

CMS Sofia

Kostadin Sirleshtov

Partner | CEE Head of Energy, Projects and Construction

Kostadin Sirleshtov is a partner at CMS Sofia. He is Head of Energy, Projects and Construction (EPC) for Central and Eastern Europe and for Bulgaria, where he is leading also the real estate sub-team.

His particular area of expertise is in conventional power, electricity, nuclear, renewables, oil & gas, infrastructure, projects, PPP, public procurement, underground resources. He has worked as the Chief of the Minister's cabinet for the Ministry of Energy and Energy Resources 2002-2004 and Chief of Minister's cabinet in the Ministry of Defence 2005-2007. As part of the team at the Ministry of Energy and Energy Resources Kostadin was a member of the working group, which prepared the current energy legislation of Bulgaria, including the Energy Act 2003 and the Energy Efficiency Act 2004.

Kostadin has advised on all offshore oil & gas production concessions in Bulgaria and was involved in all recent tenders in the sector. He has also advised a multitude of energy clients on their oil & gas exploration and production activities in Bulgaria.

He is praised by clients for his **"huge knowledge and understanding of the sector" and is named "a real leader on the market."**

He is singled out by clients as one of the top Bulgarian energy experts in the world's most renowned legal directories Chambers & Partners and Legal 500. In front of Chambers & Partners Europe, clients comment: **"If we have a difficult case we always contact him first; he will know how to approach the situation."**

Legal 500 says: **"Practice head Kostadin Sirleshtov is outstanding"**.

Highlights of his experience include advising:

- A group of large international oil & gas companies on their successful exploration activities for the "Han Asparuh" block offshore Bulgaria, which is the largest oil & gas exploration project ever developed in Bulgaria with estimated exploration costs exceeding 500 million EUR.
- Petroceltic on negotiations and signing of three production concession agreements and on the extension of its exploration rights since 2008.
- Saipem on their successful selection for main contractor on South Stream Offshore gas pipeline project worth 2 billion EUR and on various regulatory, tax, corporate and immigration matters.
- Burgas Alexandrupolis Oil Pipeline project on the regulatory elements of the structuring and the implementation of the Burgas – Alexandrupolis oil pipeline project.
- Nabucco gas pipeline project on various regulatory matters in Bulgaria including: those related to the Bulgarian Regulator and the approval of the exclusion from the EU policy for third-party access; the review of the permitting process in Bulgaria.
- BP on their planned acquisition of a portfolio of upstream assets in Bulgarian (2008) and on regulatory matters.



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Practice areas

Energy and Projects
PPP

Languages

Bulgarian
English

