



HUGH OWEN

OWNER • GO2 LAW, S.R.O. • M&A LAWYER, ENGLISH LAW

SOLICITOR OF ENGLAND AND WALES

Email: info@go2law.sk

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/hugh-owen-44b5763>

REFERENCES

“An excellent lawyer”

Chambers 2021

“He knows how to move transactions forward”

Chambers 2020

“Has vast experience of leading M&A deals in the CEE”

Chambers CEE 2018

“Impressed clients call him a “very good negotiator.”

Chambers CEE 2017

“Good negotiator”

Legal 500 2017

“He’s an excellent lawyer and one of the best M&A lawyers around.”

IFLR1000 2012

“He’s absolutely a market leader, and always brings added value – we can rely on him completely for both local and regional matters”

Chambers Global 2009

“Gentleman” Hugh Owen “is very hands-on, detail-oriented and enthusiastic. But the amazing thing is, he is all of these things at the same time.”

Chambers Global 2008

“brilliant adviser”

Chambers Global: The World’s Leading Lawyers 2004-2005

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

Band 1 (one of four lawyers) – Chambers 2018, 2017 CEE Corporate M&A

Band 2 – Chambers 2021, 2020 CEE Corporate M&A

Tier 1 – Legal 500 2017 (Slovakia)

Highly regarded – IFLR1000 2020

CORE SKILLS

- » Excellent **technical skills** in English law for M&A, with an eye for detail; but commercial, solution-orientated and practical advice
- » Outstanding **client care** skills: commitment, hard work, flexibility and empathy
- » Exceptional team assembly, and solid **transaction and risk management**
- » **Gets the deal done**, but can say no and question when necessary
- » **Honesty and integrity**; a highly **respected** and **trusted advisor**
- » **Wide sectoral experience**, from airlines to banks, energy and utilities to healthcare and breweries, real estate, media and defence
- » Sees the big picture – enjoys **strategic vision** and implementation of new ideas
- » **Unrivalled network of contacts** with bankers, brokers, lawyers, accountants and other advisers and business people throughout dozens of countries after nearly a quarter of a century at a Magic Circle firm
- » **Fun to work with**

OVERVIEW OF CAREER

Partner • Allen & Overy LLP • May 2004 to July 2017

Head of South Eastern Europe Desk of A&O	Over 10 years
Head of Ukraine Desk of A&O	October 2015 to July 2017
Initiator of new Baltic Desk of A&O	Summer 2017
Responsible for China/CEE relationships of A&O	
Allen & Overy (Hungary) – Partner	November 2013 to July 2017
Allen & Overy (Slovakia) – Partner	May 2004 to November 2013
Allen & Overy (Slovakia) – Associate/Senior Associate	April 2000 to May 2004
Allen & Overy (Czech Republic) – Associate	April 1998 to April 2000
Allen & Overy, London – Associate (Tax)	April 1996 to April 1998
Allen & Overy, London – Trainee	March 1994 to March 1996

EDUCATION

LLB • 1992 • Kings College London

Law Society Solicitors’ Examination • 1993 • Guildford College of Law

Admitted as a **Solicitor** in England and Wales • 1996

SAMPLE TRANSACTION LIST

Since July 2017 through Go2Law:

- » The shareholders and principals of **Direktna Banka a.d. Kragujevac** on the merger of Direktna with Eurobank's subsidiary in Serbia, **Eurobank a.d. Beograd**, comprising the absorption of Direktna by Eurobank Serbia
- » **Frontier Pharma Limited** on its joint venture in relation to **Zdravlje Leskovac AD** in Serbia
- » The shareholders of **Five** (a Croatian and US digital agency) on the sale to **the Endava Group**
- » **Innova Capital** on its acquisition of **Paypoint** and **Payzone** in Romania
- » **Integral Venture Partners** on a strategic investment in **Bulsatcom**, a leading telecommunications company in Bulgaria
- » The Sellers on the sale of **Memsorce, a.s.**, a language translation software provider based in the Czech Republic, to **Carlyle**
- » The Founder Sellers, on their sale of the **Optimapharm** group of companies to **TRG**
- » **Uniq** on its EUR1 billion acquisition of the Polish, Czech and Slovak subsidiaries of **Axa**
- » **Diligent Capital Partners** ("DCP"), a private equity manager, in connection with the acquisition of a 16% equity stake in Allseeds SA together with the Dutch Development Bank FMO ("FMO") (Ukraine)
- » **AEGON** on the divestment of its insurance businesses in the Czech Republic and Slovakia for EUR155 million to Nationale Nederlanden Group
- » **MTG Broadcasting AB** on the sale of its 95% shareholding in Nova Broadcasting Group AD in Bulgaria
- » **Generali CEE Holding B.V.** on its acquisition of a life insurance company **Adriatic Slovenica, zavarovalna družba, d.d.** (Slovenia)
- » **MetLife EU Holding Company Limited** on the sale of its 40% stake in **UBB-METLIFE LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY AD** to **DZI Life Insurance JSC** (Bulgaria)
- » **Macquarie Infrastructure and Real Assets (MIRA)** on its acquisition of INEA group (**INEA**) from funds managed by Warburg Pincus and founders (Poland)
- » **Blue Sea Capital** on the sale of a 45% stake in MediGroup, a leading healthcare provider in Serbia, to Mid Europa Partners (Serbia)
- » **Inercom** on the acquisition of **CEZ, a.s.'s** electricity distribution assets in Bulgaria (Bulgaria)
- » **ATI** on its acquisition of Telekom Albania from OTE
- » **Kopernikus Corporation** on the purchase of the operations of the Antenna Group in Serbia and Montenegro

