
CHAMBERS GLOBAL 2024

The Leading Lawyers and Law Firms Globally

Iran





How lawyers are ranked

Every year we carry out thousands of in-depth interviews with clients in order to assess the reputations and expertise of business lawyers worldwide. The qualities we look for (and which determine rankings) include technical legal ability, professional conduct, client service, commercial awareness/astuteness, diligence, commitment, and other qualities most valued by the client.

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| ◇ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer. |
| Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest. |

Band 1

Atieh Associates Law Firm

What the team is known for Atieh Associates is consistently noted as one of Iran's most prominent commercial law firms. Its lawyers provide sophisticated advice to international clients, with noteworthy expertise concerning sanctions, foreign investment and corporate restructurings. The firm also has an impressive domestic client base and is highly experienced in assisting with commercial issues and corporate governance. The group also

| Foreign Desks (Based Abroad) |
|--|
| General Business Law |
| Iranian expertise |
| based in countries listed below |
| Austria Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer |
| France Dentons |
| France Eversheds Sutherland |
| UK Herbert Smith Freehills |

| Foreign Experts (Based Abroad) |
|--|
| General Business Law |
| Iranian expertise |
| based in countries listed below |
| Austria Sigari-Majd Farid Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer |
| France Parvine Pirouzan Dentons |

retains an accomplished disputes practice.

Strengths

"They have a strong ability to understand and simplify complex matters."

"The team has great technical abilities. We found them extremely responsive and always available to accommodate our needs."

"They provide business-oriented advice and they have thorough knowledge of local law and the commercial environment."

Notable practitioners

Cyrus Shafizadeh is a highly distinguished practitioner who frequently acts on the firm's most challenging instructions. He is a qualified solicitor in England and Wales, and regularly advises international clients on corporate restructurings and foreign investment. **Strengths:** "He is a top-tier lawyer." **Farid Kani** is a prominent figure in the Iranian legal market, with notable experience advising clients on investments, corporate restructurings and commercial issues. Based in Tehran, he is dual-qualified after being admitted as a solicitor in England and Wales. **Strengths:** "Farid is approachable, practical and really easy to access." "His in-depth business insight combined with his legal expertise makes him an outstanding legal partner." "Farid is a very experienced lawyer combined with a friendly attitude, which makes him fantastic at stakeholder management." **Ali Shahabi** is well respected for his prowess in corporate matters, most significantly assisting with commercial issues and due diligence. He is also well versed in advising international clients on sanctions.

Sabeti & Khatami

What the team is known for Sabeti & Khatami is a Tehran-based law firm that has quickly established itself as a go-to practice for both domestic companies and international clients working in Iran. The team has extensive expertise in advising on the full range of corporate and commercial mandates, including market exits, investments and joint ventures. It is also accomplished at commercial dispute resolution, including litigation and international arbitration, and is well accustomed to acting for clients based in Europe and Asia.

Strengths

"The team members have sound knowledge of the legal matters. They have always been available and responsive to the relevant requests."

"It is a very customer-oriented firm."

Notable practitioners

Behnam Khatami has a wide-ranging practice that covers transactional and litigious matters. He acts for clients on investments and market entry, in addition to representing them in commercial litigation and international arbitrations. **Strengths:** "Behnam is a reliable attorney who provides solutions which are to the point and practical, both from a legal and commercial point of view." "He is knowledgeable, affable and available. I feel incredibly privileged to have Behnam as one of my lawyers." "He finds solutions in very complicated situations. His litigation strategy is impressive." **Hooman Sabeti** is a respected individual with considerable experience in cross-border finance and international capital markets transactions. He is well placed to advise domestic and international clients on issues ranging from the formation of joint ventures to the restructuring of investment funds. Senior associate **Amir Mirtaheeri** boasts an established presence regularly advising clients on structuring investments and joint ventures, as well as regulatory matters. He is also adept at handling contentious mandates, including claims and international arbitration. **Strengths:** "Amir is detail-oriented and has sound knowledge of relevant legal and technical details of the case."

Band 2

Torossian, Avanesian & Associates

What the team is known for Torossian, Avanesian & Associates is a well-respected law firm with a strong bench of seasoned, highly-regarded

practitioners based in Tehran. The team acts for international clients on a variety of projects and commercial mandates.

Notable practitioners

Vrej Torossian is a seasoned lawyer who is adept at the full gamut of corporate and commercial mandates. He has further strengths in contentious matters. **Sofie Djagharbekian** is a highly regarded lawyer in Iran. She has a considerable practice in corporate transactions and represents a broad variety of international clients. **Strengths:** *"Sofie has been in this market for a long time. She's well experienced."*

Band 3

Dadflamingo

What the team is known for Dadflamingo is noted as a growing presence in the Tehran market. The team has a wide-ranging experience that encompasses commercial mandates, outbound transactions and compliance work, as well as regulatory issues and trademark registrations. The firm's lawyers also advise on disputes. Its client roster features local banks and venture capital funds as well as domestic manufacturers and distributors.

Strengths

"They demonstrated a deep understanding of the legal landscape and provided tailored solutions to address our specific needs. Their attention to detail, responsiveness and ability to meet deadlines were also commendable."

Notable practitioners

Sanaz Hosseini Kolahi is a key client contact.

