

# FIRM PRESENTATION



Studio Legale Padovan was established in 2002 in Milan by the Italian lawyer Marco Padovan and it consists of twenty qualified lawyers who mainly assist contractors and general contractors in public and private works contracts and major international infrastructure projects. We also advise on matters of export control, international economic sanctions, international business law and cross-border transactions, international business relations, corporate and commercial law, banking and finance, e-commerce and administrative law. The Firm also has a group of lawyers specialized in litigation and arbitration.

In addition to assisting numerous companies in Italy, the Firm frequently advises and assists both Italian companies relocating their businesses abroad – also by way of international group restructurings – and domestic businesses in the planning, negotiation and execution of major foreign projects

The Firm is a board member of *Legal Netlink Alliance*, a worldwide network of more than 100 independent law firms consisting of over 2000 lawyers, and is a coordinator for construction law.

Moreover, the Firm has excellent relations with top-level law firms throughout four continents particularly the Indian subcontinent, Turkey, the UAE, Spain and Brazil, where it has international recognition and is used as a point of reference for businesses operating on such markets. The Firm has a Spanish desk consisting of a team of qualified Spanish lawyers.

The Firm is a FIDIC (*Fédération Internationale des Ingénieurs Conseils*) Affiliate Member and a full member of the DRBF (*Dispute Resolution Board Foundation*). It is also a member of the UK Society of Construction and the ISCL (*Italian Society of Construction Law*). It is also a member of the following associations: the Italy-Iran Chamber of Commerce and Industry (*Camera di Commercio e Industria Italo-Iraniana*) and the Italy-Russia Chamber of Commerce (*Camera di Commercio Italo-Russa*).

Many of the Firm's lawyers have achieved post-graduate law degrees in the United States or in other European countries. They keep abreast of legal developments in their respective areas of practice and their works are often featured in legal publications. The Firm is usually called to render its services in languages other than Italian. All lawyers and secretaries are fluent in English and many of them can also work and negotiate in French, Spanish, Portuguese and German.

Below are the main practice areas of the Firm.

## CONSTRUCTION LAW, PUBLIC AND PRIVATE WORKS AND MAJOR INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS

For many years, the Firm has been advising contractors and consultants, in Italy and abroad, with regard to complex public construction works and infrastructure projects such as the design and construction of undergrounds, railways, highways and motorways, dams, power stations, health campuses, mines or industrial plants.

The Firm advises businesses and consultants throughout all phases of the implementation of infrastructure projects.

In particular, the Firm advises clients with regard to the administration of public procurement procedures (analysis of the tender documents, assessment of competitive tenders' requirements, drafting and negotiation of joint venture agreements, subcontract agreements and consortia agreements) and the execution of work contracts, as well as in relation to any claims and litigation with contracting authorities, sub-contractors and any other individuals or entities involved in the projects.

The ever-changing legal framework at national, European and international level requires that lawyers are continuously updating their legal knowledge. Many of our Construction Law team members are regularly involved in academic teaching at prestigious business schools and regularly attend training courses.

The Firm also has extensive experience in the field of private works projects, in particular with regard to the development of shopping centres and residential real estates. The Firm regularly advises clients in drafting and negotiating construction contracts (also adapting internationally accepted standard contractual forms such as FIDIC, JCT and ICE to the Italian law), in the planning procedures and in handling the related claims and disputes.

The Firm has substantial experience with the international financial institutions' policies and projects financed by multilateral or bilateral finance providers. This enables the Firm to provide assistance to domestic businesses working or intending to work on projects abroad. The Firm is a FIDIC Affiliate Member (*Fédération Internationale Des Ingénieurs-Conseils*) and a full member of DRBF (Dispute Resolution Board Foundation) and all members of the Construction team have extensive knowledge of contracts drafted in accordance with the FIDIC standards and customs.

The Firm also specializes in project finance transactions and has been involved in numerous transactions in both Italy and abroad, (including China, Turkey, Sierra Leone, Uganda, Marocco, Egypt, Serbia, UAE, Brazil and Argentina).

