

Supporting your strategy.
Linklaters

لينكليتيرز

Our legal services offering
Middle East

An award-winning practice.

Linklaters is a leading global law firm that has advised and represented clients in the Middle East for over 30 years. Our global approach, commitment to excellence and depth of experience mean that we have built a strong track record of advising a range of government organisations and privately-owned businesses, acting on matters throughout the region, including in the United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Kuwait, Iraq, Bahrain, Oman, Jordan, Lebanon and Egypt.

Linklaters' offices in Dubai and Abu Dhabi act as a hub for the firm's activities in the MENA region, and our team has established itself as one of the few firms in the region capable of advising on cross border transactions. Our fully-integrated international network means that we are able to draw on our market-leading expertise across various offices, practices and sector teams when required, while providing a seamless service to our clients. Our clients instruct us on their most complex deals, whether its operating in, moving into or looking to expand in the region.

To be successful in the Middle East you have to develop a long-term commitment to the region. We appreciate and understand the rich culture of the region, and like many of our clients, we see it as a group of inter-related yet independent markets, not a single homogenous group. The fast paced dynamic environment requires our team to monitor and adapt to market conditions and client needs daily. We seek to build deep and valued relationships with our clients, dedicating significant resources to ensure we meet their needs.

Where we do not have offices, we are able to mobilise resources wherever needed by our clients. Our lawyers have experience of working on the ground in all continents and a very large number of countries.



M&A Team of the Year

IFLR Middle East Awards 2014

M&A Deal of the Year

Abu Dhabi Islamic Bank acquisition of Barclays' UAE retail banking assets

IFLR Middle East Awards 2014

Debt and Equity-linked Deal of the Year

GEMS corporate hybrid Sukuk

IFLR Middle East Awards 2014

Winner of 13 Deal of the Year Awards

Islamic Finance News 2014

What differentiates us from our competitors?

Exceeding expectations

We strive to provide the best possible service to clients. For example:

Complex legal transactions

- > we conduct the most complex legal transactions in the world, aspiring to be the world's leading global law firm

Full execution partner-led teams

- > we offer full execution partner-led teams with the strength-in-depth to handle complex cross-border transactions by clients in the Middle East and those looking to move into the region: our partners have executed deals in all key jurisdictions

Demonstrated strength across all practice areas

- > we offer clients demonstrated strength across all practice areas based around a partner team that has been in the region for many years

Strength and unique alignment

- > the strength and unique alignment of our international network ensures we can offer seamless advice wherever our clients' needs demand it, with a sector- and geography-based approach ensuring a clear understanding of transaction issues

Strong Islamic finance capability

- > we have a strong Islamic finance capability which works alongside our conventional finance team

Legal advice with an International perspective

- > we deliver legal advice with an international and regional/domestic perspective managing legal challenges accordingly, taking into account our clients' commercial and business objectives

Lasting relationships

- > we are committed to building lasting relationships with our clients

Value added service

- > keeping you informed
- > growing the team's knowledge
- > enhancing performance
- > making life easier
- > being flexible for you
- > being creative in our support to you

Middle East practice overview.

Linklaters is acknowledged as a market leader for **corporate/M&A**, **capital markets**, **banking**, **project finance**, **Islamic finance** and **international arbitration** matters. The offices also have dedicated sector specialists in the **energy**, **infrastructure**, **financial institutions** and **telecommunications** sectors. The firm's track record includes acting on some of the most significant and innovative deals that the region has seen in recent years.

Middle East practice highlights.

Corporate/M&A

We have a pre-eminent market position as lead advisers to companies in all areas of public takeovers, corporate reorganisations, reconstructions, mergers, acquisitions, disposals and joint venture arrangements.

Barclays Bank disposal

Barclays Bank plc on the disposal of its retail portfolio in the UAE to Abu Dhabi Islamic Bank PJSC, this represented Barclay's exit from their retail business in the UAE

Emal and Dubal merger

DUBA/ICD on the merger of EMAL and DUBAL to create a US\$15bn entity

Bahrain Telecommunications Company B.S.C acquisition

Bahrain Telecommunications Company B.S.C on its acquisition of companies comprising the 'Monaco & Islands' division of Cable & Wireless

Dubai World Disposal

Dubai World and PFZW on the US\$2.8bn disposal of EZW (Jebel Ali Free zone) to DP World

Project finance

Our unrivalled projects team have advised on some of the largest and most complex financing deals to be done in the market to date. Our team has extensive experience in the oil and gas, power, petrochemicals and infrastructure sectors in the region.

Mirfa Power Project financing

The financing of the US\$1.2bn Mirfa Power Project in Abu Dhabi

Madinah Airport expansion financing

The financing of the US\$1.5bn Madinah Airport Expansion Project in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

King Abdullah Port Bridge financing

Advising the lenders on the US\$140m construction of the King Abdullah Port Project

Al-Waha Petrochemical Company

The mandated lead arrangers on the US\$520m Islamic refinancing of Al-Waha Petrochemical Company's (Al-Waha) polypropylene project located in Al-Jubail Industrial City

Banking

Our top ranked banking team advises banks and other financial institutions, companies and governments on domestic and international bank financing transactions across every industry, commercial, financial and governmental sector.