Examples of prior experience whilst at Allen & Overy:

- » **Erste Group Bank** on the investment of the Hungarian State (represented by state-owned entity Corvinus) and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development in Erste Bank
- » **InfraCapital**, the infrastructure investment arm of M&G Investments and one of the largest European infrastructure investment funds, on the acquisition of the Slovak utility group GGE.
- » **Advent International Corporation** on the sale by it and by the Enayati Family (the original founders of the business) of Centrul Medical Unirea (the healthcare services provider "Regina Maria") to Mid Europa Partners in Romania
- » A bidder on its attempted acquisition of the Yioula Group of companies in the glass packaging sector (involving Greece, Romania, Bulgaria, Serbia, Ukraine, Cyprus and Malta)
- » **AIG Capital Partners** on the acquisition of a controlling stake in Bulgarian Telecommunications AD, at nearly EUR 2bn, the largest M&A transaction in Bulgaria and one of the largest leveraged finance transactions in Central & South Eastern Europe
- » **The Latvian Privatisation Agency** on the sale of 25% plus one share of the Latvian Bank bank (then) Parex to the EBRD and continuing advice on the Shareholders' Agreement relating to its successor Citadele banka.
- » The founding **Walach family** on the sale of its remaining 50% stake in Walmark a.s. (a major Consumer Healthcare player in Central and Eastern Europe with a leading position in dietary supplements in the region) to Mid Europa Partners
- » **Advent International** on the acquisition of CMU (the company operating the largest private healthcare network in Romania)
- » The sellers on the disposal of Sunwave Pharma in Romania
- » **3TS** and Centrul Medical Unirea in relation to acquisitions in the healthcare sector
- » **OTP Banka Hrvatska** on the acquisition of a 98.4% stake in Italy-based Banco Popolare's branches in Croatia
- » **Banco Comercial Português**, the largest bank in Portugal, on the sale of Millennium Bank (Romania) to OTP
- » **Akbank** on a Put Option Agreement in relation to a financing of Turkish company Zorlu
- » **EBRD** on a Shareholders Agreement and Put Option Agreement in relation to a real estate financing for Turkish company NEF
- » **MTG** on the disposal of its 50% shareholding in FTV Prima Holding in the Czech Republic
- » **MTG** on its acquisition of Bulgarian Televizia Nova for over EUR 600m and its subsequent merger with the Diema group
- » on the attempted acquisition of the Maritsa III lignite power plant and wind farm projects from ENEL
- » **MTG** on its acquisition of LNT in Latvia
- » **MTG** on its acquisition of Paprika in Hungary, Bulgaria, Serbia, Slovenia and Romania
- » **EBRD** on the acquisition of a 15% equity interest in Allianz-Slovenská poisťovňa, a.s.
- » **Banc of America Securities Limited** advising the Romanian Government on the successful privatisation of the Romanian electricity distribution companies Electrica Moldova and Electrica Oltenia
- » **Royal Bank of Scotland** on the successful sale of its retail banking operations in Romania
- » **ING** on the disposal of its retail banking business in Slovakia
- » **UPC Magyarország Kft.**, a subsidiary of Liberty Global, Inc., on the acquisition of certain assets of FiberNet Hungary Tanacsado Kft. from Magyar Telecom B.V.
- » The sale of **Dexia Bank Slovensko, a.s.** to Penta
- » **HB Reavis's** sale of the Aupark offices to Heitman
- » **Enterprise Investors** on its acquisition of a minority stake in NAY, a.s. (electrical retailer), and its sale
- » **KBC's** acquisition of Istrobanka, a.s.
- » The privatisation of Stredoslovenská energetika, a.s.
- » A leading global defence company on its projects in Slovakia
- » **Všeobecná úverová banka, a.s.** on its acquisition of five Slovak consumer credit companies TatraCredit; Quatro; Q-Car; Slovenská poisťovňa; and Slovenské kreditné karty and their subsequent merger
- » Lead advisor to **York Capital**, principal debt and equity investor into SkyEurope Airlines, a.s. a CEE regional airline that ran from 2001 till 2009