

Iberian Lawyer presents its 50 "dolphins", both law firm and in-house lawyers, all under 35 years old, who due to their talent, specialisation, activity in the legal market and their academic and professional background, stand out above the average and are revealed as the new highly valued assets of the teams in Spain and Portugal.

The main criterion followed in this equality-respectful study has been their outstanding participation in matters and relevant news given by this media during the last year. On this occasion, Iberian Lawyer has not taken into account listings on international legal directories with the aim of establishing IBL's own identity in this selection. Well aware that those listed here are only a small part of the great talent present in the Iberian Legal market, our most sincere congratulations to all of them.



# IBERIAN LAWYER LEGAL DOLPHINS



## ALEJANDRO RAMÓN

*Garrigues • 29 years old*

Alejandro Ramón is a Commercial Contracts and Corporate Law associate in the Barcelona office of Garrigues, where he has been working for almost three years. Previously, and prior to a short stint at Buigas, he was an analyst for two years at BME Growth (BME Group), formerly MAB, and worked in the Admissions department of the Barcelona Stock Exchange. He holds a degree in Law from the Universidad Pompeu Fabra and a degree in Economics from the same institution, having completed a Master's degree in Law at the UPF Barcelona School of Management and another in Administrative Management at the Universidad Abat Oliva CEU. He holds a SIBE operator's licence and several courses from the BME institute. Alejandro speaks Russian, as well as Spanish and English. His recent advisory work includes Atrys Health's takeover bid for Aspy, Greenalia's bond issue in MARF, or Audax's green bond issue, together with his colleague and partner Naiara Bueno.

## ALEXANDRE NORINHO DE OLIVEIRA

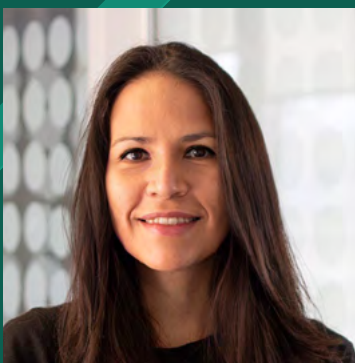
*PLMJ • 34 years old*

Alexandre Norinho de Oliveira is a senior associate in the Banking and Finance and Capital Markets practice at PLMJ. He has ten years of experience practising Law focused primarily on Banking and Finance. He joined the firm as an associate in 2017 after having worked at VdA for six years and as a trainee at the Court of Justice of the European Union. He became a senior associate at PLMJ in 2019. Alexandre has completed post-graduate courses in European Justice at the Universidade de Coimbra and in Securities Law at Universidade de Lisboa. He has an LL.M. in European Studies from the College of Europe, Bruges. Although relatively young, Alexandre has a lot more experience than most other lawyers his age and often takes the lead on several matters. In 2020, Alexandre coordinated PLMJ's contribution to the public consultation on the new banking act held by Banco de Portugal.



## ANDREA VIALE

*Idealista • 35 years old*



Andrea Viale has been the head of idealista's in-house Legal department since 2017 and is responsible for all Legal matters of the idealista group in the three jurisdictions where the platform has a presence: Spain, Italy and Portugal. Of Italian descent, Andrea Viale developed her career in Barcelona, currently working in Madrid. Prior to joining the company as a corporate lawyer in the digital sector, Andrea worked for 7 years in the Corporate department of Garrigues, both in its Barcelona and Madrid offices, and was seconded in 2016 to the Corporate/M&A department of Macfarlanes in London. Andrea specialises mainly in M&A transactions and Corporate matters in the ICT sector, having advised several technology companies on both their financing rounds and their day-to-day operations. She holds a Law degree from the Universidad Autónoma de Barcelona and an executive Master's degree in Business Law from the Centro de Estudios Garrigues in collaboration with Harvard Law School.



## ANDRÉS RUIZ

*Ramón y Cajal Abogados • 30 years old*

Andrés Pérez Ruiz is a lawyer in the Information Technology area of Ramón y Cajal Abogados, where he joined in 2020 after almost six years in the Privacy & Intellectual Property area of Metricson. Previously, he developed his professional career in Technology Law boutiques advising national and international companies from multiple sectors. Andrés is the founder of Todojuristas.com, a web portal visited by hundreds of thousands of young lawyers every year. He holds a degree in Law from the Universidad de Zaragoza, an Executive Programme in Blockchain and Fintech from Centro de Estudios Garrigues and a Master's degree in Privacy and Cybersecurity from the Universidad Antonio de Nebrija. He recently received a scholarship from IE Business School and Santander Universities for the Leading Digital Transformation in Organisations and Industries programme. Since 2018, he has been a lecturer on the Master's degree in Corporate (M&A) and Financial Management at ISDE.

## ANTONIO ARENAS

*Pérez-Llorca • 32 years old*

Antonio Arenas is a senior associate in the International Capital Markets and Financial Regulatory department in the Madrid office of Pérez-Llorca, which he joined in 2020. Previously, Antonio worked for more than seven years in the Capital Markets and Financial Regulatory department of Allen & Overy. Antonio has extensive experience in advising financial institutions on the issuance and admission to trading of all types of debt securities, in particular on the registration of non-equity issuance programmes and EMTN and GMTN programmes. He holds a degree in Law and in Business Administration and Management from Universidad Carlos III de Madrid, with a Master's degree in Business Administration (MBA) from The University of Chicago Booth School of Business. He recently advised Santander Consumer Finance on its €150 million non-step-up non-cumulative contingent convertible additional tier 1 preferred securities (AT1) and €1 billion MREL issues across the EU. He speaks Spanish, English, French and German.



