



Partner

London | 160 Queen Victoria Street, London, UK EC4V
4QQ

T +44 20 7184 7460 | F +44 20 7184 7001

Dubai | Unit 501, Level 5, Precinct Building 2, Dubai
International Financial Centre, PO Box 506675, Dubai,
United Arab Emirates

T +971 4 425 6338 | F +971 4 425 6301

christopher.gardner@dechert.com

Services

Financial Services and Investment Management >

Investment Funds and Investment Companies > Private Funds >

Investment Funds: Europe > Investment Funds: Middle East >

Financial Services M&A > Litigation > Labor and Employment > Partnerships >

Corporate > Private Equity > Banking and Financial Institutions > Real Estate >

Christopher Gardner's practice focuses on the structuring and establishment of private funds domiciled in a range of onshore and offshore jurisdictions and across a range of asset classes, with a focus on liquid and illiquid debt and credit, hedge, hybrid, real estate, buyout, listed equity, and renewable energy funds. Mr. Gardner has acted for sponsors and investors from Europe, the Middle East and North Africa, the USA and the CIS.

Mr. Gardner also advises on **Brexit strategy**, M&A transactions in the financial services sector, on the spin outs and establishment of new asset management businesses and on the sale and purchase of

fund interests, fund and co-investment restructurings as well as providing advice on portfolio company corporate and commercial and general financial services regulatory matters.

In the 2019 - 2020 editions of *The Legal 500 UK*, Mr. Gardner is noted for his dual specialism in debt and credit funds and private equity buyout funds as well as being highly recommended for investment funds, specifically private and hedge funds. The guide describes him as "an established and high-performing private equity and private credit partner". The 2017 - 2018 editions of *The Legal 500 UK* also recommends Mr. Gardner in the area of investment funds. The 2017 edition notes that he is "responsive and has a can-do attitude: he knows the market so can advise on what is actual practice". The 2016 edition also noted that he has a "burgeoning reputation in hedge funds and private funds", with the 2015 guide providing client testimony that he is 'excellent at providing tailor-made advice'. He is also recommended for investment funds in the UAE by *The Legal 500* in its 2015 Europe, Middle East and Asia guide which notes that he is "excellent at fund structuring." *Chambers UK* 2014 describes Mr. Gardner as an experienced private funds practitioner who is "lauded for his technical ability." In *Chambers UK* 2013 he is described by clients as a "very sensible practitioner" who "understands the business." *Chambers UK* 2012 highlights Mr. Gardner as "positive and constructive."

Mr. Gardner co-authored the "Private Equity Funds" chapter of Sweet & Maxwell's *Law and Regulation of Investment Management*. He is a regular speaker at industry events.

EDUCATION

- The College of Law, York, LPC, 1998
- University of Exeter, LL.B., (European), 1997
- Universität des Saarlandes, LL.M., 1999

ADMISSIONS

- England and Wales, 2001
- Solicitor, Law Society of Ireland

LANGUAGES

- German
- English

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- **Focus on Real Assets and Credit, Focus on Real Assets and Credit** - United Arab Emirates (March, 2019)
- **Alternative Asset Seminar: Strategic Options for Private Equity General Partners** - London (September, 2018)
- **Fund Structuring, Fundraising and Distribution in a Post-Brexit World**, Brexit for Fund Managers Seminar Series - London (September, 2018)
- **Navigating Global Developments in the Investment Funds Industry - Opportunities for Ireland** - Dublin (June, 2018)
- **Alternative Credit Council Global Summit 2018** - London (May, 2018)
- **The Annual Dechert DIFC Asset Management Forum** - United Arab Emirates (March, 2018)
- **AIMA Update of Guide to Sound Practices for the Valuation of Investments** - London (May, 2018)
- **Credit Funds: A Global Perspective on Evolving Structures** - London (January, 2018)
- **Financing the Economy: Private Credit Research Launch** - New York / London (October, 2017)
- **Germany Forum 2017** - Munich (June, 2017)
- **Latest Developments in the Irish Funds Industry: What Asset Managers Need to Know** - London (May, 2017)
- **New Money from New Markets** – How to Raise and Manage Money from Asia and the Middle East - New York (March, 2017)
- **Capital Raising 2017- Tips and Trends in Europe, the US and the GCC** - Dubai (March, 2017)
- **DIFC Funds - 2016 and beyond** - Dubai (September, 2016)
- **SuperReturn CFO/COO Forum 2016** - Amsterdam (September, 2016)
- **RAIF - European Game Changer?** - London (July, 2016)
- **Germany Forum 2016** - Munich (June, 2016)
- **Strategy and Structuring – Is the ELTIF the Answer?** - London (May, 2016)
- **New Opportunities in Asia and the Middle East: Global Trends in Local Markets** - New York (April, 2016)

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