



# MDR ADVOGADOS

**CLAUDIA SANTOS CRUZ**  
Consultant

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## Professional Experience

Claudia Santos Cruz joined the firm in 2015, assisting clients on the international and cross border aspects of their investments in Mozambique.

Claudia coordinates the international Oil & Gas (including mining) and Shipping teams and was also a member of the Banking & Finance department.

She has close ties to both Africa and England. She was born in Mozambique; grew up in South Africa and holds dual Portuguese and Mozambican nationality.

She trained and practiced as an English solicitor from 1994 to 2005 at DLA Piper and Watson Farley & Williams in the City of London. In 2005 Claudia registered with the Portuguese Bar Association. In 2018 Claudia registered with the Mozambique Bar Association.

She has written articles for international publications as well as participating as a speaker at international conferences in the areas of investment in emerging markets; oil & gas, corporate, banking & finance and shipping related matters.

She was also nominated a Maritime Arbitrator / Expert by the CONCÒRDIA Maritime Arbitration, Conciliation and Conflict Mediation Centre.

Winner of the first edition of "40 under Forty Award" organised by Iberian Lawyer which distinguished the best 40 lawyers under the age of 40 in Iberia. Ranked as a leading lawyer by the most prestigious international legal Directories such as Chambers & Partners and IFLR.

## Education

Law Degree (University of Southampton, England, 1993). Legal Practice Course - LPC (College of Law Guildford, England, 1994). Post graduate training courses in Banking & Finance; Corporate / Commercial law, Restructuring & Insolvency (Central Law Training, London, England). Oil & Gas Specialisation (Central Law Training, London, England, 2013 & 2014). International Petroleum Transactions module of the LLM (Católica Lisbon School of Law, 2017).

## Memberships

Solicitor of the Supreme Court of England & Wales (since 1996) (non-practicing). Portuguese Bar Association (2005). Mozambique Bar Association (2018). IBA African Regional Forum. International Bar Association positions held: Officer European Regional Forum 2009; Vice Chair European Regional Forum; 2010 and 2011; Senior Vice Chair European Regional Forum 2012 and 2013; IBA Oil & Gas Committee Officer, 2021; African Regional Forum Vice-Chair, 2024. Women's International Shipping & Trading Association (WISTA), 2023.

## Languages

### MOZAMBIQUE

[mdradvogados.com](http://mdradvogados.com)

### MAPUTO

Avenida Marginal, 141,  
Torres Rani, Torre de Escritórios,  
8.º piso,  
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Specialist in areas such as Energy and Mineral Resources (Oil & Gas / Mining), international aspects of foreign investment into Mozambique, Corporate and Shipping. Portuguese and English.  
Regular speaker at IBA Africa Regional Forum conferences.

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## News

**Launch of the book 'Maritime Law of Mozambique: Collection of Legislation'**

08.10.2024

**Claudia Santos Cruz represents Morais Leitão at the IBA 2024 Annual Conference in Mexico City**

13.09.2024

**Claudia Santos Cruz appointed an Officer of the IBA's African Regional Forum**

08.05.2024

**Claudia Santos Cruz speaks at the IBA Annual Conference in Paris**

27.10.2023

**Irina Neves Ferreira and Claudia Santos Cruz represent the ML Legal Circle at an investment conference**

26.07.2022

**Morais Leitão Legal Circle will be represented in the Africa Energy Forum 2022**

17.06.2022

**Claudia Santos Cruz participates in the Biennial Conference of IBA**

13.05.2022

**Legal Business | Claudia Santos Cruz comments on Africa's continued business potential**

22.03.2022

**Claudia Santos Cruz was interviewed by the Energy Council**

19.03.2021

**Claudia Santos Cruz joins the IBA OIL & GAS committee**

19.01.2021

## Publications

**GLI - Energy 2024 - Mozambique**

05.08.2024

**ICLG | Oil & Gas Regulation 2024 - Q&A Mozambique Chapter**

21.02.2024

**Keeping the lights on: oil and gas development in a low-carbon world**

28.03.2023

**ICLG to Oil & Gas Regulation 2023 - Mozambique**

01.03.2023

**Investing in... 2022 - Mozambique**

11.02.2022

**Energy Laws and Regulations 2022 - Mozambique**

01.12.2021

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