



In 2020, Gide celebrated its 100th anniversary. These one hundred years of history, pioneering spirit, and transformative projects have contributed to making Gide a unique and leading law firm in France and abroad.

This position pushes us to act responsibly in all areas of our business. We firmly believe that the choices we make for the firm, and the investment of each and every one of us, have the power to make a difference and to make the world a better place, wherever we are.

As such, and in order to report on our actions, we are now publishing our fourth CSR report. 2020 was the year we launched our Sustainable Development Commission, working to reduce our environmental impact. Our commitment to corporate citizenship remains strong, with a total of nearly EUR 2 million in donations to NGOs in 2020, in financial and skills sponsorship thanks to our Gide Pro Bono programme. Lastly, we have renewed our commitment to our talents, with a unique training programme and in-depth work carried out by and for the women of our firm, as well as in favour of diversity in the broadest sense.

For the first time, and in order to place our approach in a more global and recognised context, this report sets out our actions in relation to the UN's Sustainable Development Goals.

As we embark on a new century in our history, we will continue to put our commitments at the heart of everything we do.

> Frédéric Nouel Senior Partner Jean-François Levraud Managing Partner



WORKING TOWARDS AN ENVIRONMENTALLY CONSCIOUS WORKPLACE

Controlling and reducing our environmental footprint is an upmost concern. We strive to adapt and modify our practices to make them more respectful and environmentally responsible, whether these regard our office buildings, recycling policy, energy consumption, or transport options.

Our environmental approach is twofold, regarding both our buildings and our responsible behaviour. Indeed, our belief is that, while we can have the best possible technology in our premises, if we do not behave in an eco-friendly way, any approach is doomed to failure.



Our Sustainable Development Commission

For our 100th anniversary, we set up a Sustainable Development Commission in order to better establish the concept of the environment within the firm and to meet the growing expectations of our members and clients. This Commission is composed of 20 volunteer lawyers and employees, who are divided into sub-groups. They work on various issues depending on their interests and skills, such as energy, waste, mobility, IT and awareness of environmental issues.



PREMISES DESIGNED TO REDUCE OUR ENVIRONMENTAL FOOTPRINT

The concept of environmental impact applies to all sectors, including the legal sector. Like any business, it is our duty to analyse our impact and reduce it as much as possible. This is why we have worked to ensure that our headquarters are BREEAM- and HQE-certified, with environmental characteristics in line with the objectives sought by the Grenelle de l'Environnement and the City of Paris' Climate Plan:

- High Energy Performance with reflections and actions underway to reduce the overall consumption of our building
- More than 1,000 m² of outdoor spaces
- Roof terrace and vegetable garden reinforcing the thermal insulation of the building and biodiversity in the city
- ◆ A 30 m³ tank to collect rainwater for use in the operation of our building

The question of our environmental impact naturally arises for all our activities, and in particular the management of our premises. Whether in the fields of recycling, energy management or our relationship with our service providers, we draw on the observations and recommendations of our Sustainable Development Commission to set collective objectives and make informed decisions. Experience shows that a more virtuous operation often goes hand in hand with efficiency and savings.

> Frédérique Misk-Malher Chief Operating Officer



2022 OBJECTIVE

 To reduce the overall energy consumption of the building by 10%, as compared with 2019









A COLLECTIVE APPROACH TOWARDS ECO-FRIENDLY **BEHAVIOUR**

Reducing our impact on the environment also, and above all, involves raising our members' awareness of eco-friendly behaviour. We all know that the best waste is the one that is never produced. This is why Gide has put in place:

- A plastic reduction policy: a water bottle, a cup and a tote bag are given to each member of the firm, and plastic cups and bottles are banned from our meeting rooms.
- A broad **recycling** policy: sorting of paper and cardboard in each of our offices, alongside the recycling of glass, plastic, batteries and Nespresso capsules.
- A policy of reducing food waste: our catering options offer three separate meal sizes, to be composed according to appetite and thus avoiding food leftovers. In 2020, we donated 600kg of surplus food to charity Linkee, enabling the provision of nearly 2,000 meals to beneficiaries in need.
- ◆ A green mobility policy: green taxis ordered by default, and a partnership for the purchase of electric bikes at a reduced price.

