

Ana Festas Henriques

Managing Associate and Pro Bono Manager Social Economy & Human Rights

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Ana Festas Henriques rejoined VdA in 2023. Managing Associate in the Social Economy & Human Rights practice.

As Pro Bono Manager, Ana is responsible for managing the firm's Pro Bono Programme.

She has extensive experience in the communications and technology sectors, having advised on numerous transactions, particularly in the field of technology and human rights. Her practice is now more focused on the development of policies promoting and defending corporate human rights and inclusion & diversity, the implementation of codes of ethical conduct in business, as well as the provision of legal advice to third sector organisations and foundations.



Academic background

Law degree, Católica University Faculty of Law (Erasmus, Navarra University Faculty of Law).

Master's in Civil and Business Law, Católica University Faculty of Law. Exchange Semester, LL.M. in International Business Law, IE Law School.

Digital Transformation Executive Programme, Católica University School of Business & Economics.

Leitner Summer Human Rights Institute Course, Leitner Center for International Law and Justice, Fordham University.

Initial training course for trainers by B-Training Consulting.

IT Law Summer Course, IBC Legal Conferences, Downing College, Cambridge.

Teaching chairs

Trainer in the field of digital rights and principles, Portuguese Public Administration Institute (INA).

Teaching fellow, "Law and Volunteering" module, Católica University Faculty of Law.

Other professional background

Before rejoining the firm, Ana worked as an adviser to the Portuguese Secretary of State for Digitalisation and Administrative Modernisation and the Portuguese Secretary of State for Digital Transition (2020-2023).

From 2017 to 2020, she was a Senior Associate in VdA's Information, Communication & Technology practice, having undertaken a secondment at one of the world's largest telecommunications companies.

She co-developed the social entrepreneurship project "Não caias na rede" aimed at raising kids' awareness of the dangers of the internet, which is currently being implemented at various schools across Portugal.

From 2013 to 2017, she worked as an Associate in the Technology, Media, Telecommunications & Intellectual Property practice at CCA LAW, having co-founded the Startinnovation Team, winner of the "Business Development Innovation" prize (The 2017 Legal Week Innovation Awards), which advises startups and SMEs on technology-related issues.

Member of

Admitted to the Portuguese Bar Association.

Languages

English, Spanish.