

equity side, the team advised Aqua eSolutions on negotiating a share purchase agreement with 3i.

Baker & McKenzie 'provides high-quality legal advice' and has 'excellent knowledge of business and law'. Recent work includes advising CNOOC on a \$3.1bn joint venture with Bridas Energy Holdings. The Madrid office is headed by Francisco Escat, while the 'thorough and professional' Jorge Adell oversees the Barcelona team. In June 2010, corporate law expert Manuel Pizarro joined the firm following a stint in politics.

José Sánchez-Dafos leads **DLA Piper Spain S L's** corporate and M&A practice, which acts for a mix of Spanish and global companies including Mercapital, CVC and Sun Capital Partners. The team also includes Juan Picón, who became managing partner of the Spanish office in January 2010 and co-heads the global practice. María Segimón, Joaquín Echánove and Miguel Bermúdez de Castro are recommended.

Jones Day acts for a number of industrial clients, advising on restructuring, negotiation and preparation of strategic investments and acquiring assets. Luis Riesgo heads the practice, which also includes Federico Merino.

The company law specialists at **Ramón y Cajal, Abogados** advise on corporate transactions, structuring and restructuring, financing, and shareholder and investment agreements. The firm represents a number of listed companies and foreign clients.

Roca Junyent's team has 'substantial knowledge' and advises Spanish companies such as Spanair, Telefónica and Gas Naturale, as well as an increasing number of international clients such as JPMorgan and Citigroup. Recent highlights include advising Spanair on IEASA's acquisition of 80.1% of Spanair's capital, including the execution of financing agreements.

Bird & Bird (Spain) LLP recently recruited from **Araoz & Rueda** the 'extraordinary lawyer' Lourdes Ayala, who 'has particular strength in private equity and restructurings'. She replaces former practice head Javier Vasserot who moved to **Olswang**. The team's main areas of expertise are mergers and acquisitions, spin-offs and joint ventures, restructuring and general corporate advice.

Broseta Abogados continued to increase its visibility, with recent highlights including advising savings bank Cam on setting up Promociones Rurales de Biogás to develop around 25 industrial plants to generate energy through food waste. Madrid-based Julio Veloso is a 'brilliant lawyer and adviser'.

At **Ecija Abogados**, Hugo Ecija and Emilio Prieto lead a team that advises clients predominantly from the TMT, renewables and industrial sectors. The firm has also advised the European Commission and the Spanish Government.

Eversheds Lupicínio's 'extremely impressive' practice is headed by José María Viñals who 'always offers an exceptional service'. The team recently advised Tyco on restructuring and share transactions, and provided corporate secretarial services to Orange.

Fornesa, Prada y Fernández Abogados has a small team led by Tomàs Fornesa, for which recent highlights include advising on the merger between Grupo Comsa and Emte, one of the Catalonia's larger transactions during the economic crisis.

Since establishing itself in 2009, **Herbert Smith LLP's** Spanish practice has made a considerable impression and it advised Grupo Netco on financing for the acquisition of shares in Coca-Cola distributor Refrescos Envasados del Sur. Álvaro Sáinz 'always adds value to transactions'.

José María Balañá heads the practice at **Hogan Lovells International LLP**, which has a particular focus on energy, infrastructure and logistics. The team recently acted for Barclays on acquiring a significant stake in a listed Spanish real estate company.

Senior associate Eliecer Pérez Simón leads **Rivero & Gustafson Abogados'** practice, for which recent highlights include advising Karen Millen on reorganising its Spanish companies.

SJ Berwin's practice is headed by Roberto Pomares and includes Isabel Rodríguez, one of 'the best private equity fund structures lawyers in Spain', and Carlos Pazos, who is 'very experienced in commercial and stock market issues'.

Simmons & Simmons LLP advised Casbega on its acquisition of Edari Sistemas Informáticos and regularly acts for Olma Distribucion Integral. Luis Felipe Castresana is the key contact.

Ventura Garcés & López-Ibor, Abogados' practice includes managing partner Claudí Garcés, who is 'accurate, precise and timely'. Also recommended is Richard Gené, whose 'efficiency and creative solutions instil confidence'.

Dispute resolution

Cuatrecasas, Gonçalves Pereira is particularly strong in arbitration, and recently led pre-litigation advice to Enel on its high-profile joint acquisition of Endesa with Acciona. It also advised British American Tobacco on a claim filed against it by the regional government of Andalusia over smoking-related healthcare costs. Cani Fernandez and Pere Kirchner are 'dedicated and customer-minded'.

