

INSURANCE & REINSURANCE COMPANIES AND INTERMEDIARIES FRANCE

The Insurance department at Gide assists insurance companies, brokers and agents in general insurance and life insurance issues, providing both advice and litigation services.

Regulation of Insurance and Reinsurance Companies

- Advising on regulations applicable to insurance and reinsurance companies;
- Assisting with the regulatory licence and approval application procedures;
- Advising on relations with the *Autorité de Contrôle Prudentiel* (ACP), the French Insurance and Banking Supervisory Authority;
- Assisting with the setting up of insurance subsidiaries and branch offices in France;
- Legal advice and assistance on insurance company investments;
- Advising on the insurance *modus operandi* in the various Member States of the European Union (freedom of establishment and freedom to provide services) and in non-EU states;
- Assisting with implementing the rules for the prevention of money laundering.

M&A - Restructuring - Run-Off - Liquidation

- Advising and assisting in corporate restructuring transactions involving mergers (with or without portfolio assignments), acquisitions and changes in corporate control;
- Due diligence work on target company insurance and reinsurance contracts;
- Monitoring the procedures for running off insurance company portfolios;
- Assisting with the acquisition and management of run-off portfolios (life and non-life);
- Assisting with insurance compensation payment optimisation;
- Advising on the procedures involved in winding up insurance and reinsurance companies;
- Assisting with procedures (notifying claims) involving the liquidator.

Insurance Policy Distribution

- Setting up insurance product distribution schemes for banks and distribution companies (automotive constructors, IT equipment manufacturers, etc.);
- Setting up insurance brokerage companies;
- Widening a company's scope of activity to include insurance brokerage;
- Implementing insurance distribution, management, co-brokerage and introduction agreements;
- Advising on the methods of distribution of insurance products in the Member States of the European Union (freedom of establishment and freedom to provide services);
- Online distribution of insurance policies.

ALGIERS

BEIJING

BRUSSELS

CAIRO

CASABLANCA

ISTANBUL

LONDON

NEW YORK

PARIS <

SHANGHAI

TUNIS

WARSAW

Disputes - Pre-Dispute Procedures & Claims Settlement

- Legal advice on preparing and handling pre-litigation issues;
- Assessing the legal risks as a result of a loss;
- Assisting and representing clients with regard to amicable and legal appraisals;
- Assisting with the assessment of losses and in costing tangible and moral prejudice to be declared to insurers;
- Setting up preventive procedures;
- Identifying actions, applicable statutes of limitation and means for archiving evidence;
- Analysing insurance policy clauses and claim notifications;
- Establishing a general losses management strategy;
- Urgent legal actions (summary procedure/legal appraisal);
- Assisting with claims notification and termination of the prescriptive period with regard to insurers, and in appointing loss adjusters.

Alternative Claims Settlement Methods

- Run-Off - Delegated management;
- Insurance and reinsurance arbitration;
- Mediation - Conciliation - Compromise.

Richard Ghuelldre advises clients on a broad range of insurance matters related to industrial, air and maritime disasters. His clients include banks, industrial groups and service providers. An interviewee says: 'He is very flexible and listens to his clients. I appreciate his availability and the fact that he gets back to me really quickly. He is always able to take a step back and have a strategic approach to matters.' Another source reports: 'I know I can trust him with handling the most complex negotiations.' He recently advised OdysseyRe on the establishment of a French reinsurance subsidiary, valued at more than EUR10 million.

Capucine Bernier enters the rankings this year on the back of strong market feedback. 'She is a fantastic negotiator. She is flexible in negotiations but also rigorous and firm when needed,' a client enthuses. She has a notable insurance litigation practice, advising on both non-life and life insurance disputes. Of late, she assisted the Pasteur Mutualité Group with a dispute between two mutual insurers. »

Chambers Europe 2018

Market-leading insurance team acting on both regulatory and litigation matters. Advising domestic and international insurance companies, insurance brokers and agents, as well as French authorities. Areas of expertise include industrial risks, transport and aviation. Also skilled at handling large-scale financial cases, including class actions. »

Chambers Europe 2018

The 'very strong' and 'very reliable' team at Gide Loyrette Nouel A.A.R.P.I. provides 'a mix of technical skills and business acumen' and is, according to one client, in 'the top tier for the provision of legal and regulatory advice, both on contentious and non-contentious matters'. It provides 'consistency in quality across the group', handling insurance and reinsurance matters, with a broad range of expertise including litigation and regulatory services, and has notable strengths in transport, life insurance and construction-related matters. »

Legal 500 EMEA 2018

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