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The Legal 500 Asia Pacific

2022

The clients' guide to law firms

DAHUI LAWYERS

SUITE 3720 CHINA WORLD TOWER
1 JIANGUOMENWAI AVENUE

Tel: +86 10 6535 5888

- Data protection: PRC firms
- Dispute resolution: Arbitration: PRC firms
- Dispute resolution: Litigation: PRC firms
- Fintech: PRC firms
- Labour and employment: PRC firms
- TMT: PRC firms
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THE FIRM

DaHui Lawyers is redefining the standards of the Chinese legal market as the “next generation” PRC firm, with a particular strength in New Economy industries as well as complex cross-border transactions.

Combining an in-depth knowledge of China’s legal and business landscape with extensive international experience, DaHui has become a “go-to” firm for multinational companies across a broad range of industries and practice areas. DaHui’s high-standard expertise and professionalism have led it to become a key advisor and strategist to clients of all types and sizes in China’s emerging but challenging market, providing clients with the most effective and solution-oriented services tailored to their diversified business needs.

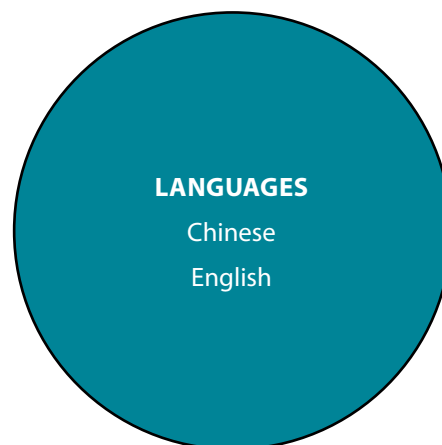
MAIN AREAS OF PRACTICE

Telecommunications, media and technology: DaHui’s strength in the highly-regulated TMT industry is in providing practical advice containing insightful assessments, while highlighting key regulatory implications, trends and changes. As leading multinational and round-trip PRC investors seek to navigate challenges unique to China’s TMT environment, DaHui guides clients using its consummate regulatory expertise with industry-focused services across a range of TMT sub-sectors, including Internet, IT/telecoms, mobile, publishing, new media, entertainment, sports, events, and exhibitions.

Corporate/M&A: DaHui’s increased capacity has allowed it to not only handle cross-border transactions, but to act as lead counsel – rather than simply PRC advisers – on virtually all of them. As such, the firm has significant experience coordinating legal teams across multiple jurisdictions and spearheading all stages of a transaction, including structuring, DD, negotiations, documentation and closing procedures.

Dispute resolution: DaHui’s dispute resolution team has lawyers qualified in the US, UK and Hong Kong, who have appeared before a range of international arbitration institutions (such as CIETAC, HKIAC, SIAC, LCIA). Domestically, the team’s years of litigation experience has given it a well-developed understanding of PRC judicial procedure and practice, and a strong understanding of Chinese society. The firm’s cross-jurisdictional expertise, as well as its strong network of international allied firms, allows DaHui to use effectively a range of procedural approaches, governmental resources, public security and even criminal measures to formulate and implement comprehensive dispute resolution strategies.

Private equity/venture capital: DaHui’s PE/VC practice covers all stages of an investment, including fund establishment, project investment, capital restructuring, mergers and acquisitions, de-listings, IPOs, and others. The firm has rich practical experience in RMB funds, USD funds, parallel funds, and cross-border investment funds in multiple areas, with clients including PE fund investors of all sizes and all kinds of major participants, such as seed investors, fund promoters, fund managers and advisers.



LANGUAGES

Chinese

English

Energy: DaHui’s extensive energy practice has steadily expanded by attracting new clients in traditional sectors, such as oil and gas, and significantly strengthening its renewable energy presence. Given the firm’s focus on ‘new economy’ industries, renewable energy was a logical area of expansion, with its renewable energy practice now reaching a range of sectors, including wind, solar, hydroelectricity and bioenergy.