## ANTÓNIO MENDES

*Kore Partners • 34 years old*

António Mendes is a partner at Kore Partners, a private client boutique firm founded in February 2021 by Tiago Cassiano Neves. António has ten years of experience practising Law, having spent most of his career at the Lisbon office of the Spanish firm Garrigues. António's practice is predominantly specialised in private clients, with a particular emphasis on Sports & Entertainment, Real Estate and Estate Planning for individuals based in Portugal and abroad. He regularly advises on complex asset holding structures and relocation of families under the Portuguese NHR (Non-Habitual Resident Tax Regime). He holds a degree in Law from the Universidade Lusíada de Lisboa, an intensive course on European Union Law from King's College London, University of London and a course in Accounting and Finance from the Católica Lisbon School of Business and Economics. In the field of Sports Law, António was a member of the Disciplinary Board of the Portuguese Basketball Federation for five years.





## BEATRIZ SÁNCHEZ

*Eversheds Sutherland • 28 years old*

Beatriz Sánchez is a Corporate/M&A lawyer at Eversheds Sutherland in Madrid, a firm she joined in April 2019 after two years at ECIJA, where she specialised in advising on Corporate matters, transfer of shareholdings, capital increases and reductions, accordion transactions, financing rounds, company secretarial services, Commercial contracts and Due Diligences, among others. She holds a degree in Law from the Universidad de Cantabria and a Master's degree in International Law, Foreign Trade and International Relations from ISDE Law & Business School, as well as an LLM in Corporate/Commercial Law from the University of London. She also holds post-graduate studies in American Law from Columbia University in New York. She has recently advised on the acquisition of global aesthetics company Cocoon Medical by Sinclair Pharma and on the acquisition of a 5.1 MW portfolio of operational PV assets by global solar independent power producer Sonnedix from Diversis Energia and Grupo Enerpal.

## BEATRIZ URIARTE

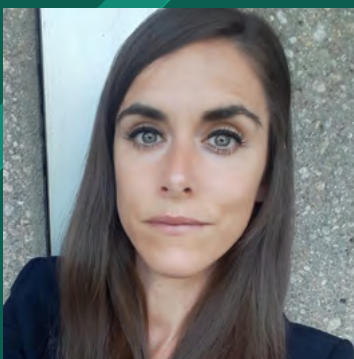
*Ospina Abogados • 29 years old*

Beatriz Uriarte is a partner at Ospina Abogados, a law firm specialising in Criminal Law, where she has been representing clients for more than five years in all branches and practice areas of Criminal Law (homicide, theft, extradition, drug trafficking or injuries); Economic Criminal Law; or crimes against sexual freedom and indemnity. Before devoting herself entirely to Criminal Law, in which she specialises in crimes of abuse and gender violence, Beatriz gained experience in the financial and banking sector at Banco Popular and Cajaviva Caja Rural. Her cases never lack professional, technical and correct performance, accompanied by a special sensitivity towards the victim. She holds a degree in Law from the Universidad de Cantabria, and is a regular contributor to various media, including television, on current Criminal matters. She is also a Criminal Law lecturer at the Universidad Antonio de Nebrija and teaches Crime Simulation at the Universidad Autónoma de Madrid.



## CARLOTA TOJO

*Cuatrecasas • 34 years old*



Carlota Tojo is an associate in the Mergers and Acquisitions practice in Cuatrecasas Madrid office. She specialises in Corporate Law, mainly in Mergers and Acquisitions, Private Equity and Restructuring operations of multinational groups, particularly in the financial sector. She also advises on investments (including collaboration agreements and Joint Ventures), Corporate Law and Commercial contracts, with a particular focus on Corporate and Transactional advice to banking, insurance and financial institutions. Carlota Tojo holds a double degree in Law and Journalism from the Universidad Rey Juan Carlos de Madrid and an LLM in International Business Law from IE Law School. She has recently advised Carson, the owner of Supersol, on the sale of the Supersol supermarkets to Carrefour, on the acquisition by Swiss group Siegfried of the two largest Novartis plants in Spain and on the sale of the Spanish business of the Portuguese bank Novo Banco by the Galician entity Abanca.





## CARMEN ALONSO

*Latham & Watkins • 29 years old*

Carmen Alonso is an associate in the Corporate department of Latham & Watkins Madrid office. She advises national and international companies from various sectors on general Corporate matters, cross-border Mergers and Acquisitions, Joint Ventures, Capital Markets, Financing and Private Equity, as well as on Restructuring processes and Corporate Finance transactions. She has developed her entire career at the American firm, which she joined in 2014 as a trainee, after an internship at Cuatrecasas and Uría Menéndez. She holds a degree in Law and Business Administration and Management from the Universidad Pontificia Comillas, where she completed her LL.M. She usually forms part of multidisciplinary and cross-border teams in major M&A transactions. She has recently advised the senior secured lenders committee of the global aviation services group Swissport on the €2.4 billion restructuring of the Swissport group, the sale by SENER and Masdar of Torresol to Q-Energy and the €757 million refinancing of Deoleo's debt.

## CLAUDIA FERNÁNDEZ

*Pinsent Masons • 30 years old*

Claudia is an associate in the Construction Advisory & Disputes practice at Pinsent Masons Madrid office. Her expertise in Construction and Arbitration matters, makes her *rara avis* on the national scene. She represents global contractors in Litigation and Arbitration proceedings under different rules (UNCITRAL, ICC and LCIA). Claudia provides assistance to construction companies throughout the whole life cycle of projects. Prior to joining Pinsent Masons in 2018, she worked in London in the Construction Dispute Resolution department of Herbert Smith Freehills and in the Banking Litigation department of White & Case. She holds degrees in Law and Economics from the Universidad de Deusto. She examines with precision the most complex engineering issues to resolve disputes in the world of construction. She is a member of the Spanish Arbitration Club and the ICC Young Arbitrators Forum (ICC YAF). Claudia also participates as an arbitrator in various events for lawyers such as MOOT Madrid or Vis Pre-Moot.



## DANIEL GUTIÉRREZ

*DG LAW • 31 years old*



Daniel Gutiérrez is a founding partner of DG LAW Business Law & Intellectual Property, based in Oviedo, specialising in providing Commercial advice to startups focused on the development of digital businesses. Before founding his own firm, he took his first steps in the IT&IP area of ECIJA, and was part of the Legal department of elZinc, where he witnessed its IPO. Daniel holds a Law degree from the Universidad de Oviedo, a Master's degree in Law from the same institution, a Master's degree in Corporate Legal Consultancy from IE Law School (IE University), is currently taking a PhD in Law from the Universidad de Oviedo and is a student of the International Master's degree in Sports Law and Management from ISDE. One of his latest deals has taken place advising RAW on its sponsorship agreement with Alpine F1 and the launch of the Guppy carsharing service in Cantabria.



