



Otar Kipshidze

Managing Partner, Tbilisi

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Otar is Managing Partner of Tbilisi Office. He leads the Firm's dispute resolution practice in Georgia, having extensive experience in litigation, energy, banking and finance and corporate law. Otar has advised on a number of key projects in Georgia, including major oil and gas transportation projects, and has a track record of successful resolution of numerous disputes in Georgian courts at various levels.

Prior to joining the Tbilisi office, Otar was a Managing Partner and Partner at DLA Piper. Earlier he was Senior Associate with the legacy firms: Ernst & Young's legal practice in Georgia and GCG Law Office. Prior to moving to private practice, he worked as General Counsel to leading Georgian commercial bank TBC Bank. Otar also was a visiting foreign attorney with Houston-based Baker Botts.

Otar is a founding member of the Georgian Bar Association and a member of the Georgian Young Lawyers Association. Otar is a member of the Board of Directors of American Chamber of Commerce in Georgia and EU-Georgia Business Council. He is a member of the Energy, Mining and Utilities Committee of the American Chamber of Commerce in Georgia. Otar also served as Chairman of Legislative Framework Development Committee at Business Association of Georgia and as member of Judicial Reform Committee of American Chamber of Commerce in Georgia.

Recognition

- Litigation practice head Otar Kipshidze is 'an outstanding, top-notch lawyer' and is acting for BP in administrative and regulatory disputes in connection with the expansion of the £28bn Shah Deniz offshore gas field project. - *The Legal 500 2017*
- Head of department and managing partner Otar Kipshidze has a reputation in the market as a "very diligent, thorough and ethical" litigator. He leads on a number of high-end and significant cases across a range of areas, with recent instructions including competition, tax, environmental, property and administrative disputes. - *Chambers Europe 2017*
- Managing partner Otar Kipshidze handles energy, corporate and banking and finance matters. He has particular experience in advising on major infrastructure projects. He also heads the firm's litigation practice. - *Chambers Global 2017*
- Managing partner Otar Kipshidze receives praise for his negotiation skills, with one client saying: "He proved himself to be the best negotiator." He has also been spotlighted for his "strongly technical, detail-oriented mind." - *Chambers Europe 2016*
- "Otar Kipshidze is the managing partner in Tbilisi. He is considered "very diligent" by

clients, and is an expert in energy matters, specifically project financing, zoning and planning permissions, commercial agreements and contracts." - *Chambers Europe* 2016

- Managing partner Otar Kipshidze handles a mix of litigation and transactional work and continues to act for BP in numerous matters relating to its three oil and gas pipeline projects transiting the country. – *Legal 500 EMEA* 2016
- Otar has been recognised as a "Leading Lawyer" in the *IFLR1000 Energy & Infrastructure* 2015
- "Disputes practice head Otar Kipshidze is widely recognised by sources for his involvement in high-profile cases. "He is one of the key litigators in Georgia," sources confirm. His experience covers contentious matters linked to energy, banking and finance, IP and corporate law." - *Chambers Europe* 2015
- Otar has been recognised by *Best Lawyers* 2014, as the *Best Lawyers'* 2014-15 Tbilisi Litigation "Lawyer of the Year"
- "Primarily focused on dispute resolution, Otar Kipshidze also advises on energy matters as well as assisting with IP and franchise issues. Notable highlights include assisting Tethys Petroleum with its acquisition of interests in production sharing contracts in Georgia." - *Chambers Global* 2015
- "Recommended by clients as 'one of the best for litigation,' Otar Kipshidze heads the dispute resolution practice at DLA. He is a founding member of the Georgian Bar Association and market commentators note him as a 'very knowledgeable guy.'" - *Chambers Europe* 2014
- "Otar Kipshidze is "very detailed and punctual, and he is always trying to pay attention to our demands, always trying to answer our questions," says an impressed client. Kipshidze is recommended for his strong track record in litigation, as well as for his transactional expertise. - *Chambers Global* 2014
- "Otar Kipshidze is primarily known for his work in dispute resolution, but he is also an excellent transactional lawyer with a fine reputation amongst the legal community. Clients praise his strong team management skills, as well as his ability to quickly grasp commercial issues." - *Chambers Global* 2013
- "Otar Kipshidze heads the litigation team and has extensive expertise in the fields of energy, corporate and banking law." - *Chambers Europe* 2012
- "As well as being skilled in disputes, Otar Kipshidze is a renowned transactional lawyer and provides clients with "effective and concise advice" ..."- *Chambers Global* 2012

Activities and Affiliations

- Founding member of the Georgian Bar Association
- Member of the Georgian Young Lawyers Association
- Member of the Board of Directors of the American Chamber of Commerce in Georgia
- Member of the Energy, Mining and Utilities Committee of the American Chamber of

Commerce in Georgia

- Served as a Chairman of the Legislative Framework Development Committee at the Business Association of Georgia
- Served as a member of Judicial Reform Committee of the American Chamber of Commerce in Georgia
- Member of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (MCI Arb)

Prior and Present Employment

- Dentons Georgia LLC, Managing Partner (Tbilisi, Georgia), 2017 - present
- DLA Piper Georgia LP, Managing Partner (Tbilisi, Georgia), 2014 – 2017
- DLA Piper Georgia LP, Partner (Tbilisi, Georgia), 2010 -2014
- DLA Piper Georgia LP, Legal Director (Tbilisi, Georgia), 2005 – 2009
- Ernst & Young Legal LLC, Senior Associate (Tbilisi, Georgia), 2003 – 2005
- Baker Botts L.L.P., Visiting Foreign Attorney (Houston, USA), 2003
- Georgian Consulting Group Law Office, Senior Associate (Tbilisi, Georgia), 2000 – 2002
- JSC TBC Bank, General Counsel (Tbilisi, Georgia), 1997 – 2000

Education

Washington University in St. Louis School of Law, 2003, LL.M.

Central European University, 1997, LL.M., Political Science and Political Economy

Tbilisi State University, 1995, LL.M., Department of International Law and Relations, Diploma in Law with honors

Admissions and Qualifications

Georgian Bar Association, 2003

Languages

- English
- Georgian
- Russian