Garrigues' 'hugely respected' dispute resolution practice is headed by Carlos de los Santos. Recent mandates include acting for OHL in ICC arbitration with a subcontractor on a major project, and advising a large Peruvian insurer on international arbitration. On the civil

DISPUTE RESOLUTION

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| Cuatrecasas, Gonçalves Pereira Garrigues ^o Uría Menéndez ^o | 1 |
| Clifford Chance Perez-Llorca ^o | 2 |
| Allen & Overy Baker & McKenzie CMS Albiñana & Suárez de Lezo ^o DLA Piper Spain S L ^o Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer Gómez-Acebo & Pombo Abogados ^o | 3 |
| Araoz & Rueda ^o B Cremades & Asociados Bird & Bird (Spain) LLP Davies Arnold Cooper LLP ^o Deloitte Hogan Lovells International LLP Jones Day ^o Linklaters SL Ramón Hermosilla & Gutiérrez de la Roza ^o | |
| Ashurst LLP Broseta Abogados ^o Ecija Abogados Eversheds Lupicínio Herbert Smith LLP Rivero & Gustafson Abogados ^o Simmons & Simmons LLP Ventura Garcés & López-Ibor, Abogados ^o | |
| Firms are listed A-Z within tiers ^o indicates firm displays contact details at the end of this chapter | |

litigation side, the group acted on a request for the fulfilment or termination of a contract governing the audio-visual rights of the Spanish football league.

Uría Menéndez's sizeable practice is led by Jesús Remón, 'the best in class in litigation and arbitration'. The team also includes Esteban Astarloa, who is 'particularly strong in negotiation and preliminary advice'. Recent highlights include representing Banco Santander in financial products litigation. The team 'gives advice clearly, and takes the time to get to know the business it is giving advice to'.

Clifford Chance has considerable litigation expertise and a prominent arbitration practice including investment arbitration. The group has recently been advising Abengoa in arbitration pertaining to the construction of a power plant, and represented Endesa in a damages claim filed by Iberdrola as a consequence of its takeover bid for the client. José Antonio Caínzos heads the department, while Iñigo Villoria recently made partner.

Perez-Llorca's high-profile clients include Ahorro Corporación, BBVA and Motorola. The firm is particularly busy with restructuring and

insolvency disputes, and has a prominent trade mark litigation practice. It acted for Quabit Automobiliaria in a case concerning its corporate name and brand image and represented Técnicas Reunidas in arbitration over a breach of turnkey contract for a biodiesel plant. David Arias is 'a rising star'.

Allen & Overy is 'one of the few firms in Spain that has litigation lawyers with perfect knowledge of financial issues'. Practice head Antonlo Vázquez-Guillén is 'a born fighter' with 'great knowledge of restructurings and bankruptcy law'. Recent work includes financial litigation relating to derivative transactions and structured notes issued by insolvent banks Lehman Brothers and Kaupthing.

Baker & McKenzie's 'excellent' practice is led by the 'very professional' José Ramón Casado. The group recently defended insurer Bes Vida against a misrepresentation class action brought by 33 ULIP (Unit Linked Insurance Policy) holders. Other instructions included representing Transportes García Villalobos in arbitration proceedings concerning an M&A valuation.

CMS Albiñana & Suárez de Lezo strengthened its practice by recruiting José Antonio Rodríguez Álvarez, who has litigation experience within both public administration and the private sector. The team advises on civil and criminal litigation and arbitration nationally and internationally. Carlos Aguilar heads the three-partner department, which also includes Juan Ignacio Fernández Aguado.

DLA Piper Spain S L has nearly doubled the size of its disputes capability, following the recruitment of several lawyers from **Lexland Abogados**. Among them, new practice head Álvaro Lobato is highly regarded for his expertise in insolvency litigation and commercial and bankruptcy disputes. Miguel Bermúdez de Castro and four associates also joined the team, as well as of counsel Antoni Frigola. The firm is advising BP on contract disputes and issues of restrictive covenants.

Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer's 'client-centric' practice is led by Vicente Sierra, who is 'totally committed and devoted'. The team also includes the 'very professional' Rafael Murillo. Key clients include JT International, HSH Nordbank, Sony and Cargill. Recent work includes acting for one of the world's largest pharmaceutical companies in administrative and civil proceedings relating to a medication that was withdrawn from the market.

The 'intelligent, professional and effective' Francisco Peña heads the team at **Gómez-Acebo & Pombo Abogados**, which is praised for its 'speed in understanding problems and proposing solutions'. It has been particularly active in creditor- and debtor-side insolvency cases. Recent highlights include bringing a claim for Viajes Iberojet against Viajes Marsans, pursuing payment of a €37m debt.

