

TUNISIA

Present in Tunis since 2001, Gide now operates in Tunisia through its partnership with Global Lawyers North Africa (GLN-A), an independent firm of ten lawyers, who all practised in Gide's Tunis office.

With this partnership, GLN-A is one of the few firms in Tunisia able to provide advice covering all areas of Tunisian law as well as international finance and business law. Its team offers legal advice to foreign investors to assist them in setting up, financing, restructuring and running their businesses day-to-day. The team also advises its clients on developing their projects, negotiations and any related disputes, and assists with administrative procedures.

Expertise and Practice Areas

- Arbitration - Dispute Resolution
- Banking & Finance - Capital Markets Insurance
- Competition, Distribution & Trademarks
- Employment
- Energy
- Foreign Investments
- Integrated Real Estate Projects
- Mergers & Acquisitions - Privatisation Private Equity
- Public-Private Partnerships
- Restructuring and Insolvency
- Telecommunications

The firm has in particular advised major UAE groups which have entered into investment agreements in connection with their integrated real estate projects in Tunisia for the development of a sports city, financial city and more recently, touristy units in Tunisia. The firm advised the investors on drafting and negotiating the investment agreements and all related legal documentation, and also undertook to structure the investment scheme (choice of the legal form of the project company - general legal advice on foreign investments laws and regulations pertaining to real estate projects), and reviewed the consultancy and construction projects.

Arbitration - Dispute Resolution

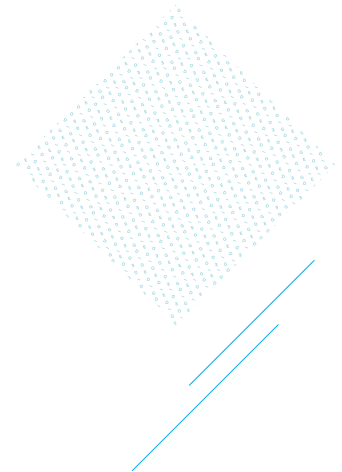
GLN-A advises and represents clients in a wide range of legal disputes and international arbitrations (both institutional and ad hoc). It also provides its clients with the necessary legal assistance in connection with the enforcement of foreign arbitration awards, or their annulment.

Banking, Finance & Capital Markets - Insurance

The firm advises various local and international financial institutions on the implementation of financing schemes and introducing financial and insurance products in Tunisia. In addition, GLN-A has worked on substantial Islamic finance transactions and, in particular, on the development and establishment of the second Islamic Bank in Tunisia. It also assists listed corporations with their stock market operations, and in their relations with the Tunis stock exchange and other regulatory bodies.

Competition - Distribution & Trademarks

The firm offers advice to international clients for the successful conclusion of licensing, distribution and know-how agreements with private and public Tunisian partners. Our lawyers also assist clients in connection with trademarks protection and merger control regulations issues. It is also often required to issue opinions regarding unfair competition practices and various trademarks protection issues.



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Employment

GLN-A advises its international clients in all areas of labour law in connection with their business activities in Tunisia (international relocation of businesses/acquisition/dismissals) or in connection with their business restructuring. It also advises on stock-options policy and social crisis management.

Energy

Our lawyers have expertise in the development, financing, and construction of energy projects, as well as acquisitions and dispositions, encompassing electric power plants, pipelines and gathering systems, moorings systems. GLN-A has advised various oil companies on setting-up their branches in Tunisia, prospecting or mining exploration operations, hydrocarbons titles, and developing an FSO project.

Foreign Investments

Our firm advises its clients on their investment projects in Tunisia. It ensures that the foreign investment is carried out in compliance with regulatory requirements such as licensing, administrative approvals, and authorisations process. It also advises them on exchange control regulations.

Integrated Real Estate Projects

The firm advises local and international clients on acquisitions and transfers of real estate assets in Tunisia, including exchange control issues and authorisations required for foreign-owned assets in Tunisia. It also assists investors during their negotiations with the Tunisian Government for entering into investment agreements, which determine the legal framework for such projects.

Mergers & Acquisitions - Privatisation - Private Equity

GLN-A is regularly involved in M&A in various business activities. It also assists its clients with the execution of legal due-diligence, negotiating and finalising the drafting of all the legal transactional documentation. The firm specialises in the structuring, financing and facilitation of privatisation programmes and projects in Tunisia including full or partial divestitures of state-owned enterprises, public-private partnerships, and concessions. Our lawyers are regularly instructed by major international investment funds for the purpose of setting up their projects in Tunisia with regard to corporate matters, IPOs, foreign exchange regulation, etc.

Public-Private Partnerships

The firm offers its clients experience in public-private partnerships and, more particularly, public service concessions and BOT transactions. It has been involved in the financing and construction of power plants, ports, airports, and telephone networks.

Restructuring and Insolvency

We assist our clients with different insolvency and bankruptcy issues (liquidation, rehabilitation procedures, insolvency procedure, financial distress, employment contracts etc.). Additionally, each year, the firm assists the World Bank with its "Doing Business" survey on this matter.

Telecommunications

We have broad expertise across all forms of media including radio, television, cable, telephony, data communications networks, satellite, and Internet matters. It has acted as legal counsel to the Tunisian Government in the granting of the second GSM licence and a concession for the operation of a VSAT (Very Small Aperture Terminal) satellite communications network.

The 'very good' team at Global Lawyers North Africa in partnership with Gide Loyrette Nouel attracts praise for its 'problem-solving approach'. »

Legal 500 EMEA 2017

Global Lawyers North Africa is the exclusive partner of Gide in Tunisia; run by Gide associate and local partner Anis Jabnoun with the assistance of the French firm's offices in Paris and Algeria, and drawing from Gide's extensive Africa desk. Recent activity has seen the firm act on recovery processes in Tunisia as the economy has rallied somewhat, and the firm has seen several interesting cases; the oil and gas sector in particular is an area of strength. The firm also works on the Tunisian aspects of cross-border transactions for several international firms. »

IFLR1000 2017

At Global Lawyers North Africa in partnership with Gide Loyrette Nouel, Anis Jabnoun is working with a cross-office team to advise Africa Finance Corporation on the £28m financing to oil and gas company Topic for the development of the Halk El Menzel offshore oil concession block in Northern Tunisia. Other clients include EBRD, Société Générale and European Investment Bank. »

Legal 500 EMEA 2018

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