## EXPORT CONTROL AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC SANCTIONS

As export controls and international economic sanctions rules continue to evolve, companies and banks face ever increasing risks in carrying out their businesses such as restricting foreign market access or potentially exposing them to administrative and criminal sanctions.

Export control refers to the transfer of certain goods that are deemed strategic, including, in particular, military goods and items that can be used for both civil and military applications (so-called “dual use”). Economic sanctions are, instead, foreign policy instruments which competent authorities frequently resort to against either foreign governments, non-governmental bodies and individuals or legal entities, such as terrorist groups), as well as against corporate entities and individuals. Countries which are currently subject to European restrictions include Iran, North Korea, the Russian Federation, Sudan and Syria.

The regulatory framework has been further complicated by recent complex regulations adopted by the USA in relation to important cross-border export controls and international sanctions, which is often applied also outside of the US borders, thus entailing heavy penalties on non-US entities and individuals.

Studio Legale Padovan stands out from other leading Italian law firms as it continuously provides tailor-made advice to Italian companies operating or intending to operate in restricted markets. In particular, the Firm has extensive experience in performing due diligence reviews of correct commercial practices. Such activities are carried out from a subjective standpoint (screening of individuals and entities who are involved in the prospected transaction) and from an objective viewpoint (analysis of the technical characteristics of the concerned goods and comparison thereof with the lists of items that are subject to restrictions).

The Firm frequently works with technical experts specialized in dual-use goods. However, if requested by clients we are able to provide legal opinions and technical and legal reports on goods intended for export (including software, machineries and technologies) with regard to the EU’s dual-use regulations and black list restrictions imposed on certain countries, such as Iran and the Russian Federation. We also assist our clients in all proceedings before the competent authorities and control bodies, including the Italian Ministry of Economic Development, and the Committee for Financial Security at the Department of Treasury and Customs.

## INTERNATIONAL TRADE LAW

Unlike other Italian law firms, the Firm continuously advises and assists Italian companies investing abroad (either through implementing construction projects or acquiring companies with projects already underway) or relocating their businesses abroad. The Firm is currently advising clients throughout all continents and liaising with foreign law firms selected by the client.

The Firm has significant experience in international commercial matters and agency and distribution agreements. It also specializes export finance practice and procedures involving clients such as SACE s.p.a. (company providing insurance services for foreign export), SIMEST s.p.a. (company providing assistance to foreign companies) and the ECAs of European and Non-European countries.

## CORPORATE/M&A

The Firm has a consolidated experience in the various sectors of commercial and corporate law and continually assists its clients, including listed companies, in matters pertaining to corporate advice and extraordinary transactions.

All of the Firm's Corporate/M&A lawyers are experts in M&A, including cross border transactions, and the establishment of joint ventures, which are either based on contracts or entailing the incorporation of companies. Such lawyers draft all the relevant contracts, if governed by Italian law, or otherwise supervise, in strict liaison with the client, the drafting activities performed by foreign counsels, and always participate in the relevant negotiations.

In relation to extraordinary transactions, our lawyers assist clients in the preparation of letters of intent and binding offers, the performance of legal due diligence activities, the drafting and review of purchase agreements and ancillary agreements (such as, for example, shareholders' agreements, lock-up agreements, put and call option agreements), the participation in negotiations and the drafting of documents related to closing or post-closing activities.

In particular, our lawyers have a long-standing experience in assisting institutional investors within the framework of extraordinary transactions, concerning either listed or unlisted companies, and are able to identify strategies and prepare the relevant documentation in order to protect such investors' interests. In this respect, the Firm has specific expertise with regard to the acquisition by institutional investors of minority stakes and the protection of minority shareholders' rights. The Firm also has experience in leverage buy-outs and management buy-outs.

Furthermore, the Firm provides continuous assistance to clients for the drafting and negotiations of all types of commercial contracts, whether governed by Italian or international law (including works, sale and purchase, distribution, agency, supply, franchising, lease and licence agreements), as well as with regard to the preparation of corporate bodies' documentation, including the organization and management models set forth under the Legislative Decree No. 231 of 2001.

