

PUBLIC PROCUREMENT LAW FIRM OF THE YEAR IN ITALY

Studio Legale Valaguzza



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Studio Legale Valaguzza – SLV, founded by Professor Sara Valaguzza, is an established and well-known boutique of law in the heart of Milan, acting in the field of administrative law. SLV supports public authorities and public-owned companies, as well as national and international private clients, specifically with reference to the sector of public procurement, which includes public economic law, grants and project financing, sustainable development, town-planning and urban regeneration programmes, also related to the National Recovery and Resilience Plan (PNRR).

The Firm, since its foundation, has been involved in complex infrastructure projects like the construction of metro lines in Milan, gas distribution systems and waste treatment plants. By supporting public bodies in such projects, it has always been focused on enhancing the performance of public interests in order to ensure the best response to communities' public needs.

The implementation of innovative tools of partnership between public authorities and private parties (PPP) has been the key to SLV's success. The Firm's lawyers believe that providing clients with creative and rapid solutions for their issues helps them to achieve their goal. In this regard, they introduced new tender procedures that, on one hand, can assure flexibility and efficiency and, on the other one, can comply with the general principles of the administrative law – neutrality, transparency, impartiality and publicity.

Public authorities increasingly ask for *strategic procurement*, which consists of an all-round and highly specialised consultancy on the ongoing strategy on the basis of the project. In this context, the constant dialogue with the client, the face-to-face approach and the tailor-made solutions are fundamental for the success of the operation. Moreover, a new way of conceiving public procurement is growing nowadays. New tender procedures must comply with green purposes, and social impact must be implemented. Public authorities are also starting to realise that collaborative approaches, especially with the contractors, can prevent delays, costs increases and judicial claims. SLV is promoting the introduction in the public tender's documentation of alliancing contracts aimed at settling down the contractual relationship in a multilateral and dialogic dimension: thanks to *collaborative procurement*, the supply chain is strategically integrated in the client's perspective so that he can obtain better results from the framework.

Recently, the main challenge for public authorities is taking the lead in the European economic recovery actions, under the Next Generation EU Plan (PNRR). SLV is striving for the creation of a faster and simpler public procurement system that complies with sustainable targets and ensures the best competitive measures for the community.

Sara Valaguzza

Sara Valaguzza is a well-established lawyer in the field of administrative law. She is an expert of public and private contracts, including outcome-based contracts, strategic procurement (especially of supply chain), sustainable development, as well as urban regeneration. Recently, she was named the "Most Influential Woman in Administrative Law 2021 – Italy" in the context of the Global Excellence Awards.

She is a Full Professor of Administrative Law at the University of Milan, where she teaches Green Procurement, Public-Private Partnership for Sustainable Development, Administrative and Environment Law and Sustainable Development Law. In partnership with the King's College, London, she is leading the application of alliancing and collaborative construction procurement (e.g. FAC-1) in several innovative projects in Italy and Europe.

She is Scientific Director of the Center of Construction Law & Management – CCLM; Founding Member and President of the European Association of Public-Private Partnership – E.A.PPP; an Academic Member of the Plan Procurement Law Academic Network – PLAN; and was a Board Member of the UNIMI Foundation. She is one of the first Italian jurists to have dealt with Legal BIM.

Eugenio Pizzaghi

Eugenio Pizzaghi mainly deals with town-planning, construction and environmental issues, both in an out-of-court and dispute resolution levels. He shares his passion for built environment and urban development with Clients, both private subjects and public administrations. His promptness and thoroughness in giving feedback allow him to understand the Clients' needs, also of foreign Clients, who invest in important real estate and renewable energy developments both in Italy and in Europe.

Monica Lauro

Monica Lauro aids in out-of-court activities in the field of public contractual law; in particular, she has gained her experience in the solution of complex issues concerning the execution of concession contracts, building and management of line infrastructure. She also gained expertise in the field of tax litigation and civil disputes; she is able to thoroughly draft and implement organisational, management and assessment models, in addition to providing useful assistance in criminal proceedings and trials.

Testimonials

"Studio Valaguzza is multidimensional: their team is much more than a group of lawyers. With a problem-solving and creative approach, they have become our strategy and management partners."

Chief Executive Officer of Kickster, a climate-change consultancy company

"You can't solve a problem with the same kind of thinking you used to create it. This struck me about Studio Valaguzza: they always strive to think in all possible ways."

Public Administration Manager