Dubai Group restructuring

The creditors' committee for the unsecured and partially secured lenders on all aspects of the US\$10bn restructuring of Dubai Group, one of the most complex restructurings to have taken place in the Middle East to date

Acquisition of Travelex

Acquisition of Travelex from Apax by a Middle Eastern consortium

Jebel Ali Free Zone financing

The lead arrangers on a US\$1.2bn secured Islamic facility ranking pari passu with a Sukuk in favour of Jebel Ali Free Zone FZE

Lamprell plc restructuring

The lead arrangers on the restructuring and refinancing of Lamprell plc's bank facilities

Capital markets

We have a proven track record of providing financial institutions, companies and government agencies with the highest quality legal advice on domestic and international capital markets financing transactions.

Emaar Properties IPO

Emaar Properties on the IPO of Emaar Malls

Batelco debut bond issue

Bahrain Telecommunications Company B.S.C. ('Batelco') on its debut bond issue, US\$650m 4.25% notes due 2020

DP World's convertible notes

DP World's US\$1bn issue of convertible notes, the first ever DIFC convertible

Turk Telekomunikasyon

Turk Telekomunikasyon A.S. US\$500m 3.750%. Notes due 2019 and U.S.\$500m 4.875%. Notes due 2024

Islamic finance

Our award winning Islamic finance team, works on the cutting-edge of the Islamic finance field and have advised on some of the most significant and innovative transactions, many of which have been first of its kind. Our Islamic finance practice is core to our success in the Middle East.

UK government Sukuk

The UK government on their £200m issue of Shariah-compliant Trust Certificates due 2019 – the first sovereign Sukuk issued by a non-Muslim world government

Al Hilal Bank Sukuk

The joint lead managers on the issue of US\$500m Shariah-compliant Additional Tier 1 certificates by Al Hilal Bank PJSC, the first Basel III-compliant offering in the UAE and the first ever Basel III-compliant AT1 in Sukuk form

Emaar Malls Sukuk

Emaar Malls Group, on its debut US\$750m Sukuk al Wakala structure, listed on NASDAQ Dubai

Flydubai Sukuk

The lead managers on the debut issues of US\$500m trust certificates due 2019 for Dubai Aviation Corporation (trading as 'flydubai') using passenger capacity as the underlying assets

International arbitration

Leading multinational companies and sovereign states increasingly choose the firm's global team of dedicated arbitration lawyers to advise on all aspects of complex, high-value international arbitrations.

European energy company arbitration

A leading European energy company in an arbitration under LCIA Rules brought by two Middle Eastern companies

UAE company arbitration

A leading UAE company in an arbitration relating to the termination of a concession agreement in Africa

Media company arbitration

A leading Middle Eastern media company in an arbitration relating to the termination of a cooperation and service agreement

International bank and U.S. construction company arbitration

A leading international bank and a U.S. construction and engineering company in an arbitration relating to a project in Iraq

Middle East key contacts.



Scott Campbell
UAE Managing Partner, Dubai
Corporate/M&A
Tel: +971 4 369 5811
scott.campbell@linklaters.com



David Martin
Partner, Abu Dhabi
Corporate/M&A
Tel: +971 2 659 2113
david.martin@linklaters.com



Sarosh Mewawalla
Partner, Dubai
Global Projects and Finance
Tel: +971 4 369 5843
sarosh.mewawalla@linklaters.com



Neil D. Miller
Dubai
Global Head of Islamic Finance
Tel: +971 4 369 5815
neil.miller@linklaters.com



Kieron Zaman
Partner, Dubai
Banking
Tel: +971 4 369 5814
kieron.zaman@linklaters.com



Jonathan Fried
Partner, Dubai
Capital Markets
Tel: +971 4 369 5829
jonathan.fried@linklaters.com



Roland Ziadé
Partner, Paris
Dispute Resolution
Tel: +33 1 56 43 28 34
roland.ziade@linklaters.com

Top tier rankings

Corporate/M&A: Middle East-wide

Chambers Global 2015

Capital Markets: Middle East-wide

Chambers Global 2015

Corporate and M&A: United Arab Emirates

Legal 500 2015

Capital Markets: United Arab Emirates

Chambers Global 2015

Corporate/Commercial (Desk based abroad): Qatar

Chambers Global 2015

Capital Markets: United Arab Emirates

IFLR1000 2015

Corporate/M&A: High-end Cross-border: United Arab Emirates

Chambers Global 2015

Banking and Finance: United Arab Emirates

IFLR1000 2015

Corporate/Commercial (Foreign Desk)

Chambers Global 2015

Banking and Finance: United Arab Emirates

Legal 500 2015

Corporate/M&A: United Arab Emirates

IFLR1000 2015

Islamic Finance: United Arab Emirates

Legal 500 2015

linklaters.com

Linklaters LLP is a limited liability partnership registered in England and Wales with registered number OC326345. The term partner in relation to Linklaters LLP is used to refer to a member of the LLP or an employee or consultant of Linklaters LLP or any of its affiliated firms or entities with equivalent standing and qualifications. A list of the names of the members of Linklaters LLP and of the non-members who are designated as partners and their professional qualifications is open to inspection at its registered office, One Silk Street, London EC2Y 8HQ, England or on www.linklaters.com and such persons are either solicitors, registered foreign lawyers or European lawyers.

FT INNOVATIVE
FINANCIAL LAWYERS2014
TIMES AWARD WINNER