## DAVID MARTINS CARDOSO

*SPS Advogados • 33 years old*

David Martins Cardoso has been a managing associate at SPS Law Firm since 2021, where he started his career as a trainee in 2012. He holds a degree in Law from the Universidade de Lisboa and a Master's degree in Business Law from the ISCTE IUL, Universidade de Lisboa. His main areas of practice are Insolvency, Civil & Executive Litigation and Banking. David has actively assisted his clients in the management of Insolvency portfolios and Litigation after NPL (Nonperforming Loans Matters), namely and, through the introduction of "tech" mechanisms that allow optimising the relationship between client, lawyer and the process (court). In addition, David stands out in the area of Litigation, as one of his preferences, where he monitors and ensures several judgments of his clients, with a high success rate. David has been a key practitioner on several deals for the firm, predominantly in Banking and Finance, Insolvency and Debt Recovery, Litigation and NPL.

## DIOGO CASTANHEIRA PEREIRA

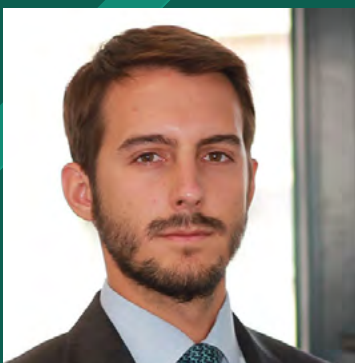
*CMS Rui Pena & Arnaut • 33 years old*

Diogo Castanheira Pereira is a partner at CMS Rui Pena & Arnaut. Diogo has spent his entire legal career at the firm, having joined as a trainee in 2010, becoming an associate in 2013 and then a partner. Diogo holds a degree in Law and a Master's degree in Juridical-Forensic Sciences from the Universidade de Lisboa and a post-graduation in Legal Sciences from the Universidade Católica Portuguesa. Diogo's practice is primarily focused on Civil Law, Civil Litigation and Arbitration and, to a lesser extent, on the areas of Criminal Law, Criminal Litigation and Constitutional Law. Diogo has been a visiting assistant professor since 2011 at Universidade de Lisboa, where he teaches the Civil Procedural Law courses. Diogo is recognised in some of the leading legal directories as a key member of CMS' Dispute Resolution area, which fields the ability to assemble cross-office teams in multiple jurisdictions to handle major contentious matters.



## ENRIQUE THOMAS DE CARRANZA

*Watson Farley & Williams • 29 years old*



Enrique is an associate in the Corporate and Commercial Law department of Watson Farley & Williams Madrid office. He specialises in advising national and international clients on Commercial transactions, Corporate Restructurings and Mergers and Acquisitions, as well as on Corporate and Commercial Law matters, mainly in the energy and infrastructure sectors. He also regularly advises Spanish and foreign companies on all types of Commercial contracts. He holds a double degree in Law and Business Administration and Management from the Universidad Pontificia Comillas de Madrid (ICADE) and a double LL.M. in Access to the Legal Profession and Corporate Legal Advice from IE. His recent work includes advising Northleaf Capital Partners on the acquisition of the largest photovoltaic plant in Europe, Falck Renewables on the acquisition of a stake in a wind power project, the Foresight Group on the acquisition of two photovoltaic plants, and on the Joint Venture of Renewable Power Capital with Benbros Solar.

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## HÉCTOR GÓMEZ

*DLA Piper • 34 years old*

Héctor Gómez is a senior associate in the Corporate, M&A and Private Equity practice in DLA Piper Madrid office. After re-joining the firm he started as an intern in 2019, he joined DLA Piper UK's London office on a secondment basis. Previously, he was a senior manager in the Corporate, M&A and Private Equity area of EY Abogados for two years, which he joined after two years at the firm he returned to in 2019. He holds a Law degree from the Universidad de Salamanca and a Master's degree in Corporate Law from Universidad Pontificia Comillas, an advanced programme at IEB as well as a course in Law and Economics from Harvard Law School. His recent transactions include advising Polheim Infra on the acquisition of Telia Carrier from Telia Company for €935 million, as well as several GED Capital's acquisitions (Dynamic Science, Pulso Ediciones and Viguera Editores, among others).

## IGNACIO FERNÁNDEZ

*Dentons • 31 years old*

Ignacio Fernández is a mid associate in the Banking and Finance department of the Dentons Madrid office, where he has been since 2016 and from where he was seconded to Global Credit, GTB & Credit Watch department of Banco Santander. He is an expert in Aviation Law, specifically in all matters relating to Aircraft Finance. He advises on the financing for the acquisition of fleets or individual aircraft, fleet restructuring, sale and purchase, financial and operating leases, securitisations, etc. He joined the firm simultaneously with the entry into force of the Cape Town Convention in Spain, and advised on a structured finance transaction for the acquisition of an aircraft as the first transaction in Spain subject to Spanish Law. He holds a double degree in Law and Business Administration and Management from the Universidad Complutense de Madrid and a Master's degree in Commercial Law from the Universidad de Navarra.



## IGNACIO GORDILLO

*Portobello Capital • 28 years old*



Ignacio Gordillo is Legal counsel at Portobello Capital and head of the Legal department of the hotel group Hotels & Resorts Blue Sea. As an in-house lawyer of both companies, he develops and directs their legal strategy, maintaining the appropriate corporate interactions with the relevant local, state and community governmental bodies, as well as providing legal advice to the Board of Directors and the management team of the company. He previously worked in the Banking and Finance department of CMS Albiñana & Suárez de Lezo, where he began his career in Madrid and London, in the Legal department of Telefónica, the Tax department of ONTIER, and the Litigation and Arbitration area of Baker McKenzie. He holds a degree in Law and Business Administration from the Universidad de Estudios Financieros (CUNEF) and a Master's degree in Corporate Law from the Universidad Pontificia Comillas ICAI-ICADE, as well as a course in Corporate Law and Governance from the London School of Economics (LSE).





