



CARLOS PINTO DE ABREU
E ASSOCIADOS
SOCIEDADE DE ADVOGADOS



PRINCIPLES AND VALUES

Law practice is a profession of social interest. It is an indispensable and highly personal activity, given that although the lawyer's relevance goes beyond the defence of personal interests, he cannot possibly disregard them. There is a demand for a special relationship between him and his client, one of confidentiality, comfort, trust and proximity. This is the ultimate reason for the existence of this noble profession.

The lawyer is an independent professional. He uses the enacted legislation and the law as his tools in order to achieve his clients' legitimate and fair claims. Regardless of the difficulty of the case. Regardless of its obstacles. Regardless of the costs involved in the study, preparation and integral monitoring of the proceedings. We do not compromise. We never give up.

Carlos Pinto de Abreu

PROVIDING LEGAL SERVICES

Providing legal services is not a mere provision of services, a commercial or self-interested act. It is more, much more, than that.

The acts practiced by lawyers are useful and generate utility far beyond the strictly economic value. Personality rights, freedom, property rights, honour, principles and values are a permanent concern to us.

The added value of our services lies within the prompt response, the anticipation of problems, the prevention of risks, the usefulness of our advice, the quality of our assistance and the effectiveness of our defence. We will be waiting for you. You can count on us.

Rui Elói Ferreira



WE GIVE
PRIORITY
TO PEOPLE

FIELDS OF ACTIVITY

Practicing law is more than the provision of a specific “ready-to-deliver” service or of previously prepared and repeatable services, which are occasional and autonomous. The work of a lawyer is an innovative, challenging, unique and unrepeatable task. Thus each case is a different one, needing a specific diagnosis to be made and a different therapy to be applied; it is a multidisciplinary activity since there is no possible solution without mastering and analysing a variety of knowledge fields and respectfully relying on the assistance of professionals specialized in other fields of expertise; we are talking about a cross-cutting, global and complex service, which is not limited to specific areas of law, to separate law practice

compartments or confining labels. We would however like to name some of the main areas we deal with on a daily basis:

Human Rights: Persons’ Rights and Personality Rights, Family Law and Children Law

Punitive Law: Criminal Law, Administrative Sanctions’ Law, Disciplinary Law

Company Law: Commercial Law, Civil Law, Labour Law, Tax Law, Financial Law

International and European Law: International Judicial Cooperation in Civil and Criminal Matters.

Sofia Monge





/HUMAN RIGHTS

The Law is often misunderstood as being limited to property rights. It would be limited to the law of obligations, to property law, to leases or the law of successions. Even within these branches of law the defence of the person's rights is often neglected. This is why we highlight in the first place personality rights, family rights, young persons' rights and rights of the elderly and disabled persons.

