Cross-Border Litigation

Globalization of the world's markets has brought ever-increasing opportunities for international commerce, the effect of which is to connect people, products and businesses throughout the world. With globalization, however, comes increased legal, regulatory, political, cultural, financial and reputational complexity and risk for international businesses.

Disputes arising in the context of international commerce tend to be equally complicated, often involving multiple proceedings advancing at the same time before courts of different jurisdictions. Effectively managing such disputes requires lawyers who possess a comprehensive knowledge of local law, procedure and market conditions, lawyers skilled at combining that knowledge with broad international experience, and lawyers with a truly global perspective and a thorough understanding of your business and its objectives. We call this Cross-Border Litigation.

As the largest litigation practice in the world, with over 1,800 lawyers in more than 30 countries spread across the Americas, Asia Pacific, Europe, the Middle East, Russia and the CIS, DLA Piper has more Cross-Border Litigation lawyers than any other firm. Our practice sits alongside our highly regarded International Arbitration group and leverages the firm's unrivalled teams of sector-focused lawyers to safeguard your business interests whenever, wherever and in whatever forum a dispute may arise.

In those jurisdictions where DLA Piper does not have an actual presence, the firm has well-established and trusted relationships with local firms who understand our approach to litigation, our commitment to quality and client service, and who share our international vision. In short, wherever your dispute arises and is to be resolved, DLA Piper has the experience and the sector-focused teams to secure the best outcome for your business.

EXPERIENCE

- Representing a multinational client in the recovery of oil product and sums due under oil supply contracts with a value of over $100 million from a Nigerian-based company, involving proceedings in the English High Court, the Nigerian Federal Court and in the Netherlands, where a ship and a cargo of oil product were arrested.

- Acting for a Saudi Arabian group in relation to a US$10 billion fraud claim in the Cayman Islands and related proceedings in Bahrain, Switzerland, the US and England.

- Acting for one of the world's largest US manufacturers and distributors of medical products in relation to US$200 million tortious interference claims against their competitors and defecting employees in the US, Japan, Austria, France, Germany

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RELATED SECTORS

- Energy and Natural Resources
- Technology
Representing a global defence contractor in FCPA/UK Bribery Act investigations pending simultaneously in European, African, Asian, and US jurisdictions.

Advising a number of major reinsurers following the major market loss arising out of the floods in Queensland, Australia, resulting in physical damage and business interruption claims by a global resources company for A$1.2 billion.

Representing the Government of the Republic of Zambia in its successful flagship anti-corruption case against its former president and 19 other defendants in the English High Court and on appeal, proceedings having taken place in London and Lusaka by way of a simultaneous video link between the two courtrooms.

Advising professional trustees in US$1 billion litigation relating to the Madoff fraud, involving claims brought in the US, Bermuda and England, with satellite litigation in a number of other offshore jurisdictions.

Obtaining freezing orders in Cyprus, Belize, Luxembourg and Liechtenstein on behalf of a Russian bank against a borrower who had misappropriated funds, and procuring his criminal prosecution in France.

Advising a newly-elected democratic government in Asia on the recovery in Singapore, the UK, Malaysia and Myanmar of substantial assets fraudulently misappropriated by members of the former regime through the central banking system and government-owned instrumentalities.

Recovering over £200 million for the administrators of a bridging finance company which was the subject of an extensive and high-profile fraud by one of its directors in proceedings in Pakistan, Dubai, Greece, Spain and Portugal.

INSIGHTS

Publications

A gamechanger in international dispute resolution: the 2019 Convention on Enforcement of Foreign Judgments

8 July 2019

International commercial litigation is about to become radically more efficient, in a major development for international businesses. Under the Convention, a judgment given by a court of a Contracting State shall in principle be recognized and enforced in another Contracting State without any review of the merits.

Four tips for an effective eDiscovery plan in China

19 SEP 2018

A timely and well-documented eDiscovery plan, comprehensively addressing compliance with local laws, can also go a long way to address potential post-collection inquiries.

6 trends will shape future international commercial disputes

28 AUG 2018

The world of international litigation and arbitration tends to move slowly, but the pace of change may accelerate as these trends take hold.

 Surprise: Report places Australia second for corporate fraud in Asia Pac

11 MAY 2018

The Association of Certified Fraud Examiners (ACFE) recently released the 2018 edition of its Report to the Nations (the...
Report) on corporate fraud. The Report is a global study of occupational fraud, looking at over 2,600 cases and data from over 100 countries. It contains a wealth of information that will be of interest to anyone working in the compliance or risk space in any sized company - across all sectors.

