs supporting the Center's mission.

Professional Recognition

- Professionalism Award, Texas Center for Legal Ethics and Professionalism
- Credentialed Distinguished Mediator, Texas Mediator Credentialing Association
- Distinguished Fellow, International Academy of Mediators (President, 2017-2018)
- Distinguished Neutral, National and Texas (Charter Member) Academy of Neutrals

Burns Anderson Jury & Brenner, L.L.P.

Our clients are business entities, business owners and professionals. Our lawyers are experts in negotiations, complex trial, appellate and administrative law and leaders in our professions and communities. The firm guides clients through legal, legislative and judicial barriers in all arenas of business relationships and dispute resolution, including administrative agencies, court rooms and boardrooms, from the formation and throughout the continued life of our clients' businesses.

We strive to understand our clients' businesses and to provide counsel worthy of their trust.

Immigration Law



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Harry Gee received a Bachelor in Business Administration/Economics from Rice University in 1960 and a JD from the University of Texas. Upon being licensed he was appointed an Assistant Attorney General of the state of Texas and served in the taxation, bonds, insurance, banking, and highway divisions. In 1966 he returned to Houston and established his own firm.

Professional Organizations

He served as president of the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association now comprising approximately 40,000 members. He served as a member of the board of the American Immigration Lawyers Association and as president of the Texas Chapter and of the Asian American Bar of Houston. He was elected to the Board of Directors of the State Bar of Texas and chaired the Texas Board of Legal Specialization. He is the recipient of the Leon Jaworski award from the Houston Bar Auxiliary, the Spirit of Excellence award from the American Bar Association and the Trailblazer award from NAPABA. He and his family have endowed scholarships for students at the University of Texas law, Rice University, University of Houston Downtown and other universities and nonprofit organizations.

Community Engagement

He has served as chair or president of the American Leadership Forum, Rice Alumni Association, Sister Cities of Houston, Houston Taipei Society, and the Leadership Education for Asian-Pacific. He has served as a member of the board of the Greater Houston Partnership, Chase Bank Advisory Board, State Bar of Texas, University of Texas Health, and the University of Houston Law school. He has also served on the boards of the Texan Bowl, NCAA Final Four, Super Bowl Houston Committee, Houston Olympic Bid Committee 2012 and became a minority owner of the Houston Texans. He is one of only four members in the Committee of 100 in Houston.



US, Washington D.C. & Georgia

International Business Law

Human Trafficking Investigations;
Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA);
Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR)



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Conan Higgins is a licensed attorney, admitted to practice in California, Washington, D.C., and the Court of International Trade. Conan is a Certified Project Management Professional as well as being certified in SCRUM Fundamentals and as a Human Trafficking Investigator, a Fellow of the Institute of Leadership and Management and an Associate member of the Chartered Institute of Legal Executives in the United Kingdom.

Conan has been recognized as a subject matter expert in the field of international business entity creation and regularly contributed to the World Bank/International Monetary Fund's annual "Doing Business" report covering business best practices in 189 economies. Conan was selected for High Honors recognition by the Washington, D.C. Bar for his pro bono work during 2021. Prior to this Conan served for 6 years as the Vice Chair for the American Bar Association's Section of International Law Middle East Committee from 2014-2019, and previously as Vice Chair for the International Anti-Money Laundering Committee.

Education credentials include a B.A. in Organizational Leadership from Chapman University, a Juris Doctorate from Concord Law School, an LL.M. with Merit in International Business Law from the University of Liverpool, numerous graduate certificates in mediation and negotiation mastery from both Harvard Law School and Harvard Business School, and if that's not enough for one person, Conan is currently pursuing a doctorate (Ph.D.) in International Law and Treaty Law through Euclid University. His published works include a dissertation on "Improving Corporate Governance Education in Emerging Markets in Sub-Saharan Africa" and a review on anti-money laundering practices in Afghanistan for the American Bar Association.

Conan was a featured guest speaker at "Expeditionary Law: Foreign Dealmaking and the Problem of Corruption", a live discussion presented by Concord Law School at Purdue University Global in June 2022 as part of its Distinguished Speaker Series.

Conan has worked extensively in the USA, UK, Ukraine, Romania, Ireland, Serbia, Afghanistan, United Arab Emirates, Qatar as well as Brazil, Costa Rica, and Panama. In Africa; Libya, Kenya, Tanzania, South Sudan, Botswana, Ghana, and Liberia. Working in this field of legal business requires a combination of analytical ability, communication skills, and perseverance. To be successful, it is essential to be able to think critically about complex situations, identify important details, and examine all available evidence from multiple perspectives.

TSI Legal Enterprises, PC focuses on International Business law, specifically in emerging markets and under-served economies, by providing legal and business advisement on subjects ranging from the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA), Import/Export Compliance and International Trafficking in Arms. Regulations (ITAR) to international mergers/acquisitions, contract negotiations, drafting, and execution, legal project management, and corporate governance.

ASIA & OCEANIA



In May, the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) opened its 78th session in Bangkok, with global and regional leaders calling for strengthened regional cooperation and multilateralism as reverberating impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, climate change and geopolitical conflicts threaten to derail sustainable development.

"To address systemic risks, we should understand, foresee and adapt to future shocks through strategic foresight. No one country can move forward

on these development agendas alone," commented Armida Salsiah Alisjahbana, UN Under-Secretary-General and Executive Secretary of ESCAP. "All our resources and energies must be targeted and impactful while promoting rules-based, open, non-discriminatory and equitable principles and approaches."

Ms Alisjahbana further called for countries to focus on protecting the most vulnerable and hardest-hit groups, creating resilient economic and social foundations – and prioritising sustainability at the core of all policy initiatives.

Home to two-thirds of the world's population, the Asia-Pacific region has been the engine of the global economy and home to countless innovations that have bettered the lives of billions. While it has made significant development gains over the past decades, the vast region faces daunting challenges.

In his message, United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres underscored that ESCAP and its member States are uniquely placed to drive progress in Asia and the Pacific. "I count on you to help reinvigorate multilateral action built on solidarity, trust and cooperation to create a greener, more sustainable and prosperous future for all."

At the opening, Abdulla Shahid, President of the United Nations General Assembly, highlighted the plight of least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing states in the region, which have been disproportionately affected by crises. “We must do more to support these countries with finances, technology, capacity development and debt relief in their efforts to recover from the pandemic and achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.”

The theme study for the 78th session describes pathways to achieve more inclusive and sustainable post-pandemic recovery and recommends four key action areas: protecting people and the planet, leveraging digital opportunities, trading and investing more together, and raising financial resources and managing debt. It underlines the crucial need to listen to the voices of women and young people, placing them at the centre of development work in the region.

The session coincided with the 75th anniversary of ESCAP. “With its establishment in 1947, the UN regional commission provided governments in Asia and the Pacific – for the first time in history – a platform to meet to discuss common economic problems, establish agreed principles of action and carry out policies determined by mutual agreement,” shared Collen Vixen Kelapile, President of the Economic and Social Council. “The region has come a long way since 1947, but the need for multilateralism and regional cooperation is as great today as it was 75 years ago.”

Prime Minister General Prayut Chan-o-cha (Ret) of Thailand noted: “ESCAP was founded amid efforts by countries in the region to rise from the ashes of war and pursue their development with the hope of lasting peace. Today, the world and the region are once again confronted with various pressing challenges, which are more diverse and complex. The hard-won peace

that we have cherished is on the brink of crumbling if we do not engage in dialogue and work hand-in-hand.”

“ESCAP has played a critical role in fostering cooperation amid countries in the region. It has also been instrumental in amplifying the region’s voice in global conversations, especially on sustainable development, which should remain the region’s priority,” added Thailand’s Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs, Vijavat Isarabhakdi.

Emerging Asia: Broader Financing Options Needed to Support Recovery Amid Great Uncertainty

Economic activity in Emerging Asia will continue to recover in 2022, but important uncertainty and risks remain. Policy makers in the region need to broaden financing options, further deepening capital markets and instruments, to ensure a sustainable recovery, according to the ‘Economic Outlook for Southeast Asia, China and India 2022: Financing Sustainable Recovery from COVID-19’.

The moves in commodity prices and financial markets seen since the beginning of the large-scale aggression by Russia against Ukraine could slow the recovery of Emerging Asian economies (ASEAN-10, China and India), although the overall impact is projected to be smaller than in OECD economies.

“While we expect the economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic to continue, the growth momentum remains fragile. Inflation, notably rising energy and food prices, and supply-chain disruptions, present an ongoing risk to the recovery,” said OECD Secretary-General Mathias Cormann. “Governments in the region need to implement effective macroeconomic and structural policies to safeguard their economies, continue to improve citizen’s well-being and accelerate progress to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.”

The global consequences of the war in Ukraine and rising interest rates in advanced economies could further affect financial markets. Bank profitability and lending have fallen in many countries in the region since the start of the pandemic. The deterioration of the labour markets will take time to heal. Monetary policy has been appropriately very accommodative in most economies in response to their fragile recoveries. Several countries in Emerging Asia have continued to provide fiscal stimulus, but its extent has been more moderate than at the start of the pandemic.

Given the challenging fiscal and monetary context, policy makers in Emerging Asia should consider a broader range of options to finance the recovery from the pandemic. Using multilateral initiatives, such as syndicated loans or swap arrangements, would help to manage the stock of public debt. In addition, policy makers can harness alternative sources of financing such as Environmental, Social and Governance bonds. To develop bond markets, the Outlook recommends establishing robust frameworks of classification and certification and dedicated regulatory frameworks, increasing the supply of sovereign bonds, and improving the incentives for investors to participate in the markets. Insurance-linked securities can provide additional financial coverage against extreme events. Regional co-operation, for instance in the form of pandemic-risk pools, can also support the post-pandemic recovery.

Bond markets in Emerging Asia require stronger institutional and legal frameworks, investor protection, transparency, liquidity and market infrastructure. These needs are particularly apparent in countries with less developed markets. Improving financial literacy in Emerging Asia would help investors better understand complex financial instruments – thus promoting greater market participation.

Immigration Law



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Maria is the Global and National Immigration Leader and Legal Principal of BDO Migration Services, an incorporated legal practice which specialises in all aspects of Australian immigration and nationality law for corporate and private clients. Maria is an Accredited Specialist in Immigration Law and leads BDO's Global Immigration Services which operate in nearly 100 countries around the world.

Acknowledged as one of Australia's leading specialists in immigration law, Maria brings a unique depth and breadth of immigration law and corporate and commercial-related legal experience from her years in private practice and government service. Maria leads a team of lawyers dedicated to providing strategic, expert and practical advice and business solutions in visa and migration-related requirements who achieve an enviable record of successful applications.

Maria acts for leading corporations and private clients to provide a premium service with outstanding results. Maria's practice incorporates all aspects of immigration law including Employer Temporary and Permanent Residency applications, Government Agencies, International Education, Labour Agreements and Governance, Risk and Compliance, Business Skills Migration, complex matters involving health and character issues, Skilled Migration, Review Applications at the Administrative Appeals Tribunal, Citizenship and Ministerial Submissions.

Maria is listed in *Who's Who Legal: Corporate Immigration* (2010–2022) and is nominated in the peer-reviewed *Best Lawyers* (2008–2022). Maria's peers continue to nominate her in *Who's Who Legal* as one of the world's leading practitioners in this field.

A prolific author, Maria's works include the book *457 Visa Law: Addressing Australia's Skilled Labour Shortage* (Thomson Reuters, 2008), the Australian chapter of the *International Comparative Legal Guide to: Corporate Immigration* (2017–2022) and *Who's Who Legal – Thought Leaders* (2020–2022). Maria also contributes to *Who's Who Legal* featured articles offering unique insights into Australian Immigration Law (2015–2022).

A sought-after national and international presenter, most recently Maria has spoken at the International Bar Association (IBA) Annual Conference in October 2017; the IBA 8th Biennial Global Conference in November 2017, the IBA Annual Conference in September 2019 and the 9th Biennial Global IBA Immigration Conference 2019, the Law Council of Australia in 2020, the Law Institute of Victoria and the Legalwise Seminars Annual Immigration Law Symposiums in 2021.

Maria is a member of the Migration Law Committee of the Law Council of Australia, the Migration Law Committee of the Law Institute of Victoria, the Citizenship and Nationality Section of the International Bar Association and the Migration Institute of Australia.

Maria's former roles include member of the executive committee of the international law section of the Law Council of Australia, convener of the Immigration Lawyers Association of Australasia of the Law Council of Australia, founding member of the advisory committee on immigration law specialisation of the Law Institute of Victoria as well as its accredited specialisation education advisory committee. Maria was a member of the National Immigration Specialisation Committee for Immigration Law, a member of the Nationality and Population Council, a member of the Family Law Council of Australia, a member of the Advisory Council to the Office of Multicultural Affairs, deputy chair of the Victorian Ethnic Affairs Commission, consultant to the Law Reform Commission, consultant to the Australian Council of Education and Research in the development of the Migration Agents Examination and an Accredited Specialist in Family Law.

Immigration Law



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Rebecca combines her postgraduate qualifications in law and business management, with her legal advocacy skills and experience to provide dedicated immigration and advisory services to a wide range of clients in all aspects of corporate immigration and related matters.

Providing expert visa and related services, Rebecca achieves exceptional results and business solutions to meet global mobility, risk management and compliance and related requirements.

Rebecca works extensively with senior HR personnel, Boards and Directors to align talent and risk strategies and achieve outstanding, effective and timely advice and business solutions.

Services

- Employer-sponsored temporary and permanent entry visas
- Corporate governance, due diligence and regulatory compliance
- Complex Matters involving health and character issues
- Skilled migration
- Visa cancellations
- Citizenship
- International education
- Federal Court applications
- Ministerial submissions

Qualifications and Affiliations

- Bachelor of Science
- Graduate Certificate of Australian Migration Law and Practice
- Graduate Diploma in Psychology
- Graduate Diploma of Legal Practice
- Master of Business Administration
- Master of Laws (Juris Doctor)
- Solicitor, Supreme Court of Victoria
- Member, Law Institute of Victoria
- Member, Law Council of Australia
- Member, International Bar Association
- Accredited Mental Health First Aider (MHFAider)

Office of the Migration Agents Registration Authority

- Previous MARN 1700332
- Australian legal practitioner number (LPN) 5510299

Publications

- Corporate Immigration Report 2021-2022 Australia, The International Comparative Legal Guides
- Corporate Immigration Report 2020-2021 Australia, The International Comparative Legal Guides

Intellectual Property Law



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Mishbah is a corporate lawyer practicing at the Supreme Court of Bangladesh, and is the Managing Partner of Old Bailey Chambers, Dhaka. He obtained LL. B (Hons) and Post Graduate Degree in Law from the United Kingdom, and was called to the Bar of England and Wales from the Lincoln's Inn in March 2005. Mishbah later on pursued an LL.M Degree in Competition Law at the Kings College, London.

Mishbah specializes in the areas of Intellectual Property, Emerging Technology, IT and Telecommunication, Competition (Antitrust), Data Protection, Media & Entertainment and Defamation, International Commercial Law and Constitutional Law matters. Mishbah served the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) as a National Consultant for Bangladesh's accession to the Madrid Treaty for Trademarks, and had previously served as an IPR Consultant for the Access to Information Program under the Prime Minister's Office, Bangladesh.