## BANKING AND FINANCE

The Firm's banking and finance department pays constant attention to the new legislation and regulations issued and is particularly accomplished at being able to adapt standard common law documentation to solutions which are tailed to comply with the Italian legal system.

The Firm's banking and finance clients consist of Italian, European and American banks and leading financial and commercial operators, which it advises on a wide range of domestic and cross-border financial transactions, providing constant support to its clients throughout all of the stages of the transaction – including the structuring, negotiation, drafting of the documentation and on-going advice during the course of the business relations.

The Firm specialises in the following banking and finance areas:

- Credit transactions. Real estate mortgage loans, mortgage finance, shipping finance, consumer credit – also in relation to the real estate sector – loans to venture capital companies and financing to private equity companies;
- Structured Finance Securitisations, covered bonds, bond issues, derivatives. In particular, the Firm focuses on credit securitisations deriving from leasing agreements and mortgages, assisting the Issuer or the Originator in such type of transactions. It also advises on the issuance of bonds on regulated foreign markets, financing agreements, the structuring of security packages in global funding transactions by leading international banks, the issuing of collateral, bank guarantees and debt restructuring and debt management;
- Regulation of banking activities, compliance with the Supervisory Authority, particularly in relation to banking transparency;
- Real estate finance. Structured finance for the acquisition of real estate properties (even through sophisticated national and domestic leases) and management contracts and leases of such property;
- Trusts and fiduciary activities;
- Insurance law, bancassurance relations.

## E-COMMERCE

The Firm provides assistance to e-commerce and e-couponsing companies on issues related to internet law and the liabilities of internet service providers under the applicable Italian and EU law.

The Firm also assists e-commerce and e-couponsing companies in relation to the drafting, entering into, enforcement and termination of B2B contracts with merchants and providers of web marketing or logistic services, as well as in relation to the drafting of B2C terms governing contractual sale relationships with consumers or general terms and conditions applied by online sellers.

Studio Legale Padovan also advises on the processing of personal and sensitive data collected during Internet use and in the analysis and drafting of privacy and cookies policies.

Furthermore, we have extensive expertise on all the issues relating to the consumer protection, unfair terms and unfair commercial practices, also in relation to proceedings before the Italian Antitrust Authority and the relevant administrative or ordinary courts.

The Firm provides assistance also with regard to the compliance of initiatives implying the award of prizes with the applicable Italian law and for the implementation of all the ensuing activities.

## ADMINISTRATIVE LAW

The Firm has an extensive experience in Administrative law, especially as regards public work contracts and contracts for the construction of buildings for public or private purposes.

In relation to public works contracts (relating to either the supply of goods or services, the performance of works and the award of concessions for public works or services), the Firm provides its out-of-court assistance to both public and private entities in all phases of public tender procedures, ranging from the selection of the contractors to the assistance provided to both public and private entities.

In relation to building construction, the Firm provides assistance in all stages of the development procedures, issuing legal opinions on the problematic aspects of the relevant initiatives (such as maximum building extent, distances, urban equalization and expropriation), and assisting in negotiating contracts for the purchase of land and in obtaining the necessary administrative authorizations as well as in relation to environmental and landscape issues.

Furthermore, the Firm provides **court assistance**, before all competent administrative judicial authorities, in lawsuits subject to ordinary and special rules and in lawsuits subject to the exclusive jurisdiction of administrative courts.

## LITIGATION

The Firm assists both Italian and foreign companies and individuals at all legal stages of proceedings before the Italian courts, and – where necessary – engaging the assistance of external legal counsel.

The Firm particularly specializes in pre-trial procedures and matters involving the resolution of conflicts of law and jurisdiction. The Firm's policy is to act on a cost-effective basis and to only resort to court intervention when strictly necessary in order to best protect its clients' interests. In relation to debt collection matters, Studio Legale Padovan was one of the few Milanese law firms initially authorised to electronically file payment order requests, following the system's introduction in 2006, without having to appear before the Court. This procedure serves to drastically reduce the usual time delay necessitated for such actions.

