



.\ I&CO

# Company Profile

We are different in every way



# Agenda

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# Who We Are.

# Dubai-born and **globally ranked**, we are a **diverse boutique law firm** that delivers agile, end-to-end legal solutions across the UAE.



## **Boutique UAE Law Firm Founded 2012 in DIFC**

Boutique UAE law firm founded in 2012, headquartered in Dubai with offices in the DIFC & Abu Dhabi



## **Local Insight, Global Standards**

We fuse deep regional knowledge with innovative, tech-enabled methods to resolve disputes, close deals, and keep clients fully compliant.



## **30+ Multilingual Lawyers**

With rights of audience in all UAE courts and a top-tier arbitration bench, combining civil and common-law expertise for seamless cross-border work.



## **Trusted by Government, Corporates & HNWIs**

Ranked by Chambers, winner of MEA Legal Awards 2023, and instrumental in shaping DIFC & ADGM legal frameworks.

# Guided by five key values, we empower clients to succeed by fusing deep regional insight with international standards

## Our Purpose

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To provide solution-orientated legal services founded on local knowledge and supported by internationally-accredited standards & expertise

## Our Vision

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Legal services with focus on innovative resolutions

## Our Mission

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Our daily mission is to empower our clients to navigate legal challenges with confidence and clarity

## Our Values

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-  **Integrity**
-  **Honor**
-  **Objectivity**
-  **Credibility**
-  **Impartiality**





# Our Practices & Sector Expertise

# Our services offering consists of **three practices** and provide **full-spectrum legal support** under one roof

## Department



### Arbitration



### Litigation



### Corporate & Commercial

## Key Actions

Conduct cross-border arbitrations, craft strategy, and enforce awards in DIAC, ICC, DIFC-LCIA, ADGM and other forums.

Advocate in all UAE courts, file and defend claims, negotiate settlements, and manage appeals.

Structure transactions, draft contracts, guide governance, steer M&A / JVs, and obtain regulatory approvals.

## Value Delivered

Resolve disputes swiftly and cost-effectively, protecting assets and preserving commercial relationships.

Secure favourable judgments or early resolutions, reducing risk and safeguarding the bottom line.

Ensure compliant, seamless deals and resilient corporate frameworks that unlock growth and investment.

# Across every sector, our specialist teams turn **complex regulations into clear, actionable strategies** that unlock opportunity and guard against risk

## White Collar Crime



M&CO Legal excels in handling complex white-collar cases such as fraud, embezzlement, cybercrime, bribery, and AML. We provide defense, compliance advisory, and crisis response for corporates and high-profile individuals, with strong experience in UAE and cross-border legal matters.

## Food & Beverage (F&B)



M&CO Legal supports F&B clients across their full business lifecycle – from market entry, franchising, and IP protection to regulatory compliance and dispute resolution. Our team advises top dining brands, investors, and hospitality operators with tailored legal solutions across the UAE and beyond.

## Technology, Media & Telecom (TMT)



M&CO Legal advises top tech, media, and telecom clients on digital regulations, platform governance, licensing, data privacy, and crypto matters. We also represent clients in complex TMT disputes and regulatory arbitrations across the UAE and beyond.

## Regulatory & Government Advisory



M&CO Legal advises UAE government and regulatory bodies on policy, legislation, licensing, and strategic compliance. We also represent public entities in disputes and support major initiatives across finance, real estate, culture, and infrastructure.

## Construction & Real Estate



M&CO Legal advises developers, contractors, and investors across all stages of real estate and construction – from FIDIC contracts and regulatory compliance to major dispute resolution. We represent clients in high-value litigation and arbitration, and support complex developments across the UAE.

# Across every sector, our specialist teams turn **complex regulations into clear, actionable strategies** that unlock opportunity and guard against risk

## Other Sectors

### **Healthcare**

We advise healthcare providers, investors, and regulatory bodies on licensing, compliance, and dispute resolution within the UAE's evolving healthcare framework. Our experience includes structuring hospital transactions and advising on health data protection regulations.

### **Energy**

M&CO Legal supports energy companies in regulatory compliance, project development, and cross-border transactions, with a focus on sustainability, renewables, and utilities. We assist clients in navigating energy laws and arbitration relating to power infrastructure and supply agreements.

### **Family & Inheritance**

Our firm offers culturally sensitive and legally sound solutions in family disputes, wills, guardianship, and inheritance matters. We advise on both Sharia and civil law aspects, ensuring asset protection and succession planning for high-net-worth individuals and families.

### **Financial Services**

We advise financial institutions, fintech startups, and regulators on licensing, compliance, and transactional matters across the UAE's banking and finance ecosystem. Our expertise includes structuring investment products, resolving financial disputes, and navigating regulatory frameworks like the DFSA and FSRA.

### **Entertainment & Art**

M&CO Legal serves artists, producers, cultural entities, and event organizers with tailored legal counsel across IP, sponsorship, licensing, and content regulation. Our team also supports government initiatives on heritage preservation and creative sector governance.

