

Juliana Vasconcelos Senra

ASSOCIATE CRIMINAL AND MISDEMEANOURS

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Portuguese, English and Spanish

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Juliana is a member of the firm's Criminal, Misdemeanour and Compliance team.

Her experience has been focused on criminal and administrative offence litigation, providing services to clients from various sectors of the economy, as well as to individual clients. She has also advised companies from various sectors on data protection issues, as well as compliance for the prevention of corruption and related offences, and also in the enforcement of measures to prevent and combat money laundering and terrorist financing.

Juliana has also monitored cases and advised clients pro bono, as well as volunteering to provide legal advice on data protection to social organisations and on the enforcement of sentences. She has also been involved in the intersection of Artificial Intelligence with criminal law and fundamental rights.

Juliana is a Research Associate at the NOVA Centre for the Study of Gender, Family, and the Law.

Before joining MFA, Juliana spent two years in the Criminal, Misdemeanour and Compliance department at Morais Leitão, where she completed her traineeship for admission to the Portuguese Bar Association in 2024. She has also collaborated with various national and international non-governmental organisations on projects related to criminal law and human rights.

Professional Experience

As a lawyer:

- Supporting the representation of legal entities in proceedings related to administrative offences, liaising with various administrative bodies in my capacity as a trainee lawyer;
- Representing individuals and legal entities in criminal proceedings, particularly in the field of economic criminal law;
- Representation of individuals in criminal proceedings involving crimes against persons and against honour (murder, persecution, crimes against sexual freedom and self-determination, defamation, among others).
- Legal advice on data protection to various clients, including due diligence, and monitoring of legal proceedings;
- Legal advice on criminal compliance to various corporate clients, including drafting compliance programme policies, training employees and monitoring emerging issues within the company.

In other capacities:

- FCT scientific research intern at CEDIS - Centre for Research in Law and Society, on the subject of equality law, with a focus on sexual crimes;
- Project and advocacy trainee at Victim Support Europe, a transnational crime victim support NGO based in Brussels;
- Legal consultant for the NGO Systemic Justice on a project on intersectional discrimination - analysing case law from the European Court of Human Rights;
- Legal adviser to the Association Against Femicide on the EU-funded FULFIL project, dedicated to the application of the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights to the protection of the fundamental rights of migrant women;
- Legal advisor to the Council of Europe on the project "Upholding equality and non-discrimination by Equality bodies regarding the use of AI in public administrations".

Publications

- Bribery and Corruption - Portugal; Legal 500 Comparative Guides;

She also contributes to the following opinion articles on topics related to corruption:

- Portugal cai a pique no combate à corrupção. Casos Influencer, Tutti-Frutti e Vórtex contribuíram – ECO (Advocatus, 11 February 2025);

- As novas medidas anti-corrupção são suficientes? Setor responde – ECO (Advocatus, 17 February 2025).

Author of opinion articles in the national press, including:

- Preventing the worst-case scenario in domestic violence: *I get by with a little help from AI?* (Shifter, September 2024).
- Better justice for victims: rape should not be a public offence (Shifter, November 2021).
- Crime and impunity: against sexual violence without penal populism (Observer, 2021).
- *Naming Injustice, Reimagining Justice: How Victim-Survivors of Sexual Violence in Portugal Perceive Criminal Justice and its Alternatives* - Master's thesis, published on Lund University's Open Access portal.

Awards and Recommendations

White Collar Crime Team of the Year Award at Iberian Lawyer's Forty under 40 Awards 2025

Academic Qualifications

- Law degree from the Faculty of Law of Universidade Nova de Lisboa (2015-2019).
- Master's in Sociology of Law from Lund University, Sweden (2019-2021).
- Erasmus+ programme at the Faculty of Criminology, Ghent University, Belgium (2020-2021).
- JurisNova course - Artificial Intelligence: Unravelling the European legal framework.
- IDPCC Postgraduate Course – The separation of powers in a democratic rule of law and the reform of criminal procedure.

Professional Associations

- Admitted to the Portuguese Bar Association.
- Member of the Portuguese Association of Women Lawyers.
- Admitted to the Criminal Forum.