



Chambers GC Influencers

ITALY 2019

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Programme



Introduction

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Editor
Chambers Europe



In-house legal departments are becoming increasingly significant within the Italian market. The demands of driving growth in international markets encourage the steady increase in the functions required of the legal department and the emergence of new structures to facilitate successful outcomes. The general counsel and legal division general managers highlighted in this list are recognised for the contributions they have made and the examples they have set in the development of in-house legal culture.

Research Methodology: Our GC Influencers have been chosen following research among private practice lawyers and other in-house counsel. We identified the key areas in which GCs have displayed substantial influence:

- Effective management and development of an in-house team.
- Navigation of substantial business projects and strategic business change.
- Understanding the pressures faced within industry.
- Ability to influence and respond to regulatory change.

Our aim is to celebrate excellence within the legal profession. Our GC Influencers have created best practice pathways endorsed by both private practice and other in-house lawyers. In spotlighting their achievements, this list encourages collaboration among the in-house legal community.

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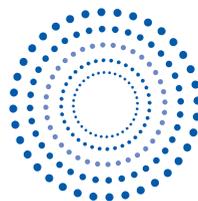
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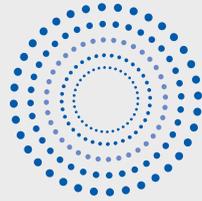
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Michelangelo Damasco

Atlantia

Michelangelo Damasco serves as General Counsel at Atlantia since January 2015. He is a highly-influential counsel who prior to this role, was responsible for all legal and corporate affairs and later a legal director for Autostrade per l'Italia, its subsidiary in charge of constructing and managing toll roads in Italy and further in Europe.

According to market sources, Damasco *“is an outstanding GC, with remarkable legal knowledge and responsiveness.”* Graduated in law from La Sapienza University in Rome and with an MBA from SDOA Business School, his previous experience includes long stints at Telecom International and Telecom Italia.

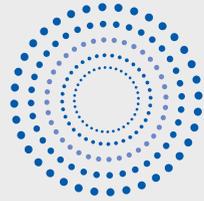
He is well-versed in regulatory issues and managing disputes, with a focus on acting on large cross-border M&A transactions on behalf of the holding. As examples of recent work, he acted on the EUR16.5 billion acquisition of Abertis, closed in October 2018, and he is also dealing with complex disputes following the collapse of the Morandi bridge in Genoa.

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Ugo di Stefano

Mondadori

Mondadori's General Counsel is Milan-based Ugo di Stefano, described as *"a superstar in the publishing industry,"* by interviewees. With over 15 years of experience at the market-leading company, he is highlighted as a solid counsel with strong commercial acumen.

He is well-versed in the drafting and negotiation of commercial contracts including publishing agreements, M&A, restructurings and disputes as well as labour and employment issues. He has played a key role in supporting the business through its process of digitalisation, which required adapting to new regulations and ensuring the protection of digital rights in content distribution. He is also proficient in data protection matters.

In February 2019, together with colleagues at Mondadori, he founded UGI, an association for in-house lawyers with the idea of recognising their roles not only as lawyers but additionally as business managers.

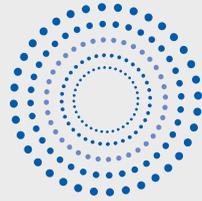
Di Stefano is an LL.M. graduate from The University of Milan and also holds an MBA from SDA Bocconi in Milan.

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Antonia Cosenz

Banco BPM

Antonia Cosenz joined Banco BPM in 2013 as Head of Extraordinary Transactions & Legal Finance, taking up the role of Head of Legal and Regulatory Affairs in 2017.

She is a highly-influential counsel, praised for her deft handling of the increasing pressure towards the banking sector from the ECB. A market source reports: *“She is an incredible lawyer. She switched from private practice into in-house and has built an incredible team. She has a really clear approach and vision between external and internal lawyers, and has maintained her ability to give the correct angle to her management.”*

Prior to joining Banco BPM she spent a decade in private practice in the Roman offices of Chiomenti Studio Legale, where she gained experience in complex corporate and capital markets transactions.

Cosenz regularly deals with corporate transactions and regulatory issues related to the management of the bank, further active on finance and capital markets work.

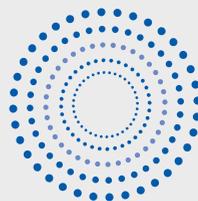
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Piergiuseppe Biandrino

Edison

Pier Giuseppe Biandrino is a renowned in-house counsel with extensive legal experience. He currently serves as General Counsel at Edison, which he joined in 1997 prior to its merger.

Market sources are swift to praise him, one stating: *“Biandrino has a strong academic background and his negotiation skills are exceptional.”*

Graduated in law in 1981 from the University of Pavia, he obtained further qualifications from NYU and Columbia University in the US. Moreover, he is a notable university professor, published author and regular speaker at legal events.

He is regularly involved in complex commercial work for the energy company, handling the negotiation of complex contracts and related business matters.

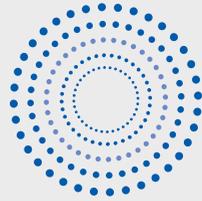
Biandrino’s work in the energy sector began in the 80s at ENI, followed by a stint as a legal director at Camuzzi Gazometri.

