



## DIANA PINEDA ESTEBAN

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🗨 Spanish | English

### PRACTICE AREAS

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- Energy and Natural Resources
- Administrative litigation and arbitration in energy matters

Diana Pineda Esteban brings extensive experience in energy law, spanning from project development to dispute resolution. She specializes in advising both national and international clients on structuring and negotiating complex, multijurisdictional energy and infrastructure projects. Additionally, Diana represents clients in administrative litigation related to energy matters and handling national and international arbitration cases.

Before joining Sainz, Diana was as a partner at a prominent firm in Mexico City. With in-house experience, she held the position of General Counsel at Silver Fuels, Inc. and Silver Fuels, LLC, a trading firm with operations in Houston and Mexico City. Additionally, she spent over five years in litigation and dispute resolution related to commercial, administrative, and constitutional matters. Diana also worked as a Legal Researcher at the Columbia Center on Sustainable Investment in New York, focusing on sustainable foreign investment.

She has lectured on energy and civil law at Universidad Iberoamericana in Mexico City.

### RELEVANT MATTERS

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- Tesoro Mexico, an affiliate of Marathon Petroleum Corp. (formerly Tesoro Corp.), the largest U.S. oil refiner, in their infrastructure, import, supply and retail businesses in Mexico.
- Shell Mexico, in its upstream and downstream businesses in Mexico.
- Vopak Mexico, a subsidiary of Royal Vopak, the world's largest storage terminals company, in the preparation of the handling, due diligence and attention during the verification visits made by CRE and ASEA to its storage terminal in Veracruz. We accompanied the client throughout the process, which resulted in one of

- the few terminals that were not closed as a result of these inspections.
- Vopak Mexico, in its energy regulatory compliance strategies with respect to its fuel storage terminal in Veracruz, Mexico.
  - MODEC, Inc. in project development, regulatory and permitting advice for the operation of the first floating production, storage and offloading unit (FPSO) providing services to a private E&P producer, Eni Mexico.
  - NuStar Energy L.P. through regulatory advice in connection with the development of an oil terminal project in Nuevo Laredo, Tamaulipas.
  - Representation of various clients against in amparo proceedings filed against legal and regulatory amendments that hinder the development of their projects and businesses in the energy sector.
  - Representation of COPARMEX in an amparo claim against the import and export regulations of hydrocarbons and petroleum products, issued by the Ministry of Economy and the Ministry of Energy on December 26, 2020, for their violations to free competition and concurrence.
  - Representation of several clients against the amendments done to the Electric Industry Law and the Hydrocarbons Law, published on 2021 in the Official Gazette of the Federation.
  - Representation of several clients in relation to the verification visits made by the authorities CRE and ASEA to its Fuel Storage Terminals and transloading stations, including amparo claims derived from the closing/seizing of its facilities, procedural inactivity of the CRE, the seizure of facilities with and without products, among other actions.
  - BP Air (a subsidiary of BP) regarding the sale and distribution of its products to the Mexican aviation industry.
  - Jaguar Exploración y Producción de Hidrocarburos, in their participation in International Public Bids "Round 1.3", "Round 2.2" and "Round 2.3", called by the National Hydrocarbons Commission, and in the process for the awarding of eleven tendered hydrocarbon blocks in Mexico for E&P activities, regulatory work and purchase and sale of hydrocarbons with Pemex Exploración y Producción.
  - Ductos El Peninsular, in the potential development, construction, financing, operation and ownership of a 350 km pipeline project and related storage facilities for transportation of gasoline, diesel and jet fuel in the Yucatan Peninsula.
  - Gas y Petroquímica de Occidente, a subsidiary of Proman AG, in its negotiation of gas supply contracts with CF Energía and CFE Internacional for the purchase and sale of natural gas under the North American Energy Standard Board (NAESB) model contract and the transportation of the molecule from Texas to Sinaloa, Mexico.
  - General Motors de México, in its regulatory and compliance strategies in connection with its consumption of energetics as one of the largest car manufacturers in Mexico.

## **AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS**

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- New Generation Partner, Shortlisted, The Legal 500 2024 and 2023.
- Outstanding Contribution to Diversity & Inclusion Award for Mexico in the Chambers Diversity and Inclusion Latin America Awards 2020.
- Energy & Natural Resources ranked lawyer, Chambers and Partners Global and Latin American Guides.
- Energy and Natural Resources next generation partner, The Legal 500.

