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# LAW FIRM DELIVERING EXPERT LEGAL ADVICE IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND AFRICA

ADG Legal is a full-service law firm based in Dubai. We provide bespoke legal services by combining broad international expertise with in-depth local knowledge



**ADG Legal is one of the only UAE law firms to have a dedicated representative London office, it is a full-service Emirati firm, headquartered in Dubai. It also has an office in Alexandria, Egypt.**

ADG works hard to promote and develop Emirati talent. It also employs a collaborative approach, working hard to discover, develop and cement relationships with other high calibre lawyers and professionals worldwide. The firm then combines in-depth local knowledge with international expertise and provides responsive and bespoke legal services and strategic advice directly to both its clients and to foreign law firms.

Established following the 2017 merger of Mohammed Al Dahbashi Advocates and Kingsgrove Partners, the firm is proud of its experienced and diverse team (including Emirati, British, Egyptian, Australian, Sudanese, and Kazakhstan members).

ADG' aims to continue to develop and connect exceptional local and international legal talent for the benefit of the region and beyond. Both Local and international clients, as well as foreign law firms, regularly commend ADG for its responsive, clear and commercial advice.

ADG offers clients the full spectrum of corporate services and commercial advice, for on-shore and offshore companies, partnerships, sole traders and free zones. By way of example, the firm drafted distribution agreements for a new shopping centre in Dubai, advised the Emirati partner of a major fast-food outlet on renegotiating contracts with the company, and advised a Qatari authority in relation to the acquisition of assets valued at QAR 6.7 bn.

The firm's Dispute Resolution Team is committed to resolving disputes (regional and international) efficiently and practically. The firm's advocates have full rights of audience before all UAE courts (including the DIFC Court), free zone authorities and tribunals.

Many of the firm's lawyers have substantial experience in dispute resolution beyond the UAE. The firm has also built up a network of leading firms and individuals in numerous other jurisdictions, enabling ADG to provide a seamless dispute resolution service for all clients, regardless of jurisdiction.

In the area of financial crime, ADG effectively assists with internal, forensic and criminal investigations. The firm has particular expertise in obtaining and defending applications for freezing orders in local and foreign jurisdictions. ADG has an in-depth understanding of the regulatory environment and regulatory bodies in the UAE and MENA region.

ADG also provides strategic advice and consultancy services to a wide range of clients, including governments. By way of example, ADG advised the Puntland State of Somalia in negotiations with P&O Ports for the USD 400 m Bosaso Port Project.

ADG's lawyers have extensive experience relating to construction and infrastructure projects across multiple jurisdictions, including the UAE, DIFC, MENA region, Europe and East Africa. Experience ranges from acting for a high-net-worth individual in a dispute with a co-investor in an Abu Dhabi property project to advising a Bahraini bank in litigation concerning a USD 150 m real estate development contract in Dubai.

ADG has extensive experience in defending criminal charges in the UAE. Whether a UAE or foreign national, the firm seeks to protect clients' interests and rights and guides them through understandably difficult times with compassion, understanding and sensitivity.

For clients with family-related matters, ADG provides expert advice and guidance. From wealth management and succession planning to inheritance disputes, divorce and custody matters, ADG provides responsive and clear advice.



## MOHAMMED AL DAHBASHI

### MANAGING PARTNER

Mohammed is considered one of the best Emirati practitioners in the UAE.

Having graduated from the United Kingdom with a Bachelor's degree in Law with Honors (LLB Hons), Mohammed is one of only a few Emirati lawyers experienced in both corporate/commercial transactions and dispute matters. A licenced advocate, Mohammed has rights of audience before the courts of the UAE. He is also often asked to be a guest speaker at international conferences.

Mohammed combines his extensive regional knowledge with international practice standards, uniting different mindsets and approaches. By doing so, he not only obtains outstanding outcomes for his clients but raises the global profile of the UAE and its legal practitioners.

Prior to co-founding, ADG Legal Mohammed managed his firm (MAD Advocates). He carries over a decade of experience where he worked with a number of prominent international legal teams, including the legal team of one of Abu Dhabi's largest commercial arms (Mubadala Development Company). In private practice, he has served as a lawyer in leading UAE firms for over 10 years and has been the Managing Partner of ADG Legal since 2015.

Mohammed also dedicates time to serving his local community. He puts great focus on CSR programmes, including advising individuals in need on a pro-bono basis through referrals from the Dubai Courts and from within his community.

Mohammed specialises in:

- Advising on all aspects of corporate and commercial law
- Providing advice on multi-jurisdiction litigation
- Anti-money laundering and financial crime investigations and advice
- Family law and family business guidance and advice
- Advising on UAE government regulations and their impact
- Advising on all aspects of private equity transactions
- Advising governments on establishing and running free zones

**To contact Mohammed:** +971 4 441 2031 or [mad@adglegal.com](mailto:mad@adglegal.com)

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## PETER GRAY

### PARTNER

Cambridge-educated, Peter has been in practice for over 18 years and has over a decade of experience in the Middle East and Africa.