MAIN CONTACTS

Department	Email	Telephone
Antitrust and competition	info@DaHuiLawyers.com	(86 10) 6535 5888
Banking and finance	info@DaHuiLawyers.com	(86 10) 6535 5888
Capital markets	info@DaHuiLawyers.com	(86 10) 6535 5888
Corporate and M&A	info@DaHuiLawyers.com	(86 10) 6535 5888
Dispute resolution	info@DaHuiLawyers.com	(86 10) 6535 5888
FinTech	info@DaHuiLawyers.com	(86 10) 6535 5888
Healthcare and life sciences	info@DaHuiLawyers.com	(86 10) 6535 5888
Intellectual property	info@DaHuiLawyers.com	(86 10) 6535 5888
Labor and employment	info@DaHuiLawyers.com	(86 10) 6535 5888
Private equity/venture capital	info@DaHuiLawyers.com	(86 10) 6535 5888
Projects and energy	info@DaHuiLawyers.com	(86 10) 6535 5888
Real estate and construction	info@DaHuiLawyers.com	(86 10) 6535 5888
Regulatory/compliance	info@DaHuiLawyers.com	(86 10) 6535 5888
TMT	info@DaHuiLawyers.com	(86 10) 6535 5888
WTO/international trade	info@DaHuiLawyers.com	(86 10) 6535 5888

STAFF FIGURES

Number of lawyers : 103

MEMBERSHIPS

MSI Global Alliance

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DATA PROTECTION: PRC FIRMS

Tier 2

“**DaHui Lawyers’** data practice has developed from its pre-existing expertise in technology and telecoms sectors, and assists its clients with ensuring compliance with Chinese regulations and personal privacy issues. The group’s expertise in telecoms is demonstrated by its relationship with Comcast, which it advises on various issues relating to its Chinese operations. Founding partner Richard Ma heads up the department; splitting his time between the Shanghai and Beijing offices, Ma also leads the TMT and M&A practices, making him the ideal practitioner to advise on the data aspect of corporate transactions. Joanna Jiang is another name to note and focuses on the telecoms, media, entertainment and healthcare industries.”

DISPUTE RESOLUTION: ARBITRATION: PRC FIRMS

TIER 2

“**DaHui Lawyers’** arbitration practice is impressively international and often acts as PRC counsel alongside global law firms in disputes involving highly-recognisable clients. At a domestic level, the firm works with a variety of private and state-owned companies in CIETAC disputes, as well as assisting with the recognition of internal awards in the PRC. Practice head Arthur Ma, one of several dual-qualified team members, has prior experience practising in the U.S., England, and Hong Kong in addition to mainland China. Senior counsel Edward Lu arrived from Fangda Partners in January 2021.”

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DISPUTE RESOLUTION: LITIGATION: PRC FIRMS

TIER 2

Despite its modest size, **DaHui Lawyers** is regularly involved in the most complex and significant disputes on the Chinese market, particularly those with a cross-border element. The internationality of the department can be seen in its client portfolio; globally renowned names such as Tesla and Boeing instruct the firm to represent them in disputes relating to China. The group also works extensively with domestic companies in proceedings relating to construction, finance, securities and governmental investigations. Xing Wan leads the team and specialises in IP and employment issues, as well as FCPA investigations, while Arthur Ma uses his previous experience practising at international law firms overseas to advise on international proceedings. At the junior partner level, Joy Wang is a key name for IP and unfair competition disputes.

Leading individuals

Arthur Ma

Next Generation Partners

Joy Wang

FINTECH: PRC FIRMS

TIER 2

“**DaHui Lawyers** maintains close working relationships with major PRC regulators including the People’s Bank of China, the Public Security Bureau, and the Cyberspace Administration of China, and regularly acts for domestic and international clients on structuring their payment solutions in the China market. It also has notable expertise in advising on big-ticket private equity financing and capital markets transactions, as well as acting for international companies seeking third-party payment licenses. Founding and managing partner Richard Ma is a key name to note for transactions and compliance matters, and jointly leads the team with Brendon Wu who is recommended for advising PE and VC funds on their portfolio investments. Cloud Li and Joanna Jiang are key names for M&A and PE financing, and fintech regulatory, respectively.”

