



**Orestis Omran**

**Partner**

**HEAD OF GREECE COUNTRY GROUP**

orestis.omran@dlapiper.com

**Brussels**

T: +32 25001539

M: +32 476038400

Orestis Omran is a Partner in the Brussels Office of DLA Piper and the head of the firm's EU-Greek practice. He focuses on international corporate and finance transactional as well as on EU regulatory matters in the energy, banking and infrastructure sectors. Qualified in England and Wales, New York, Greece and Brussels (E-list), Orestis is the very definition of an international attorney. He has closed complex transactions in many jurisdictions and has represented clients in formal and informal state aid and other investigations before the European Commission, national regulatory authorities and subsequent proceedings before the EU Courts. He is highly praised by Chambers (as an expert based abroad for Greece), Legal 500 (as an expert in the Global and EU Competition category and a next generation partner in the energy sector) and by IFLR 1000 (as a rising star partner in the Banking and Finance and Financial Regulatory categories)

In addition, Orestis advises governments and energy companies on both contentious and non-contentious matters. He is often involved in transnational litigation and international commercial and investment arbitrations in the energy sector. He represents and advises clients on a wide range of disputes and regulatory matters involving the upstream, midstream and downstream oil and gas industry.

Orestis is also considered as one of the top international lawyers in Greece where he benefits from a strong network of contacts in the Government and industry. He has led significant privatization, structured finance and project finance transactions and has also been acting for the Greek government in some of the most complex Greek and EU law matters before the European Commission and other international institutions. He has also advised the IMF and the EU institutions on the implementation of the Greek Program.

He is regularly invited to participate as a speaker in business and legal conferences in Europe and the United States and is often published in all of the above areas of law. He has served as a guest lecturer in many universities in Europe and the Americas on issues

- Corporate
- Litigation, Arbitration and Investigations
- Finance
- Projects, Energy and Infrastructure
- Restructuring
- Public Private Partnerships and PFI
- Infrastructure Finance
- Global Governance and Compliance
- Antitrust and Competition
  
- Energy and Natural Resources
- Financial Services
- Technology

of comparative campaign finance law, sovereign debt restructuring and constitutional law.

## EXPERIENCE

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- Advised the Hellenic Republic on the landmark 'Greek lignite and electricity markets' antitrust case (AT.38700).
- Advising the Hellenic Electricity Distribution Network Operator on the EUR 2.1 billion sale of 49% of its shares to the Macquarie fund.
- Advised Finacity Corporation on the first in the Greek energy market securitization transaction of electricity bill performing receivables of the Public Power Corporation.
- Advised Deutsche Bank on the securitization of PPC EUR 2,2 billion non-performing receivables portfolio.
- Advising QQuant on the servicing and securitization of 1 billion NPL portfolio of Pancreta Bank.
- Advising the Hellenic Republic, the Hellenic Post and the Hellenic Corporation of Assets and Participations on all state aid matters (cases SA.57538, S A.57982, S.A. 56616) related to the restructuring of the Hellenic Post .
- Advising the Hellenic Republic on a state aid compliant strategic reserve scheme to incentivize the replacement of existing lignite based energy infrastructure while ensuring security of supply in the Greek electricity market.
- Advising the Hellenic Asset Development Fund in the structuring of its Project Preparation Facility.
- Advised an international oil and gas producer in ad hoc international arbitration proceedings against the Hellenic Republic regarding oil and gas exploration and development rights in Northern Aegean, Greece.
- Advising major international investors on all aspects of the acquisition of RES projects in Greece.
- Advising all Greek systemic banks in structured finance, project finance and hedging finance transactions.

## CREDENTIALS

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### Professional Qualifications

- Attorney-at-law admitted with the Supreme Court of New York
- Dikegóros admitted with the Dikegorikos Syllogos Athenon
- Solicitor of the Senior Courts of England and Wales

### Prior Experience

- Associate and then Counsel in the Brussels Office of international law firm, 2012-2017
- Attorney European Commission, Legal Service, 2011-2012

### Recognitions

- *Chambers* notes that: “Greek-qualified Orestis Omran is based in Brussels and receives numerous plaudits for his expertise in corporate and commercial law. He has experience advising on transactions, joint ventures and distribution agreements. One client describes him as ‘an expert in Greek law’, adding that ‘he provides us with outstanding representation and clear advice on our business interests in Greece’”.
- *Legal 500* notes that Orestis Omran is ‘distinguished for his intelligence, commitment, business intuition and responsiveness’ – boasts extensive EU-oriented experience (in the energy sector) and that competition and state aid expert Orestis Omran is noted for his extensive knowledge of the Greek market, where he acts for large companies and public entities”.
- A client notes that “We work mostly with partner Orestis Omran who is an absolute star. He has vast experience on EU energy regulatory matters and leads transactions between energy companies and/or governments in south-eastern Europe. He has a deep knowledge of the energy markets and understands the business probably better than any other energy lawyer in Brussels” (*Legal 500 2021*)
- Another client notes that “I have heard people in the industry referring to him as the Michael Jordan of law and I cannot agree more on that”. (*Legal 500 2021*)

## Education

- University of Amsterdam, PhD (cand.), Thesis Topic: "*Comparative Campaign Finance Law: A comparative analysis of Campaign Finance Regulation in the United States, the United Kingdom and Greece*" (I. Henry Hijmans Scholar), 2018
- University of California, Visiting Scholar, Berkeley (Boalt Hall) 2015
- University of Chicago Law School, LLM, (Fulbright Scholar) 2011
- University of Athens Law School, LL.B. 2009

## Memberships

- American Bar Association
- New York State Bar Association
- Brussels Bar (E-list)

## Lecturer

- Guest Lecturer in Law Schools in Europe and the Americas

## INSIGHTS

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### Publications

#### The new EU toolbox to tackle soaring energy prices

22 October 2021

The ongoing energy price crisis in the aftermath of COVID-19, which has curtailed industrial production and left consumers across Europe facing higher heating bills as winter approaches, has ramped up pressure on the EU and EU Member States to urgently address the problem.

