

# Olivier Genevois

## Partner



Partner

Paris

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## Overview

Olivier Genevois, a partner in the Paris office, specializes in Private Equity and M&A, with a particular focus on multi-jurisdictional transactions. Olivier heads the Paris' Corporate M&A group and co-heads Dentons Europe M&A group.

Within the Private Equity industry, Olivier has over 20 years of experience in the creation of investment funds and asset management companies. He assists management teams in regulatory, tax and governance matters, and advises funds on their primary investments (LBO, MBO). He also acts for French and foreign funds of funds in connection with their primary investments and secondary operations.

Olivier also has extensive experience in mergers and acquisitions and is specialised in leading multi-jurisdictional operations. He regularly advises international pharmaceutical groups and worldwide actors in the chemical, metals and mining industries in their investments and divestments. Olivier also assists energy companies and developers in their investments in renewable energies (solar, wind, biomass) or in the sale of assets or portfolios of assets in these fields.

## Experience

### Private Equity

- **Calibrium:** Advising this Swiss family office in the context of its investment in several French funds.
- **Flexstone Partners:** Regularly advising this French fund of funds in the context of its acquisition of several portfolios of French and European interests (secondary transactions) and in the context of co-investments alongside the funds in which it invested.
- **RB Capital Partners:** Advising on the raising of their first fund RB Capital France FPCI.
- **Swen Capital Partners:** Advising the management of this French institutional investment fund on the setting up of their fund of fund as a SPL (Swen PE Selecta Europe 5).
- **State Street Global Advisors:** Regularly advising this asset manager acting on behalf of a US Pension fund (GE Pension trust) in the context of the investment of large tickets in French funds.

- **Arcole Industries:** Regularly advising this special situation fund in the context of several disposals including the sale of Phenix group to Stelliant, a portfolio company of Naxicap Partners.
- **Management and founders of Les Délices du Chef:** Advising the founders of Les Délices du Chef in connection with a first LBO transaction via a build-up by a portfolio company of Abénex in view of creating Naturellement Gourmand, a new Europe-wide group focusing on natural products food.
- **Pechel:** Advising on the LBO acquisition of JEMS Group from its founders and on the financing (senior debt and mezzanine).

## Corporate M&A

- **AmRest:** Advising this leading European restaurant operator in the context of its acquisition of Sushi Shop Group, the French leader in sushi catering, from its founders and Naxicap Partners.
- **KSL Capital Partners:** Advising on the acquisition of French boutique hotel group Les Hôtels d'en Haut, operating several 4-5-star hotels in Val Thorens, Courchevel, Mégève (French Alps) and in Saint Raphaël (French Riviera), from London-based developer Perseus Group; and advising on the acquisition of a group of boutique hotels in Lourmarin and Bonnieux (Provence) from the family of Edouard Loubet, a Michelin-starred chef.
- **Lesaffre:** Regularly advising on the creation of joint ventures alongside local groups, for the production or the distribution of Lesaffre's yeast products, notably in Egypt, Jordan, Kenya and in South America.
- **Lisi Automotive:** Advising the automotive division of Lisi, a French listed company, in the context of the acquisition in the USA of Termax Corp, a company specialized in mechanical safety components.
- **Lisi Aerospace:** Advising the aerospace division of Lisi, a French listed company, on the sale of its "aeronautical structural components" division to the German turnaround fund Quantum; and advising on the sale of its activity of designing, manufacturing and sale of helicopters hooks to the French aerospace contractor Rafaut.
- **Media 6:** Advising this French listed company specialized in POS advertising and luxury commercial furniture in the context of the acquisition of a Chinese group as well as of its Canadian competitor IMG group.
- **Rio Tinto:** Advising one of the world leading mining groups in the context of the sale of its plant in Dunkirk, the largest aluminium smelter in Europe, to Anglo-Indian group GFG-Liberty House.
- **Rio Tinto:** Advising one of the world leading mining groups in the context of the sale of three European assets to a Norwegian group including its aluminium smelter in Iceland and its interests in two aluminium smelters in the Netherlands and in Sweden.
- **Trèves:** Advising this leading French automotive interior components supplier on the acquisition of a 60% stake in R.O.I. Automotive Technology S.r.l., a leading Italian automotive technical textile supplier from Miro Radici Family of Companies.

## Renewable energies

- **Qair:** As part of a cross-border Dentons team, advising on the French aspects of the acquisition and financing of four wind and 29 photovoltaic power plants with a total capacity of 106 MW in Poland.
- **Storengy:** Advising this French company part of a listed group operating in the energy sector in the context of the reorganization of some of its gas storage sites.
- **Seven Energy:** Advising this private Czech group in the context of the proposed acquisition of Uniper's French portfolio including wind, biomass and two coal-fired power plants.
- **Luxembourg group in the energy sector:** Advising on the sale of two wind farms to a syndicate of French municipalities.

- **Dutch fund:** Advising in the context of the setting up of a joint venture with a French public group for the construction of sheds equipped with photovoltaic roofs.

## Recognition

- **Chambers Europe 2021:** While Dentons' Paris Corporate M&A team is consistently recommended over the years, Olivier is recognized as a "Notable practitioner".
- **Legal 500 EMEA 2020:** The professional legal guide reports a client describing Olivier as "a wise and mature legal and business counsel. He has a deep understanding of commercial aspects of transactions and is very skilled at selecting best legal solution for a given situation. Very balanced and mature approach to negotiations. It is always a pleasure to work with him on any deal".
- **IFLR 2020:** Olivier is "highly regarded" for his practice in "M&A" and in "Private equity".

## Insights

- "Country Q&A: France," Private Equity Handbook 2011, 2011
- "Chapter France," Private Equity Handbook 2008/2009, January 2009
- "Chapter France," Private Equity Handbook 2007/2008, January 2008

## Activities and Affiliations

### Memberships

- Dentons' representative at France Invest (formerly AFIC)
- Dentons' representative at Invest Europe (EVCA)

### Prior and Present Employment

- Joined Dentons (formerly Salans) in 1995

## Areas of focus

### Practices

- Leveraged Buy-Outs and Management Buy-Outs
- Mergers and Acquisitions

### Industry sectors

- Energy Transactions
- Private Equity
- Renewable Energy

## Education

- University of Paris II - Panthéon Assas, 1992, DEA, Business and Economics Laws
- University of Paris II - Panthéon Assas, 1991, Maîtrise, Business and Tax Laws

## Admissions and qualifications

- Admitted to the Bar, Paris, 1995

## Languages

- English
- French