

Paula Gomes Freire

Managing Partner Banking & Finance

(+351) 21 311 33 66

pgf@vda.pt

Paula Gomes Freire joined VdA in 1996. She is VdA's Managing Partner, in which capacity she chairs the Executive Committee and is member of the Board of Directors.

Partner of the Banking & Finance practice, Paula has led several transactions, both in Portugal and abroad, mainly focused on the issue and placement of debt instruments, namely Euro Medium Term Notes, commercial paper, preferential shares and hybrids.

She also works in securitisation and other types of asset-backed transactions.

In recent years, Paula has also participated in the recapitalisation of the Portuguese banking sector and on the inaugural application of a resolution measure under the Banking Recovery and Resolution Directive".

Author of a number of publications and specialised articles in the remit of her legal practice, Paula also published the book "**Sustainable success, the future of technology, leadership and culture**", through which she shares her insights on the main challenges of the future with an impact on the sustainability of organisations, a reflection carried out with the contribution of a panel of prestigious academics and renowned specialists from various sectors.



Awards & Recognitions

Lawyer of the Year, Best Lawyers - Banking & Finance Law - 2023

InspiraLaw Women, Iberian Lawyer - 2022

In 2011, Paula won the Iberian Lawyer award "40 Under Forty", which distinguished the top young lawyers in the Iberian Peninsula.

Academic background

Law Degree, University of Lisbon, Faculty of Law.

Post-graduate studies in English Commercial Law, College of Law, London University.

Other professional background

Before joining the firm she worked as an associate at McKenna&Co, in London and at Azevedo Neves, Benjamim Mendes, Pereira de Miranda&Associados, in Lisbon.

Published works

Author or co-author of various books and articles namely:

- "Securitization in Portugal", Asset Finance International - Março 2000
- Portuguese Securitisation Market: Diversification of Asset Classes and Legal Context
- "Portugal ready to embrace new asset classes", IFLR - The 2005 Guide to Structured Finance
- The Portuguese securitisation market", Global Securitisation Review, 2003/2004 Euromoney publication
- "2003 a landmark year for Portuguese Securitisation", The 2004 Guide to Structured Finance (International Finance Law Review)
- "Public Sector Securitisation in Europe", Global Trade and Finance Series - Securitisation of Derivatives and Alternative Asset classes Yearbook 2005
- "Sovereign Securitisation in Europe", International Banking and Finance Law Series, Innovation in Securitisation Yearbook 2006
- "Covered Bonds in Portugal - a feasible regime, at last", The 2006 Global Securitisation Guide - 2006
- "New Treatment for Exposure", The 2008 Global Securitisation Guide - 2008
- "The current trends and the ECB tools in the Portuguese market", Global Banking and Financial Policy Review - 2009/2010
- "The fears of a sovereign debt crisis in the euro zone and the role of structured finance", Global Banking and Financial Policy Review - 2010
- Covered Bonds - resilience in times of uncertainty, Euromoney Handbook - Maio 2011
- "Times of Crisis: Increased Regulation and New Market Opportunities", Global Banking and Financial Policy Review - 2011/2012
- "The fears of a sovereign debt crisis in the euro zone and the role of Structured Finance", Global Banking and Financial Policy Review - 2010/2011
- Global Banking & Finance Policy Review - Portugal, Euromoney yearbooks - 2010/2011
- The International Comparative Legal Guide to Securitisation 2014 (Portugal)

Member of

Admitted to the Portuguese Bar Association and the Law Society of England and Wales.

Languages

English, French, Spanish.