



SE ASIA LAW AWARDS 2017

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY SUMMARY

ASIAN LEGAL BUSINESS

the answer company™
 **THOMSON REUTERS®**

PART I: IMPORTANT DATES

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| 8 FEBRUARY 2017 | Opening of submissions |
| 3 MARCH 2017 | Deadline for deal submissions |
| 15 MARCH 2017 | Deadline for individual, in-house and firm submissions (Please send submission forms to mary.aquino@thomsonreuters.com) |
| APRIL 2017 | Announcement of finalists |
| 19 MAY 2017 | Awards ceremony |

AWARDS INQUIRIES

Contact **Caryl Aquino** at mary.aquino@thomsonreuters.com or call **(+632) 982 5938**.

SPONSORSHIP INQUIRIES

Contact **Amantha Chia** at amantha.chia@thomsonreuters.com or call **(+65) 6870 3917**.

PART II: GENERAL GUIDELINES

- a. All submissions, whether by self-recommendation or nomination, must be written in the ALB submission form. Otherwise, the same will not be accepted.
- b. Every entry must have been completed between 1 January and 31 December 2016.
- c. The contact persons provided in the submission form will be contacted by ALB, as may be necessary.
- d. For commonly asked questions about eligibility, confidentiality, submission and evaluation of entries, please visit the FAQ page in the event website.

PART III: DEFINITION OF TERMS

Breadth - the degree to which a work involved numerous jurisdictions, legal practice areas, parties and industries

Complexity - the degree to which a work and any issues involved require the crucial exercise of legal expertise, business acumen or innovative solutions

Domestic law firm - that which is headquartered within a specific jurisdiction

Impact or significance - the degree to which clients and other stakeholders, the bench and bar, an industry or the SE Asian region may be affected

Innovativeness - the degree to which a work involves the application of a new concept or creative solution, process, service, program or the like to existing systems and processes, thus improving organizational capabilities and adding more value to output

International arbitration - the type of arbitration where any of the following elements is present:

1. at the time of the conclusion of an arbitration agreement, the parties to the agreement have their places of business in different states;
2. pursuant to the arbitration agreement, the place of arbitration is situated outside the state in which the parties have their places of business;
3. the place where a substantial part of the obligations of the commercial relationship is to be performed or the place with which the subject matter of the dispute is most closely connected to is situated outside the state in which the parties have their places of business; or
4. the parties have expressly agreed that the subject matter of the arbitration agreement relates to more than one country (adopted from the UNCITRAL Model Law on International Commercial Arbitration)

International law firm - that which is headquartered outside a specific jurisdiction

SE Asian element - any of the following component of a transaction: (a) one of the counsel representing a party to a transaction is based in SE Asia; (b) one of the parties to a transaction is based in SE Asia; (c) any contract indispensable to the completion of a transaction was executed in SE Asia; or (d) the subject matter of the transaction is closely connected to the region

Third-party award or recognition - that which is given by an organization, public or private, or a publication, other than ALB

Work - a transaction, case or matter, service, program, initiative or the like, provided to stakeholders

PART IV: AWARD CATEGORIES

A. DEAL CATEGORIES

- 1 Debt Market Deal of the Year (Midsize)
- 2 Debt Market Deal of the Year (Premium)
- 3 Equity Market Deal of the Year (Midsize)
- 4 Equity Market Deal of the Year (Premium)
- 5 M&A Deal of the Year (Midsize)
- 6 M&A Deal of the Year (Premium)
- 7 Project Finance Deal of the Year

Specific Guidelines

- a. **SE Asian element:** Every entry submitted in any category must have a SE Asian element.
- b. **Midsize and Premium categories:** An organization may submit a total of three (3) deals in Midsize and Premium categories, provided that not more than two (2) deals are submitted for either of the two categories.
 1. **Debt Market/M&A Deal of the Year (Midsize):** Each deal must be at least USD300 million but not greater than USD800 million in size.
 2. **Debt Market/M&A Deal of the Year (Premium):** Each deal must be greater than USD800 million in size.
 3. **Equity Market Deal of the Year (Midsize):** Each deal must be at least USD200 million but not greater than USD700 million in size.
 4. **Equity Market Deal of the Year (Premium):** Each deal must be greater than USD700 million in size.
 5. **Project Finance Deal of the Year:** Each deal must be at least USD800 million in size.

Criteria

The judges will take into account the following factors: breadth, complexity, innovativeness, impact or significance of deals and the industry awards or recognition accorded to them by any organization or publication, other than ALB.

B. INDIVIDUAL CATEGORIES

- 1 In-House Lawyer of the Year
- 2 India Managing Partner of the Year
- 3 Singapore Managing Partner of the Year
- 4 Regional Managing Partner of the Year
- 5 Woman Lawyer of the Year
- 6 Young Lawyer of the Year

Specific Guidelines

- a. **No. of nominees:** An organization may nominate only one of its lawyers for a category, but may nominate several lawyers from other organizations.
- b. **Nomination:** A submission of this nature for a category may only be considered when a nominee's organization has not nominated anyone from its team.
- c. **Residence:** An entrant or nominee must be a resident of the region.
- d. **Winners from country awards:** Individual category winners from the 2016 awards in Indonesia and the Philippines, as well as those from Malaysia in 2016 and 2017, are strongly encouraged to join the submissions for the categories they won.
- e. **Singapore Managing Partner of the Year:** The winner for this category will automatically become a finalist for the Regional Managing Partner of the Year.

- f. **Regional Managing Partner of the Year:** This is open to managing partners in the region, excluding those from Singapore.
- g. **Woman Lawyer of the Year:** This is open to all woman lawyers, whether from a law firm or in-house team, public or private.
- h. **Young Lawyer of the Year:** Only law firm partners who are no more than 40 years of age as of 31 December 2016 are eligible for submissions in this category.

