



KOREA LAW AWARDS 2017

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY SUMMARY

ASIAN LEGAL BUSINESS

the answer company™
THOMSON REUTERS®

PART I: IMPORTANT DATES

31 JULY 2017	Opening of nominations
4 SEPTEMBER 2017	Deadline for nominations (Please submit nomination forms to yvonne.lau@thomsonreuters.com)
OCTOBER 2017	Announcement of finalists
16 NOVEMBER 2017	Awards ceremony in Seoul, Korea

AWARDS INQUIRIES

Contact **Yvonne Lau** at yvonne.lau@thomsonreuters.com or call **(+852) 2843 6547**.

SPONSORSHIP INQUIRIES

Contact **Amantha Chia** at amantha.chia@thomsonreuters.com or call **(+65) 6870 3917**.

PART II: GENERAL GUIDELINES

- A. All nominations must be written in the ALB nomination form provided. ALB will not accept entries in any other format.
- B. ALB accepts self-nominations in addition to third-party nominations.
- C. Every work entry submitted in the nomination forms must be completed within the timeframe of 1 June 2016 and 31 May 2017.
- D. For queries regarding eligibility, confidentiality and the nomination and assessment processes, visit our FAQ Page.

PART III: DEFINITION OF TERMS

The work highlights provided in the nomination forms will be judged based on the following criteria:

Breadth - the degree to which the work spanned different jurisdictions, practice areas, parties and industries

Complexity - the degree to which the work requires intricate legal principles or advanced techniques and structures

Impact or significance - the degree to which clients and other stakeholders, the bench and bar or the Korea legal/business community at large is affected

Improvement - the degree to which the work involved improved techniques and structures

Innovation - the degree to which the work involved the application of a new concept or creative solution, process, service, program or the like to existing systems and processes, thus adding more value to output

Korea element - any or all of the following: (a) one of the law firms involved must be based in Korea; (b) one of the parties to the deal must be based in Korea; (c) the contract/deal was executed/completed in Korea; or (d) the contract/deal must, in any way, be related to Korea

Third-party award or recognition (if applicable) - that which is given by any award-giving organisation, public or private, other than ALB

Work - any transactions, cases or matters handled, and other legal services provided within the organisation or otherwise

PART IV: AWARD CATEGORIES

A. DEAL CATEGORIES

- 1 **Debt Market Deal of the Year**
- 2 **Equity Market Deal of the Year**
- 3 **M&A Deal of the Year**

- 4 **Projects, Energy and Infrastructure Deal of the Year**
- 5 **Real Estate Deal of the Year**
- 6 **Technology, Media and Telecommunications Deal of the Year**
- 7 **Korea Deal of the Year***

Specific Guidelines

- A. **Korea element:** Every entry submitted in the deal categories must have a Korea element as defined in Part III.
- B. **Date of deal completion:** Each deal submitted must be completed within the timeframe of 1 June 2016 to 31 May 2017. If the deal was submitted in 2016, it is not eligible for re-submission in the ALB Korea Law Awards 2017.
- C. **Debt Market Deal of the Year; Equity Market Deal of the Year:** Each deal submitted must have a minimum financial value (MFV) of USD 500 million.
- D. **M&A Deal of the Year:** Each deal submitted must have a minimum financial value (MFV) of USD 700 million.
- E. **Projects, Energy and Infrastructure Deal of the Year; Real Estate Deal of the Year; TMT Deal of the Year:** Each deal submitted for these categories must have a MFV of USD 300 million.
- F. **Korea Deal of the Year:** The winners from the other deal categories will automatically become finalists for Deal of the Year. Therefore, this category is not open for nomination.

Criteria

The evaluation of deals will be based on the following factors: complexity; innovation/improvement; breadth; impact/significance; and third-party awards/recognition.