Mishbah's notable engagements in the recent years include spearheading the enactment of the Customs IPR (Export & Import) Rules, 2019 in Bangladesh, advising Japan Tobacco International (JTI) in a USD 1.5 billion-dollar acquisition in 2018 (the largest acquisition in Bangladesh till date), advising VEON Telecom for acquiring the largest video-on-demand and streaming platform company in Bangladesh, assisting leading pharmaceutical companies, i.e. Pfizer Inc., and Gilead Sciences, to enforce their Intellectual Property Rights (Patent and Trademark) in life saving drugs during 2016-2020, and acting for CASIO Japan and NESTLE Bangladesh Limited for enforcing their Trademark rights at the border through restraining imports of CASIO and NESTLE products by parallel importers in complex litigations in 2019.

In 2015 Mishbah assisted Microsoft Bangladesh Limited to enforce its copyright and successfully claimed damages for infringement of Microsoft's copyright in software, represented SAMSUNG Electronics Limited in a ground-breaking litigation to prohibit parallel imports, sell and distribution of unauthorized SAMSUNG branded goods into Bangladesh, and offered advisory services in a large merger & acquisition transaction by rendering advise on the competition law impact in the e-commerce market resulting from the merger of two leading e-commerce companies in Bangladesh.

Mishbah assisted the music fraternity of Bangladesh to establish the first ever Collective Management Organization (CMO) in Bangladesh in 2014, and played key role, as a Member to the Drafting Committee for the Copyright Amendment Act, for introduction of a robust Copyright Law in Bangladesh.

In his legal career spanned over 16 years, Mishbah has played a pivotal role, and was engaged in various capacities for shaping and framing various legislations and policies which includes drafting of the National ICT Policy 2009, Licensing Guidelines for Vehicle Tracking Services, reviewing the draft Geographical Indication Act, 2013, draft Broadcasting Policy 2014, draft Digital Security Act, 2018, and the draft Digital Commerce Policy, 2018.

He currently serves as a Member to the Committee for Emerging Issues of International Trademarks Association (INTA) for the term 2020-2021, and to the Copyright Taskforce of Bangladesh functioning under Ministry of Cultural Affairs.

In 2011 Mishbah founded Bangladesh Intellectual Property Forum (www.bcipf.org). He runs a legal aid centre called "IP Plus Law Clinic" and in 2018 initiated and founded LexOration.

Art Law

IP Licensing; Private Client; Wine Law



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Ms. Angell Xi has 25 years' rich experiences in legal practice and business management, as a recognized expert in Art, IP Licensing, Luxury and Fashion, and Private Client.

Prior to JTGC, Ms. Xi was in house for 12 years, including as Asia Pacific General Counsel for GEIP and Ashland, Asia Leading Compliance for Kering and Michelin China Counsel, which equipped her with sophisticated corporate management skills and solid leadership.

Ms. Xi is Senior Vice Chair of IBA Art Law Committee, Board Member of Licensing International, Director of Art Law Committee under Shanghai Law Society. Ms. Xi is invited Tutor for KoGuan Law School, Shanghai Jiaotong University and Law School, Wu Han University.

As leader in Art Law, Ms. Xi is proficient in advising art businesses with solutions, assisting clients in art creation, transaction, collection, promotion, protection, art finance and investment, art for philanthropy, art business operation, art licensing, performance, etc. Art clients Ms. Xi advises include: world-class international and Chinese museums, cultural heritages, institutions and NGOs; culture and tourism government authorities; galleries, dealers, auction houses; art investors including art funds, trustee; collectors; art foundations; art licensing business players; artists, studios, performing art artists and players; families of artists. The art fields Ms. Xi has been advising include fine art such as painting, calligraphy, ceramics, sculpture, installation, decorative art and industrial design as well as performing arts like dancing, music, orchestra, theatre and immersive theatre, musical, opera, symphony, etc. For years, Ms. Xi leads a team to successfully guard Chinese art to "Go Abroad", and international art to "Come to China".

In IP Licensing, Ms. Xi is proficient in assisting clients to invest into and manage intellectual properties all over the world, with value-added and business-driven services beyond legal, based on her MNCs experiences and cross-function and cross-business management skills and leadership. For years, Ms. Xi has worked closely with property owners, licensors, licensees, agents, associations, and government agencies to safeguard clients' interests and promote licensing as a platform to empower.

In Private Client practice, Ms. Xi is proficient in advising clients with tailor-made world class services, so as to meet clients' diversified needs, esp. in art as alternative investment and assets for private clients and their family offices, art as joy for collection, art for philanthropy (e.g., private museums, foundations, trusts), art for heritage, etc.

Ms. Xi's recognition in recent years include: "2021 China Top 15 Compliance Lawyer" by LEGALBAND, "2021 China Private Wealth Management Leading Lawyer" by LEGALBAND, "2020 China Top 15 Family Wealth Management Lawyers" by LEGALBAND, "2020 China 'Art' and 'Art Dispute' Legal Expert" by Global Law Experts, "2020-2022 The World's Leading Trademark Practitioner" by WTR1000, "2019 ALB China Top 15 IP Lawyers" by ALB, "2019 China Business Law Journal A-List Elite Lawyers" by CBLJ, and leads team to be "Art Dispute Law Firm of the Year", "Art Law Firm of the Year", both in 2020, 2021, 2022 by Corporate INTL and "Art Law Firm of the Year in China" both in 2019 and 2020, by Global Law Experts.

Ms. Xi is the author/co-author of the Art Law, Luxury and Fashion Law, Trademark Law, Private Client Law, etc.

Capital Markets Law

Corporate/M&A Law;
Venture Capital Law



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Mr. Daniel Lee is a partner in Jingtian & Gongcheng's Shanghai office. Prior to joining us, Mr. Lee worked at some leading law firms for over 10 years, including Davis Polk LLP, Morrison & Foerster LLP and Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP in Shanghai and Hong Kong.

Mr. Lee's practice focuses on securities offerings and capital markets, cross-border mergers and acquisitions, foreign direct investment and general corporate matters. Mr. Lee has been involved in several dozens of securities offerings by PRC, Hong Kong or Taiwan companies in such industries as banking, high technology, energy, real estate and infrastructure. Mr. Lee has also been extensively involved in cross-border mergers and acquisitions involving PRC companies.

Mr. Lee was awarded as one of "2021 ALB China Top 15 M&A Lawyers" in March 2021 by Asian Legal Business, a magazine owned by Thomson Reuters.

Education Background

- 2001, Harvard Law School, LL.M
- 1997, Taiwan University, LL.M
- 1994, Taiwan University, LL.B

Bar Admissions

- 2011, People's Republic of China Bar Admission
- 2001, New York State Bar Admission
- 1995, Taiwan Bar Admission

Representative Cases

- Representing the underwriter for RLX Technology Inc. listing in NYSE
- Representing the underwriter for FIT Hon Teng Limited (a supplier of Foxconn) listing in HK
- Representing the issuing company or the underwriter for various cases listing (and new issuance) in Taiwan, including Pegatron Corp., 85°C, TPK Holding, Huatong Group, GSD Group, Trendpower Group and a large-scale real estate development company
- Representing Citi Bank as the legal adviser to the underwriter in a US\$350 million ADR offering by AU Optronics Corp.
- Representing Citi Bank as the legal adviser to the underwriter in a US\$250 million CB offering by Epistar Corp.
- Representing Merrill Lynch, UBS, Deutsche Bank and hedge fund ABAX in their pre-IPO investments in PIPE high yield/convertible debt with warrants issued by various issuers with operations in China, including Xinyuan (NYSE: XIN), Harbin Electric (NASDAQ: HRBN), Fushi Copperweld, Inc. (NASDAQ: FSIN), China Natural Gas (NASDAQ: CHNG), 7 Days Inn (NYSE: SVN), China Mobile Media (NASDAQ: CHL) and China Security & Surveillance Technology (traded on OTCBB of the U.S.)
- Representing Hurray! Holding Co., Ltd. (providing value-added telecommunications services, and acquired by SNDA later) for listing on NASDAQ
- Representing Hurray! Holding Co., Ltd. and Linktone for its compliance with the U.S. Securities Law and relevant annual reports and announcements
- Representing Cathay Financial Holdings Corp. (the largest financial holding company in Taiwan) for a global ADR offering (awarded by Asia-Money Magazine as the "Best Equity Deal of the Year Award" for 2004)

Corporate Law

International Law



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Roberto Gilardino is Regional Partner at Horizons, supervising the advisory's activities in North Asia as well as additional countries (including Cyprus, Indonesia, Korea, Malaysia, Singapore).

From the Horizons lead office in the heart of Shanghai, Roberto directs the team in serving both inbound and outbound investments in China. With over 40 years in international transactions, Roberto understands that misinterpreting cultural nuances can be significant dealbreakers in international transactions and equips the team with cross-cultural communication and understanding to bridge crucial gaps. In this manner, legal, accountancy and tax professionals can work closely with clients to nimbly identify and tackle their corporate challenges in an evolving legal landscape – without cultural obstacles.

Unlike the traditional legal practice, Roberto leads the team to understand real-world challenges with a down-to-earth approach. Through building long-term rapport and conveying legal doctrine with clarity and accessibility, the team comprehensively equip clients with legal and corporate tools to launch and govern investments abroad. As a result, information is clearly conveyed clients so they can fully evaluate their choices and decipher the next steps – all in compliance with the local, national, and international law.

Roberto's current work include structuring global operations for multinational, leading an acquisition transaction in a blue ocean market and overseeing Sino European merger in automotives.

Additionally, at Horizons, a worldwide team in over 40 jurisdictions is leveraged to serve clients without language, geographical or cultural barriers. Namely, the client is designated a local team in their country or region to navigate them through unfamiliar jurisdictions. In the comfort of the client's home country or region, the Horizons team can deliver global results through local gateway and erase cultural and geographical obstacles.

Prior to joining Horizons, Roberto served professionally in ministries, governmental bodies, and the private sector, primarily in China.

An Italian national, Roberto is fluent in Italian, English, Mandarin Chinese, and Japanese.

Corporate/M&A Law

Venture Capital Law;
Capital Markets Law



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Dispute Resolution

Trade Law; International Investment Law;
Franchise Law



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Dr Wang is the founding partner of BHP. Dedicated to providing superior services to clients around the world, BHP wins high and wide praise for assisting its clients in achieving satisfactory results. Dr Wang specialises in commercial arbitration & litigation, trade remedies, international investment arbitration, international trade and investment, etc.

Dr Wang obtained his Doctor of Laws, Master of Laws and Bachelor of Economics from the University of International Business and Economics (UIBE). He used to serve as the deputy dean of the UIBE Law School, the director of the International Business and WTO Specialized Committee of All China Lawyers Association, the director of the International Investment and Trade Committee of the Beijing Lawyers Association, a council member of Beijing Lawyers Association. He also once worked as a joint tutor for LLM at Tsinghua University Law School and an adjunct professor at China University of Political Science and Law.

Dr Wang currently serves as an arbitrator of the International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID) (only four in China), China International Economic and Trade Arbitration Commission (CIETAC), Beijing Arbitration Commission/Beijing International Arbitration Center (BAC/BIAC), Shanghai International Economic and Trade Arbitration Commission/Shanghai International Arbitration Center (SHIAC), Shenzhen Court of International Arbitration (SCIA), Hainan International Arbitration Court (HNAC), China Chongqing Arbitration Commission (CQAC), Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre (HKIAC), International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) Court of Arbitration and the Arbitration Center Across the Straits (ACAS).

In the field of trade remedies, Dr Wang acted as the leading counsel for petitioners in China's first anti-dumping case, first countervailing case and first anti-dumping and countervailing investigation. He also acted as the leading counsel for the Chinese government in a series of world spotlighted cases in respect of the safeguard measures on imports of certain steel products imposed by the United States.

In the field of litigation and arbitration, Dr Wang has represented many well-known corporations in hundreds of complex cases, including those before CIETAC, BAC/BIAC, HKIAC, ICC Arbitration Court, Arbitration Institute of the Stockholm Chamber of Commerce (SCC), Asian International Arbitration Center (AIAC) and other arbitration institutions, as well as litigation cases in the Supreme People's Court of China and provincial high people's courts. He has also assisted clients as a Chinese law expert witness in various overseas arbitration and litigation cases.

Dr Wang has published a variety of academic papers on international commercial law, and established the WeChat official account of "Huanzhong Commercial Arbitration", serving as the editor-in-chief and writer.

Dr Wang is a leading figure in international trade and investment law in China, enjoying high reputation and international prestige with many awards. Chambers has rated him as an "Eminent Practitioner" in international trade law for consecutive years (2010-present) and as one of the "Most in Demand Arbitrators" in China in 2022. Dr Wang has also been awarded as a National Outstanding Lawyer, Outstanding Lawyer, and Outstanding Firm Director by All China Lawyers Association, Beijing Municipal Bureau of Justice and Beijing Lawyers Association for many times.

Dispute Resolution

Banking & Finance; Civil &
Commercial Dispute Resolution



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Xie Yu started Practicing from 1995 and worked in the Clifford Chance Frankfurt Office, representing many Chinese and foreign clients in arbitrations and lawsuits and advising many Chinese and foreign financial institutions in their cross-border financing projects. The main representations include:

Commercial Arbitration and Lawsuits

- Representing CEIEC HK Limited and Tianjin Zhongwang Aluminum Co., Ltd. In CIETAC's arbitration case;
- Representing CGGC International Engineering Co., Ltd. And CGGC Overseas Investment Co., Ltd. In CIETAC's arbitration case
- Representing KPMG China Beijing Branch in CIETAC's arbitration case
- Representing China Datang Corporation in CIETAC's arbitration case
- Representing Jiangsu Zhongneng Silicon Technoogy Development Co., Ltd. In CIETAC's arbitration case
- Representing Joyee Package Technology Co., Ltd. In CIETAC's arbitration case
- Representing Suzhou American Superconductor Co., Ltd. In BAC's arbitration case
- Representing Guodian Nanjing Automation Co., Ltd. In BAC's arbitration case
- Representing Jiuyuantianheng (Beijing) Science and Technology Co., in Rizhao Arbitration Commission' case;
- Representing Beijing Namkwong Petroleum and Chemical Industry Co. Ltd. and Dalian Namkwong Petroleum and Chemical Industry Co. Ltd. in its sale contract and bill dispute cases
- Representing China Huadian Engineering Co., Ltd. in its EPC dispute case of Solar Power Plant;
- Representing Hainan Sun Greenyard Real Estate Development Co., Ltd. in its project development cooperation agreement dispute case;
- Representing Malaysia Poh Huat Resources Holding BERHAD in its share transfer contract dispute case
- Representing Shanxi Shentou Electric Power Industry Co., Ltd. in the retrial case by the Supreme Court
- Representing Inter Magnolia Huomeihongjun Aluminum and Power Co., Ltd. in its enforcement objection case
- Representing China Kangfu International Leasing Co., Ltd. in its financial lease dispute cases.