## INÊS PEREZ SANCHEZ

VdA • 35 years old

Inês Perez Sanchez is a senior associate at the Banking & Finance practice area at VdA. She joined the firm in 2014 and during her career was seconded to Barclaycard and Barclays Investment Bank in Lisbon, and as a Banking & Finance associate at Dentons London. Inês focuses on Structured Finance and Public and Private Securitisation transactions, namely RMBS, Warehouse Secured Facilities, Asset-Backed and Mortgage Real Estate Transactions and Asset Portfolio Sales (on performing and non-performing loans and alternative assets, such as tariff deficit). Inês also has experience in Debt Capital Markets, including in the issue/placement (public or private) and listing of debt securities, whether undertaken in UK, Portugal, Ireland, Luxembourg and other jurisdictions. Inês holds a degree in Law from the Universidade Católica Portuguesa (Porto), an LLM in a European and Global Context at Católica Global School of Law and an LLM in International Financial Law at King's College London.

## INÊS PINTO LEITE

Morais Leitão • 34 years old



Inês Pinto Leite is a senior lawyer at *Morais Leitão* and joined the firm in 2008. She's a member of the Tax, Sport and Entertainment teams, initially working with the firm's Corporate and M&A team. Her practice is focused on domestic and international Tax consulting and Tax Dispute Resolution. She frequently participates in Corporate Restructuring Operations, Mergers and Acquisitions, providing advice in subjects related to double Taxation treaties, VAT and Corporate Income Tax. Inês also has experience in Tax diagnostics and implementing corporate structures. She has advised several inheritance and succession Tax plans both nationally and internationally. In 2013, Inês provided technical consultancy to the Corporate Income Tax Reform Committee. She is a lecturer at the Católica School of Law – Porto and Lisbon and has tutored several master theses on Tax Law. She holds a degree in Law and a Master's degree in Corporate and Business Law from the Católica Porto School of Law.



## IRENE TERRAZAS

Mariscal & Abogados • 28 years old

Irene Terrazas has been a lawyer at *Mariscal & Abogados* since 2018. Irene specialises in Public Procurement, Commercial Contracts and Corporate Law, and is used to working in several jurisdictions with international clients, thanks to her international training and language skills. She previously worked at *Broseta* for almost two years. She holds a Law degree from the *Universidad de Alcalá*, and subsequently completed a double Master's degree in Access to the Legal Profession and Corporate Legal Consultancy at the *Instituto de Empresa Law School (IE)*. She also studied at the *American University of Washington D.C. (Washington College of Law)* and at the *Robert Schuman III University in Strasbourg (France)*. To date, she has published several articles and collaborates with several international Chambers of Commerce and is a legal volunteer at *Amnesty International Spain*. She has advised on relevant transactions and lengthy contract negotiations involving various public bodies at the national and international level.



## JOÃO DE MORAES VAZ

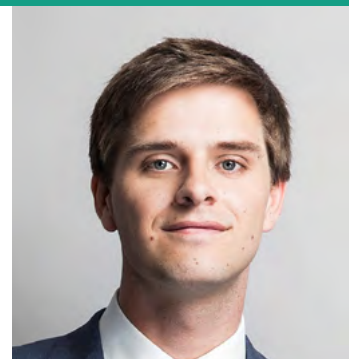
*Antas da Cunha Ecija • 33 years old*

João de Moraes Vaz is a partner at Antas da Cunha Ecija & Associados, Sociedade de Advogados, RL. He has been at the firm for over four years and quickly proved his value to AdCE making partner after only three years. He was part of Henrique Moser's Real Estate team that integrated into the firm in 2017. João de Moraes Vaz previously worked as an associate at Telles and Prolegal - Moser & Lobo d'Avila. He holds a degree in Law from the Universidade Lusíada de Lisboa, achieving the highest-ranked student award for his class. João focuses his practice on Real Estate Law and Corporate Law. He is an integral cog in Antas da Cunha's Real Estate practice. His expertise is regularly called upon to advise clients on significant projects, which typically involve the sale of residential and retail units. The biggest project he advised on recently had a total value of €70 Million.

## JOÃO VENTURA

*Logoplaste • 30 years old*

João Ventura is Legal counsel at Logoplaste, an industrial company specialised in the production of Rigid packaging solutions, serving markets such as food and beverage, personal care, household, healthcare, oil and lubricants. Within the in-house team at Logoplaste, João predominantly focuses on Corporate & Commercial Law. He joined Logoplaste at the beginning of 2021 from TAP Air Portugal, where he was also Legal counsel for two years. Prior to working in-house, João was a private practice lawyer at Cuatrecasas, joining as a trainee in 2013 and was subsequently an M&A associate at Morais Leitão until 2019. João Ventura holds a degree in Law from the Universidade Nova de Lisboa, a post-graduate in Corporate Finance from the Universidade de Lisboa and a Master of Laws (LLM) from the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE) where his dissertation was titled "Groups of Companies at EU Level: The Strange Case of Parent Company Liability".



## JOSÉ ANTONIO SEGOVIA

*Allen & Overy • 32 years old*



José Antonio Segovia is a senior associate in Allen & Overy Madrid office, where he has recently moved from Garrigues. He started his career at Garrigues after working at Osborne Clarke and Galhis Abogados (Madrid and Paris), also in the Labour area. In 2018 and 2019, he worked in the Labour department of the Garrigues Lima office, perfecting his knowledge in order to advise foreign clients in Spain. Throughout his professional career, he has participated in numerous important projects, both in Spain and abroad, and is currently a legal advisor with proven experience in all matters related to Labour Law. He holds a Law degree from both the Universidad Complutense de Madrid and the Sorbonne University of Paris, with an LLM in Labour Law & Corporate Governance from the University of Bristol. At Garrigues, he was involved in advising Accenture on its acquisition of Spanish engineering services company Arca.