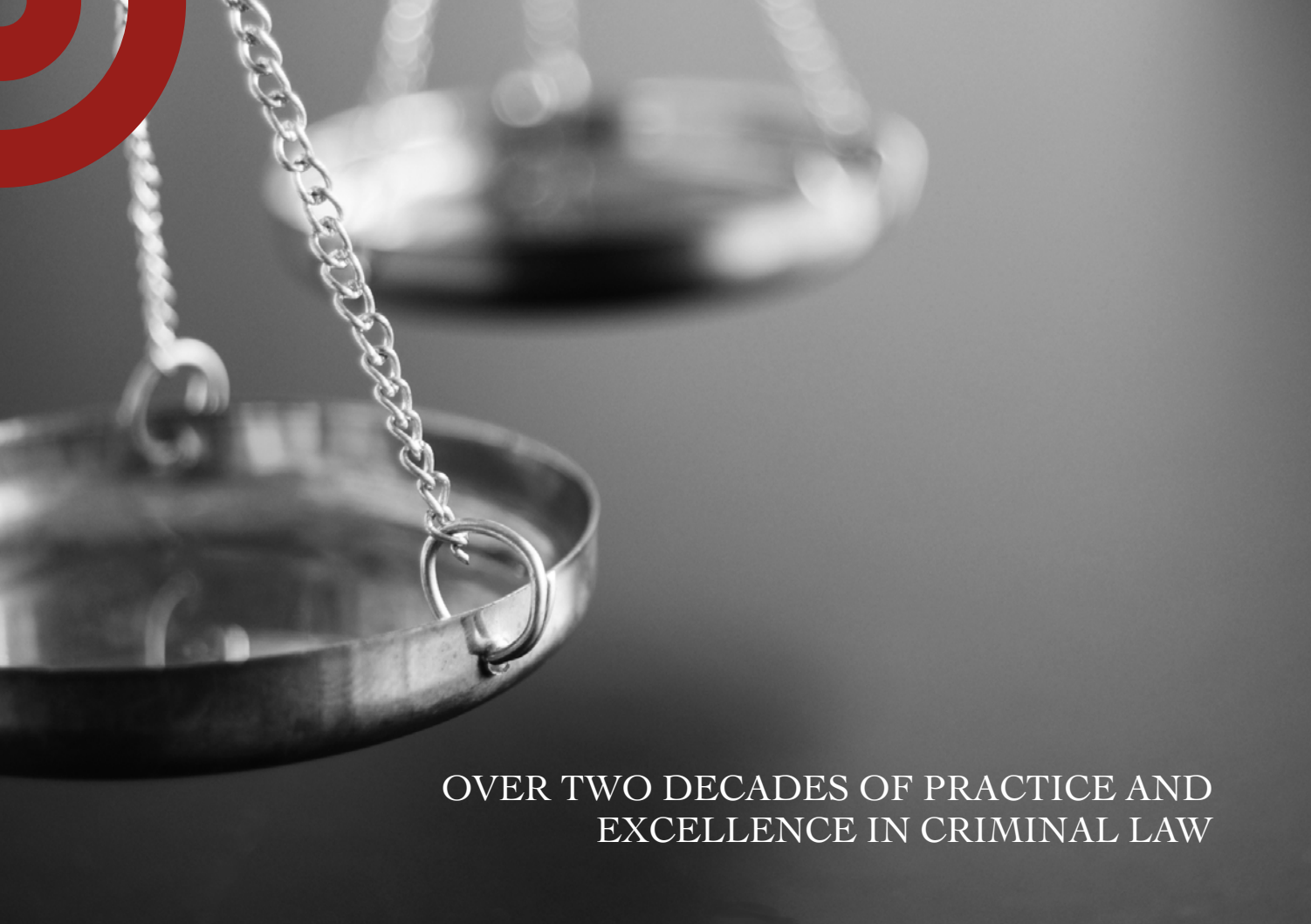
These days, real life is brutal and merciless, due to the fast-paced developments, as well as to the pressure of the circumstances, the coldness in relationships and the lack of time, and also due to the requirements of professional life, the added risks. Family relationships deteriorate and problems arise. Accidents occur and misfortune more and more makes persons liable and creates victims. Age comes along with difficulties, fragility and incapacity. In order to be able to handle these issues, you cannot always count on common sense and the state is not always there to

EACH INDIVIDUAL CASE IS UNIQUE, ONE-OF-A-KIND, INNOVATIVE AND CHALLENGING.

assist you. Moreover, others do not always take responsibility for their own actions. In these cases, the intervention of law becomes necessary and resorting to the courts becomes compulsory.

Consequently, the lawyer is an indispensable person who helps you understanding your rights better and exercise your legal prerogatives by adequately intervening in an extrajudicial solution if possible or, if necessary, assisting you with the filing of a law suit and supporting you throughout the judicial procedure. That's life! However, one of the most important things in life is to avoid being in a vulnerable position and being alone at difficult times and in times of suffering, during crisis, in times of weakness and of conflict and within situations of incapacity. Contact a good lawyer. Seek advice. Any issue can be solved or dealt with rigorously, properly and seriously, regardless of its the difficulties or sensitiveness.





