



LPA-CGR in the Middle East

LPA-CGR avocats (previously known as Lefèvre Pelletier & Associés), a leading French law firm founded over 30 years ago, opened an office in 2016 in Dubai to assist local and international companies and institutions with legal aspects of their activities. The Dubai office assists corporate clients from the GCC countries as well as foreign investors.

The Dubai office is supported by a Middle East Desk in Paris led by a partner who spent 11 years (2009-2019) in the Gulf before relocating to Paris. The Middle East Desk assists the French and European clients of the firm in their approach to the region and acts as a point of contact for the investors of the Middle East for their transactions in France, in Germany (where LPA-CGR has offices) and in other Continental European countries.

The Dubai office of LPA-CGR and the Middle East Desk in Paris work closely together to deliver exceptional partner-led service to our clients.

The team members are highly experienced in the region and qualified in various jurisdictions including England and Wales, France and Lebanon and can work in English, French and Arabic, enabling them to communicate and provide the best service to our local, regional and international clients.

Practices

The Middle East practice of LPA-CGR covers a broad cross section of sectors and disciplines, with a particular focus on the two practice areas highlighted below.

CONSTRUCTION AND PROJECTS

The team has the experience of advising international companies coming to the Middle East region to participate to a tender and deliver a project. Examples of legal assistance provided include:

- structuring advice, advice on applicable tender regulations and review of the RFP issued by the employer
- reviewing the contract, answering local law questionnaires and assisting the client to prepare a risk matrix in respect of the contract
- establishing the project entity, by way of a joint venture company, SPV or other appropriate forms
- assisting the client with the negotiation of the contract and with project mobilization
- delivering a contract awareness training and assisting with contract management issues
- assisting with alternative dispute resolution, arbitration and litigation with respect to the above

The team has experience of advising its clients all over the Middle East region with a particular focus on the UAE, KSA and Qatar. Main sectors covered are: oil & gas, energy & environment, construction & infrastructure, defense & security.

CORPORATE AND M&A

The team has the experience of advising international companies in the practice areas above:

Mergers and acquisitions

- mergers & acquisitions, capital market operations, private placements, private equity investments and share and asset purchase and transfer transactions
- all stages of the transaction from audit, legal structuring to contractual negotiation and implementation, notably in cross-border and multi-jurisdictional transactions

Company Law

- all corporate matters from establishing corporations to external growth transaction including joint ventures and the raising of investment funds
- full range of services required by the corporate and commercial sector, for example, considerable experience to implement a set of agreements to protect foreign shareholder in local entities

Structuring and restructuring

- legal restructuring of corporate groups taking into account economic constraints or strategic reorientation
- structuring of major family groups

Commercial Contracts

- broad range of commercial contracts relating to clients' businesses in various sectors, including drafting, negotiation and execution.



Sectors



Energy



Industrials



Trade and
distribution



Technologies, Media
and Telecommunications



Financial
institutions



Insurance



Real estate



Private clients

Our Team



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The Euro Elite 100



LPA-CGR avocats ranked amongst the top 6 independent French law firms (Band 2) according to **Legal Business**

Karim J. Nassif individually ranked in *Dispute Resolution* (Band 4) according to **Chambers Global 2019** (United Arab Emirates)

Arnaud Depierrefeu individually ranked in *Projects & Energy* (Band 1) and in *Corporate / Commercial* (Band 3) according to **Chambers Global 2019** (Qatar)