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Vinson & Elkins has a long established reputation in the Middle East and in the energy sector.

- **“World’s Leading Energy Law Firm”**  
– *Euromoney* 2005-11
  - **“A very strong track record in energy and infrastructure disputes”**  
– *Legal 500 UK* 2009
  - **“The best of the best for energy transactions”**  
– *Chambers Global* 2008
  - **Recognized as a leading Middle East law firm in Projects & Energy, Investment Funds, and Islamic Finance**  
– *Chambers Global* 2011
  - **Recognized UAE law firm in Projects and Energy, Banking and Finance, Corporate and M&A, and Investment Funds**  
– *Legal 500 EMEA* 2010
  - **#1 in Corporate Infrastructure Finance: Africa & Middle East (closed deals)**  
– *Infrastructure Journal Year-End League Tables* 2008
  - **#1 in Projects & Energy: Oil & Gas (Global) and Energy: Oil & Gas (U.S.)**  
– *Chambers Global* 2009
  - **“Pragmatic approach to disputes” for Energy & Natural Resources: Disputes** – *Chambers UK* 2011
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## Iraq Overview

Vinson & Elkins is a global leader in energy-related projects, and has vast experience in advising clients on energy transactions across the globe, including in Iraq. Our dedicated, multi-disciplinary Iraq practice group provides legal counsel for our clients who wish to broaden or commence activity in the country. Our relationships with the local legal community in Iraq and the Kurdistan Region, combined with our global network of offices, enables us to provide critical support to our clients, helping them to navigate their way efficiently through the legal and commercial challenges they may face.

### Our Expertise:

- Energy Transactions and Projects
- Project Finance and Development
- International Dispute Resolution and Claims
- Export Controls and Economic Sanctions
- Public Policy
- Government Contracts

### Representative Experience:

For reasons of confidentiality we are unable to provide an exhaustive list of our Iraq and Kurdistan experience, however, the following are selected representative engagements in which Vinson & Elkins’ lawyers have represented or are representing clients in matters in the region.

#### Iraq

##### *Energy & Infrastructure*

- Representation of an oil services company on its proposed entry into Iraq, including reviewing alternative financing, insurance and joint venture arrangements
- Representation of an international services company in negotiations conducted for feasibility studies and front-end engineering for greenfield oil refineries in Iraq
- Representation of a client on legal due diligence reviews of prospective business partners in Iraq
- Representation of an oil trader in connection with the proposed transportation arrangements for petroleum products from Jordan to various destinations in Iraq ►

- Representation of an international oil and gas company on the proposed negotiation of petroleum production rights in southern Iraq
- Representation of an international oil field services company on the application of U.S. economic sanctions and export control laws to its activities in Libya, Iraq and Iran

### *Dispute Resolution/Investigations*

- Representation of various U.S. and non-U.S. clients in connection with disputes arising out of the conflict in Iraq, including disputes between contractors under U.S. and foreign law, advising clients concerning allegations of mischarging or incurrence of unallowable costs, investigations by the U.S. Government, lawsuits brought against contractors by alleged "whistleblowers" under the False Claims Act, and criminal charges for alleged overcharges to the U.S. Government
- Representation of an international oil field services company in a multi-jurisdictional probe involving review of activities in Iraq during the U.N. mandate period, including response to multi-jurisdictional investigative requests

### **Kurdistan Region**

- Representation of a Chinese state-owned oil and gas company on the C\$10.3 billion acquisition of a Canadian company listed on the Toronto and London Stock Exchanges, with assets in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq and West Africa
- Representation of an international oil company on various issues in its capacity as operator of a production sharing contract in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq, including negotiation of the joint operating arrangements
- Representation of an Indian energy and petrochemical company in connection with its acquisition of an oil and gas concession in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq
- Representation of an international services contractor on its negotiations with the Kurdistan Regional Government for the provision of various education and training services
- Representation of a client in connection with litigation in Iraqi courts over termination of a construction contract for a project in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq

*Prior results do not guarantee a similar outcome.*

For more information, please visit our Iraq practice page at [www.velaw.com](http://www.velaw.com) or contact:



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