B. FIRM CATEGORIES

- 1 **Banking and Financial Services Law Firm of the Year**
- 2 **Boutique Law Firm of the Year**
- 3 **Construction and Real Estate Law Firm of the Year**
- 4 **Deal Firm of the Year**
- 5 **Korea Intellectual Property Law Firm of the Year**
- 6 **International Intellectual Property Law Firm of the Year**
- 7 **International Arbitration Law Firm of the Year**
- 8 **International Law Firm of the Year**
- 9 **Labour and Employment Law Firm of the Year**
- 10 **Litigation Law Firm of the Year**
- 11 **Overseas Practice Law Firm of the Year**
- 12 **Private Equity Law Firm of the Year**
- 13 **Projects, Energy and Infrastructure Law Firm of the Year**
- 14 **Regulatory and Compliance Law Firm of the Year**
- 15 **Rising Law Firm of the Year**
- 16 **Shipping Law Firm of the Year**
- 17 **Tax and Trusts Law Firm of the Year**
- 18 **Technology, Media and Telecommunications Law Firm of the Year**
- 19 **Korea Law Firm of the Year***

Specific Guidelines

- A. **Physical office:** All law firms based in Korea (have a physical office located in Korea) are qualified to nominate for the firm categories, except as may be provided as below.
- B. **Minimum Financial Value (MFV):** No MFV is required for deals or works submitted for the firm categories, except as may be provided below.
- C. **Deal Firm of the Year:** Each deal submitted for this category must have a “Korea element” as defined above and a MFV (minimum financial value) of USD 200 million and above. Only firms that have completed at least 10 cross-border deals can qualify for this category. Each firm can submit up to 5 deals for review.
- D. **Intellectual Property Law Firm of the Year (Korea/International):** Korean law firms headquartered in Korea are qualified to submit for Intellectual Property Law Firm of the Year (Korea); law firms headquartered outside of Korea are qualified to submit for Intellectual Property Law Firm of the Year (International). Each deal submitted for these categories must have a “Korea element” as defined above.
- E. **Overseas Practice Law Firm of the Year:** Only domestic law firms headquartered in Korea may join the nomination for these categories.

- F. **Rising Law Firm of the Year:** Only law firms that have no more than 10 partners and have been established in Korea no earlier than 2011 are eligible for submission.
- G. **Korea Law Firm of the Year:** The winners from the other firm categories will automatically become finalists for Korea Law Firm of the Year. Therefore, this category is not open for nomination.

Criteria

The evaluation of deals will be based on the following factors: complexity; innovation/improvement; breadth; impact/significance; third-party awards/recognition (when applicable); no. of completed transactions (when applicable); and volume of completed transactions in USD (when applicable).

C. IN-HOUSE CATEGORIES

- 1 **Banking and Financial Services In-House Team of the Year**
- 2 **Construction and Heavy Industries In-House Team of the Year**
- 3 **Retail and Manufacturing In-House Team of the Year**
- 4 **Technology, Media and Telecommunications In-House Team of the Year**
- 5 **Korea In-House Team of the Year**

Specific Guidelines

- A. **Physical office:** All in-house teams with a physical office in Korea are qualified to join the nominations for the in-house categories.
- B. **Banking and Financial Services In-House Team of the Year:** Investment banks, commercial banks, insurance companies, accounting firms, stock brokerages and other entities in the finance industry may join the nominations for this category.
- C. **Korea In-House Team of the Year:** In-house teams from all industries are qualified to submit for this category. This award will be evaluated on the standard criteria for evaluation (see below); in addition to illustration of industry expertise, employment engagement and development, corporate responsibility, diversity and inclusion initiatives, and any other works highlighting why the in-house team is outstanding in the market.

Criteria

The evaluation of deals will be based on the following factors: complexity; innovation/improvement; breadth; impact/significance; third-party awards/recognition (when applicable); no. of completed transactions (when applicable); and volume of completed transactions in USD (when applicable).

D. INDIVIDUAL CATEGORIES

- 1 **Dealmaker of the Year**
- 2 **In-House Lawyer of the Year**
- 3 **Managing Partner of the Year**
- 4 **Woman Lawyer of the Year**

Specific Guidelines

- A. **Number of nominees:** An organization can only nominate one lawyer per category. An organization can also choose to nominate lawyers from other organizations.
- B. **Woman Lawyer of the Year:** Open to all female lawyers whether from private practice law firms or in-house counsel from corporations.

Criteria

The evaluation of deals will be based on the following factors: complexity; innovation/improvement; breadth; impact/significance; third-party awards/recognition (when applicable); no. of completed transactions (when applicable); and volume of completed transactions in USD (when applicable).

ASSOCIATE
SPONSOR



OFFICIAL
RECRUITMENT SITE



ALB SUPPORTS



PROUDLY PRESENTED BY

