

Magda Cocco

Head of Practice Partner Digital Frontiers, **Head of Practice Partner**
Information, Communication & Technology

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Magda joined VdA in 1994. Head of the Information, Communication and Technology practice, the Digital Frontiers practice and also head of the firm's aerospace sector. Magda has in-depth knowledge and experience with innovative technological projects in the electronic communications industry and across several jurisdictions and regions, notably Europe and Africa.

She has led multidisciplinary teams in different ICT projects & transactions and assisted Governments and Regulatory Entities in connection with the definition of regulatory policies and legislative drafting, having also advised various international organizations such as International Telecommunications Union, the World Bank and the European Investment Bank.

Magda has provided expert advice to companies and public entities across different industries on several digital economy legal issues, from electronic and postal communications to information and emerging technologies, such as AI, robotics, blockchain, nanotechnology, Big Data and IoT.

She also advises clients on Data Protection & Cybersecurity. In this context, she has assisted several entities in connection with governance matters and data related strategies, coordinated several GDPR compliance programs and assisted public and private entities in connection with Cybersecurity threats.

Magda has been involved in various Space sector projects, including negotiating contracts for satellite construction and launch and for the installation of ground stations, and assisted Governments in connection with the definition and drafting of Space-related strategies and legislation.

She has penned or co-authored several articles published in national and international specialized publications and was a featured speaker at various ICT conferences. Magda is a visiting teacher in several national and international universities in her fields of expertise.



She is VdA's representative at the International Astronautic Federation (IAF) and responsible for liaising with The Alliance for Affordable Internet (A4AI).

She participates in several Space sector-related forums, namely the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA).

Awards & Recognitions

Lawyer of the year - IP&TMT Awards 2022

Lawyer of the year TMT - IP&TMT Awards 2022

Lawyer of the year Information Technology - IP&TMT Awards 2022

Lawyer of the Year, Best Lawyers - Media Law - 2022

Lawyer of the Year TMT - IP & TMT Awards 2021

Lawyer of the Year, Best Lawyers - Technology Law (Lisbon) - 2020

Lawyer of the Year, Best Lawyers - Media Law (Lisbon) - 2019

Lawyer of the Year, Best Lawyers - Technology Law - 2017

Lawyer of the Year, Best Lawyers - 2015

"40 Under Forty", Iberian Lawyer - 2007

In 2016, Magda was nominated for the Financial Times' Legal Innovator of the Year award, along with the top ten most innovative European lawyers.

Academic background

Law Degree - Lisbon University Law School.

Teaching chairs

Lecturer - Space Law Course jointly organized by the ELSA ("European Law Students' Association") of the Portuguese Catholic University, Vieira de Almeida & Associados and VdAcademia.

Lecturer - Telecommunications Law and Regulation and Data Protection and Privacy Post-Graduate course at the Lisbon Catholic University.

Lecturer - Telecommunications Law course as part of the LLM in Public Law of the Lisbon Administration School.

Lecturer - e-communications course, Lisbon New University Law School.

Assistant Professor at the University of Lisbon Law School.

Published works

She has penned or co-authored several articles published in national and international specialized publications, notably:

- Estudo sobre o Serviço Universal de Telecomunicações na Comunidade dos Países de Língua Portuguesa e em Macau, China, União Internacional das Comunicações Electrónicas (2017)
- "International Laws Regulating Satellite Communications" - Annals of Air and Space Law - Institute of Air and Space, McGill University Law School (2016)
- "O impacto da decisão 'safe harbour' do Tribunal de Justiça Europeu sobre a Comissão Nacional de Protecção de Dados", Iberian Lawyer (Jan. 2016)
- "Laws running after outer space: legal changes lie ahead", blog Space Innovation Congress (2016)
- "The Privacy, Data Protection and Cybersecurity", The Law Review (2015)
- "Global Privacy and Security Law Book " (Portugal Chapter), Aspen Publishers (updated in 2014)
- PLC Cross - Border Handbooks (Data Protection, updated in 2014)

Member of

Admitted to the Portuguese Bar Association.

Admitted to the Timor-Leste Bar Association (*Conselho de Gestão e Disciplina*).

Communications Law Committee Officer at the International Bar Association (IBA).

Languages

English, French, Spanish.