

REAL ESTATE

Practitioners have noted the continued uptick in activity in the real estate space and this looks set to endure given the number of reforms currently under way to increase access to housing and improve planning. Another significant law, the Loi Duflot will come into effect in 2016 and will introduce among other things a cap on rental prices and agent fees. We list 38 lawyers in this chapter:

De Pardieu Brocas Maffei garners four listings. **Paul Talbourdet** is an “excellent and pragmatic” lawyer specialising in real estate investment, finance and complex structurings. **Emmanuel Fatôme** is “one of the best” and counts Carrefour among his big-ticket clients. The “talented” **Pierre Gebarowski** focuses his practice on acquisitions and urban development while **Guillaume Rossignol** is a “star” in the investment transaction field.

Four practitioners from Lefèvre Pelletier et associés are also featured. **Antonia Raccat** has a “fantastic track record” relating to financings of real and personal property. **Philippe Pelletier** is a “key player” in the market with “first class” arbitration skills. Sources note **Marie-Odile Vaissie**’s “outstanding reputation” in the commercial leasing field where she works on both contentious and non-contentious cases. **Philippe Lefèvre** is a “top-tier” practitioner with expertise encompassing urban planning and real estate development operations.

At Franklin, **Henry Ranchon** is “very well recognised” and works with French and international real estate funds on investments and developments. **David Blondel** focuses on corporate real estate and is a “longstanding expert” according to sources. Clients praise the “high quality” of **François Verdot**’s advice in his work on acquisitions, transfers and rental management.

Three lawyers from Gide Loyrette Nouel are listed including the “brilliant” **Renaud Baguenault de Puchesse** who has a wealth of experience advising on building acquisitions and real estate assets. **Frédéric Nouel** specialises in transactions and financing for listed and non-listed companies and is praised for his “dedication” and “sharp legal mind”. **Eric Martin-Impératori** has wide-ranging expertise in all aspects of property deals with “excellent technical knowledge”.

Allen & Overy’s **Jean-Dominique Casalta** is an “outstanding” lawyer and focuses on acquisition, disposal and structuring of portfolios for investors. **Jean-Yves Charriau** has “unparalleled” skills

in the tax arena and advises the French Property Federation on tax matters.

Jean-Jacques Raquin is a “top” lawyer at Lacourte Raquin Tatar and advises major players in complex and large-scale investment and disinvestment transactions. Fellow named partner **Thierry Lacourte** is “very talented” in investment, planning and property development and recent projects include representing Allianz Group in their transaction involving the Colisée building in the La Défense district.

King & Spalding’s **Benoît Marcilhacy** is a partner in the firm’s real estate practice and is a “leading light” in the establishment of real estate funds and complex development deals. Clients are “very impressed” with the commercial real estate work of **Pascal Schmitz**, he advises a number of investment funds.

At Baker & McKenzie, **Marc Mariani** is a “prominent” figure with particular expertise in the design and structure of real estate funds for investors in the Middle East. **Olivier Mesmin** heads the firm’s real estate practice group and is “highly recommended” for his taxation advice.

Fairway’s **Frédéric Lefébure** is “exceptionally business-minded” working on a number of aspects of M&A and real estate law. **Aubry D’Argenlieu** is “well respected” for his work in complex investments, acquisition/disposal and construction leases.

Vincent Lassalle at SBKG & Associés is “terrific” with “in-depth knowledge” of the real estate sector.

Ann Ly Ky at King & Wood Mallesons specialises in the operational leasing of commercial and industrial buildings and has “great strategic vision”.

Herbert Smith Freehills’ **Pierre Popesco** is a “fantastic all-rounder” and assists corporate investors and property developers in France and abroad on a wide range of issues.

Franck Peter at White & Case specialises in development transactions and is highly regarded for his “solutions-oriented approach”.

Françoise Maigrot heads the real estate team at Linklaters’ Paris office and is “very active” in the field. She “knows the market well” according to peers and has particular expertise in complex transactions involving joint real estate, corporate, financial and tax input.

Jean-Louis Martin’s practice at Jones Day focuses on the acquisition and sale of assets and portfolios. He is noted as a “valuable asset” by clients pleased with his work.

François Bonteil at Clifford Chance is a “definite inclusion” for his M&A, private equity and finance work in the real estate field.

Erwan Le Douce-Bercot leads the real estate practice at Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer’s Paris office and advises domestic and international clients on portfolio transactions and also possesses “top quality” litigation skills.

DLA Piper’s **Lionel Rosenfeld** works on investment, development, construction and lease agreements and is a “well-reputed” figure in the market.

Catherine Saint Geniest at JeantetAssociés is praised for her “thoroughness and efficiency”. She has experience across a wide range of real estate matters.

At Godet Gaillard Solle Maraoux & Associés, **Jean-Maurice Gaillard** is “one of the best finance lawyers” and advises banking clients on a variety of finance transactions.

Hervé Kensicher is a “star” at Orrick Herrington & Sutcliffe. He advises borrowers and lenders as well as purchasers and sellers of real estate debt.

Ashurst’s **Philippe None** advises on the structuring of complex French and cross-border transactions and is “without doubt” a “distinguished player”.

Patrick Gerry is a “well known” name at Simmons & Simmons and is praised by both clients and peers for his “first-rate” work on the real estate aspects of M&A, fund structuring, financing and litigation matters.