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African Desk

L'African Desk assiste società, investitori e soggetti istituzionali nell'ambito di operazioni e progetti che coinvolgono una o più giurisdizioni del continente africano. RPLT fornisce consulenza legale e fiscale in materia societaria, commerciale, contrattuale e regolatoria, nonché rappresentanza in sede contenziosa e arbitrale.

Le attività sono svolte da professionisti con esperienza diretta in diverse regioni dell'Africa e si avvalgono di una rete consolidata di studi legali locali di comprovata affidabilità, per garantire la piena conformità alle normative e alle prassi vigenti nelle singole giurisdizioni. Anche grazie a rapporti strutturati con il tessuto imprenditoriale e con le autorità pubbliche locali, l'African Desk assiste i clienti nella definizione delle strategie operative, nella costituzione di partnership e nella gestione degli aspetti giuridici e fiscali connessi allo svolgimento delle attività nella regione.

Lo Studio ha inoltre maturato un'esperienza significativa nella consulenza a ONG, fondazioni e investitori filantropici attivi nell'Africa sub-sahariana, nonché a società coinvolte in progetti di cooperazione internazionale e sviluppo.

RPLT ha concluso un accordo di collaborazione non esclusiva con Lex Africa, la principale alleanza di studi legali indipendenti operanti nel continente e presente in oltre venti giurisdizioni. Tale collaborazione consente allo Studio di offrire ai propri clienti un accesso diretto a competenze locali qualificate e un'assistenza coordinata in tutte le fasi di operazioni e progetti transfrontalieri, dalla strutturazione degli investimenti agli adempimenti regolatori e contrattuali, sino alla gestione delle controversie.

The African Desk advises companies, investors and institutional clients on transactions and projects involving one or more jurisdictions across the African continent. RPLT provides legal and tax advice on corporate, commercial, contractual and regulatory matters, and provides representation in both litigation and arbitration.

Our work is handled by professionals with direct experience in several regions of Africa and supported by a well-established network of trusted local law firms, enabling us to operate in full compliance with the regulations and practices of each jurisdiction. Building on strong relationships with the local business community and public authorities, the Desk assists clients in strategic planning, the creation of partnerships and the management of legal and tax matters connected with their operations in the region.

Our firm has also developed significant experience in advising NGOs, foundations and philanthropic investors active in sub-Saharan Africa, as well as companies engaged in international cooperation and development projects.

RPLT has entered into a non-exclusive collaboration agreement with Lex Africa, the leading Alliance of independent law firms operating across the continent and present in over twenty jurisdictions. Through this collaboration, our firm offers clients direct access to qualified local expertise and coordinated support on cross-border projects and transactions at every stage - from investment structuring to regulatory, contractual and dispute-resolution matters.



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Our team

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Mario Ferrari

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Mario Ferrari deals with commercial and corporate law, in particular M&As.

His training, professional experience abroad, cultural interests and language skills have all come together to drive Mario towards international challenges. Today, Mario mainly operates in corporate operations and acquisitions with an international reach, assisting both foreign groups investing and operating in Italy and Italian enterprises as they embark on globalisation.

He is a member of the International Bar Association, the American Bar Association and the Union Internationale des Avocats.



Emiliano Giovine

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Emiliano Giovine is head of the ESG & Legal Impact team.

He mainly assists non-profit entities, social enterprises, socially-oriented investment vehicles, NGOs and international organizations. More specifically, he supports these subjects in their launch, reorganization, extraordinary operations and adjustments as foreseen by the Codice del Terzo settore (Code of Third Sector.).

He also provides support on ESG matters to primary national and international corporations. He deals with the adoption and implementation of sustainability models, corporate policies and ethical codes, with the obtainment of the qualification of Benefit Corporation, with ESG/human rights due diligence, non-financial reporting and impact measurement.

Emiliano has more than ten years of experience in the impact economy sector. He takes part in multiple projects of international cooperation and policy making activity headed by NGOs and the United Nation, based on the integration of migrants/refugees through entrepreneurial activities. He acts as tutor in the "Human Rights and Migration Law Clinic" training programme at the Law Faculty of the University of Turin. He collaborates with Tiresia – Politecnico of Milan for the juridical themes connected with social business and innovation.

In the past, Emiliano has acted as consulted in the United Nations (UNEP) and as Legal Officer at the European Comissions's Joint Research Centre. He has a Master in Environmental Law and Management at the University of Venice, and is PhDing in International Law at the University of Utrecht.

From May 2022 he is President of GAIL Europe, and from 2019 he is a board member and legal coordinator of ResQ Onlus – People Saving People.

He achieved a Masters in law and environment management from the Cà Foscari University of Venice. He is currently a PhD student of international law at Utrecht University.

He is a founding member of the Administrative Body of ResQ Onlus – People Saving People.

Emiliano is firmly convinced that personal and professional life should be, like rugby, *"an extraordinary sport, the only one where victory always comes from your team mate's hands"* (S. Melis – Italian female rugby player).

Claudio Perrella

Partner

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Claudio Perrella specialises in international contract law and cross border litigation, insurance law, maritime law and transport. He advises many multinational and listed companies, some of the leading Italian and foreign insurance companies, insurance brokers, trading houses and leading logistic operators.

He is a member of the International Bar Association; Member of the International Sales Committee and the Insurance Committee, Claudio has been a speaker at IBA conferences in numerous occasions.

Member of UIA Union Internationale des Avocats, he is secretary of the Commission Droit des Assurances.

He is a member of the Italian Committee of the International Chamber of Commerce, member of the Commission on Commercial Law and Practice at ICC Paris, of the Task Force on Joint Ventures/Consortia and EPC/Turnkey Contracts.

He is a lecturer in the courses of ANRA Associazione Nazionale Risk Managers Learning Path, AIBA Associazione Italian Insurance Brokers, is a member of the Comitato Tecnico Scientifico of ANRA. He is also lecturer in the Master on Energy and Law at the University of Bologna.

Member of the Italian Association of Maritime Law, he joined the working groups on maritime insurance and York Antwerp Rules.

Legal 500 reports that 'Claudio Perrella's advice is to the point' 'is lauded for his knowledge of the subject and explanation of the issues'. Claudio has been listed by Who's Who continuously since 2020 as Transport Shipping Lawyer.

Member of the International Commission of the Bologna Bar Association.

Honorary Consul of France in Bologna, he is a member of the Board of Directors of Alliance Francaise Bologna.



Alessandro Paci Counsel

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Alessandro Paci's practice focuses on international trade law, commercial contracts and insurance law, assisting Italian and foreign companies. He deals with private international law matters especially in relation to contacts of sale, procurement, distribution and commercial agency.

Alessandro grew up in a family of entrepreneurs and opted to become a lawyer because he was fascinated by the legal implications of business, especially in international commercial relations. He graduated cum laude from the University of Trento. After being admitted to practice law, he completed an internship in London with a long-established English law firm.

He lectures for the Masters in Maritime, Port and Logistics Law at the University of Bologna, and is a speaker at courses run by the International Chamber of Commerce – Italy and AIBA (the Italian Association of Insurance and Reinsurance Brokers). He is regularly invited to speak in Italy and abroad on international contracts and litigation.

He has authored publications on commercial law and international trade and is a member of the Executive Committee of AIJA (International Association of Young Lawyers) and EAPIL (European Association of International Private Law).