## JOSÉ MANUEL HENRIQUES

*RRP Advogados • 31 years old*

José Manuel Henriques is a senior associate at RRP Advogados, which is part of EY's global network. José primarily works in two of the firm's specialised teams (Banking and Finance and Real Estate). RRP Advogados has a reputation for having a solid international client base in the banking and finance sector, of which José plays a key role and is fully capable of addressing clients' needs both in Transactional and Regulatory Compliance matters. José's professional activity is mainly focused on transactional-related issues, with a particular focus on advising both national and international clients on Banking and Finance and Real Estate. He also has experience in the structuring, negotiation and setting up of financing arrangements and in Real Estate transactions. He was a trainee at Linklaters LLP in Lisbon from 2013 to 2016. He holds a degree in Law from Universidade Nova de Lisboa, and a Master of Laws (LLM) from Universidade Católica Portuguesa (Lisbon).

## JOSÉ MANUEL SILVA NUNES

*Gómez Acebo & Pombo • 35 years old*

José Manuel Silva Nunes is a senior associate at Gomez Acebo & Pombo Lisbon office, having spent ten years at the firm. His practice is focused on Real Estate matters. He works in the solution of several problems involving Touristic Developments and Real Estate matters connected with Insolvencies. José is the key element of the team concerning Real Estate matters, and for this reason, in many of them, he works as the lead counsel. He has recently advised Anidaport on their daily Real Estate issues associated to all the Real Estate assets previously owned by Banco BBVA valued at €70 Million and Treasure Scale on the negotiation of a Real Estate deal worth €8 million located in a prime area of Lisbon. He holds a degree in Law and a Master's degree in Private Law from the Universidade Católica Portuguesa and a post-graduation in Urban Planning and Construction Law from the Universidade de Lisboa.



## LAURA DE LA CRUZ

*Osborne Clarke • 32 years old*



Laura is a lawyer in the Corporate department of Osborne Clarke Barcelona office, which she joined in 2012 after an internship at GA\_P. Her work covers a wide range of Corporate matters, including Corporate and Private Equity transactions. In addition, she deals with matters related to Corporate Governance Compliance in companies. Laura advises multinational companies linked to the technology and healthcare sector operating in Spain, as well as investment funds. Her work has a strong international character, and she is used to working with Venture Capital funds investing in Spain. In 2014, Laura worked in the firm's London office with the Corporate team, providing transaction support. She holds a Law degree from ESADE Business School, where she also obtained her LLM, with a later interchange programme at Indiana University Bloomington. She has recently stood out as part of the firm's team advising Spain's Grifols on several acquisitions (Gigagen, Medkeeper, Alkahest and plasma centres).



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## LEILA GRÁCIO

*PRA • 33 years old*

Leila Grácio is a senior associate and head of Corporate PRA Lisbon, at PRA - Raposo, Sá Miranda & Associados. Leila's practice is focused on conducting, with varying size and complexity, a number of transactions, namely in the Mergers & Acquisition area, as well as Venture Capital. She is also responsible for coordinating the Lisbon team in the area of Corporate Law. Achieving this level of seniority at a firm like PRA, is an impressive accolade at the age of just 33. Leila Grácio holds a degree in Law from the Universidade de Lisboa and attended the course of European Competition Law, at the same institution, as well as the intensive training course of Accounting. Her reputation and recognition in the Portuguese market has already seen her nominated as a finalist for the Iberian Lawyer "Forty under 40 Awards" 2019 and 2020 in the category of M&A and Private Equity.

## LÍGIA GUTIERREZ

*OutSystems • 35 years old*



Lígia Gutierrez is the head of Compliance and Privacy globally at OutSystems. She joined the business nearly three years ago. Before joining OutSystems, Lígia was at VdA for six years and started her career as a trainee at ABBC, which subsequently merged with DLA Piper. While working in private practice, Ligia's focused on matters related to Intellectual Property Law. At OutSystems, Ligia's responsibility is building a world-class and comprehensive programme for Compliance and Privacy. Her main duties include, among others, the definition, implementation and evaluation of the company's global strategies in Data Protection and Compliance. Among her daily responsibilities, she provides strategic advice to members of the company's management and its national and international stakeholders. Ligia holds a degree in Law and a post-graduation in Intellectual Property and Information Society from the Universidade de Lisboa. Ligia also holds an LL.M. in IP and Competition Law from the Munich Intellectual Property Law Center (MIPLC).



## MARC CASAS

*Clifford Chance • 34 years old*

Marc Casas is a senior associate in the Public and Regulatory Law department of Clifford Chance Madrid office. He specialises in Infrastructure, Public Procurement, Energy and Utilities matters, among others, representing clients before public regulatory authorities and contentious-administrative courts. He joined Clifford in 2016, after almost five years in the same department at Uría Menéndez, where he was a foreign legal consultant for a time at Philippi, Prietocarrizosa & Uría. He holds a Law degree from Universidad Pompeu Fabra, where he completed an LL.M, having been a lecturer and member of its Administrative Law department. He has also been a lecturer in Administrative Law on the Master's degree in Access to the Legal Profession at ISDE and at the COAMB in Barcelona, and currently at the UAM in Administrative Sanctioning matters. He has recently advised on MásMóvil's takeover bid for Euskaltel and on the sale of ACS's industrial division to Vinci.



## MARIA ATAÍDE CORDEIRO

*Miranda & Associados • 33 years old*

Maria Ataíde Cordeiro is a senior associate at Miranda & Associados. Her practice focuses on Public Law & Regulatory as well as Energy & Natural Resources. Maria has spent the majority of her legal career at PLMJ, joining as a trainee in 2009, becoming a senior associate in 2019, prior to joining Miranda in 2019. Maria Ataíde Cordeiro holds a degree in Law from the Universidade Nova de Lisboa, a Master's degree in Law and Management from Universidade Católica, a post-graduate course in Administrative Litigation and also a post-graduate course in Public Procurement, both from the Universidade de Lisboa. Maria regularly advises public and private entities before administrative courts, in particular on cases related to Public Procurement, Administrative Contracts (public works, public service concessions, acquisition of goods and provision of services), as well as to Regulatory matters. She has also drafted and negotiated EPC Contracts for clients of Miranda in Mozambique.