The most used consumable in a law firm is paper. To limit its use, we are reducing the number of personal printers in favour of more cost-effective shared machines that print in black and white, double-sided by default. We are also fortunate to have a printing centre in Paris with the ImprimVert standard, which encourages us to be exemplary in our management of technical waste linked to printing, and to raise awareness about paper waste.

Benoit Le Bret

2022 OBJECTIVE

- ◆ To reduce paper consumption by 5% per person, as compared with
- To reduce the production of non-recyclable waste by 5% per person, as compared with 2019.







INTERVIEW

Nabila Darbaky and Didier Martin, co-heads of our Sustainable **Development Commission**





Why was this commission created?

◆ **[D.M.]** Even if a service company such as a law firm has a relatively small environmental footprint, there is much room for improvement. To identify and implement them, and to make all the members of the firm aware of this approach, our management committee decided to create a Sustainable Development Commission, which shows the firm's real commitment to this aspect of CSR. The creation of this Commission, in the year of the firm's 100th anniversary, is a natural continuation of the actions already carried out for several years. It is made up of partners, associates and employees who volunteered, i.e. about twenty people!

How do you involve the members of the firm in an SD approach?

◆ [N.D] We inform and raise awareness in order to encourage the adoption of good practices, particularly in the areas of printing, waste management and IT use. To this end, we have drawn up a guide to good practice and established clearer signage at our sorting and collection points. Depending on how the pandemic progresses, we hope to be able to bring in specialists in sustainable development issues for dedicated conferences in the near future.

What priorities will vou be working on in the near future?

◆ **[D.M.]** One of our priorities is to make the best possible use of our building, which is very efficient from an environmental point of view. in order to limit our emissions from its use as much as possible. We also intend to continue to promote the use of soft mobility for urban travel. In 2021, we would like to set up actions or events to mark some of the major dates in the calendar of events related to the SDGs, to continue to raise awareness about these important issues.



GIDE

Recruiting and offering support to our current and future lawyers and staff, fostering diversity in all its forms, and promoting well-being at work are among our central concerns. All these commitments contribute to creating a stimulating work environment and to making Gide a firm in which everyone feels valued and wishes to progress. 70% of our partners joined as trainees.

The firm has been a signatory to France's Diversity Charter since 2018, binding Gide to combat all forms of discrimination and to pursue its approach and its commitments to diversity, more particularly as regards gender balance and the recruitment of varied and international profiles.



A workgroup dedicated to Diversity

In 2019. Gide established a workgroup dedicated to Diversity matters, composed of an equal number of men and women, and in direct relation with the Executive Committee. One of the first actions of this group was to identify the perception of diversity within the firm via a questionnaire sent to all, and to put in place an associated action plan whose main lines are to encourage the promotion of women in the firm, to better take into consideration the impacts of parenthood, and to improve the work-life balance of all members of the firm

ENCOURAGING THE PROMOTION OF FEMALE TALENT

In addition to respecting equal pay, the firm has undertaken concrete actions to encourage gender balance and initiatives by and for women:

- A specific policy to calculate the number of hours worked on a prorata basis in the case of parental leave, in order to neutralise the effects of this leave on career progression.
- A mentoring programme dedicated to supporting and developing associates within the organisation, based on spontaneity and the transfer of experience, know-how, and interpersonal skills.
- A policy for the visibility of women, imposing diversity on panels of speakers at conferences and during the formation of teams for projects.

InspiringWomen@Gide was designed to bring together our clients and our women lawyers around an inspiring speaker, thereby enabling the women of the firm to advance their network. Internally, we have set up a mentoring programme open to all, which enables women associates to be coached by partners of the firm -men and women- and which has been very successful. We also organise lunches between women partners and associates, to share experience and answer career questions. We are particularly keen to identify female talent in the various teams and to help them grow within the firm. Together, these initiatives are an elevating breath of fresh air in our daily lives, and allow us to move ever closer to gender parity.

