

# GECIĆ LAW

# A STORY OF EXCELLENCE

## 2024 IN REVIEW

As the year draws to a close, we celebrate the remarkable achievements that defined Gecić Law's journey through 2024. This year has been one of historic victories, groundbreaking ventures, and welldeserved accolades. Our firm's unwavering commitment to excellence, innovation, and client service has solidified our leading position. This reputation within the legal landscape extends both within our region and beyond. Let's revisit a few of the milestones that made this year unforgettable.

## **Historic Legal Achievements**

#### Telekom Srbija's Historic Bond Issuance

We successfully supported Telekom Srbija in its historic EUR 900 million international bond issuance. It showcased our expertise in complex multijurisdictional deals and our ability to deliver value in high-profile capital markets deals. This landmark transaction marks the Western Balkans' first-ever corporate bond issuance in international markets.

### Serbia's Largest Renewable Energy Project

Our firm played a critical role in structuring Serbia's largest renewable energy project, paving the way for constructing one of Southeast Europe's largest solar power plants with an installed capacity of 1000 MW. This project is a significant milestone in Serbia's climate and environmental goals, demonstrating the experience and capabilities of our Energy & Infrastructure team.

### Arena Channels Group Triumphs

Gecić Law made headlines by spearheading a landmark legal victory in Kosovo at a critical juncture for our client Arena Channels Group. This underscored our expertise in navigating complex and politically charged challenges and our ability to deliver exceptional client outcomes. Our Competition team also secured several significant successful outcomes for the client across the region. This included landmark <u>antitrust victories</u> in long-standing cases in Bosnia and Herzegovina and North Macedonia.

## Landmark Deals

#### JFE Shoji's Investment in Serbia

Our team played a pivotal role in supporting JFE Shoji's significant greenfield investment in Serbia and establishing a vital European hub for the firm. This landmark deal highlights our firm's capacity to facilitate strategic investments, bolster economic growth, and foster international partnerships. Our burgeoning Real Estate team demonstrated its expertise in advising on the conclusion of significant aspects of this outstanding project.

### **Remus Holding's Strategic Acquisition**

Our Corporate and M&A team advised Remus on acquiring a controlling stake in GLM, including key production capacities in Serbia. This deal marks a significant expansion that strengthens Remus' position in the automotive industry. Gecić Law collaborated with international partners to support complex cross-border transactions. The firm showcased its capabilities by ensuring the seamless execution of this strategic transaction.

### Strategic Investment in Major ICT Expansion

Our Banking and Finance team proudly supported EBRD and the ENEF II fund in their first deployment of funds in Serbia, facilitating a strategic investment in Vega IT's ambitious international expansion plans. This collaboration demonstrated our commitment to empowering transformative ventures driving technological innovation and regional growth. It also showcased our practice's capabilities, which has quickly grown and achieved this and other successes.





## European Awards 2024

The Lawyer

## At the Forefront of Emerging Legal Trends

Gecić Law is pioneering excellence in navigating new legal horizons. We took the lead in the region by developing significant expertise in addressing the EU's <u>Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism</u> (CBAM) requirements. Once fully implemented, this regulation is expected to have far-reaching ramifications for international trade. In 2024, our efforts included advising numerous local and regional businesses and organizations. We were also proud to serve various international entities in this field, including supporting pioneering projects for leading <u>Israeli and Indian</u> companies.

Additionally, as the first law firm in the region to establish a dedicated <u>AI practice</u>, we are leading the way in this rapidly evolving field. Our team provides expert guidance on AI-related matters and actively explores AI solutions to incorporate into our services. On the regulatory front, we are proud to be among the select few contributing to government work groups. In this way, our team takes part in shaping the development of AI.

These initiatives underscore our forward-thinking approach to emerging legal trends and our commitment to guiding clients through complex regulatory landscapes. Gecić Law has again set a benchmark for excellence and innovation. This year, our firm was Commended as one of the top three in the fiercely competitive <u>Law Firm of the Year: South</u> <u>Eastern Europe</u> category at The Lawyer European Awards 2024. We were finalists for European Litigation Team of the Year and European Finance Team of the Year. Notably, we were the only firm from our region to reach the finals in not one but two transactional categories. This accomplishment indeed stands as a rare and exceptional feat.

