

### Accept Shape what's next

2024





Learn more: aoshearman.com/careers

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### Cone of The Times Top 50 Employers for Women 2022

A&O has been listed as one of The Times Top 50 Employers for Women 2022 for taking action to decrease gender inequality in the workplace.

### Most Innovative Law Firm in Europe

Financial Times Innovative Lawyer Awards 2007, 2011, 2012, 2014, 2017, 2018, 2019 2020 and 2024.



## Welcome

For more than a quarter of a century, A&O Shearman has been one of the leading providers of legal services in the CEE region. Our strength has always been the range of our lawyers' joint international experience combined with a thorough knowledge of each CEE jurisdiction's local legal environments.

To ensure that this strength is maintained and built on, we constantly seek out the very best emerging legal talent. We have in place tried and tested recruitment methods to identify and nurture your legal skills, so we can give your professional career as a lawyer the best possible start. Training new lawyers and allowing their talent to flourish is at the core of the A&O Shearman ethos.

With our support and your commitment, our career will involve working on a range of international transactions, including market-firsts in many sectors, and you will have the opportunity to become an important part of A&O Shearman's global strength.

Good luck!

Arkadiusz Pędzich *Partner* 



6,275	
PEOPLE	
800	4,000
PARTNERS	LAWYERS
29	48

OFFICES

### SETTING PRECEDENTS

Our role as international commercial lawyers involves more than offering legal expertise; it is about delivering insight and using the law as a tool to address commercial challenges and drive results for our clients. Our clients expect excellence, but we also encourage and give our people licence to be pioneers, to set precedents rather than follow them. This is a culture that recognises and rewards people who innovate, who bring fresh approaches to familiar problems and who embrace every challenge as an opportunity.

### **BREAKING NEW GROUND**

COUNTRIES

We are the first law firm to use generative AI that's based on OpenAI's GPT models. Harvey, the innovative artificial intelligence platform empowers more than 4,000 of A&O Shearman's lawyers across 48 offices operating in multiple languages with the ability to generate and access legal content with unmatched efficiency, quality and intelligence.

# Working as one team

The calibre of the people we recruit and the platform of training we provide are fundamental to our success. We give our people the opportunities and support they need to build a career that is right for them – so they can lead us in new directions and deliver fresh insights. We have developed a culture in which difference is positively valued, and our people are free to be themselves. We are in every sense one global team; supportive and collaborative, but also ambitious and driven. Our capacity to combine these qualities and provide a setting in which all of our people can thrive is what makes A&O Shearman different.



of our work involves three or more jurisdictions

\*Sources: Thomson Reuters & Dealogic

### 73%

of our work involves two or more A&O Shearman offices



PARTNERS

16



Law Firm of the Year in the Czech Republic -IFLR European Awards 2023

30+

YEARS IN CEE



### Our expertise in CEE:

Banking & Finance | Corporate | M&A | Litigation & Arbitration | International Capital Markets | IT/IP Law | Employment | Competition | Real Estate | Restructuring

### Law Innovation of the Year in an International Law Firm

Project Lawyers & Business: Law Firms of the Year 2023-2024



Business for Society 2024

Learn how our firm is leading the way in law: aoshearman.com

# Forward thinking

The practice of law is constantly evolving, and we are determined not just to be at the forefront of developments, but to set the pace and lead the way. Our track record of innovation and bold action is second to none. From our expansion into new jurisdictions and flexible working for our people, to our alternative resourcing options such as Peerpoint and aosphere, we are setting the standard for what a global law firm should look like and how lawyers can work. Our clients know that we have the resources and the mindset to build solutions for the future, whatever it may hold.

### 20

We work across an average of 20 countries for our top 50 clients

### 350+

organisations use aosphere globally

# Global snapshot 2024

#### AN INCLUSIVE AND DIVERSE GLOBAL EMPLOYER



Women represent 42% of partner promotions and 25% of partners globally

First firm in the world to roll out GPT-4 across the entire business.



### 3,500

#### of our people

in 43 countries are using Harvey, the generative Al tool, in their day-to-day work.





### SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITIES





78,000

hours of pro bono and community investment work delivered over the past two years



# Draw your career path



are supported to excel, and truly feel they belong.

#### WE INVEST IN YOU.

Exceptional professional and personal development, so you're constantly learning and growing. We invite you to bring your whole self to work. We offer a global career platform of choice and unique opportunity.

#### YOU BELONG.

Teamwork is essential, so you achieve more than you would alone. We're advancing a workplace where progress is made by harnessing our differences. We nurture a friendly, dynamic, and stimulating atmosphere, where you're cared about for who you are, as much as you're valued for what you do.

### IN AN ENVIRONMENT WHERE YOU CAN EXCEL.

High expectations and high performance to tackle the most complex legal challenges for clients with whom you're trusted to build enduring relationships. And ways of working that help to reduce unnecessary stress and promote positive wellbeing.

We recruit the best. We ask for the best. We provide challenge, support, and a place for you to belong. And together we excel.

## Associate roadmap

#### ASSOCIATE DEVELOPMENT



# Life at A&O Shearman

There is plenty going on beyond the legal work at A&O Shearman and there will be lots of opportunities to get involved in activities that enrich our culture and foster relationships.

As a trainee, you will be encouraged to participate in certain activities focused around the recruitment of future trainees, such as representing the firm at Law Fairs and chatting to students at our open day events.

Our annual office Christmas partyand regular drinks are just a few examples.

