



Darren Maher "thinks outside the box".

European Legal 500

Darren Maher

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Expertise

Darren Maher is a partner and Head of the Financial Institutions Group at Matheson. He has advised a wide range of leading domestic and international financial institutions on all aspects of financial services law and regulation including establishment and authorisation, development and distribution of products, compliance, corporate governance and re-organisations including cross-border mergers, schemes of arrangement, portfolio transfers and mergers and acquisitions.

Darren is a member of the firm's Brexit Advisory Group and is advising a significant number of the world's leading financial services firms on their plans to establish a regulated subsidiary in Ireland in order to maintain access to the EU single market following the United Kingdom's exit from the EU.

Darren frequently publishes articles in financial services publications and is co-author of the Irish chapter of PLC's Cross-border Insurance and Reinsurance Handbook, Law Business Research's Insurance and Reinsurance Law Review, and co-contributor to ICLG's Guide to Insurance and Reinsurance.

Darren lectures at the Law Society of Ireland and the Insurance Institute of Ireland.

Experience Highlights

Darren's recent experience includes advising:

- The Minister for Finance on the €1.3 billion sale of Irish Life Assurance plc to Great-West Lifeco
- Allied Irish Banks plc on the sale of Ark Life Assurance plc to Guardian Financial Services
- BNY Mellon on a cross-border merger of the Bank of New York Mellon (Ireland) Limited with the Bank of New York Mellon SA/NV, a Belgian registered bank, as part of an internal reorganisation within the BNY Mellon group
- Aviva Group on the restructure of the non-life insurance business of Aviva Ireland. This is one of the largest restructurings of an Irish insurance business carried out in recent years and involved in excess of 1 million policyholders of the Aviva Group
- QBE Group on the merger of its Irish, UK and Belgian reinsurance companies by way of a cross-border merger
- Swiss Life Assurance et Patrimoine S.A., a French authorised insurer, on its acquisition of a portfolio of life insurance policies issued to French resident policyholders from UBS International Life Limited
- Handelsbanken Life & Pension on the transfer of its life insurance business to Handelsbanken Liv in

Sweden

- Allied Irish Banks plc on its life insurance distribution agreement with Irish Life Assurance plc

Accolades

Darren Maher is recommended.

European Legal 500 2020

Darren Maher is named a leading individual.

European Legal 500 2020

Darren Maher is "*dedicated*" and "*excellent to work with*",

European Legal 500 2019

Darren Maher is named a leading individual.

European Legal 500 2019

Darren Maher is "*very knowledgeable and customer-focused*" and has "*a wealth of experience, is a good communicator and is very quick*".

Insurance: Chambers Europe 2019

"*Darren is well dialled into the Irish market, obviously cross-border, very experienced in thinking through the issues. He has a good line to the Central Bank of Ireland.*"

Chambers Europe 2019

Darren Maher and Eugene Reavey are "*highly experienced, responsive, and professional and command a very thorough understanding of our business model and the regulatory landscape in Ireland*".

Chambers Europe 2019

Darren Maher is "*first class, personable, knowledgeable, and his articulacy combined with incisive views and insight make him a top asset for the firm*".

Chambers Europe 2019

"*Darren Maher is strong at organising high level industry get-togethers on topical matters, like Brexit.*"

Chambers Europe 2018

Darren Maher "*combines an excellent level of expertise with a pragmatic, business-driven approach,*"

Chambers Europe 2018

Darren Maher is named a leading individual.

European Legal 500 2017

Darren Maher is described by clients as "*very approachable and extremely knowledgeable on any given topic.*"

Chambers Europe 2017

Darren Maher is extensively praised for his "*good grasp of the regulatory and legal aspects of the insurance environment*" and his "*ability to be responsive, strategic and look outside the box*".

Chambers Europe 2016

Clients state that Darren Maher has "*a better business mind than other lawyers. He is open and able to challenge the established or accepted view.*"

Chambers Europe 2016

Darren Maher is named a leading individual.

European Legal 500 2016

Darren Maher is considered a *"really excellent lawyer – my go-to guy on the regulatory side"*.

Chambers Europe 2015

Darren Maher *"is very good at explaining things clearly and understanding what we need in a case"*.

Chambers Europe 2015

Darren Maher is named a leading individual.

European Legal 500 2015

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European Legal 500 2015

Insurance and Reinsurance expert

Who's Who Legal 100 2014

"He is the reason we do business with Matheson. He is customer-focused, steers us really well and has real expertise in the area," say clients.

Chambers Europe 2014

Sources agree that Darren Maher is building a respected practice. He is leading the team advising Aviva Insurance Europe on the restructuring of its non-life business.

Chambers Europe 2013

Darren Maher is also recognised as a leading individual by **European Legal 500**.

Education

University College Dublin and DePaul College of Law, US (BCL International)

Related Practice Areas

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[Financial Institutions](#)

[Financial Services](#)

[Insurance and Reinsurance](#)

[Regulatory and Investigations](#)
