

K&L Gates has a leading reputation based on its experience advising governments and regulators on reviews of legislation and the drafting of new legislative frameworks. In the Gulf Region, our lawyers have advised ministries and central banks on policy-making issues in connection with the introduction of new regulatory regimes and new economic free zones.

Our Middle East Team

Our legislative team members in the Middle East—supported by a larger global team—have distinguished themselves in the Gulf and internationally in regulatory and legislative drafting. We are committed to supporting governments both domestically and abroad by helping them to meet their legal and regulatory needs in pursuit of their objectives of economic, social, human, and environmental development.

We have an in-depth understanding of the laws of the Gulf countries and an ability to operate and deliver in both English and Arabic. A significant proportion of our Middle East legislative team includes fluent Arabic speakers.

K&L Gates has policy and regulatory lawyers around the world who have a deep understanding of legislative drafting worldwide.

Our history of working in the Gulf, our experience with respect to drafting legislation, and our knowledge of how legislative and regulatory reviews are conducted and implemented in various international jurisdictions makes us ideally placed to help our government clients devise a “best-in-class” legislative regime.

In addition, we are able to leverage the deep knowledge of lawyers from our global policy and regulatory team who have experience serving in government and senior policymaking around the world.

Our Middle East Legislative Experience

Key projects demonstrating our experience in the GCC and the Middle East include:

- Advising a Qatari government agency on the preparation and drafting of the legal and regulatory framework to establish economic zones in Qatar, including conducting a legal benchmarking comparative study of regional and international economic zones.
- Provided a government client with a draft law establishing a free zone and its regulator (authority) in the Gulf Region, including the powers and authorities delegated to the free zone authority and the rights conferred upon investors in the free zone.
- Provided a detailed review and analysis of the bylaws of a state entity to recommend changes that would be necessary in light of strategic government changes. This was a highly sensitive project which involved liaising directly with senior officials in the government and their advisors to ensure that the interests of all of the stakeholders were considered in preparing the revisions.
- Advised the Abu Dhabi Department of Economic Development on the reformation of UAE federal law in accordance with the Abu Dhabi 2030 initiative.

- Led the discussion, analysis, and benchmarking of the antitrust concepts and principles to be reflected in a Gulf country's competition law (compared with other jurisdictions and with the UNCITRAL model law), drafted the competition law and competition policy, discussed the draft law with stakeholders, and provided final draft to government.
- Conducted a full review of a Middle Eastern country's central bank law and associated rules, regulations, policies, and procedures.
- Reviewed the traffic and transportation laws and regulations (local and federal) in a Gulf country and advised the relevant transport authority on necessary amendments to existing laws and regulations and the scope of powers of relevant traffic related authorities.
- Carried out a due diligence and benchmarking exercise on behalf of the regulator of a free zone located in the Gulf to identify amendments required to existing patent laws to ensure they would reflect international best practice and global industry expectations.
- Conducted a major procurement review and preparation of standard form documentation for a Qatari government entity.
- Advised Tadawul, the Saudi Stock Exchange, in relation to an innovative equity derivative structure to facilitate foreign institutional investment.
- Advised Nasdaq Dubai in relation to its listing and trading rules.

Our Global Reach

K&L Gates delivers legal services on an integrated and global basis, with more than 2,000 lawyers located in offices across five continents.

Members of our public policy group join forces with our Global Government Solutions® initiative and together, provide a uniquely effective set of capabilities to help governments and clients around the world. Our Global Government Solutions initiative brings together lawyers from various practice disciplines located in fully integrated offices in the primary political,

commercial, and financial centers of North America, Europe, the Middle East, Asia, Australia, and South America, including 13 world capitals.

Our professionals have extensive public service credentials at the national, state, and local government levels. More than 500 lawyers and professionals have previously held positions in government worldwide. We provide clients with practical advice and seasoned judgments, based upon a deep knowledge of key decision-makers and government processes.

Client Service

K&L Gates is consistently recognized as a market leader in client service (2015 BTI Client Service 30 for the third consecutive year). The survey is part of BTI Consulting Group's larger "Client Service A-Team" report, which rates firms in nearly 20 unique activities that drive client relationships including breadth of services, innovative approach, value for money, and anticipating client needs.

Combined with our leading experience in the legislative drafting sector, we have built a high quality, global platform that delivers consistent, timely, cost-effective, and creative results to our government clients.

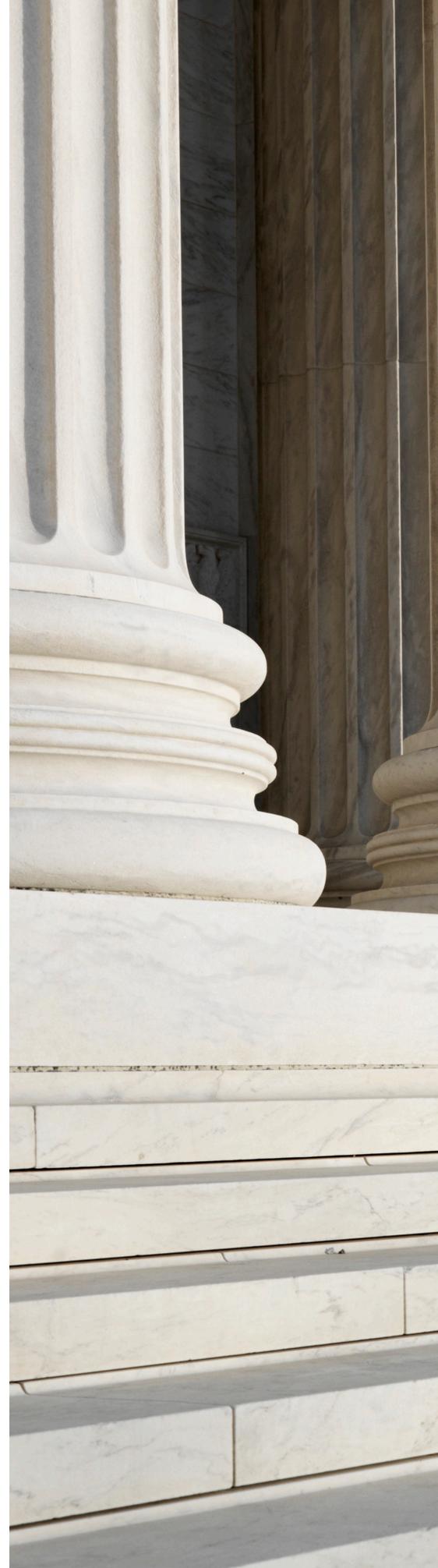
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