The Firm also uses its legal networks, often located in restrictive countries, in order to assist its clients or other lawyers in supervising litigation and arbitration proceedings overseas. Consequently, the Firm now specialises in finalising and settling international insolvency matters.

The Firm's lawyers have significant expertise in alternative dispute resolution procedures and are members of the Chamber of Arbitration of Milan. They are also qualified to practice before many of the leading arbitration authorities including the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC).



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## MARCO PADOVAN

Founder

### *Professional Experience*

Marco Padovan was born in Venice on October 6, 1958. He started his legal career in 1981 and was admitted to the Italian Bar in 1983. In 1983 he started working at a major American law firm focusing on international law, commercial law, company law, financial law and tax law. He then joined the Legal Department of the European Investment Bank (EIB) in Luxembourg. From 1993 until 1995 he represented the European Investment Bank in the Board of Directors of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) in London. From 1995 until 2000 he was Chief Counsel at the EIB first dealing with Italy and then with the 150 non-European countries where EIB is active. In 2000 he returned to Italy to act as Project Finance Coordinator Group at a leading American law firm. From September 2001 until December 2002 he was a partner of a prominent Italian law firm. In December 2002 he founded Studio Legale Padovan. He is a member of the Milan Bar and is also qualified to appear before the higher courts.

### *Areas of Practice*

Marco specializes in construction law, international trade, export control and international sanctions, M&A, project financing and finance law.

### *Education*

Marco obtained his Law Degree at the University of Rome “*La Sapienza*” in 1981. He attended the “*Anselmo Anselmi*” notarial school in Rome (1983-1984); he is an Alumnus of the Academy of International Law of the Hague and obtained a M.A. in International and Comparative Business Law at the London Guildhall University (1995), where he was awarded the “*Mary Oliver Memorial Prize*” for excellence in Company Law.

### *Selected Academic and Professional Activities*

Marco lectures on Construction Law at the Master School of *Politecnico di Milano* (Master program “*Project Management of Civil Structures and Infrastructures*”).

He is often invited to speak at public conferences and seminars on export control, international trade and FIDIC contracts.

***Memberships***

Marco is a member of the following associations: the “International Bar Association” (IBA), of “DRBF” (The Dispute Resolution Board Foundation, USA), of the “Society of Construction Law” (UK), of ISCL (Italian Society of Construction Law), of “Credimpex Italia”, of “AICE” (Associazione Italiana di Ingegneria Economica, the Italian Association for Total Cost Management). He is a FIDIC (International Federation of Consulting Engineers) affiliate member. He is founding member and Chairman of the “International Center for Contemporary Turkish Studies - ICCT”.

He is also a member of the Board of Legal Netlink Alliance and global coordinator of the LNA Construction Law Practice Group.

***Foreign Languages***

English, French and Spanish.

**RENATO COSTAGLIOLA**

**Head of Litigation**

***Professional Experience***

Renato Costagliola was born in Milan (Italy) on July 26, 1958. He was admitted to practice in 1983 and to the Italian Bar in 1986. Before joining Studio Legale Padovan in 2003, he worked as a litigator for two major law firms in Milan gaining extensive experience as litigator in all areas of civil, commercial, insolvency and corporate law. He is also qualified to appear before the higher courts.

***Areas of Practice***

Renato is the Firm's chief litigator and leads its Litigation and Debt Recovery Practice. He has also been involved in numerous arbitration proceedings, both domestic and international.

***Education***

Renato graduated in Law with full marks from the *Università Statale di Milano* in 1983.

***Foreign Languages***

English

## JOSÉ ALBERTO ÁLVAREZ DE CIENFUEGOS DOMINGUEZ

### *Professional Experience*

José Alberto Álvarez de Cienfuegos was born in Granada (Spain) on January 30, 1973. He started practicing law in 2000 and since has worked for several international law firms. From 2004 to 2006 he worked at a major law firm, a member of the legal network of a “Big Four” advisory and audit company, where he gained extensive experience in acquisitions, corporate law and commercial litigation.

