

Corporate & Commercial Capability - Prague



We are confident that our extensive knowledge and experience of corporate and commercial matters, enables us to provide our clients with cost-effective, tailor-made service and support.

The Prague office of White & Case has provided a wide range of legal, tax, and customs advisory services in the Czech Republic since early 1991, and is now one of the largest international law firms in Prague.

With nearly **80 lawyers and tax specialists**, White & Case concentrates on complex corporate and financial legal services, combined with solutions for all tax and customs issues.

We are active in domestic and cross-border corporate transactions – major mergers, acquisitions, and joint ventures, as well as equity investments and change of control transactions. We also counsel businesses in connection with their corporate housekeeping and restructurings, ongoing contractual relationships with domestic and international customers, suppliers, and distributors.

White & Case has many practice areas within the umbrella of our corporate services. They include all aspects of corporate housekeeping and restructurings, mergers and acquisitions, intellectual property, labor, and employment, banking and finance, leasing, insurance, securities and capital markets, and real estate, among others.

We ensure that all legal and tax aspects of our clients' operations are maintained at the highest international standards and in compliance with Czech legislation and EU law.

Lawyers in the Prague office are qualified to advise on Czech, English, Slovak, U.S., and Canadian law.

The overwhelming majority of our professional staff is bilingual and has combined Czech and Western backgrounds and experience. Some of our lawyers are also fluent in Slovak, German, French, Russian, Japanese, and Spanish.

Independent View



White & Case named the **“Czech Law Firm of the Year 2008”** at the IFLR Awards in March 2008



White & Case named **“Eastern European Law Firm of the Year”** at the 2007 Chambers Global Awards

White & Case Globally

The Prague Office operates as part of White & Case LLP, a global law firm known for delivering integrated, seamless, top quality, multi-jurisdictional advice. The firm was founded on Wall Street in New York in 1901. Currently, White & Case is a global law firm with over 2,300 lawyers in 37 offices in the United States, Latin America, Europe, the Middle East, Africa, and Asia. White & Case has been active in Central and Eastern Europe since 1990; today we have offices in Prague, Bratislava, Bucharest, Budapest, Warsaw, and Moscow which operate closely on various projects that overlap the border of each country.

Corporate Services

It is our primary goal to provide clients with comprehensive legal services, while focusing on an individual approach and innovative solutions.

White & Case provides corporate and/or commercial services to many of the major domestic and international corporations with interests in the Czech Republic. We offer these clients full support in all corporate and commercial issues arising during the course of their business and/or investment activities in the country.

The Prague office maintains a group of 30 attorneys and tax advisors specialized in providing a broad range of corporate and commercial services and ensures that all of the legal aspects of our clients' operations are maintained at the highest international standards and in compliance with both the Czech and EU legislation.

Corporate Services Expertise

Our team of corporate specialists offers full support in the following areas:

- establishing a new business entity in the Czech Republic, including assistance with all relevant legal and tax issues;
- procurement of registrations and licenses;
- labor law and employment issues, including management contracts, work and resident permits, etc.
- advising on the optimal corporate structure for any contemplated investments, from both tax and legal perspectives;
- changes in Czech and EU legislation affecting clients' operations;

- capital increases and decreases; mergers and de-mergers;
- corporate restructurings and liquidations;
- exit strategies for unwinding investments;
- corporate secretarial services and record-keeping; corporate governance matters; and
- shareholders' and other corporate bodies' meetings, together with all legal issues arising in this respect.

Our Commercial Services Expertise

The lawyers of the Prague office have extensive experience with the application of the Czech legal framework in all kinds of commercial transactions and advising clients on various types of contractual relationships. Our lawyers and tax advisors specializing in this area of law provide our clients, across all industry sectors, with comprehensive advice on:

- complex legal issues concerning contractual matters;
- development of standard terms and conditions for the sale and distribution of products;
- supply agreements;
- license agreements;
- analysis of import duties on materials and products purchased outside the EU; and
- employment and management contracts and relationships, etc.

Post-acquisition Services

In order to gain the maximum profit from a strategic merger or acquisition, an acquirer is often required to quickly restructure its existing business operations and integrate the target from both a legal and tax perspective.

Combined with our top level mergers & acquisitions practice, we ensure that all of the legal aspects of our clients' corporate operations and commercial relations, including the post-acquisition issues, are maintained at the highest international standards and in compliance with both the Czech and EU legislation.

What we can offer:

- Full-service concept: comprehensive corporate, commercial, M&A, labor law, real estate, litigation, and other services;
- Combination of legal and tax capability;
- Experience with all legal and tax issues arising and resolved within the operations of a legal entity in the Czech Republic;
- Services tailor-made to client's needs; efficiency as well as fee structure flexibility;
- Detailed knowledge of local law combined with international experience; EU law capabilities; and
- Highest professional and ethical standards.

Selected Projects



Unipetrol

Advised Unipetrol on corporate legal issues as well as other legal matters related to its business activities and restructuring in the Czech Republic.

Zentiva

Advised Zentiva on major corporate restructuring of its business activities in the Czech Republic and Slovakia, including merger of four subsidiaries and squeeze-out of minority shareholders.

PPF/Generali

Advising PPF on its JV project with Generali. Generali and PPF agreed on setting up a joint venture on the insurance market. This is the largest transaction ever executed in the Czech Republic.

ČEZ

Advised ČEZ on post-acquisition restructuring of its business activities in both Bulgaria and Romania, following the previous acquisitions of energy distribution companies in these two countries.

CSPF and CPDP

Advising Czech and Slovak Property Fund (CSPF) and CEE Property Development Portfolio (CPDP), two real estate funds set up by a major Czech bank in connection with corporate issues, namely mergers, following a number of their real estate acquisitions in the Czech Republic.

RWE Transgas

Advising RWE Transgas and five regional gas distribution operators (members of the German utility RWE Group), in connection with the so-called unbundling (the separation of a transmission system operator from a legal, tax and accounting point of view).

UniCredito Italiano

Advised UniCredito Italiano, in connection the Czech aspects of its €20 billion takeover of HVB Bank. This is part of the biggest merger in the European banking sector. The new financial institution that will come out of the takeover will be the largest bank in CEE.

České Radiokomunikace

Advising České Radiokomunikace on corporate legal issues as well as other legal matters related to its business activities and restructuring in the Czech Republic.

Citibank

Advised Citibank on the restructuring of its business activities in the Czech Republic, following the decision to restructure its operation in Europe

Contact

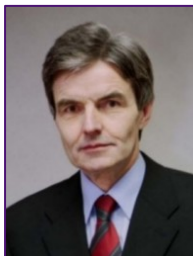


Zdeněk Mikuláš

Senior Associate

Tel.: +420 255 771 229

zmikulas@whitecase.com



Václav Jerman

Partner

Tel.: +420 255 771 205

vjerman@whitecase.com

White & Case, advokátní kancelář

Na Příkopě 8
110 00 Prague 1
Czech Republic

Tel.: +420 255 771 111

Fax: +420 255 771 122

www.whitecase.com

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