



Ioan Chiper LLB

Counsel

HEAD OF FINANCE, PROJECTS AND RESTRUCTURING

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With over 20 years of professional experience, entailing legal work in both Government and private sector, in Romania and in the US, Ioan combines a significant involvement in transactional work, focusing on structuring, drafting and negotiating deal documents, with an extensive first-hand experience in legislative and regulatory reform in Romania, as a developing market.

Ioan has regularly advised banks and other financial institutions, as well as business organizations (including listed companies), on complex finance transactions, financial restructuring and insolvency arrangements, regulatory matters and select dispute resolution cases.

Combining over years of senior attorney practice with senior in-house legal counsel, Ioan has gained a thorough understanding of the financial industry and built a special synergy with his clients, developing a business oriented, client-focused and innovation-minded approach.

LANGUAGES SPOKEN

- Romanian
- English

- Finance
- Restructuring
- Consumer Goods, Food and Retail
- Energy and Natural Resources
- Financial Services
- Industrials
- Infrastructure, Construction and Transport
- Insurance
- Life Sciences
- Real Estate
- Technology

Romanian English

- Advising one of the biggest Romanian banks with respect to bilateral, club or syndicated financing of large regional groups activating in a broad array of industry sectors: oil, oil drilling and transportation, fertilizers, carbon, hydro and wind energy, agribusiness, financial and payment institutions and real estate.
- Advising one of the biggest Romanian banks on financial restructuring and debt trading in relation to its exposure to certain corporate and consumer clients.
- Advising and representing, at both trial and appellate level, in insolvency and commercial courts the majority shareholder of one of the few manufacturers in the Romanian glass industry, with respect to its rights and remedies in the insolvency case and multiple insolvency related adversary proceedings and lateral litigation (e.g., replacement of the insolvency trustee, affirmative injunctions,

actions for multi-million EUR in damages); advised the client in conjunction with its petition before the European Court of Human Rights on multiple counts of violation of the European Convention of Human Rights.

- Advising extensively an international bank in conjunction with the client's latest assessment of Romania's Insolvency and Creditor Rights System under the relevant ROSC (Reports on Standards and Codes) initiative, preparing the descriptive part of the ROSC assessment pertaining to Romanian laws, regulations and practices. Assisted in a post-ROSC review in conjunction with the latest developments of the Romanian insolvency framework (including the establishment of a new consumer insolvency regime).
- Advising a regional multilateral with respect to the extension of financing to a Romanian bank for facilitating the creation of special financial products for municipalities and small and mid-size enterprises.
- Advising a major international bank with respect to the structuring of a potential financing format secured by a portfolio of home mortgage loans, including the assessment and mitigation of insolvency related risks associated with the validity and enforceability of the security structure in a scenario involving the borrower's insolvency.
- Advising a large Romanian bank on the validity and enforceability of a bank LG issued in connection with the financing of a construction project.
- Advising a large Romanian bank on various structuring techniques for sale and leaseback transactions, including structures involving both operating and financial leases.
- Advising a leading global alternative asset manager specialising in asset origination and management in connection with a multi-million EUR aircraft lease involving a major aircraft operator.
- Advising an international bank with respect to the assessment of the risk associated with the financing of a Romanian steel company via a sale and buyback transaction.

CREDENTIALS

Prior Experience

- October 2019 – to date: Counsel, DLA Piper Bucharest
- September 2014 – September 2019: Head, Business Advisory Department, Legal Division, BCR-Erste Group
- 2009 – to date: Short Term Consultant, World Bank Group
- January 2013 – September 2014: Partner, Advisory Services Department, Romanian law firm
- March 2010 – December 2012: Partner, Co-Head of the Banking, Finance, Financial Restructuring and Insolvency Practice, Romanian law firm
- December 2007 – March 2010: Senior Associate, Banking, Finance, Financial Restructuring and Insolvency Practice, international law firm
- September 2007 – December 2007: Foreign legal advisor, Corporate Department, Richards, international law firm
- April 2005 – August 2007: Chief legal officer, Division of Banking Affairs, Legal Department, BRD Groupe Société Générale (on leave August 2006 – August 2007)
- April 2001 – June 2001: Intern, international law firm
- September 1997 – December 2004: Senior legal counsel, Department of Legislation and Legal Research, Romanian Ministry of Justice

Education

- Fordham University School of Law, LLM, Banking, Corporate and Finance Law, Master of Laws Program, New York, US, 2006-07
- The College of Law of England and Wales, Fulbright Fellow European Young Lawyers' Scheme, London, UK, 2001
- University of Bucharest School of Law, LLB, Bucharest, Romania, 1997

Memberships

- Bucharest Bar
- New York State Bar

- INSOL Europe & INSOL International
- Turnaround Management Association
- New York State Bar Association
- American Bar Association

INSIGHTS

Publications

- Article on Out-of-court restructurings regarding mortgage loans and corporate debt, CEE Legal Matters, August 2020