



LEADERS LEAGUE

presents



ADVOGADOS



Extract from the report
Litigation & Arbitration 2020-2021

CIVIL & COMMERCIAL LITIGATION

Best Law Firms

In each tier, the firms are ordered alphabetically

FIRM	KEY FIGURES
LEADING	
Linklaters	Nuno Ferreira Lousa, Ricardo Guimarães
Morais Leitão, Galvão Teles, Soares da Silva & Associados	António Pinto Leite, Filipe Vaz Pinto, Francisco Cortez, Rui Patrício
PLMJ	Joaquim Shearman de Macedo, Nuno Libano Monteiro, Rita Samoreno Gomes, João Tiago Morais Antunes
Uría Menéndez - Proença de Carvalho	Adriano Squillacce, Fernando Aguilar de Carvalho, Nuno Salazar Casanova, Tito Arantes Fontes
VdA	Frederico Gonçalves Pereira, Miguel Pinto Cardoso, Carla Gonçalves Borges
EXCELLENT	
Abreu Advogados	Alexandra Nascimento Correia, Guilherme Santos Silva, Teresa Brito da Silva
CMS Rui Pena & Arnaut	Miguel Esperança Pina, Nuno Pena, Rita Gouveia
Cuatrecasas	Frederico Bettencourt, Miguel de Almada
Sérvulo & Associados	João Saúde, Mafalda Ferreira Santos, António Teles
SRS Advogados	José Carlos Soares Machado, Maria José de Tavares, Natália Garcia Alves, José Jácome
HIGHLY RECOMMENDED	
Garrigues	João Duarte de Sousa, Miguel Azevedo
SLCM - Serra Lopes, Cortes Martins & Associados	Luís Miguel Cortes Martins, Maria Raquel Moreira
RECOMMENDED	
Albuquerque & Almeida Associados	Francisco Colaço
APTS - Alves Pereira, Teixeira de Sousa & Associados	José Alves Pereira
Campos Ferreira, Sá Carneiro & Associados	João Maria Pimentel
CCA Law Firm	Rita Cruz, Marta Duarte
DLA Piper	João Nuno Azevedo Neves, Vanessa Antunes
Gómez-Acebo & Pombo	Albano Sarmento, Ricardo Campos
Miranda & Associados	Sofia Martins
Raposo Bernardo & Associados	Nelson Raposo Bernardo, Joana Andrade Correia
Telles Advogados	André Navarro de Noronha
VALUABLE PRACTICE	
Caiado Guerreiro Sociedade de Advogado	João Caiado Guerreiro, Sandra Ferreira Dias
Cardigos	Pedro Moniz Lopes
FCB Sociedade de Advogados	Rui Tabarra e Castro
PBBR Associados	Sofia de Sales Sousinha
VCA - Valadas Coriel & Associados	João Valadas Coriel

ARBITRATION

Best Law Firms

In each tier, the firms are ordered alphabetically

FIRM	KEY FIGURES
LEADING	
Morais Leitão, Galvão Teles, Soares da Silva & Associados	António Pinto Leite
PLMJ	Pedro Metello de Nápoles, Joaquim Shearman de Macedo, Mariana França Gouveia
VdA	Frederico Gonçalves Pereira, Miguel Pinto Cardoso, Carla Gonçalves Borges
EXCELLENT	
Cuatrecasas	Frederico Bettencourt Ferreira, Miguel de Almada
Linklaters	Nuno Ferreira Lousa, Ricardo Guimarães
Miranda & Associados	Sofia Martins
Sérvulo & Associados	João Saúde, Rui Medeiros
Uría Menéndez - Proença de Carvalho	Fernando Aguilar de Carvalho, Tito Arantes Fontes
HIGHLY RECOMMENDED	
Campos Ferreira, Sá Carneiro & Associados	Rui Pinto Duarte
DLA Piper	Armindo Ribeiro Mendes, Sofia Ribiero Mendes
Serra Lopes, Cortes Martins & Associados	Luís Miguel Cortes Martins
SRS Advogados	José Carlos Soares Machado
RECOMMENDED	
Abreu Advogados	Guilherme Santos Silva
Raposo Bernardo & Associados	Nelson Raposo Bernardo, Joana Andrade Correia

 Top Advisors Directory
LAW FIRMS

 Country
PORTUGAL



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**José Carlos Soares
Machado**



José Jácome



**Regina Santos
Pereira**



Maria José de Tavares



Carla Neves Matias



Natália Garcia Alves

POSITIONING

SRS Advogados is a full-service, multi-practice law firm advising clients on all aspects of national and international law.

