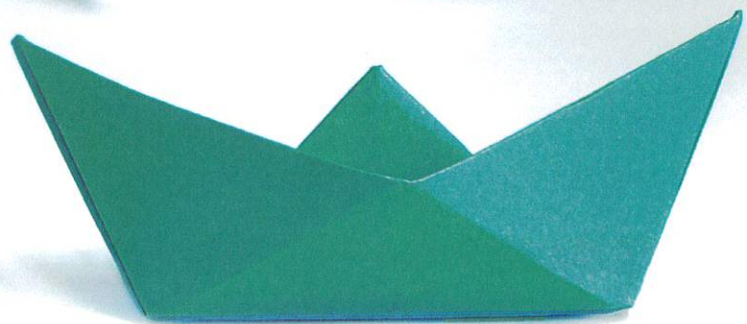




WWL
THOUGHT LEADERS

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Interviews with the pinnacle of the profession

Kiril Bougartchev



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Biography

Co-founder, in January 2017, of the law firm Bougartchev Moyne Associés, Kiril Bougartchev is, with 33 years of experience, one of the most renowned lawyers in the Paris market in criminal business law, compliance, commercial and regulatory (AMF/AFA/ACPR) litigation. He has been involved in many notorious white-collar crime cases, including sensitive political and financial matters. He also advises clients in the conception, implementation and strengthening of their anticorruption and compliance programmes, and assists them in connection with controls undertaken by the AFA.

0 Business Crime Defence

What inspired you to pursue a career in law?

What inspired me was to work on complex matters, combining numbers and law. In particular, white-collar crime defence is an area where defending companies, banks or financial institutions, as well as individuals, does not exclude the possibility of very high stakes on a human level. Finally, I was looking for an international dimension, which means to me educating oneself in foreign legal systems. Taken together, law is a fascinating subject.

What have been the highlights of your practice in the past year?

Over the past year, the development of out-of-court settlements in criminal proceedings ("CJIP" for legal entities / "CRPC" for individuals), which involve a discussion phase with the Prosecutor's Office and the client, has given more richness to the exercise of the profession of criminal lawyer.

What qualities make for an effective commercial litigator in today's market?

On the one hand, the thirst for continuous training to keep abreast of legislative and case law developments and on the other hand, responsiveness. Finally, the spirit of innovation.

What skills are needed to successfully collaborate with lawyers, experts and authorities in different jurisdictions?

Knowing how to listen to one's intuition is essential for successful collaborations because it allows you to ask relevant questions to experts who have a better grasp of certain subjects. Another key skill is being a good listener and having the team spirit to collaborate with colleagues and experts in the interest of the client.

If you could implement one reform to the way white-collar crime is legislated in France, what would it be?

In France, reforms will only have an effect if the judiciary has the human and material means to apply them. It is therefore a problem of budget allowance.

How has the shift to virtual working affected networking and training opportunities, and how have you adapted accordingly?

Our firm has had to adapt to the constraints of the health crisis and has since retained certain practices that were born during this period. It is true that working at a distance can affect networking opportunities, but it can also create new ones by facilitating

videoconferences between colleagues or with clients abroad. In any case, the flexibility in work, which is welcome, must not be detrimental to the quality of the work done for the client.

How does Bougartchev Moyne Associés distinguish itself from its competitors in the market?

Bougartchev Moyne Associés stands out, firstly, because of the transnational nature of many of our cases and the number of law firms that are part of our international network, and secondly, because of the fact that our dominant practice of criminal business is not exclusive of a general legal culture. For example, in the area of compliance, we draw heavily on our experience in business crime litigation to provide our clients with the best possible advice.

What is the best career advice you have ever received?

The best career advice I have received was to develop one or two areas of expertise in order to make a name for yourself, while at the same time nurturing a general legal culture on a daily basis, which is useful in each case. This enables lawyers to develop their reflexes in areas which are less familiar to them.

WWL says: Kiril Bougartchev comes highly esteemed for his impeccable work in highly notorious white-collar crime cases.