Cross-border Finance

- Advising Chinese and foreign bank syndication in its RMB3.2 billion lending to Yamal LNG project jointly invested by China and Russia;
- Advised China Minsheng Bank in its RMB400 million and USD35 million lending to Indonesia iron mining project;
- Advising China Guangdong Nuclear Power Corporation in the 1.8 billion USD financing project of its uranium mine in Namibia;
- Advising Standard Chartered Bank (Hong Kong) Limited on its 620 million HKD lending to Binhai Holding (Tianjin) Co., Ltd.

Energy & Natural Resources Law

Capital Markets;
Infrastructures



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Mr. Wang has practiced law since he obtained the bar in 1993. He has practiced for 28 years, specializing in energy and infrastructure, international finance, overseas financing, domestic and overseas IPOs, overseas direct investment, foreign investment, project financing, municipal administration and EPC Legal consultation and dispute resolution for engineering, PPP, etc. He is one of the first domestic professionals to obtain the "BOT/BOOT" professional training certificate from the Asian Development Bank and the International Development Law Institute.

Mr. Wang is currently appointed as the legal adviser of the Ministry of Finance, the member of council of the Chinese Society of International Law, the executive member of council of the Lawyers Law Research Association of the Chinese Law Society, the member of the "Bar Committee" and the "Energy and Resources Committee" of the International Bar Association, and the arbitrator of China International Economic and Trade Arbitration Commission, arbitrator of the Kuala Lumpur Regional Arbitration Center, mediator of the China International Chamber of Commerce Mediation Center, legal experts in the PPP expert database of the Ministry of Finance, experts in the legal advisory group of the People's Government of Hainan Province, director of the Beijing Lawyers Association, and outside director of Beijing Infrastructure Investment Co., Ltd., guest researcher of the Central University of Finance and Economics Government and Social Capital Cooperation Governance Research Institute, Beijing Municipal People's Congress Legislation Consultant, Beijing Municipal Bidding and Bidding Evaluation Expert, Beijing Da Xing District People's Government Legal Consultant, selected as Beijing Senior Legal Talent Pool, China Water Internet expert, member of the National Thermal Power Professional Committee, member of the editorial board of "Business Law" magazine, member of the Lex-neix Corporate Law Practice Guide Expert Committee, director of the Beijing Bar Association Lawyers Industry Development Research Committee, Interlex Group Global Director.

Mr. Wang has provided legal counsel to clients including: China State Grid Corporation, China Datang Corporation, China Huadian Corporation, China State Power Investment Corporation, China CRRC, China Power Investment Corporation, China Nanguang Group, Xinjiang Special Power Transformer, China Galaxy, General Motors, Germany Siemens Joint Stock Company, Swiss ABB Company, American AT&T Company, General Electric Company, American IBM Company, Norwegian Shipping Company, Singapore Sembcorp Utilities Company, Singapore Sembcorp Energy Company, American AES Company, American Southern Power Company, American INTERGEN Company, ISO GLOBAL INFRASTRUCTURE, British Electric Power Company, Export-Import Bank of Japan, Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi, Norwegian Export Credit Bank, Hong Kong and China Electric Power Co., Ltd., EDF, GCL Holding Group, etc.



Angela Su Qi
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Property Rights ('IPRS')
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Angela SU Qi is Partner, Head of IPR at Horizons, and oversees the operations team at Horizons China.

As a seasoned IPRS expert, Angela holds extensive experience in handling diverse IPRS cases related to China. Specifically, she has formulated IPRS strategies for inbound and outbound investors in China and advised several high-profile cases to safeguard trademark rights. Equally, she monitors the development of IPRS legislation in China as it strengthens the protection of intellectual protection to adapt the economy from high-speed growth to high-quality development. Hence, Angela's expertise provides specialised knowledge and finesse for both clients venturing in or out of China.

In her multi-facet role as Head of Operations, Angela steers the operations team to advise primarily foreign investors in China. From pre-investment to daily management and ultimately winding up, the team enable shareholders to remotely govern their Chinese subsidiary, especially under restricted travel to China. Under Angela's leadership, multidisciplinary professionals collaborate to ensure correct legal, tax and accountancy framework is implemented.

Angela's current work includes formulating IPRS strategies for a European FCCG group in China, overseeing trademark infringement cases, and leading licensing negotiations for international companies investing in China. Additionally, she has led IPRS cases for Chinese groups and enterprises investing abroad such as IPRS layout, defense strategy, infringement analysis, cross-border rights and technology disputes and alternative dispute resolutions. Angela is a regular and sought-after speaker for IPRS development in China.

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Angela has studied and worked in Europe for more than 10 years and holds experience at the World Intellectual Property Organisation ('WIPO') in Geneva, Switzerland. Her international experience has equipped her with in-depth knowledge of European IPRS protection and WIPO's framework and services related to trademark, patents and so forth.

Prior to Horizons, Angela served in a number of law firms, acted as IPRS consultant to multinationals investing in China.

Licensing (IP Licensing) Law

Art Law, Private Client; Wine Law



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Ms. Angell Xi has 25 years' rich experiences in legal practice and business management, as a recognized expert in Art, IP Licensing, Luxury and Fashion, and Private Client.

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Ms. Xi is the author/co-author of the Art Law, Luxury and Fashion Law, Trademark Law, Private Client Law, etc.

Litigation

Dispute Resolution; Construction;
Investment Funds

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Daorina is a senior partner of Dentons, serving as a member of the Advisory Board of Beijing Dentons Office, a member of the Beijing Office Management Committee, the director of the Second Business Department, and the executive director of the China Dispute Resolution Committee. He has 30 years of practical experience in the field of dispute resolution, and has been awarded the title of Beijing Outstanding Lawyer.

Daorina has been continuously devoted to the contract dispute resolution domain and understanding the relevant laws, rules and regulations that apply to practice for almost 20 years. Together with 13 years' experience as a judge – where he witnessed the full process of China's legal system of contract law from scattered to unified – he has a deep understanding and rich practical experience in contract dispute resolution.

Daorina was awarded Contract Disputes Lawyer of the Year in China by Corporate INTL and Global Law Experts for two consecutive years in 2018 and 2019. Describing how the firm distinguishes itself, Daorina stated that it is “driven to challenge the status quo”, adding that it delivers “consistent and uncompromising quality and value to our clients in new and innovative ways.”

“Moreover, we are polycentric-Dentons has no single headquarters and no dominant national culture,” he continued. “Diverse in terms of geography language and nationalities, we proudly offer clients talent from diverse backgrounds and countries with deep experience in every legal tradition in the world.”

Dentons' clients include the national government units, institutions, large state-owned enterprises, as well as well-known global, 500-strong enterprises. In one recent case, the firm represented Qingdao YI Jia Economic and Trade Co, Ltd Vs Tianjin Weierke Petroleum Chemical Co, Ltd. over a warehousing contract dispute.

M&A Law

Corporate; Dispute Resolutions



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Ms. Fang (Helen) Liu is the Director of International Practice Group of Beijing Tiantai Law Firm. She is licensed to practice law both in China (PRC) and in the United States (New York, California, Michigan and Washington D.C.).

Ms. Liu received her LL.B. degree from Peking University Law School in 1999; her J.D., magna cum laude (top 1%, 2 out of 438, with 19 book awards), from Western Michigan University Cooley Law School in 2013; and her LL.M. from the University of California, Berkeley School of Law in 2014, with Certificate of Specialization in Business Law.

Ms. Liu is specialized in Corporate Law, Cross-border M&A, Private Equity, IP Licensing, and Foreign-related dispute resolutions. She is the legal counsel for many traditional and high-tech enterprises and provides foreign-related legal services for many domestic and international clients. Ms. Liu has successfully helped many clients on numerous cross-border transactions.

While Ms. Liu practiced law in China before 2009, she was the General Counsel of Stellar MegaMedia Group and a Corporate Attorney at Tiantai Law Firm. While she was in the United States between 2009 and 2017, she interned with Honorable Justice Stephen Markman at the Michigan Supreme Court, with Honorable Judge Christopher Yates at the 17 Circuit Business Court in Michigan, and worked at Dickinson Wright PLLC, where she was the only attorney who was qualified to practice law both in China and in the United States.

Ms. Liu returned to China in 2018. Soon she was honored the “2020 Asialaw Leading Lawyer in the field of Corporate and M&A,” the “2021 Deal Maker Award” by Finance Monthly, the “Lawyer of the Year 2021” in the field of Corporate Law by Lawyer Monthly, and the “Global Law Expert on Corporate and M&A,” among many others.

Ms. Liu is also a Senior Research Fellow of UC Berkeley Center for Law & Technology (BCLT), co-authored the famous book IP Strategy For Business with Prof. Robert Merges at UC Berkeley law school.

Private Client Law

Art Law, IP Licensing,
Private Client; Wine Law



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Ms. Xi is the author/co-author of the Art Law, Luxury and Fashion Law, Trademark Law, Private Client Law, etc.

Venture Capital Law

Corporate/M&A Law;
Capital Markets Law



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Mr. Daniel Lee is a partner in Jingtian & Gongcheng's Shanghai office. Prior to joining us, Mr. Lee worked at some leading law firms for over 10 years, including Davis Polk LLP, Morrison & Foerster LLP and Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP in Shanghai and Hong Kong.

Mr. Lee's practice focuses on securities offerings and capital markets, cross-border mergers and acquisitions, foreign direct investment and general corporate matters. Mr. Lee has been involved in several dozens of securities offerings by PRC, Hong Kong or Taiwan companies in such industries as banking, high technology, energy, real estate and infrastructure. Mr. Lee has also been extensively involved in cross-border mergers and acquisitions involving PRC companies.

Mr. Lee was awarded as one of "2021 ALB China Top 15 M&A Lawyers" in March 2021 by Asian Legal Business, a magazine owned by Thomson Reuters.

Education Background

- 2001, Harvard Law School, LLM
- 1997, Taiwan University, LLM
- 1994, Taiwan University, LLB

Bar Admissions

- 2011, People's Republic of China Bar Admission
- 2001, New York State Bar Admission
- 1995, Taiwan Bar Admission

Representative Cases

- Representing the underwriter for RLX Technology Inc. listing in NYSE.
- Representing the underwriter for FIT Hon Teng Limited (a supplier of Foxconn) listing in HK.
- Representing the issuing company or the underwriter for various cases listing (and new issuance) in Taiwan, including Pegatron Corp., 85°C, TPK Holding, Huatong Group, GSD Group, Trendpower Group and a large-scale real estate development company.
- Representing Citi Bank as the legal adviser to the underwriter in a US\$350 million ADR offering by AU Optronics Corp.
- Representing Citi Bank as the legal adviser to the underwriter in a US\$250 million CB offering by Epistar Corp.
- Representing Merrill Lynch, UBS, Deutsche Bank and hedge fund ABAX in their pre-IPO investments in PIPE high yield/convertible debt with warrants issued by various issuers with operations in China, including Xinyuan (NYSE: XIN), Harbin Electric (NASDAQ: HRBN), Fushi Copperweld, Inc. (NASDAQ: FSIN), China Natural Gas (NASDAQ: CHNG), 7 Days Inn (NYSE: SVN), China Mobile Media (NASDAQ: CHL) and China Security & Surveillance Technology (traded on OTCBB of the U.S.).
- Representing Hurray! Holding Co., Ltd. (providing value-added telecommunications services, and acquired by SNDA later) for listing on NASDAQ.
- Representing Hurray! Holding Co., Ltd. and Linktone for its compliance with the U.S. Securities Law and relevant annual reports and announcements.
- Representing Cathay Financial Holdings Corp. (the largest financial holding company in Taiwan) for a global ADR offering (awarded by Asia-Money Magazine as the "Best Equity Deal of the Year Award" for 2004).

Wine Law

Art Law, IP Licensing,
Private Client; Wine Law



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Ms. Angell Xi has 25 years' rich experiences in legal practice and business management, as a recognized expert in Art, IP Licensing, Luxury and Fashion, and Private Client.

Prior to JTGC, Ms. Xi was in house for 12 years, including as Asia Pacific General Counsel for GEIP and Ashland, Asia Leading Compliance for Kering and Michelin China Counsel, which equipped her with sophisticated corporate management skills and solid leadership.

Ms. Xi is Senior Vice Chair of IBA Art Law Committee, Board Member of Licensing International, Director of Art Law Committee under Shanghai Law Society. Ms. Xi is invited Tutor for KoGuan Law School, Shanghai Jiaotong University and Law School, Wu Han University.

As leader in Art Law, Ms. Xi is proficient in advising art businesses with solutions, assisting clients in art creation, transaction, collection, promotion, protection, art finance and investment, art for philanthropy, art business operation, art licensing, performance, etc. Art clients Ms. Xi advises include: world-class international and Chinese museums, cultural heritages, institutions and NGOs; culture and tourism government authorities; galleries, dealers, auction houses; art investors including art funds, trustee; collectors; art foundations; art licensing business players; artists, studios, performing art artists and players; families of artists. The art fields Ms. Xi has been advising include fine art such as painting, calligraphy, ceramics, sculpture, installation, decorative art and industrial design as well as performing arts like dancing, music, orchestra, theatre and immersive theatre, musical, opera, symphony, etc. For years, Ms. Xi leads a team to successfully guard Chinese art to "Go Abroad", and international art to "Come to China".

In IP Licensing, Ms. Xi is proficient in assisting clients to invest into and manage intellectual properties all over the world, with value-added and business-driven services beyond legal, based on her MNCs experiences and cross-function and cross-business management skills and leadership. For years, Ms. Xi has worked closely with property owners, licensors, licensees, agents, associations, and government agencies to safeguard clients' interests and promote licensing as a platform to empower.

In Private Client practice, Ms. Xi is proficient in advising clients with tailor-made world class services, so as to meet clients' diversified needs, esp. in art as alternative investment and assets for private clients and their family offices, art as joy for collection, art for philanthropy (e.g., private museums, foundations, trusts), art for heritage, etc.

Ms. Xi's recognition in recent years include: "2021 China Top 15 Compliance Lawyer" by LEGALBAND, "2021 China Private Wealth Management Leading Lawyer" by LEGALBAND, "2020 China Top 15 Family Wealth Management Lawyers" by LEGALBAND, "2020 China 'Art' and 'Art Dispute' Legal Expert" by Global Law Experts, "2020-2022 The World's Leading Trademark Practitioner" by WTR1000, "2019 ALB China Top 15 IP Lawyers" by ALB, "2019 China Business Law Journal A-List Elite Lawyers" by CBLJ, and leads team to be "Art Dispute Law Firm of the Year", "Art Law Firm of the Year", both in 2020, 2021, 2022 by Corporate INTL and "Art Law Firm of the Year in China" both in 2019 and 2020, by Global Law Experts.

Ms. Xi is the author/co-author of the Art Law, Luxury and Fashion Law, Trademark Law, Private Client Law, etc.

Commercial Contracts Law



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Szeto Wai Sun's scope of service covers corporate and commercial matters; contracts; business organization, from set up to dissolution; and dispute resolution. His early practice also involved a lot of conveyancing works, and he has advised in a number of New Territories Small House developments.

