GARRIGUES



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Partner

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Corporate and M&A
Agribusiness and Food
Securities Markets

Miguel Ángel López Mateo is co-head of the Agribusiness area of Garrigues since the creation of the practice by the firm. As global co-director, he coordinates the food & drinks activity of all our national and international offices.

He has wide experience in M&A, leading teams in Spain, Portugal and in several Latam countries where he has advised a large number of transactions for the acquisition and for the divestment of companies and assets (such as farmland, warehouses, bottling plants, etc), carve-outs, LBOs and MBOs.

He usually works with national and international PE funds, advising private equity investors from the pre-investment stages of the projects, during the build-up, restructuring add-ons and portfolios and in all sort of exits, including secondary buy-outs.

Advising the day-to-day management of food companies, Miguel Ángel is one of the most reputed experts in areas such as Food Chain laws, and the reference advisor of national associations and federations such as FEPEX.

He is equity partner since 2018. Miguel Ángel studied at Universidad de Murcia, at University of London (PGC) and at UC Berkeley (LLM, with High Honors, being awarded "Best Oral Argument").

Experience

Miguel Ángel López Mateo advises multinational groups, private equity funds (LPs, GPs and targets) and some of the largest international asset managers mainly in their activities related to the food industry, to agribusiness and to natural resources, but also in areas closely linked to it (such as biotechnology, food logistic, chemical companies, food industry machinery manufacturers, etc).

In addition to his experience in mergers and acquisitions, private equity and project financing, he has unparalleled experience in real estate linked to agriculture, agribusiness and food industry plants, factories

and warehouses.

Miguel Ángel has advised many of the largest food companies in matters linked to food chain legislation and in their relationships with AICA, as well as several regional associations such as Ecohal, Coexphal, Proexport, Ailimpo, Apoexpa or Vitartis, among others, and some national federations such as FEPEX.

Having trained in the UK and the US, as well as in Germany, he has particularly strong ties with foreign clients, as well as with Spanish clients with a strong presence abroad.

He is regular speaker in the main events and seminars related to investments in food, drinks and agribusiness, and in the food sector regulation, such as the Legal Congress of Agrifood of the Madrid Bar Association, or in the World Agrifood Summit in the conferences broadcasted by the national TV studios RTVE.

He speaks English, Spanish, German and Chinese.

Academic background

- Law Degree, Universidad de Murcia. 2004.
- Postgraduate Certificate in Laws, University of London (Queen Mary and UCL program). Specialization in Common Law. Awarded with Merit. 2011.
- LLM, UC Berkeley School of Law, with a complete High Honors (HH) career path. 2015.
- Miguel Ángel received the Best Oral Argument award from UC Berkeley in 2015.

Teaching activity

He has been an associate lecturer at Universidad de Murcia (on the law degree and on the bilingual modules of the MBA course) from 2010 to 2018.

Memberships

Member of the Bar Association in Murcia and of the international Obligations Discussion Group (ODG).

Distinctions

Awarded with the Best Oral Argument recognition at UC Berkeley in 2015.

Legal500 mentions him as Practice Head for Food Industry, and he has been recognized by Best Lawyers since 2018.

Finalist of Young Jurist award in 2006 and of Forty under 40 of Iberian Lawyer, among others.

Publications

He has authored articles such as “Financial Assistance: analysis and critique of current law” (*), Parts I and Part II in Revista de Derecho Mercantil.

Miguel Angel has written several of the publications of Garrigues in Agribusiness.

(*) Originally published in Spanish.