

# PRESS RELEASE

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# Gide sets up in Tehran and boosts its presence in the Middle-East

Gide is pleased to announce the inauguration of its establishment in Tehran on Tuesday 12 September. In line with its pioneering spirit, Gide becomes the first international law firm to obtain a licence in order to open a branch office and practise in Iran under its own name.

Iran is the second economic power in the Middle East, making it of strategic importance for a number of private and public players. With this new office, Gide hopes to support more actively the development of French and international companies in this country, and assist Iranian companies in their international operations, both in an advisory and litigation capacity.

Gide has been particularly active in the Middle East and North Africa for nearly 30 years via its offices in Paris, London, Beijing, Shanghai, Moscow, Istanbul and its four hubs in the region (Algiers, Casablanca, Istanbul and Tunis). We have been a long-standing actor in Iran and have in-depth experience on investments, acquisitions, BOT operations, commercial contracts and international arbitration procedures, as well as on compliance and regulations applicable to embargoes.

Gide Tehran is headed by experienced Iranian lawyer Mehrnoosh Aryanpour, who joined Gide as partner in January 2017, alongside Parisbased partner Christophe Eck. The team in Gide Tehran will be able to draw on the support of all the practice groups and other international offices of the firm.

Baudouin de Moucheron, Senior Partner of Gide, says: I am very pleased that we are opening an office in Tehran. We are convinced that our long-standing presence in the region, the close relationships we have forged with local authorities, and our command of the various civil and common law legal systems, alongside our knowledge of Islamic and Iranian customs, represent solid assets for the development of our clients' projects in Iran".

Mehrnoosh Aryanpour, partner in charge of Gide Tehran: I am delighted that Gide has given me this opportunity. The Iranian market is growing rapidly, and through this office we hope to fully support French companies looking to continue their expansion to Iran. With a view to offering our clients the best possible assistance, we are looking to set up a local team that will be entirely composed of highly talented local and international lawyers, drawn from among the best in their generation".

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#### **Biography of Mehrnoosh Aryanpour**

A specialist in global trade and regulatory matters, Mehrnoosh Aryanpour acts in particular on sanctions and export controls (ITAR, EAR, and OFAC), WTO disputes, and multi-jurisdictional commercial matters in transport, energy,

and infrastructure. She advises a number of national and international companies active in the oil & gas, maritime and air transport, heavy industry, pharmaceutical and hotel sectors on prior audits and issues pertaining to Iranian sanctions. Admitted to the New York Bar in 2009, she worked for several major British and American firms in the United States prior to joining Gide.

#### **About Gide**

Gide is a premier international law firm and the first to have originated in France. Founded in Paris in 1920, the firm now operates from 15 offices throughout the world. It has 600 lawyers, drawn from 35 different nationalities. Gide offers some of the most respected specialists in each of the various sectors of national and international finance and business law.

## gide.com

@GideLawFirm

For further information:

#### Gide

Natacha Boigegrain Business Development & Communications Director tel. +33 (0)1 40 75 60 24 natacha.boigegrain@gide.com

> Sandra Godon Communications Manager tel. +33 (0)1 40 75 37 80 godon@gide.com

## Gide (Moscow)

Alyona Pokrovskaya PR and Marketing Manager +7 (495) 258-31-00 pokrovskaya@gide.com

#### Havas

Mathieu Bonnefond tel. +33 (0)6 72 73 92 46 mathieu.bonnefond@havas.com Charlotte Lazimi tel. +33 (0)6 84 79 16 27 charlotte.lazimi@havas.com