He has significant experience in banking and finance, including rendering assistance to originators in securitization transactions and banking finance. He has assisted construction companies in the negotiation of credit facilities, guarantee facilities, performance bonds and parent company guarantees.

He has coordinated the activities of the firm in collaboration with local lawyers in several jurisdictions, including Spanish and French speaking countries. He frequently collaborates with the contract and litigation departments in respect of conflicts of law and international law aspects.

He joined Studio Legale Padovan in 2007. He is enrolled with the Milan and the Madrid Bar Associations.

### *Areas of Practice*

José Alberto specializes in international commercial law, contract law and mergers and acquisitions.

### *Education*

José Alberto obtained his Law Degree from the Universidad de Granada, Spain (1997); attended post degree programs in Comparative Law. He was a Coimbra Group Visiting Scholar at the University of Pavia, Italy (1999-2000). He has taken part in courses and conferences on international and commercial law.

### *Languages*

Spanish, Italian (native proficiency), English and French. Basic knowledge of German and Portuguese.

## FABIOLA VICCEI

### ***Professional Experience***

Fabiola Viccei was born in Ascoli Piceno on December 12, 1972. From 2001 to 2007 she practiced at a major Italian law firm in Milan and was mainly involved in civil, commercial and financial law matters. She is experienced in securitization transactions, financings, issuing of bonds and financial instruments. From 2007 to 2010 she worked at a law firm specializing in capital market regulations.

She was admitted to the Milan Bar in 2006 and joined Studio Legale Padovan in April 2010.

### ***Areas of Practice***

Since joining Studio Legale Padovan, Fabiola has focused on construction law and FIDIC contracts, financial and securities law, contract law and commercial law.

### ***Education***

Fabiola obtained her Law Degree (with international specialization) from the Catholic University of Milan (2001).

### ***Selected Academic and Professional Activities***

Fabiola has frequently collaborated on preparing essays and conference materials for seminars on securitization. She is also the author of various articles on construction law for leading international legal publications.

### ***Foreign Languages***

English

## MARCO ZINZANI

### ***Professional Experience***

Marco Zinzani was born in Faenza (Italy) on April 18, 1982. He started practicing law in 2006. He was admitted to the Bar in March 2010. He is a member of the Bar of Milan. He joined Studio Legale Padovan in 2011.

### ***Areas of Practice***

Marco focuses on international trade law, European Union law, export control and economic sanctions, corporate compliance.

### ***Education***

Marco holds a law degree *cum laude* (2005) from 'Tor Vergata' University in Rome. From 2001 to 2005, he was a student at the University College 'Lamaro-Pozzani' with a scholarship of the *Federazione Nazionale dei Cavalieri del Lavoro*. In 2004 he was an exchange student at the School of Law of the University of Warwick (United Kingdom).

In 2007, as a Rotary Foundation Ambassadorial Scholar, he completed *cum laude* the Advanced Professional Master (MIC Programme-LL.M.) in Comparative, European and International Law at Maastricht University (The Netherlands), specializing in European Economic and Social Regulation.

In 2012, he achieved a Ph.D. in European Union Law from Maastricht University.

### ***Selected Academic and Professional Activities***

Marco taught EU Law at the Maastricht Faculty of Law, Maastricht Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences and at the *Scuola Superiore della Pubblica Amministrazione* (SSPA-Italian Graduate School of Public Administration).

Marco has been a scholar of the Maastricht Centre for European Law (M-Cel) and a member of the *Ius Commune* Research School.

He wrote his Ph.D. on the field of EU agencies and networks of regulators, focusing on EU food safety, energy and telecom sectors. Marco regularly speaks at professional and academic conferences and seminars on EU Law and policies. He has experience in providing legal advice to public sector organizations.

### ***Foreign Languages***

English, French and Dutch.