His clientele includes medium to high net-worth individuals, SME's and listed companies; and his works range from corporate mergers and re-structuring, loan documentation, share sale, joint ventures, partnerships, to all matters SME's usually encounter. He has also taken part in corporate re-structuring, loan syndications, mergers and loan re-structuring of listed companies in Hong Kong. For individual clients, his works mainly involves private wealth management, including setting up of trusts, drawing of wills and succession of estate.

Prior to setting up this firm, Szeto Wai Sun had been the managing partner of another law firm for almost a decade.

Szeto Wai Sun has advised a number of credit unions in Hong Kong, and has shown keen interest in the credit union movement there. He also serves as an Independent Non-Executive Director for a Hong Kong listed company, Bright Smart Securities & Commodities Group Limited, since 2010. He is honorary legal advisor to a number of bodies associated with the Hong Kong Police and the Peking University.

He speaks fluent Cantonese and English, and is able to communicate effectively in Putonghua.

Education

- Non-Executive Director Professional Diploma, The Financial Times, 2017
- Professional Certificate in Chinese Civil and Commercial Law, TsingHua University and the University of Hong Kong, 2002
- Postgraduate Certificate in Laws, University of Hong Kong, 1983
- Bachelor of Laws (Hons), University of Hong Kong, 1982

Social Affiliations

- Fellow, The Hong Kong Institute of Directors
- Member, The Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce
- Member, Friends of Hong Kong Association Limited
- Full Member, Royal Hong Kong Yacht Club

Other Professional Qualifications

- Notary Public

Sun Lawyers LLP

Sun Lawyers LLP is a Hong Kong-based medium-sized law firm that was converted to a limited liability partnership ("LLP") in 2017. Established since 2003, we aim to provide an integrated and comprehensive range of legal services to our international and local clientele.

Our philosophy is to provide a down-to-earth approach in delivering quality services and developing long-term client relationship. Our members strive to listen to our clients and understand their needs, thereby offering bespoke and cost-effective services to meet them.

Whilst we provide a wide range of services covering corporate and family matters, civil and criminal litigations as well as commercial and property transactions, wills and probate, notarization (notary public and China-Appointed attestation), our expanding practice will aim to broaden our scope to include IPO, corporate finance, trust, asset management and cross-border matters, as we see a rising demand in these areas. We are also committed to providing our clients with alternative dispute resolution services, such as in arbitration and mediation, so as to assist them to resolve disputes more cost-effectively and amicably.

Forensic AccountingValuations; Insolvency &
Restructuring; Investigations

Gwynn Hopkins
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Having previously spent 20+ years working between Hong Kong, the Cayman Islands, the British Virgin Islands and the UK, Gwynn Hopkins founded Perun Consultants in 2017.

Gwynn has worked as an insolvency practitioner and forensic accountant on a wide range of local and cross-border engagements and has a proven track record in the liquidation and restructuring of international financial services companies, particularly those involving complex litigation or with contentious matters to resolve. Having led teams for many years as a partner in the Caribbean and Hong Kong, Gwynn has a thorough understanding of both the onshore and offshore aspects of appointments.

Gwynn has extensive experience in forensic accounting assignments including asset-tracing and recovery engagements; due diligence investigations; and the preparation of loss of profits and asset valuation reports.

Representative engagements:

- Valuation of a financial services group for breach of contract litigation.
- Valuation of a medical device manufacturer for shareholders dissenting to a merger under Cayman Islands S238 proceedings.
- Valuation of an internet company for shareholders dissenting to a merger under Cayman Islands S238 proceedings.
- Valuation of a medical research company for shareholders dissenting to a merger under Cayman Islands S238 proceedings.
- Provision of expert opinion on valuation methodology and whether information sought in discovery was relevant to the valuation process.
- Part of quantum expert defence team in a USD100 million claim against a manufacturer arising from alleged supply of defective goods.
- Valuation fairness opinion and related advisory work in relation to potential M&A transaction involving an insurance brokerage group.
- Serving as a board member of a private equity business to deal with extensive litigation issues and the sale of an operating asset worth in excess of USD1 billion.
- Analysis of financial records of a manufacturing company to assist in recovery action against a former director.
- Expert witness in relation to allegations of fraud in a PRC energy generation group.
- Expert witness in relation to alleged unauthorised transactions in an international property development group.
- Numerous appointments as liquidator or receiver to distressed companies, including extensive cases involving allegations of fraud or requiring asset tracing and recovery.



Hong Kong

Intellectual Property Law

Foundation Establishment; Communications Technology
and Telecommunications; Personal Data
and Personal Data Privacy Obligations



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Angus Forsyth has practised law in Hong Kong as a solicitor since May 1971.

His practice has covered commercial and company law, mergers and acquisitions, intellectual property, information technology, advertising law and personal data privacy extending to all controls upon advertised outreach into the Hong Kong community.

His expertise includes:

- Practical advice on intellectual property law spanning trademarks, designs and patents, intellectual property rights protection, trade mark licensing and assignment.
- Foundation establishment, organising charitable foundations, settlement and donation structures and establishing and structuring educational, medical and religious institutions.
- Industry focus advice on local and cross jurisdictional legal, regulatory and commercial aspects of communications technology and telecommunications.
- Advice on personal and institutional requirements of observance of personal data and personal data privacy obligations.

Anti-Counterfeiting Law



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Rahul Chaudhry & Partners, is a leading full-service law firm. The firm presently has offices at two locations – Delhi and Gurgaon – and is swiftly expanding to become one of the foremost legal advisory practices in India.

The firm has a dynamic business solution practice aimed at providing clients with comprehensive legal advisory services and solutions in multiple practice areas, across all industrial sectors. The firm was established in the year 1983 as Lall Lahiri Salhotra (LLS).

In July 2007, the management was taken over by Mr. Rahul Chaudhry, who is among one of the most "pre-eminent names" in Intellectual Property Law in India.

Mr. Chaudhry acquired 100% ownership rights in LLS | Lall Lahiri & Salhotra on March 31 2013 and as part of the said transition, the name of the firm was changed from LLS | Lall Lahiri & Salhotra to Rahul Chaudhry & Partners on July 01, 2018. The team; its composition and structure – including the partners and complete support staff – continues to be the same as that of LLS.

Rahul Chaudhry & Partners has a reputation for providing exceptional legal services and is renowned for its commitment to excellence. The firm offers detailed and individual advice for protecting its client's ideas, innovations, complex development and know-how. The firm supports its clients in obtaining such protection by handling all facets of IP-related work, including creation, management and protection of large-scale IP portfolios, enforcement, transactions including licensing, assignments and acquisitions, monetisation, strategy and planning for long-term IP optimisation.

The firm's comprehensive range of legal services is custom designed to meet clients' needs and exceeds their expectations. The firm has a young team of fervent and erudite lawyers skilled and experienced in all fields of law. In addition to being proficient in tackling all kinds of complex legal problems, its team has extensive experience in navigating trademark, patent, copyright and design law in India and internationally, as well as a widespread network of associates which enables them to protect the IP rights of their Indian clients across the world. Further, the firm provides the entire range of IP services to international clients in Pakistan, Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh, Myanmar, Sri Lanka and Maldives.

Mr. Chaudhry, Managing Partner of the firm, has a comprehensive repertoire in management and enforcement of IP rights, extensive experience in assessing strategic innovation and legal implications enables him to advise his clients (Indian and overseas) on a range of issues and transactions relating to IP prosecution, enforcement, litigation strategies, portfolio audits, due diligence for acquisitions / divestitures, developing strategies for acquiring, enforcing, maintaining and assigning IP, International Registrations under the Madrid, design patent, copyright, unfair competition, investigations, negotiations vis-a-vis prior third party rights, implementing global filing strategies, corporate IP transactions agreements. Mr. Chaudhry considers business sensitivities and goals while crafting comprehensive intellectual property protection and enforcement strategies, both short and long term, so that clients can secure and maximize the value of their critical intellectual property assets. This has earned him and the firm immense trust of global industry giants in assisting them in protecting and furthering their business goals.

Commercial Litigation/ Commercial Law

Insolvency and Bankruptcy;
Banking and Finance; Insurance Law



Apoorv Sarvaria
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Apoorv Sarvaria is one of the leading lawyers having expertise in Commercial litigation. He is also an Insolvency Professional. He has been a Judge in District Courts, New Delhi. After serving the judicial office for a few years, he returned to law practice and has represented clients and appeared in important commercial matters before the Supreme Court of India, the High Court of Delhi and other important fora in the commercial sector. He is regularly practicing before the Supreme Court of India, High Court of Delhi, NCLAT, NCLTs and other courts, judicial fora and arbitral tribunals.

Apoorv Sarvaria is also an Arbitrator empanelled with many arbitral institutions. As an Insolvency Professional, he has handled assignments as an Interim Resolution Professional and Resolution Professional and has been associated with Corporate Insolvency Resolution Process (CIRP) and liquidation process of companies from different sectors including Steel Industry, IT Sector, real estate sector with many big real estate projects and many more.

He has been associated with some important assignments undertaken by the Judiciary. He has been a master trainer in the E-courts project of the e-Committee of the Supreme Court of India. He has also been a member of the Committee appointed by the Chief Justice's bench of the High Court of Delhi which had framed bye-laws under the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016. He is regularly invited to speak as a resource person by many organisations such as Delhi Judicial Academy, Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI), ICSI Institute of Insolvency Professionals (ICSI IIP), the Indian Law Institute, State Bank Academy and other renowned Institutes. He has also taught Code of Civil Procedure to law students at Xavier Law School, Bhubaneswar, Odisha. Besides, he has been a co-author in various commentaries on different laws including Code of Civil Procedure, Law of Wills, Indian Trusts Act, Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, Prevention of Money Laundering Act, Insurance Act, Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (IRDA) Act, Code of Criminal Procedure, Indian Penal Code and the Negotiable Instruments Act. He has written the India Chapter on International Execution against Judgment Debtors for Thomson Reuters in association with Centre for International Legal Studies (CILS), Austria.

He regularly advises large Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) and many public sector banks on resolution of stressed assets, recovery of large debt accounts and on key issues arising in insolvency and bankruptcy matters. He has also advised many Resolution Professionals who are appointed as such by the NCLTs.

Insolvency Law

Construction Arbitration; Commercial Law;
Banking and Finance



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Yashika Sarvaria has emerged as one of the leading lawyers having expertise in insolvency and bankruptcy laws.

She has authored a book on the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code. She has advised many public sector banks on resolution of stressed assets, recovery of large debt accounts and on key issues arising in insolvency and bankruptcy matters. She has advised many Resolution Professionals in handling Corporate Insolvency Resolution Process of many big companies and has played a key role in resolution of insolvency of many corporates from different sectors including manufacturing, power and infrastructure sectors. She has also authored a Chapter on Corporate Insolvency Resolution under the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016 in the Comparative Law Yearbook of International Business published by Wolters Kluwer and the India Chapter on International Consumer Protection for Juris Publishing LLC.

Yashika Sarvaria has a rich experience in handling international and domestic construction disputes before many arbitral tribunals, advising construction contractors and concessionaires in many infrastructure and commercial projects. As Lenders' Legal Counsel (LLC), she has advised on debt financing of various high-value projects in India relating to infrastructure and power sector. She has also undertaken project documentation and due diligence of large-scale projects. She regularly advises large Public Sector Enterprises (PSUs), namely Power Finance Corporation (PFC), Rural Electrification Corporation (REC), Housing and Urban Development Corporation (HUDCO), Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA), Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI), State Bank of India, Punjab National Bank, Union Bank of India, Indian Institute of Foreign Trade (IIFT) and various International Trading Companies.

IP Litigation

Dispute Resolution;
Corporate Communication;
Privacy and Data Protection



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Anshul Sunil Saurastri is a Partner, Advocate (Attorney-at-Law) and Patent Attorney at Krishna & Saurastri Associates LLP.

His practice includes both contentious and non-contentious matters in intellectual property and corporate-commercial law.

Anshul handles patent, trademark and design preparation and prosecution, oppositions and invalidations. He also handled appellate work. Additionally, he is regularly involved in litigation for matters relating to patent, trademark and design infringement, and unfair competition claims such as passing off, disparagement and defamation. He is also actively involved in issues relating to protection of trade secrets, confidential information, data and privacy. He also handles complaints and disputes related to consumer protection and advertising. From time to time, he also counsels and provides opinions on infringement and invalidity of patents, trademarks and designs, biodiversity laws, etc. He also has hands on experience in handling breach of contract claims. From time to time he is also engaged in conducting due diligence, structuring, negotiating and preparing agreements such as NDAs, JVAs, M&As, business transfers, distribution, agency, licensing, franchising, technology transfer, employment, and so on.

Prior to practicing law, he worked as an analyst in an investment firm in the US. He also spent time in the lab doing R&D work for which he received recognition as an author in different journals and scholarly publications. Holding degrees in the sciences, engineering and law and training in legal and technical areas, he has amassed cross-functional expertise. Anshul holds a Master's in Engineering from the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, a Bachelor's in Applied Sciences from Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, and a Degree of Law from the Government Law College, Mumbai University. Anshul is registered to practice at the Bar Council of India and the Indian Patent & Trademark Office.

Anshul is also a Member of INTA's Unfair Competition Committee, AIPPI's Standing Committee on Trade Secrets and the Executive Council of the LES (India). He is also an active member of APAA, AIPLA, IBA, IPBA, and ABA. Anshul also frequently lectures at different seminars, conferences and universities on IP and other commercial legal issues. He has also published numerous articles on these subjects in national and international legal publications.

Public Procurement Law

Construction & Infrastructure;
Dispute Resolution;
Corporate & Commercial



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Sumeet Kachwaha is the founding partner of Kachwaha & Partners, a leading cross-border disputes; dispute resolution practice. He has over 43 years' experience in the legal profession mainly in arbitration, litigation, construction & infrastructure projects, corporate and commercial laws. He has handled many landmark and high-stake matters (including the Union Carbide (Bhopal Gas Leak) case as a junior counsel. This was then the largest damages case in the world (arising out of the worst industrial accident known to mankind).

Mr. Kachwaha has been appointed sole arbitrator by the High Court of Delhi in several arbitrations and serves on the panel of arbitrators of various international arbitration institutions. He has also served as amicus curiae to the High Court of Delhi (including in relation to the first BIT dispute to come up before Indian courts). He has also stood as an expert witness on Indian law in the Courts of England and Singapore.

Mr. Kachwaha has been recognised in Band One of the Arbitration Section of Chambers Asia since 2009. He also features in Who's Who Legal in the Construction, Procurement, Arbitration, Government Contracts and Asset Recovery sections and has a Band One Ranking in the Dispute Resolution section of The Legal 500 Asia Pacific. He also features in GAR's Who's Who Legal Arbitration section and ranks in IBL's "A List" of "India Top 35 Lawyers".

Mr. Kachwaha has been extensively involved both on the contentious and non-contentious side in representing clients on high stake projects on procurement and corruption related matters, including in related litigation before the High Court and Supreme Court of India.

