LALIVE

Nicolas Ollivier
Partner, Geneva



Nicolas specialises in complex domestic and multi-jurisdictional disputes, with a particular focus on banking and finance litigation – an area in which he has helped develop the firm's expertise and practice, and for which he is recognised as "an outstanding partner with a rare strategic approach to litigation" (Legal 500 EMEA, Dispute Resolution, 2024) and for having "a very strong command of Swiss case law and a significant competitive advantage in complex matters" (Legal 500 EMEA, Dispute Resolution, 2025). He advises and represents clients in complex cases involving margin calls, civil and criminal mismanagement, fraudulent transfer orders, bank bankruptcy, freezing of accounts, financial fraud, structured products, and private equity.

He also advises clients on compliance matters. He is regularly appointed by the Swiss Financial Market Supervisory Authority (FINMA) as an investigative agent to conduct independent investigations into regulatory breaches committed by supervised entities, including banks, securities firms and other financial intermediaries.

He has extensive experience in high-stakes commercial litigation, internal investigations, and financial crimes (including fraud and money laundering), as well as asset recovery, insolvency, international mutual assistance, enforcement of foreign judgments and awards, and freezing of assets.

In addition, he advises HNWIs on the protection of their assets and investments in Switzerland and abroad, as well as on monitoring their wealth and ensuring that it is invested in line with their risk appetite and investment objectives. In 2020, he was appointed as a member of the governing body of FINSOM, the first non-profit ombudsman organisation pursuing public interest purposes, approved by the Swiss federal government in accordance with the Swiss Financial Services Act.

Current professional memberships

- Member of the International Bar Association
- Member of the Association Genevoise du Droit des Affaires
- Member of the Geneva Bar Association
- Member of the Swiss Federation of Lawyers

Career history

- Partner, LALIVE, 2021 – present
- Counsel, LALIVE, 2016 – 2021
- Associate, LALIVE, 2012 – 2016
- Associate, FBT Avocats SA, 2011– 2012
- Trainee, Boivin & Nussbaumer, 2005 – 2007

Contact

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LinkedIn

Practices

- Asset Recovery & Insolvency
- Commercial Litigation
- Employment
- Investigations, Regulatory & Compliance
- White Collar Crime

Sectors

- Banking & Finance
- Technology

Languages

- English
- French
- German

Nationality

- Swiss

Admission

- Switzerland, 2008

"He has a true strategic approach to litigation which is rare"

Legal 500 EMEA, Dispute Resolution: Litigation, 2024

Academic qualifications

- LLM, University of Durham, 2010
- Lic iur, University of Fribourg, 2004

Recognition

Nicolas Ollivier has a wide-ranging practice that encompasses bankruptcy, civil mismanagement, and regulatory investigations.
Legal 500 EMEA, Dispute Resolution: Litigation, 2025

Ranked as Next Generation Partner
Legal 500 EMEA, Banking & Finance, 2025

Ranked as Future leader – Partner
Lexology, Switzerland, Commercial Litigation, 2025

Recent publications

Renonciation valable en cas de fourchettes par catégorie de produit
NICOLAS OLLIVIER
In: Centre de droit bancaire et financier, 9 July 2024

Quels devoirs pour la banque dans une relation execution only?
NICOLAS OLLIVIER
In: Centre de droit bancaire et financier, 21 May 2024

Quelle restitution lors d'investissements dans un fonds de fonds?
NICOLAS OLLIVIER
In: Centre de droit bancaire et financier, 21 February 2024

Recent conferences

Centre de droit Bancaire et Financier - Rétrocessions : regards croisés de deux spécialistes
NICOLAS OLLIVIER , Role: Speaker
Online, 25 April 2024

Centre de droit Bancaire et Financier - Les données bancaires : gouvernance et externalisation - Bank fraud: recent developments in Switzerland
NICOLAS OLLIVIER , Role: Speaker, Droit d'accès aux données: état des lieux
Online, 11 June 2020

LALIVE / Association of Foreign Banks in Switzerland (AFBS) - Roundtable on Swiss Federal Supreme Court Decision on Retrocessions: Lessons to Be Learnt
NICOLAS OLLIVIER , Role: Speaker, Retrocessions: Where Do We Stand?
Geneva, 11 December 2012