Always looking to deliver innovative and proactive solutions for clients, Peter has a reputation for taking the time to understand his clients' businesses, and for being "*commercially minded and cost-sensitive*".

Peter's practice is primarily the resolution of complex disputes and providing advice on white-collar crime matters. However, he is also frequently asked to advise on non-contentious matters, and in particular, helping with projects in several sectors across Africa.

Having trained at the Bar, Peter commenced his practicing career in the City of London. In 2010 Peter moved to Dubai, where he headed up the regional disputes departments at two international firms, before establishing Kingsgrove Partners in 2015. He then established ADG Legal with Mohammed Al Dahbashi in 2017.

Whilst a firm believer in using the latest technology to improve processes and communication, Peter recognises that most significant conversations and decisions depend upon personal relationships. As such, Peter spends a great deal of time travelling throughout the Middle East and Africa to help clients achieve their goals.

Published in leading journals, Peter is often a keynote speaker at international conferences, including the Cambridge Symposium and C5.

Peter specialises in:

- Strategic advice
- Managing legal development projects
- Advising on multi-jurisdictional litigation
- Advising governments on establishing and running free zones
- International arbitration (under all main institutions, particularly LCIA, ICC and DIFC-LCIA)
- Critical project recovery
- Regulatory advice
- Restructuring
- Contract negotiation
- Anti-money laundering and financial crime investigations and advice

**To contact Peter:** +971 4 441 2031 or [pg@adglegal.com](mailto:pg@adglegal.com)

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## JOSH KEMP

**PARTNER**

Josh leads the firm's International Dispute Resolution practice and the Contentious Construction practice.

Josh has 15 years' experience in dispute resolution, with a strong focus on the construction industry, as well as a broad range of experience in other Commercial Litigation, International Arbitration, and Financial Crime matters. He has previously been a Partner of a leading boutique law firm in Australia, a Senior Associate at a global law firm, Norton Rose Fulbright, as well as a Senior Associate at a London city firm. He has been consistently named as a leading construction litigation lawyer in his native jurisdiction.

Based in our Dubai office, Josh frequently acts in disputes involving the Middle East, North Africa, the UK and other regions. Josh has acted in arbitrations under many of the major institutional rules including ICC, LCIA, DIFC-LCIA, DIAC and JAMS. Within the UAE, he has experience in DIFC and ADGM Court litigation, and works closely with the firm's UAE litigation team on onshore litigation matters. He has recently advised various Middle Eastern, European and African clients in relation to fraud investigations in various sectors.

In his Construction practice, he has acted in litigation and arbitration for large commercial building contractors and developers, engineering construction contractors, consultants and employers. Josh is particularly skilled in managing disputes and litigation/arbitration relating to major infrastructure projects. He has been consistently named as a leading construction litigation lawyer in his native jurisdiction.

Having read law in Queensland, Australia, Josh subsequently studied an LLM and was admitted as a legal practitioner in 2007. He is also a qualified U.S attorney, admitted to practice in the state of New York.

Josh also currently holds the position of Co-Leader of the Legal Committee for the Arab-Brazil Chamber of Commerce, a chamber that has several thousand members.

Josh is well-known for his thorough and pragmatic approach to complex problems and his commitment to reaching the best commercial outcomes for his clients.

Josh specialises in:

- Construction and engineering disputes
- Contract drafting and negotiations
- International arbitration (LCIA, ICC and DIFC-LCIA)
- Commercial litigation
- Regulatory matters
- Investigations

**To contact Josh:** +971 4 441 2031 or [jk@adglegal.com](mailto:jk@adglegal.com)  
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## AHMED RAGAB ALKOTBY

### PARTNER

One of our Partners in Dubai and Associate Partner of ADG Legal Egypt, Ahmed ensures that he always considers the practical and commercial needs of a client.

Having worked in-house and for local, regional, and international law firms in Egypt and the UAE for over a decade, Ahmed has enviable experience in relation to both contentious (civil and criminal) and non-contentious work. Praised as being “*knowledgeable, experienced, compassionate and down-to-earth*.” He is one of the market-known lawyers, providing excellent quality of legal advice and responsiveness.

Ahmed competently handles complex dispute resolution cases, often involving conflicts of jurisdictions and laws. He has been involved in matters relating to the banking, insurance, construction and hotel sectors. Ahmed is qualified to represent clients before the DIFC Courts, and such work has included the liquidation of an international bank.

Working with our commercial and corporate team, Ahmed advises on multi-national acquisitions, corporate governance modules/policies, and corporate restructures. He negotiates and drafts all types of commercial agreements (including master service agreements, non-disclosure agreements, non-circumvention agreements, letters of intent, memoranda of understanding, sponsorship agreements, loan and facility agreements) as well as all corporate documents (including memoranda of association, joint venture agreements, shareholder agreements and board resolutions). Ahmed is well-versed in relation to the legal aspects of Islamic finance.

In Egypt, Ahmed assists clients regarding civil & commercial claims as well as subrogated claims; previously he worked in criminal law and defended clients before criminal and military courts, and attended public prosecutors’ investigations, and police procedures.

