

InspiraLaw: TOP 50 WOMEN IN THE IBERIAN LEGAL SECTOR

Once again this year, Iberian Lawyer wishes to recognise the important work carried out by the top women lawyers in the Iberian Peninsula, both in law firms and in-house. Our list presents, in this 2021 edition, 50 women from Spain and Portugal whose work promotes the role of women in the legal sector and in our society in general.

For this list, Iberian Lawyer has taken into account their recognised specialisation in their respective practice areas, their academic work and their active membership of associations and organisations that work to promote equality and diversity in the legal sector.

In addition, their careers in decision-making positions within the firms or companies and the assessment made of them by other colleagues as inspiring women have also been valued. Some of them are already veterans, and others appear for the first time in this ranking, which only aims to contribute to the great daily work that all these and many other women carry out.

ADRIANA DE BUERBA

White-Collar Crime partner

Pérez-Llorca



Adriana de Buerba has been a partner of Pérez-Llorca's White-Collar Crime and Investigations practice area since January 2010. She joined the firm in 2008 as head of the White-Collar Crime practice after working as a Public Prosecutor for ten years.

Her practice area focuses on White-Collar Crime and Corporate Compliance. She has taken part in many Criminal proceedings related to company crime, tax fraud, accidents at work, fraud and asset stripping and misappropriation. She boasts recognised experience in international judicial cooperation and is an expert on proceedings related to extraditions and European arrest warrants.

She has taught courses as the Initial Training Course for Prosecutors, and currently teaches on the Master's degree in White-Collar Crime Law at the Universidad Rey Juan Carlos and the Master's degree for Access to the Legal Profession at ISDE. Since January 2020, she is a member of the Academy of European Law (ERA) Board of Trustees.

Recognised by prestigious international directories under Corporate Crime, Corporate Compliance, White-Collar Crime and Criminal Defence, she is senior vice-chair of the IBA's Criminal Law Committee and a member of the Spanish Union of Criminal Lawyers, the European Criminal Bar Association and the European Fraud and Compliance Lawyers.



ALEXANDRA REIS

Senior counsel

Philip Morris International - Tabaqueira II S.A.

Alexandra Reis is senior counsel at Tabaqueira. With over 25 years of experience, Alexandra is a specialist in Commercial, Competition, and Labour Law.

Alexandra was legal counsel for PGA Portugalia Airlines for over six years (2003-2009). Her legal career also includes working in private practice, where for two years, she worked as a lawyer in the firm Macedo Vitorino & Associados (1995-1997).

Alexandra is recognised for her exceptional ability to navigate the complex laws and regulations affecting tobacco companies but is also recognised for her ability to innovate with the future in mind. She holds a degree in Law from the Universidade de Lisboa (1995). She has received several awards in the Compliance area and was recognised by the Iberian Lawyer 2019 *Gold Awards* as the In-house Counsel of the Year in the Consumer Goods & Manufacturing category. Alexandra has in the past been highlighted in some of the most prestigious leading legal directories.

ALMUDENA ARPÓN DE MENDÍVIL

Commercial/TMT partner

Gómez-Acebo & Pombo

Almudena is a partner in the Corporate and Commercial area and head of the TMT Group at Gómez-Acebo & Pombo. She is currently vice-president of the International Bar Association (IBA) and member of its Management Board.

She has wide experience in advising on Corporate and Commercial Law matters and is highly experienced in the telecommunications, media and technology sectors.

Almudena holds a Law degree from ICADE, a Master's degree in EU Law from the College of Europe in Bruges (scholarship from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs) and a PIL from Harvard Law School.

She was a member of the Board of Directors and member of the Executive, Appointments and Remuneration Committees of the Spanish satellite company Hispasat S.A. She is the secretary-general of Círculo Fortuny (the Spanish association of high-end brands) and its representative in the European Cultural and Creative Alliance (ECCIA).

Almudena is repeatedly ranked in prestigious legal directories as one of the leading professionals in the telecommunications, audio-visual and new technologies sectors.



ANA BUITRAGO

Legal director Spain & Germany

Amazon

Ana Buitrago is Legal director at Amazon Spain since 2012, where she has also been interim UK Legal director in 2019 and currently leads the Legal team of Amazon in Germany. She is a member of the Management Committee, DPO and chairs the Compliance Supervisory Board.

Buitrago accumulates more than 20 years of experience in in-house Legal positions. Before joining Amazon, she held senior Legal roles at two large IBEX companies, Iberdrola Renovables (2002-2012: secretary-general and secretary of the Board) and Terra Lycos (2000-2012: Global Business Legal director). She initiated her career in private practice at Uría Menéndez, where she focused on Corporate and M&A.

Buitrago holds an LLM (Magna Cum Laude) at Fordham University School of Laws (NYC'96) and is a teacher in several LLM programs. She and her teams have been recognised with several international awards and mentions.

She has been awarded by Iberian Lawyer as In-House Team of the year – Retail & E-Commerce in 2020, In-House Counsel of the Year – Retail & E-Commerce in 2019, and EU Regulatory Team - European Counsel Awards - Intl Law Office and ACC (2008) (Iberdrola Renovables). She has also been recognised in several editions of *InspiraLaw* initiative.

ANA ISABEL MONTERO

Legal director

Japan Tobacco International

Ana Isabel Montero is the Legal director of Japan Tobacco International (JTI) in Iberia since 2010. She is part of the company's Executive Committee and is responsible for all Legal matters affecting JTI's operations in Spain, Portugal, Andorra and Gibraltar. She provides strategic advice on Regulatory and Compliance matters and on how regulatory changes impact the way the company conducts business. She has extensive experience as a Commercial and Corporate lawyer and is a Regulatory expert specialised in the tobacco industry.

She began her career at Clifford Chance in 2000, specialising in Intellectual Property Law and, prior to joining JTI, she worked as in-house counsel of a Spanish pharmaceutical corporation. Ana Isabel holds a Law degree from the University of Salamanca and a Master's of Laws (LL.M) in European Law from the University of Leiden (The Netherlands). Additionally, she has completed executive education programmes at Instituto de Empresa, IMD, Hult Ashridge and London Business School.

She has received several recognitions from Iberian Lawyer, as winner of the *Gold Awards* to the Legal Team of Spain in 2016 and recognised as one of the top 50 women lawyers in Spain and Portugal in the *InspiraLaw* rankings of 2018 and 2019.



ARACELI SAENZ DE NAVARRETE

Tax partner

EY Abogados

Araceli is a Tax partner in the Madrid office of EY Abogados. She holds a degree in Law from the Universidad de Salamanca and a Master's degree in Tax Law from the Instituto de Empresa (IE). She has been with EY for all her career; she started at EY Málaga and moved from there to Madrid

some years later. She specialises and is passionate about Tax Law, more specifically in M&A transactions and advises multinational groups, Private Equity houses and clients operating in the financial sector.

