

Our Team

Our team of professionals is the exclusive value of Verkhovodko & Partners law firm.

With creative thinking, high qualifications and great life and professional and life experience, they are united in one team which demonstrates the ability to solve the most complex and large scale tasks.

Here you can find brief information about our each lawyer, who is dedicated to be at your services.

Nina Knyazeva



Должность: Partner

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Region

Minsk

Degree

Master in Law

Education and Qualification

- 2012 Certified by the Institute for Retraining and Qualification Upgrading for Judges, Prosecutors and Legal Professionals at the Belarusian State University
- 2010-2012 The Academy of Public Administration under the aegis of the President of the Republic of Belarus (Minsk, Belarus) / LL.M
- 2002-2003 The George Washington University (Washington D.C., USA) / LL.M (International and Comparative Law)
- 1997-2002 Belarusian State University (Minsk, Belarus), Law Faculty / J.D.
- Kennedy's Law LLP (London Office), 5-week internship, Summer 2000

Professional

Practicing lawyer since 2003

Practice Expertise

Nina Knyazeva represents clients in domestic and cross border transactions with the focus on investment and international business transactions. Advises clients on a wide range of commercial issues, including: business-structuring, tax-planning, licensing, employment, foreign currency regulations, etc.

Nina provides comprehensive commercial contract support and legal due diligence for companies across sectors and involving multiple jurisdictions. Reviews and consults clients on matters arising out of corporate governance, including drafting and adjusting according to Belarusian laws code of ethics, non-disclosure agreements, anti-bribery and anti-corruption provisions of the agreements with the clients' suppliers and customers, employment agreements, etc. Expertise also covers representing clients under the disputes arising

in connection with execution, performance, termination and validity of contracts in Belarus and Russia.

Work Highlights:

- Legal supervision of Gazprom's investment project on construction of a multifunctional complex in Minsk;
- Comprehensive legal assistance to one of the leading manufacturers of wood based panels in Europe, in connection with the establishment and existence of its subsidiary in the Republic of Belarus, namely, rendering day-to-day legal advices and other related services on foreign currency regulations, labor law, civil law, real estate, tax and customs law, international business transactions, corporate matters, and on other issue arising during the course of business activities in the Republic of Belarus, including drafting and revising investment agreement with the Republic of Belarus for the project involving approximately EUR 150 MLN;
- Legal review and revision of the loan agreement and other related legal instruments for NLB InterFinanz AG, a Swiss financial company, conducting a legal due diligence of a Belarusian borrower;
- Conducting a legal due diligence of a national telecom operator under the assignment of a foreign bank in relation to the grant of a loan in the amount exceeding USD 11.5 MLN;
- Drafting agreements and other legal assistance to a Belarusian Internet Technologies Development company necessary for the launch and functioning of the website, offering innovative technologies for webcasting, creating a web call center, broadcasting webinars and training seminars, web conferencing and arranging other types of online business meetings;
- Consulting Inmarsat, an international satellite telecommunications company, regarding the legal environment for rendering satellite telecommunication services in Belarus;
- Successful representation of KONE, one of the largest global elevator producers, in the International Arbitration Court of Belarusian Chamber of Commerce and Industry under the claim of Minsk City Executive Committee seeking the collection of EURO 0.5 MLN as liquidated damages under an agreement for the supply of elevators for the National Library of the Republic of Belarus. As the result the claim was denied;
- Preparing a legal opinion for Russian and Ukrainian subsidiaries of McDonald's Corporation with respect to compensation of damages suffered during a cross border transportation of products;
- Advising Microsoft Corporation on the protection of intellectual property rights in Belarus and Russia;
- Analyzing agreements, preparing memorandums and legal opinions for Belavia National Airlines on the issues related to the purchase of aircrafts, as well as advising on a number of investment projects, including a cross border ones;
- Legal review and revision of agreements, as well as advising NEFCO (an international financial institution which finances investments and projects primarily in Eastern Europe) with respect to granting loans to Belarusian companies;
- Preparing a comprehensive memorandum for a transnational concern with respect to performing commercial activities related to installation, maintenance and repairs of gas-turbine units, consultations on installation and test-running of the equipment in question;
- Representing the Russian division of IBA in the International Arbitration Court of Belarusian Chamber of Commerce and Industry under the claim in connection with improper performance of the contractual obligations of the counterparty under a supply agreement;
- Drafting procedural documents and representing in Russian arbitration courts interests of Afin Leasing AG, an Austrian company and IVECO official dealer, in the lawsuits arising in connection with the lessee's improper performance of the leasing agreements and premature termination of the agreements in question;
- Legal supervision of the execution of the lease agreement by one of the largest multinational pharmaceutical corporation, including conducting the legal due diligence with respect to the premises, participating in the negotiation process and reviewing and revising the lease-related legal instruments.

Additional Information

- Member of Anglo-Russian Law Association, participant of many international conferences and author of numerous publications on energy efficiency in Belarus.
- For the past seven years has been assisting the World Bank in its annual surveys on Doing Business in Belarus.
- Participated in drafting legislative bills and conducting investment seminars in Sweden and Denmark.
- Certified to practice law by the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Belarus in 2008.

Languages

- Russian
- Belarusian
- English

Recommendations

IFLR1000 ranking for 2010 justly named Nina Knyazeva as one of the firm's «very bright associates».

Publications

Author of numerous publications on civil law and energy efficiency.

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