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Carlo Daneo

Ferrari

Carlo Daneo has been General Counsel at Ferrari since July 2015 a noted counsel with solid experience in the automotive industry. He is praised for his international drive and for his deft handling of important corporate transactions, with one interviewee reporting: *"He is phenomenal, he is one of the best."*

Before Ferrari, he served in numerous legal roles within the Fiat Chrysler Automobiles group, its former parent company, including as Senior Vice President and Legal Counsel at FCA and General Counsel at Fiat Chrysler Finance.

He played a key role in Ferrari's 2016 spin-off from Fiat Chrysler, which involved a complex restructuring with the placement of assets into a new holding company, plus the listing of common shares on the NYSE.

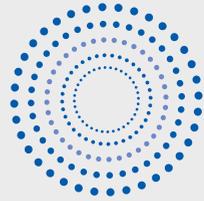
Daneo graduated in law from the University of Turin and also holds a master's degree in international law from the University Institute of European Studies.

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Marilu Capparelli

Google

Marilu Capparelli, current Legal Director at Google EMEA, has a stellar reputation in the technology sector for her experience and influence as an in-house counsel and her contribution to developing internet legislation. She is also part of several employee diversity initiatives at Google with the aim of incentivising gender equality.

Graduating in law from the University of Bologna, she also holds a PhD from the same institution and is a regular lecturer at different institutions on the subjects of law and technology.

Capparelli started her legal career in private practice at an international law firm, followed by a stint at the Court of Justice of the European Union. Prior to joining Google, she headed the legal team at eBay, which gave her valuable insights on working at a tech company.

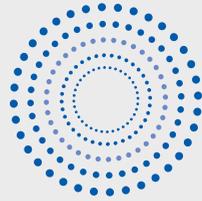
Market sources are swift to recommend her as a top counsel and one interviewee states: *"She is bright and very good at communications, she focuses on quite important topics."*

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Agostino Nuzzolo

TIM

Agostino Nuzzolo has served as TIM's General Counsel since January 2017. He is in charge of legal and tax affairs, Secretary of the Board and Executive Vice President.

Nuzzolo is a highly-regarded counsel, an expert in corporate taxation with degrees in economics and law from the University of Bergamo and the University of Milan respectively, and a Master's degree in corporate tax law from Bocconi University.

"He is technically excellent," market sources report, highlighting him as a highly-influential counsel who has helped TIM navigate smoothly through recent challenging legal issues regarding corporate governance and shareholders' conflicts.

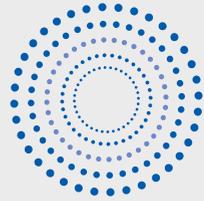
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Nicola Verdicchio

Pirelli

Renowned Nicola Verdicchio acts as Chief Legal Officer at Pirelli since 2014 and in 2017 he was additionally named Senior Vice President.

He started his career in Danone, followed by the position of General Counsel at Stet International, before taking up the role of head of legal department at Telecom Italia, where he worked for a decade, developing his experience in the management of complex corporate and regulatory affairs.

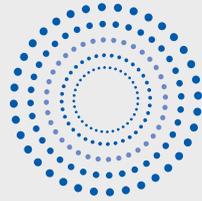
Verdicchio has played a key role in several high-profile transactions in past years, including its complex corporate restructuring. The work involved the merger with ChemChina in 2015, followed by the spin-off in two separate companies for consumer and industrial products respectively and its de-listing from the stock market. Pirelli was subsequently re-listed in the stock exchange in 2017.

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Marco Reggiani

SNAM

Marco Reggiani is an eminent counsel with extensive experience in the oil and gas sector, currently acting as General Counsel at SNAM. He joined the company in 2010, following a stint of more than ten years at ENI in leading legal positions.

Reggiani is regularly involved in providing legal advice referring to disputes and investigations, corporate governance and regulatory issues as well as compliance and CSR, while managing the team of over 50 legal professionals.

He is praised by market sources, who highlight the importance of his work in the contribution to the evolving role of the general counsel. One interviewee states: *“He has transformed the operations in the context of a very fast-growing business.”*

Also well known for his academic work, Reggiani graduated in law from the University of Parma and holds a Master’s degree in European and Transnational law from the University of Trento, and has been a lecturer in the subject of environmental law.

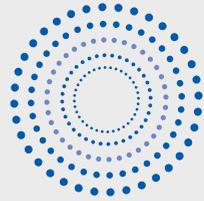
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Gianpaolo Alessandro

UniCredit

Gianpaolo Alessandro has been with UniCredit since 2013, when he joined as Head of Corporate Affairs. In 2016 he was named General Counsel of the company with the responsibility of managing the legal team and dealing with corporate and compliance affairs as well as regulatory issues.

Alessandro is well-known and respected in the market, with sources highlighting his top skills in the banking and finance sector. One commentator asserts: *“On a very interesting exercise he was very insightful on various mechanisms and governance issues, he is very focused on that.”*

His previous experience includes stints at Credit Suisse, MTS and GE Capital.

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