



Maya Ivanova

Head of AML and Compliance

I am an experienced and innovative lawyer with a passion and dedication to justice. I graduated the Law Faculty of the University of Plovdiv with an excellent academic attainment.

I have extensive experience of advising corporate and individual clients on all matters related to civil and compliance law: money laundering, corporate fraud, investment fraud, asset tracing, regulatory compliance, bribery and corruption and data protection. My practice focuses on white-collar cases with a truly international dimension.

Prior to NBLO, I worked in the General Directorate for Combating Organised Crime at the Ministry of Interior of Bulgaria where I dealt primarily with Anti Money Laundering. Later I joined the Bulgarian State Agency for National Security where I primarily focused on financial crimes which includes money laundering, investment fraud, tax evasion and more.

This experience gives me the unique opportunity to advise NBLO's clients in the best possible way by applying the knowledge and experience gained during my work for the Bulgarian authorities.

Contact

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Address

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Sofia 1142, Bulgaria

Education

2018 - 2019

Masters in National security
University of Library Studies and
Information Technologies

2011 - 2019

Masters of Law-LLM, Law
University of Plovdiv 'Paisii
Hilendarski'

2007 - 2011

Bachelor's in National Security
Academy of the Ministry of the
Interior

Experience

2020 - Present

New Balkans Law Office | 9b Patriarch Evtimiy Blvd, Sofia, Bulgaria

Head of AML and Compliance

- Advising international blue-chip company in the financial services sector on AML and Compliance matters with regard to their operations in Bulgaria.
- Conducting a stress test on the internal compliance policy for an international insurance company.
- Advising multiple HNWIs on possibly fraudulent investments made on their behalf in Bulgaria.
- Working together with the experts from various association to draft new regulations implementing procedures in the Aliens in the Republic of Bulgaria Act.
- Assisting the international strategy of a client based in an EU jurisdiction against a Bulgarian citizen in a third-country jurisdiction.

2013 - 2020

State Agency of National Security | 45 Cherni Vrah Blvd, Sofia, Bulgaria

Special Agent

- Investigated a large investment fraud where the victims were defrauded of their funds by a promise of Bulgarian citizenship by investment.
- Worked on one of the largest investment fraud cases in Bulgaria, where a company posed as a licensed investment broker and successfully defrauded its client of large sums of funds.
- Conducting an investigation on individuals suspected in insurance fraud who were later arrested.

2011 - 2013

General Directorate for Combating Organised Crime | 133a, Tsarigradsko shose Blvd, Sofia, Bulgaria

Inspector / Police Officer

- Investigated a large import company for money laundering and tax evasion.
- Taking part in an international investigation of a group of individuals suspected to have committed money laundering and investment fraud on the territory of multiple jurisdictions.
- Participating in the ongoing communication and logistics preceding the arrest of the suspects.
- Investigated a company and a group of individuals suspected in committing money laundering, tax fraud and blackmail.



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Expertise

- Anti Money Laundering Compliance
- Criminal Law
- Financial Analysis and Reporting
- Analytical Skills
- Leadership Skills
- Team Work

Languages

English
Bulgarian

Qualifications

○ European Criminal Bar Association Member

In 2022 I have become a member of the European Criminal Bar Association which primary purpose is to be the leading group of independent criminal defence lawyers in the Council of Europe promoting the fundamental rights of persons under criminal investigation, suspects, accused and convicted persons.

○ 24th Annual IBA Transnational Crime Conference Attendant

I have been fortunate to attend this years 24th annual IBA Transnational Crime Conference where lawyers from around the globe came together to exchange knowledge and experience in AML, Whyte Collar crimes, Crypto asset tracing, Fraud related to cryptocurrencies and many more.

○ Anti-Money Laundering (AML) Training Course Lecturer

As the Head of AML and Compliance in NBLO I have conducted a number of AML online courses to which we have experienced a big interest from the obligated entities to broaden their understanding on their requirements on customer due diligence and compliance with the regulation as a whole.

I have conducted a targeted AML training to a number of companies from the financial sector. After careful review the each companies internal policies we were able to customise each course to the specific need of the company.

Publications

○ **Cryptocurrency and Wallet Providers: First-ever legal definition and requirement to register**

Available on:

<https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=23ad3326-4f14-4133-ac8f-1e61524edff4>

○ **Does the Bulgarian Government actually hold 213,519 bitcoin?**

Available on:

<https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=02b41baf-5f0d-4696-a580-5aba28b2a8ca>

○ **Cryptocurrency: the risks of not applying the AML and KYC requirements**

Available on:

<https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=84a8c79c-b47f-4c99-87ba-31f518138422>