

Vladimír Polách

Partner

Prague

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Languages spoken

Czech | English | German



About Vladimír

Vladimír Polách handles a diverse array of significant domestic and international disputes, dealing with complex legal and factual issues from various industry areas, including the energy, machinery, petrochemical, automotive, aviation, telecommunications, banking and real estate sectors.

Legal 500 EMEA describes Vladimír as an “excellent lawyer”, while the latest *Chambers Europe* and *Chambers Global* editions rank him among the leading dispute resolution experts in the Czech Republic.

Vladimír has advised and represented clients in a number of litigation, arbitration and insolvency cases involving claims for breaches of contracts, warranty claims and post-acquisition claims of substantial value. Vladimír has also advised and represented clients in many court proceedings concerning administrative disputes, contractual disputes, shareholders’ disputes and directors’ liability.

Vladimír has further advised clients in various dispute-related processes, including pre-court action and pre-arbitration notices, as well as communication with governmental authorities, regulators and international institutions.

In addition, Vladimír has assisted clients in various internal corporate investigations and criminal proceedings, including by pursuing claims for damages and advising on the criminal defence of corporations and white collar crime cases.

Furthermore, Vladimír regularly acts as an arbitrator at the Arbitration Court of the Economic Chamber and Agricultural Chamber of the Czech Republic, a leading arbitration institution in the Czech Republic.

Experience

Litigation

- Representing a major Czech and CEE industrial group operating in aluminium, metallurgical and machinery industries in relation to an insurance coverage dispute.

- Representing a supplier of electricity and natural gas in a series of court proceedings involving claims of significant financial value.
- Represented a major US manufacturer and distributor of automotive oils, additives and lubricants in a complex cross-border court dispute with its customer dealing with supply chain issues from various EU and non-EU markets and jurisdictions. We achieved a full victory for the client before Czech courts of all instances, including before the Supreme Court and the Constitutional Court of the Czech Republic.
- Represented a client in Czech court proceedings initiated by a major mining company alleging claims for damages against our client of a significant financial value. The case involved one of the largest disputes regarding claims for compensation of damages resulting from alleged breaches of managerial duty of care in the Czech Republic. All claims brought against our client were successfully defended and the case was settled favourably for the client.
- Represented an Italian machinery industry designer and a chemical engineering company in the pre-litigation phase of a Czech dispute with one of the client's customers in the Czech Republic. The case was settled favourably for the client.
- Represented a Czech subsidiary of a global group of companies providing ground-handling, cargo-handling, fuelling and related airport services in three labour court proceedings. We achieved a full victory for the client in the main dispute and negotiated a favourable settlement in the other two.
- Represented a commercial real estate developer in a court dispute regarding the validity of contracts for the development of a new shopping mall project of substantial value, including the extraordinary appellate proceedings before the Supreme Court of the Czech Republic.
- Represented a leading Czech industrial company, designing and providing solutions in the field of industrial automation, product testers and machine vision systems, in a dispute against an investment fund for damages resulting from the pre-contractual liability (*culpa in contrahendo*). The case was settled favourably for the client.
- Represented a Czech entity belonging to a global group of companies involved in the manufacture of various types of roofing solutions in a court dispute against a former executive director for the protection of the company's reputation. The client obtained a final and effective judgment from the Czech court, ordering the opposing party to issue a letter of apology and provide our client with compensation of legal costs incurred before the Appellate Court.
- Represented a Czech-Israeli developer against a municipality in the Czech Republic for damages of significant financial value. The case was settled favourably for our client.
- Represented a client in disputes regarding a squeeze out of the client's shares from a company operating an administrative centre in the Czech Republic. The case was settled favourably for the client.
- Represented a Swiss company in court dispute involving claims for payment of unjust enrichment regarding investment and financial services allegedly provided to the client by a Czech company and foreign individuals. The client obtained a final and effective judgment from the Czech court, bestowing the full amount of damages claimed by the client against the opposing party, including the compensation of legal costs.
- Represented a client involved in the development and operation of shopping malls in a court dispute against a tenant of a shopping unit, and its owner, for the compensation of damage and payment of contractual penalties resulting from unlawful termination of a lease contract. The case was settled favourably for our client.

- Represented a US company and its Czech subsidiary in court disputes concerning the client's intellectual property rights to certain innovative chemical processes.
- Represented a Swiss company involved in the international transportation of oil and fuels in pending court proceedings against a Czech company regarding financial claims arising from a settlement agreement. The court has adjudicated all claims brought by our client, including the default interest and legal costs.
- Represented a shopping mall owner in court disputes involving claims arisen from breaches of lease agreements regarding shops with luxury clothes brands. The case was settled favourably for our client.
- Advised a petrochemical company in a court dispute defending against multiple claims for payment of alleged additional consideration under Section 183k of the (former) Commercial Code brought by minority shareholders as a result of squeeze out.
- Advised a company in several court disputes asserting claims against a management board member for breaches of fiduciary duties, including successful extraordinary appellate proceedings before the Supreme Court of the Czech Republic.
- Advised a company in a court dispute concerning contractual claims for remuneration brought by a supervisory board member dealing with various legal issues, including a non-competition clause and the duty of loyalty.
- Advised a petrochemical company in court dispute under Section 147 of the Insolvency Act defending against claims for compensation of damages of substantial value.
- Advised a company in court proceedings under Chapter 5 of the Civil Procedural Code defending against court action for declaration of invalidity of a resolution issued by the Czech National Bank.