Araceli has over twenty years' experience in Taxation, ten years as a partner, and currently heads the Financial Services Office team at EY Abogados. We usually see her leading the Tax team in relevant transactions in the Spanish M&A market, where she assists in areas such as vendor and buyer Due Diligence, Tax structuring, modelling or advising in the Tax aspects of complex international Restructurings. She combines this practice with rendering of ongoing Tax advice to financial clients.

Araceli lectures in M&A at the Master's degree in Tax at the Instituto de Empresa (Madrid) since 2012. Her professional activity has been recognised by the most relevant Legal directories.



BELÉN QUINTAS

Legal director

Indra

Belén Quintas Fernández is head of Legal of Indra Soluciones Tecnologías de la Información, the dominant company of the IT affiliates of the multinational Indra's group. Belén is responsible for providing Legal assessment to financial services, telco, media and advanced technologies. Belén stands out from her current work the notorious complexity of the commercial agreements mainly due to being highly regulated sectors.

Belén joined Indra in June 2017, following the takeover of her former employer, the Spanish listed company TecnoCom Telecomunicaciones y Energía, S.A. Belén spent nearly eight years as a Legal advice manager at TecnoCom, where she had the opportunity to build the Legal department. Belén started her career at PwC's Legal services, where she specialised in Legal, Due Diligence and in advising on Mergers & Acquisitions.

Belén acquired and developed a great set of soft skills due to the participation in an international leadership programme promoted by PwC at Washington DC in 2007/2008. From 2009 to 2015, Belén collaborated with CEU Business School Madrid as a Corporate Law teacher in the Master of Laws in International Business Law and as a teacher of Corporate Law and M&A for its executive version from 2009 to 2013.



CARLA DE ABREU LOPES

Legal counsel manager

Samsung Electrónica

Carla de Abreu Lopes joined Samsung Electronics Portugal as Legal counsel manager in 2012.

These past nine years of hard work have been recognised by her colleagues with the company's "Best Support Award." Before joining Samsung, Carla practiced law at Garrigues for ten years, which she joined straight from Law school. During her traineeship, she won a "Special Achievement Award at the European Law Moot Court Society Competition" - EU Law. At Samsung, Carla developed templates for client and supplier contracts and implemented internal policies to ensure compliance with applicable laws. She advised on the sale of Samsung's printing division to H.P. in 2017. In addition, she has written several articles in Competition Law publications. Carla graduated in Law from the Universidade de Coimbra and holds an LL.M. in European Community Law from the University of Leiden (The Netherlands). She is listed in some of the most prestigious international legal directories.



CARMO SOUSA MACHADO

Chairwoman and partner

Abreu Advogados

Carmo Sousa Machado is chairwoman and partner at Abreu Advogados, where she has spent the majority of her legal career spanning nearly three decades. She joined Abreu in 1996, becoming a partner in 1999. She holds a Law degree from the Universidade de Lisboa (1990) and a post-graduate diploma in Labour Law from the Universidade de Lisboa (2000). Her practice is focused on Civil and Employment Law in Portugal, including Litigation. She was responsible for the creation of the Employment Law practice area at Abreu. She has been the chairwoman of the Board of Directors of Abreu since April 2017, and was managing partner from 2004 to 2007. Since 2019, she is the chair of Multilaw, a leading global network of independent law firms. She is also vice president at the Portuguese Bar Association, for the triennium 2020-2022. She is recognised by some of the most prestigious international leading legal directories.



CLARA CERDÁN

Secretary-general and general counsel

Grupo FerroAtlántica

Clara Cerdán is the general counsel and secretary of the Board for Grupo Ferroatlántica (Ferroglobe), a position she has held since 2014. Prior to joining Grupo Ferroatlántica, she spent seven years with Sacyr, where she was the head of the International Legal

department. From an academic perspective, she is an International Business Law teacher at Universidad Carlos III and Universidad Politécnica at MDI; as well as Governance and Compliance teacher at ICADE and Centro de Estudios Garrigues.

She is also the author of several publications and founding partner and vice-president of the Women in a Legal World Association (WLW). Cerdán holds a Law degree from Universidad Complutense de Madrid and a Business degree from the European Business School in Madrid, London and Paris, both degrees with honours and extraordinary award.

She holds a PDG at IESE, an AMP at Esade and Wharton and the Global Leadership Program at Harvard. Clara has received numerous awards from Iberianlawyer: *Gold Awards 2020-2017*, *Best In-house Lawyer Spain & Portugal*, *Iberian Lawyer 2020*, *Awards Distinction at the Innovation & IP Forum 2019* and *InspiraLaw 2018-2020*.



CLÁUDIA DA CRUZ ALMEIDA

M&A partner

VdA

Cláudia Cruz de Almeida is a partner at VdA. She has spent her entire legal career at the firm, joining as a trainee in 1999 and becoming a partner in 2014. She is a partner in the M&A practice, and has been involved in several transactions mainly focused on Acquisition Finance, Corporate Finance and Acquisitions and Sales of companies. Cláudia has also advised several clients on Securities-related matters and on Securities market deals. Cláudia is the author of various articles in publications specialised in Acquisition Finance, Corporate Finance and Securities Matters, such as "International Acquisition Finance: Jurisdictional Comparisons", *European Lawyer*, (co-authorship of the Portuguese chapter of the book). In 2020, Cláudia was the top female dealmaker in Portugal, with six transactions totalling €3.8 billion. She holds a Law degree from the Universidade de Lisboa and a post-graduate degree in Securities Law from the Securities Institute, Universidade de Lisboa. She is recognised by some of the most prestigious international legal directories.



ELENA CUATRECASAS

M&A partner

Cuatrecasas

Elena Cuatrecasas, an M&A partner at Cuatrecasas Barcelona office, has extensive experience in all types of national and international Corporate transactions, including Mergers & Acquisitions, Joint Ventures, Private

Equity transactions, leveraged buyouts (LBOs), management buyouts (MBOs) and Restructurings of groups of companies. She advises on all types of Corporate and Commercial contracts.

She also specialises in the pharmaceutical, biotech, life sciences and TMT sectors, advising these industries and investors from both a transactional and contractual perspective.

She worked in the UK and was head of Cuatrecasas New York office from 2014 to 2017. She is secretary of the Board of several international companies. She is also an active member of the American Bar Association and the International Bar Association (IBA), where she is a regular moderator and speaker, and of the Spain-US Chamber of Commerce. She is the author of numerous articles that appear in specialised journals and collective publications.