> Nadège Nguyen and Axelle Toulemonde partners



© Riccardo Manach

37 % of our counsels are women

17% of our partners are women

57% of our mentees are women



2025 OBJECTIVE

◆ 30% women partners





PROMOTING YOUNGER GENERATIONS AND DIVERSITY OF ORIGIN

With 11 offices worldwide, 41 bars and 35 nationalities represented, Gide is deeply aware of the importance of diversity in its constant search for excellence, as well as of the need to draw on the skillset of younger generations. Several initiatives bear witness to this:

- Gide Open Day: an original format of meetings enabling the firm to recruit its trainees in all fields of law, and potential recruits to chat with lawyers in their future working environment.
- Shake The Law: a student competition to encourage innovation in the practice of law and to nurture future talent. In multidisciplinary pairs, candidates send in a video application and those selected are then asked to work on a topical legal issue. The winners are proclaimed by a prestigious jury and offered a scholarship.

We are delighted with this first edition of Shake The Law and the quality of the pitches we have heard. The candidates were able to quickly grasp the subject, showed great maturity and surprised us with their ideas inspired by their complementary backgrounds of engineering, law and business. This shows that innovation in the practice of law is essential and that the new generation of lawyers and economic players is rising to the challenge!

Franck Guiader Director of Gide 255

- Excellence scholarship: Gide has been working for over 10 years with Sciences-Po Paris to promote educational innovation and equal opportunities, offering a scholarship and an internship to two students from the Sciences Po Law School to reward the excellence of their studies to date.
- Gide Talents: As part of a proactive approach, Gide goes out to meet talent directly in universities to encourage all profiles to apply to our firm.









INTERVIEW

NICOLAS JEAN,
Partner, Member of the Executive Committee
AMELIE PIRONNEAU,
Director of Human Resources





What does diversity mean to Gide?

- [AP] With 41 bars and 35 nationalities represented, Gide is a firm that embodies diversity. This naturally includes gender parity, diversity of origin and age.
- [NJ] At Gide, as elsewhere, diversity can take many forms: it can be social, geographical, cultural and ethnic. It also refers to the variety of degrees, schools and universities. The definition of diversity is not fixed, it changes with -and reflects- society. It is a vast subject, and one of the main priorities of our term.

Can you tell us about the major upcoming diversity projects? • [NJ] We have noticed that not all talented individuals allow themselves to send us their application, nor do they even think about doing so. The 4,000 CVs we receive every year are excellent, but they are all very similar. We want to change this, by attracting talent from all backgrounds. This will be done in coordination with our Gide Pro Bono policy, which already supports mentoring programmes.

Our second ambition is to put the international dimension back at the heart of career development within the firm. It is a real asset for Gide and a strong lever to attract talent, and we are committed to promoting international mobility, which is synonymous with openmindedness and progress - both from professional and personal standpoints.

What can this diversity bring to the firm?

- [NJ] We all have to learn from each other, and that's what diversity is all about: mutual development. It is in this spirit that, with the Committee, we want to take the first step and reach out more to young people and students to develop our relationship with them.
- [AP] This diversity is essential in terms of recruitment and promotion of talent: our firm has a large population of young lawyers. They are very sensitive to CSR issues and are much more demanding about the work environment in which they work and will work. It is up to us to be in tune with these paradigm shifts.

DEVELOPING ACCESS TO TRAINING

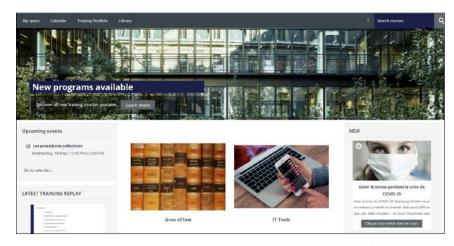
In a world where everything is speeding up, it seems vital to us that everyone should be able to develop their knowledge throughout their professional career.

With this in mind. Gide has invested in a new digital training platform. Accessible to all, this platform helps develop the careers of all members of the firm, and to meet the training obligations and requirements of our clients, particularly in the key issues of fraud, anti-money laundering, corruption and personal data protection.



