



Pepeliaev Group LLC  
12, Krasnopresnenskaya Nab.,  
Entrance 7, World Trade Center-II  
Moscow 123610, Russia

E: [info@pgplaw.ru](mailto:info@pgplaw.ru)  
T: +7 (495) 967 00 07  
F: +7 (495) 967 00 08  
[www.pgplaw.ru](http://www.pgplaw.ru)

## **Once again, The Legal 500 has acknowledged Pepeliaev Group as a leader on the Russian legal market**

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Once again, international legal directory The Legal 500 has named Pepeliaev Group Russia's best tax law firm (Tier 1). Pepeliaev Group fields the largest tax team in Russia, working under the 'expert guidance' of Sergey Pepeliaev, whose 'astonishing attention to detail and commitment are matched only by his knowledge of Russia's legal system'. The practice comprises numerous sector-focused divisions, and its reach extends beyond Moscow thanks to offices in St Petersburg (where Sergey Sosnovsky is 'an expert in regional tax incentive issues') and Krasnoyarsk.

The Legal 500 rated Pepeliaev Group's antimonopoly practice highly (Tier 2). Practice head Elena Sokolovskaya is 'incredibly helpful for in-house counsel, providing prompt and reliable feedback'. Senior Partner Vladimir Sokov regularly advises international and domestic firms subject to antitrust investigations and audits. Head of Commercial Practice Oxana Migitko is an expert in vertical and horizontal agreements.

The Legal 500 also gave a high rating to Pepeliaev Group's employment and migration law practice (Tier 2) and noted that the firm's experts have 'great experience in providing legal support on the full range of employment and migration law issues'. The guide singles out the head of the practice Julia Borozdna, and senior associate Dmitry Zykov, an experienced employment litigator and adviser, and associate Victoria Kushner, a migration law expert.

Pepeliaev Group's work was noted among other Russian firms providing IP legal services (Tier 3). The legal directory noted Pepeliaev Group's project to provide support for the 2018 World Cup in Russia. Among IP specialists, the Legal 500 singles out Valentina Orlova, head of the practice, and Yuri Yahin, head of practice group.

Pepeliaev Group's real estate and construction practice also became one of three leaders in the Russian legal services market. The Legal 500 also noted that Alexey Konevsky, partner, Vladimir Sokov, senior partner, and Natalia Stenina, head of practice, provide wide-ranging transactional support to Russian and international clients with Russian real estate assets.

The international directory also spoke favourably of Pepeliaev Group's telecommunication group (Tier 3). The head of telecoms Natalia Ivaschenko is singled out for her 'strong industry knowledge', and is regarded as 'an expert in telecoms law' and as 'an open-minded professional in mass media'.

The Legal 500 also recommends Pepeliaev Group for resolving bankruptcy disputes (Tier 4), noting that the firm remains active in this field thanks to experts Yuriy Vorobyev and Yulia Litovtseva.

The international directory also noted Pepeliaev Group's experience in acting for major energy firms and investors in tax disputes with large amounts at stake (Tier 5). The Legal 500 recommends Rustem Ahmetshin, senior partner, and Pavel Kondukov, head of the Offshore Projects and PSA Group as key experts in this field.

Moreover, The Legal 500 was impressed by Pepeliaev Group's St Petersburg corporate practice (Tier 2) and noted that the head of the office Sergey Spasennov and head of corporate Andrey Pekhovsky have great experience in M&A deals, as well as corporate restructuring.

**PEPELIAEV GROUP** is a leading Russian law firm offering the full range of legal services in all regions of Russia, CIS countries, and abroad. Over 160 lawyers in three offices (Moscow, St Petersburg, and Krasnoyarsk) provide legal support to more than 1,500 companies from various industries. 60% of our clients are international corporations which are making strategic investments in the Russian economy.

*For more information, please contact Alexandra Starostina, PR Manager, Pepeliaev Group:*

e-mail: [a.starostina@pgplaw.ru](mailto:a.starostina@pgplaw.ru)

tel.: +7 (495) 967-00-07