She holds a degree in Law from the Universidad de Barcelona and an LL.M. from the University of London. She is recommended by various Legal directories as a lawyer specialising in Corporate and M&A, Private Equity, Life Sciences, Health Care and Biotechnology.



ELIZABETH TORRECILLAS POWER

Valencia office managing partner

Uría Menéndez



Born in Valencia, she studied Law at the Universidad de Valencia, and after graduating, she took a Master's degree in Tax Law. After a short period in a small practice, in 1995, she learnt that Uría Menéndez was opening an office in Valencia and decided to participate in the recruitment process. When she joined the firm, the Valencia office was formed by four lawyers and one secretary, and now they are over 60 people.

"I switched from Tax Law to Commercial Law and learnt surrounded by extraordinary professionals in an environment that encourages study, urge to improve and search of excellence, where decency and ethics are within the firm's DNA. In 2004, pregnant with my first child, I became a partner, and in 2019 was appointed managing partner of the Valencia office. In 2021 I was recognised Lawyer of the Year in Banking & Finance Law in Valencia by a prestigious legal directory. In addition to my practice, I teach Commercial Law at university and in several post-graduate degrees. In a world where full professional development and decision-making positions are not always easy to achieve for women."

FERNANDA MATOSO

Life Sciences partner

Morais Leitão



Fernanda Matoso joined Morais Leitão in 1984, where she has spent her entire legal career. She became a partner in 1988. She holds a degree in Law from the Universidade Livre de Lisboa (1984). Fernanda coordinates the Life Sciences

practice area and was previously the coordinator of the Public Law and Urban Planning practice area. She was a member of the firm's Board of Directors for several years.

Fernanda's sustained knowledge of the national health market and health care system is highly recognised. She has extensive knowledge and expertise in the Regulatory framework of the pharmaceutical industry activity and respective products. During her career, Fernanda led several projects in the Public Law area, such as the expropriation project for the construction of "Ponte Vasco da Gama" bridge over the river Tagus (Lisbon), and the subway project executed in municipalities of Lisbon's surrounding area ("Metro Sul do Tejo"). One of the most challenging projects lead by Fernanda was "Cidade Administrativa", which aimed at the relocation of the majority of ministries and related public services to a new location in Lisbon.

GABRIELA RODRIGUES MARTINS

Corporate & Finance partner

SRS Advogados

Gabriela Rodrigues Martins is a partner in the Corporate & Finance department at SRS Advogados. She started her legal career at the prestigious Brazilian law firm Mattos Filho & Suchodolsky in São Paulo, before relocating to Portugal and joining PLMJ as an associate in 1989, where she was promoted to the partnership in 1996. She was the founding partner of AAA Advogados in 2008 before their subsequent merger with SRS Advogados in September 2020.

She is arguably one of the most prestigious lawyers in Portugal in Corporate, M&A, Capital Markets, Contracts and Private Equity transactions and Privatisations. With over 30 years of practice in Portugal, Gabriela is also admitted to the Brazilian Bar Association and continues to advise national and international clients on relevant matters. Gabriela holds a degree in Law from the Universidade Católica Portuguesa and is recognised by some of the most prestigious international leading legal directories in Corporate Law.



ISABEL CHARRAZ

Country Legal counsel Portugal and Greece

Citibank Europe

Isabel Charraz joined Citibank in 2003, joining the Legal and Compliance department as Legal and Compliance Officer. In December 2007, she was appointed Consumer Legal head, launching the Retail business and Internet channel for credit cards acquisition in Portugal. In July 2009, she was appointed general counsel and

Compliance and Control head and Anti-Money Laundering Compliance Officer (AMLCO) until 2014. She is the Data Privacy Officer since 2009. She is currently the country Legal counsel for Portugal and Greece, including Cyprus and Malta. She has a post-graduation in Banking and Securities Law, a post-graduation in Capital Markets, Banking and Insurance Law and another in Public Companies. In 2016 she was recognized by a prestigious international legal directory in Iberia as one of the most innovative lawyers in Portugal. In 2018 for the 2nd time in a row she was included in another international list. In 2019, CEP Portugal's Legal team was recognised in the *Gold Awards* as best Banking and Finance Legal team in Iberia awarded by Iberian Lawyer. In 2020 she was included in the *InspiraLaw* list as the one of the most 60 inspiring women in the legal sector in the Iberian Peninsula by Iberian Lawyer.



ISABEL FERNANDES

General counsel

Grupo Visabeira



Isabel Fernandes has been the general counsel at Grupo Visabeira since 2006. She manages a complex group of companies in different markets. Prior to her current role, Isabel was associate director - Tax & Legal at PwC from 1998-2006 in Maputo, Mozambique. Between 2002 and 2006, Isabel assumed the role of correspondent for the International Bureau of Fiscal Documentation (IBFD). She stands out for her expertise in Corporate Law, Corporate Governance and Restructuring, as well as in Contractual matters. She has significant international experience in Tax & Legal matters. Fernandes was a member of the jury for the Iberian Lawyer *Forty under 40* awards in 2017 and won, together with her team, the Corporate Portuguese team award at the 2018 Iberian Lawyer *Gold Awards*. She was also a finalist in the 2016, 2018 and 2019 *Gold Awards* and recognised several times in *InspiraLaw*. She holds a degree in Law from the Universidade de Coimbra (1992).



ISABEL LAGE

General counsel

Fidelidade Group

Isabel Lage is the general counsel of Fidelidade Group, Portugal's market leader in both Life and Non-Life Insurance. She has more than 25 years of outstanding experience and in-depth knowledge of the Insurance sector. As an in-house legal professional, she provides comprehensive advice to the Group, relating both the operations in Portugal and abroad, covering Insurance, Corporate, Regulatory and Real Estate. Isabel Lage is known for having extensive knowledge on managing cross-border transactions and being involved in a large number of landmark projects and deals. The Legal team led by Isabel Lage, is experienced and very respected in the market and has also been recognised by a number of awards, publications and leading legal directories. The Legal team she leads stands out as a true business driver, overseeing projects of great importance to the Group and its growth. As general counsel, Maria Isabel represented Fidelidade and won, along with her colleagues in her Legal department, In-House Team of the Year - Insurance at Iberian Lawyer's *Gold Awards* in both 2019 and 2020.

LEONOR SAMPAIO SANTOS

General counsel

José de Mello Capital

Leonor Sampaio Santos is the general counsel at José de Mello Capital, where she has spent the last 20 years of her career, being the head of Legal until 2017. She began as a trainee at PLMJ (1999-2001). It has been a career full of successes and challenges culminating in perhaps the highlight of her career, when Leonor oversaw the sale of the majority stake in Brisa, which took place during the first COVID-19 confinement period in 2020. This was arguably one of the most relevant M&A transactions in Portugal last year. In the Portuguese media, at the time, she was quoted as saying that she will never experience another challenge like this one, that she had the feeling that she was swimming in the high seas and that she is proud to have lived it. She holds a degree in Law from the Universidade de Lisboa (1999). She has in the past been recognised by some of the leading international legal directories.