Criteria

The judges will take into account the following factors: the entrants and nominees' leadership, professional accomplishments (in terms of the breadth, complexity, innovativeness and significance), social contribution and professional or community awards or recognition accorded to them by any organization or publication, other than ALB.

C. IN-HOUSE CATEGORIES

- 1 **Banking and Financial Services In-House Team of the Year**
- 2 **Construction and Real Estate In-House Team of the Year**
- 3 **Innovative In-House Team of the Year**
- 4 **Insurance In-House Team of the Year**
- 5 **Technology, Media and Telecommunications In-House Team of the Year**
- 6 **SE Asia In-House Team of the Year**

Specific Guidelines

- a. **Physical office:** All in-house teams with physical office in SE Asia are qualified to join the contest.
- b. **Winners and finalists from country awards:** In-house team category winners and finalists from the 2016 awards in Indonesia and the Philippines, as well as those from Malaysia in 2016 and 2017, are strongly encouraged to join the submissions.
- c. **Innovative In-House Team of the Year:** This is open to in-house teams that have applied a new concept or creative solution, process, service, program or the like to existing systems and processes, thus improving organizational capabilities and adding more value to output.
- d. **Other industries:** In-house teams from industries other than banking, insurance, other financial services, technology, media, telecommunications, construction and real estate may submit for the SE Asia In-House Team of the Year.
- e. **SE Asia In-House Team of the Year:** Winners from the other in-house categories, winners for In-House Team of the Year category from Indonesia and the Philippines in 2016, as well as those from Malaysia in 2016 and 2017, subject to their prior consent, and qualified in-house teams from other industries referred to immediately above, will become the finalists for this category.

Criteria

The judges will take into account the following factors: the entrants and nominees' professional accomplishments (in terms of the breadth, complexity, innovativeness and impact or significance), team innovation and development and professional or community awards or recognition accorded to them by any organization or publication, other than ALB.

D. FIRM CATEGORIES

- 1 **Banking and Financial Services Law Firm of the Year**
- 2 **Transactional Boutique Law Firm of the Year**
- 3 **Dispute Resolution Boutique Law Firm of the Year**
- 4 **Construction Law Firm of the Year**
- 5 **Corporate Citizenship Law Firm of the Year**
- 6 **India Energy and Resources Law Firm of the Year**
- 7 **Energy and Resources Law Firm of the Year**
- 8 **Singapore Intellectual Property Law Firm of the Year**
- 9 **Regional Intellectual Property Law Firm of the Year**
- 10 **Law in Order Award International Arbitration Law Firm of the Year**
- 11 **Singapore Litigation Law Firm of the Year**
- 12 **Regional Litigation Law Firm of the Year**
- 13 **Maritime Law Firm of the Year**

- 14 **Matrimonial and Family Law Firm of the Year**
- 15 **Medical Law Firm of the Year**
- 16 **Real Estate Law Firm of the Year**
- 17 **Rising Law Firm of the Year**
- 18 **Tax and Trusts Law Firm of the Year**
- 19 **Technology, Media & Telecommunications Law Firm of the Year**
- 20 **Thailand Law Firm of the Year**
- 21 **Vietnam Law Firm of the Year**
- 22 **India Deal Firm of the Year**
- 23 **International Deal Firm of the Year**
- 24 **SE Asia Deal Firm of the Year**
- 25 **SE Asia Law Firm of the Year**

Specific Guidelines

- a. **Physical office:** All law firms holding an office in SE Asia are qualified to submit for any of the categories, except those that are exclusively for law firms based in India, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.
- b. **Winners from country awards:** Firm category winners from the 2016 awards in Indonesia and the Philippines, as well as those from Malaysia in 2016 and 2017, are strongly encouraged to join the submissions for the categories they won.
- c. **“Singapore” categories:** These are exclusively for international and domestic law firms based in Singapore. The winners from these categories will automatically become finalists in the regional categories.
- d. **Boutique Law Firm of the Year (Transactional or Dispute Resolution):** This category is open for submissions to SE Asian law firms with no more than 15 partners specializing in certain areas of law.
- e. **Rising Law Firm of the Year:** Only law firms that have no more than 10 partners and have been established in SE Asia not earlier than 2011 are eligible for submission.
- f. **Minimum financial value (MFV):** No MFV is required for deals submitted in any firm category, except as may be provided below.
- g. **SE Asia Deal Firm of the Year:** Only law firms headquartered in SE Asia that have completed at least five cross-border deals may join the submissions for this category. Each deal must have a size of at least USD200 million.
- h. **International Deal Firm of the Year:** Only international law firms that have completed at least five cross-border deals may join the submissions for this category. Each deal must have a size of at least USD200 million.
- i. **SE Asia Law Firm of the Year:** This is not subject for submissions. The winners from other firm awards automatically become finalists for this category.

Criteria

The judges will take into account the following factors, as may be appropriate: professional accomplishments (in terms of the breadth, complexity, innovativeness and impact or significance), firm innovation and development, social contribution and professional or community awards or recognition accorded to them by an organization or publication, other than ALB.

PART V: JUDGING PANEL

The panel of judges will be composed of at least 30 reputable members from the legal academe, in-house teams, law firms, legal associations, or non-profit organizations in the region. A judge who has been shortlisted or whose law firm or in-house team has been shortlisted or involved in a shortlisted deal will not be allowed to evaluate any of those categories.

The judges will be given at least one week to evaluate the information about the finalists based on a research summary that will be provided by ALB. They will choose the top three finalists for every category, and the scores will be aggregated accordingly.

AWARD SPONSOR



ASSOCIATE SPONSOR



ALB SUPPORTS



PROUDLY PRESENTED BY

