



ÆQUITAS

**TRANSPORT &
MERCHANT SHIPPING**

transport & merchant shipping

AEQUITAS regularly advises clients on a variety of issues pertaining to legal regulation of transportation activities in Kazakhstan. The practice embraces the issues of transportation by road, railway, maritime, and multimodal transportation, logistics, international trade, and cross-border supply chains. The firm's projects embrace comprehensive research of legislation, support of investment and business projects, including advice on the issues of relations between transporters, forwarders, freight dispatchers, and their clients. **AEQUITAS** lawyers also advise on the issues of licensing, customs regulation, transportation contracts, and application of international conventions on transportation.

The firm has been engaged to perform full due diligence of major Kazakh transportation companies in the context of M&A transactions economically significant for Kazakhstan. The team regularly participates in projects relating to the development of transportation and logistics infrastructure, and operation of international transport routes.

The firm's lawyers were engaged by to draft the Merchant Shipping Law and Railway Transport Law of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

AEQUITAS is one of a few local law firms possessing experience in the merchant shipping area. For many years, the firm was representing BUE in connection with its contractor work and sea transportation services for an oil consortium in the Caspian offshore zone. The team supported the projects involving maritime shipping, seafaring and port infrastructure.

AEQUITAS advised major international banks (Royal Bank of Scotland, Lloyds TSB Bank Plc. and other) on a range of merchant shipping matters. **AEQUITAS** clients are leading international and local companies from transportation, logistics, industrial, and financial sectors.

services

Advice on different matters pertaining to local and international legislation in the sphere of transportation and merchant shipping.

Legal support in the procedure of sea vessels registration in the Kazakh registers of vessels, and aircraft registration.

Legal support in M&A transactions, including due diligence of target transportation companies.

Obtainment of licenses for all types of merchant shipping activities.

Legal expert review of shipping contracts, vessel chartering contracts, cargo insurance contracts, vessel insurance contracts, third party liability insurance contracts and other legal instruments.

Integrated legal support in transactions whose subject matters are means of transportation (railway rolling stock, aircrafts, sea vessels, motor cars and pipelines).

Preparation of legal opinions on various issues relating to the state regulation of transportation activities.

Legal assistance in the procedure of acquiring the right to fly the Kazakhstan flag for sea vessels.

Obtainment of permits for foreign vessels coastal navigation.

Drafting and review of shipping contracts involving different means of transportation.



most representative projects

Advice to a number of major foreign banks (Bank of Scotland, Lloyds TSB Bank Plc, and other) regarding the procedure for foreign vessels pledged to them to temporarily fly the Kazakhstan flag; legal status of a foreign vessel, which is the subject of financial leasing and has been transferred to a local lessee; legal peculiarities of taking (attachment) of pledged property under the Kazakhstan legislation.

Advice to Enhance Aero on different issues of local legislation governing air transportation activities and legal support in the process of de-registration of the company-owned aircrafts for their further transfer into another jurisdiction.

·Support of day-to-day operating activities of a number of transportation companies, including support of the change of the company name, obtainment of BIN and IIN, drafting of corporate documents and support of the process of their signing, drafting of powers of attorney, support of the change of CEO, advice on relevant issues of collection and processing and protection of personal data, legitimacy of making photos or video records by transport vehicle owners (use of Digital Video Recorder (DVR) as a dashcam), parallel import of different categories of goods, including transport vehicles, and many other issues.

Representation in court of Air Astana JSC, Kazakhstan's leading airline, in connection with a dispute over air ticket sales via third parties.

Representation of BUE in connection with its contract work and sea shipping services for an oil consortium in the Caspian offshore zone, including re-registration, reflagging, pledge and insurance of foreign sea vessels.

Registration of VinFast Kazakhstan LLP, a subsidiary of a Vietnamese car manufacturer.

Work together with Swederaail AB Corporation (Sweden) on EBRD's pilot railway commercialization project.

Integrated analysis of legislation regulating transportation activities, pursuant to Etihad Airways enquiry.

Regular advice to Freight One JSC, the largest freight railway operator in Russia, on different issues of its activities in Kazakhstan, as well as support of the project involving registration of Freight One Central Asia LLP, advice on different corporate and antimonopoly, registration and accounting issues, including customs clearance of railway cars and taxation in connection with the import of railway cars into Kazakhstan.

Preparation of legal opinion for the Shipowners' Club regarding applicable liability under criminal, civil, labor, insurance and other branches of Kazakhstan legislation in connection with a collision of ships and causing injuries to crew members and damages to company property.

Advice to Hewlett-Packard in connection with a transaction involving supply of automated railway control equipment to the national railway operator.

Advice to Far East Marine Company CJSC regarding the possibility to use on special terms (without reflagging) in the Kazakhstan territorial waters foreign vessels, including Russian, involved in an oilfield development project.

Re-registration of OTEKO Kazakhstan LLP in connection with changes in the composition of participants for a Cyprus holding INFRACIS GROUP LTD. OTEKO (OTeko Group) is one of the largest transportation and logistics companies in the CIS.

Integrated analysis of legislation, including that governing transportation activities, for METRO in the framework of setting up and development of its business in Kazakhstan.

Legal support in the procedure of sea vessels state registration and de-registration for Caspian Mainport Aktau LLP.

Advice to a large local geological prospecting company on the issues of construction of an oil terminal and legal regulation of oil transportation.

Preparation of a local law legal opinion for a Dutch court regarding antimonopoly regulation over railway transportation services.

Re-registration of Inservice LLP, which is a subsidiary of inDriver, an international passenger transportation service, in connection with the change of participants. AEQUITAS lawyers prepared a step plan to change the participants, drafted the corporate documents required to change the composition of participants, including share sale and purchase agreement, and supported the project, ensuring obtainment of a document confirming re-registration.

AEQUITAS acted as a legal counsel in a transaction involving acquisition of 100% shares in Astyk Trans, a key grain cargo railway operator in Kazakhstan.

The transaction was of strategic importance for both the transportation and logistics sector and food security of the country.

membership



The British-Kazakh Society



ratings

"Exceptional research and practical background, extremely experienced team. The questions raised were covered in full, the consultants even went outside the scope and the direct questions and considered it as a complex matter, which allowed us to have a more complete opinion".

The Legal 500 2026

"AEQUITAS provides rigorous and professional advice in a short time".

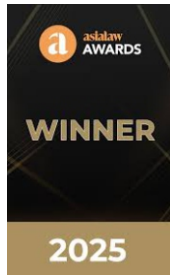
Chambers 2026

"AEQUITAS demonstrates a keen understanding of business needs and an ability to provide pragmatic legal advice aligned with commercial objectives".

Chambers 2025

"They are very commercial, have hands-on transactional experience, provide great client service and are generally very pleasant to deal with. The quality of advice is consistent and of very high standard – timely, accurate and commercial".

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