Mr. Kachwaha has previously served as a Chair of the Dispute Resolution & Arbitration Committee of the Inter-Pacific Bar Association (three - year term) and as the Vice-President of the Asian Pacific Regional Arbitration Group ("APRAG"). He has also served as Co-Chair of the Project Execution sub-committee of the International Construction Committee, IBA. He is currently serving on the Advisory Board of the Kuala Lumpur Regional Centre for Arbitration (now known as the Asian International Arbitration Centre).

Mr. Kachwaha's academic writings have been referenced by the Law Commission of India in its Report dated February 2015 [Supplementary to Report No. 246 on Amendments to Arbitration & Conciliation Act, 1996]. He has also authored the Public Procurement Chapter published by Getting the Deal Through (2018), Chapter on Public Procurement review proceedings in India (Getting the Deal Through (2019) and International Public Procurement – A guide to Best Practice (Globe Law & Business, UK).

**Corporate
Law**Debt Restructuring, Bankruptcy, Insolvency
and Commercial Dispute Resolution;
Capital Markets; Employment

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Cornel has been practicing law for more than 25 years and currently leading a team of lawyers in the Corporate and Commercial practice group as well as Dispute practice group. He has strong experience in Corporate and Commercial-related matters, M&A, Capital Market, Debt Restructuring, Bankruptcy and Insolvency, Employment and Commercial Dispute.

Cornel regularly advises clients on corporate and commercial regulatory issues, and has extensive experience in various capital markets transactions, including IPOs, Right Issue, Bond Issue, and acquisition of public companies. He has worked on numerous corporate and commercial transactions serving both domestic and international clients. Cornel has also advised various companies on corporate restructuring and debt restructuring, either through court sanctioned restructuring or out-of-court proceedings.

Cornel was contributor to the first publication of the Indonesia Corporate Governance Manual published by International Corporation (IFC) and Indonesia Financial Services Authority (OJK). He is also permanent contributor of Indonesia chapter in the International Labor and Employment Laws and Workplace Data Law and Litigations, both published by Bloomberg BNA.

Currently, aside from his activity in the Indonesian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KADIN) and Association of Capital Market Legal Consultants (HKHPM), he is also a member of the Judging Panel in the Indonesia Property Awards (managed by Property Guru), part of the Asia Property Awards.

Cornel has been named one of Asia Business Law Journal's A-List lawyers in Indonesia for fourth consecutive years, 2019-2022. The A-List is based on extensive research conducted by Asia Business Law Journal against thousands of in-house counsels and partners at International law firms around the world."

Tax Law



Mulyono
Founder and
Managing Partner
Mul & Co

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mul-co.com

Mulyono is the founder and managing partner of Mul & Co, one of very few law firms in Indonesia that specialises in tax law.

Mulyono holds Master's degrees in finance, law and notary, and gained extensive experience in the tax and legal fields prior to establishing the firm. His experience in taxation includes tax disputes, tax due diligence, tax advisory, tax compliance, as well as company restructuring. He gained this experience in respected firms such as McKinsey & Company, PB Taxand (formerly known as PB & Co.), and Baker McKenzie (Hadiputranto Hadinoto & Partners).

Mulyono has acquired a range of certifications – he is a Certified Public Accountant, a Chartered Accountant, Certified Financial Planner, Certified Management Account, and an Affiliate Wealth Manager. He is also a licenced legal counsel in Tax Court, a licenced member and advocate of PERADI, and a registered Tax Accountant. He is currently working towards a doctorate degree in Law.

His unique combination of technical knowledge in tax, accounting, finance and law, as well as his expertise of the Indonesian taxation system enable him to become a trusted advisor to clients. He is able to deliver holistic and practical taxation services to clients and to accomplish complex and challenging tax-related projects.

He serves a variety of multi-national clients from many industries, such as e-commerce, manufacturing, trading, real estate, mining & oil and gas, telecommunication, hospitality, and services. He has also been invited to be the speaker and facilitator in several national tax seminars and trainings.

Many international and local economic groups have required his special skills in tax planning and tax disputes services, with successful results. In addition, he has also assisted and represented many multi-national companies for various high profile tax litigation cases in the Tax Court and Supreme Court in Indonesia. Several tax cases that he has handled are related to tax treaty implementation, merger and acquisitions, royalty payment on intangibles assets, transfer pricing adjustments, Value Added Tax, and regional taxes.

Through his involvement in these cases, Mulyono has cultivated experience within the fields of tax treaty implementation, merger and acquisitions, royalty payment on intangible assets, transfer pricing adjustments, VAT, and regional taxes.

Mul & Co

Mul & Co was founded by experienced practitioners with multi-disciplinary backgrounds in tax, law, accounting, and finance. The firm's services include tax dispute, tax advisory & restructuring, and tax compliance. The team is comprised of dedicated professionals with a deep understanding of taxation law regulations and business culture. The firm is also independent, meaning that it is free from time-consuming conflict check processes.

The Mul & Co team believe that their success depends upon clients' satisfaction, therefore they always strive to provide clients with the best possible solution to their tax matters. The firm brings a rich understanding of Indonesia's unique business and legal culture to provide tax services.

Cross Border M&A Law

Domestic M&A (Private/Public);
Competition Law; Corporate and
Commercial Transactions



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Gen Takahashi is a corporate partner at Anderson Mori & Tomotsune, one of the largest law firms in Japan. 2022 is Anderson Mori & Tomotsune's 70th anniversary since James Buell Anderson established the firm that would become the predecessor to the firm in 1952.

Gen Takahashi handles a variety of corporate matters with a particular focus on cross-border M&A transactions involving Japanese entities. He provides thorough and practical legal advice based on his experience of working in Singapore and Australia, as well as at the M&A division of a major securities firm in Japan. With his deep knowledge about domestic M&A deals including public deals, general corporate, anti-trust, commercial contracts, labor and dispute resolution gained through his past experience, he is capable of providing his international clients with multangular advice on their complicated M&A deals.

In the past years, he has advised clients all over the globe, including in the US, Canada, the UK, France, Germany, Italy, Sweden, Denmark, Switzerland, Australia, India, the PRC, Korea, Taiwan, Singapore and various other Asian countries. He is familiar with the legal systems and cultures in those countries/regions.

Recently, there have been various opportunities in the Japanese market because of the relatively low share prices of prominent public and private companies with the hit of the COVID-19 pandemic. Gen Takahashi has assisted a number of international clients seeking for such opportunities, including private equity funds and public companies, and has abundant knowledge and experience about such "in-bound" transactions in Japan.

Cross Border M&A Law

TMT; Commercial Transactions;
Employment

J. Ryan Dwyer, III
Partner;
Managing Partner,
Tokyo Office,
K&L Gates

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Resident in Tokyo since 1999, Ryan Dwyer concentrates his practice on cross-border M&A and foreign direct investment into Japan by US and other non-Japanese companies, international joint ventures involving Japanese parties and Japan out-bound strategic M&A transactions for Japanese corporations.

Ryan is the managing partner of the firm's Tokyo office and a member of the firm's global advisory council. He is a past member of the firm's global management committee and also served as one of the firm's global coordinators of its M&A practice. He has extensive experience advising international companies on the corporate, regulatory, employment, and commercial aspects of transactions and investing in Japan and setting up and operating businesses in Japan.

He has worked across a number of industries on Japanese and complex cross-border deals, with particular focus in the technology sector, advising companies in relation to licensing and distribution agreements, and regulatory issues. Ryan has been ranked in several legal publications including Legal 500 Asia-Pacific 2016 and Chambers Asia 2008-2009.

Representative Experience

- Represented investment arm of US hotel operator in its acquisition of real estate in Japan including a major international hotel in Tokyo, a hotel in Kobe, Japan, and commercial real estate in Tokyo.
- Represented Japan-based international consulting firm in its separation and MBO from a US-based global consultancy in response to the Sarbanes-Oxley Act. This separation included obtaining a no-action letter from the US SEC.
- Represented Athens-based, publicly listed jewellery manufacturer and retailer in their acquisition of significant equity stake in their exclusive distributor in Japan.
- Represented Japanese mobile-internet service provider in relation to placement of a significant equity stake in an investment group led by America Online, Inc.
- Represented US credit company in the transfer of the business of their Japanese subsidiary to a Japanese financial institution.
- Represented acquirer in the acquisition of the Japan affiliate of a US-based software company and in relation to negotiation of related software development and distribution agreements.
- Representation of US-based Internet services company in the sale of the ISP business of its Japanese subsidiary.
- Represented Australian private equity fund in its acquisition of one of Japan's premier ski resorts, adjoining mountain-base development areas and entitlements and a nearby golf course.
- Represented Danish-based multinational food company in relation to the Japan aspects of its global acquisition of a France-based food additives multinational company.

Gaming Law

Corporate; M&A; Banking & Finance



António Lobo Vilela
Partner
Lobo Vilela Advogado
• 大律師 • Lawyer
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Antonio Lobo Vilela (温令韜) is a lawyer qualified to practice in Macau (where he is based), Portugal, and Brazil. His practice is almost entirely focused on gaming law.

He was a senior legal adviser to the Commission of the first public tender to grant casino gaming concessions in Macau (2001-2002) and to the Macau Gaming Commission, a consultative body of, and presided over by, the Macau Chief Executive (2003-2009), dealing with the Hong Kong IPO projects of the Macau gaming operators, the financing projects, and the drafting of strategic papers on Macau gaming. He was also charged with (co)drafting the legal and regulatory framework for casino gaming, which is still in force, and the casino gaming concession and sub-concession contracts. He was a partner and founding member of LVT Lawyers, a boutique law firm focused on gaming law (2010-2015), and a legal adviser to the Secretary for Economy and Finance of the Macau government on gaming and gaming-related matters, as well as a member of the legislative affairs working group of the Macau Gaming Commission (2016-2020).

He was an extern at the Nevada Gaming Control Board (USA) (2021) and has been a member of the Gaming Law Committee of the Brazilian Bar Association (Federal District, Brasilia) since 2021 and of the Special Committee on Sports, Lotteries, and Entertainment Law of the Brazilian Bar Association (Rio de Janeiro) since 2022. He currently lectures Gaming Law at the University of Macau's Faculty of Business Administration.

Lobo Vilela has published several articles and papers on gaming law issues and is the author of 'Macau Gaming Law – Annotated with Comments,' a four-volume book on Macau (casino) gaming law (www.macaugaminglaw.com). He is a regular speaker on events related to gaming.

He holds a Law Degree with honors from the Faculty of Law of the University of Lisbon, Portugal, and a Master's Degree/LL.M in Gaming Law & Regulation from the William S. Boyd School of Law, UNLV - University of Nevada, Las Vegas.

He is ranked in Chambers Asia Pacific 2015 (General Business Law), Global 2015 (General Business Law), Asia Pacific 2016 (General Business Law and Gaming and Gambling), and received from Global Awards the Gaming Lawyer of the Year 2019-2020, 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 awards.

Trademark Law



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Ipman Global Intellect Sdn Bhd is one of the pioneer and largest specialised IP advisory firms in Malaysia. Since the firm's inception more than a decade ago, our team has delivered professional corporate IP advisory services relating to the awareness, protection, valuation and enforcement of IP rights to clients in various industries across the region. The firm has connected with many SMEs, offering up-to-date knowledge and expertise in IP services worldwide. The industries in which we have the most experience include pharmaceuticals and healthcare, foods and beverages, cosmetics and skincare, logistics and transportation, education institutions, software development and innovation.

We offer trademark services in the regions of Asia Pacific, Middle East, Europe, Americas and Oceania. Global leaders in IP protection, we deliver high-quality services consistently to clients of all sizes. The firm leverages the experience and skills of its professionals to help all clients – local SMES, large international corporations and sole proprietors alike – to protect their intellectual property worldwide.

Skilful management and deep knowledge have enabled our professional team to win many awards and recognitions, locally and worldwide. Our IP practice has received the following accolades:

- National Quality Expert in the field of Intellectual Property 2022;
- *World Trademark Review 1000* Recommended Firm 2022;
- *World Trademark Review 1000* Recommended Firm 2021;
- Leading Intellectual Property Protection and Enforcement Advisor of the Year 2021;
- Most Innovative Intellectual Property Firm Award 2020;
- European Quality Choice Award 2019;
- Asia Pacific Entrepreneur Excellence Brand Award in 2018;
- First ISO22301 Intellectual Property Consultancy Firm with business continuity practice in the Books of Malaysia Records; and
- UKAS ISO 9001 Quality Management System for provision of Intellectual Property.

Standing out for going above and beyond the call of duty for each client, the firm has successfully registered its clients' brands and negotiated with legal representatives of well-known marks worldwide. In addition, we assist clients in negotiating the divestment of their marks to prospective acquirers.

We offer a rich array of IP services for corporate IP creation and development strategies, IP protection and portfolio management services, IP audit and valuation with IP education programmes. Through practical, expert and actionable advice, we help clients protect their vital assets and exploit their intellectual property in an increasingly competitive and technology-savvy era.

Our team always works diligently to assist clients with their IP needs. We tirelessly strive, alongside clients, to identify intangible assets and devise protection strategies to ensure long-term growth.

As new developments are made in industries all over the world, the fusion of technology with creativity is giving birth to more new ideas than ever before. Protecting these ideas is an absolute necessity for many companies, and that is exactly what the firm does through its exemplary services. Enabling companies to nurture their creativity and foster exciting new ideas, our team fully deserves the accolades it has garnered so far – with, no doubt, more to come.

Immigration Law



David Ryken
Principal
Ryken and Associates
Barristers and Solicitors

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David Ryken is recognised as a leading immigration lawyer in New Zealand. He founded and manages one of New Zealand's largest teams of legal professionals providing a full range of immigration services to corporates and individuals. David's personal practice includes corporate and investor category visas, including secondments for multinational companies.

Since 2000, David has been a member of the Immigration Committee of the International Bar Association. He regularly presents papers at local and global conferences on business investor and other immigration issues, and is often asked to give evidence as an immigration expert in matters before the courts.

David also appears regularly in New Zealand's courts on a wide range of matters including appeals and judicial reviews of immigration decisions, and in our criminal courts in cases involving immigration compliance and deportation. David has also contributed to a number of textbooks on New Zealand immigration law.

David heads a team of enthusiastic and committed legal professionals. His team are committed to providing a prompt, accurate and professional service to clients around the globe, interested in either doing business in New Zealand, working in New Zealand, or in permanent stay in New Zealand. Ryken and Associates combines its advice and experience with all aspects of legal practice including employment, family, criminal and commercial law, where these intersect.

Intellectual Property Law

Film, Media, and Digital Production;
Regulatory - Pharmaceutical
and Medical; Privacy



Christopher Young
Partner, Head of IP
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Christopher is a widely recognised intellectual property expert with an extensive international practice and network. He is known for his technical expertise and pragmatic advice. Consistently ranked as a leading IP lawyer in legal directories, he assists with all aspects of IP through its lifecycle including development, protection, transfer, enforcement, and commercialisation. He has significant experience in media, film, and television production, and regulatory work in the pharmaceutical and medical sectors.

Head of the firm's IP team, Chris specialises in IP, brand strategy, trade marks, commercial IP, licensing, franchising, marketing, sponsorship, privacy, IP disputes, enforcement, and IP audits. Chris has significant expertise handling the IP aspects of M&A and other corporate transactions. He has more than 20 years' experience in licensing and commercialisation, franchising, and commercial arrangements.

