

Real Estate



The Real Estate department of Mayer Brown Paris advises international investors on large transactions involving a wide variety of real estate related assets.

The team has expertise in all aspects of real estate law, notably in the field of construction as it relates to urban development, environmental law, and the sale of buildings. More generally, the team also has expertise in all complex and structured real estate transactions including sales/mortgage sales, sales of future buildings, real estate development and all forms of leasing (commercial, to build, etc.).

The department is particularly noted for its advising of developers and of real estate investment funds in the hotel, para-hotel (special service, tourist, and retirement residences, etc.), and restaurant services sectors.

The real estate team regularly assists investors in their acquisition of real estate assets or in real estate companies. It has been instructed to undertake legal audits and to negotiate and to finalize the documentation related to such transactions.

The team is also regularly involved in high-profile projects where it represents the interests of prominent national and international financial institutions. These projects range from structured finance transactions (accomplished, when needed, through ad hoc vehicles) to other complex transactions such as securitization programs.

The real estate team of Mayer Brown Paris also boasts significant experience in the establishment of securities for complex cross-border transactions. The reputation of the team places it among the very best on the market.



Andrew Armfelt

Partner

Andrew was admitted to the Paris Bar in 1986 and has been a solicitor of the High Court of England and Wales since 1970. He has acted for many years on behalf of foreign investors (particularly investment funds) in the acquisition and sale of real property in France and in the setting up of joint ventures in real estate investment vehicles in Europe. His expertise is particularly recognized in the hospitality industry where he represents operators and numerous investors.

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Jean-Philippe Lambert

Partner

Jean-Philippe was admitted to the Paris Bar in 1991 and holds a DESS in international business law from the University of Paris V. He is the managing partner of Mayer Brown Paris and a member of Mayer Brown's worldwide Management Committee. Jean-Philippe is the founder of the Hautes Etudes Appliquées du Droit (HEAD) school in Paris. He regularly advises real estate and commercial/industrial companies on all their contractual, regulatory, and disputes issues concerning real estate and environmental law.

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Jean-Pierre Lee

Partner

Jean-Pierre was admitted to the Paris Bar in 1987 and to the New York Bar in 1990, and holds a DEA in international law from the University of Paris II Panthéon-Assas and an LLM from Columbia University (New York). He acts in numerous complex transactions in the French and European markets, notably in connection with the financing and external growth of businesses and institutional lenders in transactions involving structured finance, securitization and real estate finance, syndicated or ceded to French or foreign securitization vehicles.

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Olivier Parawan

Partner

Olivier was admitted to the Paris Bar in 1998 and holds a DESS in business law and taxation from the University of Paris II. He advises numerous international companies and real estate investment funds in the tax structuring of their acquisitions and real estate investments in France (SPPICAV, SIIC, SCI). He also aides French companies with their daily fiscal needs and has developed a particular experience in the taxation of real estate and hospitality companies (e.g. the 3% rate, VAT applicable to real estate/registration transactions, hotel management).

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Alexandra Plain

Counsel

Alexandra was admitted to the Paris Bar in 1999 and to the New York Bar in 2001. She holds a Masters in European Business Law from the University of Nancy 2, a DESS-DJCE in business and tax law from the University of Paris II Panthéon-Assas, and an LLM from New York University. Alexandra advises foreign investors, including investment funds, in their real estate acquisitions and sales in France and in Europe. Her practice also encompasses the negotiation of joint ventures and shareholder agreements. She is noted for her experience in the hospitality sector, where she participates not only in the negotiation of hotel management agreements, technical services contracts, and consulting agreements, but also in the drafting and negotiating of asset management agreements and real estate management contracts.

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