## MARIA LOBO XAVIER

*Galp • 34 years old*

Maria Lobo Xavier is Legal counsel at Galp Energia, where she has been part of the team since 2015. Maria is dedicated to working on the financial side of the business, specifically Banking and Regulatory, Derivatives, and has a lot of experience in this area which she brought from having worked in private practice at Morais Leitão for nearly five years. On top of that, Maria works on the M&A side of the business and has been described as very organised, very bright and with good ideas. At GALP, innovation is taken very seriously as an internal metric, and Maria scored top marks. She has also been described as client-oriented. Maria Lobo Xavier holds a degree in Law and a post-graduate in Corporate Finance Accounting for Lawyers from the Universidade Nova de Lisboa. Maria Lobo Xavier also holds a Master of Laws (LL.M.) in Corporate Law from University College London.



## MARÍA NIETO

*Araoz & Rueda • 28 years old*



María Nieto is a mid-level associate in the Corporate/M&A department of Araoz & Rueda Madrid office. She advises on general Corporate matters and, in particular, in the areas of Mergers & Acquisitions and Corporate and Due Diligence processes, also collaborating with the Energy department. María joined the firm in 2018. Previously, she was an intern at the Supreme Court, where she rotated through the different jurisdictional orders hand in hand with magistrates, court clerks and lawyers, and was also a legal analyst trainee at the Bank of Spain in legal conduct and claims. She holds a double degree in Law and Business Administration from the Universidad Carlos III de Madrid, as well as a Master's degree in Corporate Legal Consultancy from the same institution. She has recently advised Grupo Visalia on its acquisition of Watium and Spain's IMF International Business School on its acquisition by French fund Capza.



## MARTA VALLEJO

*Mutua Madrileña • 28 years old*

Marta Vallejo is currently in-house Corporate/M&A at the Madrid-based insurance group Mutua Madrileña, which she joined last March from the law firm Pérez-Llorca. She began her career as a junior lawyer in the Bilbao office of Gómez-Acebo & Pombo in 2015, joining the Legal & Regulatory Financial Services department of EY Abogados a year later, where she collaborated, among others, advising Bankia on its merger with BMN. Since 2018, she has been an associate in the Corporate / M&A area at Pérez-Llorca, where she advised on M&A transactions for both national and international clients, including the multidisciplinary team advising Cepsa on the sale of a residential portfolio of 75,000 electricity and gas customers to Podo. She holds a degree in Business Law from the Universidad de Deusto, where she also completed a Master's degree in Legal Practice and Business Law. She also spent a semester at KU Leuven University in Belgium.

## MERCEDES ATENCIA

*EY Abogados • 29 years old*

Mercedes is a senior Corporate/M&A lawyer at EY Abogados. She joined the firm in 2016, where she has specialised in national and international M&A transactions, Commercial contracts and Corporate Law. She is a graduate in Law from the Universidad de Navarra, a former competitor to the judicial career and holds a Master's degree in Corporate Legal Consultancy from IE Business School. Mercedes stands out for her solid technical knowledge and her ability to work under pressure, which, together with her personal qualities, make her one of the firm's most promising lawyers. She was selected to take the EY Leader 4.0 programme with Deusto Business School, aimed at EY professionals with the best performance and greatest potential. She has recently advised Italy's Sabiana on the acquisition of CICSA Industriales del Calor and Spanish construction group Construcúa on the sale of a significant stake to the French fund Paris Fonds Vert (managed by Demeter Partners).



## MIGUEL FERNÁNDEZ

*ONTIER • 31 years old*



Miguel Fernández is a lawyer in the Litigation and Arbitration department of ONTIER Spain, which he joined in 2013. He previously worked at the Consumer Studies Centre of the Universidad de Castilla-La Mancha, carrying out research work in the field of Consumer Law. At ONTIER he advises on all types of Civil and Commercial Litigation for companies from different sectors (including financial, insurance, construction, telecommunications, transport and energy) and private clients. Between November 2017 and November 2018, Miguel participated in the legislative activity as a Legal Technician in the Spanish Congress, assisting parliamentarians with the drafting of bills and different legislative initiatives. Since January 2017, he has been collaborating with Fundación Hay Derecho, promoting various actions in defence of transparency, institutional regeneration and the rule of law, and is the editor of the legal blog of the same name. Miguel has published works in several journals, such as Aranzadi Doctrinal, La Ley or Revista CESC.



## MIGUEL SANTOS ALMEIDA

*Sérvulo • 35 years old*

Miguel Santos Almeida is an associate at the Litigation and Arbitration department at Sérvulo since 2013. He also develops his practice in the areas of Corporate Crime and Regulatory Compliance, with a special focus on the economic-financial sector, and Sports Law. He is an Arbitrator at the Portuguese Court of Arbitration for Sport since 2019. He has been a member of the Disciplinary Commission of the International Judo Federation since 2013 and the president of the Jurisdictional Council of the Judo Lisbon Association since 2017. Miguel graduated in Law from the Faculty of Law of the Universidade de Lisboa. He holds a Master's degree in Law and Management from the Faculty of Law of the Universidade Nova de Lisboa and the Nova School of Business and Economics. Miguel also concluded graduate studies in Arbitration at the same institution and Intellectual Property Law at the Faculty of Law of the Universidade de Lisboa.