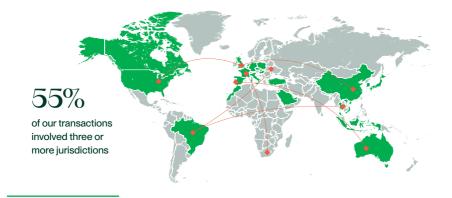


### LIFE AT A&O SHEARMAN IS ABOUT MUCH MORE THAN JUST WORK



...and many opportunities to enjoy parties, drinks and social time together outside of the office.

# Work globally



### **GLOBAL MOBILITY**

As part of our ongoing commitment to development we currently have in place an international secondment programme enabling our lawyers to spend time in an office outside their home jurisdiction.

This six-month programme is available to all associates with at least two years' experience throughout the A&O Shearman worldwide network. Global mobility is critical to the business' ongoing success. We take great pride in being one, international firm, able to help our clients wherever they are in the world.

Nearly 80% of our work involves at least two countries, and our ability to operate across borders in this way is vital to our offering. It is a crucial part of our strategy to become the most successful of the world's elite, global law firms. So it's important that our people can work on the global stage and transfer rom one office to another quickly and efficiently.

A&O Shearman has led the market throughout its 88-year history. We continue to bring new and original ways of thinking to the most complex legal challenges clients face.

So although we have a long heritage, there's nothing old-fashioned about our thinking. It's because of our long history and huge experience that we have the confidence to think creatively, take carefully calculated risks and propose new approaches to our client work.

# What we look for

There is no such thing as a typical A&O Shearman candidate. We are open-minded and are interested in people who share that quality. We welcome people who are brave, entrepreneurial and agile. People who aren't afraid to go beyond their comfort zone. You should be ready to embrace change and challenge the status quo. Naturally, we are also looking for individuals who can demonstrate consistently strong academic performance. Beyond this, we want to see evidence of a global mindset, teamwork, communication skills, planning and organisation, critical thinking, resilience, commercial awareness, and commitment both to a career in law and to A&O Shearman as a firm.

Strong academic performance

Communication skills

Commercial awareness

Resilience

Planning & organisation

Critical thinking

**Open-minded** 

Teamwork

Innovation and Numeracy

Commitment to A&O Shearman

Technology Awareness

Global mindset Language skills

To work in our offices in Bratislava, Budapest, Prague or Warsaw, you will need English and the local language (written and spoken)

# Beyond qualification

Qualifying as a lawyer is an important milestone, and is just the beginning of your professional development at A&O Shearman. We want you to continue to grow as a professional and shape a career that you find rewarding and stimulating, while continuing to contribute to our success as a business.

Joining one of our practice areas as an associate, you will have access to a suite of associate development programmes that have been designed to build the core non-technical skills that you will need to progress your career and meet the demands of your new role. These include client skills, people management, and managing deals with maximum effectiveness.

As an associate, you will continue to be given challenging experience on deals, and will become responsible for increasingly complex elements of the transactions on which you work. We expect our people to be open to working in other offices; last year we placed a number of colleagues on international and client secondments. These short-term placements provide opportunities to increase your technical knowledge while learning more about other cultures and global markets.

As you progress within the firm as an associate, you will take on significant new responsibilities, including the supervision of trainees. Knowledge-sharing and developing others are fundamental to our culture, and you will be well supported in refining the skills and behaviours necessary to help your trainees to progress.

Beyond that, there are many career paths you can take. We have a strong tradition of promoting our people into partnership, and last year we promoted 40 new partners across A&O Shearman, 42% of which were women. However, we do recognise that for many of our talented associates, partnership is not an aspiration. Some may choose the route of counsel, which offers you another way to operate in the firm at a senior level and specialise in a technical aspect of law. We are also pioneering new ways for our talented lawyers to use their skills and experience to work outside the traditional legal career framework. We have launched a number of businesses that provide legal services to clients in alternative and innovative ways. Peerpoint provides a platform for experienced and ambitious lawyers to develop their careers outside the traditional partner or general counsel route through consulting. Peerpoint gives its consultants more control over how. when and where they work, along with the support of A&O Shearman's network which includes access to the best work, clients, experts and knowhow resources. Peerpoint consultants may take on assignments with A&O Shearman or with clients. Aosphere, another of our businesses, provides opportunities for securities-focused lawyers to deliver online subscriptionbased services in compliance and legal risk.



#### TOP TIPS FOR YOUR APPLICATION

- Understand our requirements prepare some examples to show that you have the skills we are looking for.
- Make the most of your experience highlight what you have gained from your experiences, try to show your appetite for responsibility and capacity to influence events and outcomes.
- Be accurate attention to detail is a fundamental skill of a lawyer.
- **Be commercial** show an interest in the legal industry and what is going on in the world and how it might affect us and our clients.
- Focus on this firm of course we expect you to apply to other firms, but make sure you tailor your answers to demonstrate why A&O Shearman is right for you.

For more information, please contact:

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Learn more allenovery.com/careers

#### **Global presence**

A&O Shearman is an international legal practice with nearly 4,000 lawyers, including some 800 partners, working in 29 countries worldwide. A current list of A&O Shearman offices is available at aoshearman.com/en/global-coverage.

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A&O Shearman was formed on 1 May, 2024 by the combination of Shearman & Sterling LLP and Allen & Overy LLP and their respective affiliates (the legacy firms).

This content may include material generated and matters undertaken by one or more of the legacy firms rather than A&O Shearman.

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