LOLA CONDE

Legal COO

Banco Santander

She is the current Santander Legal COO, reporting to the deputy secretary of the Board and head of the Legal department of Banco Santander. Lola has developed her career as a lawyer in fields as diverse as e-business, retail banking, HR, Purchases, costs, communication and Corporate Governance, both at a national and international level, managing teams in high-impact projects.

She holds a degree in Spanish and European Community Law from the Universidad CEU, with an extraordinary award, and completed post-graduate studies at IE, MMBA Deusto. She combines her professional activity with her passion for teaching.

As Santander Legal COO, she has been entrusted by the Legal senior management with an innovative function within the internal Legal services of multinationals in general and of the group in particular, and which was born inspired by the new corporate strategy and culture. Her mission is to define and develop within the Legal department, under the tutelage of senior management, and as direct support to it, a non-technical-legal but management function, to achieve objectives of improvement of its efficiency and effectiveness, communication actions, management and dissemination of knowledge, with a focus on the personal and professional development and motivation of the team's people.

MAFALDA BARRETO

Lisbon office managing partner

Gómez-Acebo & Pombo



Mafalda Barreto has been a partner at Gómez-Acebo & Pombo since 2013. Mafalda assumed in January 2018 the role of managing partner of the Lisbon office. She began her career at Teixeira de Freitas where she was an associate (1998-2005) and partner (2005-2013). Mafalda has been leading the major operations in the M&A and Banking areas of the Lisbon office, as well as in the Restructuring practice area, advising noteworthy international corporations and investment funds. She is specialised in Banking & Finance, Corporate and M&A, Joint Ventures, Capital Markets, Restructuring, Foreign investment and Corporate Disputes. She holds a degree in Law from the Universidade Católica Portuguesa (1998), a post-graduate in Tax Law from the Instituto Superior de Gestão (2001) and a post-graduate in Corporate and Commercial Law from the Universidade Católica Portuguesa (2004). She has in the past and continues to be recognised by some of the leading international legal directories and rankings.



MAFALDA FERREIRA

Public Law, Projects and Energy partner

DLA Piper ABBC

Mafalda Ferreira is a partner at DLA Piper ABBC. She began her career at Sérvulo, where she was a trainee and associate lawyer (2004-2008). She was a senior lawyer at Uría Menéndez Portugal (2008-2019) and Uría Menéndez São Paulo (2010-2012). She joined DLA Piper ABBC as a partner in 2019.

Her practice is focused on the areas of Public Law, Projects and Energy. She advises clients on Public-Private Partnerships, Public Procurement, Projects, Administrative and Regulatory Law, Project Finance and Litigation. Mafalda possesses an extensive track record in Investments, Acquisitions, Disposals in the Water /Wastewater, Energy and Transport sectors. She holds a degree in Law from the Universidade Católica Portuguesa (2004), and an Intensive International Master of Laws (LL.M.) in European Public Law (2005). Mafalda was recognised as Lawyer of the Year in Infrastructure & Construction at the Iberian Lawyer 2020 *Forty under 40* awards. She has in the past and continues to be recognised by some of the leading international legal directories and rankings.

MAFALDA MARCARENHAS GARCIA

Lead counsel

IBM



Mafalda Marcarenhas Garcia is the lead counsel at IBM, where she has been working for the last eight years. She holds a degree in Law from the Universidade Católica Portuguesa (1996) and an LL.M. in Corporate and Commercial Law from University College London (2000).

Marcarenhas Garcia started her career at Linklaters before joining Cuatrecasas Portugal in 2001, where her practice focused on Corporate and Commercial Law, Mergers & Acquisitions, Financial Law, Corporate Finance and Project Finance and she was also a member of the firm's Angolan Desk. In 2013 Mafalda joined IBM, where she has held several senior positions, including IBM Lead counsel - EU Cloud Code of Conduct (2017-present), Lead counsel for GDPR related matters (2018-present) and most recently IBM Legal department Privacy Legal lead for Public Cloud, Cloud Platform and AI Applications (2020-present). Mafalda has in the past been recognised by some of the leading international legal directories and rankings.

MANUELA TAVARES MORAIS

Dispute Resolution partner

PLMJ



Manuela is a partner in the Dispute Resolution practice at PLMJ. With over 20 years' experience, she works in various areas of Civil and Commercial Law, with a particular focus on Civil Litigation

and on Insolvency and Corporate Restructuring. She has provided expert advice to both Portuguese and foreign clients on court proceedings involving different jurisdictions, in particular, in cases of Insolvency and Liquidation of credit institutions. She has been involved in various successful client initiatives, including PLMJ's cycle of training exclusively dedicated to the reform of the Civil Procedure Code, with the objective of providing lawyers with in-depth knowledge of both the theory and the practice of the new code. This was open to Legal directors or in-house lawyers from companies that were clients of PLMJ.

Manuela also represents creditors and debtors in the negotiations in Special Corporate Recovery Proceedings. Manuela has spent her entire career at PLMJ, joining straight out of Law school as a trainee in 1994. She was promoted to partner in 2007. She holds a degree in Law from the Universidade de Lisboa (1994). Manuela has been consistently recognised by some of the leading legal directories and rankings during the last two decades.

MARÍA ECHEVERRÍA-TORRES

Head of Legal & Compliance

Nokia Networks



María has spent much of her career advising high tech and telecommunications companies on Legal, Governance and Compliance topics. She started her career in the IP department at the prestigious law firm Uría Menéndez. She joined Nokia in 2010, where she serves the company in the position of head of Legal & Compliance. In her current role, María leads a team based in different jurisdictions to provide Legal and Compliance support to the business operations. She advises the senior management team on Legal, Compliance and Regulatory matters.

María has acted as faculty and has written reports for the General Council of Spanish Lawyers and the Madrid Bar on Compliance and the future of the in-house Legal profession. She serves Women In Compliance as a judge, and she cooperates as faculty in the Anti-Corruption annual forums.

Prior to Nokia, María held various Legal roles at General Motors, Hewlett Packard (formerly Electronic Data Systems) and Nortel Networks.

María has been recognised with the Iberian Lawyer *Gold Awards* Best Counsel in the field of Privacy Law / GDPR and has been selected as Top 50 Women Lawyers Leading Change by several editions of *InspiraLaw*, and *Gold Awards* Best Counsel in Global Compliance 2016.



