

SENIOR COUNSEL

Manuel Lopes Rocha

Joined PLMJ in 2007.
Senior Counsel and head of the Intellectual Property practice.

T (+351) 213 197 300
manuel.lopesrocha@plmj.pt



About Manuel

Manuel is a senior counsel who heads the Intellectual Property practice. He has 35 years' experience in intellectual property and telecommunications, media and technology. He has also acted as an arbitrator in various pharmaceutical patents cases in Portugal.

Manuel is a member of the intellectual property committee of the International Chamber of Commerce Portugal and a member of the scientific board of the review Propriedades Intelectuais and the editorial committee of the review Propriétés Intellectuelles.

He has published various works in the areas of e-commerce, intellectual property and cybercrime, and he is frequently invited to write opinion articles and comment on these issues in the national press. Manuel participates regularly in seminars and conferences on various matters relating to intellectual property, copyright, technologies and cybersecurity.

Specializations: Artificial intelligence and robotics, Commercial secrets and know-how, Copyright, Designs and models

Sectors: Technology, media and communications

Languages: English, French, Spanish

Academic Background

- Law degree from the University of Lisbon, 1982
- Admitted to the Portuguese Bar Association, 1984
- Master of EU Law from Universidade Lusíada, 1996
- Guest lecturer at Universidade Católica Portuguesa - Institute of European Studies and the Faculty of Law, 2006
- Guest lecturer at Universidade Católica - Institute of European Studies, and at Universidade Nova (FCSH/CITI)
- President of the general meeting of the Portuguese E-commerce and Interactive Publicity Association

Professional Background

- Partner at PLMJ since 2007
- Member of the Mediation and Arbitration Commission created under Decree-Law 83/2001 of 3 August – Ministry of Culture, 2006
- Arbitrator at the Court of Arbitration at the Economic Chamber of the Czech Republic on domínio.eu, 2006
- Participated in the legislative process for the law on electronic signatures, 1999
- Participated in the legislative process for the law on electronic invoices, 1999 and 2006
- Participated in the legislative process for the law on public procurement, 2006

Member of

- Information Technology Law Group - Europe
- High level office of APDSI – Association for the Promotion and Development of the Information Society
- Advisory board of the FCCN for domain names

Awards & Rankings

Chambers Europe

2020 - Manuel Lopes Rocha, Band 1 | Intellectual Property

"Clients emphasise his "wisdom, rigour, efficiency and effectiveness."

2020 - Manuel Lopes Rocha, Band 2 | Telecommunications, Media and Technology

"He notably advises on the intersection of IP and TMT."

2019 - Manuel Lopes Rocha, Band 2 | Telecommunications, Media and Technology

"He offers a steady hand in a plethora of TMT issues, notably within the areas of technology and software."

2018 - Manuel Lopes Rocha, Band 1 | Intellectual Property

"Sources widely acknowledge that he is a great copyright lawyer and litigator."

2018 - Manuel Lopes Rocha, Band 1 | Intellectual Property

"He is recognised in the market for his activity in copyright. He acts on a range of issues such as literature, television and software, in addition to assisting clients with trade mark or patent proceedings."

2018 - Manuel Lopes Rocha, Band 1 | Telecommunications, Media and Technology

"He is increasingly active in contentious matters and deemed to have real ability by one market source."

2017 - Manuel Lopes Rocha, Band 1 | Intellectual Property

"Manuel Lopes Rocha regularly acts as arbitrator on pharmaceutical patent cases and remains a well-known figure in the Portuguese IP arena."

2017 - Manuel Lopes Rocha, Band 1 | Telecommunications, Media and Technology

"Manuel Lopes Rocha is highly respected by peers for his expertise in the field, particularly with regard to litigation and IP aspects of technology matters."

2017 - Manuel Lopes Rocha | Intellectual Property: Life Sciences

"He is an expert in pharmaceutical cases and recognized in the Portuguese IP sphere."

The Legal 500

2019 - Manuel Lopes Rocha | Intellectual Property

2018 - Manuel Lopes Rocha | Telecommunications, Media and Technology

2018 - Manuel Lopes Rocha | Intellectual Property

2017 - Manuel Lopes Rocha | Telecommunications, Media and Technology

2017 - Manuel Lopes Rocha | Intellectual Property

Who's Who Legal

2019 - Manuel Lopes Rocha, Global Leader | Data

Best Lawyers

2020 - Manuel Lopes Rocha |

2019 - Manuel Lopes Rocha, Lawyer of the Year | Technology Law

2019 - Manuel Lopes Rocha | Recognised lawyer

2018 - Manuel Lopes Rocha |

2017 - Manuel Lopes Rocha | Other Recommended Lawyer

2016 - Manuel Lopes Rocha | Intellectual Property