## Former Minister of Foreign Investment Arlind Zeqiri joins LGP



Arlind Zeqiri has been a member of the LGP Senior Expert Council since summer 2018

n 2019, Arlind Zegiri is to set up the teams at the new LGP locations in Skopje (Republic of North Macedonia) and Tirana (Albania) as Managing Director with country responsibility. This is one of the first major strategic projects in cooperation with Andersen Global, the international association of legal and tax advisors. As a member of the Macedonian government, Arlind Zeqiri was the strategic interface between local companies, foreign investors and public authorities. It is precisely at this interface that he will act as Country Consultant at LGP, supporting international companies in their market entry and developing projects with investors and local entrepreneurs.

The prominent member of our advisory team for SEE joined the LGP Senior Expert Council in the summer of 2018. With him, LGP gains an acknowledged expert for the markets in Southeastern Europe.

Making greater use of North Macedonia's strategic role in the region. Law firm founder Gabriel Lansky on the current expansion of the LGP Senior Expert Council: "North Macedonia is making an important contribution to stability throughout the entire region. In June 2018, the European Council gave the go-ahead for the accession negotiations and the settlement of the name dispute with Greece is an important step towards political stability. After difficult times the economy is recovering, North Macedonia has continuously worked on its attractiveness as a business location in recent years. The positive development has also been taken up by international financial institutions. With the Business Ecosystem Project, the Ministry of Economy and USAID have put together a package to promote the competitiveness of SMEs, while the EIB is supporting SMEs with a loan of 100 million euros.

I share the assessment of Prime Minister Zaev and the current leadership of North Macedonia that both the EU and international financial institutions are responding to the sustainable orientation of North Macedonia's politics and economy. We also see robust economic growth and a recovery in domestic demand in Albania, and progress is being made in implementing structural reforms. Experts even speak of Albania playing a model role in the implementation of the judicial reform. EU accession is a long-term goal that must be pursued consistently. As locally active consultants, we will make our contribution at our locations

in Skopje and Tirana so that the necessary reforms in the areas of public administration, the rule of law and the judiciary can take effect. With the former minister and long-time friend of our law firm, Arlind Zeqiri, we have a strong partner at our side".

Market knowledge, economic and legal expertise from a single source. Arlind Zeqiri on his new role in the LGP Senior Expert Council: "In recent years, North Macedonia has done a lot to protect investors and create investment incentives for companies. Albania is also implementing ambitious programmes in this area. Through the cooperation with LGP and the local presence in Skopje, investors can take advantage of the favourable conditions."

The former Foreign Investment Minister's professional focus is on regional development, energy, infrastructure, environment, investment promotion and economic reform. Arlind Zeqiri's professional career has taken him from the State University of Tetovo (North Macedonia) to the Chamber of Commerce, the Agency for the Promotion of Foreign Investments (in Bern) and the head of the Ministry for Foreign Investments in the Republic of Macedonia. At the beginning of his career, Arlind Zeqiri was active as a consultant for regional development and international investments in Germany and Austria. He was admitted to the bar in Skopje in December 2012. Arlind Zeqiri speaks Albanian, Macedonian, English, German, Bosnian-Croatian-Serbian and Turkish. (MM)