

CONTRIBUTORS



Yerke Alikhanova, Associate, Business and Finance Practice, Morgan Lewis

Yerke Alikhanova is an Associate in Morgan Lewis's Business and Finance Practice. Ms. Alikhanova focuses on banking, financial, and other general corporate matters. Prior to joining Morgan Lewis, Ms. Alikhanova was an Associate at a leading Kazakhstan law firm. She has also worked for a Kazakh offshore servicing company.

Ms. Alikhanova obtained her MSc in management from Lancaster University Management School in 2004 and her LL.B (Honors) in Civil Law from Adilet Law College, Kazakhstan, in 2003. She is fluent in Russian and English.



Tomas Balco, Director, Central Asian Tax Research Center, KIMEP

Tomas Balco is founding Director of Central Asian Tax Research Center at KIMEP. He has been working, practicing and teaching in Kazakhstan since late 2006. Prior to coming to Kazakhstan he worked as a Senior Research Associate in the IBFD. His other work experience includes work with both private and public sectors including the Czech and Chilean Ministries of Finance and the DG Tax of the European Commission.

Tomas Balco is a Fellow of ACCA and holds Doctor and Magister Law degrees (International Law) from Masaryk University in Brno, as well as a postgraduate LL.M. in International Tax Law from the University of Vienna. Professor Balco is an active member of The International Fiscal Association and chairs the AmCham Tax Working Groups in Almaty, Astana, Atyrau, and Aktau.



Peter Burnie, Partner, Leader of Tax & Legal Services, PwC Eurasia

Peter Burnie is an experienced Tax Partner who currently leads the Tax and Legal Services function for PricewaterhouseCoopers in the Eurasia cluster. Based in Kazakhstan, he is also responsible for PwC tax services in countries stretching from the Caucasus to Central Asia and Mongolia. In this role, Peter Burnie supports a wide variety of companies, both domestic and foreign investors, in all aspects of their tax needs. As a Regional Partner he has had the opportunity to observe, work with and comment on a variety of tax and fiscal systems. He is also part of the Tax Policy network for PwC globally.



Shaimerden Chikanayev, Partner, GRATA Law Firm (Almaty / Ulaanbaatar)

Shaimerden Chikanayev is a partner in the GRATA Banking and Finance Group and head of the firm's Mongolia practice; he divides his time between Almaty and Ulaanbaatar. With over 10 years of experience in the Kazakhstani legal services market, Mr. Chikanayev focuses his practice on a wide range of finance and M&A transactions, including project finance and capital markets, infrastructure transactions, and workouts and restructurings in many industries. Formerly he worked as an Associate in the Almaty office of Dewey & Leboeuf and as an in-house counsel in the London office of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development.

Mr. Chikanayev received his LL.M. from the Duke University School of Law (USA), and his BA in law from the Eurasian National University Faculty of Law.



Maria Frolova, Partner, Tax & Legal Services, EY Moscow

Maria Frolova is a Partner in Tax & Law Services at EY Moscow. Maria has over nine years of professional experience with a focus on providing international tax planning services to banks, insurance, investment companies, funds and other financial services companies. She has extensive experience in structuring eurobonds issues and securitization deals. Maria is engaged in various consulting projects on the clarification of FATCA requirements for banks and investment groups.



Kate Habershon, Partner, Morgan Lewis

Kate Habershon is a Partner in Morgan Lewis's Tax Practice. Kate's practice focuses on corporate taxation, with an emphasis on advising corporations and funds with respect to mergers and acquisitions, corporate finance, private equity, executive compensation, and financial products. Kate was a tax counsel at the London office of an international law firm. Before that, she was a solicitor at Freshfields in London, where she was a part of the international and energy tax teams, and at Mallesons Stephen Jaques in Sydney.

Kate Habershon received her LSF from the College of Law of England and Wales, London in 1991 and her BA from the University of Oxford in 1990. She is a Solicitor of the Supreme Court of England and Wales.



Bakhytzhhan Kadyrov, Senior Associate, Morgan Lewis (Almaty)

Bakhytzhhan Kadyrov is a Senior Associate in Morgan Lewis's Business and Finance Practice. Mr. Kadyrov focuses his practices on mergers and acquisitions, tax and other corporate legal matters. Prior to joining Morgan Lewis, Mr. Kadyrov was an Associate in the corporate and tax practices of another international law firm, resident in Almaty, Kazakhstan, from 2007 (seconded for 3 months to the firm's London office in 2009). He began his career at a Big Four tax firm. He has also been featured in *The Legal 500* (2009 and 2013).

Mr. Kadyrov graduated with honors from Adilet Higher Law School in 2003. He speaks Russian and English.



Vera Kapatsina, Managing Partner, Angels Nika Advisory

Vera Kapatsina leads Angels Nika Advisory, a consultancy company that specializes in providing tax advisory services to both international and Kazakhstan based companies. Currently Vera is a Deputy Head of the American Chamber of Commerce Tax Working Group in Almaty, an expert in the Kazakhstan Association of Taxpayers, and a member of the Managing Council of the Kazakhstan Association of Taxpayers. For several years, Vera has actively participated in developing and discussing changes to the Tax Code. She also conducts seminars focused on international taxation, transfer pricing, changes in the Tax Code, and other problematic aspects of tax legislation.