Recognised for local and international brand strategy and managing trade mark portfolios, he manages risks, launches new brands, develops strategies to commercialise, protects and enforces brands, troubleshoots problems, and handles counterfeits. He is experienced with sponsorship, marketing, advertising, privacy, consumer protection, and other regulatory areas.

Both local and international clients benefit from Chris' breadth of experience. He takes time to understand his clients' businesses and develops strong and ongoing relationships as their trusted adviser. His clients operate in numerous industries including FMCG, fashion / apparel, publishing, food and beverage, liquor, advertising and marketing, retail, TMT, media, aviation, automotive, banking and financial services, entertainment, agriculture / horticulture, manufacturing, pharmaceutical, building, forestry, education, health and ageing, transportation, and energy.

Chris is recognised as a leading IP lawyer in legal directories, including Chambers, The Legal 500 Asia Pacific (Hall of Fame), Managing IP and WIPR. WTR1000 2022 recommends Chris, noting: *"The IP practice at MinterEllisonRuddWatts is hallmarked by its strategic sophistication and impeccable transactional capabilities. The team can always be relied on to come up with the most commercially viable solution. Epitomising this is the dexterous head of IP **Christopher Young**, who has extensive involvement with many INTA committees and is always ready to deliver the top-notch brand protection and Trans-Tasman trademark law advice."* As one client says, *"...we have found him to be extremely personable and overall, he has been a huge asset to us. Chris considers options and solutions that are both unique to the position of our business, and economically efficient. We always trust that we are in the best hands with Chris. Integrity, efficiency and quality is always delivered"* – The Legal 500 Asia Pacific 2022.

Chris has worked in London and is actively involved in the International Trademarks Association (INTA) and the International Bar Association (IBA). He has chaired INTA's East Asia Pacific Famous Marks subcommittee, and been on the Parallel Imports Committee, Internet Committee, and the Asia Pacific Global Advisory Council. Chris is currently the co-Chair of the INTA Bulletin Asia-Pacific sub-committee.

Chris' film, digital and television production work includes the New Zealand film grant regime. He has acted for many years for a range of major US studios on some of the leading productions filmed or produced in New Zealand.



Pakistan

Intellectual Property Law

**Counselling; Litigation,
Franchising & Licensing**



**Mohammad Fazil Bharucha
Partner
Bharucha & Co**

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Mohammad Fazil Bharucha has been a part of Bharucha & Co since 1986. With his engineering and legal background he has brought in a wealth of knowledge to the firm based on his analytical skills and technical knowledge especially for patent matters. Over the years he has developed his expertise in other fields of IP such as trademarks and copyright as well. He is professionally active in various IP forums both locally and internationally and has contributed to awareness of IP in Pakistan not only to the general public but also in educational institutions and judiciary.

He focuses on a range of contentious and non-contentious IP matters including litigation. With over three decades of experience in areas such as franchising and licensing, together with compliance issues, he often represents clients in the High Court in patent and trade mark disputes. He is experienced in negotiations, drafting agreements and contracts. He has acted as a Pakistani Law Expert on IP matters in courts in foreign jurisdictions.

Bharucha & Co's clients range from SMEs to multinational corporations spanning various industries; some examples are pharmaceutical, food and beverage, healthcare, technology and many others. They are local as well as global; Middle East, Europe, Far East Asia etc. The firm caters to all their IP and non IP related needs, including the registration of IP to litigation if necessary as well as renewal of IP.

Mr. Bharucha provides thorough advice to clients by considering all aspects of the matter and explaining all possibilities in order to enable the client to take an informed decision. He keeps the client well informed throughout the process and everything is done in a timely and cost effective manner.

He served as the President of Asian Patent Attorneys Association (APAA), Pakistan Group from 2010 till 2012. He has been the Delegate of Independent Members of Pakistan and Kazakhstan of International Association for the Protection of Intellectual Property (AIPPI) from 2011 till 2015. He is recognized as the leading IP expert in Pakistan by various rating entities such as Legal 500, Chambers & Partners, Managing Intellectual Property (MIP), etc.; Chambers & Partners finds him to be "professional at all times" and "very commercial in the way he deals with things."

Mr. Bharucha has been recognized as WIPR Leader 2022 for Trademarks from Pakistan in the 2022 edition of WIPR Leaders. He was also recognized as 'Patent Star 2022 and Trade Mark Star 2022' in IP Stars 2022 ranking by Managing Intellectual Property.

Intellectual Property Law

Litigation; Arbitration



Rogelio Nicandro
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Rogelio Nicandro (Senior Partner), is a member of the Executive Board and the head of the Intellectual Property group. His practice focuses on intellectual property, litigation, and arbitration.

Roger started practicing law immediately after the bar when he was invited by his professor, William R. Veto, a commercial law authority and senior counsel of Tañada Carreon Tañada, to be his legal assistant. He handled civil and commercial litigation at the trial and appellate level. He also handled insurance and intellectual property, variegated contracts, and prepared opinions for his banking clientele.

Roger joined the firm in 1969. In his early years, his practice was concentrated on litigation, civil and commercial, with some criminal cases. He was also into contracts, banking, corporations, intellectual property, and condominiums. He is a pioneer in condominium law practice, having been counsel for the earliest condominium projects in the Philippines.

Roger has acted as panel chairman and arbitrator in significant cases and has been elected since 1996 as trustee of the Philippine Dispute Resolution Center, the country's foremost arbitration center.

In 1999, he became the head of the intellectual property department of the firm. He regularly attends international IP congresses where he often contributes country reports and position papers. He is currently Vice-President of the Intellectual Property Lawyers' Association of the Philippines and is past president of the Licensing Executives Society International, Philippine Group.

From 1987 to 2011, Roger was a legal consultant of the Asian Development Bank. He also taught Election Law in Ateneo Law School for eight years. He was lead counsel of the National Movement for Free Elections (NAMFREL), particularly, for its successful accreditation as the citizen's arm for the snap presidential elections of 1986 before the Marcos-controlled Commission on Elections. He likewise handled human rights cases and became Counsel General of the Brotherhood of Nationalistic, Involved and Free Attorneys to Combat Injustice and Oppression (BONIFACIO), a human rights lawyers' group. He is past president of the Legal Management Association of the Philippines.

Roger received his A.B. Philosophy degree from San Beda College and is a graduate of the Ateneo de Manila School of Law.

Romulo Law Firm

From a modest commercial law practice in downtown Manila at the turn of the 20th century, today we are one of the largest and most highly regarded law firms in the Philippines with a full offering of legal services, including advice and representation in banking and finance, capital market and securities, energy and infrastructure, immigration, intellectual property, labor and employment, litigation and arbitration, real estate and natural resources, taxation, and technology, media, and telecommunications.

We are the sole Philippine member of Lex Mundi, a global network of about 160 independent law firms, with a combined total of more than 21,000 lawyers in all commercially significant jurisdictions throughout the world. We are also the TRACE partner firm in the Philippines and join other TRACE firms around the world in providing practical and cost-effective anti-bribery compliance to global businesses.

Litigation

Vijay Kumar Rai
Managing Director
Arbiters Inc Law Corporation
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Vijay Kumar Rai commenced practice in 1990 and quickly gained experience in various fields of litigation and dispute resolution. In 1996, with several years of experience after leaving the NUS Law School, Vijay started his own practice, as V K Rai & Partners with the vision, mission and commitment of rendering honest and quality legal services. He then re-branded his practice as Arbiters Inc Law Corporation.

Vijay Kumar Rai specializes in Litigation, Arbitration and other Dispute Resolution techniques in all areas including:

- Medical Negligence and other serious Personal Injury Claims;
- Civil, Corporate and Commercial Claims
- Family Law and Succession including Probate, Wills and Trusts;
- Insurance Claims;
- Industrial and Employment

The subject matter of dispute in the cases handled as lead counsel have ranged from several hundred thousand to more than USD 100 million.

He has over 3 decades of experience in over 200 trials and contested hearings as lead counsel and has appeared successfully several times before the Court of Appeal – the highest court of law in Singapore. He has also assisted Queens Counsel in a class action in a foreign jurisdiction and acted in arbitrations overseas.

With the aim of meeting clients' expectations in quality, timing and cost-effectiveness he has always strived for the highest ethical and professional standards.

Arbiters Inc Law Corporation

Our main areas of practice are Litigation and Dispute Resolution in the fields of Medical Negligence, Civil, Corporate and Commercial law and Arbitration.

We represent a diverse clientele from a broad spectrum of industries and businesses, providing comprehensive representation across all major areas of the law. Our firm leverages through a thoughtfully cultivated network of associate law firms, regional offices and corporations throughout Singapore and the rest of Asia for global representation.

We are committed to rendering honest and quality legal services. We have established an enviable reputation for broad-based legal practice which is approaching almost two decades of its existence.

More significant than our numerical strength is our commitment to deploy our resources to serve efficiently through economical talent management. Our services are strongly supported by the latest computer and communications technology. Our dedicated software enables us to conduct research, locate precedents and document matters quickly and accurately.

We aim to meet client's expectations in quality, timing and cost-effectiveness. Above all, we remain committed to the highest ethical and professional standards.

Our clientele includes Blue Chip Companies, Local and Foreign government agencies, and government-linked companies, Local and Foreign Statutory Boards, High Net-Worth Individuals. Individuals who have a good case for legal redress.

Our strength lies in our experience of over 3 decades in various and wide-ranging areas of litigation and our track record of the strong results and favorable outcomes we have achieved for our clients.



Intellectual Property Law



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General Manager

Trademark Agent Professional Experience: 30+ years

Professional Affiliates

International Trademark Association (INTA)

The International Association for the Protection of Intellectual Property (AIPPI)

LES China

Professional Expertise

IPR procurement & management, licensing & enforcement negotiation, dispute resolution, international litigations, transaction of IP rights, drafting and reviewing Chinese and English contracts

Professional Summary

VP, Lian & Lien IP Attorneys

Senior IP Advisor, Akin, Gump, Strauss, Hauer & Feld L.L.P.

Director, Gradation IPR Consultant Co., Limited

Counselor, Gradation Law Office

Senior Associate, Lee & Li Attorneys-at-Law

MIP, University of New Hampshire School of Law
(Franklin Pierce Law Center)

LL.B, Soochow University

Language

Chinese, English, Taiwanese

About Long River

Ever since founding the company in 1976, the professional team at Long River International Patent & Trademark Law Office has not only been forming close working relationships with the local Taiwanese market but also reached out globally, helping countless clients tirelessly. We deeply believe that the value of every intellectual property is worth cherishing for and ought to enjoy more comprehensive planning and protection. With that business philosophy operating behind our office for 45 years, we have accumulated a reputation that is widely recognized by our local and international partners.

We understand and believe that you need a trustworthy partner to help you smoothly navigate through all relevant intellectual property right matters. Hence, Long River is forging even better working relationships abroad to help better protect each and every one of your invaluable corporate assets around the clock.

Our many experienced patent attorneys, patent agents, trademark agents and lawyers represent names that you can trust. Each case we receive from you represents not merely our responsibility but also a half-century long passion we have been tirelessly pursuing.



Taiwan

Intellectual Property Law

Patent & Trademark Issues
(Searching, Prosecution, Renewal, Assignment,
Licensing, Enforcement, Dispute Negotiation)



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Trademark Attorney
Long River International Patent
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Partner & Patent Attorney

Patent and Trademark Professional Experience: 10 years

Professional Affiliates

International Trademark Association (INTA)
Asian Patent Attorneys Association (APPA)

Professional Expertise

Patent & trademark search, prosecution, licensing,
enforcement and dispute negotiation

Professional Summary

Partner, Long River International Patent & Trademark Law
Office (2016~)

Language

Chinese, English, Taiwanese, Japanese

Description

Achen has 10 year experiences in patent and trademark prosecution. Also, to further protect the client's IP rights, Achen is specialized in searching, renewal, assignment, licensing, enforcement and dispute negotiation. He has background of mechanical engineering and semiconductor process, and he has chances to work for several clients, such as LG, Ricoh, Mizuno, DISCO Corporation and Kura-Sushi...etc.

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Our many experienced patent attorneys, patent agents, trademark agents and lawyers represent names that you can trust. Each case we receive from you represents not merely our responsibility but also a half-century long passion we have been tirelessly pursuing.



理律法律事務所

LEE AND LI

SINCE 1965 ATTORNEYS-AT-LAW

Taiwan

M&A Law

Corporate Law & Investment;
Labour; Competition Law



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Lihuei has extensive experience in the fields of corporate and investment, and merger & acquisition. She has advised many PE funds, VCs, and international groups in different industries, including telecoms, pharmaceutical companies, securities firms, cable TV industry, media, logistics, high-tech, and new-tech startups (such as AI, AIOT, robotics and information security). Along with the emergence of the renewable energy industry, Lihuei is also proactively involved in solar energy and offshore windfarm projects.

In recent years, Lihuei has devoted herself to the establishment of Taiwan venture capital funds and financing/IPO of startups, working closely with international and local VCs and accelerators to assist Taiwan startups to expand their global business and nourish eco-system for Taiwan startups. With such experience, she was invited to give a series of lectures at the Soochow University.



Taiwan

Patent Law

IP Prosecution; IP Litigation;
IP Strategy and Management



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Mr. Tsai, a patent attorney at Deep & Far Attorneys-at-Law, graduated from the Department of Electrical Engineering of National Taiwan University (NTUEE) and immediately after attended the Graduate Institute of Communication Engineering (GICE), receiving his Master's degree after two-years of research. During his research life in GICE, he also started to get involved in the knowledge and skills of patent-related matters and passed the Bar examination for Patent Attorneys. Mr. Tsai also attended and gained an IP Master's degree from the Law School of the University of New Hampshire, also known as the Franklin Pierce Center for Intellectual Property. Right after graduation, he had an opportunity to work for InterDigital, Inc. in Delaware for a short period, and then passed the U.S. Patent Registration Examination. Later, he also passed the China Patent Agent Examination. Currently, Mr. Tsai is concurrently majoring in a law masters at National Chiao Tung University.

Deep & Far attorneys-at-law was founded in 1992 and is dealing with all phases of laws with a focus on the practice in separate or in combination of all aspects of intellectual property rights (IPRs) including patents, trademarks, copyrights, trade secrets, unfair competition, and/or licensing, counselling, litigation and/or transaction thereof.

Deep & Far prosecutes worldwide patent matters for local clients. For international or foreign clients, Deep & Far prosecutes patent matters mainly in Taiwan, significantly in China & Hong Kong, and with minor representation in Macau, Singapore, Korea & Japan. Deep & Far prosecutes in every field, such as mechanics, chemistry, pharmacy, biology, electronics, optics, telecommunications, and computer sciences.

