



## IT and Telecoms Disputes

IT and telecommunication services are business critical. It is of paramount importance for businesses to have at their disposal lawyers who understand the IT and telecoms sector, are experienced in handling large-scale commercial, regulatory and competition disputes and who can deliver value for money.

We have a large and dedicated international team of lawyers who work to resolve telecommunications and technology disputes and cover the complete range of cases in the sector worldwide.

We are fully experienced in all methods of dispute resolution including litigation, international arbitration, mediation and expert determination. All of our lawyers are trained in alternative dispute resolution and are skilled at identifying all available opportunities to resolve disputes.

### CAPABILITIES

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We advise clients on the complete range of cases in the IT and telecommunications sector including:

- Large scale contractual disputes
- Disputes over performance issues on major projects
- Interconnection and pricing disputes
- Litigation arising out of the termination of telecommunications and IT contracts
- Regulatory and competition disputes
- Freezing injunctions and search orders
- Outsourcing and public procurement disputes
- Major software disputes
- Insurance disputes
- Disputes involving the Internet and the conduct of e-business

### EXPERIENCE

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- Acting in one of the largest pieces of IT litigation before the Technology & Construction Court involving claims and counterclaims totalling in excess of £400m.
- Providing a bespoke litigation managed service to a global telecoms company around the world including resolving disputes in Egypt, Nigeria, Australia, Singapore, Taiwan and Venezuela.
- Advising a Government body in connection with a failure of a business critical IT System and resolving by mediation.
- Advising an Israeli telecoms company in respect of the failed launch of a satellite over Africa.
- Advising an international telecoms company in Denmark against a company in the US (allegations included premium rate and long firm

### KEY CONTACTS

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fraud) by way of International Arbitration

- Acting for a global IT supplier regarding a failed implementation of IT services and telecoms equipment in the Congo.
- Advising several telecoms companies by way of simultaneous consolidated action against a telecoms group suspected of fraud (including proceedings in Ireland, Switzerland and Madeira).
- Acting for a global technology company against a provider of subsea cables in Asia following an outage affecting a significant part of its network.
- Advising NHS Connecting for Health on various contractual disputes relating to the implementation for the NHS of the £12.8 billion National Programme for IT including advising on the termination of a £1.4 billion contract and the subsequent on-going arbitration proceedings.
- Advising a Government Department concerning a significant IT programme in relation to contracts with a number of major international IT suppliers engaged on the program.
- Acting for a major telecoms operator in a claim against an Isle of Man telecoms company for in excess of £6 million for the payment of Operation and Maintenance fees payable under a 20 year contract for the provision of circuits across Europe and advising on the termination of the contract.
- Acting on behalf of a distributor for the incumbent national telecommunications services provider in bringing claims for several million UK pounds in relation to commission payments which were being withheld on the basis of retrospective amendments to the terms of business and what we argued was anticompetitive behaviour.
- Acting for a multinational telecom company in a stream of regulatory and competition disputes for alleged discriminatory pricing and margin squeeze in the market for fixed-to-mobile interconnection services.
- Assisting a telecom company in several disputes in Italy before the National Regulatory Authority regarding numbering, calls and SMS origination and termination services, and pricing.

## INSIGHTS

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### Publications

#### Corporations need to remain vigilant amidst the rise of cyberattacks and cyberfrauds

2 December 2019

Recent figures show that Hong Kong and China remain the top destinations of fraudulent funds, most of which are the result of cyberfrauds. Read our article which gives helpful tips on how to avoid falling victim to these attacks.

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#### Recent Landmark Case on Comparative Advertising in Hong Kong

12 OCT 2018

On 5 September 2018, the Hong Kong Court of First Instance handed down a significant win to Hong Kong Broadband Network Limited (HKBN) in dismissing a trade mark infringement claim brought against it by the PCCW-HKT group (PCCW). The case is the first decision the Hong Kong Court has made on section 21 of the Trade Mark Ordinance (Cap. 559) (TMO) and provided important guidance on the use of trademarks in the context of comparative advertising.

HKBN was represented by the legal team from DLA Piper Hong Kong led by May Ng, Partner, assisted by Queenie Chan, Associate.

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#### DLA Piper's new toolkit to proactively manage IT Development Projects

7 JUN 2018

DLA Piper are pleased to present the launch of a new IT Development Project Healthcheck toolkit to assist our clients to efficiently manage their projects, identify and assess risks and avoid disputes.

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#### Powers of the SFO in an Internet age

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15 MAY 2018

Is the cloud the limit? Reviewing the powers of the UK's Serious Fraud Office in the Internet age

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## Regulatory challenges for electronic communications operators offering IoT connectivity services

24 JAN 2018

A booming market with rising demand for connectivity and capacity.

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## Events

### Previous

#### TechLaw Event - "M&A for the New Digital Economy"

7 MAR 2019

TechLaw Event Series

Amsterdam

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#### TechLaw Event - Online platforms - beyond playing innocence?

17 JAN 2019

TechLaw Event Series

Amsterdam

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#### TechLaw London 2018

5 DEC 2018

TechLaw Event Series

London

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#### TechLaw Event - Virtual Competition

22 NOV 2018

TechLaw Event Series

Amsterdam

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#### Middle East Tech Summit 2018: The Digital Imperative

5 NOV 2018

TechLaw Event Series

Dubai

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#### TechLaw in Germany

14 JUN 2018

TechLaw Event Series

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Munich

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## TechLaw Event - Blockchain

27 MAR 2018  
TechLaw Event Series  
Amsterdam

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## NEWS

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### DLA Piper launches its Global Litigation Guide

3 December 2019

DLA Piper has launched its 'Global Litigation Guide', which covers aspects of civil litigation in 30 jurisdictions worldwide.

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### DLA Piper continues to boost CEE region capability with new hires in Poland

5 September 2019

DLA Piper today announces the appointment of eight new lawyers in its Warsaw office into three key practice areas of Corporate, Finance & Projects (F&P) and Litigation & Regulatory. These hires follow the recent appointment of corporate partners Marek Sawicki and Jakub Marcinkowski from CMS.

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### 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.

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### 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.

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### DLA Piper strengthens Intellectual Property and Technology offering in Russia

18 APR 2019

DLA Piper today announces that Julianna Tabastajewa will be joining the firm as a counsel in its Intellectual Property and Technology practice based in Moscow. Her practice focuses on IP protection and litigation in the area of pharmaceutical, competition and, media law, as well as franchising.

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### DLA Piper announces partnership promotions for 2019

1 APR 2019

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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.

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### **DLA Piper hires white collar crime partner in Germany**

28 FEB 2019

DLA Piper today announces that White Collar Crime and Internal Investigations lawyer, Emanuel Ballo, will be returning to the firm as partner in March 2019 in its Frankfurt Litigation & Regulatory practice

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### **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.

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### **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.

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### **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.

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### **DLA Piper advises exeect Group on sale of its micro- and optoelectronics company AEMtec**

27 SEP 2018

DLA Piper has advised the exeect Group on the sale of their portfolio company AEMtec GmbH - the Berlin based micro- and optoelectronics company - to Mellifera Neunundzwanzigste Beteiligungsgesellschaft.

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### **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.

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### **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.

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### **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.

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### **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.

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### **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.

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### **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.

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### **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.

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### **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.

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### **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.

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### **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.

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