His broad experience allows Ahmed to provide our clients with responsive, up-to-date legal advice that takes into consideration their practical and commercial needs without compromising compliance. He manages and develops litigation. He is known for his robust and swift legal advice.

- Advising on all aspects of corporate and commercial law
- Construction and engineering disputes
- Anti-money laundering and financial crime investigations and advice
- Family law and family business guidance and advice
- Advising on UAE government regulations and their impact
- International arbitration (LCIA, ICC and DIFC-LCIA)
- Advising on all aspects of private equity transactions

**To contact Ahmed:** +971 4 441 2031 or [ark@adglegal.com](mailto:ark@adglegal.com)

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## SCOTT LAMBERT

**PARTNER**

Scott has over 32 years' experience in projects, construction and infrastructure and facility management, as well as a broad range of related commercial and property matters. Scott is well known by his clients for his practical, straight-forward and strategic advice, his knowledge of how construction and infrastructure projects operate, and his breadth of contacts in the industry.

Scott has helped clients across the MENA region, including projects in the UAE, Oman, KSA, Qatar, Bahrain, Kuwait, Iraq and Egypt.

Prior to joining ADG Legal Scott was the Regional Head of Construction and Infrastructure at Al Tamimi & Co and a Partner at Beale & Co. He has been based in Dubai for 10 years. Before arriving in the Middle East, Scott was a partner at the well-regarded Australian firm, Holding Redlich.

He specialises in all aspects of projects working with clients from structure establishment, procurement, through contract documents, projects advisory and dispute management. His experience covers working with developers, contractors, consultants, suppliers, project managers and facility management.

Scott's experience includes major development involving resorts, mixed use sites, rail as well as industrial developments including renewable and waste to fuel conversion, solar parks, oil and gas, pipelines, roads dams, ports, desalination plants, district cooling plant projects and built factories. He frequently works with joint venture projects and advise on all aspects of the joint venture operation

Scott has a strong interest in Building Information Modelling and also in Sustainability. He was an accredited Green Star professional in Australia and was a Director and Secretary of the Infrastructure Sustainability Council of Australia. In the UAE, he has provided assistance to the Emirates Green Building Council. He also seeks to give back to the industry through his participation in the management team of the Lighthouse Club (Dubai branch).

Scott was admitted as a legal practitioner in Queensland, Australia in 1989. He is also admitted to practice in the Australian Capital Territory and before the High Court of Australia. He has been registered as a Legal Consultant in Dubai since 2014.

Scott specialises in:

- Structuring and establishment;
- Procurement advice, strategy and implementation;
- Contract negotiation and drafting;
- Project and claims advisory;
- Construction and infrastructure (both transactional and disputes);
- Oil and gas, infrastructure development and including FEED issues;
- Facility and plant management

**To contact Scott:** +971 4 441 2031 or [sl@adglegal.com](mailto:sl@adglegal.com)

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## ABDULRAHMAN JUNAID

**PARTNER**

Abdulrahman Junaid is a Partner in ADG LEGAL Dubai office. As an Emirati lawyer, Abdulrahman is qualified to appear and advocate before the UAE courts.

Abdulrahman graduated in Law at Al Jazeera University, Dubai. Prior to joining ADG Legal, Abdulrahman served in the Dubai Courts as a judge's clerk for 2 years and as a Public Notary for 3 years, where he built up a strong network of local contacts. Since joining the Firm, Abdulrahman has excelled in the areas of Family Law and Litigation, providing clients with practical support, advice and guidance.

The Firm was delighted to promote Abdulrahman to Head of Family Law at the beginning of 2020, in recognition of his sound reputation in the local market.

A native Arabic speaker, Abdulrahman is also highly proficient in both spoken and written English and has represented the firm at international events, such as the IBA.

In 2019, Abdulrahman participated in a campaign for the UAE Youth Board and also assisted Co-Managing Partner Mohammed Al Dahbashi in his campaign for the Federal National Council.

Abdulrahman frequently attends at the Dubai Judicial Institute to ensure the most up-to-date knowledge of the UAE legal system's processes, publishing articles through Al Dahbashi Gray to inform our clients and the local community of the key changes in a way that is accessible for those not engaged in legal work.

**To contact Abdulrahman:** +971 4 441 2031 or [aj@adglegal.com](mailto:aj@adglegal.com)  
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## JOHN PODGORE

### PARTNER

John Eric Podgore heads our Transactional Practice Team based in Dubai. He has more than twenty years of experience in both private practice and general counsel roles, with over a decade practicing in the GCC. John is a product of big Western law firms – having come to Dubai in 2005 to open the office of a major US law firm (Akin Gump) – and he has been partner in US and British law firms in the Middle East over the years.