- Energy and Natural Resources recommended, The Legal 500.
- Projects & Infrastructure next generation partner, The Legal 500.
- Projects and Infrastructure recommended, The Legal 500.
- Recognized lawyer in Energy, Latin Lawyer 250.

## **EDUCATION**

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- Master of Science (M.Sc.) in Negotiation and Dispute Resolution, Columbia University, New York, United States.
- Postgraduate studies in Civil Law (Obligations), ranked top five of the class, Escuela Libre de Derecho, Mexico City, Mexico.
- International Law Program, Universidad Pontificia de Comillas (ICADE), Madrid, Spain.
- Law Degree (J.D. equivalent), recognized with academic excellence, Universidad Anáhuac México Norte, Mexico.

## **MEMBERSHIPS AND OTHER ACTIVITIES**

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- Diana is consistently invited to participate as a speaker in seminars and conferences. She collaborates with several publications, including ICLG's international compared legal guides, and is consistently invited to participate as a speaker in national and international events, among those the Association of International Petroleum Negotiators (AIPN), Center for American and International Law and the Institute for Energy Law, Latin Lawyer, AIJA, Mexico Energy Council, and Argus.
- She is also a member of Voz Experta, Women's Energy Network, and Abogadas MX.

## **PUBLICATIONS**

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- Article "Socias Avanzando: breaking the glass ceiling in law firms", co-authored with Antonia Rodríguez, Director of AbogadasMx, published by Legal Industry Reviews.
- Article "Firms hail 'reignition' of Mexico's electricity sector as SCJN pulls plug on reform", published by Latin Lawyer.
- New York State Bar Association (NYSBA) Annual Conference: "Energy Transition: Present or Future?", September 2023.
- Conference "Are Opportunities Returning? New Strategies for a New Moment in Mexico", FTI Consulting, May 2023.
- Conference "Strengthening of CFE", COPARMEX Forums, August 2023.
- Conference "Nearshoring: Challenges and Opportunities for the Energy Sector", Fuels Week, organized by Oil & Gas Magazine, August 2023.
- Conference "Energy and Nearshoring", for COPARMEX, June 2023.
- Article: "Maternity and Society: Coming back from maternity leave in post-pandemic times", published by Legal Industry Reviews.
- Webinar "Mexico Update: Upstream, Midstream, Refining and Marketing, and Electricity Sector," and organized by the Institute for Energy Law and the Center for American and International Law, August 19, 2021.
- Argus Global Gasoline Webinar, hosted by Argus Media, June 2021 .
- 71st Annual Oil & Gas 2020 Conference, as a speaker on the panel "Recent E&P Developments in Brazil and Mexico - Can they compete with U.S. shale?".
- Webinar "The collapse of oil prices. Crisis in the Mexican Oil Industry: How to

- face this crisis in Mexico", Oil and Gas Alliance, Mexico 2020.
- Article " New Regulations Strengthen CFE, Leave Independent Renewable Energy Projects in Limbo", co-authored with Nathan Santamaria and Carlos Moran, published by Kirkland & Ellis 2020.
  - Annual Fuel Markets Conference organized by the Mexican Bar Association, Mexico City, Mexico 2020.
  - Oil and Gas Regulatory Guide, Mexico Chapter for 2020 and 2019 edition, published by International Comparative Legal Guides (ICLG).
  - International Energy Meeting as speaker in the panel Regulation of the Mexican Energy Sector, Mexico City, Mexico 2018.
  - King & Spalding Energy Forum as a speaker on the panel Implementation of Energy Infrastructure Projects, Houston, Texas, 2018.
  - Latin Lawyer's 9th Annual Oil and Gas Conference, as a speaker on the panel Upstream Sector Update: Where Are We Now, Mexico City, Mexico 2018.
  - Latin Lawyer's 8th Annual Oil & Gas Conference, as a speaker on the panel What does the Trump administration mean for the energy sector in Latin America, Mexico City, Mexico 2017.
  - 7th Annual Latin Lawyer Oil & Gas Conference, as speaker in the panel Energy Reform in Mexico: Where are we with our regulatory framework, Mexico City, Mexico 2016.
  - Article "Mexico's newly elected president: potential implications," Financier Worldwide 2018.
  - Article "The supposed transition from partners to neighbors - U.S. and Mexico," Financier Worldwide 2017.

#### **MEXICO CITY OFFICE**

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