



## How lawyers are ranked

Every year we carry out many thousands of in-depth interviews with clients in order to assess the reputations and expertise of business lawyers worldwide. The qualities we look for (and which determine rankings) include technical legal ability, professional conduct, client service, commercial awareness/astuteness, diligence, commitment, and other qualities most valued by the client.

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## CORPORATE/COMMERCIAL

### Corporate/Commercial

#### Leading Firms

##### Band 1

Ghellal & Mekerba

##### Band 2

Cabinet D'Avocats Samir Hamouda

Chemloul & Associés\*

Hamza Law Office

Law Office of Yamina Kebir

##### Band 3

Aidoud Law Firm

Bourabiat Associés

Cabinet Haroun & Associés

Cabinet Sator

Cabinet Tabet

#### Leading Individuals

##### Band 1

Mekerba Sid Ahmed - Ghellal & Mekerba

##### Band 2

Aidoud Mamoun - Aidoud Law Firm

Chemloul Mohammed - Chemloul & Associés

Ghellal Amine - Ghellal & Mekerba

Hamouda Samir - Cabinet D'Avocats Samir Hamouda

Hamza Mustapha - Hamza Law Office

Kebir Yamina - Law Office of Yamina Kebir

Sator Mohamed - Cabinet Sator

##### Band 3

Tabet Lamine - Cabinet Tabet

\* Indicates firm with profile.

Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

### Band 1

#### Ghellal & Mekerba

This established firm is recognised for its important activity in the most significant corporate and commercial mandates in Algeria. Sources draw attention to its impressive and long-standing expertise on oil and gas matters and go on to praise its "broad competence" on contentious matters. It regularly collaborates with international law firms who benefit from its expert advice. The team has experience representing clients from a range of specialist sectors. **Sid Ahmed Mekerba** is a prominent figure in the Algerian legal world. Commentators single out his enviable knowledge of hydrocarbons-related legal issues. He is also noted for his experience of financial law mandates. Founding partner **Amine Ghellal** is a highly experienced practitioner who has particular expertise in the contentious sphere. He is regularly sought after as arbitrator before both the Algerian Chamber of Trade & Industry and the ICC.

### Band 2

#### Cabinet D'Avocats Samir Hamouda

This firm enjoys a solid reputation for its generalist practice which covers corporate, commercial and banking law. It has experience representing clients in foreign investment matters and frequently advises international firms operating in Algeria. **Samir Hamouda** is the founding partner of the firm. He is well respected for his experience working with PwC in Algeria, and is described as a "very well-known" practitioner by interviewees.

#### Chemloul & Associés

See profile on p.369

Sources highlight the team for its robust corporate and commercial practice. It has noted expertise of project finance matters and is frequently sought after as counsel by international companies setting up operations in Algeria. Sources also mention its strength on contentious matters, highlighting its regular appearances on ICC arbitrations. **Mohammed Chemloul** is noted for his visibility in both general commercial matters and arbitration.

#### Hamza Law Office

This firm impresses sources for its frequent market involvement and its enviable client roster. Sources say: "It is well known for banking," going on to highlight its depth of experience and significant mandates in this area. The team has a strong background representing clients in the oil and gas and energy sectors. **Mustapha Hamza** is a "very well-known" lawyer with an exceptional reputation for financing work. Clients say: "He is far and away one of the best international finance lawyers I have run into." They add: "He is clearly one of the market leaders in Algiers for financing."

#### Law Office of Yamina Kebir

Commentators confirm this office's long-standing reputation for its generalist corporate and commercial practice. The practice has noteworthy experience of employment and construction-related matters, as well as litigation. Managing partner **Yamina Kebir** is a well-recognised local practitioner with experience acting for local and international clients on corporate, employment and contentious issues.

### Band 3

#### Aidoud Law Firm

This well-known practice has a background in representing both local and international clients in a variety of business law, commercial, employment and contentious matters. It

is also retained as local counsel for international. Founding partner **Mamoun Aidoud** is a well-recognized practitioner in this market with experience of IP, banking and mining law, as well as employment and dispute resolution.

#### Bourabiat Associés

This new entry to the rankings enjoys a growing reputation for its presence on transactional matters in Algeria, praised by clients for its responsiveness. The firm's team advises on banking, financial and investment matters, as well as regulatory advice and dispute resolution. **Foued Bourabiat** represents several notable international clients and is a partner on a joint venture with the Algerian railway company SNTE. **Foued Bourabiat** is a partner and key contact.

#### Cabinet Haroun & Associés

This historic firm is a widely recognised player in the Algerian legal market. Its commercial and corporate practice focuses on foreign investment in Algeria and employment, as well as a range of business law areas including IP and energy. Sources also point out its capacities in the field of arbitration. **Ali Haroun** is the key contact at the firm.

#### Cabinet Sator

This well-known firm garners respect for the strength of its contentious practice, as well as its distinct expertise in advisory work. It is well equipped to handle advisory work in addition to commercial law. **Mohamed Sator** is the managing partner and is widely recognised for his specialist IP knowledge.

#### Cabinet Tabet

This newly ranked firm draws impressive comments from clients who praise the team's well-informed and practical advice in a range of legal domains. Its generalist law practice includes both contentious and advisory work, including corporate, employment and many other areas. It acts as local counsel for international firms and has a number of significant international players in the oil, pharmaceutical and technology sectors amongst its clients. Key partner **Lamine Tabet** is described as "very active and really reliable." Sources highlight his expertise in oil and gas-related matters. Another comments that "he has a clear view of the risk of each and every situation to make the right decision - frankly, he's someone who is comfortable and at ease."

# CHEMLOUL & ASSOCIÉS

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## Firm Overview:

Chemloul & Associés was founded by partner Mohammed Chemloul, a long-standing member of the ICC Court of International Arbitration and a founding member of the Algerian national committee (former Vice President). He has had a distinguished career at Sonatrach, a global leader in the oil and gas industry, as well as in renewable energy technologies. He was the Secretary General from 1993 to 2000, Special Advisor to the President until 2001 and was the Legal Director of Sonatrach. He is former Vice President of the Court (ICC) from 2009 to June 2015 and member of the Council of the Institute.

## Main Areas of Practice:

The firm operates in the following practice areas: legal assistance and advice; engineering contracts negotiations; oil and hydrocarbons law; arbitration; infrastructure and construction; major public contracts; property law; franchise and hostelry transfer law; shipping law; banking law; environmental law; corporate law; social and industrial relations law; investments and privatisations; assets transfer; capital repurchases; and the cinema and cinematographic industry.

## PRACTICE AREAS

Arbitration  
 Banking  
 Corporate  
 Cinema & Cinematographic Industry  
 Engineering Contracts Negotiations  
 Environmental  
 Franchise & Hostelry Transfer  
 Infrastructure & Construction  
 Investments & Privatisations: Assets Transfer, Capital Repurchases  
 Legal Assistance & Advice  
 Major Public Contracts  
 Oil & Hydrocarbons  
 Property  
 Shipping  
 Social & Industrial Relations

## OFFICES

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