

# ELENA OTERO-NOVAS MIRANDA



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## Skills

- More than **30 years of experience** as a State Attorney (Abogado del Estado), Legal Counsel, Arbitrator and Independent Board member, as well as Executive Director and ExCo member in the legal and public affairs fields at relevant companies in the education, construction/infrastructure and telecom sectors.
- **She stands out for her relevant and extensive know how in which the legal, institutional and business worlds are fused and combined, which allows her to address and lead complex business problems with both legal rigor and a clear understanding of the economic and business reality.**
- Leadership in team management and development.
- Ability and affinity for working in international and multicultural environments with a strong interest in the global business dimension.
- Proven ability in managing relations with Governments and regulatory authorities, achieving relevant results in regulatory reforms and complex files.
- **Native Spanish speaker, full professional proficiency in English and very high level in French.**

## Work History

2021-05 - **Independent Board Member. Member of its Audit Committee.**  
Current Línea Directa Aseguradora (Spanish listed insurance company).

2019-05  
Current

## **Chairwoman Spanish Court of Arbitration. Spanish Chamber of Commerce.**

2020-05  
Current

## **Deputy Chair of CIAM-CIAR, Madrid International Arbitration Center.**

2017-09 –  
2024-12

## **Director Legal, Regulation & Corporate Security**

VODAFONE, Madrid

Vodafone Spain, one of the leading **telecommunications** operators with **annual revenues of €4 billion**.

As Legal and External Affairs Director, from Sept. 2017 to June 2024:

- Led **key regulatory and tax negotiations**, ensuring favorable outcomes for the company's sustainability and competitiveness in a **highly regulated sector**.
- Developed a **highly skilled team**.
- Led complex litigation in various fields, ie distribution agreements, corporate liability, joint ventures or IT contracts.
- Successfully negotiated and managed with **Spanish Government** the **FDI authorization** for Zegona's investment in Vodafone.
- Coordinated the **divestment** of the **mobile tower unit** and its integration into **Vantage Towers**, a **strategic** move that added significant value for shareholders.
- Led the design and implementation of a **Corporate Governance framework** for **GDPR (data protection)** compliance regulation purposes, which has since then also embedded **Cybersecurity and AI regulatory needs**.

From June to dec. 2024: support to Zegona, new sole shareholder of Vodafone Spain from June 1<sup>st</sup> 2024.

2012-06 –  
2017-09

## **General Secretary and Board Secretary**

SACYR

Sacyr, a company listed on the **Ibex 35** with **revenues of €5 billion**.

- Led the **modernization** of the **corporate governance and compliance system**, aligning it with **international standards** and ensuring **sustainability** and **regulatory compliance**.
- Managed **key refinancing** and **strategic divestments**, stabilizing the company financially during a critical period.
- Directed the resolution of **litigation and arbitration** in **concessions** and other contracts.

2005-12 –  
2019-05

## **Trustee and General Secretary of the Board**

CEU-Fundación San Pablo, Madrid, Spain

Fundación San Pablo CEU is one of the largest **private educational Group** in Spain, with universities, schools, professional centers, **and over 50,000 students**.

- Trustee (2012-2019) - General Secretary (2005-2012).
- Led the **modernization** of the **corporate-fiscal structure** and **corporate governance system**, ensuring **regulatory compliance** and improving **administrative efficiency**.
- Successfully negotiated the resolution of a **dispute** with an **Archdiocese** over the **occupation of a historic building**, protecting the interests of the Foundation.
- Managed a **corporate litigation** concerning the control of a **media outlet**, ensuring **institutional stability**.
- Provided **legal support** for the **authorization, financing, and construction** of a **charter school**, contributing to the **expansion** of the group.

1993-06 -  
2012-05

### **State Attorney** (Abogado del Estado)

State Attorney's Office –

Supreme Court (2005-2012)

National Court (1997-2005)

Madrid and Barcelona civil, social and criminal Courts; National Statistics Agency (1993-1997)

- Specialized in **contentious matters**, worked on cases involving **economic regulation, taxes, and competition law** before the **National Court** (1998-2005) and the **Supreme Court** (2005-2012).
- Contributed to the **modification** of **case law** regarding the **suspension of competition decisions**, aligning outcomes with **Government objectives**.
- Successfully supported **key regulators** such as the **Bank of Spain, CNMV, competition authority, Treasury and Economy Ministers** and obtained favorable decisions in **complex litigation** in different sectors such as **pharma, oil or automotive**.

### **Private Counsel.**

- Advised on **corporate transactions** and **M&A**, ensuring success in **high-profile transactions**.
- Managed complex litigation in the civil, social and criminal areas, ie the claim, enforcement and negotiation of a relevant **international maritime salvage agreement** vs a **Chinese government company**.
- Acted as **Arbitrator** in different cases, ie corporate matters or post M&A.

## **Education**

### **High School Diploma**

Graduated With Honors at St. Andrew's School - US, Delaware

1993-05

### **J.D.: Abogado Del Estado. State Attorney**

Spanish Government - Madrid

1987-09 -  
1991-06

## **Bachelor of Science: Law Degree, Cum laude (Premio Extraordinario).**

Universidad Complutense- Grupo Experimental – Madrid

## **Other accomplishments and organizations:**

- Member of the **Madrid Bar Association since 1991.**
- **Member of the Steering Committee of the Women's Commission of CEIA** (CEIA is the Spanish and Ibero-American Arbitration Club with over 1,200 members in more than 49 countries), having previously been from 2017 to 2019 the **first Chairwoman and cofounder of this Women's Commission.**
- **Since 2019, Member of the Advisory Board of CIAMEN** (International Center for Arbitration, Mediation and Negotiation of the Royal Institute of European Studies, San Pablo CEU University, Madrid).
- **AMMDE Recognition 2022 as leading woman in arbitration**
  
- On going: **PADE, IESE Senior Leadership and Management Program, 2024/2025.**
- Program focused on **Corporate Finance, IESE Business School, 2013.**
- Program focused on **Boards, IESE Business School, 2016.**
- **Certificate in Banking and Finance** from the **University of London, 1988**
  
- Various **publications** and **lectures** in legal and social fields.
  
- Cambridge Certificate of Proficiency in English - C2.
- Certificate in French Language and Civilization, Advanced Level from the Sorbonne University, 1990.

## **Languages**

English	
	Bilingual or Proficient (C2)
French	
	Advanced (C1)
Spanish	

Bilingual or Proficient  
(C2)

