

About CMS

CMS is one of the largest global law firms in the world. It is the largest law firm (by number of lawyers and offices) in Europe. CMS has a specialist team of over 130 lawyers in the Middle East and North Africa offices in Iran, Algeria, Morocco, Oman, Turkey, and the UAE, and associated offices in Iraq, Lebanon and Saudi Arabia. CMS was the first international law firm to open an office in Tehran after the easing of sanctions in 2016.

Speakers

Dr. Amir Kordvani (CMS)

Amir is the co-founder of CMS's office in Iran. He also leads CMS's Middle East Projects practice out of CMS's Dubai office. He has advised on various aspects of doing business in Iran including FDI, company set-up and due diligence, contracts, licensing, joint ventures, energy and oil and gas projects.

Amir has considerable expertise in advising on energy and resources projects in various parts of the world. He has acted for public, private and government clients in mining, oil and gas, power (including renewables) and water industries across Australia, the Middle East, and Africa. He has broad experience in the resources sector including mining, oil and gas, and utilities projects. Amir is qualified to practice law in Iran and Australia having received legal training in Iran, UK, and Australia. He holds a PhD in Law and LLBs from the University of Tehran and University of Melbourne where he was also a Lecturer in Law from 2004-07. He also holds a Master's degree in Law from the University of Sussex (UK). Amir is authorized to practice law in Iran and Australia.

Malek Takieddine (CMS)

Malek is a partner based in Beirut. He is a qualified Advocate before the High Courts of Lebanon. He has obtained a Master's degree in law from the UK and worked for a number of years at CMS's UK offices. He has over ten years of experience working on corporate and commercial matters in Lebanon, Iraq, GCC countries and other MENA jurisdictions. Given his access to legislation in the Arabic language, he has developed a thorough knowledge of local laws and regulations and an ability to work closely with local counsel, where required, in order to deliver quality corporate and commercial advice on local matters. He regularly advises multinational and regional companies on matters related to Iraq including energy and power projects.

Nick Kramer(CMS)

Nick is the Head of Commercial Construction at CMS Dubai. He has lived and worked in Dubai since 2005. Nick specializes in the drafting and negotiation of construction related contracts as well as advising on associated disputes. His experience includes building contracts; EPC contracts; consultancy services contracts; public works concession contracts; and O&M contracts. He has considerable experience using and advising on the FIDIC standard forms of contract. Nick has advised and represented clients from all sides of the construction, engineering and project development industries, including international construction and engineering contractors and consultants; commercial real estate developers; government ministries and agencies; developers of industrial projects, process plants and petrochemical plants; promoters and developers of independent water and power projects; and oil and gas multinationals.

Shin Tong-Chan (Yulchon LLC)

Education

- 2004 Northwestern University School of Law, LL.M.(with honors)
- 1998 Seoul National University, Graduate School of Law, LL.M. Candidate
- 1997 Judicial Research and Training Institute, the Supreme Court of Korea
- 1995 Seoul National University, LL.B.

Experience

- 2000-present Yulchon LLC
- 2014 - 2015 Partner on Secondment to Trowers & Hamblins, Dubai, UAE
- 2012 - 2014 Partner on Secondment to Herbert Smith Freehills, Abu Dhabi, UAE
- 2011 - 2015 Technical Advisor, International Contractors Association of Korea
- 2011-present Assistant Administrator, Corporate Law Community, Seoul Bar Association
- 2010 - 2015 Technical Advisor, Special Response Committee for Iran, International Contractors Association of Korea
- 2010 - 2012 Lecturer, Construction Law Graduate School, Kwangwoon University
- 2004 - 2005 Associate on Secondment to Bingham McCutchen LLP, San Francisco and Silicon Valley Offices
- 1997 - 2000 Judge Advocate, Republic of Korea Army

Representative Matters

- 2011-present Advised domestic companies which intended to invest in the Middle East including Iran and UAE
- 2010-present Advised domestic financial institutions, contractors, trading corporations, refiners, foreign invested companies regarding Korea and US sanctions against Iran
- 2009 - 2011 Represented US creditors of international automotive parts company relating to restructuring in Korea
- 2006 - 2011 Advised and successfully represented litigation and ICC arbitration relating to dispute over joint venture agreement in favor of EU petroleum & chemical company

Practice Areas Environment & Energy, Middle East, International Litigation