



ALB KOREA LAW AWARDS 2016

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY SUMMARY

PART I: GENERAL GUIDELINES

- All nominations must be written in the ALB nomination form. The same must be submitted **not later than 5 September 2016**. ALB will not accept entries written in any other forms.
- Every work entry must be completed **between 1 June 2015 and 31 May 2016**.
- Clients or contact persons provided in the nomination form may be contacted by ALB without giving the nominating organisation prior notice. It is advisable that only clients whose consent for this purpose has been obtained should be listed in the form.
- Nominations may take the form of self-recommendation or third-party nomination.

PART II: DEFINITION OF TERMS

These terms are defined according to the purposes of the Korea Law Awards, unless the context requires otherwise -

Breadth - the degree to which the work spanned different jurisdictions, practice areas, parties and industries;

Complexity - the degree to which the work requires intricate legal principles or advanced techniques and structures;

Impact or significance - the degree by which the stakeholders, the bench and bar or the Korean community at large is affected;

Improvement - the degree to which the work involved improved techniques and structures;

Innovation - the degree to which the work involved original techniques and structures or innovative legal rules or regulations;

Korean element - any or all of the following: (a) one of the law firms involved must be based in Korea; (b) one of the parties to the deal must be based in Korea; (c) the contract/deal was executed/completed in Korea; or (d) the contract/deal must, in any way, be related to Korea;

Third-party award or recognition - that which is given by any award-giving organisation, public or private, other than ALB; and

Work - any transaction, case or matter handled, and other legal service provided within the organisation or otherwise.

PART III: CATEGORIES

A. DEAL CATEGORIES

- **Debt Market Deal of the Year (Midsize)**
- **Debt Market Deal of the Year (Premium)**
- **Equity Market Deal of the Year**
- **M&A Deal of the Year (Midsize)**
- **M&A Deal of the Year (Premium)**
- **Real Estate Deal of the Year**
- **Dealmaker of the Year**
- **Korea Deal of the Year**

Specific Guidelines

- **Korean element:** Every entry submitted in any deal categories must have an Korean element.
- **Number of submissions:** An organisation may submit up to three (3) deals per category.
- **Midsize categories:** Deals submitted for this category must have a minimum financial value (MFV) of USD200 million, but not exceed USD800 million.
- **Premium categories:** Deals submitted for this category must have a minimum financial value (MFV) of USD800 million.
- **Real Estate Deal of the Year:** Deals submitted for this category must have a minimum financial value (MFV) of USD200 million.
- **Korea Deal of the Year:** The winners for all other deal categories shall be the finalists for this category.

Criteria

The evaluation of deals will be based on the following factors:

- Complexity
- Innovation/improvement
- Breadth
- Impact/significance
- Third-party awards/recognition

B. IN-HOUSE CATEGORIES

- **Banking and Financial Services In-House Team of the Year**
- **Construction and Real Estate In-House Team of the Year**
- **Manufacturing In-House Team of the Year**
- **Technology, Media and Telecommunications In-House Team of the Year**
- **Korea In-House Team of the Year**

Specific Guidelines

- **Physical office:** All in-house teams with physical office in Korea are qualified to join the nominations for any of the in-house categories.
- **Korea In-House Team of the Year:** In-house teams from all industries are qualified to submit for this category.

Criteria

The evaluation of entries for in-house categories will be based on the following factors:

- Complexity
- Innovation/improvement
- Breadth
- Impact/significance
- Third-party awards/recognition (when applicable)

PART III: CATEGORIES

C. FIRM CATEGORIES

- **Banking and Financial Services Law Firm of the Year**
- **Boutique Law Firm of the Year**
- **Construction and Real Estate Law Firm of the Year**
- **Deal Firm of the Year**
- **Intellectual Property Law Firm of the Year**
- **International Arbitration Law Firm of the Year**
- **Labour and Employment Law Firm of the Year**
- **Litigation Law Firm of the Year**
- **Overseas Practice Law Firm of the Year**
- **Private Equity Law Firm of the Year**
- **Shipping Law Firm of the Year**
- **Tax and Trusts Law Firm of the Year**
- **Technology, Media and Telecommunications Law Firm of the Year**
- **International Law Firm of the Year**
- **Managing Partner of the Year**
- **Korea Law Firm of the Year**

Specific Guidelines

- **Boutique Law Firm of the Year:** This category is open for nomination to Korean law firms with no more than 40 fee earners.
- **Deal Firm of the Year:** The works submitted for this category must have a MFV (minimum financial value) of USD200 million and above.
- **Overseas Practice Law Firm of the Year:** Open only to Korean law firms with an overseas practice/office.

- **Managing Partner of the Year:** Applicable only to managing partners based in Korea. Each law firm is limited to one internal nomination each.
- **Korea Law Firm of the Year:** This award category is not open for nomination. The winner for every firm category, except Managing Partner, automatically becomes a finalist for this category, and the finalist obtaining the highest score wins the award.

Criteria

The evaluation of entries for firm categories will be based on the following factors:

- Key hires and departures (when applicable)
- Complexity
- Innovation/improvement
- Breadth
- Impact/significance
- Third-party awards/recognition
- Number of completed transactions (when applicable)
- Volume of completed transactions in USD (when applicable)

PART IV: JUDGING PANEL

The judging panel consists of the general and the special expertise panels. It is composed of approximately 30 reputable members from the legal academe, in-house teams, law firms, legal associations or business leagues whose identities are kept confidential prior to the awards ceremony.

The judges are given at least one week to evaluate the accomplishments of nominees based on a research summary provided by ALB. They choose the top three finalists for every category. A score allocated by a judge to a finalist with which or with whom he has an apparent conflict of interest is considered void.

The finalist in every category that obtains the highest score wins.

PART V: FURTHER INFORMATION

IMPORTANT DATES

8 August 2016	Opening of nominations*
8 September 2016	Deadline for nominations*
Late September / Early October 2016	Online announcement of finalists
17 November 2016	Gala dinner and awards ceremony

**Please submit the nomination forms to yvonne.lau@thomsonreuters.com.*

CONTACT PERSONS

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