



IBA BROCHURE

2026

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YOUR GATEWAY TO **NORWAY** AND THE NORDICS

wiersholm.no/en

Wiersholm



Our passion is to make legal success in the Nordics effortless and assured. When you seek a partner you can rely on, let us be your first choice.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO COLLABORATING WITH YOU

As Managing Partner at Wiersholm, I am proud to welcome you to Norway—and to our firm.

At Wiersholm, we see legal work as more than solving problems; it's about building trust and creating value for our partners worldwide.

We blend Norwegian insight with a global outlook. Our team is dedicated to getting things done—quickly, clearly, and always with your goals in focus. Whether you face complex cross-border matters or need local expertise, we stand ready as your first call in the Nordics.

We value lasting relationships and measure our success by yours.

When you choose Wiersholm, you choose a partner committed to your growth. We look forward to collaborating with you.

Warm regards,

Stephan L. Jervell
Managing Partner, Wiersholm

ABOUT THE NORDICS

Unified, Stable, and Open for Business

With deep regional cooperation, stable social models, and highly educated workforces, the Nordics offer a seamless, business-friendly environment—supported by efficient legal systems and consistently high performance on global ‘ease of doing business’ rankings.



1

Home to Over 28 Million People, One Economic Powerhouse

Collectively, the Nordic countries have a population of over 28 million - with a GDP nearing USD 1.9 trillion, making the region the world's 11th largest economy if counted as a single market.

2

World Leaders in Innovation and Digitalisation

The Nordics consistently top global innovation and digital rankings: All five countries rank in the top 10 of the UN E-Government Index, and the region is a global leader in 5G coverage and digital public services.

3

Clean Energy Champions

More than 80% of electricity in the Nordics comes from renewable sources - hydropower, wind, biomass, and geothermal - offering clients access to one of the cleanest energy grids worldwide.

4

High Rankings for Trust, Transparency, and Rule of Law

All Nordic countries are regularly ranked among the world's least corrupt and most trusted societies (Transparency International Top 10; World Justice Project Rule of Law Index Top 10).

ABOUT

NORWAY



World’s Largest Sovereign Wealth Fund

Norway manages the world’s largest sovereign wealth fund, exceeding USD 2 trillion in assets under management.



High GDP Per Capita

With GDP per capita regularly above USD 100,000, Norway is among the wealthiest nations worldwide.



Leader in Green Transportation

Over 90% of all new cars sold in Norway are fully electric or hybrid - the highest rate globally.



Low Corruption

Ranked 4th globally in Transparency International’s Corruption Perceptions Index 2025, Norway stands out for public sector integrity.



Educated Workforce

Over 40% of Norwegians aged 25–34 hold a university degree, placing Norway among the European leaders in higher education.



Consistently Among Top 5 on the UN Human Development Index

For over a decade, Norway has ranked in the global top five for quality of life, education, and life expectancy.



Major Energy Exporter

Norway supplies about 30% of the EU’s natural gas and is western Europe’s largest exporter of oil and gas.



Strong Digital Infrastructure

Over 98% of Norwegians have access to high-speed broadband; more than 90% of public services are fully digital.



Strategic Maritime Power

Norway operates one of the world’s most valuable merchant fleets and is a recognised hub for global shipping and maritime law.



Large Land, Small Population

Norway covers 385,000 km2 - comparable to the land area of Germany. With a population of just 5.5 million, it is one of Europe’s most sparsely populated countries.

LOOKING AHEAD

WHAT’S HAPPENING IN NORWAY

Norway’s next decade will be defined by green ambition, digital leadership, and global openness, backed by a trusted legal system and a spirit of innovation. Here are five key trends shaping Norway’s future:



DID YOU KNOW?

Norway ranks among the world’s most trusted and transparent nations, offering unique opportunities for those ready to collaborate.

Source: Transparency International CPI 2025; OECD Survey on Drivers of Trust in Public Institutions 2024.

OFFSHORE WIND AND CARBON CAPTURE LEADERSHIP

Norway is developing several large-scale offshore wind projects, including the Sørlige Nordsjø II and Utsira Nord fields, to increase renewable energy production. At the same time, the country has taken a global lead in carbon capture and storage through the Longship project and the Northern Lights facility, which have been permanently storing CO2 under the North Sea since 2025. A second phase, expected to be operational by 2028, will more than triple storage capacity to at least five million tonnes of CO2 per year.

ESG AND TRANSPARENCY AT THE CORE

Environmental, social, and governance (ESG) standards are being strengthened across all sectors. New regulations demand unprecedented transparency in corporate ownership, supply chains, and sustainability performance.