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LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT: PRC FIRMS

TIER 2

“**DaHui Lawyers** advises Chinese and multinational companies on complying with Chinese labour regulations, providing assistance on complex issues such as mass lay-offs. The practice aids overseas companies in entering the Chinese market, providing advice on HR issues. Litigation specialist Xing Wan leads the team and focuses on contentious employment matters such as unfair dismissal disputes. The team was bolstered in November 2020, as counsel Maggie Zou joined from an in-house role at Samsung. Zou has broad expertise in employment law. Cloud Li is another key figure in the team.”

TMT: PRC FIRMS

TIER 2

“**DaHui Lawyers** has a strong presence in the technology and telecoms sectors, regularly working with innovative companies in the AI, big data, fintech and autonomous vehicle industries on business structuring and compliance issues as they develop. The also has a media offering and advises large multinational conglomerates on their operations in China. Founding partner Richard Ma leads the practice and specialises in assisting US and UK investors looking to make investments in the Chinese market. Cloud Li is a member of the firm’s M&A and funds practices, advising on the formation of sector-focused funds and acquisitions of domestic tech companies. Associate Dimitri Phillips is also recommended for both contentious and corporate matters.”

Rising Stars

Dimitri Phillips

Next Generation Partners

Cloud Li

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ANTITRUST AND COMPETITION: PRC FIRMS

TIER 3

“**DaHui Lawyers** advises an impressive client base, including domestic Chinese companies, and prominent multinationals, on a wide range of antitrust and competition matters. The team’s work on merger filings includes handling transactions in sensitive industries such as semiconductors. The practice also acts as trustee to monitor the implementation remedies imposed by SAMR following transactions. Practice head Jie Tong has broad experience in this sector, including previously working at the Ministry of Commerce; he aides clients in responding to investigations by regulators.”

CORPORATE AND M&A: PRC FIRMS

TIER 3

At **DaHui Lawyers**, the team not only represents prominent Chinese names such as Alibaba and Tencent, but also leading multinationals including Airbnb and Netflix. The team is equipped to handle both the PRC and international law aspects of international deals and is headed by managing partner Richard Ma, a TMT sector veteran who splits his time between Shanghai and Beijing. Other specialist sectors include energy, healthcare, biotech, manufacturing and education and the practice is also home to Cloud Li who enjoys a track record in M&A, fund formation, investment, dispute and compliance matters.

Next Generation Partners

Cloud Li

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INVESTMENT FUNDS: PRC FIRMS

TIER 3

“**DaHui Lawyers** has an effective funds practice that acts across the fund formation space, advising on the establishment of both onshore and offshore funds. It is particularly active in handling the formation of private equity and venture capital funds, and also acts for investors into these funds. The team is jointly led by Zheng Zha and Cloud Li. Pei Zhao joined the firm in August 2020 from Shearman & Sterling LLP and focuses on USD fund formation.”

PRIVATE EQUITY: PRC FIRMS

TIER 3

“**DaHui Lawyers’** market share has grown in recent years, and it is now a destination firm for private equity investors of various sizes. The practice is capable of assisting with financing transactions at all ages of a company’s growth, while also handling a range of other mandates including fund formation and management, take-private transactions and restructurings. Brendon Wu leads the team; also a member of the TMT department, Wu focuses his practice on the media, telecoms, film and education sectors.”

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REGULATORY/COMPLIANCE: PRC FIRMS

TIER 3

“**DaHui Lawyers** offers a significant depth in the TMT and fintech sectors, where it assists numerous domestic and multinational companies on the regulatory aspects of transactions and portfolio investments. The department is led by Beijing-based duo Richard Ma and Zheng Zha.”

RESTRUCTURING AND INSOLVENCY: PRC FIRMS

TIER 3

“**DaHui Lawyers** has a particular focus on aiding multinational companies in reorganising their operations in China, such as advising these companies on spinning-off aspects of their business. The team also advises foreign companies on exiting the Chinese market through the liquidation of their subsidiaries; in this area, it collaborates with the firm’s labour and employment team to handle associated mass layoffs. Richard Ma leads the team.”