Araoz & Rueda represented Estudio 2000, the Spanish distributor of Puma, in ad hoc breach of contract arbitration against the German manufacturer. Iñigo Rodríguez-Sastre joined the firm in May 2010 from **Clifford Chance** and focuses predominantly on national arbitration, while Clifford Hendel mainly acts on international matters. The practice also includes Alejandro Fernández de Araoz.

Disputes boutique **B Cremades & Asociados** has long held an excellent reputation for national and international arbitration. Founding and managing partner Bernardo Cremades is hugely well respected.

Bird & Bird (Spain) LLP's practice is headed by managing partner Javier Fernández-Samaniego and includes media expert Miguel Ángel Rodríguez, who is 'a good litigator with excellent knowledge of copyright law'. The firm is representing Spanish IT consultancy Evers in litigation cases relating to software implementation projects. Other clients include Actavis Group and RBS.

Widely known for its leading insurance litigation practice, **Davies Arnold Cooper LLP** has been active in both Spanish and international disputes relating to liability, including acting for the liability insurers of Dragados (a construction company now known as ACS) in a major environmental disaster case. Paulino Fajardo is 'well recognised in the market' and 'brilliant in negotiations'. Ricardo Garrido is 'remarkable'.

Luis Divar oversees **Deloitte's** rapidly expanding practice, which recently advised a leading Spanish construction company on civil and criminal cases. Other highlights included representing a European cotton producer in criminal and civil proceedings.

Managing partner José Luis Huerta heads **Hogan Lovells International LLP's** disputes practice and is a commercial litigation and arbitration expert with experience in engineering, construction, and product liability litigation as well as contentious insolvency. Clients include Motorola, Arcelor Mittal, Técnicas Reunidas and Polimeri.

Jones Day's practice is headed by Mercedes Fernández and is particularly focused on commercial disputes and disputes arising from the protection of foreign investments, particularly in Infrastructure. It is also active in construction conflicts, post-acquisition litigation and distribution. As well as advising Spanish clients, the team acts for foreign clients in judicial and arbitration proceedings in Spain and international arbitration.

Linklaters SL provides an 'excellent quality of work, dedication and expertise', and is 'flexible and customer-oriented'. Practice head Francisco Málaga 'is particularly strong in litigation, and has the ability to deal with the most complicated of cases'.

Ramón Hermsilla & Gutiérrez de la Roza's experienced litigators and arbitrators typically

advise on commercial transactions in order to minimise conflicts, and represent clients in ad hoc and institutional arbitration proceedings in Spain and abroad.

Ashurst LLP's rapidly growing disputes practice was boosted by the arrival of new practice head Daniel Jiménez, formerly a civil litigation partner at **Díaz-Bastien & Truan**. Expertise within the team includes litigation and arbitration, particularly in the sports and real estate sectors. Jesús Almuogera, Gonzalo Jiménez-Blanco and Cristina Calvo Ortega are recommended.

The team at **Broseta Abogados** has 'substantial business knowledge' and 'quick decision-making skills'. Areas of expertise include litigation arising from business law and unfair competition, construction defects and bankruptcy and insolvency. Practice head Antonia Magdaleno is recommended.

The 'proactive and experienced' team at **Ecija Abogados** is valued for its 'availability and speed'. Javier López Gutiérrez heads the five-partner practice and has particular experience in electronic fraud. The firm advises Reale Seguros on all major conflicts regarding data protection and the defence of fundamental rights.

Antonio Bravo and Kiko Carrión co-head the disputes department at **Eversheds Lupicinio**. Clients include GlaxoSmithKline, Unilever, Caja Madrid and ING Real Estate.

'Litigation guru' Ignacio Díez-Picazo heads **Herbert Smith LLP's** recently formed Spanish practice, working with a team that 'complements him seamlessly'. It has been particularly active in energy and natural resources.

Rivero & Gustafson Abogados' managing partner John Gustafson and Sebastián Rivero

OTHER RECOMMENDED FIRMS

Adarve Corporación Jurídica
Brosa
Fornesa, Prada y Fernández Abogados
GOLD - Gomez, Olvo, Da Veiga - Abogados
Goñi Y Cajigas Abogados
Iberforo Abogados
Iuris Valls Abogados
Maniega & Soler Abogados
Marco Legal, Abogados & Economistas, S.A.
Monereo Meyer Marinello Abogados
Moscardó Abogados
Oliva-Ayala Abogados
Pintó Ruiz & Del Valle
Ramón y Cajal, Abogados
Ramos & Arroyo
Raposo Bernardo
Salans
Squire, Sanders & Dempsey (UK) LLP

Firms are listed A-Z

⊙ indicates firm displays contact details at the end of this chapter