MARÍA EUGENIA GAY

ICAB dean

Gay-Rosell & Solano founding partner

A lawyer and a mediator, María Eugenia is the current president of the Council of Catalan Bar Associations and dean of the Barcelona Bar Association (ICAB), vice-president of the General Council of Spanish Lawyers, president of the International Relations Committee of the General Council of Spanish

Lawyers and president of the Spanish Chapter of the World Jurist Association (WJA).

She is also president of the Inter-collegiate Association of Professional Associations of Catalonia, president of the Mediation Commission of the *Fédération des Barreaux de Europe* (FBE) and director of Collective Members of the International Union of Lawyers (UIA). She is also a member of the Catalan Association of Democratic Lawyers and a member of the Catalan Association of Inheritance Law Experts.

María Eugenia Gay is a founding partner of the law firm Gay-Rosell & Solano and current partner of the firm's Barcelona office. She is a specialist in Civil Litigation Law and has extensive experience in Family Law, especially in Matrimonial Law, as well as in Inheritance, Civil Liability, Registry Law, Associations, Foundations and Professional Associations. She has been a tutor in Civil Law and lecturer on the Master's degree in Civil Litigation Law, both taught at the ICAB, among others.

MARÍA JESÚS GONZÁLEZ-ESPEJO

Managing partner

Instituto de Innovación Legal

María Jesús González-Espejo (Chusa) is one of the world-leading experts in Innovation, Legaltech, Strategy and Legal Marketing. As managing partner of Instituto de Innovación Legal, she advises law firms, lawyers and organisations.

She has created several corporate and professional brands and is a lawyer passionate about Technology Law. Maria Jesus devoted the first half of her career to the practice of Law, specialising in IP, Data Protection and Contracts Drafting. Admitted to the Madrid bar in 1989, she practised first as a lawyer at Clifford Chance and Gómez-Acebo & Pombo, and later as corporate in-house counsel.

She is the author of several books on Innovation and LegalTech, law firms management, Innovation and Legaltech. She also contributes frequently to professional media.

She teaches in several universities and lectures in conferences and workshops.

She has been vice-president of the European Legaltech Association (ELTA) and co-organiser of Madrid #LegalHackers. Currently, she is vice-president of the Latin American Legal Professionals Women Association (AMJI). She has been recognised by the International Legal Technology Association (ILTA) as one of the five most influential women in Legal Tech. The Madrid Townhall named her ambassador of Madrid, and she is included in a prestigious ranking of leading Spanish women.



MARÍA JOSÉ LÓPEZ

Legal director

LaLiga

With a degree in Law from the Universidad de A Coruña, María José López has been the director of LaLiga's Legal area since 2015, although she has been part of the company since 2013. She worked in the

Dispute Resolution department of EY. Since her arrival at LaLiga, López is commended for contributing to the evolution of the professional football league with the commercialisation of its audio-visual rights in a collective manner for the first time in its history, as well as her provision of expert Legal support for the competition's internationalisation, creating affiliates and projects that contribute to the aforementioned commercialisation of audio-visual rights.

She is also distinguished for developing and implementing legal strategies that protect the IP rights and audio-visual content of the competition.

Other important matters she has contributed to include different litigations regarding the scope and reach of LaLiga competencies, dealing with anti-piracy legal measures and facilitating strategic sponsorship agreements on a global scale.

A prestigious international legal directory has recognised her as In-house Lawyer in 2018, 2019, and in 2020, she was highlighted by Iberian Lawyer in the practice of Sport sector (*Top 10 In-house Lawyer in the sport Sector in Spain*).

MARÍA PILAR GARCÍA GUIJARRO

Managing partner

Watson Farley & Williams



María Pilar is the managing partner and head of the Corporate department of Watson Farley & Williams (WFW) Spain. She has over 19 years of experience in the energy and infrastructure sectors. She covers all aspects of corporate transactions, including M&A, Private Equity and Structured Finance. María Pilar has advised numerous investment funds and industrial companies on M&A transactions, Private Equity and Joint Ventures at a national and international level, on both aspects, the Acquisition and the Financing (MBOs, LBOs, JVs, SHAs).

She also has extensive experience advising banks and financial institutions on all types of Structured Finance (Acquisition Finance, Project Finance and Asset Finance) and Restructuring and Refinancing processes.

Her experience covers the development, sale and purchase, financing and refinancing of renewable projects, gas natural/LNG and electricity. She has advised many sponsors and funds in multiple projects, domestic and international, in Spain, Europe, Middle East and LATAM. María Pilar has also devoted some of her time to dispute resolution in the energy sector.

María Pilar teaches Corporate, M&A and Structured Finance at Universidad Pontificia de Comillas ICADE Master's degree in Access to Legal Profession. Prestigious international legal directories have recommended her expertise over consecutive years.

MARLEN ESTÉVEZ

Litigation, Mediation & Arbitration partner

Roca Junyent



Marlen is partner and head of the Litigation, Mediation & Arbitration department at Roca Junyent, as well as co-head of the Innovation department and the Latam Desk. She is also founder and president of Women in a Legal World.

She has a prolific international career as an expert in the field of Dispute Resolution, which she combines with the performance of executive positions in the Council of European Lawyers and the Royal Academy, as well as being a member of the Advisory Board of universities, publishers, arbitration courts and Endeavor.

In the educational field, she teaches Arbitration and Mediation at IE University, Universidad Pontificia Comillas and Universidad Carlos III, among others. Her brilliant career has been acknowledged by several renowned international directories which have selected her as a leading lawyer in her field.

She has also been chosen as one of the 20 most relevant lawyers in the Spanish legal profession, as one of the 500 most influential women in Spain and has been awarded in the Top 50 *InspiraLaw* Awards in Spain and Portugal, Top 60 Women in the Iberian Legal Sector and *Forty under 40* by Iberian Lawyer.

MARTA AFONSO PEREIRA

Employment partner

Linklaters

Marta is the head of the Employment practice of Linklaters Lisbon office. She advises Portuguese and international companies on Labour Law and Social Security issues, including on-staff benefits (pension schemes and stock option plans), collective labour negotiations, company restructuring, post-structuring and staff transfers, disciplinary procedures and executive recruitment and dismissals, as well as on Employment Litigation. Marta advises companies in a wide range of sectors, including banking, insurance, investment funds, professional services and consultancy, healthcare, pharmaceuticals, transport and automobile sectors. Marta works closely with the firm's Corporate lawyers to counsel on the Employment issues in cross-border transactions, including in Lusophone Africa. Marta studied Law at, and holds a post-graduate degree in Labour Law and Social Security Law from the Universidade de Lisboa Law School and holds a post-graduate degree in Company Law from the Universidade Católica Portuguesa Law School. Marta has been consistently recognised by some of the leading legal directories and rankings.



