

Press Release

BRYAN CAVE LEIGHTON PAISNER (RUSSIA) LLP SHORTLISTED FOR MERGERMARKET EUROPE M&A AWARDS AND TOP-RANKED BY DEAL COUNT

Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner (Russia) LLP (formerly Goltsblat BLP in Russia) has been ranked first by M&A deal count among all law firms in Russia over the last 12 months¹ by the renowned international publication Mergermarket. This brings us on to the shortlist for **Mergermarket's Europe M&A Awards** as **Russia M&A Legal Adviser of the Year**. The award ceremony will be held on 4 December 2019 in London.

In 2019, the team led by Corporate/M&A Partners **Anton Sitnikov** (Head of Practice), **Ekaterina Dedova**, **Matvey Kaploukhiy** and **Anton Panchenkov**, in close collaboration with other top practices, advised clients on many landmark deals across various industry sectors. To name just a few, they advised **JSC Kuzbassenergo** on acquiring a coal power plant from PJSC Enel Russia; **Alvansa Ltd** on investment sale to VTB Bank and Sistema of a controlling stake in JSC Pharmaceutical Enterprise Obolenskoe, one of Russia's top pharmaceutical companies; **Vezet Group** on selling its software and call centres to Yandex.Taxi; **Orion LLC**, an ESN company, on selling its 100% stake in the fiscal data operator 1 OFD (JSC ESK) to VTB Group; **Miratorg**, Russia's biggest vertically integrated agribusiness, on acquiring from PPF Group a 100% stake in RAV Agro companies (based in the Oryol Region); **Mistral Wine**, a major food and alcohol producer and distributor belonging to the Mistral Group, on acquiring vineyards and a winery in Russia's Krasnodar Region; **Transmashholding** on acquiring A2B Direct, an Uber-like freight forwarding platform, and many more.

Anton Sitnikov, Partner, Head of Corporate/M&A, Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner (Russia) LLP: *"We are delighted to retain our lead in the M&A arena. These terrific results are a credit to our strategic commitment to become a top transactional firm in Russia. We have now built what is probably the most experienced, resourceful, versatile and diversified M&A team on the market. We work in close collaboration with other top notch practices to provide seamless and efficient support for all industries and deals of any complexity. I would like to say thank you to all my colleagues for their hard work and dedication and also to our clients for their cooperation and trust, which made this success possible."*

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¹ The ranking covers the period from 1 October 2018 through 30 September 2019.

About Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner LLP

Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner LLP law firm was formed in 2018 as a result of one of the biggest transatlantic mergers in the history of the legal business: the merger between the leading international law firms Bryan Cave LLP (U.S.) and Berwin Leighton Paisner LLP (UK), including its Russian practice Goltsblat BLP. Today Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner LLP is one of the biggest global law firms (among the top 50), uniting more than 1,400 lawyers in 31 offices in 11 countries. Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner (Russia) LLP provides comprehensive legal support for any largescale deals, projects and disputes in any jurisdiction, whenever and wherever clients might need it. Strong global practices and fully-integrated international teams in M&A, real estate, financial services and dispute resolution. The firm represents 40% of the Fortune 500, 30 of the world's top 50 banks (by revenue) and 12 of the world's biggest sovereign wealth funds.

About Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner Russia

The Russian practice of **Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner (formerly Goltsblat BLP in Russia)** is a well-established, stable team, one of the biggest on the Russian market; built up over more than 20 years, it is a recognised leader in Russia. The history of the BCLP Russian office includes the merger, in 2009, between one of the biggest teams on the Russian market, led by Andrey Goltsblat, and the leading UK law firm Berwin Leighton Paisner (BLP). The Moscow office has more than 100 lawyers qualified under Russian, English and US law (State of New York). Five times winner of Law Firm of the Year in Russia since 2009, including Chambers Europe Awards 2010, 2014 and 2015; The Legal Business Awards (The Legal 500) 2010; The Lawyer European Awards 2014. Leading positions and profound Russian law expertise with the absolute majority of the practices in Russia recognised as market leaders / top-ranked by leading national and international rankings (The Legal 500, Chambers&Partners, Best Lawyers, Mergermarket, Pravo.ru-300, etc.). www.bclplaw.ru