Communicating on key skills

Gide has drafted a key skills guide that emphasises the common values of the firm. Based on founding elements and standards, it is intended to accompany each lawyer in his or her development and at all stages of his or her professional life. by expressing the firm's expectations.



of our lawyers trained in-house in 2019-2020 65% of our employees trained in 2019-2020





FOSTERING WELL-BEING AT WORK

For several years now, and despite a singular 2020, Gide has organised activities to strengthen the links and boost cohesion within its teams, whether through the organisation of pro bono, sporting or other events:

- A strong home office policy for a better work-life balance and that benefits efficiency and collective performance.
- ◆ A cycle of **Broaden Your Horizons** conferences, bringing together lawyers, employees and trainees around inspiring speakers on topics not related to the legal field.
- Co-working spaces that encourage teamwork, cohesion and communication.
- ♦ A healthy mind in a healthy body: numerous group sports activities to encourage cohesion and personal well-being, with virtual initiatives in 2020.

 Indoor and outdoor living and working spaces, as well as a corporate restaurant to encourage friendly and informal

communication.

- ◆ A **concierge** offering various services to facilitate administrative management and everyday life.
- ◆ Competitive social benefits, with flexible working hours, a gym, a compensation package linked to the firm's performance, lunch vouchers, as well as supplementary health and pension schemes.



Les Kms pour Elles (2019)















Connected Cross du Figaro (2020)





↑ ◆ CSR Report - 2020 - Pro Bono

PRO BONO: A PROGRAMME VALUED BY ALL

Although our firm is focused on business, it is no less committed to its role as a defender of fundamental freedoms and human and social rights.

We cultivate and fully assume this calling: our collective commitment to respond to today's societal challenges takes the form of a coordinated and comprehensive action. It is implemented by a dedicated Pro Bono Commission, which forms an integral part of the firm's governance, and is divided into two parts:

2000h+ hours per year of skills sponsorship

of pro bono hours in 8 years

lawyers and employees involved in Gide Pro Bono every year

charities supported per year in skills sponsorship

FINANCIAL SPONSORSHIP

- A Gide Pro Bono endowment fund of EUR 250,000, contributed by the firm's partners every year.
- In the service of causes we believe in: access to education, access to law and justice, and solidarity with those most in need.

SKILLS SPONSORSHIP

- Free legal assistance to entities or projects in line with the objectives of our endowment fund.
- Hours worked during working time, for projects approved by the Commission.

SUSTAINABLE GOALS













INTERVIEW

CAROLE MALINVAUD,
Partner,
Chair of the Pro Bono Commission



What criteria do you use to select the projects you support?

• Financially, the projects must meet one of the three guiding principles decided when we set up the Gide Pro Bono endowment fund: access to law and justice, access to education, and support to those most in need. Beyond this aspect, we look to choose projects in which all members of the firm can get involved, thus advancing their skills over the long term.

Tell us about a satisfying Gide Pro Bono project you have completed recently.

eted n

◆ It's hard to choose, they are all great projects! And some of them will be presented in more detail in these pages. Instead, I would like to focus on the progress of our pro bono programme, which is gaining more and more followers within the firm, both in France and abroad. More than 2,000 hours are now devoted to it each year, by more than a hundred people, for the benefit of some fifty associations in seven countries: this is fantastic! Our greatest satisfaction is to see that pro bono unites us, wherever we are, with projects undertaken in Paris, Istanbul, Beijing, Casablanca, New York, London, Brussels and Warsaw. We are also happy to measure the impact we have: some charities have been able to professionalise and structure themselves thanks to our support, and that is always gratifying.

What priorities will you be working on in the near future?

• We want to continue to embed pro bono work in the firm's culture and habits. It is essential to involve as many people as possible, with a regular renewal of volunteers: we are thinking of repeating our internal call for projects in 2021. Lastly, in addition to taking into account the situations of great difficulty resulting from the current pandemic, we are looking into how we could combine our pro bono action with our work in favour of sustainable development.

SOME OF OUR PARIS PRO BONO PROJECTS

RÉSEAU MÔM'ARTRE

The winner of our 2019 internal call for projects, this charity received EUR 10,000 per year for two years and free legal support for the mergerabsorption of one of its branches approved at their General Assembly of December 2020!

Supporting a charity working for the cultural and artistic development of children from underprivileged or modest backgrounds was a great motivation for us, as we are all committed to this cause. Our encounter with Réseau Môm'Artre was very inspirational throughout this complex project of merging several associations.