NIEVES BRIZ

Barcelona office managing partner

Dentons

Nieves is the Barcelona office managing partner of Dentons, where she is responsible for the design and development of the firm's business strategy in the Catalan market. She is also a partner in the Corporate and M&A practice group.

At Dentons, she is a member of the Global Diversity & Inclusion Committee and the Women's Advancement Committee. She is also president of the International Women's Forum (IWF) in Spain. She is a member of the SyC Advisory Board Women Legal Practice, the Board of Directors of ACG Barcelona, the Advisory Board of the ESADE Law School, and also the Advisory Boards of several technological and industrial companies.

She is a regular speaker at conferences organised by business schools and business organisations such as IESE, ESADE and CGAE, and she participates in mentoring programs with global consultancies. Previous to Dentons, she developed her professional career at Fieldfisher JAUSAS as an M&A and Compliance partner, and she worked at EY Abogados for 25 years, where she was the first woman and the youngest at the time to be appointed an international quota partner. Her career has recently been rewarded with recognition as one of the leading women in the Spanish legal profession by a media of the legal sector.

PALOMA BRU

TMT and Cybersecurity Partner

Pinsent Masons



Paloma Bru is the partner head of the TMT and Cybersecurity practice at Pinsent Masons Madrid. She joined Pinsent Masons in 2018 after leading the TMT practice at Jones Day, where she worked since 2001.

Paloma has an extensive career focused on advising Spanish and foreign companies on local and international Commercial Contracts, Privacy and Data Protection, Cybersecurity, Outsourcing, E-Commerce and information society services.

Paloma offers a full range of services to her clients in Commercial matters, preparation of public offerings, Corporate transactions, relations with regulatory institutions and the formulation of allegations and appeals in relation to the rules and legislation governing the sector. In the area of Privacy, she advises companies on their adaptation to Spanish and European Data Protection laws, as well as representing them in claims related to this issue.

Paloma holds a Law degree from ICADE and a Master's degree in telecommunications Law from the same institution. She was ranked in the Top 10 in Iberian Lawyer's 2020 *Best Lawyers in Cybersecurity* ranking.

PALOMA FIERRO

Financial Regulatory partner

Linklaters



Paloma is a partner and the head of the Financial Regulatory practice at Linklaters Madrid office. She has broad experience in Financial Markets Regulation, including banking and investment firm group Reorganisations, Insurance-related transactions

(Mergers, portfolio transfers and share deals), Regulatory M&A and in the setting up of credit institutions, branches and representative offices.

Her work also includes the incorporation of hedge fund managers and the creation and registration of traditional, alternative and hedge funds. She is also an expert in derivatives, including structuring and negotiating equity derivatives and structured products, as well as designing transactions with insolvency protection components. Paloma is one of the two global diversity partners of the firm.

The 2009 through 2021 editions of one of the main legal directories rank her as a leading individual in Financial Regulation services, describing her as a go-to lawyer and highlighting her in-depth knowledge of Regulatory matters. She is also described as a go-to person for any Regulatory question in Spain.

PATRÍCIA AFONSO FONSECA

Head of Legal

NOVO BANCO



Patrícia Fonseca is head of Legal at Novo Banco, with experience in Capital Markets transactions (equity and debt), Derivatives, Securities and Banking. She also maintains contact with the Banking and Finance regulatory and supervisory authorities. Before working as an in-house lawyer, she worked at an international law firm (Linklaters LLP, Corporate Finance) in Corporate Law, Mergers & Acquisitions, Private Equity, Corporate Governance and Corporate Restructuring. Patrícia Fonseca leads a team of 14 lawyers and three support staff at Novo Banco.

She is an in-house legal professional with in-depth experience in both equity and debt capital markets, as well as extensive knowledge of derivatives securities and banking regulations. Fonseca has been recommended for her efforts in managing cross-border transactions, such as the recent sale of a major Portuguese investment bank to a Chinese investor for approximately €378 million. She holds a degree in Law from the University of Lisbon (2002). She is praised for her team management skills and was recognised in Iberian Lawyer's 2019 *InspiraLaw* and 2017 *Forty under 40*, and won the In-house Counsel of the Year Banking & Finance distinction in 2019 *Gold Awards*.



PATRICIA MANCA

New Law partner

PwC Tax & Legal

Patricia leads the New Law Legal Management Services area of PwC Tax & Legal in Spain, advising organisations, particularly in the areas of Legal and Compliance, in their optimisation and digitalisation transformation processes.

Her extensive career and experience of more than 24 years of professional practice has been focused on the Corporate & Compliance area, advising national and international organisations on the design of comprehensive Compliance models, acting as support for the Chief Compliance Officer, and on Corporate Governance matters, acting on a recurring basis as non-board member secretary of several entities, carrying out projects for the diagnosis of governance models, protocols for decision-making by governing bodies, evaluation of conflict of interest policies, etc.

Patricia has also participated in numerous Corporate Restructuring projects, advising mainly on the transformation aspects affecting the distribution chain and its processes.

She is a Law graduate from Universidad CEU San Pablo, and has spent more than 22 years at PwC T&L after a period of practice at Mullerat & Roca prior to its dissolution.

PILAR MENOR

Global co-chair Employment & senior partner

DLA Piper



Pilar Menor is DLA Piper's Employment Global co-chair, head of Employment and senior partner at Madrid. She was the country managing partner in Spain between 2012-2020.

She has extensive experience in Employment and Social Security Law, including business Restructuring operations, Employment Litigation, collective bargaining negotiations, senior management agreements and Employment aspects of M&A.

Pilar is president of the Spanish Forum of Employment Lawyers (Forelab), Board member in the Council for Madrid region Bar Associations, active member of various professional memberships, such as the International Bar Association, European Employment Lawyers Association, WLW, Woman Forward, Fundación Probono España and Madrid Bar Association.

She is also member of various DLA Piper committees: Diversity Council, chair of the EMEA working group on D&I, vice-chair of DLA Piper LAW (Leadership Alliance for Women) gender balance internal network and a member of Mental Health and Wellbeing Steering committee.

Pilar is recognised year after year by prestigious international legal directories as a leading Labour lawyer and also by Iberian Lawyer (*InspiraLaw*, Iberian Lawyer 2017-2020, Labour Lawyer of the Year, *Labour Awards* 2020).

She is the author of publications on Employment Law and D&I, and a frequent speaker on events and round tables on Employment Law and D&I.



