



Partner

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Services

Tax > Financial Services and Investment Management > Financial Services Tax >
Regulatory Compliance > Private Equity >

Sabina Comis advises French and international companies, family offices, and *private equity* funds on domestic and international tax structuring that arise from complex corporate transactions, restructurings and refinancings, often involving multiple sponsors. She also has a wealth of experience in creating and structuring private investment funds, including joint ventures and private equity vehicles. Ms. Comis also advises clients on **Brexit**, helping to shape strategy and provide guidance on related tax issues.

She is one of the few practitioners in France equipped to offer both tax advice and handle the legal and regulatory sides of fund formation. Her ability to address private equity and funds matters as an industry expert as well as a tax practitioner enables her to translate advice into tangible figures and models. By partnering with clients in their most business-critical situations, she has created some notable precedents in the French market, for example in developing innovative structuring in relation to the modeling of cash repatriations, waterfall mechanisms in private equity deals and funds documentation.

Ms. Comis is a recognized leader in the French tax and funds communities. She has been recommended over many years as a “*Leading Individual*” in *Chambers Europe*, being described as “*extremely good to work with [...] very precise, thorough and responsive*”, and “*able to really adapt to clients' needs and to what the client has in mind*”. She is also recommended in *The Legal 500 Paris* and *The Legal 500 EMEA* 2019 editions in both the Tax and Fund Formation categories, where clients admire her for being “*one of the few lawyers in Paris, who is able to handle heavy tax structuring and fund formation matters at the same time*” and “*a private equity industry leader*”. In addition, she has been highlighted as a leading tax adviser by *International Tax Review*, and is recognized for France: Financial Services Regulatory, Investment Funds by *IFLR1000* 2019. Ms.

Comis is also recognized among the leading lawyers in France by *Best Lawyers* 2019 in Private Equity Law and Tax Law.

Ms. Comis is co-chair of Dechert's Global Women's Initiative, which aims to identify and implement initiatives that promote opportunities for women to advance and lead throughout the firm.

In addition, Ms. Comis regularly speaks at conferences and teaches tax structuring of alternative investment fund vehicles at the Dauphine University (Master 2 of Tax "*Fiscalité de l'Entreprise*").

Prior to joining Dechert, Ms. Comis was resident in an international law firm's Paris office where she served as a tax partner and the international co-leader of the private investment funds group. Her previous experience also includes serving for over ten years in the tax department of two UK Magic Circle firms.

EXPERIENCE

- **Crown Holdings** on its completed US\$3.91 billion acquisition of Signode Industrial Group LLC, a global provider of transit packaging systems and solutions, from the Carlyle Group.
- **French and international private equity funds** on large and medium cap LBO structurings (often including multi-sponsors).
- **The first French private equity fund coupled with a French type endowment fund** on its tax and legal structuring.
- **Financial institutions** on tax and regulatory matters in relation to their fund vehicles.
- **One of the world's leading manufacturer and provider of electronic solutions** on various French tax dispute resolutions.
- **Regulated management companies and investment advisers** on their internal restructurings or their purchase of third party players.
- **The first dedicated European provider of mezzanine and preferred equity financing for private equity portfolios** on its tax and legal structuring.
- **The first French regulated and leveraged investment vehicle for the purchase of discounted debt** on its tax and legal structuring.

Includes matters handled at Dechert or prior to joining the firm.

EDUCATION

- University of Cambridge, LL.M., 1996
- The London School of Economics and Political Science, LL.B., 1995
- The College of Law, London, 1997

ADMISSIONS

- Paris
- England and Wales

LANGUAGES

- French
- Italian
- English

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- **Fund formation in France, Luxembourg or Ireland: What's best for you?** by Dechert LLP– Paris (June 20, 2019)
- **More than just looking for profit by Private Equity International** – Paris (June, 2019)
- **Investisseurs Allemands et Sociétés de Gestion Françaises** by Dechert LLP – Paris (February 5, 2019)
- **Credit Funds: A Global Perspective on Evolving Structures** - London (January 24, 2018)
- **French Private Equity Conference** - Paris (January 18, 2018)
- **Loi de Finances et élection présidentielle : quelle fiscalité en 2017 et après ?** by Dechert LLP — Paris (February 2, 2017)
- **Loi de Finances et élection présidentielle : quelle fiscalité en 2017 et après ?** by Dechert LLP — Paris (January 26, 2017)
- **Loi de Finances et élection présidentielle : quelle fiscalité en 2017 et après ?** by Dechert LLP — Paris (January 19, 2017)
- **Loi de Finances et élection présidentielle : quelle fiscalité en 2017 et après ?** by Dechert LLP — Paris (January 17, 2017)