

Jelena Madir

CAREER HISTORY

Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance

General Counsel and Director of Legal

November 2019 – present

Geneva, Switzerland

- Lead a team responsible for all legal aspects of Gavi’s day-to-day operations, ranging from institutional matters, commercial contracts, insurance, IT, data protection, procurement, employment matters (including disputes), treasury operations and operational risks arising from Gavi’s corporate activities.
- Advise on the set-up and operation of the COVID-19 Vaccines Global Access (COVAX) Facility, a global risk-sharing mechanism for pooled procurement and equitable distribution of the Covid-19 vaccines.
- Member of the Gavi Executive Team.

European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD)

2016 – 2019, *Director, Chief Counsel, Financial Law Unit*

2009 – 2019

London, United Kingdom

October 2017 – April 2018, *Acting Director, Legal Transition Team*

2014 – 2016, *Senior Counsel, Legal Department*

2011 – 2014, *Principal Counsel, Legal Department*

2009 – 2011, *Counsel, Legal Department*

As a Director, Chief Counsel of EBRD’s Financial Law Unit:

- Responsible for the team of senior lawyers (in London, Kiev and Cairo) providing advisory and consulting services in the areas of: (i) corporate governance, (ii) FinTech, (iii) insolvency and restructuring, and (iv) access to finance.
- Ran FinTech advisory projects for the governments in EBRD’s region on the regulation of crowdfunding platforms, the use of blockchain-based smart contracts and digitisation of payments.
- Shaped the strategy of EBRD’s advisory services in the areas of legal and regulatory reforms – from project origination, donor fundraising and alignment with EBRD’s corporate strategy, to the marketing of our services to clients and ensuring their buy-in for the proposed reforms.

Key achievements:

- Led the drafting of EBRD’s strategy papers on FinTech and digitisation.
- Led the adoption of the crowdfunding regulation by the Astana Financial Services Authority (Kazakhstan).
- Formed and chaired EBRD’s Blockchain Task Force.
- Secured funding and launched a project on the development of regulatory framework for cloud computing in Poland.

Bank of England

Senior Legal Counsel (secondment)

Advised on payments, FinTech, anti-money laundering and sanctions.

May – October 2019

London, United Kingdom

Shearman & Sterling LLP

Associate, Equity Capital Markets

May – December 2008

Frankfurt, Germany

DLA Piper LLP

Associate, Finance

2007 – 2008

Zagreb, Croatia

Privredna Banka Zagreb (PBZ), member of the Intesa Sanpaolo Group

Counsel, Investment Banking and Treasury Divisions

2006 – 2007
Zagreb, Croatia

Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton LLP

2003 – 2006, Associate, Structured Finance and Derivatives

2003 – 2006
Washington, DC, United States

TEACHING

- **Teaching Fellow, University College London** (2013 – present): Co-teach a 20-week graduate (LLM) course with about 100 students titled *Legal Aspects of International Finance* (covering international loan agreements, project finance, securitisation and bond issuances).
- **Course Leader and Chief Examiner, University College London** (2015 – present): Created and run revenue-generating graduate (LLM) distance-learning courses on: (1) *FinTech: Law and Regulation*, (2) *Corporate Governance and Compliance* and (3) *Law of International Project Finance*.
- **Course Leader and Lecturer, City University** (2014 – present): Created and run a distance a graduate (LLM) distance-learning course titled *Legal Aspects of International Finance*.

EDUCATION

University of Westminster

PhD, Law received October 2019

London, United Kingdom

Columbia University School of Law

Juris Doctor (J.D.) received May 2003

Honours: Harlan Fiske Stone Scholar (in recognition of superior academic achievement)

New York, NY, United States

Dartmouth College

Bachelor of Arts (B.A.), *magna cum laude*, received June 2000

Majors: Government and Asian Studies

Honours: Phi Beta Kappa (top 10% of the graduating class)

Hanover, New Hampshire, United States

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- Editor and co-author, *FinTech: Law and Regulation* (book), Edward Elgar (second edition published in December 2021; first edition published in September 2019).
- Author, *Sanctions Regimes of Multilateral Development Banks* (book), Brill (November 2020).
- Editor and co-author, *HealthTech: Law and Regulation* (book), Edward Elgar (October 2020).
- Author, *Smart Contracts: Self-Executing Contracts of the Future?*, International In-house Counsel Journal (June 2020).
- Author, *Treatment of Corporate Groups under Multilateral Development Banks' Sanctions Regimes*, The Intergovernmental Organisations In-House Counsel Journal (May 2020).
- Author, *At the Crossroads of Law and Innovation: How Law Is Facilitating a Great Leap Forward in Emerging Markets*, EBRD's Law in Transition journal (2019).
- Author, *Should all regulators set up a regulatory sandbox?*, Butterworths Journal of International Banking and Financial Law (December 2018).
- Author, *Smart Contracts, Blockchain and Crowdfunding: How the Law is Getting to Grips with Technology*, EBRD's Law in Transition journal (2018).
- Author, *Anti-corruption in Investment: Sanctions Regimes*, Governance for Development (July 2014).

AWARDS

- Innovative Leader, Law.com, May 2022
- GC Powerlist – Switzerland, Legal500, May 2022
- Influential General Counsel of the Year – Switzerland, Global Excellence Awards, April 2022
- Women in FinTech Powerlist, Innovate Finance, March 2022
- Attorney of the Year, The American Lawyer, December 2021
- GC Impact, National Law Journal, October 2021
- Innovation in Strategic and Risk Advice, Financial Times Innovative Lawyers Award, October 2021
- Fastcase 50, July 2021 (the award “*honoring the law’s smartest, most courageous innovators, techies, visionaries and leaders*”)
- Outstanding contribution during Covid, Law Society of England and Wales, November 2020