



Francesco S. Seri

Senior Associate

Milan

+39.02.3030.2985

Francesco.Seri@klgates.com

OVERVIEW

Francesco Seri is a senior associate in the firm's Finance practice. He specializes in the banking and finance sector and has a focus on real estate and acquisition finance.

Francesco assists some of the most important Italian and international banks in acquisition, real estate, leveraged and corporate finance transactions and some alternative investment funds in relation to banking and finance matters.

Francesco received his Law Degree in 2014 from Roma Tre University (Università degli Studi Roma Tre) and was admitted to the practice of law in Italy in 2016.

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

Prior to joining the firm, Francesco was an associate at other top ranked international law firm based in Milan.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Recognized by *The Legal 500 EMEA* as a Recommended Lawyer for Banking and finance: lender or arranger side in Italy, 2024
- Recognized by *The Legal 500 EMEA* as a Recommended Lawyer for Banking and finance: Borrower side in Italy, 2024

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- On 23 November 2023, Francesco Seri acted as a speaker in a workshop on Building rights, Town Planning and Civil Law, organized by K&L Gates.

EDUCATION

- Law Degree, Roma Tre University, Faculty of Law, 2014

ADMISSIONS

- Bar of Rome

LANGUAGES

- English
- Italian

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- *Garanzia "Archimede": la legge di bilancio introduce un nuovo strumento di garanzia targato SACE*, Il Sole 24 Ore, 9 February 2024
- *Decreto Sostegni-bis Garanzia Italia e Fondo Centrale di Garanzia* - an alert on the recent Law Decree so-called "Decreto Sostegni-bis" regarding state guarantees on loans granted by banks and financial institutions to companies affected by the COVID-19 emergency, 31 May 2021

AREAS OF FOCUS

- Corporate and Acquisition Finance
- Real Estate Finance
- Restructuring and Insolvency
- Securitization and Structured Finance

REPRESENTATIVE EXPERIENCE

- Advised an Italian leading asset and investment manager in connection with a €98,000,000 term loan facility granted by an Italian securitization SPV (set up in accordance with law 130/1999) and aimed at supporting the acquisition of a large office property in Rome by a specialized real estate investment fund managed by the client.
- Advised two leading Italian banks, as mandated lead arrangers and syndicated lenders, in connection with a €48,000,000 term loan facility granted to a large Italian steel manufacturer, supporting a corporate acquisition and an extraordinary group reorganization.
- Advised a UK industrial and commercial group with subsidiaries in Italy and worldwide, in the Italian law aspects of a £95,000,000 loan facility and in the subsequent add-ons granted by a syndicate of funds and banking lenders.
- Advised two leading Italian banks, as mandated lead arrangers and syndicated lenders, in connection with a €14,000,000 refinancing granted to an Italian company active in the chroming industry. We have also advised

one of the two lenders in its granting of a line of credit supported by a state-backed guarantee issued by SACE (the Italian state-owned credit insurance agency) pursuant to Law Decree no. 23/2020, aimed at providing liquidity to companies affected by the COVID-19 pandemic emergency.

- Advised a leading Italian asset management company, as investment and asset manager of an Italian private debt fund, in the granting of a term loan facility to an Italian company specializing in components and equipment for agricultural and gardening machines.
- Advised an Italian leading asset and investment manager in connection with a €17,100,000 acquisition, capex, and VAT financing granted by a syndicate of banks to a real estate fund managed by the client and aimed at supporting the acquisition and revamping of a large office property in the center of Milan, formerly headquartering an insurance company.
- Advised a leading bank based in Qatar in the Italian law aspects of a €140,000,000 Islamic finance facility granted to an Italian leading general contractor, with a security package governed by Italian law.
- Advised an international group, with subsidiaries in Italy and worldwide, active in the fashion industry, in the Italian law security package of a US\$375,000,00 facility borrowed by the group abroad.
- Advised a leading Italian bank in connection with the granting of new lines of credit to an Italian company owning some renowned luxury hotels in Southern Italy and in the relevant amendments of an existing €98,500,000 term loan facility.
- Advised a leading Italian asset management company, as investment and asset manager of an Italian private debt fund, in the granting of a direct loan to an Italian “start-up” company, owned by leading winter sports equipment manufacturers and specializing in apps, guides, and tools for climbing.
- Advised the financial creditors (banks and investment funds) of a German leading producer and distributor of frozen foods, with subsidiaries in Italy, Switzerland, the Netherlands, and Belgium, in the Italian law aspects of a debt and overall capital restructuring.
- Advised a leading Italian asset management company, as investment and asset manager of an Italian private debt fund, in the granting of a term loan facility to an innovative Italian company active in the sector of carbonation, cooling, and microfiltration of water.
- Advised a leading international real estate investment manager in the financial aspects of the sale of a large logistic center in Italy and in the repayment of the mortgage debt and security release.
- Advised a large Italian bank in the sale of secured and unsecured debt vis-à-vis an Italian construction group to a securitization vehicle managed by an Italian leading investment manager specializing in non-performing loans.
- Advised two industrial companies operating in the metal industry, as borrowers, in relation to several term loan facilities supported by state-backed guarantees issued by SACE (the Italian state-owned credit insurance agency) and by Fondo Centrale pursuant to Law Decree no. 23/2020, aimed at providing liquidity to companies affected by the COVID-19 pandemic emergency.

- Advised a leading International company, as servicer and agent, in relation to the amendments and extension of an originally equal to approximately €400,000,000 term loan acquisition and capex facilities granted to a real estate investment fund for the purchase of a formerly state-owned real estate portfolio in Italy and in the release of security following sale of the properties and repayments.
- Advised two leading Italian banks, as mandated lead arrangers and syndicated lenders, in connection with a €14,000,000 refinancing granted to an Italian company active in the chroming industry. We have also advised one of the two lenders in its granting of a line of credit supported by a state-backed guarantee issued by SACE (the Italian state-owned credit insurance agency) pursuant to Law Decree no. 23/2020, aimed at providing liquidity to companies affected by the COVID-19 pandemic emergency.
- Advised companies belonging to one of the world's leading group operating in the private education's business, in connection with a term loan facility granted by a pool of Italian and international banks, with the aim of supporting their financial needs connected to the ordinary course of business as well as to the repayment of the existing financial indebtedness.
- Advised a primary Italian credit institution in connection with a term loan facility granted to an Italian real estate AIF aimed at supporting the financial needs connected to the acquisition and futuristic redevelopment of a real estate asset located in Milan, in the City Life area.
- Advised a leading company investing in the European real economy, (including clean energy and private equity) in connection with a term and revolving loan facility granted by a primary Italian credit institution and aimed at supporting - inter alia - part of the financial needs related to the acquisition, by a controlled company, of 100% of an international company operating both in the United States and in Italy and whose business is focused in the production and sale of polypropylene nonwovens.
- Advised a pool of Italian banks in connection with the term loan facilities granted to an Italian real estate alternative investment fund and owner of a significant real estate portfolio (with an estimated market value equal to Euro 2 billion) located throughout Italy and currently let to various public entities.