



Rafael Briz

Partner



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Guatemala



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Profesional Summary

Lawyer with a distinguished career in administrative, energy, corporate, and arbitration law. He has been part of the regional firm Mayora & Mayora since 1985 and was named partner in 2004. He currently leads the Administrative Law practice—with an emphasis on telecommunications, electric energy, mining, and public procurement with the State of Guatemala—as well as the Arbitration, Labor, and Immigration departments. Additionally, he chairs the firm's Board of Directors.

His practice combines solid experience in public procurement and litigation with recognized leadership in national and international arbitration. He has acted both as counsel and arbitrator in ad hoc and institutional proceedings, participating in complex disputes in the infrastructure, energy, telecommunications, and government contracting sectors. He has represented and advised companies such as ENERGUATE, Ufinet, InstalCobra, and Gas Natural Fenosa in disputes of high economic and strategic impact.

His arbitration work has crossed borders, participating in cases administered by international centers under various regulatory frameworks.

In 2024, he was honored as “Lawyer of the Year in Arbitration” at the Latin American Lawyers Awards – Energy & Infrastructure.

Over the past decade, he has been consistently ranked in Tier 1 in the Energy & Natural Resources area by Chambers & Partners, at times as the sole lawyer recognized in that category. He has also been acknowledged by The Legal 500, Latin Lawyer, and IFLR1000. In 2014, he received the Officer's Cross of the Order of Civil Merit, awarded by King Juan Carlos I of Spain.

He serves as President of the Official Spanish Chamber of Commerce in Guatemala and is a Director of the Association of Binational Chambers. He has sat on the boards of companies in the technology, energy, and telecommunications sectors. Additionally, he teaches at Universidad Francisco Marroquín, sharing his expertise with new generations of legal professionals.

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Representative Cases

- Specialized legal counsel in the design and implementation of complex legal strategies, negotiation of high-impact contracts, and support in regulatory procedures. | Energuate, recognized as the largest electricity distributor in Central America.
- Comprehensive legal support for multinational companies in legally complex cases, including the structuring of supply and concession contracts, regulatory risk analysis, representation in administrative proceedings before government entities, and the drafting of legal opinions on regulatory compliance and corporate law (Deocsa and Deorsa).
- Legal advisory for large-scale infrastructure projects in Guatemala, providing support for strategic investments in the construction of roads, hospitals, corporate buildings, and telecommunications towers, including legal structuring and regulatory compliance.
- Representation in labor litigation and administrative proceedings, as well as comprehensive advisory services in labor and immigration matters for national and foreign companies operating in Guatemala.
- Legal counsel to companies (generators, distributors, transporters, marketers, large users) on complex regulatory issues related to electric energy before the CNEE, AMM, Ministry of Energy and Mines, and other institutions linked to the sector.

Education

Master's Degree in Commercial Law and Business Management

Universidad Francisco Marroquín | Guatemala | 2002

Bachelor's Degree in Legal and Social Sciences

Universidad Francisco Marroquín | Guatemala | 1994

Additional Education

Studies in Roman Law and Praxeology

Universidad Francisco Marroquín | Guatemala | 2002

Studies in Roman Law and Praxeology

Universidad Francisco Marroquín | Guatemala | 2002

Studies in Competition Law

Universidad de los Andes, Continuing Education
Colombia | 2025

Congresses, Events, and Conferences

XVI International Arbitration Congress

Integral Chamber of Commerce | Costa Rica | 2025

International Arbitration Congress

CIAG | Guatemala | 2025

RENPOWER Central America

EUROCONVENTION GLOBAL | 2025

Practice Areas

- Energy
- Mining
- Telecommunications
- Litigation and Arbitration
- Administrative Law
- Labor and Immigration
- Public Procurement

