

## Manos Mastromanolis



Manos is the lead partner in our specialist Bankruptcy and Restructuring practice and Special Counsel strategic to our Foreign Direct Investment sectoral team, Corporate, M&A, and Antitrust & Competition practices. Manos is a leading authority in Greece in a variety of fields, including FDI, bankruptcy, corporate law, corporate transformations law and competition law. He is a tenured assistant professor at the University of Athens and a former senior legal advisor to the Greek Prime Minister. He combines an academic's knowledge of how law is conceived and refined with practical expertise in applying it in the largest deals and cases.

Manos has enjoyed a long, diverse and distinguished career in law and brings to LLF a wealth of commercial, academic and government experience across a number of specialist areas. This multi-dimensional legal experience means that Manos has an unusually deep understanding of his fields that cuts across many of LLF's practice areas and sectors. His expertise on large-scale State projects, including mining, energy, real estate, port infrastructure, financial services, and projects under Law 4864/2021 on Strategic Investments, which provides a range of finance, tax and licensing incentives for projects deemed to meet a threshold of national or regional importance.

Most recently, Manos served as head of the Legal Office of the Greek Prime Minister, where he coordinated complex legal transactions on behalf of the Greek state. In this government role, Manos oversaw a number of major transactions including Canadian Mining Company Eldorado Gold's €1.9 billion investment agreement with the Greek State, the largest foreign direct investment into Greece in the past 20 years. He was also instrumental in the new Piraeus Port Authority agreement and worked on the OPAP (the leading gaming company in Greece) concession agreements with the Greek State. He then became General Secretary for Tax Policy and Public Property, with responsibility for tax policy and public property matters including tax legislation for corporate mergers, divisions and spin offs; compliance with the tax and public property-related requirements set by EU institutions; and, legislative reforms regarding contested public property and seashore properties.

For more 20 years up until 2019, Manos was a senior partner at one of Athens' leading law firms, heading up the Competition and Antitrust and Insolvency and Restructuring practices. He advised on numerous high-profile and large-scale transactions and represented clients before both the Hellenic Competition Commission and the EU Commission. Manos played a key role in teams advising major clients on M&A and privatization projects, and bankruptcy and pre-bankruptcy proceedings, including set off, net off, civil liability and cross-border insolvencies. He also participated in several arbitrations as party counsel.

Alongside his corporate law career, Manos is a tenured assistant professor of Commercial Law at the University of Athens, where he teaches in both undergraduate and graduate programs. He has published extensively and is a highly respected speaker in both national and international legal fora. He is also the national reporter for the Global Competition Litigation Review (Thomson Reuters) and a committee member for the Enterprise and Company Law Review.

When in practice, Manos has been ranked in all the publications including Chambers and Legal 500 as an expert in various fields of Law.

## Bankruptcy & Restructuring

(Past) Representative work includes

- Advising non-Greek bondholders as major creditors of a Greek-listed jewellery company in its negotiations aiming at its restructuring under the Greek bankruptcy code
- Filing for bankruptcy relief on behalf of the Greek subsidiary of a German tour operator
- Advising credit institutions on the enforceability of their rights under financial collateral/swap/netting agreements in the context of bankruptcies of their counterparties
- Advising major airlines on the implications of their set off arrangements with credit card issuers
- Representing the Greek representative office of an EU construction company in a trial for the initiation of secondary bankruptcy proceeding under EU insolvency regulations

## M&A

- Advising a major German wholesaler on the divestment of its Greek operations
- Representing a French cosmetics producer in the acquisition and structuring of a local producer of cosmetics
- Supervising due diligence for the \$2 billion takeover by an international confectionary group of a Greek-based snack producer

## Antitrust & Competition

- Representing a Dutch dredging company and a French construction group in a construction cartel case before the HCC
- Framing the strategy of a soft-drinks producer in an anti-competition action against a major competitor
- Filing numerous merger notifications before the HCC and the EU Commission on behalf of major industries
- Defending clients before the HCC, as well as before administrative courts (Court of Appeals, Council of State), for their alleged involvement in antitrust infringements
- Advising international groups of companies for antitrust compliance on a daily basis

## Memberships

- Athens Bar Association
- ASCOLA – Academic Society for Competition Law
- OECD working groups on Competition and Regulation, Cooperation and Enforcement, Debt Management
- Greek Commercial Law Association

# Languages

- Greek (Fluent)
- English (Fluent)
- French (Fluent)
- German (Basic understanding)

# Qualifications

- PhD/SJD (Doctor of Juridical Science) University of Pennsylvania Law School (1994)
- LL.M Master of Laws, University of Pennsylvania law School (1989)
- LL.B University of Athens Law School (1988)