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AVOCAT

Salomé Lemasson

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Admitted to practice in Paris (France) and Berlin (Germany), and a Professional Associate at London-based Outer Temple Chambers, Salomé has extensive cross-border experience from her previous work at major US law firms (Gibson Dunn, Hogan Lovells). A seasoned and highly versatile lawyer, her practice focuses on representing companies and individuals in high-stakes matters involving international sanctions, fraud, corruption and money laundering. Salomé has deep substantive knowledge of various countries' legal systems and regulatory regimes.

Recognition & Memberships

Salomé Lemasson has been recognized by Leaders League's 2025 rankings in International Criminal Litigation and White Collar for France and Germany. As an active member of the European Criminal Bar Association (ECBA) and the Women in White Collar Defense Association (WWCDA), Salomé has developed a large network of trusted partners in most EU jurisdictions, in England and in the United States.

Sanctions

Salomé is particularly active in the field of sanctions. She regularly assists and represents individuals, organizations and major conglomerates in this area of law. Her recent work has seen her advising many companies about how sanctions imposed on Russia may affect their activities and managing matters relating to Myanmar and Central Africa. She also represents designated persons in their delisting application with the Council of the European Unions and other EU national competent authorities.

Multilateral Development Banks (MDB) Investigations

Salomé has strong expertise defending clients in investigations brought by MDBs. Her work in this area includes representing large industrial conglomerates targeted by parallel World Bank and African Development Bank investigations into alleged fraud and corruption related to infrastructure projects in West Africa, South-East Asia and the Indian Ocean. She has conducted negotiations with the European Investment Bank over allegations of corruption in West Africa and is adept at concluding settlements with MDBs for corporates.

Business Crime Defense

Her experience in contentious matters also allows her to provide insightful compliance and regulatory advice to international businesses. In particular, Salomé defended a major American digital company targeted by a preliminary investigation opened by the French National Financial Prosecutor's Office (PNF) for aggravated tax fraud and laundering of tax fraud, resulting in the first deferred prosecution agreement concluded in France on such offenses.

Representative Experience

1. International White Collar Crime

- Representation and assistance of a high net worth individual in connection with a €100 million fraud and money laundering judicial investigation between France, Germany, the United States and Turkey.
- Representation of a Malta-based private airline company on potential criminal and customs proceedings following seizure of company aircraft in connection with private transportation to sensitive countries and war zones.
- Secured the first €500,000,000 DPA for Google on counts of tax fraud and money laundering of tax fraud
- Representation of the first organizations and individuals to be affected by investigations into multinational tax fraud probe (Cum-Ex investigations).
- Representation and assistance of high-net-worth individuals to seek removal of Interpol Red Notices.

2. EU & International Sanctions

- Advised a major EU consulting company with respect to UN arms embargo and international sanctions.
- Advised and Represented a high net worth individual and his companies in relation to the EU sanctions regime applicable in Myanmar and subsequent delisting application requests with the Council of the European Union.
- Advised a major Cyprus-based law firm regarding the provision of legal and trust-related services following the imposition of EU sanctions against Russia.
- Advised an EU investment firm assess the impact of sanctions against Russia on its activities.
- Assisted and Represented a major raw materials industrial group in its interactions with the UK and EU regulators in connection with restrictive measures impacting its business activities.

3. Multilateral Development Banks Investigations

- Defense of a large EU biotechnology company in connection with a World Bank investigation into allegations of fraud and corruption in Africa.
- Defense of a large Turkish procurement manufacturer in connection with an investigation led by the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development in Ukraine
- Defense of a large industrial group in connection with parallel World Bank, African Development Bank and European Investment Bank investigations into alleged corruption and collusion in West Africa and South-East Asia
- Defense of a major French construction consortium in connection with World Bank investigations into alleged corruption and collusion in the Indian Ocean.

Representative Experience (Cont'd)

4. Compliance and Internal Investigations

- Assist a debarred Respondent with the implementation of an enhanced Integrity and Compliance Program under the aegis of the World Bank's Integrity and Compliance Officer (ICO)
- Conducted internal investigations for major car manufacturers indicted on counts of fraud in France, Germany, the US and South-Korea (Dieselgate).
- Represented a major French industrial and construction group in connection with a control by the French Anticorruption Agency (AFA)
- Advised various French and international companies with the implementation of their compliance programs under Sapin II (risk mapping, whistleblowing procedure, third party due diligence, training, etc.)
- Conducted a cross-border internal investigation for a leading pharmaceutical company with respect to its COVID-19 vaccine manufacturing process.
- Advised a major US pharmaceutical group in connection with the compliance and integrity review of post-acquisition distributors.

5. Harassment, Discrimination, Involuntary Offenses

- Advised a US university in connection with highly sensitive allegations of discrimination at their Paris campus.
- Advised major US law firms in connection with highly sensitive allegations of harassment (including sexual harassment) in their Paris office.
- Defense of a major railway infrastructure operator in connection with involuntary manslaughter prosecutions relating to railway crossing accidents.
- Defense of a CEO in a case of involuntary manslaughter following an industrial accident on a ship in a French overseas department.