

Manuel Cavaleiro Brandão

Head of Practice Partner Labour

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Manuel Cavaleiro Brandão joined VdA in 2021. He is Head Partner of the Labour practice and Head Partner of the Porto office.

He is a leading Labour lawyer in Portugal, boasting over 40 years of experience.

Manuel couples his vast experience in Labor Law with a no less significant experience in national and international arbitration, having acted as both counsel and arbitrator in commercial and corporate law, construction and public works, contracts and labor law related arbitration proceedings.

Among other roles, he was a member of the Court of Arbitration of ICC – International Chamber of Commerce (Paris) (2002-2005).



Awards & Recognitions

Lawyer of the Year, Best Lawyers - Arbitration and Mediation - 2022

Medal of Honor awarded by the Portuguese Bar Association (2008).

Awarded the Merit Badge by the Austrian Government (2007).

Academic background

Law Degree, Universidade de Coimbra Law School.

Post-graduate degree in European Studies (attended).

Teaching chairs

He teaches post-graduate Labor Law courses at Universidade de Lisboa Law School, Universidade Católica (Porto) Law

School and Universidade Lusíada Law School, and post-graduate Arbitration courses at Universidade Católica (Porto) Law School and Universidade Nova Law School.

Other professional background

Before joining the firm, he was Partner at PLMJ.

He was one of the founding partners of Cavaleiro Brandão, Pinheiro Torres, Cabral, Sousa e Silva e Associados Law Firm.

Manuel was also a member of Parliament and sat on several parliamentary committees.

He was a member of the Comissão de Análise e Sistematização do Código do Trabalho [Committee for the Review and Systematization of the Labor Code] (2000-2002) and of the Comissão do Livro Branco para as Relações Laborais [Committee of the White Book for Labor Relations] (2006-2007), both while an official at the Ministry of Labor.

He Chaired the Board of the Council of Bars and Law Societies of Europe (CCBE) and was a member of the European Economic and Social Committee.

Member of

Admitted to the Portuguese Bar Association.

Member of the Associação Portuguesa de Arbitragem [Portuguese Arbitration Association].

Member of APODIT – Associação Portuguesa de Direito do Trabalho [Portuguese Labor Law Association].

Languages

French, English, Spanish.