John advises on a wide range of transactional matters, with a particular focus on the energy and infrastructure sectors in the Middle East, Africa, Russia and the CIS. He has traditionally advised on many diverse upstream oil and gas issues in frontier markets, including negotiating the first production sharing agreement in the Republic of Malawi and resolving high-stakes Development and Production Service Contract issues at Iraq's Ministry of Oil headquarters in Baghdad. He also advises on all aspects of the development of major infrastructure projects from conventional/renewable power-generation, to midstream/downstream oil and gas -- to transportation/logistics infrastructure. He is increasingly advising clients on the intersection of the Energy Transition/Decarbonization, technology (blockchain, AI, IoT, etc.) and venture capital.

John is also experienced in navigating issues of political risk associated with transactions in frontier and emerging markets, including leveraging the capabilities of international financial institutions and export credit agencies. He filed the first-ever successful 'lender' claim under a major lender's political risk insurance policy with the US Development Finance Corporation (formerly known as the U.S. Overseas Private Investment Corporation), in relation to a frontier market power plant.

John routinely advises on complex cross-border transactions that involve particularly difficult situations/jurisdictions/parties, and he frequently bridges linguistic and cultural barriers to negotiate and document effective joint ventures, infrastructure projects and high-value commercial arrangements.

In addition to native fluency in English, John is fluent in Arabic, French and Russian.

John specialises in:

- Energy
- Oil and Gas
- Infrastructure

**To contact John:** +971 4 441 2031 or [jp@adglegal.com](mailto:jp@adglegal.com)

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## PAUL BUGINGO

**PARTNER**

Paul Bugingo is an attorney who specializes in energy and infrastructure with over 22 years of experience advising on projects throughout Africa.

He has provided guidance to a diverse range of clients including governments, utilities, regulators, multilateral organizations, and private companies in relation to projects in various countries such as Kenya, Uganda, South Sudan, Rwanda, Somaliland, Djibouti, Nigeria, Ghana, South Africa, Botswana, Lesotho, and Swaziland.

Paul's extensive experience covers multiple industries such as oil and gas, electricity, mining and natural resources, airports, ports, water and wastewater, and hotels and leisure. His expertise includes advising on various aspects of project development such as regulation, restructuring, and privatization, as well as joint ventures, acquisitions, and disposals.

Paul received his Law Degree from the University of Reading in the UK and qualified as a Solicitor in 1995.

Paul specialises in:

- Energy
- Oil and gas
- Infrastructure

**To contact Paul:** +971 4 441 2031 or [pb@adglegal.com](mailto:pb@adglegal.com)  
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## FRANCESCO BULLERI

### PARTNER

Francesco is a Partner at ADG Legal and has extensive experience in corporate, commercial and contract law, as well as a broad range of related real estate matters. Prior to joining ADG Legal, Francesco worked on projects across a number of regions (including the EU, UK, Middle East, Africa, LATAM, and APAC), drafting and negotiating a wide range of different contract types for domestic and crossborder transactions in various industries.

Having graduated with full marks in Law from LUISS University of Rome, Francesco started his career in the corporate department of BonelliErede (Top-Tier 1 and Italy's largest law firm). He later moved in-house, first at Gucci (luxury fashion company) and then Axitea (global physical and cyber security provider), before relocating to Dubai. During his time in-house, Francesco worked closely with shareholders, directors, CFOs, COOs and other key stakeholders. The knowledge, experience, and insight gained allowed him to become familiar with the underlying dynamics of companies and their legal departments and, thus, to fully understand clients' perspectives and needs.

Francesco's local-to-global expertise has been recognised through regular invitations to speak at conferences, including those organised by leading consultancy firms and the Italian Chamber of Commerce in Dubai. He has also been approached by the London Business School to offer his corporate law knowledge as a mentor for startups in the MENA region.

Outside of the workplace, Francesco is involved with several esteemed international organisations, including the Rotary Club of Dubai where he is a board member and holds the distinguished Fellowship Chair.

He is also a longstanding member and current Censor at the Lions Club Universitario Roma Parioli, as well as the founder and Chapter Leader of the Dubai LUISS Alumni Network.

Throughout his career, Francesco has remained committed to volunteering time to undertake pro-bono activities, offering his legal advice at, among others, the Holy Trinity Church in Oud Metha, in Dubai.

A native Italian speaker and fluent in English, Francesco also has a good command of Spanish.

Francesco specialises in:

- Advice and legal opinions in corporate and commercial matters
- Corporate structuring and restructuring
- Mergers and acquisitions
- Joint ventures
- Drafting and negotiation of commercial contracts and shareholders agreements
- Corporate governance

**To contact Francesco:** +971 4 441 2031 or [fb@adglegal.com](mailto:fb@adglegal.com)  
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A person is walking away from the camera through a vast desert of sand dunes. The dunes are characterized by fine, rhythmic ripples in the sand. The scene is bathed in a warm, golden light, suggesting either sunrise or sunset. Overlaid on the image are several semi-transparent geometric shapes: a large triangle on the left side and a series of curved lines and arcs on the right side. The overall mood is one of solitude and exploration.

