

PORTUGAL'S PARTNER MOVES AND APPOINTMENTS

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In 2022, Iberian Lawyer recorded 45 new partners in Portugal, 11 as lateral hires and the appointment of 34 new partners.

by michael heron

Before the middle of the previous decade, partners moving between the top 20 firms was extremely rare in Portugal. The war for talent looks set to be a trend to continue and this year was no exception with Iberian Lawyer highlighting 11 partner moves. Furthermore, 34 lawyers have been promoted to the partnership in their respective firms since January 2022 (to 15 November 2022). This data has been collated from official statements by law firms or from the newsroom's collection of information published on LinkedIn. Of the 45 new partners, m&a is the most significant practice with 16%, followed by energy with 13%, real estate with 7% and banking, tax and tmt all representing 4% of the new partners.

WHO WAS MOST ACTIVE?

Vieira de Almeida and Abreu Advogados led the way in 2022, with both firms welcoming five new lawyers each to their respective partnerships. In the case of VdA, they promoted **Francisco Cabral Matos**, **Inês Antas de Barros**, **Maria Cunha Matos** and **Pedro Corrêa de Oliveira** ([link here](#)). Cabral Matos and Antas de Barros have both been at the firm for 15 years. Younger lawyers that have been and might still be tempted to jump ship to rival firms, should perhaps note that the traditional route to partnership is still possible for associates willing to put in the time and be patient. VdA's other new partner in 2022 was one of the most memorable of the year. In January 2022, **Francisco Sá Carneiro** with 35 years of experience in the M&A market, joined from CS'Associados ([link here](#)).

Abreu promoted **Diogo Pereira Duarte**, **Hugo Teixeira** and **Maria Santa Martha** [\(link here\)](#). There two other new partners were both lateral hires. They strengthened their criminal team with the incorporation of the associate partner **José Maria Formosinho Sanchez**, who joined from PLMJ [\(link here\)](#). **Bruno Azevedo Rodrigues** is the most recent partner at Abreu, with the firm announcing his appointment on the 10th of November, joining from Telles [\(link here\)](#). The lawyer reinforced the firm's projects & structured finance area. Azevedo Rodrigues is a big name in the market, having previously worked at Miranda & Associados and DLA Piper ABBC.

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