### **Intellectual Property**

We offer end-to-end IP services, from trademark and copyright registration to enforcement, licensing, and litigation. Our team advises corporates, creatives, and regulators on safeguarding and commercializing intellectual assets across the UAE and internationally.

# M&CO is proud to play a pivotal legal role in advancing UAE's cultural, creative, and media ecosystem – from orchestras to art exchanges, and film to television



**Dubai Orchestra**



**Art Bank**



**Art Dubai**



**SIKKA Arts**



**AI Quoz Creative Zone**



**TV & Media: Mamalic Al-Nar & CBC Network**

## Legal Support

Business model design, legal structuring for investment and governance.

Infrastructure for art investments, art securities, legal framework for art exchange.

Legal structuring from inception to present day market leadership.

Framework for local artist marketplace, governance of artistic assets.

Zoning compliance, creative zone legal framework in line with Dubai Vision.

Contract drafting, governance advisory for major production networks.

## Impact

Helped ensure the orchestra's long-term financial and operational sustainability.

Bridging the art and finance sectors through policy and platform development.

Enabled Dubai's premier art marketplace to thrive with a solid legal foundation.

Expanded access for emerging artists to professional platforms.

Contributed to Dubai's positioning as a global creative hub.

Enhanced legal compliance and governance for Arabic language media platforms.

We believe culture thrives on clarity. With every legal structure we create, we help ensure Dubai's creative vision stands on a sustainable foundation.

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# Leadership Team



# Our leadership team pairs decades of hard-won courtroom experience with forward-thinking sector know-how



## Dr. Mahmood Hussain

Founding Partner

- 20-plus-year UAE advocate with full rights of audience in every UAE court and the DIFC; ranked by Chambers for dispute resolution.
- Architect of the DIFC Courts, deputy registrar in its formative years and arbitrator in 30 + ICC/-LCIA/DIAC matters; PhD in Law and board member of ICC-UAE.



## Hafidh Thani

Managing Partner

- Prominent Emirati commercial lawyer who designed regulatory frameworks for DIFC and ADGM after leading legal teams at Dubai Media Inc. and the DIFC Authority.
- Advises on fintech, media/ tech, real estate and public policy; LLM (Melbourne).



## Foutoun Hajjar

Managing Partner, Abu Dhabi Office

- Foutoun brings over 30 years of legal and business leadership across the Middle East, Europe, and the U.S., combining international law firm and FTSE 100 in-house experience.
- She advises on corporate and investment matters, including M&A, joint ventures, restructurings, and private equity for multinational and family clients.



## Dr. Salman Al Tuweel

Partner

- Partner at M&CO Legal, specializing in cross-border criminal matters, Interpol cases, and complex litigation before all levels of UAE courts, including the Supreme Court.
- Advises on regulatory compliance, risk management, and multi-sector disputes, with expertise in sports law, real estate, construction, and governmental affairs.



## Tariq Khan

Head of International Arbitration & Litigation

- Counsel or arbitrator in 50 + high-value cases spanning construction, energy and JV disputes; experienced mediator (USD 200 m + settlement).
- Forbes Legal Powerlist lawyer, award-winning author on arbitration, and regular trainer of judges and in-house counsel worldwide.



## Elsayed Mohamed

Partner

- Veteran litigator and arbitration counsel representing corporates, banks and developers before UAE courts and ICC/DIAC tribunals.
- Delivers pragmatic, bilingual advocacy that accelerates dispute resolution and streamlines award enforcement.

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# Our Clients

# We are trusted by leading brands, government bodies, and regional businesses

OTIS

MULTIPLEX



FUJIFILM



Element4



KONE



GAIA



ATHENA GROUP

talabat



ZENSAI

Crescent Petroleum

ACWA POWER

KEMPOWER

Boutiqaat



ماركة Marka



keeta



NAUTICA



webuild

KROHNE

TAV Construction



MultiBank Group



دبي دبي Culture للثقافة



CBI البنك التجاري الدولي



TASHAS GROUP INSPIRED HOSPITALITY

ZONE PARKING SOLUTIONS

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# Why Us



# We are the only one-stop, multilingual partner that wins high-stakes disputes, secures smooth transactions, and safeguards clients for mutual success

## 01 Dual-Law Mastery

Our lawyers operate fluently in both civil and common law systems, giving clients seamless coverage across every UAE and international forum.

## 02 Arbitration Firepower

We act in high-value cases before DIAC, DIFC, ADGM and beyond, spanning construction, real-estate, insurance, energy, telecoms and more.

## 03 Multilingual Reach

English, Arabic and French advocates navigate cross-border matters with the cultural and legal fluency global deals demand.

## 04 Strategic Corporate Council

From structuring and compliance to M&A and cross-border transactions, our corporate team keeps businesses efficient and regulation-ready.

## 05 Proven Track Record

Repeated wins in complex, high-stakes disputes across industries translate into measurable value for our clients.