# PRACTICE AREAS





## CORPORATE AND COMMERCIAL

**We provide bespoke local and international advice for onshore and offshore companies, partnerships, sole traders and free zones.**

Whether our clients want to enter, operate or evolve within the UAE market or beyond, our strong industry and sector knowledge, combined with local expertise and international experience, means that we provide robust and commercially attuned advice.

Our Corporate and Commercial Team is experienced in drafting and negotiating commercial transactions, implementing corporate structuring and restructuring/reorganisation deals and assisting with all aspects of corporate governance.

As business models evolve away from the more traditional structures at a fast pace, our vast experience benefits our clients in the negotiation and implementation of mergers and acquisitions and general transactional work.







## DISPUTE RESOLUTION

**Our Dispute Resolution Team is committed to resolving disputes (regional and international), most efficiently and practically, whether it be through litigation, arbitration or other forms of alternative dispute resolution.**

Our team of advocates have rights of audience before all UAE courts (including the DIFC Court), free zone authorities and tribunals. For our clients with international disputes, we have worked hard to build a bespoke network of leading firms and individuals in numerous other jurisdictions. Accordingly, we can provide a seamless service for all our clients, regardless of jurisdiction.

We advise on all types of disputes including civil, commercial, real estate, employment, financial, intellectual property, product liability and criminal disputes.

# FINANCIAL CRIME AND INVESTIGATIONS

**Clients with any concerns regarding fraud and dishonesty-related issues can have full confidence in ADG Legal.**

From money laundering regulations and offences, terrorist financing, insider dealing, market abuse to bribery and corruption, we have the capability to assist with internal investigations, forensic and criminal investigations, as well as police and public prosecution of criminal matters. We also have particular expertise in obtaining and defending applications for freezing orders in local and foreign jurisdictions.

Our in-depth understanding of the regulatory environment and of regulatory bodies in the UAE and the MENA region is second to none. We offer the support that businesses (and individuals) may need in managing stakeholders, law enforcement, regulators and adverse parties. We strengthen our formidable teams by also calling on our trusted network of external advisors and consultants, such as forensic auditing firms and specialists in fraud investigations and asset tracing. Members of our team are often asked to speak at international conferences and events on this subject.





## PRIVATE CLIENT

Dubai's wealth is founded upon the family business, both Emirati and international. The city's phenomenal growth has led to it now holding over \$500 billion of private wealth. There are some 30,000 dollar millionaires, hailing from every country in the world and across almost every industry sector. The attraction is not just the low tax regime, but the security, lifestyle, and networking opportunities that exist.

We are proud to represent some of those families, from long-established Emirati businesses to newly arrived entrepreneurs.

We help people in setting up their new life in the UAE and we help those who have never known anywhere else as home.

Within the UAE, many family businesses are currently undergoing generational transitions and the associated significant structural transformation. Those who have arrived more recently also want to ensure that their structures are private, allow for succession planning and are tax-efficient.

We provide our clients with the full range of services needed to ensure successful evolution and protection of their business interests, often working with partner firms from overseas, including firms in offshore jurisdictions (Jersey, Guernsey, Cayman, and so on) and those from established onshore wealth centres, including London, Geneva, Moscow, and New York.

Our family business law offering includes devising formal legal structures and corporate restructuring that accommodates family transitions. We also ensure we manage risks and allow for clear set future family stewardship and sustained growth. For Muslims, we ensure their structures are Sharia-compliant, while for non-Muslims, we guide them on the options available for different rules to apply to their situation.

# CONSTRUCTION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

**ADG Legal's Construction and Infrastructure Team has considerable experience across all industry sectors, including medium to large-sized residential developments, large-scale commercial projects, public infrastructure and highly complex facilities in the energy and resources sectors.**

Our construction and infrastructure projects cross multiple jurisdictions, including the UAE and the DIFC. We have significant experience in East and North Africa and Europe (including the UK).

Our experienced team provides sector-specific advice on all aspects of construction finance, negotiates and drafts bespoke contracts and advises on all the major standard form contracts in the residential, commercial, infrastructure and resources sectors.





## EMPLOYMENT LAW

**Clients requiring advice on a wide range of employee relations matters are well-served by ADG Legal's Employment Team.**

Acting for both employers and employees, the team's work includes developing employment contracts and policy handbooks, immigration and residency law, benefits and incentive schemes and compliance with UAE Ministry of Labour regulations.

Where employment issues arise relating to corporate restructurings, such as termination and design of redundancy programs, our team can assist. They can also provide expert advice on workplace dispute management and resolution and other HR issues including discrimination and disciplinary matters.

## CRIMINAL LAW

**When faced with a criminal charge in the UAE, clients are reassured that the ADG Legal team has extensive experience in defending all aspects of criminal law in the UAE.**

Whether a UAE or foreign national, we protect our clients' interests and rights, guiding them through this understandably difficult time with compassion, understanding and sensitivity.

We have experience in relation to breach of trust, bounced cheques, fraud, bribery, financial crimes and all criminal offences in general.

As one client recently commented, having been released from custody after being wrongfully imprisoned, *"the ADG Legal team stayed at the police station until I was released at 10.30 pm on a Thursday night. There are not many other lawyers who would show such support for their client"*.