## MICHELE BONOMINI

### *Professional Experience*

Michele Bonomini was born in Gavardo (Italy) on November 12, 1978. He started his legal practice in Milan in 2005, dealing mainly with commercial law, business contracts, and cross-border commercial litigation. He was admitted to the Milan Bar in 2010 and joined Studio Legale Padovan in April 2012.

### *Areas of Practice*

Michele focuses mainly on public and private procurement contracts in the field of construction and infrastructure projects, as well as on domestic and cross-border litigation on behalf of domestic and foreign corporate clients.

### *Education*

Michele graduated in law from the University of Brescia in 2002. From September 2001 to June 2002 he was an Erasmus exchange student at Ghent University in Belgium. In 2003 he obtained an LL.M. equivalent in International and European Law from the Catholic University of Louvain in Belgium.

In 2011 he attended the Summer Course in Private International Law organized by The Hague Academy of International Law at The Hague (The Netherlands).

### *Selected Academic and Professional Activities*

Michele has written articles on business law which were published in “*Il Foro Padano*”. He is member of the Italian Society of Administrative Lawyers.

### *Foreign Languages*

English and French.



## GIULIA LEVI

### ***Professional Experience***

Giulia Levi was born in Santhià (Italy) on June 25, 1989. She started practicing law in 2013, working in the field of National and International Trade Law. In particular, between 2015 and 2017, she practiced in a well-renowned law firm in Turin specialised in the areas of National and International Sales.

Between 2015 and 2016, Giulia also worked for the group in charge of identifying the principles of law contained in the decisions issued by the Court of Appeal of Turin (the so called “massimatori”).

Giulia joined Studio Legale Padovan in November 2017 where, as a member of the Export Control Team, she focuses on the legal aspects related to export compliance.

She is a member of the Journalists Association of Piemonte from 2012.

### ***Areas of Practice***

Drafting national and international commercial contracts, international economic sanctions and export control.

### ***Education***

Giulia holds a degree in Law (obtained *magna cum laude*) from “Università degli Studi di Torino” in Turin, with a dissertation on sanctions adopted by the European Union with particular reference to the Iranian case.

### ***Publications***

She is author of many publications on Mercato Globale, Il Quotidiano Giuridico, Lavoce.info and Osservatorio dell’Asia Orientale.

### ***Foreign Languages***

English, French.

## DOLORES MUGHERLI

### *Professional Experience*

Dolores Mugherli was born in Udine, Italy, on October 18, 1974. Between 1999 and 2002 she worked at the Rome office of an U.S. law firm, focusing her practice on corporate law and commercial contract law. Between 2002 and 2017 she worked at the Milan office of three primary law firms, serving in the fields of corporate law (in relation to both ordinary and extraordinary transactions), real estate law (with specific regard to the establishment and the day-to-day operation of real estate investment funds) and insurance law.

She joined Studio Legale Padovan in September 2017.

Dolores Mugherli was admitted to practice law in 2003. She is registered with the Milan Bar.

### *Areas of Practice*

Dolores Mugherli focuses her practice mainly on corporate law, particularly on extraordinary transactions, assisting Italian and foreign clients on business and equity stake acquisitions, by coordinating and supervising the related prodromal due diligence activities (purchaser's side) and drafting and negotiating the relevant contractual documents. Her practice also encompasses commercial contract law.

### *Education*

Dolores Mugherli obtained her J.D. from Luiss Guido Carli University, Rome, in 1999.

### *Foreign Languages*

English.

## MANUEL VENUTI

### *Professional Experience*

Manuel Venuti was born in Roma (Italy) on July 18, 1986. In 2013 he started practicing as customs broker and in November 2017 he was admitted to the Italian professional register.

From 2011 to 2016 Manuel collaborated with a Trade Compliance and Supply Chain Management consultancy company in the field of Defence & Aerospace.

In 2017 he collaborated with the Global Trade team of a Big Four's Tax and Law Firm, gaining experience in Tax and Customs Law.

He joined Studio Legale Padovan in December 2017.

### *Areas of Practice*

Manuel's practice focuses on customs compliance law, international export controls and sanctions at Italian, EU and US level.