EU Commission assesses money laundering and terrorist financing risks at the supranational level

11 SEP 2017
The European Commission published on 26 June 2017 a supranational assessment of the risks of money laundering and terrorist financing affecting the internal market and relating to cross-border activities, the first report of this nature carried out at a supranational level in the EU.

NEWS

DLA Piper announces launch of Artificial Intelligence practice

14 MAY 2019
DLA Piper announced today the launch of its Artificial Intelligence practice, which will focus on assisting companies as they navigate the legal landscape of emerging and disruptive technologies, while helping them understand the legal and compliance risks arising from the creation and deployment of AI systems.

DLA Piper establishes Litigation Regulatory offering in Dublin with partner hire

18 APR 2019
DLA Piper today announces the appointment of Caoimhe Clarkin as a Litigation & Regulatory partner in the firm's Dublin office. This is the seventh partner hire for DLA Piper in Dublin this year.

DLA Piper announces partnership promotions for 2019

1 APR 2019
DLA Piper is proud to announce that 77 lawyers have been promoted to its partnership. The promotions are effective as of April 1, 2019 in the United States and May 1, 2019 for EMEA and Asia Pacific. The promotions were made across many of the firm's practice areas in 43 different offices throughout 20 countries.

DLA Piper announces launch of Blockchain and Digital Assets practice

26 FEB 2019
DLA Piper announced today the launch of its Blockchain and Digital Assets practice, which will offer strategic advice on a global basis to address the needs of companies implementing blockchain technology solutions and creating and deploying digital assets.
DLA Piper recognised at Legal 500 UK 2019 Awards
26 FEB 2019
DLA Piper has won two awards at this year's Legal 500 UK Awards, in a ceremony held on the 6th February at the Guildhall, London.

Kate Brown de Vejar joins DLA Piper as global co-chair of International Arbitration
22 JAN 2019
DLA Piper announced today that Kate Brown de Vejar has joined the firm's Litigation practice as a partner in Mexico City and New York.

Janet Legrand QC (Hon), presented with a lifetime achievement award at the British Legal Awards
30 NOV 2018
Janet Legrand QC (Hon), DLA Piper partner and Senior Elected Board Member, has been presented with the City of London Law Society Lifetime Achievement Award at the British Legal Awards 2018. Hosted by Legal Week, the ceremony was held on 29th November at Finsbury Square in London.

DLA Piper expands construction disputes team with London partner hire
30 NOV 2018
DLA Piper is pleased to announce that Anna Mills will be joining the firm as a partner in its Litigation & Arbitration practice based in London.

DLA Piper Hires High-Profile Litigator in Spain
5 NOV 2018
DLA Piper is pleased to announce that Borja de Obeso, will join the Madrid office as a partner in the Litigation & Regulatory practice.

DLA Piper and IKM Advocates secure victory for the Republic of Kenya defeating a US$2 billion ICSID claim
24 OCT 2018
In a decisive victory for the Republic of Kenya, DLA Piper and DLA Piper Africa member firm, IKM Advocates, have successfully defeated the claim estimated to be worth US$2 billion in arbitration proceedings brought by a mining investor, Cortec Mining Kenya Limited. The claim was brought under the bilateral investment treaty (BIT) between the UK and Kenya dated 13 September 1999. The arbitration took place under the auspices of the World Bank's International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID), with the hearing taking place in Dubai in January 2018. The Tribunal issued its award on 22 October 2018.

Janet Legrand QC (Hon) named Woman of the Year at the Law Society Excellence Awards
18 OCT 2018
DLA Piper partner and Senior Elected Board Member, Janet Legrand QC (Hon) has been named Woman Lawyer of the Year at
the Law Society Excellence awards 2018, held on 17th October at Grosvenor House Hotel in London.

**DLA Piper hosts inaugural Afghanistan-UK Business Conference**

*18 SEP 2018*
DLA Piper's London office yesterday hosted the first Afghanistan-UK Business Conference, organised by the Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan in London and the International Chamber of Commerce in Afghanistan. The event, aimed at further enhancing Afghanistan-UK bilateral business, trade and investment relations, was attended by over 100 participants including public and private sector leaders, potential investors, NGOs and consultants, amongst others.