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INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY: PRC FIRMS

TIER 4

“ Since establishing a dedicated IP group in 2019, **DaHui Lawyers** has developed a varied practice that serves clients from a number of industries. The group is particularly strong in the media sector, representing several large Chinese production and distribution companies, in addition to international names such as Netflix and CBS. Joy Wang leads the team from Beijing; in addition to representing clients in court proceedings, Wang frequently handles invalidation proceedings before the Patent Re-examination Board. ”

Richard Ma

WORK DEPARTMENT

Corporate and M&A, Inbound Investment, Outbound Investment

POSITION

Richard Ma is the managing and founding partner of DaHui Lawyers. As a recognized expert and preeminent lawyer in the IT/telecoms and media sectors, Richard has advised multinational and Chinese companies on countless successful deals in China, ranging from market entry, M&A and joint ventures to financing and restructuring. Richard particularly excels in devising practical and creative solutions to transactional complications, which are frequent in China due to its complex and rapidly developing legal system and unique business environment. Clients frequently commend Richard on his high level of responsiveness, practical problem-solving skills, and strong commercial sense.

CAREER

Managing Partner of DaHui Lawyers

LANGUAGES

Chinese, English

MEMBERSHIPS

ACLA

EDUCATION

LL.M. (South Central University of Finance & Law)

LL.B. (South Central University of Finance & Law)

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Arthur Ma

WORK DEPARTMENT

Dispute Resolution

POSITION

Arthur is a partner in DaHui Lawyers' litigation and arbitration team. With over 15 years of work experience with major international and PRC law firms in their Shanghai, London, Washington DC, Hong Kong and Beijing offices, Arthur has accumulated abundant experience handling disputes with a China element. He has represented numerous clients in complex commercial cases before Chinese courts and international arbitral tribunals. With his unique legal training, he is widely regarded as a leading international arbitration expert by both Chinese and international arbitration community. He also frequently acts as PRC law expert in overseas legal proceedings.

CAREER

Partner of DaHui Lawyers

LANGUAGES

Chinese, English

MEMBERSHIPS

ACLA

EDUCATION

LL.M. (George Washington University)

LL.B. (Peking University)

Jie Tong

WORK DEPARTMENT

Antitrust, Intellectual Property, Compliance, Corporate / M&A

POSITION

Jie is a partner in DaHui Lawyers. Jie's practice covers a broad range of industry sectors. His primary practice areas include antitrust, anti-unfair competition, compliance, international trade, M&A and intellectual property. Jie has represented clients in numerous complex merger filings and antitrust investigations. Jie also worked at the Ministry of Commerce of PRC for over 10 years, where he was deputy director of the Department of Treaty and Law. Therefore, Jie has a thorough understanding of the unique legal, political and cultural environment of China, and is adept at dealing with Chinese authorities and providing pragmatic solutions to clients.

CAREER

Partner of DaHui Lawyers

LANGUAGES

Chinese, English

MEMBERSHIPS

ACLA

EDUCATION

LL.M. (Columbia Law School)

LL.B. (University of International Business and Economics)

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Brendon Wu

WORK DEPARTMENT

Capital Markets, PE/VC, Corporate and M&A, Outbound Investment

POSITION

Brendon Wu is a key partner in DaHui Lawyers' private equity and TMT teams. His practice focuses on telecommunications, media, technology, film, entertainment and education industries. With more than a decade of experience, Brendon has represented many well-known PE/VC funds in their portfolio investments in China. He has also represented numerous well-known and early-stage Chinese Internet entrepreneurs in various types of financings – including onshore RMB financing and offshore preferred stock or convertible note financing – as well as various financing-related matters, such as spin-offs and corporate restructurings and M&A transactions.

CAREER

Partner of DaHui Lawyers

LANGUAGES

Chinese, English

MEMBERSHIPS

ACLA (All China Lawyers Association)

EDUCATION

LL.M. (University of International Business and Economics)