

# Jesús Varela

## Spain Managing Partner



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Madrid

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## Overview

Jesús is the Spain Managing Partner and Head of the Real Estate practice at Dentons in Madrid. He joined Dentons in 2011 from Linklaters where he was also a partner.

His areas of expertise are real estate financing, real estate investment and M&A and debt situations. He has advised a wide range of banks and other lenders, real estate investors and debt traders. Jesús is known in the market for his expertise in debt portfolio trades, property financings and private equity deals in the real estate sector, and is a regular speaker at real estate conferences.

Jesús has acted for a wide range of banks (including Crédit Agricole, PBB Deutsche Pfandbriefbank, Santander, Caixabank, Natixis and other leading international bank), institutional investors, opportunity investors and private equity houses (including Morgan Stanley, Prudential, Henderson Global Investors, AXA, MEAG, Apollo, Oak Tree, Oak Hill, Deutsche Bank EMEA Special Situations Group, Goldman Sachs European Special Situations Group, Orion Capital Managers, Corona Capital Partners and Knight Capital).

## Recognition

Jesús has been rated by *Chambers Europe* as a leading individual (Band 1 in the 2012, 2013, 2016 and 2017 Editions), describing him as “an exceptional lawyer with super-deep knowledge of the Spanish real estate sector, exceptional commercial awareness and negotiation skills, and incredible work ethic” (2012 Edition); and with “deep knowledge of the market and legal environment” and “he gives good advice and is very proactive in closing negotiations” (2016 Edition). Jesús is also recommended by *Legal 500*, which praises Jesús on its 2013 edition as “without doubt, one of the best lawyers in this field”. Jesús is also rated by *Best Lawyers* and *Who’s Who Legal*. The *IFLR 1000* directory also ranks Jesús as one of the leading banking and finance lawyers in Spain.

## In the Media

- 'Mayfair lenders', la nueva industria de inversores y prestamistas.

## Activities and Affiliations

## Prior and Present Employment

- Partner, Dentons (formerly Salans) (2011 – present)
- Partner, Linklaters (2003 – 2011)
- Senior associate, Clifford Chance (2000 – 2003)
- Associate, Deloitte Abogados (1999 – 2000)
- Associate, Pérez-Llorca Abogados (1997 – 1999)

## Areas of focus

### Practices

- Banking and Finance
- Real Estate
- Restructuring, Insolvency and Bankruptcy

### Industry sectors

- Financial Institutions
- Private Equity

## Education

- National University of Distance Education (UNED), present, Business Administration
- CESBAL - Centro de Estudios Bayer de Administración Local, 2000, Master, Planning and Licenses
- Instituto de Empresa, 1998, Advanced Course in Law, corporate law program
- Complutense University of Madrid, 1996 – 1997, PhD
- University of Columbia, 1994, Exchange Program, International Legal Studies
- Complutense University of Madrid, 1993, Law Degree

## Languages

- English
- French
- German
- Spanish