## MODESTO PUERTA

*Baker McKenzie • 29 years old*

Modesto Puerta is an associate in the M&A and Capital Markets area of Baker McKenzie Madrid office, which he joined in 2015 after an internship at PwC Tax & Legal. He has experience advising on domestic and international Capital Markets transactions, IPOs and all types of debt offerings. He holds a degree in Law and Business Administration from Universidad Pontificia Comillas, and an LLM in Global Business Law from the same institution and ESADE Business School. Modesto has been involved in important cross-border deals, such as the issuance of the first green high yield bond by a residential developer (Vía Célere) in the Euro market for €300 million, the acquisition of the 50MW Puerto Real 2 PV project from WELink Group by Capital Dynamics, the debut on the Alternative Stock Market (today BME Growth) of the Aspy group or the acquisition of Pagantis by the Australian company Afterpay.



## NATALIA TAMAMES

*Andersen • 27 years old*



Natalia has been a senior lawyer in Andersen's Culture, Sports and Entertainment practice in Spain since 2020. She holds a double degree in Law and Business Administration (E-3) from the Universidad Pontificia Comillas (ICADE), as well as a Master's degree in Intellectual Property and New Technologies and a background in music, performing arts and Art History. In addition to Spain, he has studied in France and Hong Kong, which has allowed her to enrich her education and her vision of the world. She began her professional career at Cuatrecasas after internships at EY and Garrigues, to continue as Legal & Business Affairs at Sony/ATV Music Publishing, and later, she joined Baker McKenzie as an IPTech lawyer. She currently advises musicians and creators, teaches at UNIR and Campus Las Musas, and is artistically involved in Sofar Sounds and Fever. She is also a member of Talento Nova and Talento para el Futuro.





## NIEVES SÁNCHEZ

*Glovo • 32 years old*

Nieves Sánchez is Tax Manager at Barcelona-headquartered on-demand courier service Glovo, one of the world's leading delivery platforms, where she recently joined from the Tax department of Uría Menéndez, where she was a senior associate, a firm where she has worked for more than seven years after a brief stint in the Tax Management area of the Andalusian Tax Agency. Nieves is a Law and Business Administration graduate from Universidad de Granada and holds a Master's degree in International Tax Law from ISDE Law & Business school. She also took a professional development programme for lawyers at IE and a VAT expert course at Centro de Estudios Financieros. Her recent advisory work at Uría Menéndez includes relevant deals such as Lorca Telecom's takeover bid for MásMóvil, the acquisition of Nazca Capital's majority stake in Laboratorios Almond and the on the merger by absorption of Quabit Inmobiliaria by Neinor Homes.

## PABLO GARCÍA

*PwC Tax & Legal • 28 years old*

Pablo García is a senior associate in the Corporate/M&A practice in the Madrid office of PwC Tax & Legal, joining the Big Four in 2017. Previously, he was part of the Quality, Environment and Project Management department of the Building Technologies division of Siemens Spain. He holds a double degree in Law and Business Administration and Management from the Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, a Bachelor in Business Administration from the University of Tampere, a double Master's degree in Tax & Legal Advice and MBA from IE Law School and an expert degree in Corporate Governance and M&A Operations from the Universidad Autónoma de Madrid. Pablo is a regular author in PwC's Tax and Legal Periscope. His recent advisory work at PwC T&L includes the bond issue and incorporation into the MARF of Family Cash with a €20 million bond issue, and the refinancing and granting of additional financing (of a sustainable nature) to Soltec.



## PATRICIO MORENÉS

*Grupo DIA • 34 years old*



Patricio Morenés is deputy general counsel of the DIA Group, as well as a member of the DIA Retail Board. He joined the multinational food retail group in 2020, where he has actively participated, alongside his general counsel Sagrario Fernández, in important debt issuance and restructuring negotiations. He started working in 2009, doing internships in firms such as Freshfields (Real Estate) and GA\_P (IP). However, the bulk of his professional career until his landing at the DIA Group, has been accumulated in the world of Corporate/M&A, in firms such as Deloitte Legal, Allen & Overy and KPMG Abogados. Patricio studied Law and Marketing at C.U. Villanueva, studies that he complemented, at the end of his degree, with a Master's degree in Legal Consultancy (LL.M) at the Instituto de Empresa de Madrid (IE). His latest deals have been related to the Group's agreements with LR1 and its main shareholders in recapitalisation and refinancing processes.



## PEDRO CAPITÃO BARBOSA

*Morais Leitão • 33 years old*

Pedro Capitão Barbosa is a principal associate at *Morais Leitão*, having been at the firm for nearly ten years. He is a member of the firm's Corporate and M&A and Capital Markets teams. His Corporate Law practice focuses on several cross-border Corporate Restructuring and Acquisition Transactions (Private Equity and Venture Capital), including trade partnerships and Mergers.

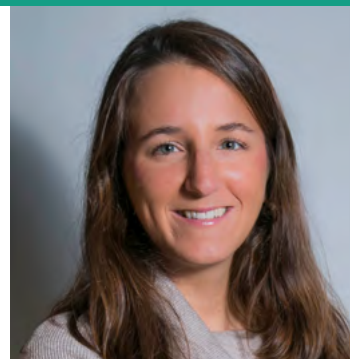
Pedro Capitão Barbosa has been actively involved in Equity Capital Markets operations, intervening in Public Tender Offers, Rights Issues, private placements and other restructuring operations. He regularly provides legal advice on matters regarding Corporate Governance, also advising on the Restructuring, Governance and Regulatory matters of investment funds and their respective management companies. Pedro holds a degree in Law from the Universidade Nova de Lisboa, with an Erasmus stay at Universidad Autónoma de Madrid for the 1st semester of the academic year 2008/2009 and holds an LL.M in Finance and Law from the Duisenberg School of Finance in Germany.

## ROCÍO GARCÍA DE OTEIZA

*Gómez-Acebo & Pombo • 30 years old*

Rocío García de Oteiza is an associate in the Corporate Department of *Gómez-Acebo & Pombo* in Madrid, where she began her career in 2014 after a brief internship in the Finance department of *Uría Menéndez*. At *Gómez-Acebo & Pombo* she completed a secondment at the firm's New York office for a year, where she was an international associate. Rocío specialises in Mergers & Acquisitions, Venture Capital, Corporate Law and Commercial Contracts.