### *Education*

Manuel Holds an International Relations Master's Degree at LUISS Guido Carli University (2011); he also holds one Post Graduate Master in Economic and Accounting Profession at Roma Tor Vergata University (2014) and one in in Customs, Taxation and International Trade law at University Niccolò Cusano (2015); in 2016 he graduated in Management at University of Cassino.

### *Selected Academic and Professional Activities*

He was admitted to the Journalists' register in 2008. He was a speaker for the IX and X edition the Winter School in Geopolitics and International Relations promoted by Geopolitica.info (2015 and 2016). He also collaborated in the drafting of the technical report "Study on the dual-use potential of Key Enabling Technologies (KETs)" in January 2017 and was the author of some publications for IAI (Istituto Affari Internazionali) and geopolitica.info.

### *Foreign Languages*

English.

## FRANCESCA LORENZI

### *Professional Experience*

Born in Florence on January 17, 1973, Francesca was called to the Bar in 2005. She has acquired extensive experience in litigation, both judicial and extra-judicial, in civil, commercial and bankruptcy law. She has also advised on commercial contracts.

### *Areas of Practice*

Francesca mostly works in litigation, both judicial and extra-judicial, for corporate clients at the national and international level.

### *Education*

Francesca is a cum laude graduate of law from the University of Florence.

In 1997, she won an Erasmus scholarship to study at the Faculty of Law at Limburg University in Maastricht, the Netherlands.

### *Selected Academic and Professional Activities*

From 2013 to 2017, Francesca was responsible for the production of articles about the latest developments in Italian law for a newsletter for clients of a major Asian financial group.

In 2012, she was admitted as Mediator for civil and commercial disputes from the Centre for Mediation and Arbitration in Europe, the Mediterranean and the Middle East.

In 2004, she worked for a leading minority shareholders' rights advisory firm in Europe. She worked on a class action lawsuit in the United States against banks and accounting firm linked to the Italian dairy group Parmalat.

From 2001 to 2002, she worked for an international law firm in Brussels.

In 2000, she obtained a Leonardo scholarship to work at a consultancy in Brussels monitoring EU policy and legislation, advising and assisting companies and institutions in evaluation of projects for EU funding.

### *Foreign Languages*

English, French.

***Publications***

In 2015, *Cash pooling, profili di revocabilità fallimentare e finanziamenti infragruppo* in *dirittobancario.it*.

In 2005, *L'art. 51 della legge n. 3/2003: intervento a tutela della salute dei non fumatori* in *Studium Iuris*, Cedam (n. 12/2005).

In 2004, *La tutela da fumo passivo nei luoghi di lavoro privati* in *Studium Iuris*, Cedam (n. 4/2004).

Francesca has also contributed articles on legal matters concerning art and cultural heritage for a specialized magazine.

## PAULINA BAČE

### *Professional Experience*

Paulina Bače was born in Dubrovnik (Croatia) on October 2, 1988.

She started her legal practice in Zagreb (Croatia) in 2014, mainly dealing with commercial law, business contracts, construction law and infrastructure projects. She has been enrolled at the Croatian Bar Association as a qualified lawyer since 2017. After her legal practice in Croatia, she registered as a practicing foreign (EU) lawyer in Italy, with the Milan Bar Association, and she joined Studio Legale Padovan in March 2018.

### *Areas of Practice*

Paulina focuses mainly on international commercial law, construction and contract law.

### *Education*

Paulina graduated in law (LL.M. in international studies) from the University of Zagreb, Croatia in 2013. During her studies, she attended the Faculty of Law at the University of Milan-Bicocca during the academic year 2012/2013 as part of the Erasmus program. Paulina passed the Croatian Bar Examination in 2016.

### *Selected Academic and Professional Activities*

Paulina represented her University at the Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Competition, in Washington DC in 2012 and for this accomplishment she was honored with the Dean's Award. Paulina attended various courses and seminars in the field of construction law and FIDIC General Conditions of Contract.

### *Foreign Languages*

Croatian (Bosnian, Montenegrin, Serbian), Italian, English, French and Spanish.