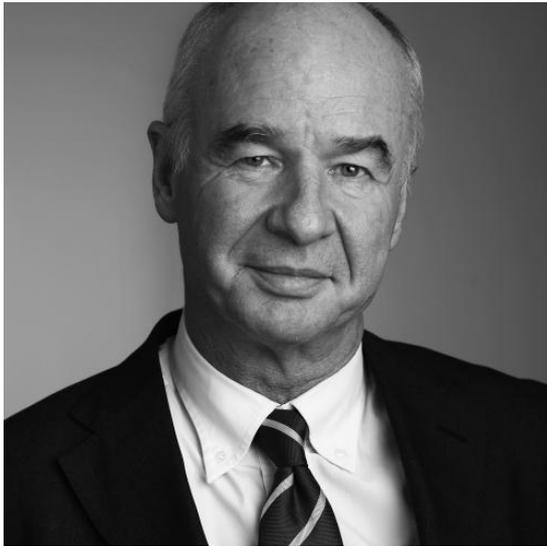




HERBERT
SMITH
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STÉPHANE BRABANT

PARTNER

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[Africa Group](#)

Stéphane is global co-chair of Africa, chair of mining and co-head of business & human rights.

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KEY SERVICES

[Projects](#)
[Crisis Prevention and Management](#)

KEY SECTORS

[Mining](#)
[Energy](#)

EXPERIENCE

Stéphane connects clients across the globe to help them implement large-scale projects and transactions and keep ahead of new risks in emerging markets, including the growing focus on business and human rights.

He uses his skills in crisis prevention and management, compliance, project development and the structuring of investments between multinationals and States to assist clients in energy, mining and other key industry sectors in Africa and other emerging markets.

Stéphane brings his clients an in-depth knowledge of Africa, having lived and worked on the continent (Gabon) for seven years and advising almost exclusively in Francophone Africa for over three decades. He has an extensive network of local contacts and significant experience negotiating on the ground with African governments and other local players.

Legal guides consistently rank Stéphane in the top tier. He is the only lawyer singled out by Chambers Global as a "Senior Statesperson" for Africa-wide Projects and Energy and he is also ranked as a leading lawyer for Business and Human Rights.

He is a member of the Advisory Board of the Business & Human Rights Project of the American Bar Association's Center for Human Rights, as well as former Co-Chairman of the International Bar Association's CSR work group.

Stéphane was one of the experts advising John Ruggie (former UN Special Representative) on the human rights capacity building obligations and responsibilities of States and multinationals.

In addition to his role as global co-Chair of our Africa practice and global Chair of Mining, Stéphane also leads our Africa Crisis Management practice and is co-Head of the BHR group.

Stephane's recent experience includes advising:

- CMOG on its US\$2.65 billion acquisition of Freeport's indirect 56% interest in the world-class Tenke Fungurume copper-cobalt mine in DRC, including comprehensive legal due diligence in close liaison with local counsel
- Rio Tinto on numerous aspects of its Simandou iron ore integrated mining and infrastructure project in Guinea
- B2Gold on various matters (both contentious and non-contentious) relating to its Fekola Project in Mali
- international oil and gas companies on a tax dispute (subsequently resolved) in Africa which led to a threat of expulsion and the temporary suspension of our clients' activities in the relevant country
- international clients on crisis management and pre-contentious matters in Francophone Africa across a range of industry sectors (mining, oil and gas, power, telecoms, consumer goods etc)