

Lalive promotes five dispute specialists to partners

Lalive is significantly expanding its leadership team: The international law firm will appoint five new partners and two counsel at the beginning of 2026 – the most in years.



The new Lalive partners (clockwise): Christian Exner, Sébastien Zulian, Laura Azaria, Adam El-Hakim and Robert Bradshaw. (Photos: courtesy of Lalive)

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The international dispute resolution law firm Lalive has announced the appointment of five new partners and two new counsel at the beginning of 2026 – the highest number of partner promotions in recent years. The promotions underscore the firm's growth and its targeted development of its own talent in Geneva, Zurich, and London, according to a press release.

Laura Azaria and **Robert Bradshaw** have been appointed partners in the area of international arbitration, as have **Adam El-Hakim**, **Christian Exner**, and **Sébastien Zulian** in the area of litigation. The firm has also promoted **Isabel San Martín** (International Arbitration) and **Nikita Ognivtsev** (Litigation) to Counsel.

Extensive expertise in arbitration and litigation

Laura Azaria, who has been with the Geneva office since 2014, has extensive experience in international arbitration and complex commercial disputes, including cases involving infrastructure projects, M&A transactions, and technology-related disputes. Her recent mandates include the successful defense of major cases before the Federal Supreme Court, including Yukos Capital v. Russia.

Robert Bradshaw, one of the first team members of the London office, specializes in commercial and investment arbitration with a focus on energy and commodities. His work includes the successful enforcement of GreenX Metals' £252 million claim against Poland and the multi-billion-pound case brought by Gate Gourmet against Asiana Airlines.

Strengthening the litigation team in Zurich and Geneva

Adam El-Hakim handles complex white-collar crime cases in Zurich – including international corruption, money laundering and fraud cases – and advises asset managers and commodity traders in highly sensitive investigations.

Christian Exner focuses on insolvency disputes and cross-border enforcement proceedings. He advises debtor and creditor groups in restructuring processes and represents institutional investors in major banking disputes.

Sébastien Zulian, a specialist in private client disputes, advises heirs, entrepreneurial families and wealthy individuals in complex inheritance and family business conflicts.

New Counsel in London and Geneva



Nikita Ognivtsev and Isabel San Martín. (Images: courtesy of the authors)

In London unterstützt Isabel San Martín internationale Mandanten in Investitions- und kommerziellen Schiedsverfahren, darunter in ICSID-Verfahren sowie Streitigkeiten im Energie- und Rohstoffsektor.

Nikita Ognivtsev in Genf konzentriert sich auf finanznahe Streitigkeiten, Wirtschaftskriminalität und internationale Rechtshilfe – insbesondere in Fällen mit Bezügen zu GUS-Staaten und der Ukraine.

Kanzlei setzt Wachstumskurs fort

Managing Partner **Thomas Brown** bezeichnet die Ernennungen als «hochverdient» und betont die breite Talentbasis der Kanzlei. Mit den neuen Beförderungen umfasst das Team nun 40 Anwälte im Bereich Litigation und 48 im Bereich International Arbitration.

Lalive zählt zu den führenden europäischen Kanzleien für Streitbeilegung und berät Unternehmen, Staaten, internationale Organisationen und Privatpersonen bei komplexen Auseinandersetzungen weltweit.

Neueste Artikel

