

Francesca Rolla

Partner

Milan

Biography

With almost 30 years' experience, Francesca Rolla's activity spans almost all areas of contentious work (product liability litigation, mass torts and white collar crimes, corporate and commercial litigation) across industry sectors as diverse as life sciences, automotive, insurance and consumers goods. She is head of our Italian Litigation practice and of the Investigations, White Collar & Fraud group in Italy. She is one of the Litigation practice's primary liaisons to the firm's global Aerospace, Defense, and Government Services sector team.

Be it a corporate dispute, a class action or a complex commercial litigation, domestic or cross border, before State courts of Arbitral tribunals, Francesca is at the forefront of Italian litigators, with the ability to "translate the obscure Italian proceedings into easily understandable language". Drawing on her extensive experience in product liability and mass tort litigation, Francesca assists clients in conducting internal investigations and provides coordinated defence strategies in the context of investigations by criminal or other public authorities, often with cross border relevance (for example, in investigations commenced by the US Department of Justice). She helps clients constructing robust, tailor-made, compliance and risk mitigation solutions. As technology influences all areas



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Languages

English

Italian

French

Practices

Corporate and Shareholder
Litigation

International Arbitration

Investigations, White Collar, and
Fraud

Litigation Services

Commercial Litigation

Products Law

Technology Litigation

of law and may disrupt any industry, Francesca works with clients to help them understand their shifting risk landscape as to ensure they're maximizing the use of technology to mitigate those risks, whether in compliance programs or through the use of AI in litigation.

She is ranked as Leading Individual in *Chambers, Legal 500*, and *Who'sWho Legal* for Dispute Resolution, Life sciences and Product Liability. She won the 2019 TopLegal Award as best in Litigation, the 2015 Euromoney LGM European Woman in Business Law Award as best in Product Liability and the 2014 ILO Client Choice Award for Product Liability. She is listed as Life Science Star by LGM Life Sciences.

Representative experience

Product litigation and compliance assistance for major U.S. and European life sciences companies, including advice on criminal investigations and proceedings.

Defending companies in a range of industries in individual and multi-party product liability claims.

Successfully assisting a leading tobacco manufacturer in the first product-related class action filed in Italy.

Defending a University in a landmark litigation over ownership of an estate in Italy, over US\$800m worth, bequeathed to our client.

Assisting a American multinational technology company with internal investigations and defence in pending criminal investigations for alleged tax crimes and corruption.

Defending a Fortune 500 multinational in product compliance criminal investigations and in the parallel proceedings before the Italian Regulatory Safety Authority.

Assisting clients in different industries (automotive; chemical; consumer, life sciences, luxury) in contractual

Insurance Litigation

Industries

Aerospace, Defense, and Government Services

Automotive and Mobility

Consumer

Energy and Natural Resources

Insurance

Life Sciences and Health Care

Areas of focus

Alternative Dispute Resolution

Bribery and Corruption

Class Actions and Group Litigation

Getting the Deal Through:
Automotive 2019

Pharmaceuticals and Biotechnology

Product Compliance

Product Litigation

Real Estate Litigation and Disputes

Education and admissions

litigations and in supply chain disputes.

Assisting a beverage corporation in a complex commercial dispute in Italy and abuse of dominance, breach of contract and millionaire debt recovery.

Assisting an international manufacturing company in two follow on actions brought before the Courts of Bologna and Genoa by more than 70 companies claiming damages.

Awards and rankings

- Acritas Star, *Acritas Stars Independently Rated Lawyers*, 2017-2020
- Prize Professional of the year for civil and corporate disputes, *Top Legal Awards*, 2019
- Dispute Resolution, Leading Individual, *Legal 500 EMEA*, 2014-2019
- Compliance, *Legal 500 EMEA*, 2018-2019
- Life sciences, *Chambers Europe*, 2012 - 2019
- Industry focus: Healthcare and life sciences, *Legal 500 EMEA*, 2018-2019
- Product Liability, *Woman in Business Law Award*, 2015
- Best lawyer for Product Liability in Italy, *ILO Client Choice Award*, 2014

Latest thinking and events

- Hogan Lovells Publications
 - Causal link between mobile phones and brain tumour: a new decision revives the debate
- Analysis
 - International Products Law Review 2019: Issue 75
- Published Works
 - Getting The Deal Through Automotive 2019 - Italy
- Hogan Lovells Publications

Education

Law Degree magna cum laude, Università Statale di Milano, Milano, 1988

Visiting student at the Department of Economics and Political Science, University College London, 1985

Memberships

International Association of Defence Counsel ("IADC")

International Bar Association (IBA)

Accolades

"Exceptional lawyer" Francesca Rolla is extolled for her "great knowledge of the life sciences industry". Her experience includes contentious work and she is credited as an "brilliant litigator".

Who's Who Legal 2019

"She distinguishes herself for her extreme reliability, precision, availability and skillfulness, as well as for the speed in which she can give feedback to clients' questions."

Chambers Europe 2019

"Brilliant" head of team Francesca Rolla, who is "always prompt to react to urgent and complicated issues with a calm approach, providing the most appropriate

- Getting The Deal Through: M&A Litigation 2019 - Italy *Law Business Research*
- Awards and Rankings
 - Hogan Lovells - Best place to work
- Hogan Lovells Publications
 - Getting The Deal Through M&A Litigation 2018 – Italy *Law Business Research*

suggestions"

Legal 500 2019