Dr. Ali Hatami & Associates

What the team is known for Dr Ali Hatami & Associates has a broad client roster and offers a vast range of expertise. It is well equipped to advise on oil and gas transactions, with further notable skills in construction projects and corporate taxation as well as company liquidations. The team also assists with commercial matters and leasing issues. The firm's contentious work covers franchising and debt recovery disputes.

Strengths

*"They are always available and responsive."
"The firm consists of specialists in different aspects of the law; therefore the provided legal opinion is all-inclusive, practical and reliable."*

Notable practitioners

Ali Hatami acts for clients on a broad range of mandates, including leasing issues, debt recovery and commercial disputes. He is also recognised for his oil and gas and construction practice. **Strengths:** *"He is experienced in and aware of the Iranian market."*

International Law Office

What the team is known for International Law Office is a longstanding Tehran law firm with a robust corporate and commercial offering. It is adept at acting for international entities on foreign investment, joint ventures and other contract negotiation mandates. The team is also well versed at representing clients in disputes.

Strengths

"They have been in this market for very long and

have some very experienced people."

Notable practitioners

Behrooz Akhlaghi is a respected senior lawyer who has an excellent track record in both contentious and non-contentious mandates. He is well placed to assist with commercial agreements, in addition to defending clients in litigation. **Mahnaz Mehrinfar** is an experienced lawyer who advises on a variety of commercial agreements and day-to-day operational issues. She is especially notable for her expertise relating to the aviation, mining and telecoms sectors, as well as her prominent role in the management of the firm. She has further experience in disputes. Established partner **Sahar Sotoodehnia** has expertise in undertaking investment projects and joint venture and distributorship agreements. Beyond this, she is also adept at handling contentious mandates.

Sanglaj International Consultants

What the team is known for Sanglaj International Consultants is identified for its strengths in acting for government entities, as well as for its capabilities in international arbitration. On these matters, the team enjoys close ties with international law firms.

Notable practitioners

Moshkan Mashkour retains an international arbitration practice. Based in Tehran, he is also recognised for his experience acting for government entities.

T&S Associates

What the team is known for T&S Associates is a full-service law firm with remarkable longevity in the Iranian market. It acts for a broad base of international clients and is equally capable of handling contentious and non-contentious matters. It is particularly noted for its capabilities in the corporate governance space, with complementary strengths in regulatory and contractual issues.

Notable practitioners

Ahmad Ehtesham is an established Tehran-based lawyer with extensive experience advising international clients on their operations in Iran. He is skilled in disputes work while also maintaining a non-contentious practice covering corporate governance and regulatory matters.

Foreign Desks (Based Abroad)

Dentons

What the team is known for Dentons maintains a robust Iranian desk operating primarily out of Paris. It is experienced in a vast range of matters, including group restructurings, and is also highlighted for its assured advice in regard to sanctions. The team offers further abilities in dispute resolution. The firm also maintains an association with the Tehran-based APP Legal Institute and regularly calls upon the resources of APP's lawyers in its work for clients.

Notable practitioners

Pirouzan Parvine leads Dentons' Iranian practice, dividing his time between Paris and Warsaw. He is highly experienced in assisting clients with the restructuring and winding up of their operations in Iran.

Eversheds Sutherland

What the team is known for The Iranian desk of Eversheds Sutherland is best recognised for its expertise in disputes. Examples of the firm's work in this field include high-value international arbitrations arising in the oil and gas sector. Its other areas of expertise include advising on sanctions compliance. The team is equally strong at counselling Iranian entities and international corporations.

Notable practitioners

David Sellers is based in Paris and is a key contact within the firm's Iran practice group.

Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer

What the team is known for Freshfields maintains a notable Iranian desk, principally comprising experts based in Vienna and Hamburg. The firm regularly assists multinationals with sanctions compliance issues and the related reorganisation of their Iranian operations. The group offers a robust practice possessing in-depth expertise across a wide range of sectors, including automotive and oil and gas.

Notable practitioners

Farid Sigari-Majid is based in Vienna and is the leader of Freshfields' Iran desk. He has wide-ranging experience advising on cross-border M&A, corporate restructurings and a variety of regulatory matters, and is known for his particular strengths acting for clients from the aviation and financial services sectors.

Herbert Smith Freehills

What the team is known for Herbert Smith Freehills has considerable experience assisting with Iranian matters. Its London office is a focal point for this expertise. The firm advises clients on both transactional work and an array of matters related to sanctions.

Notable practitioners

Susannah Cogman, based in London, is a key contact for the firm's Iranian foreign desk.

Other Ranked Lawyers

Ali Akbar Atai of Atai & Associates is a well-regarded senior lawyer in the Iranian market. He is highly skilled in all aspects of corporate law and oversees work that ranges from assisting clients with financing arrangements to representing them in high-stakes commercial litigation.

Strengths:

*"His performance is widely valued."
"Atai went above and beyond ordinary levels of service. I very much appreciate his commitment during difficult situations."*

Nasim Gheidi is the managing partner of Gheidi & Associates. She is well recognised for her broad-ranging practice, which most significantly concerns matters of international trade and sanctions compliance. She has advised a number of high-profile international clients in this field.