RITA CORREIA

Tax & Energy partner

Miranda & Associados

Rita Correia is a partner at Miranda & Associados, where she has spent her entire legal career and was the second lawyer to join the firm with Agostinho Pereira de Miranda in 1989. Rita's practice is focused on Oil & Gas and Tax, areas in which she is recognised

for her knowledge and experience. Her practice covers several Lusophone jurisdictions in Africa. She heads Miranda's Tax practice and is a member of the Energy Practice. Rita has advised on a significant number of Oil & Gas transactions in close cooperation with Angola-based attorneys, including negotiations for Production Sharing Contracts, Risk Service Contracts, Joint Venture Agreements, Farm-Ins and Farm-Outs, among many others.

She has been involved in the Tax planning of several international Joint Venture Agreements and in the setting up of various Foreign Investment Projects in Angola and elsewhere in Africa. She has nearly 30 years of experience in dealing with Oil & Gas Upstream Regulatory, Taxation Advisory and Litigation issues in coordination with Angola-based attorneys. Rita also has extensive experience in leading project teams comprising lawyers from different departments of the firm and Miranda Alliance attorneys.

RITA GOUVEIA

Litigation & Arbitration partner

CMS Rui Pena & Arnaut

Rita Gouveia is a partner at CMS Rui Pena & Arnaut, having joined the firm from Cuatrecasas Portugal in 2018. She has more than 20 years of experience, and her practice is focused on the area of Litigation and Arbitration, concerning domestic and international Disputes in the scope of Corporate Relations, M&A Operations, Financial and Banking Transactions, Distribution Contracts and Service Agreements. She is a Civil Litigation and Forensic Practice lecturer at the Universidade Católica Portuguesa, where she has also taught, as from 1998, subjects such as General Theory of Civil Law, Rights in Rem, Succession Law and Obligations Law. She holds a Law degree and Master's from the Universidade Católica Portuguesa and spent most of her career at Cuatrecasas Portugal as an associate (2000-2009) and as a partner (2009-2018). She is an Executive Commission member of "Comissão de Arbitragem Nacional da ICC Portugal" (Portugal international Chamber of Commerce). Rita has been consistently recognised by some of the leading legal directories and rankings.



ROSA ESPÍN

Co-CEO

Ambar Partners

Rosa Espín is co-CEO of Ambar Partners. She holds a PhD in Global Public Law *Cum Laude* from the Universidad Autónoma de Barcelona and a Law & Business Administration degree from ICADE. She also holds a High Legal Studies degree from Cardiff University and is

completing an Executive MBA at IESE Business School.

Rosa Espín is an expert in Regulatory Law, ESG and Litigation, having practised for more than 12 years at Latham & Watkins, where she was counsel and worked in the Madrid, London and Brussels offices. Rosa Espín has always been involved in initiatives to promote female talent, leading important initiatives at a global and European level.

Throughout her career, Rosa has been selected by a prestigious international ranking within the energy sector, as well as recommended as best lawyer in Litigation.

Currently, Rosa is leading one of the most disruptive projects in the legal sector in Spain.

ROSA VIDAL

Managing partner

BROSETA

Rosa is the managing partner of BROSETA since 2016. She is a lawyer specialising in Administrative Law, Planning Law, Environmental Law, Real Estate and Construction Law, Infrastructures and Energy. Prior to joining the firm in 2006, she had an extensive career as a State Attorney in different decision-making positions.

Among other functions, she has been Chief State Attorney in Soria, Castellón and Valencia; secretary of the Board of Directors of the Port Authority of Castellón; substitute secretary of the Regional Economic-Administrative Court of Valencia; member of the Valencia Monitoring Group of the Tax Crime and Money Laundering Observatory; member of the Public Procurement Arbitration Court, and chair of the Board of Directors and general manager of RTVV.

She is also an Arbitrator of the Civil and Commercial Court of Arbitration, has extensive teaching experience and is a regular author of specialised articles and essays on her field of practice.

She holds a degree in Law from the Universidad de Valencia, specialising in Public Law; training in Business Studies at the Universidad Jaime I and a Master's degree in Business Management at the Universidad CEU San Pablo, as well as an Advanced Course in Community Law at the Court of Justice in Luxembourg. She has been recognised in all editions of Iberian Lawyer *InspiraLaw*.



ROSA ZARZA

Labour partner

Garrigues

Rosa Zarza is the partner head of Garrigues' Labour and Employment Law department, with more than 200 professionals worldwide and a member of the firm's Management Committee.

Rosa joined Garrigues in 1990; ten years later, at only 33 years old, she was named partner. In 2011, she took on her current role, making her one of the women with the highest leadership and management position at the firm. In fact, Rosa was the first person to head up the Labour and Employment Law department at a global level after that area underwent its large-scale consolidation and expansion.

Ranked as a leading lawyer in the Iberian market, under her leadership, the department came out even stronger from the economic crisis, gaining a more international scale through its presence in the 13 countries in which Garrigues has its own offices. Together with Spain, this presence is particularly noteworthy in Portugal and Latin America. This department participated in the most important and complex Labour Restructurings in the last years.

She has been recognised by *InspiraLaw* initiative in several editions, *Iberian Top 50 lawyers in Business Law 2020*, and *Lawyer of the Year - Public Sector Employment, Iberian Lawyer Labour Awards 2020*.



RUTH BREITENFELD

*Head of Legal
Cepsa Trading*



Ruth Breitenfeld is the head of Legal at Cepsa Trading and the vice president for Cepsa Portugal. She has more than 20 years' of multinational legal experience. Ruth is recognised for her vast management and coordination experience, both internally and with external local and international partners, with a successful and proven delivery record. She has been at Cepsa, a Spanish multinational Oil and Gas company with operations in several countries, for 15 years, prior to which she was the senior Legal adviser at BP Portugal. She holds a degree in Law from the Universidade de Lisboa and a post-graduate in Competition Law from the Universidade Católica Portuguesa. She has been praised for the successful team she has established at Cepsa, and her defining task at the company was the creation and development of a high-calibre team. The legal team at Cepsa was recognised as In-house Team of the Year – Energy & Renewables, at the Iberian Lawyer 2019 *Gold Awards*.



SAGRARIO FERNÁNDEZ

*General counsel
DIA Group*

Sagrario began her professional career at Garrigues in the Environmental, Telecommunications and Commercial departments.

In 1998, she joined Indra as Corporate Legal counsel, participating in its privatisation and listing. In 2001, she joined Iberbanda (currently Telefónica), as head of Legal Affairs, HR and Regulation and secretary of the Board until 2006, when she joined Informática El Corte Inglés as Legal counsel.

In 2008, she joined Prosegur group as general counsel and secretary of the Board of Directors with responsibility in the areas of Legal, Compliance, Corporate Governance, Regulation, Labour contingencies, Data Protection and international M&A in 17 countries. In 2018 she joined Codere as Corporate Legal director and Compliance Officer.

