

# LEADING BUSINESS EXPERTS CONVERGE TO DISCUSS INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN POST-SANCTIONS IRAN

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Leading lawyers from international law firm Herbert Smith Freehills will be speaking at the first major international business conference in Iran to focus on investment opportunities in post-sanctions Iran since the lifting of sanctions. The three-day Business Forum Iran Europe event, hosted by The Iranian Central Bank, will be held in Tehran on 5 – 7 March.

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Over 500 delegates will debate perspectives of an Iranian-European economic cooperation across the banking and finance, infrastructure, oil & gas, power, agribusiness and mining sectors.

Thomas Kessler, partner at Herbert Smith Freehills, said: "This will be an exciting opportunity for banking and finance professionals to consider the issues impacting the re-engagement of the Iranian financial sector with the global financial system."

Joanna Addison, lead partner of the Iran group of Herbert Smith Freehills, commented: "The forum is part of our wider Iran initiative, which focusses on opportunities available in Iran post-sanctions. Since the sanctions were relaxed in January, there has been a buzz of anticipation from foreign investors on the multitude of investment opportunities in virtually all sectors."

Recent predictions envisage that Iran will enter an area of high growth as a result of strong exports in oil, gas, petrochemicals and other manufactured goods. This increase in export revenues, together with newly gained access to frozen funds and an inflow of foreign direct investment, should enable Iran to proceed with a large pipeline of projects. These are most likely to focus on the oil and gas sectors (upstream projects as well as petrochemicals), together with social infrastructure and the mining, automotive and aviation industries.

### **About Herbert Smith Freehills' Iran Group**

Herbert Smith Freehills has a dedicated international Iran Group, with the firm's transactional experts being especially recognized in the Iranian oil and gas, power, telecommunications and pharmaceuticals sectors. In particular, we have advised international clients on a broad range of transactions regarding to the development and commercialization of investment projects in Iran and secondary M&A deals. The firm has been advising international corporations on their Iranian disputes, sanctions issues and risk advisory matters, including providing strategic advice on mitigating and managing business risks.

#### **About Herbert Smith Freehills**

Operating from over 23 offices across Asia Pacific, EMEA and North America, Herbert Smith Freehills is at the heart of the new global business landscape providing premium quality, full-service legal advice. We provide many of the world's most important organisations with access to market-leading dispute resolution, projects and transactional legal advice, combined with expertise in a number of global industry sectors, including energy, natural resources, infrastructure and financial services. <a href="https://www.herbertsmithfreehills.com">www.herbertsmithfreehills.com</a>

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## **KEY CONTACTS**

If you have any questions, or would like to know how this might affect your business, phone, or email these key contacts.



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