The patent attorneys and patent engineers in Deep & Far normally hold outstanding and advanced degrees and are generally graduated from the top three universities in this country. Our prominent staffs are dedicated to provide the best quality service in IPRs in this country. As a proof, about one half of top 100 incorporations in this country have experiences of seeking patented their techniques, but more than one fifth of the top 100 incorporations has ever used services of this firm. Furthermore, Hi-Tech companies in the science-based industrial park located at Hsin Chu had ever played the most important role in booming the economy of this country. About one half of them has experiences in seeking patented their techniques, and out of more than 50% of the patent-experienced companies in that park have ever entrusted their IPR works to this firm. Certainly, we must also represent international giants, e.g. Armani; Baidu; Beckhoff; BYD; CICC; Chep; Cypress; Dr. Reddy; Gleason; Grenzebach; Haribo; Infineon; Intercept; InterDigital; Lenovo; Lupin; Motorola; MPS; NovaLED; Oppo; Piramal; Schott Glas; SeeReal; Sun Pharma; Teva; Torrent; Toyo Ink...

It is our philosophy to provide competent legal services that other firm cannot comparably provide. The necessitated ensuing problem is how we can so provide? Deep & Far so achieve by selecting, edifying and nurturing peoples who have the following personalities: learned in expertise, morally earnest and sincerely behaved in mind and strictly disciplined between give and take. It is well-believed that such properties are key factors for peoples to properly and competently behave themselves.



Taiwan

Trademark Law

Intellectual Property;
Immigration; Labour



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Mr. Lu-Fa Tsai, an attorney-at-law graduated from the Department of Law of the National Taiwan University (NTU), which is the top law school in Taiwan. Out of interests in business laws, he attended the Graduate Institute of Law of the NTU after he obtained the LL.B. degree and received his LL.M. degree after 3 years. Two years before he graduated from the law graduate institute, he passed the bar examination. Mr. Tsai has also gained an LL.M. degree from the Faculty of Law of the University of Göttingen in Germany. The field of study of this degree is international economic law. After he came back from Germany, he joined Deep & Far Attorneys-at-Law. He is working as a partner lawyer at the firm currently.

Deep & Far attorneys-at-law was founded in 1992 and is dealing with all phases of laws with a focus on the practice in separate or in combination of all aspects of intellectual property rights (IPRs) including patents, trademarks, copyrights, trade secrets, unfair competition, and/or licensing, counselling, litigation and/or transaction thereof.

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It is our philosophy to provide competent legal services that other firm cannot comparably provide. The necessitated ensuing problem is how we can so provide? Deep & Far so achieve by selecting, edifying and nurturing peoples who have the following personalities: learned in expertise, morally earnest and sincerely behaved in mind and strictly disciplined between give and take. It is well-believed that such properties are key factors for peoples to properly and competently behave themselves.

AFRICA & THE MIDDLE EAST



The Executive Board of the IMF concluded the Financial Sector Assessment Program (FSAP) with the WAEMU in April 2022. The Financial Sector Stability Assessment (FSSA) report was also completed in April, and is based on the work of joint IMF/World Bank FSAP virtual missions to the WAEMU.

The FSSA concluded that the WAEMU's financial system functions within an improved regulatory framework. Furthermore, despite political instability in several member states, the policy response to the COVID-19 pandemic has been

effective. Banks have withstood the crisis well, helped by liquidity support from Central Bank of West African States (BCEAO) and policies to support domestic demand.

The report found that the banking sector is largely resilient to macroeconomic shocks, yet vulnerabilities remain. Banks' capital buffers do not adequately consider exposure concentrations. Particularly, a marked increase in sovereign exposures has exacerbated credit concentration and interest rate risks. The FSSA report recommended the use of capital surcharge requirements under Basel Pillar 2 to address these risks. Liquidity

risks are also amplified by the underdevelopment of the regional bond market, which needs to be developed further. A timely introduction of the Basel III liquidity requirements would help banks internalise liquidity risks.

An ambitious regulatory reform has consolidated the prudential base and established the conditions for a further strengthening of banking supervision. The FSAP found that the supervisory framework has become more risk orientated, but enforcement should be strengthened, supervisory resources increased, and the supervisor's independence statutorily assured.

Further critical reforms need to be introduced. A bank resolution framework has been established but not implemented. The FSSA recommended that the framework be applied promptly to address already undercapitalised, nonviable institutions. Other recommendations addressed establishing procedures for the BCEAO emergency liquidity assistance (ELA) and measures to mitigate balance sheet risks. The supervisory programme for Anti-Money Laundering/Combating the Financing of Terrorism (AML/CFT) also needs to be further reformed to fully adopt a risk-based approach and enhance onsite inspections.

Meanwhile, Ms Celine Allard, mission chief for Egypt, issued the following statement: “The rapidly changing global environment and spillovers related to the war in Ukraine are posing important challenges for countries around the world, including Egypt. In that context, the Egyptian authorities have requested the IMF’s support to implement their comprehensive economic programme.

“A set of macroeconomic and structural policy measures would mitigate the impact of this shock on the Egyptian economy, protect the vulnerable, and preserve Egypt’s resilience and medium-term growth prospects. To this end, the authorities’ recent actions to expand targeted social protection and implement exchange rate flexibility are welcome steps. Continued exchange rate flexibility will be essential to absorb external shocks and safeguard financial buffers during this uncertain time. Prudent fiscal and monetary policies will also be needed to preserve macroeconomic stability.

“Staff is working closely with the authorities to prepare for programme discussions with a view to supporting our shared goals of economic stability and sustainable, job-rich, and inclusive medium-term growth for Egypt.”

World Bank Forecasts Uneven Recovery in Middle East and North Africa

Economies in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region are expected to grow by 5.2% in 2022, the fastest rate since 2016, on the back of oil-price windfalls benefitting the region’s oil exporters. However, heightened uncertainty surrounds this forecast due to the war in Ukraine and ongoing threats from COVID-19 variants.

Titled ‘Reality Check: Forecasting Growth in the Middle East and North Africa in Times of Uncertainty’, the World Bank’s latest economic update forecasts an uneven recovery as regional averages mask broad differences. Oil producers will benefit from higher oil prices and vaccination rates as fragile countries lag. But tighter global monetary policy, the unpredictability of the course of the pandemic, ongoing supply chain disruptions and food price hikes raise inflation risks for the entire region.

“The harsh reality is that no one is out of the woods yet. The threat of COVID-19 variants remains and the war in Ukraine has multiplied risks, particularly for the poor who bear the brunt of the increase in food and energy prices. A good dose of realism about the region’s growth prospects during these times of uncertainty is essential,” said Ferid Belhaj, World Bank Vice President for the MENA region. “Managing this wave of uncertainty is a key challenge for policymakers, and the World Bank is committed to working alongside governments across the MENA region during this time of compounding risks,” he added.

Currency depreciation in some countries in MENA is already adding to inflationary pressures. Economies facing fiscal and debt vulnerabilities will likely encounter more challenges as they roll over existing debt, or issue new debt amid tighter financing conditions as global central banks aim to contain inflation expectations.

Countries in the MENA region rely heavily on food imports, including wheat from Russia and Ukraine. The rise in food prices and the higher risk of food insecurity are likely to hurt poor families the most, because the poor tend to spend more of their household budget on food and energy than do rich households. The full extent of the consequences of the war are yet to be determined, but early signs point to a heightening of the economic difficulties already besetting MENA economies, particularly oil-importing middle-income countries.

Despite the projected growth rate of 5.2%, GDP per capita, an indicator of people’s living standards, will barely exceed pre-pandemic levels due to a generally lacklustre performance in 2020–2021, the report said. In Gulf Cooperation Council countries, buoyed by the increase in oil prices, GDP per capita is projected to grow by 4.5% in 2022, but will not recover to pre-pandemic levels until 2023. In contrast, in 2022, GDP per capita of middle-income oil exporters is projected to grow by 3.0%, and by 2.4% for the region’s oil importers, both barely lifting living standards above pre-pandemic levels. Overall, if these forecasts materialise, 11 out of 17 economies in MENA may not recover to pre-pandemic levels by end of 2022.

Adding to pandemic-related uncertainty, only a third of the middle-income MENA countries have higher vaccination rates than their income peers. As of April 2022, Gulf countries, excluding Oman, which has a 57.8% vaccination rate, have an average rate of 75.7% – which is far better than their income peers. But countries like Algeria and Iraq have vaccinated around 13 to 17% of their populations, and Yemen and Syria have vaccination rates in the single digits, thus leaving them more exposed to the economic and health consequences of COVID-19 in the near future.



Intellectual Property Law



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Obaidullah Asadi Legal Services Co., Ltd., is an international law firm founded in 2010. We provide top class legal services to many foreign and domestic clients. The firm has gained a reputation for its reliability and unique expertise in different fields of law. Clients include major international corporations, entrepreneurs, organizations, and individuals.

The cases handled by our firm frequently involve multi-jurisdictional issues. We can involve banking and finance, data protection, energy projects, construction and engineering, professional liability, insurance, and commercial transactions. We handle both domestic and international cases. The firm has a significant presence in all courts of Afghanistan. We also negotiate, review, and draft contracts, especially contracts involving international commercial transactions. We provide essential legal consultation and advise a legal strategy especially geared toward our foreign clients. We advise foreign clients in matters relating to investment. We also have a worldwide presence and have the ability to present cases in different countries of the world.

Like every good law firm, we rely on the combined experience of our lawyers. We greatly value attention to detail and believe that establishing a good relationship with our clients is the key to success. Therefore, clients who look for legal services comparable to what the best international law firms offer, find Obaidullah Asadi Legal Services Co., Ltd. (OAC), to be a reliable international level law firm. From the moment that we accept a case, clients feel the difference. A strategy unique to each individual case is advised and carefully followed. The level of organization, attention to detail, and ease of communication, has resulted in satisfied clients over the years. Our goal is to provide the best legal representation available at a reasonable and fair cost to our clients.

We are proud of the high legal and ethical standards which have been established by our firm and the tradition of excellence which we work to maintain.

Our law firm Obaidullah Asadi Legal Services Co., Ltd. (OAC), is registered before the foreign embassies in Afghanistan, ACBR-IP, AIBA.

Obaidullah Asadi Legal Services Co., Ltd. (OAC), is engaged in providing international and local legal services, has the most professional group of highly educated and qualified lawyers and legal experts with extensive experience in various fields of law.

Area of practice: Intellectual Property, Commercial, Family, Criminal, Civil, Cyber, Technology etc...

During the past 10 years Obaidullah Asadi Legal Services Co., Ltd (OAC), has been engaged in more than 300 local cases in different Afghanistan courts & have registered more than 90,000 Trademarks in Afghanistan Patent and Trademark office.

Corporate Law

Private Investment Law;
Public Procurement and PPP; Finance Law



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- Law Degree by the Faculty of Law of Lisbon University
- Former Member of the Luanda Provincial Council of the Angolan Bar Association
- Partner at MG Advogados
- Lecturer at the Angolan Accountants and Auditors Association (OCPCA) and member of its National Jury of Exam
- Member of the Angolan Corporate Governance Association and vice-president of its General Assembly
- Member of JUTRA – Angolan Labour Jurists Association
- Co-founder of the project Boutique Legal da Empreendedor, dedicated to render legal services and to provide legal literacy and mentoring to Women entrepreneurs with small businesses
- Renders for legal services to private and public entities, both local and international for over 20 years.

Commercial Litigation



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Ali Alshamlawi is a litigation specialist focusing on commercial and civil litigation, regulatory law, company litigation, construction and employment.

Ali also has experience of advising on regulatory matters in insurance services, medical negligence and corporate transactions. Ali heads the Bahrain office dispute resolution team and is well established in the market for commercial, insurance and employment litigation.

Ali has experience of working in Bahrain and Dubai. He has a reputable international and local client base and has assisted clients in various dispute resolution matters. He is also actively engaged in advising Companies on corporate and commercial transactions.

In a recent significant case, Ali successfully defended an international insurance company in a multi-million dollar insurance based claim. The claim exhausted all litigation stages and the judgment delivered by the Cassation Court has set a precedent.

KBH

KBH advises local companies with legal requirements internationally, particularly in the countries of the Gulf Cooperation Council ("GCC"), as well as international companies doing business within the GCC countries.

Our Bahrain team offers experiences spread across a broad span of business disciplines and major industries, including company formations and restructuring, real estate, mergers and acquisitions, joint ventures, liquidation and corporate and commercial matters. We also specialise in commercial dispute resolution including litigation, mediation and arbitration.

Our client base is comprised of both domestic and international clients which includes private sector, government, international and national development agencies, financial institutions, national and multi-national companies and high net worth individuals.

We are privileged to cater to an ever-growing list of esteemed clients, who value our commitment to exemplary service and reputation for clear, honest judgment. Our dedication has not only helped our clients achieve results, but has also earned us their confidence and trust. Founded on this principle of first-class quality service, our professional team of experienced lawyers and support staff provide a customised approach to address the specific business requirements of each client.

Commercial Litigation



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Haifa Khonji heads the corporate commercial department at KBH – Bahrain and is an experienced commercial litigator with over 22 years’ experience. She has worked in international firms (Ince and Co, Eversheds and Denton Wilde Sapte) and has been the managing partner at KBH – Bahrain office since 2010.

She emphasises a methodical and pragmatic approach, tailored to the specific circumstances of any dispute, together with her commitment, and provides clients with a bespoke service to

Haifa acts for a diverse range of high-net-worth individuals, families, international and local multinational companies and advises on a wide range of transactional and advisory matters including but not limited to mergers & acquisitions, joint ventures, share transfers, company formations, structuring, restructuring and corporate governance.

Over the years she has developed an interest in estate planning and wealth management and has worked with international financial advisors and law firms. She has also gained experience working on matters relating to shareholder disputes in family businesses and has helped them resolve their issues.

Haifa has written several articles on arbitration law developments in Kingdom of Bahrain, on Mergers and Acquisitions and Dispute Resolution in the Kingdom of Bahrain and on company formations. Her articles have been published in reputable journals, including Mergers & Acquisitions Review, Dispute Resolution Review and PLC.

Commenting on how KBH distinguishes itself from its competitors, Haifa said: “We provide above and beyond levels of client service. We ensure that every client of the firm feels special, we understand what they want and recruit the best people.”

She considers her main strengths to be compassion, assertiveness, creativity, and her meticulous attention to detail.

“My typical clients value my experience,” she continued. “It is also important that my clients see me as an expert and respects my views. Trust is the key element for a successful long-term relationship.”

Recent Cases

- Advising and acting for a European operator in dependency care in its investments in the Kingdom of Bahrain including setting up the largest rehabilitation centre in the Kingdom of Bahrain a GCC, project valued at USD 20 Million.
- Advising a leading GCC family-owned group of companies on a range of matters relating to shareholder disputes, exists, corporate re-structuring advising and preparing corporate governance policies and procedures.
- Advised a leading real estate company on its acquisition of majority shares in a public listed company operating in Kingdom of Bahrain.
- Acting for clients with criminal complaints arising out of shareholder disputes, employment disputes, insolvency and breach of contract claims.

Education

- New York State Bar (2002)
- LLM from University of Buckingham (2000)
- LLB from University of Buckingham (1999)
- Admitted to practice law before the Courts of Cassation and Constitutional Courts of the Kingdom of Bahrain and a member of the Bahrain Society.