## REAL ESTATE

**The ADG Legal's Real Estate Team advises on all aspects, including UAE land acquisition and asset management.**

Our services encompass purchasing, sales, development and leasing. The team works closely with our Construction and Infrastructure Team and our Dispute Resolution Team, which handle property dispute resolution and court litigation.



## PRIVATE EQUITY

**We advise our private equity clients on the ideal structural formation and operation of funds in light of the UAE regulations and practices and assist with the successful execution of deals by providing for the legislative needs of financial investors.**

We use our local industry knowledge and know-how of international best practices to design structures for PE transactions, including buyouts and growth capital transactions.

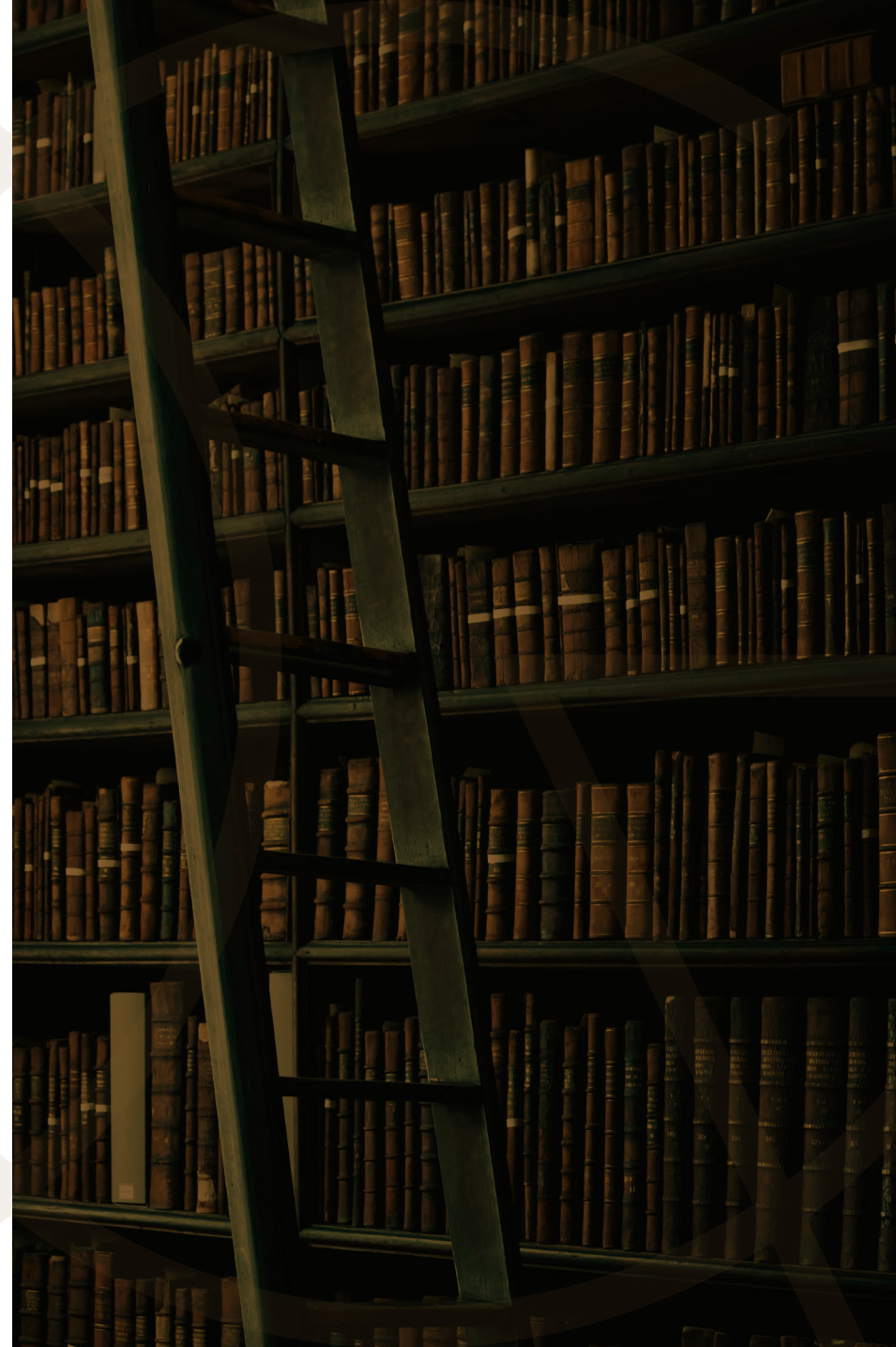
## AFRICA PRACTICE

**Many of our lawyers are African, and most have extensive experience in the continent.**

Thanks to its excellent transport links and business environment, Dubai is a hub for many African-focussed businesses. A significant part of the continent is only 4 hours from Dubai with the most distant locations less than 10 hours by air. As such, we frequently travel to, and around, the continent. Indeed, our lawyers visit the continent annually on average twenty times or more and frequent regions including Somalia and Somaliland, as well as Ghana, Uganda and Zambia.