## 06 Courtroom Presence

Rights of audience in DIFC, ADGM and all Dubai courts, plus experience before leading arbitral bodies, ensure we can enforce and defend wherever needed.

## 07 Legal Network: Surrounded

We combine in-house expertise with a global legal network to deliver efficient, cross-border solutions with local insight, ensuring strong client representation worldwide.

# Testimonials: clients consistently praise our leadership, citing us as a go-to firm for complex litigation, arbitration, corporate and commercial in the UAE



M&CO is “highly recommended” for domestic litigation, noted for running court cases in parallel with arbitration and for enforcing UAE and foreign awards. Clients span real estate, banking, hospitality and healthcare, and the firm is a trusted local-counsel partner to international law firms.”

Chambers & Partners (Band 3)



Mahmood Hussain is well regarded for his work as a litigator in the UAE's local courts. He frequently acts on real estate and construction disputes, typically representing developers, and has further experience in insurance matters.”

Dispute Resolution: Domestic - United Arab Emirates (Global)



Recognised for handling complex domestic and crossborder disputes in contracts, insurance, succession and employment. Reviewers highlight M&CO's deep bench and Dr. Hussain's reputation as an expert litigator, arbitrator and advisor on asset-tracing and award enforcement.”

Dispute resolution: local litigation – UAE – Legal 500



# Testimonials: clients consistently praise our leadership, citing us as a go-to firm for complex litigation, arbitration, corporate and commercial in the UAE



The M&CO Legal team provided us with strategic legal oversight throughout our F&B growth journey in the UAE. Their ability to align legal structuring with our commercial goals, while navigating complex regulatory frameworks, was instrumental in ensuring a streamlined and future-ready expansion. Their support went beyond execution – it shaped our foundation for long-term success.

Natasha Sideris  
Tasha Group –  
CEO & Founder



M&CO Legal played a pivotal role in the successful structuring and rollout of our F&B operations across the UAE. Their corporate and commercial team provided end-to-end legal support – from entity formation and franchising to licensing, regulatory compliance, and intellectual property protection. Their comprehensive approach enabled us to expand with clarity, efficiency, and confidence while safeguarding our brand at every stage.

Maxim Vlasov  
Fundamental hospitality –  
Co-Chairman



M&CO Legal has been instrumental in guiding us through a complex arbitration brought by a consultancy firm in relation to one of our flagship residential developments. The dispute involves intricate jurisdictional challenges and substantial claims for unpaid fees. The firm’s deep understanding of construction and arbitration law, combined with their strategic responsiveness, has provided us with strong, proactive representation before the tribunal. Their ability to distill technical contractual issues into compelling legal arguments has been invaluable in protecting our position and advancing our case with clarity and confidence.

Shamrez Shaikh  
Shaikh Holdings –  
COO



# Testimonials: clients consistently praise our leadership, citing us as a go-to firm for complex litigation, arbitration, corporate and commercial in the UAE



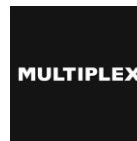
We engaged M&CO Legal to represent us in a complex arbitration involving significant contractual breaches and wrongful calls on performance guarantees. The team handled the matter from start to finish with exceptional professionalism, strategic insight, and attention to detail. Their ability to obtain rare interim relief and ultimately secure a favorable final award is a testament to their deep arbitration expertise and dedication to achieving results. We are grateful for their support and would not hesitate to rely on them for future disputes

Abbas Skeine  
Otis Elevator  
Senior Legal Counsel – Gulf



We have engaged M&CO Legal across a number of complex, high-value disputes, and their litigation team has consistently delivered strong, strategic representation. Their understanding of both commercial and technical aspects of the construction and banking sectors has proven invaluable. From navigating intricate legal arguments to managing multi-stage court proceedings, M&CO Legal has demonstrated unwavering commitment, clarity, and legal precision. We deeply value their role as our trusted legal advisors and appreciate their continued success in securing favorable outcomes that protect our interests

Alan Henderson  
Multiplex Global –  
Legal Director



Across multi-party transactions involving government entities, private sector stakeholders, and international entities, the M&CO Legal team has consistently delivered timely, commercially astute advice with a strong focus on risk mitigation. More than just legal counsel, they are trusted strategic partners who add measurable value at every stage

Youssef Fichtali  
Aqwa Power –  
Executive Manager



# We've secured three straight Chambers rankings, top-tier listings in Legal 500 and The Law's Finest, and ALB Middle East Law Awards honors for excellence



## Dr. Mahmood Hussain

was awarded Arbitrator of the Year at the LexisNexis Middle East Legal Awards 2025.

He was also honoured with the UK India Legal Partnership (UKILP) Annual Award for Excellence in Dispute Resolution, presented at the House of Lords, Palace of Westminster, UK.



# Ready to Move Forward?

Let's discuss how our team can solve your next legal challenge.

## Dubai Office

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**Thank  
You**

We are different In every way