OVER TWO DECADES OF PRACTICE AND
EXCELLENCE IN CRIMINAL LAW



/PUNITIVE LAW

Criminal Law and Criminal Procedure Law are the areas in which this law firm specializes par excellence. These days however punitive law is not limited to Penal Law or, if one prefers to name it like that, to Criminal Law. There are also so called administrative or regulatory wrongdoings.

We all have already heard about fines and additional penalties. The legislator uses these in order to deter and repress risk behaviour, identify risks and potential damage.

Road traffic violations, environmental wrongdoings, offences against the economy, to public health, to stock markets, and so on, and so on...are things we have all heard about.

The procedure for imposing a fine and/or an additional sanction is complex and requires backing. There is a first compulsory

administrative stage, eventually followed by a second optional judicial phase. The slightest mistake can be devastating and therefore prevention is more effective than cure.

Any citizen or entity involved in these proceedings has a broad right to intervene and to exercise legal remedies. In one word, there is the right to be heard and the right of defence. These are protected in order to prevent the justice system from giving way to iniquity and arbitrariness and to prevent reasonableness from being replaced by excess and unfairness. Law is not always the criteria of those balancing the scales of justice in favour of those who play by the rule of law. Therefore, it is important to seek legal advice and to be assisted by an honest, prepared and engaged lawyer.

Henrique Martins Gomes | José António Almeida





PROGNOSIS IS INDISPENSABLE.
CONSEQUENCES NEED TO BE
PREDICTED.

/COMPANY LAW

People exist. And because they exist they have to cooperate. This is how states, cities, civil societies, enterprises, associations, foundations, corporate groups, etc. emerged. As the human being is by nature never fully satisfied, there is ambition and the capacity to create, innovate and take action.

An organization nowadays does not dispense with legal regulations. The law governs everything and is designed to predict, to inspire and to shape any situation. Life can however be far richer, more unpredictable and surprising. There is normality and there is pathology.

Within normality, enterprises are born; they grow, live and die. Companies are incorporated, changed, transformed, taken

over; they associate, merge and extinguish. Within normality, business flows. Sometimes the spoken word is sufficient. Other times contracts need to be written down. Form is essential and prediction is indispensable. Precautions against possible consequences need to be taken and risks have to be assessed. Damage should be avoided or minimized. Within normality, contracts shall be closed and obligations fulfilled; links are kept and long lasting relationships are consolidated. Labour and corporate relationships for instance are developed in harmony and for the benefit of both or all parties. This is often the case due to the essential, preventive and early intervention of a lawyer, proactively discouraging conflicts.

Within pathology, the process turns out to be more complicated. The lawyer's intervention is no longer significant but indispensable, apart from that of the mediator, the arbitrator, and the judge. It is necessary to overcome psychological, economic, legal, procedural, administrative and bureaucratic obstacles. It is necessary to guarantee the essential elements, without neglecting the secondary elements. However it is important to outline strategies, as well as to assist in the field. It is also necessary to define a tactical approach without forgetting about the final goal.

Whether we are referring to corporate, banking or financial law or whether we are talking about matters related to taxes, or to civil,

commercial or labour law, what matters is to understand what can or cannot be achieved and by what means and to assess the costs/benefits carefully. The law is an instrument, a tool, a medicine, a palliative. Laws are part of the solution and should not be part of the problem. However, there are boundaries...

To be able to perform, make a correct diagnosis and to prescribe the appropriate therapy, without pain or with the minimum distress, the assistance of a lawyer is essential. Think about it now. Because later it could unfortunately become more difficult, or it may even be too late.

