

**NIKOLA STAMBOLIĆ**

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## **SUMMARY**

Based in London, Mr Stambolić is a Director at Berkeley Research Group.

Mr Stambolić is a forensic accountant specialising in financial investigations in claims and legal proceedings with 14 years of experience. Economist by education, he qualified as a chartered accountant in 2010 (ACCA) and has specialised in forensic accounting since the start of his professional career.

Mr Stambolić focuses on the determination of loss and damage and he leads teams of accountants and technical specialists in preparing expert evidence for arbitration and litigation proceedings. Mr Stambolić is also an experienced mergers and acquisitions consultant, having advised clients such as large institutional investors, private equity funds, banks and corporations in the pre-acquisition stages of more than 40 transactions in a wide range of industries. He also supports independent experts in determination of accounting issues and disputes arising from mergers and acquisitions.

Prior to joining Berkeley Research Group in 2018, Mr Stambolić worked at PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) since 2006, first based in Belgrade, Serbia as a part of PwC's Central Eastern European forensic accounting team and then moving to London in 2011 where he was a part of the PwC's UK disputes practice.

Mr Stambolić is a native Serbo-Croatian speaker, fluent in English and conversational in French.

## **EDUCATION**

Fellow of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants, 2010

BSc, Economics, University of Belgrade, 2005

## **PRESENT EMPLOYMENT**

Berkeley Research Group (UK) Limited, Director, October 2018 – present

## **PREVIOUS POSITIONS**

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, Senior Manager, March 2011 – September 2018

PricewaterhouseCoopers Consulting d.o.o, Assistant Manager, January 2006 – February 2011

### ***International Arbitration / Litigation / Mergers & Acquisitions***

- Acting on behalf of the Kazakhstan (Respondent) in two rare metals mining cases where the claimants argued that the changes in law passes by the state resulted in significant damages to their operations. The work required responding to claimants' experts' assessment of damages by analysing the claimants' ability to raise finance, contemporaneous market developments and their impact on the claimants' business and complex financial models.
- Acting on behalf of a North-American gold miner in its claim for damages against an Eastern European country. The work is ongoing and comprises quantification of damages suffered as a result of various breaches by the state which lead to halting of exploitation of the mine.
- Advised Central Asia Metals in their purchase of a zinc and lead mine in Northern Macedonia from Lynx Resources. Advised Central Asia Metals in their post-acquisition negotiations and dispute over a range of accounting matters impacting the price adjustment as determined by the SPA.
- Acted on behalf of a claimant (large international oil producer) in two separate claims against two African states in a dispute resulting from the various alleged breaches of contract by the states. The work required quantification multi-billion losses suffered by the claimants.
- Led the forensic accounting team and worked with the oil and gas specialists in scrutinising the claim put forward by the claimant. The respondent was the largest Croatian oil and gas company and the dispute was regarding a gas extraction project gone wrong. The work carried out provided key evidence to successful rebuttal of the claim.
- Acting on behalf of Montenegro in an ICSID arbitration claim brought by an Austrian investor in the financial sector. The dispute related to the alleged effect of regulation adopted in Montenegro on the value of the investor's local branch.
- Led a cross-services team of over 30 team members to deliver a large and complex expert analysis and two reports on damages suffered by a large international infrastructure company following a prematurely terminated high-profile concession in the Maldives. The project took two years for analysis of evidence and facts, preparation of two complex financial models, expert reports and preparing the appointed expert witness for testifying. The calculated damages exceeded \$1.3bn.
- Led a cross-service and cross-territory team of 15 team members in providing expert witness services in relation to a breach of warranty claim worth in excess of \$200mn following the acquisition of the oil and gas distribution business in Turkey by a major international oil and gas produces. The work took a year to complete and included two reports in response to claimant's expert's quantification of loss, preparation of three alternative complex financial models and preparing the appointed expert witness for testifying.

- Currently advising a Middle Eastern real-estate developer in an international dispute where the client is claiming loss of profits due to breach of contract by a state.
- Currently advising an Asian telecommunication company in an international dispute where the client is claiming loss of profits due to a series of contractual breaches by the respondent.
- Lead a team supporting the ICC tribunal appointed expert in a dispute between a Serbian government agency and an international investor following a failed privatisation in the hospitality sector.
- Lehman Brothers UK (in administration) – Led the litigation support team for nine months, working closely with multi-disciplinary PwC and Lehman Brothers teams from across the administration. The matter required the investigation into a number of multi-million dollar claims against the bank to determine their validity.
- Expert determination in a dispute between Warner and Universal following the sale of Parliphone. Supported the expert determinant in adjudication over a wide range of issues related to the pricing of the acquisition.
- Advised Invensys in the sale of its businesses in Spain, USA and Singapore to Siemens. The work involved support in the completion accounts review and advising Invensys in the post-acquisition negotiations over the application of the price adjustment mechanism as set out in the SPA.
- Advised CVC in their purchase of StarBev from Anheuser-Busch. The work involved review of the carve out accounts, completion accounts and support in application of the price adjustment mechanism as set out in the SPA.
- Advised AECOM in their post-acquisition negotiations with Murphy related to completion accounts and the application of the price adjustment mechanism as set out in the SPA.
- Advised INEOS following their purchase of Tessenderlo's PVC and Chlor-Alkali business in the review of completion accounts and application of price adjustment mechanism as set out in the SPA. Advised INEOS in their post-acquisition negotiations and responding to a range of items disputed by Tessenderlo.
- Advised Dixons Carphone in the process of carving-out and selling their Phone House business in the Netherlands. Advised Dixons in their post-acquisition negotiations and dispute over a range of accounting matters impacting the price adjustment as determined by the SPA.