Corporate Law

Commercial Arbitration and ADR



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Amel Alaseeri is a Licensed Attorney in the Kingdom of Bahrain up to the Cassation Court and the Constitutional Court. She was awarded a Fellowship in the United Nations Public and Private International Law Program at The Hague in 2008. She sits on the Board of the National Committee of the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC Bahrain) and was Regional Representative for the Middle East, Turkey and Africa Chapter for ICC YAF (Young Arbitrators Forum) for the term 2019 - 2021. She is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (FCIArb).

Amel Alaseeri is Partner at Zeenat Al Mansoori & Associates Full Law Practice and heads the Corporate and Commercial Practice leading a dynamic team of lawyers. She has more than 15 years of experience in private practice advising on M&A, joint venture structures, business transfers, reorganizations, corporate law and financing, as well as day-to-day legal counselling of public and private companies on a wide range of matters. Clients on a retainer in which Amel Alaseeri acts as lead lawyer include Tatweer Petroleum, IKEA Bahrain, Four Seasons Hotel Bahrain Bay, CrediMax and the National Bank of Bahrain.

Throughout, Amel has maintained an active litigation and commercial arbitration practice, representing clients in significant commercial arbitrations and litigations and winning major victories for clients and, in particular, in large scale construction disputes. She has had several appointments on arbitral tribunals as a sole arbitrator and co-arbitrator.

She has been recognized by *The Legal 500* for her Commercial, Corporate and M&A work and by *Chambers Global* for her work in the Corporate and Finance and in the Dispute Resolution fields.

Banking & Finance Law

Corporate Law; Taxation;
Immigration Services



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Attorney at Law registered with the Benin Bar, Hélène's is specialized in business and finance law. Her practice covers Consulting activities in Banking & Finance, Regulatory Compliance- Risk Management, and Legal Due Diligence, assistance to local and international clients and organizations for their establishment in Benin and in the OHADA/WAEMU space (project monitoring and implementation of appropriate structures: joint ventures, subsidiaries, holdings, branches, representative offices, etc.).

She has particularly a sound experience in drafting, reviewing, commenting and structuring loan or facilities agreement(s) - finance documents and investment contracts from Benin, WAMU/WAEMU and OHADA laws perspective; providing capacity legal opinions; and advising on and helping negotiate security documents relating to transactions. She provides corporate tax advisory and immigration services to businesses for best practice process implementation.

Commercial Law

Antitrust; Intellectual Property;
Data Privacy



Omar S. Bassiouny
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Omar S. Bassiouny is a Founding Partner of Matouk Bassiouny and heads the Corporate and M&A practice group. Omar focuses on all corporate matters including M&A, public takeovers, restructuring and cross-borders transactions. In addition to corporate, Omar has significant experience on all aspects of investing and doing business in Egypt.

He is consistently ranked in top tiers and bands by legal periodicals in the areas of corporate law and mergers and acquisitions for his considerable expertise in setting-up joint ventures and new projects in Egypt, as well as ensuring compliance with local laws and corporate governance. Omar is also recognized for his negotiation skills and business sense. Omar is ranked in Band 1 of Chambers & Partners. He is also considered as a Highly Regarded lawyer by IFLR1000 and a Leading Individual by Legal 500.

Recent recognitions in international legal periodicals include:

"Omar Bassiouny is excellent: he is very responsive, meticulous, and never leaves a question unanswered" – Chambers Global, 2022

"He has an in-depth legal knowledge and good articulation skills. He gives a number of practical solutions borne out of understanding of the business" – IFLR 1000, 2020

"One of the country's best M&A lawyers" – Legal 500 EMEA, 2017

Selected Experience

Advising:

- Abu Dhabi Developmental Holding Company (ADQ) in connection with their acquisitions of part of the equity of the following Egyptian Exchange-listed companies: CIB, Fawry, Alexandria Cont & goods, MOPCO and AFC. Transaction value: USD 20 billion (Closed 2022).
- CDC Group Plc. in connection with its acquisition deal and joint venture partnership with DP World through a new platform created by the latter to undertake long-term investment in ports and logistics across Africa. Transaction value: USD 1.7 billion. (Closed 2022).
- First Abu Dhabi Bank in connection with its 100% acquisition of Bank Audi, S.A.E., Bank Audi's subsidiary in Egypt. Transaction value: USD 600 million (Closed 2021).

Education

- 1998 American University Cairo: Bachelor of Art in Public and International Law
- 1999 Cairo University: License en Droit

Professional Associations and Memberships

- Egyptian Bar Association – Member
- American Chamber of Commerce – Member
- Egyptian Private Equity Association – Member
- British Egyptian Business Association – Member
- Egyptian Junior Business Association – Member
- Who's Who Legal: M&A and Governance 2019
- Who's Who Legal: M&A and Commercial 2021

M&A Law

Antitrust; Intellectual Property;
Data Privacy



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- Who's Who Legal: M&A and Governance 2019
- Who's Who Legal: M&A and Commercial 2021

Banking & Finance Law

Corporate; Mergers and Acquisitions



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For over 25 years Ronen has been working with the major financing institutions in Israel in multiple transactions of diverse types, including origination of loans, secondary market transactions, debt reorganisation, inter-creditor matters, securitisation of loan portfolios and participations.

Representing banks, insurance companies, provident fund and private investment and credit funds in their transactions, Ronen enjoys vast experience and is able to suggest solutions to the problems encountered during negotiation and structuring of debt.

Ronen also opines on regulatory matters, including in respect of Israeli law and regulation, and on supervisory matters, such as the implementation of credit risk mitigation instruments and their applicability.

Trusts & Estates Law



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Mr. Assad Abdullatiff is the Managing Director of Axis Fiduciary Ltd. A qualified Barrister-at-Law in Mauritius holding an LLB Hons (Bachelor of Law) from the University of Wolverhampton (UK) and an LLM (Master of Laws) in Business Law from the University of Hertfordshire (UK), Assad also holds over 20 years of experience in the Financial Services Sector. With a range of expertise covering a spectrum of legal and financial services, he is a reputed expert in corporate law & governance, tax planning & structuring, fund formation & administration, company secretarial and trusts & estate planning.

Assad has held several senior positions in various international financial services companies in Mauritius. Prior to his appointment as Managing Director at Axis, Assad was the Assistant Director at the Board of Investment of Mauritius (now known as the Economic Development Board), where he headed the Financial Services Cluster and his expertise and extensive network proved to be valuable assets for the promotion of Mauritius as an International Financial Centre.

Being an illustrious international speaker, with presence in conferences and roadshows across Africa, Assad regularly contributes to the showcasing of Mauritius as the gateway to 'The Hopeful Continent'. He also acts as professional trustee/council member on various Trust & Foundations and his engagement in drafting foundation laws in Mauritius as well as in the implementation of the Trust Legislations in Mauritius has been substantially notable.

Assad has been and continues to be heavily involved in the promotion and development of the international financial services industry of Mauritius through his contributions in various sectorial and industry associations. He originally seeded the idea of having one leading organisation for the Mauritius financial industry while he was the chairman of the Association of Trust and Management Companies ("ATMC") (2017-2018) and his idea bore fruition when ATMC and several key organisations in the financial services industry merged to become a single platform, establishing Mauritius Finance, in February 2021. Assad was part of the merger sub-committee of the ATMC and he now serves on the board of Mauritius Finance where he operates to defend the interests of the Mauritius financial services industry on the local and international scene. He is currently engaged in the following organizations/committees:

- The Blueprint Steering Committee.
- Board Member of Mauritius Finance - One organisation regrouping major players of the Mauritius financial sector.
- The Mauritius Branch of STEP & STEP Council.

A testament to his dedication to the promotion of the Mauritius International Financial Center on the international scene, Assad has previously served as Chairman of STEP Mauritius, and was appointed as Council Member of STEP Worldwide (2017-2020) to represent the Africa & Arabia regions, including branches in India, Mauritius, South Africa, Seychelles and UAE. He has recently been appointed as Director on the STEP Worldwide Board for a mandate of two years (2020-2022).

Assad serves as Independent Director on many Mauritian companies operating in diverse economic sectors. He is also a regular contributor to local and international publications on topics relevant to his practice and areas of expertise.

Energy & Natural Resources Law

Corporate and Commercial;
Dispute Resolution; Merges and Acquisitions



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Shakwa Nyambe is the Founder and Managing Partner of the law firm. He specialises in Energy, Natural Resources and Commercial Law. He is also a specialist in the drafting, reviewing, and negotiating of contracts.

He has advised International Corporations, State-Owned Enterprises, Governments and individuals in Energy, Natural Resources, Commercial and Dispute Resolution matters. He has provided legal and business advisory services to foreign investors in various matters ranging from mergers and acquisitions, commercial transactions, corporate governance, and project financing. His clients include some of the oil and gas companies, renewable energy companies, mining companies, construction and infrastructure companies, State-Owned Enterprises, Governments, and corporate entities.

Nyambe previously worked as a Legal Counsel at the National Petroleum Corporation of Namibia, as a Chief Legal Officer at the Ministry of Justice, Namibia, and as a State Advocate at the High Court of Namibia. He is the current Director for the Association of International Energy Negotiators (AIEN)'s African Chapter. He serves on the drafting committees for the AIEN JOA Committee, LNG, SPA Committee, Asset Sale and Purchase Agreement Committee, and the Drilling Contract Committee. He also serves as a Board of Director at Debmarine Namibia and NAMDEB Holdings (50-50 joint venture diamond mining between the Government of Namibia and De Beers).

Nyambe holds a Baccalaureus Juris degree and a Bachelor of Laws degree, both from the University of Namibia. In addition, he also holds a postgraduate degree of Master of Laws in Oil & Gas Law with Professional Skills (LLM) from the University of Aberdeen in the United Kingdom and a Postgraduate Diploma in Drafting and Interpretation of Contracts from the University of Johannesburg. He is an admitted legal practitioner of the High Court and Supreme Court of Namibia.

Energy & Natural Resources Law

Banking & Finance;
Energy; Maritime Shipping



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Dr Aboubacar Fall is a Senior Partner at AF Legal Law Firm. He is a member of several arbitration institutions including the African Arbitration Association (AfAA), the London Court of International Arbitration (LCIA), the International Arbitration Institute, the Singapore International Arbitration Centre (SIAC) etc.

He participated in the London based Queen Mary University's Survey on International Arbitration. In July 2019, he appeared, as a Legal Expert, in an ICC arbitration proceeding in Paris in the framework of an offshore oil & gas block related dispute.

In December 2019, on behalf of the African Centre for International Law Practice (ACILP), Dr FALL participated, as an observer, to the session of the UNCITRAL Working Group III in Vienna (Austria) in relation to the reform of the Investor-State Dispute Settlement (ISDS) System.

Dr FALL was designated by Prof. Emmanuel Gaillard as an Official Contributor to the UNCITRAL Guide on the 1958 New York Convention for the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards for Senegal. The New York Convention was ratified by Senegal on 17 October 1994. In that regard, he has provided the UNCITRAL Guide team with the first decision (*CONAGRA International S.A. c. Sénégalaise de Distribution de Matériel Avicole SEDIMA*) handed down in 1997 by the Tribunal Regional of Dakar regarding the application in Senegal of the 1958 New York Convention to an award delivered by the London based Grain & Feed Trade Association (GAFTA). He also has provided three (3) more recent decisions rendered by the Tribunal de Grande Instance de Dakar (2016), the Dakar Court of Appeal (2017) and the Cour de Cassation (2018) on the *Société Ascot S.A vs. Etablissements Bocar Samba DIEYE* case applying the 1958 New York Convention.

Dr FALL has published several international arbitration related articles and chapters including the following:

- *Defence and Illustration of Lex Mercatoria in International Maritime Arbitration: the case study of "extra-contractual detention" in voyage charterparty disputes*"; a paper presented at the 12th International Congress of Maritime Arbitrators (ICMA) held in Paris in 1998.
- The International Bar Association (IBA) Guide on Arbitration, *Enforcement of Arbitral Awards in Senegal*" in IBA Arbitration and ADR Committee NewsLetter.
- May 2004, *Investment Arbitration: Challenges for African countries* (2013) "at the Senegal Bar & International Lawyers Union (UIA) co-organized international Seminar in Sally (Senegal).
- Presentation in 2019, on "*International Commercial Arbitration at the International in Oil & Gas Disputes*" at the International Colloquium co-organized by the Ministry of Justice and the Senegalese branch of EITI in Dakar (Senegal).
- Article in the Financial Afrik, February 2020, on the topic of "*l'Afrique et l'arbitrage international*".
- Presentation on the topic "*Does the Covid 19 pandemic have an impact of arbitration in Africa?*" during a Webinar organized by the Arbitration Commission of the Union Internationale des Avocats (UIA).

Litigation

Construction; Commercial; Civil



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Ghassan heads the regional litigation practice in the Middle East and specialises in all areas of dispute resolution with a particular emphasis on construction, commercial, civil, banking, real estate and criminal matters.

Ghassan has over 27 years' experience in litigation and dispute resolution. His extensive in-depth experience in civil, Sharia, commercial, real estate, banking, construction and criminal laws have enabled him to represent clients in some of the region's most high profile and complex cases. Offering a full scope of litigation services from drafting to implementation of case strategies locally and internationally, Ghassan is one of few litigators who won multi-billion dollar cases for clients and advised on high complex and cross border disputes. In addition, Ghassan possesses thorough expertise in matters of civil, administrative, real estate, banking and Sharia'h law.

He has worked on projects, and disputes in and/or involving many different jurisdictions in Europe (USA, Bulgaria, Switzerland, and UK), Middle East (Bahrain, Kuwait, Lebanon, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, and UAE). As a result, Ghassan is accustomed to working in varied legal frameworks and has a strong grasp of local laws and procedures.

He has a strong track-record in multi-billion, cross-border projects, cases in a wide range of industries, such as construction, banks, Real Estate, across the entire project life cycle (from drafting and negotiating to litigation).

Ghassan regularly serves as lead expert in international commercial and construction cases in the Middle East.

Ghassan was admitted to the Lebanese Bar, holds an MSC in Business and Master's in international Corporate and Commercial Law.

Ghassan is ranked in Legal 500 and Award Winner of the Litigation Law Expert of the Year 2022 by Global Law Experts.

Ghassan has provided numerous legal insights and contributes to local, regional, and international newspapers (both Arabic & English)

Quoted in more than 25 articles on a major ground-breaking SIM Swap Fraud case involving a local bank, in newspapers in the UAE, Middle East, China, USA, and others. He has also written in more detail about this case and how it has shaken up the banking and regulatory environment as banks look to tighten security and customer protection measures to avoid facing liabilities, in The Oath magazine, and others.

Memberships

- Beirut Bar Association

Background & Education

- Lebanese University, LL.B in Lebanese Law(Hons)
- Beirut Arab University, Licence En Droit(Hons)
- Lebanese American University, LL.B in Political Science(Hons)
- Lebanese American University, LL.M in International Affairs (Distinction)
- Qualified 1995, joined the firm 2017
- Master of Law in International Corporate and Commercial Law- King's College London - The Dickson Poon School of Law 2020-2022

Leisure

Reading, traveling, driving fast cars, golf and swimming.

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