

# BILLING AT VIEIRA DE ALMEIDA UP 2% TO €52M

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**Revenue at leading Portuguese law firm Vieira de Almeida (VdA) increased almost 2 per cent to €52 million in 2018.**



The law firm – which is one of Portugal's biggest with around 300 lawyers – is led by managing partner João Vieira de Almeida (pictured).

VdA increased its headcount by around 7 per cent in 2018, with notable hires including Cuatrecasas EU and competition partner Ricardo Bordalo Junqueiro.

Key drivers of growth at the firm included work for private equity funds, pension funds and infrastructure funds.

Notable matters for the firm in 2018 included advising telecommunications company PT Portugal – a subsidiary of Altice Europe – on the €660 million sale of a 75 per cent stake in its company Towers of Portugal to a consortium including Morgan Stanley Infrastructure Partners and Horizon Equity Partners. The firm also advised Deutsche Bank on the sale of its private and commercial banking business in Portugal to Spain's Abanca. Based in north-west Spain, Abanca has 640 branches and more than 4,600 employees.

The firm also advised Portuguese private healthcare company José de Mello Saúde (JMS) on the registration of its commercial paper programme on MARF, the fixed income market operated by Bolsas y Mercados Españoles (BME).

In June 2018, VdA entered into a partnership agreement with Cameroonian law firm Core Africa Lawyers, which has significant expertise in OHADA law – a system of corporate law adopted by West and Central African nations – particularly in relation to the oil and gas industry.