Romain d'Innocente, counsel

Gide's expertise enabled us to complete this merger "project" on time and despite a very troubled year. In addition to the technical support, the teams working alongside us were very attentive and enlightening, and we came away with a wealth of new knowledge. Thank you!

Chantal Mainquené. President and Founder of Réseau Môm'artre

While working on the communication about our support to Môm'Artre, I had the opportunity to modify their institutional video and update some dated elements, in consultation with the association. I am very happy to have contributed to the promotion of Môm'Artre's wonderful work!

Sébastien Deguelder, employee

3.2.1

Project launched by the Ardian Foundation in 2017, aiming to support unemployed project leaders from priority urban areas in setting up a business. The selected candidates are put in touch with a network of professionals, including lawyers from Gide, to structure their project.

We are very proud to have supported the Ardian Foundation on this programme since its launch. Every year, it requires the investment of about fifteen lawvers from different specialities in a training and coaching programme for young entrepreneurs.

Alexis Pailleret, partner

MISCELLANEOUS NGOs

In addition to the specific assignments carried out with the NGOs mentioned here, we also assist these same charities on labour matters.

The firm's Employment Law department is one of the most active in the field of pro bono and our lawvers are always very enthusiastic about being able to devote part of their time and energy to contributing to the development and smooth running of associations which, unlike the clients they usually advise, have disinterested objects and pursue general interest goals.

Guillaume Navarro, partner

ALLIANCE URGENCES

A platform created by six humanitarian NGOs that now speak with one voice in the event of a humanitarian crisis, in order to rally as many people - and act as closely - as possible to the needs of the victims.

For more than two years, we provided our legal expertise to the founding NGOs of Alliance Urgences as part of Alliance Urgences as part of InitiaDROIT is 15 years old. The law their project to create this platform, a first in France. We assisted on governance and tax structuring. It was an exciting and innovative process: we are delighted to have contributed to the completion of this unique project! Armelle Rover. associate

KIF KIF VIVRE ENSEMBLE

A non-profit association, KiF KiF Vivre Ensemble creates a system of "blind dates" between various people with similar interests, and then communicates on these concrete meetings to demonstrate a common attachment to "living together".

We have worked with this association mainly in matters of intellectual property and GDPR. It is always very inspiring and gratifying to work with volunteers whose aim is to bring people together - an objective that is particularly important to me and that I feel must absolutely be supported. Aurélie Pacaud. associate

INITIADROIT

An association of volunteer lawvers that aims to make the law accessible to young people, either by speaking in secondary school classes using case studies provided by the association and that are in line with the curricula, or by creating videos explaining the law in layman's terms.

has become increasingly complex for teachers and now more than ever. these interventions and interactions are vital. Thank you to my fellow lawyers for their involvement in making the law accessible to all! Lucile Rambert. Managing Director

FONDATION DES FEMMES

A foundation whose main mission is to raise funds to develop and support projects in favour of women's rights, in order to effectively combat violence against women and discrimination.

We supported the Fondation des Femmes to help it occupy a public building made available by the City of Paris. Above all, the issue was to ensure the Fondation could house other associations, host social and cultural activities, and a social café, I am delighted to have contributed to the opening of this Cité des Femmes in the heart of Paris!

Cyrille Rollin, associate













SOME OF OUR INTERNATIONAL PRO BONO PROJECTS

CASABLANCA

Support for the legal structuring of Maroc Impact, a unique and pioneering multi-stakeholder citizen initiative set up by strong women, which aims to support and develop social innovation by bringing together entrepreneurs, managers, researchers, citizens, public and private institutions in a committed approach. A first in Africa, Maroc Impact intends to contribute to the establishment of an environment favourable to social innovation through the development of practices, expertise and initiatives designed to consolidate the social dimension of economic activity.

In 2019, we had the opportunity to work with Maroc Impact in the legal structuring of the project and to assist it in the steps necessary for the constitution of the association. This task enabled us to work on an initiative in the social and solidarity economy sector, which is an up-and-coming sector in Morocco.

