

# Latin America Practice At-A-Glance

WilmerHale's team is equipped to handle critical issues in Latin America, having worked on significant cases across multiple countries. Recognized as a Top International Law Firm in Latin America by LatinVex since 2021, we have over 100 Spanish-or Portuguese-speaking attorneys, with many hailing from Latin America and the Iberian Peninsula. Our team has extensive experience living and working across the region—a crucial asset, given the diversity of political systems and cultural differences among Latin American countries.

## **PRACTICE AT A GLANCE**

- International Arbitration: WilmerHale has represented corporations and individuals in bet-the-firm investor-state and private international arbitrations.
- International Trade: We have advised clients in energy, infrastructure, and financial services to address trade-related challenges across Latin America.
   The team also includes a former lead negotiator of the investment chapter of the US-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA).
- Mergers & Acquisitions and Venture Capital: Our team has successfully
  assisted numerous clients, including many Latin American companies, in securing USbased funding and executing mergers and acquisitions, particularly with US interests.
- International Litigation: WilmerHale has advised clients in a variety of complex, cross-border disputes, including disputes relating to the Foreign Sovereign Immunities Act, the International Organization Immunities Act, extradition, government takings, practice before international human rights tribunals, and other facets of public and private international law.
- Antitrust: We consistently help clients secure antitrust clearance for mergers and
  joint ventures, handle investigations into anticompetitive behavior, and resolve
  antitrust issues, collaborating closely with co-counsel in Latin America, the US
  and the EU.
- Securities and Financial Services: Our team has decades of experience advocating before global financial services regulators, providing counseling to clients through government investigations, hearings, enforcement and litigation.
- Investigations, Criminal Litigation and Compliance: WilmerHale has an
  impressive roster of attorneys who are experienced in Latin American cross-border
  investigations. Our team has been recognized globally since 2015 in Foreign Corrupt
  Practices Act investigations and compliance—handling matters spanning a vast range
  of industries and enforcement agencies.

2.7%

The World Bank forecasts that regional GDP in Latin America and the Caribbean will expand by 2.7% in 2025.

Source: Revitalizing Growth: An Urgent Agenda for Latin America and the Caribbean

Source: Economic Review | Latin America and the Caribbean April 2024

15.4%

Only 15.4 percent of respondents in Latin America indicated they had quantified their exposure to political risks.

Source: Aon's 2023 Global Risk Management Survey



Ranked as Band 1 in the US and globally for our FCPA practice

## **EXPERIENCE**

- Represented a Brazilian client in five consolidated LCIA arbitrations regarding multi-billion-dollar shareholder disputes involving companies in Brazil, the Bahamas, and other jurisdictions.
- Advised several clients, from a variety of industries, to optimize operations in Mexico for key changes in the USMCA.
- Represented Helmerich & Payne, a U.S. oil and gas drilling company, in a complex, high-stakes litigation against Venezuela's national oil company, Petróleos de Venezuela, S.A. ("PDVSA"), over Venezuela's and PDVSA's expropriation of H&P's entire business in Venezuela.
- Assisted Uber Technologies with the merger review of Uber's acquisition of a majority stake in Cornership, the grocery delivery platform, in Chile and Mexico, among other jurisdictions.
- Represented Glencore in its FCPA resolution of bribery and market manipulation charges with multiple enforcement authorities across the globe.
- Advised Baker Hughes in connection with the global merger review of the \$32 billion combination with GE Oil & Gas in Brazil and elsewhere in Latin America, and previously regarding Halliburton's proposed \$34.6 billion acquisition of Baker Hughes.
- Represented Key Energy in an SEC settlement and DOJ declination related to alleged conduct in Mexico, including advising on anti-corruption compliance policies, procedures and training.
- Settled an ICDR arbitration for a Latin American airline in a \$30 million dispute against a manufacturer relating to claims of breach of duties of good faith under Brazilian law.
- Represented a Chilean company in a cartel investigation in the US and the EU and in subsequent settlement proceedings.
- Represented a US public company against the Republic of Cuba for takings in violation of international law and potentially against unnamed defendants trafficking in the expropriated property in violation of the Helms-Burton Act.
- Advised a large tech company with offices in Latin America in connection with a confidential investigation in Argentina and Uruguay.
- Represented a major media and communications company in connection with the successful resolution of the US Attorney for the Eastern District of New York's investigation into its Argentine joint venture's role in the FIFA corruption scandal.
- Obtained a \$44 million award for a US pharmaceutical company in connection with an investment arbitration against Ecuador.

### FIRM ACCOLADES

- Chambers Europe
   Recognized as Band 1 since 2014 for our International Arbitration practice
- Chambers Global Ranked a leading law firm for International Trade in the US and globally from 2014 through 2024
- LatinVex Recognized in 2023 and 2024 for our Latin America work in Arbitration, Corporate and Mergers and Acquisitions, FCPA, and Fraud & Investigations
- Law360 2023 Trial Group of the Year
- Law360 2023 White Collar Group of the Year
- U.S. News—Best Lawyers
   Ranked among the best law firms for Corporate Law since 2021

## For information, please contact:

Christopher Cestaro — Partner | +1 202 663 6904 | christopher.cestaro@wilmerhale.com

Danielle Morris — Partner | +1 202 663 6464 | danielle.morris@wilmerhale.com

John Rockwell — Partner | +1 650 858 6008 | john.rockwell@wilmerhale.com

Claudio Salas — Special Counsel | +1 212 295 6372 | claudio.salas@wilmerhale.com