

30 April 2024

## **MEDIA STATEMENT**

### **Clifford Chance announces winners of the third edition of its Scholarship for Diverse Students in Europe**

Global law firm Clifford Chance is delighted to announce that the third edition of the **2024 Clifford Chance Scholarship for Diverse Students in Europe** has been awarded to one student in Luxembourg and two in Spain. They will each be granted €10,000 to support their studies and set the groundwork for a thriving start to their professional journey.

In the case of Luxembourg, where the scholarship was awarded for the first time, **Michael Esq** was the winner. Congratulations!

The objective of the scholarship, part of Clifford Chance's REACH (i.e. advancing Race Equality And Celebrating Heritage) initiative, is to promote diversity, build a more inclusive future in Continental Europe and help talented university students with varied cultural and social economic backgrounds succeed in their early careers.

**Mustapha Mourahib**, Clifford Chance's Office Managing Partner for Casablanca, and a sponsor partner of REACH, comments: "I am proud of both our REACH initiative and on this year's winners. Because diversity at Clifford Chance is a business imperative. Diverse teams can better understand the needs of our clients, and diverse and inclusive workplaces attract top talent. This is why it is so important to have initiatives like REACH and to celebrate these successes, both with our people and with our clients".

This year, in its third edition, the scholarship was open to students about to embark on the final two years of their law studies at a university in Spain, France, the Netherlands, Luxembourg and Italy, who come from a diverse cultural or socio-economic background and have a positive academic record, specialising in business, commercial, finance and/or banking law. Although not a requirement, as in previous editions, the firm was particularly keen to hear from first-generation students. 158 applications were reviewed in total from October 16th and November 24th of the past year.

Winner **Michael Esq** shares: "Clifford Chance is a firm that stands above the rest in promoting diversity and inclusion in the global legal industry. Law is a universal language. Encouraging young lawyers from different jurisdictions therefore leads to greater understanding, collaboration and seamless legal solutions to international legal issues."

**Katia Gauzès**, Managing Partner of Clifford Chance Luxembourg, comments: "We are immensely proud to celebrate the achievements of Michael Esq. At Clifford Chance, we are deeply committed to fostering an environment where diverse talents are not only recognised but are also given the platform to thrive. Our scholarship programme is a testament to our dedication to inclusion, providing opportunities that transcend social and economic barriers. Michael's story is a beacon of inspiration, and it is our privilege to support his journey towards becoming a legal professional who will no doubt contribute to the richness of our firm's culture and the breadth of our global expertise."

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The next edition of the [Clifford Chance Scholarship for Diverse Students in Europe](#) will open in autumn 2024.

Read more about [Clifford Chance's diversity and inclusion initiatives](#).

**ENDS**

For further information, please contact Delphine Madar, [delphine.madar@cliffordchance.com](mailto:delphine.madar@cliffordchance.com) +352 48 50 50 1.

**About Clifford Chance**

Clifford Chance is one of the world's pre-eminent law firms with significant depth and range of resources across five continents. As a single, fully integrated global partnership, we pride ourselves on our approachable, collegial and team-based way of working. We always strive to exceed the expectations of our clients, which include corporates from all commercial and industrial sectors, governments, regulators, trade bodies and not-for-profit organisations. We provide them with the highest-quality advice and legal insight, which combines the firm's global standards with in-depth local expertise.

Established in 2000, our office is one of the leading international law firms in Luxembourg. With close to 200 professionals, it has a team of 130 lawyers and 15 partners. The team is experienced in banking and finance, capital markets, Corporate and M&A, employment, investment funds, litigation and tax, and advises both international and Luxembourg-based clients, including financial institutions and businesses.

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