

Italy



PLG Member Firms

SL Marsaglia, Milan
SL Biamonti, Rome

The office was opened by Avv. Antonia Marsaglia in 1981 and its main object was to assist foreign business entering the Italian market and Italian business on the international market.

The assistance provided includes negotiation and drafting of commercial contracts such as international sale of goods, agency and distribution, assistance in negotiations and drafting of documents pertaining to acquisitions, mergers, bids, company incorporation and joint ventures, tax structures.

From 1991 particular attention has been given to Eastern European countries and a Polish lawyer works as a resident associate in Milan.

Specialist advice is offered in relation with e-commerce and IT matters.

The firm offers skilled mediation service and a full litigation service to protect clients' interests either by way of arbitration procedures or before the Italian courts including cost effective debt recovery and the protection of trade marks and patents.

The working languages are Italian, French, English, German, Spanish and Polish.

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The Studio is a well established firm, dating back to 1930 when Avv. Luigi Biamonti (the grandfather of Luigi Biamonti, the actual owner) set up practices in Rome and Milan.

His intention was to create a firm specialising in business law and offering a superior quality service.

The firm soon developed a significant commercial practice advising major corporate clients, in Italy and abroad, on a wide range of transactions.

Catering always to the needs of its clientele, both at home and abroad, the firm has become increasingly international. In recent years, the firm has met a new challenge as the increasing size and complexity of client transactions demand more specialist expertise, require increased professional flexibility and an even greater level of client commitment.

Studio Biamonti is structured to service the needs of a wide variety of clients, both national and transnational operating in all areas of commercial and industrial activity, including manufacturing, distribution, financial and professional services.

Clients range from medium sized private companies to public listed companies and individuals.

The firm's principal areas of work include corporate practice, mergers and acquisitions, national and international finance and banking, EU Antitrust law, patent and trademarks, international transactions, arbitration, insurance and reinsurance. Studio Biamonti now has 8 lawyers supported by a further 4 members staff.

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Country Facts

Legal Facts:

Constitution: passed 11 December 1947, effective 1 January 1948; amended many times

Legal system: based on civil law system; appeals treated as new trials; judicial review under certain conditions in Constitutional Court; has not accepted compulsory ICJ jurisdiction

Geographical Facts:

Area: total: 301,230 km², land: 294,020 km², water: 7,210 km² - note: includes Sardinia and Sicily

Demographic Facts:

Population 58,133,509 (July 2006 est.)

Languages: Italian (official), German (parts of Trentino-Alto Adige region are predominantly German speaking), French (small French-speaking minority in Valle d'Aosta region), Slovene (Slovene-speaking minority in the Trieste-Gorizia area)

Government: Republic with bicameral Parliament as legislative branch and a Prime Minister and a Council of Ministers for executive branch

Administrative divisions: 15 regions and 5 autonomous regions*; Abruzzo, Basilicata, Calabria, Campania, Emilia-Romagna, Friuli-Venezia Giulia*, Lazio, Liguria, Lombardia, Marche, Molise, Piemonte, Puglia, Sardegna*, Sicilia*, Toscana, Trentino-Alto Adige*, Umbria, Valle d'Aosta*, Veneto

Economical Facts:

GDP: € 1.36 trillion (2005 est.)

Unemployment rate: 7.9% (2005 est.)

Exports: € 297.52 billion f.o.b. (2005 est.)

Exports partners: Germany 13.6%, France 12.4%, US 7.9%, Spain 7.3%, UK 7.1%, Switzerland 4.2% (2004)

Imports: € 295.36 billion f.o.b. (2005 est.)

Imports partners: Germany 18%, France 11%, Netherlands 5.9%, Spain 4.7%, Belgium 4.5%, UK 4.3%, China 4.1% (2004)

Taxation:

The Italian tax system is composed of two main types of taxes: direct taxes (or income taxes) and indirect taxes.

Personal Income Tax (IRE) - Personal Income Tax (IRE) is regulated by the Consolidated Tax Code, Testo Unico delle Imposte sui Redditi (CTC). Italian resident individuals are subject to IRE on their worldwide income. Non-Italian resident individuals are subject to IRE only on Italian source income.

Corporate Income Tax (IRES) - Corporate income tax (IRES) is regulated by the Consolidated Tax Code (CTC). Italian resident corporations are subject to IRES on their worldwide income. Non-Italian resident corporations are subject to IRES only on Italian source income. The flat tax rate on taxable income is 33%.

Regional Tax on Business Activities (IRAP) - Regional tax on business activities, (IRAP), is a local tax applied on the value of the production generated in each taxable period by persons carrying out business activities in a given Italian region. Non-Italian resident corporations are subject to IRAP only on the production generated through Italian permanent establishments.

Links of interest:

www.italy.gov.it, <http://www.businessitalia.finanze.it/inglese/index.htm>, www.fifaworldcup.com