We are regularly asked to advise on Africa-related matters by governments, companies and individuals. We work both with international firms, for sector advice, and with leading local firms across the continent. Our mandates have varied from a \$1m gold dispute to a \$300m new ports project.

In many cases, a focus on black letter law is not the answer. Most clients want to avoid any court, let alone a local one. Rather, we take a practical approach to getting things done - leveraging our relationships both to create new investment opportunities and seeking to resolve disputes in existing ones.





## GENERAL SERVICES

### GOVERNMENT REGULATION

We keep track of the latest governmental laws and regulations that impact the market, so that our clients are kept fully informed. Our lawyers also assist and advise various government sectors and authorities in passing laws and regulations.

### JEBEL ALI FREE ZONE (JAFZA) REGISTERED AGENT

As a JAFZA Registered Agent, we carry out the full service of setting up offshore companies within the jurisdiction of JAFZA and act as the Registered Agent for such companies, ensuring that they are in line with the relevant legislation and regulations. We also advise our clients on how to best utilise their offshore company to maximise their interests, such as parking excess liquidity, establishing an offshore bank account in Dubai, formation of Special Purpose Vehicles (SPV) and setting up representative/branch offices in the UAE.

### TRADEMARKS AND REGISTRATION

We guide our clients on all aspects of brand protection and UAE trademark laws. We are registered with the Trademark Office of the Ministry of Economy in the UAE giving us the capability to assist our clients with filing trademark applications for examination by the authorities and assisting throughout the entire trademark registration procedure. In the event of opposition, our team handles the necessary appeal process.



## OFFICES

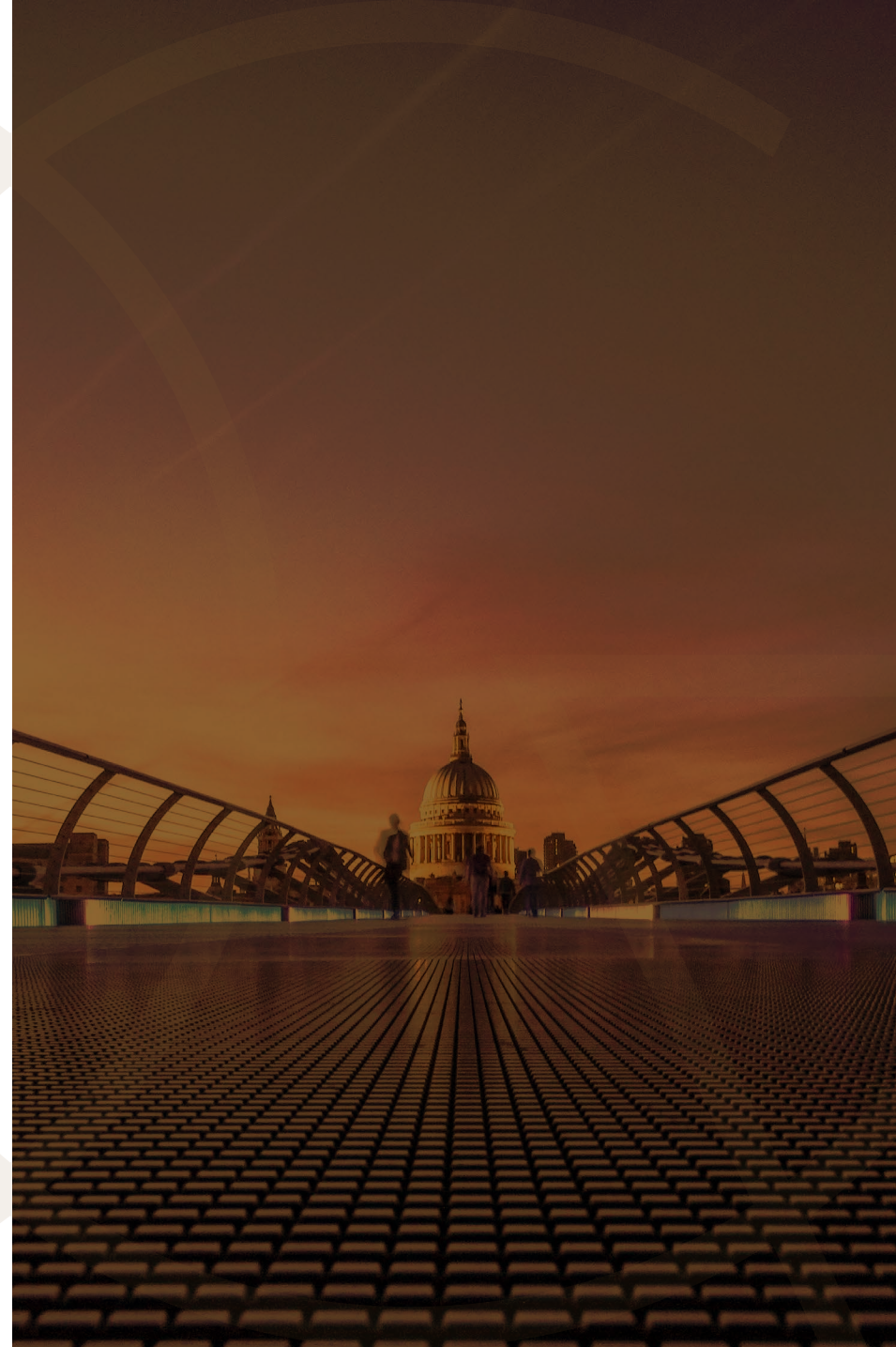
**From our headquarters in Dubai, ADG Legal is perfectly placed to offer comprehensive legal services to clients in the UAE, The Middle East and Africa.**

