

Linklaters

Linklaters in CEE



Linklaters is a leading global law firm, supporting our clients in achieving their strategies wherever they do business. With an established presence across Europe, Linklaters is recognised as one of the leading firms in Central and South-Eastern Europe.

Practices covered

Capital markets | Project finance
Private equity | Corporate/M&A
Banking | Real estate

Key sectors

Power | Oil and gas | Infrastructure
Banks | Insurance | Investment managers
Consumer | TMT

“...‘stands out when it comes to **cross-border transactions** involving various areas of laws, jurisdictions and businesses’.
...A **heavyweight in M&A, finance, projects and energy...**”

Legal 500 EEMEA 2015,
Central and Eastern Europe

Linklaters in Central and South-Eastern Europe

Our network of offices combines local expertise with global intellectual capital and infrastructure to provide you with the highest standards of quality and consistency wherever you need to do business.

Our market-leading offices with a long history of operations in Warsaw and Moscow give us a physical presence in the key regional hubs with the flexibility to advise across the region, drawing, where appropriate, on additional experts in our wider European offices network.

This reach means that we are uniquely placed to meet our clients’ needs on all aspects of cross-border advisory and transactional matters across the region, allowing our clients to benefit from a wealth of experience in countries such as Poland, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Croatia, Serbia and many others.

The team

We have a dedicated CEE desk headed by partners with many years of on the ground experience in the CEE and with specific knowledge of the local markets and an established practice in the region.

Their remit is to co-ordinate and manage the wealth of CEE-related expertise and know-how within the firm to ensure our clients benefit from our expertise.

The team spends a substantial proportion of its time on CEE-related matters and, through regular contact with legal and commercial contacts on the ground, the team stays current as to the latest commercial and legal developments in the region.

Global knowledge, local reach

To ensure that our clients receive the best international and local advice at every stage of the transaction, where we do not have a Linklaters office or official affiliation with a local firm, we maintain close relationships with the local law firms in all of our jurisdictions.



Abu Dhabi | Amsterdam | Antwerp | Bangkok | Beijing | Berlin | Brisbane* | Brussels | Cape Town*** | Delhi^Δ | Dubai
Düsseldorf | Frankfurt | Hanoi* | Ho Chi Minh City* | Hong Kong | Jakarta** | Johannesburg*** | Lisbon | London
Luxembourg | Madrid | Melbourne* | Milan | Moscow | Mumbai^Δ | Munich | New York | Paris | Perth* | Port Moresby*
Rome | São Paulo | Seoul | Shanghai | Singapore | Stockholm | Sydney* | Tokyo | Ulaanbaatar* | Warsaw | Washington, D.C.

* Office of integrated alliance partner Allens

** Office of formally associated firm Widyawan & Partners

*** Office of collaborative alliance partner Webber Wentzel

^Δ Office of best friend firm TT&A

Doing the deals

Our experience includes advising:

Banking

- > **New World Resources**, a Central European hard coal producer, listed at the London, Prague and Warsaw stock exchanges, on the balance sheet restructuring of the company
- > the **temporary administrator** and subsequently the **bankruptcy administrator of Bankas Snoras**, a Lithuanian universal bank with international operations and the largest deposit taking institution in Lithuania
- > **The Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi UFJ** as coordinator in a syndicate of 17 banks on the €2bn multi-currency revolving credit facility for Polski Koncern Naftowy ORLEN S.A., a leading Polish refiner of crude oil

Corporate/M&A

- > **PZU**, the largest insurance company in CEE, on the acquisition of the Lithuanian, Latvian, Estonian and Polish businesses of Royal & Sun Alliance
- > **VAS Privatizācijas Agentūra** on the US\$74m sale of a 75% stake in AS Citadele banka, the largest locally owned bank in Latvia with presences in Lithuania, Estonia and Switzerland, to a pool of private investors
- > **Lesaffre Serbia**, the leader in the domain of bread-making yeast and yeast extracts, on its acquisition of certain identified assets and employees relating to Alltech Serbia's business of selling baker's yeast for human consumption

Projects

- > the **existing** and **new senior lenders** on the €1.35bn refinancing of Budapest Airport, involving a restructuring of the debt
- > **China Development Bank** on the €350m project financing of a 300MW mine mouth coal fired power plant in Stanari, Republic of Srpska, Bosnia and Herzegovina
- > **Granvia A.S, Meridiam Infrastructure Managers SARL and Vinci Concessions Slovakia** on the €1.2bn fixed rate project bond in relation to the refinancing of the R1 Expressway in Slovakia

Capital markets

- > on the **equity issues** by Moneta Money Bank (formerly GE Money Bank), Bank Pekao S.A., Gospodarki Żywnościowej, Compagnie Generale des Etablissements Michelin, Mennica Polska, PZU, LC Corp and E-STAR Alternatív Energiaszolgáltató Nyrt
- > both issuers and underwriters on the **establishment of EMTN programmes** by PGNiG, PKN Orlen S.A. and First Investment Finance and on the **bond issues** by Petrol d.d., Bank Ochrony Środowiska, Aperam, Polskie Gornictwo Naftowe i Gazownictwo, MOL Hungarian Oil and Gas, Telekom Slovenije, d.d. and others
- > on the **bond issues by sovereigns** including Bulgaria, Hungary, Lithuania, Montenegro, Poland, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia and Slovenia

Private equity

- > **Alinda Capital Partners** on the acquisition of 100% of Emitel, the leading television and radio broadcast infrastructure provider in Poland
- > **Mid Europa Partners** on the €400m sale by way of international auction of the LuxMed Group, the number one provider of private out-patient healthcare in Poland
- > **Salford Capital Partners**, a Serbia-based private equity and venture capital firm, on the proposed sale of Imlek and Mlekara Subotica, the largest dairy companies operating in the Western Balkans

Real estate

- > a **consortium including Allianz Real Estate and ECE** on the €412m acquisition of Silesia City Center, one of Poland's largest shopping malls located in Katowice
- > a **Middle East sovereign wealth fund** on the acquisition and development of an upscale leisure resort on the Adriatic coast
- > **Prologis**, a global industrial real estate investment trust, on the indirect acquisition of one of its largest competitors in the European market

Key contacts



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