

Award	Law firm	Originality	Leadership	Impact	Total	Comment
Standout	CMS	8	9	9	26	The firm acted for ESL, the world's largest company specialising in competitive video games, to set up a global governing body, the World Esports Association. Lawyers created the first legal structure, commercial rights, arbitration court and code of conduct for an organisation of this type in the fast-growing market. Commended: Pietro Graf Fringuelli.
Standout	Bright Line Law	8	9	8	25	On behalf of the Magnitsky Justice Campaign, lawyers framed a proposal to introduce sanctions for human rights abusers who launder money through the UK. The Magnitsky clause was passed into the Criminal Finances Bill 2016. Commended: Jonathan Fisher QC.
Standout	Uría Menéndez	8	8	8	24	Ensured a high-speed railway line between France and Spain could continue to operate by successfully applying an international treaty that states operations of cross-border utilities and transport lines should trump national law.
Highly Commended	Sayenko Kharenko	7	8	8	23	Working with Allen & Overy as international counsel, advised the lenders on a flexible €478 million government-guaranteed loan, ensuring Ukrainian gas and electric company Naftogaz will be able to supply winter gas to Ukrainian companies and consumers.
Highly Commended	NautaDutilh	7	8	8	23	Lawyers designed a legal framework to promote sustainable development that is now used by municipal policymakers and licensing authorities across the Netherlands. Commended: Anne-Marie Klijn.
Highly Commended	Linklaters	8	7	8	23	The firm drafted an amendment to the South African law dealing with banks in distress in order to save African Bank from insolvency. New security was created and stakeholder rights were protected.
Highly Commended	Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer	7	8	8	23	By creating a new pricing mechanism, lawyers allowed the receivers of CityPoint Tower in London to sell the building for an amount that covered the full debt secured against it. Commended: Roger Schofield.
Commended	VdA	7	8	7	22	The firm helped develop a plan to ensure Qimonda Portugal, the DRAM company, avoided insolvency. By implementing an online voting system, the firm sped up creditors' meetings.
Commended	Pinsent Masons	6	8	8	22	Following a cyber attack on the Association of British Travel Agents, the firm managed the response and led the technical investigation. It created a new industry standard for response and damage limitation.
Commended	Gowling WLG	7	7	8	22	Lawyers advised the UK's Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy on regulatory issues to allow the rollout of an £11bn smart-metering programme.
Commended	Ellex	8	7	7	22	The firm advised Nasdaq on its pilot of a blockchain-enabled platform for electronic voting at its Tallinn exchange in Estonia. It enables shareholders to vote remotely and gives them greater oversight of their voting records.
Commended	Ashurst	7	7	8	22	Lawyers helped design a high-yield note that pays interest only when oil prices reach \$65 a barrel, as part of a debt restructuring for EnQuest, the oil and gas producer.
Commended	Arthur Cox	7	8	7	22	The firm implemented a scheme of arrangement for the Bank of Ireland, which involved a change to Irish law and the first use of the Single Resolution Board's single point of entry resolution strategy.
Commended	Allen & Overy	8	7	7	22	Against the backdrop of the Russia-Ukraine conflict, the firm used a standstill agreement to prevent smaller creditors calling in debts from Metinvest. It gave the Ukrainian steel and iron ore producer time to restructure its finances and avoid bankruptcy.
Commended	Simmons & Simmons	6	7	8	21	The firm helped the Oil and Gas Climate Initiative, backed by 10 leading oil companies, to establish a collaborative fund to reduce greenhouse emissions.
Commended	Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe	7	7	7	21	Lawyers used a forced sale provision in France to sell and restructure Consolis, a concrete and building materials manufacturer.
Commended	Macfarlanes	7	7	7	21	The firm avoided long negotiations for a finance broker client by simplifying existing terms of business, allowing it to expedite the process of compliance with new variation margin rules for derivatives transactions.
Commended	Ashurst	7	7	7	21	Its lawyers advised Lloyds Banking Group on remedies sought by the Competition and Markets Authority to strengthen choices available to lenders. The firm's ability to translate technical aspects to the authorities delivered the bank a competitive edge.
Commended	VdA	6	7	7	20	The firm is working with regulators in Portuguese-speaking countries to develop new telecoms services aimed at ensuring that all citizens can access key services such as healthcare through mobile phones and payment systems.
Commended	Pérez-Llorca	7	6	7	20	Lawyers created the first put-and-call agreement in Spain in which debt was considered rather than the usual shares.
Commended	McCann FitzGerald	6	6	8	20	The firm brought together financing from private equity, state and banks to fund the development of a large social housing project in Ireland for its client, WK Nowlan Property.
Commended	Macfarlanes	7	6	7	20	The firm structured the Partners Group Generations Fund, the first private market fund aimed at direct contribution pension schemes in the UK.
Commended	Garrigues	7	7	6	20	Lawyers navigated Spanish legal and regulatory restrictions to allow Enel Green Power, a renewable energies company dual-listed in Italy and Spain, to delist from the Spanish stock exchange following a demerger.