TECH-DRIVEN TRANSFORMATION

Norway is digitalizing, from finance and public services to ocean industries and health. As a testbed for cutting-edge solutions, the country offers new opportunities alongside new regulatory requirements in data protection, AI, and cyber resilience.

MORE DEMANDING DEAL-MAKING

Cross-border transactions face greater scrutiny, with tightened foreign investment screening and new tax compliance obligations. Success in Norway will increasingly require local insight, agility, and legal precision.

RESILIENT AMID GEOPOLITICAL SHIFTS

Located at the crossroads of the Nordics and the Arctic, Norway is doubling down on security and international cooperation. Enhanced defence, supply chain resilience, and regulatory alignment with the EU create both stability and new market rules.



PRACTICE AREA

SPOTLIGHTS

M&A AND CAPITAL MARKETS

Norwegian capital markets have recently shown renewed activity, with several successful listings indicating growing investor confidence. Meanwhile, the Norwegian government has put forward a legislative proposal to implement the EU Listing Act, with entry into force expected during 2026.

DISPUTE

Recent arbitration and Supreme Court rulings clarified key issues in insurance, corporate, labor, and contract law, including war risk definitions, attorney–client privilege, and shareholder voting rights. This underscores the importance of legal clarity and due process.

DATA PRIVACY

Data privacy law is increasingly shaped by cross-border transfers, stricter enforcement, and GDPR alignment. Regulators are expanding oversight to address new technologies and privacy risks, raising compliance obligations for companies.

COMPETITION

Competition law is trending toward stricter enforcement, with authorities focusing on anti-competitive practices, merger control, and digital markets. Regulators are increasingly active in scrutinizing dominant players, cross-border transactions, and evolving sectors such as technology and e-commerce.

COMPLIANCE

The EU and Norway have continued to adjust key sustainability and sanctions policies, including potential delays to the EU Deforestation Regulation and revisions to reporting standards. Norway has also contributed to discussions on the CSDDD and aligned further with EU sanctions on Russian oil.

SHIPPING

The shipping sector faced continued geopolitical and regulatory disruptions — from the Red Sea conflict and renewed Russia sanctions to US–China tariffs and the first EU ETS deadline. Despite delistings and compliance challenges, the tanker market stayed strong with high VLCC rates, and transaction activity is expected to rise toward year-end.

ENERGY/RENEWABLES

Norway’s renewable energy sector is seeing more authority shift to NVE, greater focus on security in grid planning, and rising offshore wind activity — signaling a move toward regulatory modernisation and faster project execution.

International newsletter

Subscribe to our quarterly international newsletter for insights, Norwegian market updates, and all our latest news directly to your inbox.



OUR APPROACH TO BUSINESS

As your gateway to the Nordics, we combine deep legal expertise with a forward-leaning, collaborative approach. We invest in technology, sustainability and the sharing of knowledge to deliver the best possible outcomes for our clients and international partners.

1

Investing in AI to Work Smarter for You

Artificial intelligence is a core part of how we deliver legal services. We combine best-of-breed legal technology with AI practices adapted from other industries, supported by named AI representatives in every practice group and a dedicated AI technology team. This lets us balance what AI and lawyers each handle, freeing time for higher-value work. The result: greater precision, faster turnaround, and reduced cost, delivered securely and consistently regardless of location.

2

Diverse Perspectives, Sustainable Advice

Wiersholm is a full-service business law firm that prioritises diversity, ESG and sustainability. We build interdisciplinary teams, foster diverse perspectives, and integrate sustainability into our advisory services. We support clients in reaching their own ESG goals, while pursuing clear internal objectives for diversity and sustainability – contributing to a fairer and more sustainable business landscape.

3

Tailored Teams to Your Specific Needs

We take a structured and strategic approach to collaboration, tailoring our teams and resources to each client’s specific needs. This gives us the flexibility to scale up or adapt quickly, while maintaining high quality, efficiency and cost control – ensuring the best possible outcomes for cross-border mandates.

4

Deep Expertise, Openly Shared

Our lawyers are recognised specialists within their fields, and Wiersholm is ranked Tier 1 across a broad range of international rankings. We share our expertise on an ongoing basis, through seminars, newsletters, conferences and client briefings, keeping our network updated on legal and regulatory developments in Norway and the Nordics.

