

CMS Romania consolidates its criminal law, finance and transactions practice with ten new hires. Mihai Jiganie Șerban and Alina Tihan join the CMS Bucharest office



CMS Romania is pleased to announce that **Mihai Jiganie Șerban** is joining CMS' Bucharest office from 1 January 2020, where he has been appointed as senior counsel in the criminal law team and head of the criminal law practice.

With over 14 years' legal experience, **Mihai Jiganie Șerban** specialises in criminal law, with significant experience advising on corruption, economic crimes, money laundering cases as well as accidents in the workplace. Mihai has advised national and international companies on legal-framework issues, internal investigations and representation before the state authorities. Throughout his career, he has successfully assisted and represented both individuals and national and international companies across a diverse range of industries, including; banking and finance, leasing, insurance, energy, civil and industrial constructions, oil and gas, media, and advertising, representing clients in front of all bodies of the Public Ministry and before the courts.

In addition, as of 2 December 2019, **Alina Tihan** rejoined CMS Romania's banking and finance team as senior counsel.

With over 20 years' legal experience, Alina has been involved in a wide range of complex transactions, both national and international, including financings, re-financings, restructurings of loans, and transfers of loan portfolios, assisting mainly credit institutions. Alina has also advised sponsors/lenders, investments funds, prominent real estate investors and developers, from Romania and the entire CEE region, as well as municipalities and higher education institutions in Romania. She has extensive and diversified finance experience including real estate financing, acquisition financing, trade finance for export-import activity, and financing in the agribusiness sector throughout Romania and the CEE region. In the financial-banking field, Alina has advised on regulations in the banking, capital markets and financial instruments sectors.

Additionally, eight new lawyers have also joined the CMS Romania team, including: associates **Livia Maria Purice** and **Alexandra Laura Pop**, and trainees **Loredana Barbu** and **Andrei Sbârnea** in Banking & Finance; trainees **Bianca Banașeanu** and **Eduard Roventa** in Corporate/M&A; associate **Cosmin Crețu** and trainee **Adrian Linca** in Commercial/Litigation.

Gabriel Sidere, *Managing Partner of CMS Romania*, comments: "This expansion of the CMS Romania team is part of our development strategy and relates to the continued increase in our activity in the Criminal Law, Banking & Finance and Transactions sectors. With Alina's return to the CMS banking and financial law team, Mihai Jiganie Șerban joining as head of our criminal law practice, and the eight other lawyers strengthening the CMS

Romania team, we continue to consolidate the position of our Bucharest office. We remain focused on the expansion of our teams in a number of strategic development areas and continue to invest in new and important practices. We are always on the lookout for talented lawyers who can help us to deliver the growth we have planned.”

CMS has been practicing in CEE for 30 years and active in Romania for over 20 years, where its Bucharest office is one of the largest international law firms in the country. As the fifth-largest law firm in the world, with 1,100 partners and over 4,800 lawyers in 41 countries, CMS is a dynamic organisation in continuous development. CMS’s strength lies not only in its size but also in its expertise and innovation, as well as the development of top practices in international sectors.