

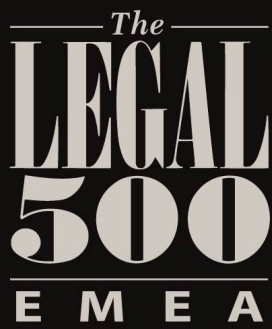
**LEADING FIRM
2019**

ABOGADOS
ARAOZ & RUEDA

THE LEGAL 500 EMEA 2019

**THE LEGAL 500 EMEA 2019 RECOMIENDA A
ARAOZ & RUEDA EN:**

PROJECTS AND ENERGY



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BANKING AND FINANCE

(Tier 4)

Araoz & Rueda offers the 'direct engagement of senior lawyers', with **Rafael Bazán** the name to note for banking and finance. Notable instructions include advising renewable energy companies Alten and Grupo Ortiz on the refinancing of two photovoltaic projects, and assisting Norwegian debt management company Axactor with the acquisition of two NPL portfolios from Bankinter.



COMMERCIAL, CORPORATE AND M&A

(Tier 3)



The 'always available' **Araoz & Rueda** 'understands its client's needs and tries its best to reach them'. The group frequently handles cross-border transactions: it advised German pharmaceutical company Dermapharm on the acquisition of Trommsdorff from Ferrer, and assisted French nursing home group Orpea Group with the acquisition of psychiatry centre Clínica López Ibor.

Managing partner **Pedro Rueda** also heads the corporate and M&A team, which saw the addition of **Israel de Diego** from Baker McKenzie in November 2017.

DISPUTE RESOLUTION

(Tier 4)

The 'hands-on team' at **Araoz & Rueda** specialises in international commercial arbitration. The practice is best known for handling disputes arising from energy projects, with particular experience in expropriation proceedings linked to the development of new infrastructures, as well as matters involving mining operations.

Eduardo de León and **Alejandro Fernández de Araoz** lead the team, which has 'a level of knowledge and expertise that is excellent'. Also notable is senior associate **Ángel Sánchez-Freire**, who is 'a rising star in arbitration'. **Clifford Hendel** left to launch an independent dispute resolution practice.



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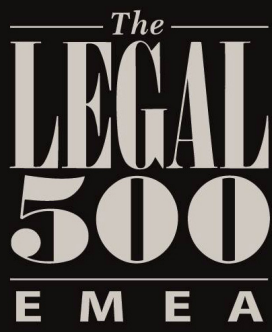
EMPLOYMENT

(Tier 4)



Araoz & Rueda has 'significant expertise' in the sector and provides 'personal attention with detailed analysis of the situation and associated risks'. The 'knowledgeable and effective' practice is led by counsel **Alfonso Suárez**, who is particularly experienced in contentious employment matters.

The team recently assisted Consolis Group with the closure of its Spanish branch, and represented the US Department of Justice in a dispute with Comisiones Obreras, related to the collective dismissal of a group of workers from the Rota naval base. Other key clients include DHL, Grupo Avanza and Alvana Ventures.



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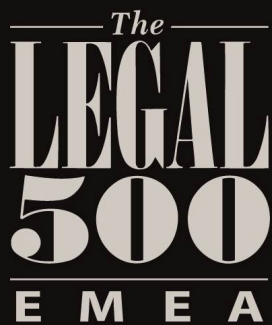
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PRIVATE EQUITY

(Tier 5)

Araoz & Rueda is a trusted adviser for private equity houses such as Black Toro Capital and Charme Capital Partners. **Pedro Rueda** recently advised a British private equity fund on the acquisition of a biotech company focused on reproductive genetic testing.





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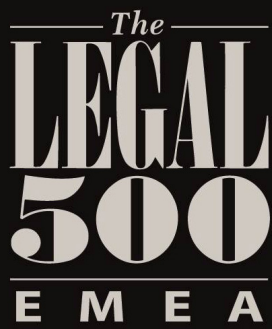
PROJECTS AND ENERGY

(Tier 4)

Araoz & Rueda has 'a strong global understanding' combined with 'a commercial approach to negotiations, going beyond the purely legal-technical aspects'.

The team has particular expertise in all aspects related to starting-up and operating renewable energy projects. 'Exceptional' practice head **Francisco Solchaga** is 'good at channelling and coordinating the different areas of the law firm', as well as 'providing technical solutions, sensible and in line with business practices and the needs of the client'. The department is assisting Alten and Ortiz with the sale of six photovoltaic projects in Spain to Vela-Sonnedix, as well as advising African Renewable on its agreement with Solarig, for the development of a photovoltaic plant project in Cadiz.





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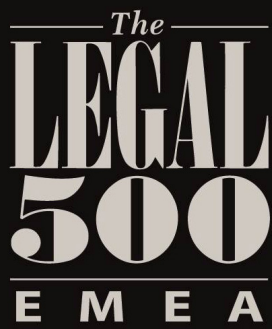
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REAL ESTATE AND CONSTRUCTION

(Tier 5)



Practice head **Jesús Conde** and associate **Gema del Río** are the key names to note at **Araoz & Rueda**. Clients include Kefren Capital and Spotify Spain.



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TAX

(Tier 5)

Araoz & Rueda is experienced in a range of domestic and cross-border tax issues, as well as legislation. Leading the team is **Javier Prieto**, whose specialities include tax advice arising from national and international M&A transactions.

The firm is advising Esendex on the tax matters relating to the acquisition of its Spanish subsidiaries, and is assisting Atalante with the tax aspects of its acquisition of a majority stake in Goiko Grill. Other key clients include Axactor Spain, Sareb and Black Toro Capital.