Maria Antónia Araújo | Catarina Garcia de Matos



/INTERNATIONAL AND EUROPEAN LAW AND INTERNATIONAL JUDICIAL COOPERATION IN CIVIL AND CRIMINAL MATTERS

We live in the era of globalization, new technologies and the internet. Within the Schengen area there are no barriers. We buy our plane ticket on the web, we check-in online and we get on and off board at our destination without any interference from state authorities whatsoever. We buy and sell at a distance. We are anywhere on the globe and the world is within reach at the distance of a simple mouse click and a screen. This freedom has become taken for granted in such a way that it is often underestimated.

The wonderful world of free movement, above all within the European Union, has made it possible: the Erasmus programmes, the movement of workers and service providers, international business, low cost flights which provide pleasant short stays at state capitals, summer vacation sites or winter sports locations, etc. But what is the legal relevance of globalization? And what is the role of the lawyer in this globalized world?

The Portuguese situation is even more striking. In addition to the European Union, the close relations with the Member-States of the Community of Portuguese Speaking Countries also facilitate the free movement of people, capital, goods, services and inter-

national business. This is a century-old tradition of exchange of people, culture and business, as well as of emigration and immigration which made us at home with foreign contact.

There is an increase in the movement of people and the number of legal situations with international connections. New advantageous situations such as e-commerce arise, as well as dangerous ones, such as cybercrime. It is necessary to determine the law that governs those situations, since it may not be the Portuguese law. They may be governed by the law of a foreign country or even by a law stemming from an international or supranational organization. Therefore it is necessary to be able to face such problems immediately or to know exactly who can assist.

These are also areas in which we specialize and are able to provide direct legal assistance in Portuguese, English, German, French and Spanish. With the assistance of interpreters and translators we are also able to provide our services to clients and companies in other languages, such as Arabic, Chinese, Italian, Japanese and Russian. Moreover, we have a vast network of contacts abroad, which ensures a direct, simple, swift and cost-effective way ahead.

Vânia Costa Ramos



OUR TEAM

WE ACT AS A TEAM. AS A WHOLE, WE ARE COMPLETE. WE ACT ACROSS THE BOARD IN ALL DISCIPLINES, WHICH WE HOLD IN HIGH REGARD, WITHOUT LOSING OUR INDEPENDENCE. WE STRIVE TO GET TO THE HEART OF THE PROBLEMS. WE SEEK AN ANSWER AND FIND A SOLUTION. WE DO HOWEVER ALWAYS RESPECT OUR CLIENTS' FINAL DECISION.

Carlos Pinto de Abreu
Rui Elói Ferreira
Sofia Monge
Vânia Costa Ramos
Inês Carvalho Sá
Henrique Martins Gomes
Maria Antónia Araújo
Catarina Garcia de Matos
Miguel Santos Almeida
José António Almeida

António Lopes Costa (Algarve)
António Sá Gonçalves (Coimbra)
Francisco Marques Vieira (Oporto)
Pedro Soares Pimentel (Azores)
Simone Teixeira (Madeira)
Élio Teixeira (Angola and Mozambique)
Roberto Podval (Brazil)
Maria Cecília Gale (London)
Anne Brunke (secretariat and translations)
Inês Matos (transcripts and secretariat)
Ana Catarina Cunha (external service)

Daniela Carvalho (solicitor)
Daniela Portugal (enforcement agent)
Marlene Leal (logistics and maintenance)
Jorge Pires (business management)
Irendra Vasrislal (registered auditor)
João Macedo (statutory auditor)
Cristina Pinto de Abreu (medicine)
Luís Cruz (veterinary medicine)
Diana Gomes (psychology)
André Martins (civil engineering)
Nuno Macara (architecture)
António Barento (translation and interpretation)



Founding Team

CARLOS PINTO DE ABREU E ASSOCIADOS
SOCIEDADE DE ADVOGADOS, RL

Alameda Quinta de Santo António, 13-C
1600-675 Lisboa - Portugal
Tel. +351 217 106 160
Fax +351 213 519 526
info@carlospintodeabreu.com
www.carlospintodeabreu.com