

## Press release

### **BRYAN CAVE LEIGHTON PAISNER RUSSIA CONSOLIDATES ITS TOP-RANKED POSITIONS IN CHAMBERS EUROPE 2019**

**Chambers Europe** has released its 2019 ranking of top practice areas and lawyers across Europe. The leading practice areas of Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner (Russia) LLP, formerly Goltsblat BLP in Russia, have been highly recommended, among them: **Real Estate, Competition/Antitrust, Corporate/M&A, Dispute Resolution (including Domestic Dispute Resolution, International Arbitration, Corporate Crime), Intellectual Property, Tax, Employment, Banking & Finance, Private Equity, Restructuring and Insolvency, and TMT.**

Such positive results serve as evidence that the firm's strategy has been a success, with its clients highly appraising the expertise offered by Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner (Russia) LLP, including advice on cross-border as well as domestic transactions and disputes.

Chambers rankings are among the most prestigious and reliable guides in the legal industry around the world. The ranking is based on client and peer feedback, as well as on the level and complexity of the projects implemented over the last year.

**Chambers Europe 2019** provides the following comments on Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner (Russia) LLP:

#### **REAL ESTATE (Band 1):**

A recently merged group with an impressive bench that benefits from its broad international practice. Excellent track record in large-scale construction and development mandates, including major infrastructure projects. Active in high-value acquisitions and disposals of commercial property portfolios. Also regularly instructed on leasing issues and advises on real estate financing and contentious matters. Acts for major global and local companies from a variety of sectors, as well as real estate developers and investors.

The team is recognised as one of the leaders on the market, with clients describing their experience as *"very positive; they go the extra mile for the client"*, as well as offering *"excellent value for money."*

**Vitaly Mozharowski (Band 1), Partner, Head of Real Estate & Construction**, is a highly regarded figure in the field who heads the firm's Real Estate Practice in Moscow, where he is often engaged on high-value mandates. He also assists with investments in greenfield and brownfield developments, as well as zoning matters. Clients appreciate his *"proactive approach,"* going on to describe him as *"very responsive."*

**Rustam Aliev (Band 4), Partner**, regularly advises some of the leading developers and investors in Russia on real estate transactions. He earns praise for being *"very dedicated to the projects that he is involved in"* and having *"strong leadership skills and detailed knowledge of the industry."*

**Yuri Chernobrivtsev (Band 4), Partner**, focuses particularly on commercial leases, with experience in handling matters for the likes of Credit Suisse and Deutsche Bank. One client highlights his accessibility, saying that *"I can pick up the phone and call him,"* adding that *"he is always open for discussion."*

### **ANTITRUST (Band 1):**

"Primarily active and best known for its practical experience of competition disputes. Also assists with abuse of dominance cases as well as FAS investigations, including in the regions of Russia. Collaborates with the firm's white-collar crime department on high-profile behavioural investigations. Additionally offers regulatory compliance support and advisory services in merger clearance as well as commercial contracts matters."

"Interviewees recommend the *"very reliable and trustworthy firm"* and emphasise the strength of its individuals, describing them as *"very well-known experts in antitrust law."*

*"BCLP Russia is a rare combination of deep expertise, the highest ethical standards and flexibility to serve clients' needs."*

**Nikolay Voznesenskiy, (Band 1), Partner, Head of Antitrust & Competition**, is lauded as a *"high-profile attorney in antitrust law."* He specialises in behavioural matters, including advisory mandates, litigation and investigations by the regulator.

**Vitaly Dianov, (Band 4), Partner**, focuses his practice on behavioural antitrust litigation and investigations. He wins praise for his *"splendid trial skills"*, as well as his commercial advice. One source explains that *"he can give you practical solutions, he is always very quick and concrete in his recommendations."*

### **CORPORATE / M&A (Band 3):**

*"They have an understanding and expertise in English law with knowledge of Russian realities."*

"Represents international IT, pharmaceutical and retail names as well as acting for major Russian financial, real estate and TMT companies."

**Managing Partner Andrey Goltsblat (Eminent Practitioner)** remains a leading figure on the Russian market. He advises international and domestic corporate clients on high-level transactions, joint ventures and corporate matters.

**Partner and Practice head Anton Sitnikov (Band 4)** is highlighted by market sources for his corporate practice. He assists clients with corporate governance, M&A transactions and joint venture matters.

**Partner Matvey Kaploukhiy (Band 4)** advises clients on transactional and corporate matters, including cross-border joint venture projects.

### **DISPUTE RESOLUTION (Band 3):**

"Maintains a strong domestic litigation practice, advising clients on IP, contractual and debt recovery mandates. Frequently handles disputes with state bodies, including the Federal Antimonopoly Service and tax authorities".

"Further active in white-collar crime-related conflicts, defending business owners and corporate clients in criminal investigations. Also represents high net worth individuals in cross-border disputes. Regularly assists with both international and investment arbitration cases".