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#### Special competition rules on digital ecosystems: Greece joins the club

7 September 2021

On 6 August 2021 the new draft Greek Competition Bill (the "new Bill") was published for a two-week consultation. It amends the Greek Competition Law (L.3959/2011) and aims to transpose Directive (EU) 2019/1 in order to enhance the enforcement powers of the Hellenic Competition Authority.

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#### Greece's renewable energy sector: New rules in the pipeline to unleash potential

30 April 2021

The renewable energy sector (RES) in Greece continues its growth course, despite the impact of an unprecedented COVID-19 health crisis on the economy. Last year, 2020, has been a landmark year for Greece's energy transition, while the first quarter of 2021 indicates that this year will not be any different.

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#### Digitalisation of public administration: State aid considerations of the Recovery and Resilience Facility

1 April 2021

The modernisation of the public sector with the adoption of new technologies aims at increasing efficiencies in the sector's activities and as such has been a priority for a number of EU Member States. What are the State Aid considerations of the Recovery and Resilience Facility?

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### **New interplay between State Aid Rules and Bank Resolution in the EU: the *Tercas* case**

18 March 2021

On 2 March 2021, the Court of Justice of the European Union (CJEU) issued its decision in the *Tercas* case (*Tercas* ruling) upholding the General Court's decision and rejecting the Commission's arguments.

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### **Episode 2: What next for the European NPL market? – Part 2**

8 March 2021

The DLA Piper Financial Services Podcast

In this episode, the discussion on the non-performing loan (NPL) market continues with views on developments in Greece, Italy and Spain. Even without the impact of COVID-19, these southern European markets continue to experience significant NPL activity.

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### **Greek NPL market snapshot**

7 December 2020

The aftermath of the financial crisis, coupled with economic impact of COVID-19 has led to a rise in non-performing loans (NPLs). In this report we take a look at the Greek NPL market, examining the structural and tax considerations for the sale of Greek NPLs and how Ireland plays a role for the investors who purchase Greek NPLs.

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### **Greece: New package of financial and structural measures boosts the role of RES on the way to the country's "green" transition**

19 November 2020

On 1 November 2020, what is probably a new era for the Greek energy market was marked by the launch of the so-called "Target Model" implementation plan. The term "Target Model" essentially describes EU's initiative to create a single EU energy market, as such initiative is enshrined in the Third Energy Package.

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- Co-author *Litigation Law and Practice in Greece*, Chambers 2019
- Co-author *Antitrust Litigation Law and Practice in Greece*, Chambers 2019
- *Directors' Liability in the Twilight Zone*, Country Report for Greece, INSOL 2017

## **Events**

- "*How are EU regulation policies affecting growth prospects for the TMT industry and what is required to help stimulate more investment*", TMT Finance Conference, Munich, Germany, October 2016
- "*Sovereign Debt Restructuring in Greece and Argentina: A comparative assessment*", series of guest lectures at the Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile and the Universidad de Buenos Aires, Santiago, Chile and Buenos Aires, Argentina, September 2016

- “*The new Greek Development Law*”, Annual Conference of the Federation of Industries of Northern Greece, Thessaloniki, Greece, June 2016
- “*Drafting arbitration clauses in energy contracts: A prerequisite to successful arbitration*”, Seminar organized by the Association for International Arbitration, the Vienna International Arbitration Centre and the Austrian Arbitration Association, Brussels, Belgium, May 2016
- “*Public International Law Aspects of Oil and Gas Exploration and Development in South Eastern Mediterranean*”, Event entitled “Energy Planning for Crete: Prospects of Development”, Athens, Greece, April 2016
- “*Campaign Finance Reform in Greece: Lessons to learn from the US and the UK*”, Annual Conference of the Group of the Greek Constitutionalists, Crete, Greece, April 2016
- “*Cybersecurity: EU legislation and highlights of key obligations*”, EUTC Summit, Brussels, Belgium, March 2016
- “*Criminal Aspects of Campaign Finance Regulation*”, Oxford Criminal Law Discussion Group, Oxford Law Faculty, Oxford, UK, February 2015

## NEWS

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### **DLA Piper helps Hellenic Republic resolve Greek electricity market dispute**

22 September 2021

DLA Piper has advised the Hellenic Republic in negotiations with the European Commission to resolve a landmark 'Greek lignite and electricity markets' antitrust case.

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### **DLA Piper assists Deutsche Bank in landmark securitization for Greek State controlled Public Power Corporation**

7 July 2021

DLA Piper has advised Deutsche Bank under English, Greek and Irish law in the recently closed trade receivables securitisation programme for Public Power Corporation S.A., the largest Greek electricity producer and principal supplier of electricity in the country.

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