Wacef Bentaibi, partner Chloé Joachim-de la Rivière, counsel Benoît Pape, associate

ISTANBUL

Advice on Turkey's tax system for the International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA), an organisation providing innovative and science-based solutions for farming families across the world's drylands.

I had the pleasure of advising ICARDA on tax matters relating to their activities in Turkey. Being able to do so as part of a pro bono programme fully meets my idea of lawyers' duties, regardless of their field of specialisation: to freely assist people or institutions that exercise socially responsible activities and/or activities that are in the public interest.

Bülent Ozdirekcan, partner

LONDON

The ISLA Foundation works to support the most vulnerable people in our society. This project concentrates on the provision of financial services to the homeless.

A fascinating project to provide homeless people with prepaid debit cards, which can be topped up by charities. The project seeks to establish a platform whereby once a beneficiary has been identified and his identity verified by whatever means are available, multiple charities can provide funds to the same beneficiary.

Margaret Boswell, partner

NEW YORK

Alongside a well-known organisation in New York, our partner worked for several years as the lead lawyer on an unaccompanied minor asylum case for a child from Guatemala. She eventually won asylum for her client, and has continued to provide ongoing legal support for related issues including annual work authorisations and a pending application for permanent residence.

The asylum approval was by far the most important moment of my career, after a three-year legal battle undertaken during a rapidly changing climate for refugees in the United States. The Gide Pro Bono programme enabled me to handle this sensitive case with all the resources necessary, and continues to support my ongoing efforts to advocate for my client with respect to employment authorisations and a pending application for permanent residency; I would not be able to work on this case so thoroughly without Gide's unwavering support! Vanessa Tollis, partner

WARSAW

Lawyers from Gide Warsaw supported Gazeta Wyborcza's "Lawyers to Readers" campaign, by responding to businesses' questions about Covid-19. The answers were published in the Polish daily and on its website.

Changes in legislation during the pandemic have been and still are a challenge for all market participants. We decided to take part in Gazeta Wyborcza's campaign to comment on and explain the legislation, not only to clients and business partners, but to all readers, so that everyone could better understand and exercise their rights.

Paweł Grześkowiak, partner

In 2020, 30% of our skills sponsorship hours were carried out by our international offices.









GIDE & LES BEAUX-ARTS DE PARIS: A TWO-FOLD PARTNERSHIP

Our partnership with Les Beaux-Arts de Paris art school began in 2019, with the financial sponsorship of its Via Ferrata programme. This was followed by an artistic partnership for the display, on our premises, of works created by students and recent graduates of Les Beaux-Arts de Paris.

As part of our Gide Pro Bono programme, the firm supports Via Ferrata, an integrated preparatory class at the Beaux-Arts de Paris, which prepares students from socially, geographically and culturally diverse backgrounds for entrance exams to higher art schools in France and abroad

At the same time, we organised a call for projects for the display, at Gide in Paris, of video works created by students or recent graduates of the Beaux-Arts. In 2020, the works of three artists were selected and then displayed in turn on the screens in the firm's corridors for visitors to see.

In 2021, for the second edition of this competition, the young artists responded by sending in some fifty applications. The jury, made up of professionals and partners of the firm, praised the quality and creativity of the works presented, both in terms of subject matter and techniques.

2020 winners: Théo Audoire, Célia Boutilier, Garush Malkonyan

2021 winners: Emile Copello, Shengqi Kong, Daniel Nicolaevsky, Alžbeta Wolfová:

https://www.youtube.com/
watch?v=HkL-IMkgPIQ

We are very happy to be sponsoring Via Ferrata, All too often, young people from so-called "disadvantaged" backgrounds are denied access to artistic training due to a lack of resources, role models and support. Les Beaux-Arts de Paris allows the most promising and talented young people to prepare themselves with high standards and creativity for the best art schools in France and the world.

> Carole Malinvaud Partner

A magnificent group of artists has been selected for this second edition of the Gide award, with works ranging from the animal wonder of magic lanterns, the quirky charm of everyday life, the dreamlike nature of enigmatic jellyfish or "lively" still lifes

that take time in reverse!

Jean De Loisv Director of Reaux-Arts de Paris



info@gide.com gide.com



