

LIFE INSURANCE | FRANCE

The Insurance department at Gide advises life insurance companies, banks and financial institutions on implementing traditional and innovative life insurance products and on all issues relating to life insurance products, their distribution and the rules and regulations governing the sector.

Life Insurance Policies Due Diligence

Individual and Group Life Insurance Policies

- Legal advice relating to entering into life insurance policies (pre-contractual information to the policyholder, information to the insurer, signing group life insurance policies, etc.);
- Advising on any legal or tax issues relating to the termination of an individual or group life insurance policy.

Euro-Based Life Insurance Products

- Advising on any legal or tax issues relating to entering into, performing or terminating a euro-based life insurance policy;
- Recommendations and assistance with drafting euro-based life insurance policies.

Unit-Linked Life Insurance Policies

- Advising on any legal or tax issues relating to entering into, performing or terminating a unit-based life insurance policy;
- Recommendations and assistance with drafting unit-based life insurance policies;
- Legal advice relating to the unit links eligible to the insurance policy;
- Recommendations and assistance with the information to be provided about UCITS.

Broad-Based Investment Products (euros, securities, real estate securities)

- Advising on any legal or tax issues relating to broad-based investment policies;
- Legal advice relating to the unit links eligible to the insurance policies;
- Recommendations and assistance with drafting broad-based life insurance policies.

Capitalisation Contracts

- Advising on any legal or tax issues relating to capitalisation contracts;
- Recommendations and assistance with drafting capitalisation contracts: general and specific terms and conditions, prospectuses about financial supports, commercial brochures, management profiles, information for subscribers and members.

Life Insurance Policies Distribution - Bancassurance

Distribution of Life Insurance Policies via Insurance Brokers and Agents

- Setting up insurance brokerage companies;
- Implementing insurance distribution, bancassurance, management, co-brokerage and introduction agreements;
- Advising on the methods of distribution of life insurance products in the Member States of the European Union (freedom of establishment and freedom to provide services).

ALGIERS

BEIJING

BRUSSELS

CAIRO

CASABLANCA

ISTANBUL

LONDON

NEW YORK

PARIS <

SHANGHAI

TUNIS

WARSAW

Online Distribution of Life Insurance Policies

- Assisting with setting up web sites including administrative formalities, contracts, procedure for making declarations to the CNIL (French data protection agency), domain name protection, implementing partnership agreements with service providers;
- Recommendations and legal advice with regard to the subscription and management of life insurance policies via Internet;
- Reviewing and drafting the pre-contractual and contractual web site mandatory information.

Life Insurance Disputes and Dispute Avoidance Procedures

- Advising during litigation and pre-litigation procedures resulting from the signature or performance of a life insurance policy;
- Legal advice on preparing and handling pre-litigation issues.

Regulation of Life Insurance Companies

Regulation of Companies

- Assisting with the setting up of insurance firms, subsidiaries and branch offices in France;
- 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;
- Monitoring regulations applicable to insurance and reinsurance companies;
- 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).

M&A and Restructuring

- 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.

Run-Off

- Monitoring the procedure for running off life insurance company portfolios;
- Assisting with insurance compensation payment optimisation.

Liquidation

- Advising on the procedures involved in winding up a life insurance company;
- Assisting with procedures (notifying claims) involving the liquidator.

“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. Richard Ghueldre 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.’ 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. »

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CONTACT PARTNERS

RICHARD GHUELDRE
tel. +33 (0)1 40 75 22 55
ghueldre@gide.com

CAPUCINE BERNIER
tel. +33 (0)1 40 75 29 19
capucine.bernier@gide.com