MEET OUR

IBA TEAM

International Committee



Stephan L. Jervell

Managing Partner

Expertise: Commercial Contracts | Antitrust and Competition | Insurance | Renewable Energy and Infrastructure | EU and EEA Law

CV



Anne Lise E. Gryte

Partner, Head of Wiersholm Corporate Department, Officer IBA Capital Markets Committee

Expertise: Company Law | Mergers and Acquisitions (M&A)

CV



Jarle Kvam

Partner, Head of International Committee

Expertise: Company Law | Restructuring, Bankruptcy and Insolvency | Commercial Contract | Mergers and Acquisitions (M&A)

CV



Georg A. Engebretsen

Partner

Expertise: Restructuring, Bankruptcy and Insolvency | Antitrust and Competition | Investigation and Compliance | Corporate Criminal Liability | EU and EEA Law | Employment Law | Anti-Money Laundering

CV



Gunhild Dugstad

Partner

Expertise: Company Law | Restructuring, Bankruptcy and Insolvency | Commercial Contracts | Management and Employee Incentives | Mergers and Acquisitions (M&A) | Insurance | Fintech

CV



Kristine Hasle

Partner

Expertise: Shipping | Restructuring, Bankruptcy and Insolvency | Financial Regulatory | Banking and Finance

CV



Kai Thøgersen

Partner

Expertise: Commercial Contracts | Company Law | Mergers and Acquisitions (M&A) | Private Equity | Technology, Communication and Digitalisation | Venture Capital and Growth Financing

CV



Karsten Kreiling

Partner

Expertise: Company Law | Mergers and Acquisitions (M&A) | Private Equity | Venture Capital and Growth Financing

CV



Elisabeth L. Haugsdal

Partner

Expertise: Antitrust and Competition | Dispute Resolution | EU and EEA Law | Investigation and Compliance | Technology, Communication and Digitalisation

CV



Oscar Brown

Resident Partner- London

Expertise: Asset Management | Company Law | Mergers and Acquisitions (M&A)

CV



Svanhild Vesterheim

Partner

Expertise: Renewable Energy and Infrastructure | Commercial contracts | Data Centers

CV



Kurt Weltzien

Partner

Expertise: Employment and Public Procurement

CV



Andreas Gustavson

Partner

Expertise: Real Estate | Data Centers

CV



Kristian E. Ottestad

Partner

Expertise: Commercial Contracts | Company Law | Mergers and Acquisitions (M&A) | Private Equity | Technology, Communication and Digitalisation | Venture Capital and Growth Financing | Technology, Communication and Digitalisation

CV



Christel Søreide

Partner

Expertise: Employment | Investigation and Compliance | Pension | Incentive Schemes

CV



Magnus Snellingen

Partner

Expertise: Insurance | International Commercial Arbitration | Commercial Contracts | Professional and Directors Liability

CV



Sjur Funnemark

Senior Associate

Expertise: Company Law | Mergers and Acquisitions (M&A) | Commercial Contracts

CV



Christine L. Lindberg

Director of Marketing, Communications and BD

Expertise: Leads the firm's brand and communications work, alongside client development and sales initiatives

CV

HOW TO STAY

CONNECTED

We are always accessible, whether you have a client challenge, wish to explore new opportunities, or simply want to catch up on developments in Norway and the Nordics. Let's keep our partnership dynamic and mutually rewarding, all year round.



1

**SEAMLESS
REFERRAL OF
MATTERS**

We believe in building a two-way relationship. We greatly value the mutual referral of matters, whether your clients need support in Norway and the Nordics, or you can assist our clients internationally.

2

**COLLABORATIVE
CLIENT PROJECTS**

Work together on cross-border matters, training sessions, or thought leadership initiatives. We are keen to contribute to joint seminars, webinars, or publications.

3

**REGULAR UPDATE
CALLS OR VIRTUAL
MEETINGS**

Schedule periodic check-ins, quarterly or biannually, to share insights, discuss market trends, and exchange updates on joint clients or practice areas. We are always just a call or video meeting away.

4

**ATTENDING KEY
EVENTS TOGETHER**

Meet us at international conferences, Nordic seminars, or join mutual client visits and networking events. We warmly welcome you to the annual M&A conference, Nordic Buy Out Forum (NBOF) - the largest and most respected private equity and M&A forum in the Nordics. We also hope to connect at various IBA events.

5

**SHARING KNOW-
HOW AND ALERTS**

Sign up for our legal updates, newsletters, and briefings on key developments in Norway and the Nordics. We also welcome relevant updates from your side, keeping our partnership strong and proactive. Make sure to follow us on LinkedIn and Instagram.

6

**DEDICATED
RELATIONSHIP
CONTACTS**

Each of our partner firms has a dedicated relationship manager at Wiersholm — your direct line for questions, referrals, or support. Connect with us at any time.



WIERSHOLM IN LONDON

Closer to the market, closer to you

Wiersholm has a representation office in London. We are one of [Norway's leading law firms](#), with strong teams in transactions, dispute resolution/arbitration and advisory. We have a solid and growing international client base and a large number of cross-border matters, particularly within private equity, M&A and international arbitration.