**DLA Piper's GTGA team named Sanctions Law Firm of the year 2018**

*27 JUL 2018*
DLA Piper's Global Trade and Government Affairs (GTGA) team has been named Sanctions Law Firm of the year, Europe, at this year's WorldECR Awards.

**DLA Piper acts for Daughters’ Rights in application to ECHR over right to be elected to the House of Lords**

*17 JUL 2018*
DLA Piper is acting for five daughters of hereditary peers who are taking the UK Government to the European Court of Human Rights over laws barring them from standing for election to the House of Lords.

**DLA Piper hires financial services and insurance sector team in Belgium**

*2 JUL 2018*
DLA Piper in Antwerp has today been joined by a team of financial services and insurance sector lawyers from Baker McKenzie.

**DLA Piper secures victory for Transatel SA in landmark telecoms dispute**

*20 JUN 2018*
DLA Piper has secured a victory for the French telecommunications service provider, Transatel SA, in a dispute under telecommunications law before the Federal Network Agency (BNetzA). In this landmark procedure, the BNetzA ordered the German mobile network operator, Telefónica Germany GmbH & Co. OHG, to submit a draft agreement regarding access to regulated wholesale roaming services to Transatel.

**DLA Piper arbitration practice celebrates climb in annual Global Arbitration Review rankings**

*18 APR 2018*
Global Arbitration Review (GAR) has unveiled its annual ranking of the world’s leading international arbitration practices, with DLA Piper rising to the 13th place, up ten places from the previous year.

**DLA Piper announces partnership promotions for 2018**

*3 APR 2018*
DLA Piper is proud to announce that 62 lawyers have been promoted to its partnership. The promotions are effective as of 1 April 2018 in the United States and 1 May 2018 for EMEA and Asia Pacific. The promotions were made across many of the firm's practice areas in 42 different offices throughout 20 countries.

DLA Piper Africa advises Adenia Partners on acquisition of controlling stake in Kanu Equipment Limited

23 MAR 2018
Kanu has been driving an expansion strategy across Sub-Saharan Africa in recent years and the business now operates in 13 countries, servicing the agriculture, construction and mining industries.

DLA Piper advises Timor-Leste on historic maritime treaty

6 MAR 2018
DLA Piper has been advising the Government of Timor-Leste, for more than four years, on its historic maritime treaty with the Australian Government, signed today at the United Nations Headquarters in New York, following the successful outcome of a compulsory conciliation process.

Four DLA Piper partners recognised in Jeune Afrique's Top 50 Lawyers in Francophone Africa 2017

20 FEB 2018
DLA Piper is delighted to congratulate Litigation & Regulatory partners Michael Ostrove and Alexander Brabant, Finance & Projects partner Eric Villateau, and Corporate partner Christophe Bachelet, on their inclusion in Jeune Afrique's Top 50 Business Lawyers in Francophone Africa 2017 rankings. This year, more DLA Piper lawyers than ever before have been awarded a place on the rankings, with partners scoring individual record rankings for the firm.

Businesses still not fully aware of Data Protection issues

31 JAN 2018
DLA Piper has released its second Data Privacy Snapshot report, finding that once again, company global privacy programs have gaps in meeting increasingly demanding global privacy principles. Significantly, it appears that many companies are falling short of data protection obligations under the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), which will start to apply from 25 May 2018.

Stephen Matthews joins DLA Piper's Litigation practice in New Jersey

17 JAN 2018
DLA Piper announced today that Stephen Matthews has joined the firm's Litigation practice as a partner in the Short Hills, New Jersey, office.

Six months until GDPR: companies still reporting low levels of preparedness

15 Nov 2017
For the over 200 organisations responding to DLA Piper's Data Privacy Scorebox online survey tool since the start of the year,
the average alignment score with all key international data privacy principles was 31.5%, as against an 38.3% average score for respondents in the 2016 calendar year.

DLA Piper advising FirstRand on £1.1 billion takeover of Aldermore Group PLC

7 NOV 2017
DLA Piper is acting for FirstRand, South Africa’s largest financial services institution, who have put forward a £1.1 billion recommended offer for approval by the shareholders of Aldermore Group PLC, ("Aldermore") a British specialist lender and savings bank

Ilaria Curti listed in GIR’s 40 under 40

6 OCT 2017
Ilaria Curti, Rome-based lawyer in DLA Piper’s Litigation & Regulatory practice, is featured in Global Investigations Review's (GIR's) 40 under 40 2017.