Sources say the team stands out for its approach to problems. *"They are knowledgeable, effective and proactive. They always think outside the box", "client-oriented and very friendly."*

**Julia Romanova (Band 4), Counsel**, provides Russian law support to domestic and international clients involved in cross-border disputes. Sources are full of praise, noting that she is *"extremely good on details"* and *"knows how to tactically approach a case."*

**London-based Partner Roman Khodykin (Band 1)** is a leading arbitration expert. He regularly represents Russian corporates and state bodies in large-scale arbitration proceedings in London. Sources are quick to praise his insight, one saying: *"He's the guy who combines extensive experience in Russian courts and he can easily pinpoint all the important details related to a case."*

### **IP (Band 2):**

"Best known for its strong standing in contentious mandates, including high-profile trade mark disputes. Also acts on non-contentious matters relating to the transfer of IP through M&A transactions, the structuring of franchise agreements or the advertising of pharmaceutical products. Traditionally instructed by global FMCG, pharmaceutical and media clients. Anti-genericisation disputes have been an area of particular activity for the firm of late."

"Clients appreciate the lawyers' detail-oriented approach, saying: *"They always find a comprehensive solution to our problems by looking at all the possible variations of different solutions."*

"Sources further praise the lawyers' *"creativity, speed and business-oriented approach."*

Partner and Practice head **Elena Trusova (Band 3)** earns particular praise for her handling of IP litigation. Sources appreciate her client-focused approach, one reporting that she is *"creative and fast."* Interviewees further highlight her ability to advise on the IP aspects of commercial transactions, saying: *"She has wide experience and is able to bring different areas of expertise to transactions."*

### **EMPLOYMENT (Band 2):**

"Well-regarded team offering comprehensive employment law services to a wide variety of multinational companies. Advises clients on employment disputes, remuneration issues and employee redundancies. Also well adept at handling dismissal cases."

"Clients particularly value the team for its business-oriented approach, with one remarking: *"They always take an innovative and creative approach to solve the most difficult problems. They can see the wider picture, which is a very important element."*

**Practice head Nadezhda Ilyushina (Band 2)** is *"very knowledgeable and has a creative and innovative approach to solve any difficult situation,"* highlights one impressed source, whilst another notes her *"client-oriented approach."* She represents clients in employment litigation, including staff redundancies and unfair dismissals.

**Counsel Yuri Ivanov (Band 3)** wins praise from interviewees for his experience in this field, with clients reporting him to be a *"client-oriented and proactive"* lawyer. He focuses his practice on employment litigation.

### **TAX (Band 3):**

"Well-reputed tax team offering expertise in contentious matters as well as tax advisory issues such as structuring, indirect taxation and VAT regulations. Particularly recognised for its tax disputes work and also assists with customs issues. Assists international and domestic clients from a wide range of industries."

**Partner and Practice head Evgeny Timofeev (Band 1)** "commands considerable respect from market sources for his wealth of expertise in tax law. He represents clients in tax disputes as well as advising on non-contentious tax matters."

### **PRIVATE EQUITY (Band 3):**

"Acts for both international and domestic private equity funds and private companies. Also assists sovereign wealth funds and investment funds. Involved in acquisitions and disposals as well as the creation of new ventures. Has a particular focus on matters involving real estate assets."

"Sources frequently highlight the team for its client service. One interviewee notes that the lawyers are *"client-oriented, creative and reasonable in negotiations,"* whilst another points out their *"fast responsiveness and knowledge of Russian markets."*

### **RESTRUCTURING/INSOLVENCY (Band 3):**

"Represents both creditors and debtors in insolvency-related litigation matters. Advises on debt recovery cases, with notable activity in cross-border litigation related to the liquidation of assets. Also represents domestic and international companies as creditors and has further experience in secondary liability cases."

### **TMT (Band 4):**

Enters the rankings this year as a result of visibility and positive market feedback. Acts for a range of technology and telecommunications companies on transactional and contentious matters. Also advises on data protection and compliance issues. Additionally, represents private equity funds in TMT-focused transactions.

One impressed source highlights the team for its *"client-oriented and practical approach to solving problems and willingness to help at any time,"* before going on to note: *"This team is distinguished by the depth of their understanding of our business and the effectiveness of the solutions offered to us."*

Partner and Practice head Ekaterina Dedova (**recognised practitioner**) is the key client contact.

### **BANKING & FINANCE (Band 4):**

"Represents Russian and international banks in financing and refinancing issues. Particularly active in real estate and aviation financing, with further experience in regulatory matters."

"Also regularly represents borrowers in secured lending and has additional know-how in securitisation."

**Partner Tatiana Parshak (newly ranked)** "represents clients in a range of financing matters, including acquisition, real estate and asset finance. Sources describe her as a *"hard-working"* lawyer who is *"enjoyable to work with."*