The Dispute Resolution Department is made up of a diverse team of dedicated and professional lawyers with varying areas of focus, who all work together in order to best identify, strategize and solve their clients' litigious problems.

Through the creation of SRS Global (Angola, Brazil, Macau, Malta, Mozambique, Portugal and Singapore), as well the creation of a strong network of international relationships with third parties, we aim to extend our experience, expertise and services globally so as to ensure that we can respond efficiently to complex issues with global implications.

OFFICES

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BUSINESS

- Arbitration & Mediation
- Competition & EU
- Corporate & Commercial
- Data Protection and Cybersecurity
- Dispute Resolution
- Employment & Social Security
- Energy
- Environment
- Finance
- Immigration & Golden Visa
- Insurance and Pensions
- Intellectual Property
- Life Sciences & Healthcare
- M&A
- Private Equity & Venture Capital
- Public Procurement
- Real Estate
- Startups
- Tax
- TMT
- Transport & Shipping
- White Collar Crime

CONTACTS

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Natália Garcia Alves, Partner

“A litigator should be a specialist in everything that involves a dispute”



Interview with

JOSÉ CARLOS SOARES MACHADO
Head of Dispute Resolution,
SRS ADVOGADOS

“The combined skills of presentation, argumentation, choosing evidence, and the delimitation of approach, method and strategy create a talented litigator”

Mr. Machado discusses the impact of Covid-19 on judicial activity in Portugal, the Portuguese dispute resolution landscape, and how Portugal can become more influential on the global arbitration stage.

LEADERS LEAGUE. How has the Covid-19 crisis affected judicial activity in Portugal?

José Carlos Soares Machado. The pandemic caused by Covid-19 has tremendously affected the whole world in all economic and social aspects; Portugal was no exception. The government had to quickly come out with several measures to combat and mitigate the impacts of the crisis. The legal field, including judicial and arbitral activity, were severely affected, since the lockdown measures that were imposed made the courts operate at a slower pace, only judging urgent cases and suspending every “non-urgent” proceeding.

Communications between courts and lawyers became almost non-existent, given the non-existence of trials (either face-to-face or remote). This has been the situation since March 2020; in fact, judicial activity only resumed in September last year. However, given the fact that the pandemic situation in Portugal has worsened exponentially, we have returned to the suspension of deadlines and all “non-urgent” proceedings without any forecast of when we will recommence activity.

What is the mostly widely used form of dispute resolution in Portugal?

In Portugal we can refer to three mechanisms: arbitration, mediation and judicial proceedings. Arbitration has increased in recent years both nationally and internationally. Mediation is not so common in Portugal. Judicial proceedings are still the most commonly used form of dispute resolution.

Is it beneficial for litigators to specialize in sectors?

In order to answer this question, it is important to first define what a “litigator” is and stress that the specialization of a “litigator” is litigation: the litigator should be a specialist in everything that involves a dispute, starting with how to present the dispute to the judge, the art of argumen-

tation, the choice in evidence, and the delimitation of approach, method and strategy. All these combined aspects create a talented litigator. On the other hand, it is obvious that greater experience in a specific legal area, due to handling various proceedings and having numerous interventions in similar cases, will give the litigator a valuable asset and advantage.

What, specifically, does Portugal need to do to become a more influential seat on the global arbitration stage?

I believe that domestic arbitration has significantly developed in recent years. International arbitration has the potential to develop substantially, since Lisbon can be considered an ideal location to host arbitrations. The country has seen an increased number of arbitrations in various areas of law.

As Portugal is the world centre of the Portuguese language, many lusophone countries with strong economies, including Brazil and others, are choosing Portugal as their jurisdiction as opposed to the more commonly seen countries such as the USA, the UK and France.

Portugal approved a new law in 2011 to update laws that were put into place over 25 years ago in order to remain relevant on the international stage. The country has a judicial system that is conducive to arbitrations and fully respects the deliberate choice of the parties in choosing arbitration as an alternative means of dispute resolution.

It is also important to emphasise that Portugal has been a member of the New York Convention since 1994, a member of the ICSID since 1965, and a party to more than 60 bilateral treaties, which increases Portugal’s credibility and respectability on the international arbitration scene. All these aspects lead me to believe that Portugal is investing more and maximizing its potential in order to become a more influential seat on the global arbitration stage. ♦