Since September 2019, she is general counsel and vice secretary of the Board of Directors of DIA Group, with responsibility in the areas of Legal, Compliance, Data Protection, Insurances, IP rights, internal control and Cybersecurity.

She holds a degree in Law from the Universidad Complutense de Madrid and a Master's degree in Digital Business from DIBEX, ISDI. She is currently taking a Master's degree in AI at the Artificial Intelligence Institute. She has been a participant in the Banco Santander UCLA W50 programme and in the PwC Women to Watch.

SARA MOLINA PEREZ-TOMÉ

Digital Transformation consultant

Deloitte Legal

Sara is a Digital Transformation consultant in Legal Management Consulting at Deloitte Legal. She has participated in projects of transformation of operating models, business process reengineering and implementation of technological solutions (AI, RPA) from a systemic people management perspective within agile frameworks. She has developed her career both in the legal sector and in organisational projects in different companies in sectors such as the energy sector, the medical sector and the food industry.

She was also founder and president of the Law Firm Management and Innovation Section of the Madrid Bar Association, co-organiser of Legal Hackers Madrid, member of the Technical Cabinet of Woman in Legal World, vice-president of the Mental Health Institute and collaborator of the Lefebvre Innovation Observatory.

She is coordinator and author of the *"Manual de Dirección, Gestión y Marketing jurídicos"* and *"Ellas: Retos, Amenazas y oportunidades en un mundo interconectado"*, and regular speaker at conferences, universities and business schools. She has written several articles on Management, Legaltech and Innovation in the sector.



STÉPHANIE SÁ SILVA

General counsel

TAP

Stéphanie Sá Silva is the general counsel at TAP. Stéphanie leads the Legal team and has been described in the past as being "an outstanding lawyer with an in-depth knowledge of several areas of Law", who aside from her day-to-day work, assists the Executive Committee and the regulatory transactional work. Some of the Legal team's highlights include the package of financing agreements in total amount of circa €250 million which was closed with financial entities such as Macquarie, Banco do Brasil, Citigroup and JP Morgan since mid-2018. It has been instrumental to establishing the fleet renewal involving 37 new aircraft and operation of ten new routes until the end of 2019. Stéphanie has been at TAP since 2018 and leads a Legal team of 22 employees. Before joining TAP in 2018, she worked at PLMJ. Prior to this, Stéphanie was an associate at Cuatrecasas Portugal, specialised in EU & Competition Law. She graduated in Law from the University of Paris II, Panthéon - Assas, in 2004, obtained a Master's degree in European and International Law at Louvain Catholic University in 2005, and a post-graduate diploma in EU Competition Law at King's College London, in 2009.

SUSANA GUERRERO

Legal director

Iberian Diageo

Susana Guerrero is Legal director for Southern Europe at Diageo, a world's leading drink business. In her role, she leads the Legal support for Diageo business activity in Spain, Portugal, France, Italy and Greece. She also sits at the Diageo Southern Europe Executive team. Since 2019, Susana is also an associate lecturer at Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, where she lectures on Corporate and Commercial Law.

Prior to joining Diageo in 2010, Susana was a lawyer at Gas Natural Fenosa (today Naturgy), where she provided legal support to the Group's upstream activities, mainly in the North Africa region. She also has law firm experience, having worked as an associate lawyer at Pérez-Llorca and CMS Albiñana & Suárez de Lezo, focusing primarily on Competition and Antitrust Law.

Susana holds a Law degree from the Universidad de Granada, a Master's degree in EU Law from the Universidad Carlos III de Madrid, and an LLM from Columbia University School of Law.



TERESA MÉNDEZ

Commercial/M&A counsel

Allen & Overy

Teresa Méndez is counsel in Allen & Overy's Corporate/M&A department in Spain. She has more than 15 years of experience and specialises in the structuring and execution of M&A and equity transactions.

She has participated in some of the most relevant IPOs in Spain, as well as in capital increases, secondary offerings and accelerated placements. He has advised both issuers and underwriters in several of the most relevant IPOs in recent years, including those of Cepsa, Applus+, Euskaltel, Talgo and Unicaja Banco, as well as in Enel's IPO of Endesa. She has extensive experience in Corporate Governance matters, particularly in relation to listed companies. She also has extensive experience in both public and private transactions, with particular expertise and experience in takeover bids.

Her credentials also include some of the most complex transactions carried out as part of the Restructuring of the Spanish financial sector, such as the creation of Sociedad de Gestión de Activos Procedentes de la Reestructuración Bancaria (SAREB).

She ranked first in TTR's ranking of top female lawyers in M&A transactions by value, 2020.



TERESA MÍNGUEZ

Legal director and Compliance & Integrity officer

Porsche Ibérica



Teresa Mínguez is Legal director and Compliance & Integrity officer for Porsche Ibérica, S.A., where she holds the overall responsibility for all Legal and Compliance matters related to the businesses of all Porsche entities in Spain and Portugal. She has also assumed the functions of Data Protection Officer of the group's entities in Iberia.

She is the representative of the Association of Corporate Counsels (ACC) in Spain and a member of the National Legal Committee and International Committee of the World Compliance Association.

She has written, lectured and participated as a speaker on legal topics relating primarily to Corporate Governance, Compliance and Innovation in Legal area. Mínguez qualified as Solicitor of England and Wales in 2004 and obtained her Master of Laws (LLM) from the Instituto de Empresa (Madrid) in 1998. She has been awarded with the Iberian Lawyer's *Gold Awards* in the Fashion & Luxury category in 2019 and 2020 and has been recognised within the *InspirLAW* initiative in several editions.



VICTORIA ORTEGA

President

General Council of Spanish Lawyers

Victoria Ortega Benito has been president of the General Council of Spanish Lawyers since January 2016 (re-elected in 2020). She is also president of the Spanish Professional

Union, first vice-president of the European Council of Liberal Professions and vice-president of the World Liberal Professions Organisation. She is councilor of the Council of State and member of the General Coding Commission.

Born in Palencia, she lives and practices in Cantabria. She holds a PhD in Law from the Universidad de Valladolid, and she is a practising lawyer since 1981. She has been dean of the Cantabria Bar Association (2000-2008); vice-president of the General Council of Spanish Lawyers (2002-2008), and secretary-general of this institution from February 2011 to December 2015.

As for her academic activity, she has been a Litigation Law full professor at the Universidad de Cantabria since 1992. She is the author of several publications and monographic texts on Litigation and Administrative Law.

In 2009 she received the Gran Cruz al Mérito en el Servicio de la Abogacía (Grand Cross of Merit in the Service to Law) and the Gran Cruz de Raimundo de Peñafort (Grand Cross of San Raimundo de Peñafort), the highest award given by the Ministry of Justice in Spain.