

Iberian Lawyer presents its 50 "dolphins", both law firm and in-house lawyers, all under 35 years old, who due to their talent, specialisation, activity in the legal market and their academic and professional background, stand out above the average and are revealed as the new highly valued assets of the teams in Spain and Portugal.

The main criterion followed in this equality-respectful study has been their outstanding participation in matters and relevant news given by this media during the last year. On this occasion, Iberian Lawyer has not taken into account listings on international legal directories with the aim of establishing IBL's own identity in this selection. Well aware that those listed here are only a small part of the great talent present in the Iberian Legal market, our most sincere congratulations to all of them.





MARIA ATAÍDE CORDEIRO

Miranda & Associados • 33 years old

Maria Ataíde Cordeiro is a senior associate at Miranda & Associados. Her practice focuses on Public Law & Regulatory as well as Energy & Natural Resources. Maria has spent the majority of her legal career at PLMJ, joining as a trainee in 2009, becoming a senior associate in 2019, prior to joining Miranda in 2019. Maria Ataíde Cordeiro holds a degree in Law from the Universidade Nova de Lisboa, a Master's degree in Law and Management from Universidade Católica, a post-graduate course in Administrative Litigation and also a post-graduate course in Public Procurement, both from the Universidade de Lisboa. Maria regularly advises public and private entities before administrative courts, in particular on cases related to Public Procurement, Administrative Contracts (public works, public service concessions, acquisition of goods and provision of services), as well as to Regulatory matters. She has also drafted and negotiated EPC Contracts for clients of Miranda in Mozambique.

MARIA LOBO XAVIER

Galp • 34 years old

Maria Lobo Xavier is Legal counsel at Galp Energia, where she has been part of the team since 2015. Maria is dedicated to working on the financial side of the business, specifically Banking and Regulatory, Derivatives, and has a lot of experience in this area which she brought from having worked in private practice at Morais Leitão for nearly five years. On top of that, Maria works on the M&A side of the business and has been described as very organised, very bright and with good ideas. At GALP, innovation is taken very seriously as an internal metric, and Maria scored top marks. She has also been described as client-oriented. Maria Lobo Xavier holds a degree in Law and a post-graduate in Corporate Finance Accounting for Lawyers from the Universidade Nova de Lisboa. Maria Lobo Xavier also holds a Master of Laws (LL.M.) in Corporate Law from University College London.



MARÍA NIETO

Araoz & Rueda • 28 years old

María Nieto is a mid-level associate in the Corporate/M&A department of Araoz & Rueda Madrid office. She advises on general Corporate matters and, in particular, in the areas of Mergers & Acquisitions and Corporate and Due Diligence processes, also collaborating with the Energy department. María joined the firm in 2018. Previously, she was an intern at the Supreme Court, where she rotated through the different jurisdictional orders hand in hand with magistrates, court clerks and lawyers, and was also a legal analyst trainee at the Bank of Spain in legal conduct and claims. She holds a double degree in Law and Business Administration from the Universidad Carlos III de Madrid, as well as a Master's degree in Corporate Legal Consultancy from the same institution. She has recently advised Grupo Visalia on its acquisition of Watium and Spain's IMF International Business School on its acquisition by French fund Capza.