

Ahmet Kalafat

Counsel
Dubai

Biography

Ahmet is renowned for timely, proactive and clear guidance on legal, commercial and reputational risks resulting in high client satisfaction. He has 15+ years of banking & finance experience in Dubai, Istanbul and Jeddah. Before moving to Dubai, he worked in the legal department of the Islamic Development Bank in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia and at an international law firm in Istanbul, Turkey.

He has substantial experience in both conventional and Islamic finance transactions and is very well regarded as a banking and finance lawyer. His experience extends to most areas of conventional and Islamic finance products and structures ranging from general corporate lending, bonds and Sukuk issuances and treasury products to trade, projects, margin facilities, pre-ipo financings, ECA, real estate and acquisition and leverage finance.

He regularly advises large GCC and multinational banks, private equity houses and governments, their related entities (GREs) and sovereign wealth funds (SWFs) on complex domestic and cross-border finance transactions.

One of his other strengths is the Turkish market where he has developed a strong conventional banking and Islamic finance practice with established relationships with local Turkish banks and corporates.



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Languages

English
Turkish

Practices

Banking and Loan Finance
Capital Markets
Leveraged and Acquisition
Finance
Real Estate Finance
Asset Finance

Industries

Financial Institutions
Real Estate
Manufacturing and Industrials

In addition to Turkey, he regularly works on transactions covering a broader region including Africa, GCC, Pakistan, India, Bangladesh, Brunei and Singapore.

Ahmet completed his Graduate Diploma in Law at BPP Law School, London and his Legal Practice Course at The Oxford Institute of Legal Practice. He holds a Turkish law degree from Ankara University, Faculty of Law.

He is an English and Turkish qualified lawyer and is fluent in English and Turkish.

Awards and rankings

- Banking and finance: Corporate finance (including islamic lending), UAE, Recommended, *Legal 500 EMEA*, 2019-2020
- Banking and finance: Corporate finance (including islamic lending), UAE, Rising Stars, *Legal 500 EMEA*, 2020
- Capital Markets, UAE, Recommended, *Legal 500 EMEA*, 2020
- Banking and finance: Corporate finance (including islamic lending), UAE, Next Generation Partner, *Legal 500 EMEA*, 2019
- Banking and Finance, Next Generation, *Legal 500 EMEA*, 2019
- Islamic Finance, Next Generation, *Legal 500 EMEA*, 2019
- Banking and Finance, *Legal 500 EMEA*, 2018
- Islamic Finance, *Legal 500 EMEA*, 2018

Latest thinking and events

- Sponsorships and Speaking Engagements
 - Airline Economics Growth Frontiers Dubai
- Press releases
 - Hogan Lovells welcomes the New Year with 28 new partner and 59 new counsel promotions

Energy

Sports, Media and Entertainment

Areas of focus

Banking Services

Capital Markets and Tax

Convertible Debt Offerings

Project Finance, DFI and ECA Finance

Raising Debt Capital

Islamic Finance

Distressed Asset Management, Refinancing, and Restructuring

Direct Lending

Gaming

Education and admissions

Education

Legal Practice Course (Distinction), Oxford Brookes University, Distinction, 2011

Graduate Diploma in Law, BPP Law School, Merit, 2009

LL.M Business Law, London School of Economics and Political Science, Merit, 2001

LL.B., Ankara University, Faculty of Law, Distinction, 1999

Memberships

Istanbul Bar Association, Turkey
- Attorney-at-law

Bar admissions and qualifications

Solicitor, England and Wales
