

Kostas Botopoulos



Kostas Botopoulos leads our highly regarded Capital Markets practice and is himself one of the leading figures in this area in Greece. Having served as the chair of the Hellenic Capital Markets Commission (HCMC) for four years until 2015 and legal advisor to the Bank of Greece for over 17 years, his experience and expertise in this area are without rival.

During his time as chairman of the HCMC, Kostas developed a detailed understanding of the regulatory frameworks governing capital markets, both here in Greece and across Europe. He has played a leading role in many complex and groundbreaking equity capital markets transactions, insider-trading cases, buyouts, cross-border listings, market-abuse cases, disclosure and compliance requirements and regulatory matters.

Kostas also advises on complex issues related to banking regulation, having served both lenders and the regulator for many years. His experience gives our team a unique advantage in tackling matters involving sophisticated financing structures, engagement with State bodies and regulatory oversight.

Capital Markets

As the leader of our Capital Markets practice and a former chair of the Hellenic Capital Markets Commission, Kostas has unparalleled experience and expertise in helping clients to develop and execute complex strategies through the capital markets. He has advised companies on a wide range of activities including IPOs, listings and delistings, migrations between different stock exchanges, and on engagement and compliance with Greek and EU regulatory bodies.

Notable Capital Markets cases

- Advising the **HRADF** (Hellenic Republic Asset Development Fund) for the sale of 5% of the Hellenic Telecommunications Organization (OTE) to Deutsche Telecom for €280m, as part of the privatization program of the Hellenic Republic.
- Advised **Epsilon Net** on migrating from the secondary ATHEX market to the main market of the Athens Stock Exchange.
- Advising **Piraeus Bank** on internal governance, audit committee, loan restructuring issues.
- Advising on over-the-counter majority share-transfer of listed company Kriton Artos to **SwitzGroup Europe Limited** and on the subsequent share building and squeeze out of remaining shareholders followed by the delisting of the company from the ATHEX.

- Advised **BriQ REIC** on company set-up and IPO to Athens Stock Exchange.
- Completed the due diligence on **BriQ REIC** to be listed on the Athens Stock exchange for the purposes of the prospectus to be filed with the Hellenic Capital Markets Commission for the listing of the shares. We acted for Eurobank on this matter.
- Appointed by **Alpha Bank** capital markets to advise the bank on the delisting of a major software company from the small-cap market and the relisting on the major index of the Athens Stock Exchange.
- Advised **Credit Suisse** on regulatory issues faced by the bank due to Brexit and how the bank should continue providing its services in Greece post Brexit.

Banking & Finance

Alongside his work in capital markets, Kostas is an important member of our Banking & Finance team, advising a wide range of clients on complex issues relating to Greek and EU banking regulation, particularly around the emerging post-Brexit landscape and how this will affect banks and other parties.

Notable Banking & Finance cases

Regulatory & Bankruptcy / Insolvency

- Advising **Credit Suisse** on the potential impacts of Brexit on the way cross-border financial services are offered.
- Our team advised the executive management of a systemic bank on an ongoing investigation by the SSM (single supervisory mechanism) of the ECB supervision function.
- Advised **Credit Suisse** on regulatory issues faced by the bank due to Brexit and how the bank should continue providing its services in Greece post Brexit.

Memberships

- Athens Bar Association

Languages

- Greek
- English
- French
- Italian
- Spanish
- German

Qualifications

- Post-Graduate Diploma (DEA) in Public Law, University of Paris 1, Pantheon-Sorbonne
- PhD in Constitutional Law with Honors (Doctorat d'Etat), University of Paris 1, Pantheon-Sorbonne