Commercial Arbitration

- Represented an energy concern in an ICC arbitration against a supplier of natural gas involving claims of significant financial value. We achieved a full victory for the client.
- Represented a major Czech and CEE group involved in aluminium, metallurgical and machinery industries, in an ICC arbitration against a designer of industrial machines. The case was settled favourably for the client.
- Represented a Czech company operating a successful shopping mall in a commercial arbitration against an international asset manager involving claims for the compensation of damage resulting from the organisation of electricity tenders for the shopping mall and its tenants.
- Represented a Czech subsidiary of a global sporting goods retailer in a commercial arbitration involving claims for contractual penalties of considerable value. All claims against our client were dismissed.
- Advised a buyer of a Czech aerospace manufacturer in an ICC arbitration regarding breach of representations and warranties provided in a share purchase agreement. The case settled favourably for our client.
- Advised a major energy company in an ICC arbitration involving claims for breaches of a contract regarding a joint venture electricity generation project, including assistance in various related corporate and financial processes regulated by laws of three jurisdictions and successful implementation of the ICC award, bestowing considerable damages to the client.
- Advised an energy company in a commercial arbitration defending against multiple claims brought by a bio-fuel producer regarding supply of electricity and heat. The case settled favourably for the client.

- Advised a company in a commercial arbitration for breaches of software development contracts. All claims against the client were dismissed.
- Advised a company in series of local arbitration cases defending against claims for contractual penalties and damages of significant value arisen from various real estate transactions.

Investment Arbitration

- Advised the Republic of Kosovo in an ICSID arbitration against ACP Axos Capital GmbH (ICSID Case No. 15/22). The dispute arose under the Germany-Kosovo BIT in connection with an alleged investment in the telecommunications sector. All of the investor's claims were dismissed and our client was awarded the totality of its costs.
- Advised a major energy company in an UNCITRAL arbitration under the Energy Charter Treaty, including day-to-day regulatory and financial issues of the distressed client's subsidiary, assertion of claims guaranteed by financial instruments issued by the World Bank and a successful settlement of the dispute.
- Advised clients in several high-profile cases dealing with arbitration claims (or defence against them), including assessment of claims under the Energy Charter Treaty and/or BITs, in particular, in the renewable energy sector.

White Collar, Internal Corporate and Criminal Investigations

- Represented a major pharmaceutical company in an internal compliance and regulatory investigation.
- Represented a global provider of products and services for the healthcare sector in a workplace investigation.
- Represented a global group of companies with business activities in the aviation sector across the globe in a workplace investigation.
- Represented an international education institution in an internal investigation.
- Advised clients in a variety of other internal corporate investigations relating to allegations of violations of anti-corruption, labour and criminal legislation.
- Representing and advising clients in connection with criminal and related investigations and proceedings pending before Czech and foreign authorities.

Credentials

Education

- Charles University in Prague 2010
- Heinrich Heine University Dusseldorf 2009

Admissions

- Czech Republic, 2014

Recognitions

- Recognised in *Chambers Europe* 2025 as a Leading Individual for Dispute Resolution
- Recognised in *Legal 500 EMEA* 2025 as a Leading Partner for Dispute Resolution in the Czech Republic

- Recognised as a Star Individual in *Chambers Global* 2024 and *Chambers Europe* 2024 for Dispute Resolution in the Czech Republic
- Ranked as a Leading Individual in *Legal 500 Middle East & Africa* 2024 for Dispute Resolution
- Recognised in *Chambers Global* 2023 and *Chambers Europe* 2023 for Dispute Resolution in the Czech Republic
- Ranked as a Leading Individual in *Legal 500 Middle East & Africa* 2023 for Dispute Resolution
- Recommended in *Legal 500* 2022 for corporate, banking and real estate as an “excellent lawyer”
- Recommended in *Legal 500* 2021 for white-collar crime cases and large class actions as part of the group that provides “highly detailed legal analysis”
- Recognised in *Legal 500 Europe, Middle East & Africa* 2019 and 2020 for Czech Republic – Dispute Resolution
- Recommended in *Legal 500* 2018 for Dispute Resolution as “well-prepared”
- Recognised in *Chambers Global Guide* 2025 Band 4 for Dispute Resolution

Expertise

Services

- International Dispute Resolution
- Government Investigations & White Collar

About our firm

One of the world’s strongest integrated law firms, providing insight at the point where law, business and government meet. We deliver commercially focused business solutions by combining our legal, lobbying and political capabilities and invaluable connections on the ground to a diverse mix of clients, from long-established leading corporations to emerging businesses, startup visionaries and sovereign nations. More than 1,500 lawyers in over 40 offices across four continents provide unrivaled access to expertise.