Pérez-Llorca



José Luis Suárez Parra

Contact
jose.suarez@perezllorca.com
T: +57 601 319 2900 Ext. 924
Calle 67, 7-35
110231 Bogotá

Practices and Sectors

- Banking & Finance
- Capital Markets
- Infrastructure
- Mergers & Acquisitions
- Public Law

Profile

Since beginning his professional practice in 1991, he has been a consistent advisor to numerous national and international clients. He has also advised many of the country's most prominent companies on matters including mergers and acquisitions, structured financing and investment schemes, and local and international placements.

José Luis has led the legal teams in 95% of the shareholder democratization processes carried out in Colombia.

Studies:

- LL.M., Harvard University.
- Specialization in Financial Law, Universidad de los Andes.
- Law Degree, Universidad de los Andes.

He speaks Spanish and English.

Experience

Since 1990, he has developed his professional career at various national and international law firms. In 1992, he joined the Firm as a partner. Between 2013 and 2023, he served as Managing Partner, consolidating more than three decades of leadership in the Colombian legal market.

His career includes international experience as a foreign attorney at a top-tier London firm, as well as his early practice as an associate at a local firm, which allowed him to develop a global and strategic perspective that he has consistently applied in highly complex transactions.

He has participated in key transactions such as the acquisition of Carulla Vivero by Almacenes Éxito, the privatization of Isagen, the structuring of the financing for the project through which Ocensa was developed, the acquisition of Bancafé by Davivienda, and the merger between UNE EPM and Millicom. His experience also includes ongoing advisory work for international banking institutions, the issuance of bonds by Grupo Aval, and the acquisition of Zona Franca Celsia by EnfraGen. He was part of the advisory team in the democratization of Ecopetrol, as well as in the legal support of the Bogotá Metro Line 1 project.

In recent years, he has advised the Gilinski family on the structuring and implementation of unsolicited public tender offers for shares of Grupo Nutresa, Grupo de Inversiones Suramericana, and Grupo Argos. In 2023, he actively participated in the negotiation and implementation of the framework agreement between the Gilinski family, IHC Capital Holding LLC, and these business groups, which enabled the share exchange between Grupo Nutresa and Grupo Sura.

Additionally, he was part of the team that developed the issuance of Grupo Nutresa bonds in the global markets, and has been a regular advisor on regulatory and tax matters for several international banks, including J.P. Morgan, Morgan Stanley, Merrill Lynch, Bank of America, Credit Suisse, Deutsche Bank, Goldman Sachs, Scotiabank, Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation, Barclays, HSBC, Citigroup, among others.

Academic and Publishing Collaborations

- Los Andres University professor at both undergraduate and graduate levels, teaching courses such as Introduction to Law and specialized seminars on project financing and international transactions.
- Author of various legal publications and a speaker at numerous conferences and seminars.

Professional Organisations

- Member of the International Bar Association (IBA).

Recognitions

- Eminent Practitioner, Chambers Latin America 2027, Capital Markets.
- Eminent Practitioner, Chambers Latin America 2027, Banking and Finance.
- Leading Partner, The Legal 500 2025, Banking and Finance, Projects.
- Thought Leader, Lacca 2025, Banking and Finance
- Highly regarded, IFLR1000 2024, Capital markets, Banking, M&A.
- Law Firm Leader of the Year, Latin Lawyer, 2022.