## Recognition in Leading Global Legal Directories

#### Legal 500 EMEA 2024 Rankings

Our firm and individuals achieved remarkable rankings in the Legal 500 EMEA 2024 Guide, a testament to the outstanding quality of service we provide to clients across various practice areas. We have ranked in Competition, Corporate M&A for many years, but this year in two new competitive categories, including Dispute Resolution and Projects, Infrastructure and Energy.

#### Chambers 2024 Rankings

After being consistently ranked for many years, we reached a significant milestone by improving our standings with Chambers, one of the most esteemed global legal directories. This recognition is also positions us as the youngest firm in the jurisdiction to achieve such a distinguished status. Furthermore, it highlights our continuous successes in the highly competitive field of Competition law. Above all, this reflects our commitment to exceptional legal expertise and our pursuit of excellence in serving our clients.

#### Lexology Index (Who's Who Legal) 2024

Achievements This year, our team achieved remarkable success, with rankings of multiple members in WWL. Founding Partner <u>Bogdan Gecić</u> earned the prestigious title of Thought Leader and was featured in three reports across two highly competitive practice areas: M&A, Governance, and Competition.

Partner, <u>Ognjen Colić</u>, received the Thought Leader ranking in Environment & Climate Change, making him the sole lawyer in the jurisdiction to hold this distinction. He also ranked as a recommended lawyer in M&A and Governance.

Counsel <u>Miloš Petaković</u> became a recommended lawyer in Real Estate and received the highly coveted Client Choice Award. Additionally, Senior Associate <u>Vuk Leković</u> ranked as a recommended lawyer in the Competition practice.

These accolades showcase the exceptional talent, expertise, and dedication of our professionals. They further underscore our firm's commitment to excellence across a range of practice areas.

## **Team Milestones**

## Bogdan Gecić's TerraLex Appointment

Our founding partner, <u>Bogdan Gecić</u>, was appointed Regional Co-Vice Chair for Europe at TerraLex, a prestigious position within this elite global legal network. Bogdan's extensive expertise in Southeastern Europe adds significant depth to this role. It indeed allows him to spotlight the region and foster stronger collaboration between TerraLex firms across the global network. His approach will also advance innovation and best practices, enhancing TerraLex's ability to deliver cuttingedge legal solutions across jurisdictions. This appointment above all underscores Bogdan's leadership and reflects our firm's expanding influence.

## **New Partner & Team Promotions**

The year 2024 also marked a period of internal growth and significant milestones for our team. It concurrently highlighted our fundamental commitment to meritocracy and professional development. <u>Miodrag Jevtić</u> was elected as a new Partner, while <u>Miloš Petaković</u>, <u>Nemanja Sladaković</u> and <u>Žarko Popović</u> were promoted to new positions. These well-deserved promotions certainly strengthen our team and reinforce our dedication to nurturing talent and expanding our expertise.

## Taboroši Scholarship 2024 Awarded

Continuing our proud tradition of fostering talent and advancing legal education, we awarded the <u>Taboroši</u> <u>Scholarship</u> for 2024. This initiative reflects our commitment to supporting the next generation of legal professionals. It also demonstrates our dedication to developing the entire legal field in the region.



## **Looking Ahead**

As we celebrate our achievements, we remain focused on the future. In 2025, we undoubtedly aim to build on successes by exploring new frontiers and driving excellence across our legal services. We plan to expand our regional and global footprint while continuing to deliver unparalleled client support.

We sincerely thank our clients, partners, and team members for their unwavering trust and support. Together, we have set a high standard for excellence, and we look forward to achieving even greater heights in the coming year.

Here's to a future filled with innovation, success, and shared triumphs!

Follow us to stay informed in 2025 and beyond!



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