International investors and corporates play an important role in Norwegian business life, and London is the base for many of them. The office is a strategic investment. We will be present in London to follow up clients and partners there, and to strengthen our work for international clients in London and other international markets. Wiersholm aims to be the natural choice for international parties seeking assistance in Norway. Our presence in London gives us better insight into what international clients and investors need, and how their markets are developing. It also helps us further develop our network of international law firms.

Our London office is led by Oscar Brown and supported by colleagues from Oslo and Trondheim. We will continue to work alongside leading local advisers and do not advise on English law.

Our offices are at Octagon Point, 5 Cheapside, London, EC2V 6AA

Oscar Brown – Resident Partner

Oscar leads Wiersholm's representative office in London and is responsible for developing Wiersholm's international network. He also continues his practice with MA, with particular focus on cross-border transactions and private equity.



Oscar Brown

Resident Partner | Corporate M&A

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WHY WIERSHOLM



With us, you get more than a single specialist – you get the full depth of Nordic expertise, all in one place

A FULL-SERVICE FIRM, BUILT ON STRONG VALUES: Wiersholm is one of Norway's largest law firms, with specialist expertise across all areas of business law. Our team of experienced lawyers is united by a clear set of values and a strong commitment to creating value for our clients.

CROSS-BORDER EXPERIENCE: From our three offices, we assist clients worldwide, advising Norwegian companies on international matters and supporting foreign companies operating in Norway. We ensure seamless cross-border experience, keeping clients updated on global best practices and trends, with extensive experience before the EFTA Court and the European Court of Human Rights.

INTERNATIONAL BACKGROUNDS: xxx

RECOGNISED IN LEADING INTERNATIONAL RANKINGS: Wiersholm has been awarded top rankings in the largest international law firm rankings, such as **Legal 500**, **IFLR1000**, **Chambers Global** and **Chambers Europe**. The firm is also ranked Band 1 in the category **International & Cross-Border Capabilities** in Chambers Global.

WIERSHOLM FACTS & FIGURES

272 lawyers (including 55 partners); over **355 employees** in total

Over 50% of the total disclosed transaction value year to date relates to transactions with a cross-border element, with the aggregate deal value exceeding **€1.8 billion**

Leads and coordinates **pan-Nordic and multinational legal teams** for high-value, complex cross-border deals

49 practice areas – full-service offering with notable strengths in M&A, Banking & Finance, Dispute Resolution, Energy/Oil & Gas, Capital Markets, Competition/Antitrust, Shipping, Employment, Restructuring and Aquaculture

Consistently ranked Band 1 in all main practice areas (Chambers, Legal 500, IFLR1000)

Revenue €130 million, 2025

Advisor to **70% of Norway's leading companies**

45 men/55 women gender diversity

Offices in Oslo, Trondheim and London, serving clients across the Nordics and internationally

20 languages spoken within the team

EXPERTISE IN ALL AREAS OF BUSINESS LAW

ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING	INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS
ANTITRUST AND COMPETITION	INTERNATIONAL COMMERCIAL ARBITRATION
ASSET MANAGEMENT	INVESTIGATION AND COMPLIANCE
BANK AND FINANCING	M&A
CAPITAL MARKETS	MARKETING AND CONSUMER LAW
CLIMATE, ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY	MEDIA AND SPORTS
COMMERCIAL CONTRACTS	OFFSHORE SERVICES
COMPANY LAW AND CORPORATE LAW	OIL, GAS AND CCS
COMPLIANCE	PENSION
CONSTRUCTION	PRIVATE EQUITY
CORPORATE CRIMINAL LIABILITY	PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY & DIRECTORS LIABILITY
DATA CENTERS	PUBLIC PROCUREMENT
DATA PROTECTION	PUBLIC SECTOR
DEFENCE AND SECURITY	REAL ESTATE
DISPUTE RESOLUTION	RENEWABLE ENERGY AND INFRASTRUCTURE
EMPLOYMENT, LABOUR LAW & PENSIONS	RESTRUCTURING, BANKRUPTCY AND INSOLVENCY
EU/EEA LAW	RETAIL
FINANCIAL REGULATORY	SHIPPING
FINTECH	STATE AID AND FOREIGN SUBSIDIES
FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE	TAX AND DUTIES
HEALTH AND WELFARE	TECHNOLOGY, COMMUNICATION AND DIGITALISATION
HUMAN RIGHTS	TECH M&A
INCENTIVE SCHEMES	TRANSPORTATION AND LOGISTICS
INDUSTRY	VENTURE CAPITAL AND GROWTH FINANCING
INSURANCE	



Nordic Buy Out Forum

We hope to see you at the
Nordic Buy Out Forum
on **3 December** 2026!

Wiersholm



Read more and
request an invitation here





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