She holds a double degree in Law and Business Administration from the Universidad Complutense de Madrid with a year at the University of Westminster. Rocío holds a *ThePowerMBA* programme. She has recently been involved in advising *Finanzauto* (a subsidiary of the *TESYA* group) on the acquisition of *Energyst Rental Solutions*. During her time in New York, she advised *Brazilian Mobile Group* on the sale of its business messaging provider in Latin America *Wavy* to Swedish company *Sinch AB*.



## SARA ASENSIO

*Uría Menéndez • 34 years old*



Sara Asensio is a senior associate in the Tax department of the *Uría Menéndez* Madrid office, having joined the firm in 2011. She has more than ten years of experience advising on the design and execution of investment and divestment structures abroad, especially in Latin America. Sara has participated in various Corporate Restructuring operations, Financings, Private Equity and securities issues. From January to June 2017, she completed

a secondment at *Chevez Ruiz Zamnarripa* in Mexico, a law firm specialising in Tax Law. She holds a degree in Law and Business Administration and Management from the Universidad Pontificia Comillas, with a Master's degree in Taxation and Tax Consultancy from the Centro de Estudios Financieros. She has recently advised very relevant deals: on *Cellnex's* capital increase with preferential subscription rights, in the amount of €7 billion, *Santander's* €2.25 billion issue on the NYSE, and advised *Citigroup* and *Morgan Stanley* on the accelerated book-built offering of shares of *EDPR*.



## SARA NAZARÉ

*VdA • 35 years old*

Sara Nazaré is a managing associate at Vieira de Almeida (VdA). She joined the firm after completing her academic studies in 2010, and has spent her entire career at Vda, becoming an associate in 2013, a senior associate in 2017 and a managing associate in 2019. Sara’s practice is primarily focused on IP Litigation and IP Transactions. She has been providing legal advice on Litigation involving Patents (mostly in the Pharmaceutical industry), Trademarks and designs in various jurisdictions. She has also advised in the context of judicial and arbitral proceedings for infringement of Industrial Property rights (including damage claims), invalidity/revocation proceedings, administrative actions and assisting with the prosecution of supplementary protection certificates before the Portuguese Patent Office. Sara Nazaré holds a degree in Law and a post-graduation in Law and Economics from the Universidade de Lisboa. Sara also holds a Master’s degree in Marketing Management from the Instituto Superior de Ciências do Trabalho e da Empresa.

## SARA SOARES

*Abreu Advogados • 34 years old*

Sara Soares is a senior associate at Abreu Advogados, where she has spent her entire 12-year legal career. She joined the firm’s Porto office as a trainee in 2008, and became a senior associate in 2019. Sara’s practice is mostly focused on Tax Disputes, and she is a key member of Abreu’s team, which registers an above-average success rate, including in high-profile cases. She has extensive experience in dealing with Tax Litigation cases of significant economic value on VAT, CIT and Social Security matters, to which she has been greatly contributing with innovative and disruptive approaches. Sara has also been actively participating since 2015 in one of the largest financing projects in the world, TOTAL, which has a huge coverage throughout the world, and it is estimated to be worth US\$25 Billion. Sara Soares holds a degree in Law and a Master’s degree in Tax Litigation from the Universidade Católica Portuguesa.



## TITO RENDAS

*CCA Law Firm • 32 years old*

Tito Rendas, despite being just 32, is the head of the Intellectual Property Practice at CCA Law Firm, reconciling a promising career at CCA Law Firm. Tito is highly respected by his peers and by the wider legal community for his knowledge of IT/IP Law, in general, and Copyright Law, in particular. At CCA, Tito has shown strong commercial awareness and initiative, having attracted important clients to the firm, including the EU Intellectual Property Office, the European Audiovisual Observatory, SGS Portugal and Quinta da Pacheca. Tito launched a personalised and integrated “Trade Secrets Protection” service in 2020. Tito is an assistant professor at the Lisbon Law School of Universidade Católica Portuguesa, where he teaches a variety of courses, including “Copyright Law”, “Industrial Property Law”, “Trade Secret Law”, and “Foundations of Private Law”. He holds a degree in Law, an LL.M. and a PhD from the Universidade Católica Portuguesa as well as an LL.M. from Harvard Law School.



## TOMÁS ALMEIDA RIBEIRO

*PLMJ • 34 years old*

Tomás Almeida Ribeiro is a managing associate at PLMJ in the Corporate M&A practice. With around 12 years' experience, he has worked mainly on Mergers and Acquisitions, Corporate Restructuring, Venture Capital Regulatory Issues, Corporate Disputes and Privatisations. Tomás Ribeiro's clients come from various industries and sectors, including real estate, shopping centres, tourism, ship building, repair and maintenance, sports companies and agribusiness. Before joining PLMJ in 2014, Tomás was an associate at Uría Menéndez Lisbon office for nearly five years. Tomás was elected a parish councillor of one of Lisbon's parishes and, for over five years, was in charge of managing a €5 million yearly budget. He was also an adviser to the Minister of State and of Regional Development of the 19th Constitutional Government of Portugal. Tomás holds a degree in Law from the Faculty of Law of Universidade Nova and completed a Post-graduate course in Corporate Law at Universidade Católica Portuguesa.

## VICTORIA ALONSO

*Ceca Magán Abogados • 26 years old*



Victoria Alonso, the youngest lawyer in our selection, belongs to the Commercial Law department of Ceca Magán Abogados, having actively participated in M&A processes and in the implementation and development of international companies in Spain, including all types of corporate agreements and the management of their legal secretariat. Victoria also intervenes on a recurring basis in Corporate Real Estate transactions with all types of structures. She has excellent knowledge of sectors related to tourism, healthcare, food, luxury goods and retail. She started her career as a trainee at Dentons and DLA Piper, joining López-Ibor Abogados in 2019, from where she joined Ceca Magán together with her Corporate team. She has simultaneously completed a Law degree and a Master's degree in Stock Exchange and Financial Markets at the Instituto de Estudios Bursátiles (IEB). She collaborates with the magazine Podium Global Media writing legal articles on the cosmetics and perfumery sector.