

PETERKA PARTNERS one of the law firms of the future in the Czech Republic

1. Please describe the past 12 months from your law firm's perspective in no more than five sentences.

The past 12 months have been a period of growth and success for our firm. Last year, we expanded our operations by opening a new branch in Slovenia. This year, we followed that up by opening a second Polish office in Rzeszów, further strengthening our regional presence. We have seen an increase in revenue and expanded our client portfolio. The growth and successes of recent months prove that our model of a regionally-integrated office is working in practice.

2. What type of work do you consider characteristic of your office at this point?

We specialize in providing legal support to clients operating across Central and Eastern Europe. We most often deal with cross-border transactions, litigation, mergers and acquisitions, corporate matters, and general legal advice that requires the harmonization of procedures in multiple jurisdictions in CEE or continental Europe. In addition to these larger projects, we also deal with day-to-day legal matters, particularly labour law advice.

3. Do you use artificial intelligence and other technologies in your work?

Yes, we do.

4. How?

Regarding technology in general: For about twenty years, we have been continuously developing and supplementing our proprietary system for managing most of the processes in our office; this is integrated across all our branches. The system is essentially the company's technological centre, and without it, it would not be possible to manage ten branches in nine countries effectively.

We use some common tools to work with files which are not subject to confidentiality obligations. Of course, we follow developments on the market for tools specifically focused on legal practice. There are already several fairly large and complex AI platforms combining generative artificial intelligence with other technologies that are interesting, but their creators are usually focused on large jurisdictions, and their capabilities are still limited in the legal environment of smaller countries. It is good that Czech solutions with potential have also emerged.

When it comes to artificial intelligence tools specifically, they must be selected and used with great caution, given attorney-client privilege, data protection requirements, etc. For example, the Czech Bar Association takes a very cautious approach in this area. Therefore, we do not yet use artificial intelligence tools to process client information. We are currently working on developing a tool to streamline the creation of court filings in similar types of disputes, which will meet the requirements for working with client data.

5. Do you offer your clients legal services combined with other consulting services?

Yes, we provide clients with local tax advice and cross-border tax advice. We represent clients in proceedings conducted by the financial and customs authorities.

We do not provide services in the areas of accounting, auditing, payroll consulting, valuation, management consulting, or HR consulting.

6. Which ones and how?

In areas that we do not cover ourselves, we can recommend reliable providers, with whom we have worked with for many years to our clients.

7. Do you offer part-time work?

Yes, we offer part-time work and actively encourage it.

For example, law students can combine their studies with practical experience. We also offer this form of cooperation to employees who are gradually returning to work after maternity or parental leave. Several other colleagues also work part-time with us in various roles across the company.

8. How?

We ensure flexibility by individually adjusting working conditions according to the needs of the employee and the office. We allow working from home, reduced working hours, and adjustments to working hours so that professional and personal commitments can be reconciled. This allows our colleagues to develop their careers while maintaining a healthy work-life balance.

9. Are you considering sustainability and ESG issues?

Yes, sustainability and ESG are now an integral part of the EU regulatory framework. Our approach reflects this. We monitor developments in the relevant standards, from CSRD and ESRS to CSDDD and taxonomy, and we are gradually adapting our internal processes to comply with current requirements. At the same time, we provide clients with legal support in navigating this area and setting up their own procedures.

10. How? And how do you approach these issues?

We approach ESG as a fundamental shift in EU regulation that has an impact on how companies operate and how legal services are provided. We see it as an area that will continue to develop, which is why we are systematically addressing it. For us, the emphasis is not only on monitoring new EU rules, but also on integrating them into the way we work with clients and within our own organization. We have launched a company-wide internal ESG project aimed at setting measurable goals and building capacity for transparent reporting on our progress. This allows us to test in practice the same processes and challenges our clients face, which strengthens our ability to advise them credibly and effectively.

11. Are you considering opening new specializations or new projects?

Yes, continuous development is an important part of our corporate culture. We are constantly looking for new opportunities to expand our activities and professional focus.

12. Which ones?

We are currently considering expanding our activities to other jurisdictions, which should strengthen our presence on the European market. We are targeting countries where we see potential for our services and new projects. Our goal is to build, gradually, additional offices that will enable us to respond more effectively to the needs of our clients in different regions.