

European Transactions

The transactional lawyers based in our London, Paris, and Brussels offices are seasoned practitioners with decades of experience advising on complex cross-border transactions. The long-established relationships we have cultivated with local counsel in countries across the continent, combined with our experience and demonstrated track record, makes us one of the go-to firms for cross-border corporate and finance transactions in Europe.

Key Contacts

Gilles Bigot

Jérôme Herbet

Grine Lahreche

Nicholas Usher

Areas of Focus

Corporate Mergers & Acquisitions

Our Corporate Department provides a wide range of legal services to public and private companies, private equity and investment funds, investors, and emerging companies on all types of complex transactions and matters. Our Transactions Practice represents high-profile clients doing business in Europe, including major corporations and private equity funds, family offices, and companies that are expanding into emerging markets. We excel at cross-border transactions due to our multi-jurisdictional experience. We work effectively and seamlessly with our colleagues across Europe, Asia, and the U.S., providing high-quality and efficient representations in cross-border M&A matters. We support buyers and sellers at all stages of transactions—from bid preparation and submission to negotiation, sign-off, and close.

Learn more about our firmwide M&A practice.

Private Equity

Our team in Europe have deep experience in handling complex transactions that fit the business needs of our private equity clients. We fully understand the dynamics of deals in this space and have a firm grasp on where the market is at any point in time. Our private equity team provides strategic advice and legal counsel to middle-market private equity funds, hedge funds, real estate funds, alternative asset managers, portfolio companies, independent sponsors, and institutional investors. We deliver value throughout each phase of the investment life-cycle – from deal sourcing, platform transactions, co-investments, acquisition financing and tax structuring, to add-on acquisitions, portfolio company management and exits (whether through private sales or through the capital markets).

Learn more about our firmwide Private Equity practice.

Capital Markets

Our lawyers have significant experience representing issuers, underwriters, and placement agents in debt and equity offerings, including offerings of high-yield securities and initial public offerings. Winston has acted on a number of offerings by issuers from emerging markets.

Our team in Europe is a leading player advising in the Special Purpose Acquisition Company (SPAC) market and is at the forefront of developments of SPACs and de-SPACs in Europe having advised on some of the very first SPACs under the new Listing Rules.

Learn more about our firmwide Capital Markets practice.

Finance

We represent clients in transactions covering all segments of the debt market, and our European team focuses on complex cross-border transactions. We have represented domestic and international commercial banks and investment banks, finance companies, private equity funds, public and private companies, and private equity portfolio companies in investment-grade, leveraged, and mezzanine financings, including acquisition, working capital, unitranche, asset-based and reserved-based facilities, and cross-border high yield bond offerings covering industries such as automotive, manufacturing, retail, and oil and gas.

Learn more about our firmwide Finance practice.

Bankruptcy & Restructuring

Our Bankruptcy & Restructuring team have dealt with some of the most complex and reported matters spanning onshore and offshore jurisdictions. We have dealt with sustained and coordinated fraud and recovered assets for our clients across Europe. We recognized as leading advisors in restructuring and insolvency and act for creditors (including institutional lenders and bondholders) stakeholders, insolvency practitioners, and directors on complex domestic and cross-border restructurings and insolvencies. We are well-known for our strong client relationships, and our practical approach to resolving issues both in and out of court.

Learn more about our firmwide Bankruptcy & Restructuring practice.

Tax

Our European Tax Practice operates out of London and Paris, working seamlessly with our other transactional lawyers and network of independent advisers to provide tax and structuring advice regarding the full range of cross-border corporate and finance transactions. We routinely advise on a wide range of European and international tax issues, including the structuring of private equity and M&A transactions, group reorganisations, financing issues and tax issues related to profit-sharing agreements.

Learn more about our firmwide Tax practice.

Related Capabilities

Finance	Restructuring & Insolvency	Tax	Capital	Markets	Corporate	e Governance
Mergers & Acquisitions Private Equity Debt Finance Fund Finance						
Derivatives & Structured Products Structured Finance Transactions						
Cryptocurrencies, Digital Assets & Blockchain Technology				Financial Services		Health Care
Europe						

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MARCH 14, 2024

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JANUARY 31, 2024

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RECOGNITIONS

Winston & Strawn Recognized in *Chambers UK* 2022

OCTOBER 25, 2021

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OCTOBER 4, 2021

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MARCH 26, 2021

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NOVEMBER 18, 2020

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JANUARY 15, 2020