

## Philippe Druon

Partner

Paris

### Biography

Philippe Druon, head of the Paris' Business Restructuring & Insolvency practice, is a leading figure in the French restructuring market.

Philippe has over 25 years' experience as a bankruptcy and restructuring lawyer in the context of insolvency proceedings as well as solvent restructurings.

Philippe helps French and foreign companies and investment funds on crisis management and restructurings in and out of court. He has played an important role representing major companies, their shareholders or creditors across a number of sectors, including: transport, logistics, the chemical industry, paper production, shipping, the automotive industry, oil & gas and IT.

A proven litigator, Philippe has been involved in numerous matters regarding liability arising from bankruptcy matters. He has also been actively involved in the representation of banks and investors in lawsuits regarding the liability of company directors in the context of bankruptcy proceedings.

Philippe also has extensive experience in acting for listed and unlisted companies in complex distressed M&A.

Philippe has a long track record of success. Prior to joining Hogan Lovells, Philippe practiced for 18 years at an international U.S law firm, where he represented debtors in their most prestigious matters such as Air



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### Languages

English  
French

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### Practices

Business Restructuring and  
Insolvency

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### Industries

Automotive  
Manufacturing and Industrials  
Energy and Natural Resources  
Life Sciences and Health Care  
Real Estate  
Technology and Telecoms  
Private Capital

Liberté, Eurotunnel, Heart of La Défense, Banque Lehman Brothers, General Motors France, Vivarte, Sequana, Westinghouse or Bourbon, among others.

Every year since 2005, Philippe has been ranked Band 1 by Chambers. He is ranked in Band 1 in Chambers Europe 2019 with the following accolade: *"Philippe Druon is revered as a "top practitioner" by several sources. One client highlights his "deal-making approach," adding that he "facilitates negotiations and really looks to improve the situation". He goes beyond the purely legal aspects and into the business aspects. He has a very good knowledge of the restructuring market in France."*

Philippe is a visiting Professor at University Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne, where he teaches financial restructuring law.

## Representative experience

Advising a world leader in marine services for offshore oil and gas, facing financial difficulties in the restructuration of its equity and its debts (€3 billion).

Advising a French specialist paper producer company in the context of its judicial reorganization and liquidation proceedings.

Advising an investment firm in its capacity of unitranche creditor, (€125 million), in relation to the restructuring of its equity and its debt, while under a conciliation proceeding.

Advising a leading manufacturer of recycled and speciality papers in the context of its liquidation proceedings and regarding the sale of its subsidiaries and/or assets.

Advising a French mass-retail group in relation to the restructuring of a Spanish JV company that it owns jointly with a Spanish group.

Advising a global investment firm in relation to the refinancing of its portfolio companies.

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## Areas of focus

Debtor Representation in Restructurings and Insolvencies

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## Education and admissions

### Education

Master degree in Business Law, Université Paris I, Panthéon-Sorbonne, 1993

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## Memberships

Member of the "Association pour le Retournement des Entreprises" (ARE – French turnaround association).

Member of the "Association des Investisseurs en Retournement" (AIR – French turnaround association for investors).

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## Bar admissions and qualifications

Paris

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Advising a e-commerce retailer in relation to the acquisition of a diversified industrials company's assets within the framework of its reorganization proceedings.

Advising a leading investment firm which owns the two third of a French industrial group's €300 million of debts.

Advising a leading investment firm which wants to acquire the debts and assets of the holding company of a real-estate group.

Advising an oil & gas company in the context of its financial and operational difficulties.

Advising an international pharmaceuticals company in relation to the planned sale of one of its losses making division.

Advising a French turn-around fund in its planned take over the assets of an energy supplier company, facing financial difficulties.

Assisting a leading paper producer company in Europe in its reorganization proceedings, and the refinancing of its debts.

## Awards and rankings

- Band 1 in Restructuring/Insolvency, *Chambers Europe*, 2021
- "Leading Individual" in Insolvency, *Legal 500 EMEA France*, 2021
- 500 Leading Global Restructuring & Insolvency Lawyers, *Lawdragon*, 2020
- "Lawyer of the Year" in Restructuring, *Best Lawyers*, 2020
- Lawyer of the Year in Restructuring, *Option Droit & Affaires*, 2020
- Insolvency (France), Hall of Fame, *Legal 500 EMEA*, 2020
- Insolvency (France), Recommended, *Legal 500 EMEA*, 2020
- Recommended in Restructuring and Insolvency, *Euromoney -Banking, Finance & Transactional Law*

## Latest thinking and events

- Awards and Rankings
  - Hogan Lovells Paris improves its rankings in numerous categories in The Legal 500 EMEA France 2021
- Press Releases
  - Hogan Lovells advises AccorInvest on its financial restructuring
- Press Releases
  - Hogan Lovells advises the BOURBON Group on the restructuring of €3 billion in equity and debts
- Press Releases
  - Hogan Lovells advised TowerBrook Capital Partners L.P. on the acquisition of Consolis Rail
- Awards and Rankings
  - Global Restructuring Review recognizes Hogan Lovells as one of the top 10 global law firms for restructuring and insolvency matters
- Hogan Lovells Publications
  - Introduction of banking sector regulatory measures announced by the ECB and the Banque de France to contain the effects of the Covid-19 crisis