Beyond the UAE, we are also one of the only UAE law firms to have a dedicated representative London office, from which we can specifically service European clients and give them immediate access to UAE expertise within their own time zone and working week. Our London office in St James' is not a regulated solicitors' firm and if clients require local regulated services, our team works closely with carefully selected partner firms and individuals.

We have also recently extended our practice to Egypt with Ahmed Ragab AlKotby Law Firm. With a full disputes team, we are delighted to now provide all our clients with specialist and expert Egyptian law advice and guidance directly from Alexandria, Egypt.

Our global offices work seamlessly together, and with our network of bespoke global partners, to provide both UAE legal assistance to international clients, and international assistance to local clients.

We are committed to growing the ADG Legal team. We are in talks with various potential partners and will soon announce new offices.



## OUR CLIENTS

**Our clients include local and multinational corporations, governments and high net-worth individuals. We offer the unique advantage of having both local expertise and the strong backing of international lawyers and other professionals based in the region and abroad.**

Our lawyers have an established track record of servicing public and private clients in MENA and beyond. Recent highlights include:

- Governments and government representatives in Africa and the Gulf
- Financial Services – including regional banks, insurers and fund managers
- Oil and Gas – our lawyers have acted for state-owned oil and gas companies in North Africa, China and Sweden
- Industrial and Manufacturing – including construction companies, aluminium producers, desalination plant developers
- Private Clients - HNW and UHNW regional entrepreneurs
- UAE-based businesses

# OUR APPROACH

Our priority is our client's objective.

From the outset, we engage with clients to understand the real issues and discuss a realistic outcome.

We devise a strategy that is both targeted and cost-efficient, bringing together a team of skilled experts where necessary.

We avoid wide-sweeping investigations which are often aborted and are simply a waste of precious resources.







## LOCAL KNOWLEDGE

- We create bespoke teams of investigators, forensic accountants and local counsel when necessary. We are not constrained to a panel of the “usual suspects” – each client is unique and so is each team.
- We work hard to find and develop relationships with leading professionals across the globe. We extract better value due to these established relationships with them.
- We investigate “facts on the ground” in a targeted manner.

## STRATEGY FIRST

- Our strategic nous is our prime asset: we combine traditional and creative methods to form bespoke strategies that few can match. We consider all civil and criminal options, locally and abroad.
- Preservation of evidence is key – we prepare a targeted forensic report and prioritise the location of key assets.
- We can open communication channels with regulators, shareholders, investigators and all stakeholders to gain traction that may have seemed impossible.

## CONTROL OF COSTS

- We carry out targeted investigations, with defined parameters and a unified strategy, that addresses the legal, political, commercial and PR issues that arise.
- We discuss desired and likely outcomes with clients right from the outset and seek early, commercial resolutions by our innovative approach. We actively seek to control costs, with full visibility.
- Aware of the financial implications, we are always happy to consider alternative pricing. We are not wedded to the billable hour and provide our clients with regular status updates and costs forecasts.



## ADG LEGAL

### **Dubai**

ADG Legal Office 1401, 48 Burj Gate Tower,  
Sheikh Zayed Road, PO Box 413633, Dubai, UAE

[info@adglegal.com](mailto:info@adglegal.com) / +971 4 441 2031 / [adglegal.com](http://adglegal.com)

### **Abu Dhabi**

Al Sarab Tower, ADGM Square,  
Abu Dhabi, UAE

[info@adglegal.com](mailto:info@adglegal.com) / +971 4 441 2031 / [adglegal.com](http://adglegal.com)

### **London**

8 St James's Square  
London, SW1Y 4JU

[info@adglegal.com](mailto:info@adglegal.com) / +44 20 3858 0239 / [adglegal.com](http://adglegal.com)



### **Alexandria**

Behind 421 Horreya Road (Abu Qauir Street), Roushdy,  
P.O. Box 744 Markaz Al Haraka, Alexandria, Egypt

[info@adglegal.com](mailto:info@adglegal.com) / +20 3 522 4254 / [adglegal.com](http://adglegal.com)

### **Cairo**

6th - 42 Makram Obaid Street Nasr City Cairo, Egypt

[info@adglegal.com](mailto:info@adglegal.com) / +20 222 755 836 / [adglegal.com](http://adglegal.com)

