

## James Grandolfo

Partner – Milbank LLP, Registered Foreign Lawyer (New York)

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James Grandolfo is a partner of Milbank LLP, head of Milbank (Hong Kong) LLP and a member of Milbank's Corporate Finance and Securities Group. He has over 25 years' experience representing issuers and investment banks in a variety of debt, equity and equity-linked capital markets transactions, including high yield and investment grade debt issuances, initial public offerings, a variety of liability management exercises, Rule 144A and Regulation S transactions and SEC-registered offerings.

### Primary Focus & Experience

Active throughout Asia, including in many of its emerging and frontier markets, James is especially sought out for his experience in India and the Philippines. In the Philippines in particular he advises across a variety of capital markets, M&A, private equity and leveraged finance matters and is widely considered one of the most experienced international lawyers practicing in this jurisdiction. Mr. Grandolfo's experience spans a wide range of sectors, including finance, renewable, conventional and new power and energy, real estate, hospitality and gaming, TMT, infrastructure and logistics, among others. Combining his expertise in both capital markets and M&A, Mr. Grandolfo advises on SPAC transactions from Asia and is also active on sustainability and sustainability-linked transactions.

Mr. Grandolfo is ranked continuously for over a decade as a Band 1/Leading Lawyer by both *Chambers* and *Legal 500* for his work in capital markets. He is recognized as a "Hall of Fame" lawyer in *Legal 500* and in *Chambers* peers and clients alike described him as, "on top of his game". Clients enthuse, "He's terrific, very hands-on and sensible, with deep knowledge. A rare lawyer, he doesn't just do the deals we instruct him on – he also looks for opportunities for his clients and is very well plugged in," and appreciate him as "... someone I can constantly rely on; if there is any issue he sees to it that it is attended to even if it takes the whole night to get things clarified or settled."

In 2023, Mr. Grandolfo was recognized as one of China's Top 10 Debt Capital Markets Lawyers in by *Business Today*.

Mr. Grandolfo is regularly called upon to advise on a variety of highly complex, first-in-country or first-of-its-kind debt and equity capital markets issuances for leading issuers across Asia, including: Aboitiz Group, AGI Group, Ayala Group, Bank of the Philippine Islands, BDO Unibank, Inc., Converge ICT Solutions, Filinvest Group, GT Group, Gokongwei Group, Hindalco Industries, ICTSI, Jindal Steel, JSW Hydro Energy, JSW Steel Limited, LT Group, Metro Pacific Investments Corporation, Masan Group Corporation, Monde Nissin, Philippine National Bank, PTT Public Company Limited, San Miguel Group, State Bank of India, Udenna Corporation and VietJet Aviation, among many others. In addition, he has advised on a number of sovereign issuances around the Asia region involving the governments of Indonesia, Mongolia, the Philippines, Pakistan and Papua New Guinea, among others.

Recognition & Accomplishments

In addition to his recognition in *Chambers* and *Legal 500*, Mr. Grandolfo is also listed as a leading lawyer in Hong Kong in Debt Capital Markets and Equity Capital Markets within *IFLR 1000* and is recognised as an International A-list lawyer for India in the most recent edition of *India Business Law Journal*.

Mr. Grandolfo is the vice-chair of the International Securities Law Committee of the American Bar Association as well as the co-chair of the Practising Law Institute's Annual Institute on Corporate & Securities Law in Hong Kong.

ADDITIONAL DETAILS

EDUCATION

Brooklyn Law School, J.D.  
Hobart College, B.A.

ADMISSIONS

New York

EXPERIENCE

Corporate Finance and Securities

ESG & Sustainability

FinTech

High Yield Debt Offerings

Investment-Grade Debt

Private Equity

Public and Private Equity Offerings

Retail

Asia

India

Southeast Asia

FEATURED NEWS

Milbank Advises Hotel101 on Merger Agreement with JVSPAC Acquisition Corporation

Careful Planning: Secure the International Law Protections in Investment Treaties When Investing in the Renewable Energy Sector in Southeast Asia

Milbank Practices, Attorneys Featured in 2024 *Legal 500* Asia Pacific and Greater China Guides

*Chambers* Ranks 18 Milbank Attorneys in 26 Practice Areas Top Tier in Asia-Pacific 2024 Guide

Milbank Asia Practice Groups and Attorneys Recognized by *IFLR1000* 2023

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