

# ELITE PARS

Law Firm

Legal Update Prepared for  
Elite Pars Clients

## Introduction

Established in 2019, Elite Pars is a boutique law firm with professional lawyers and legal minds as its core team. Lawyers at Elite Pars render legal advice on a wide range of matters in parallel to dealing with various local, regional and international arbitration and litigation cases.

Elite Pars draws strength from its diversity. We recruit from a wide variety of backgrounds, seeking out the best and those with the highest potential and we invest in their development. Our profound knowledge of assorted legal areas, enables us to efficiently guide our clients through the most complex matters they are facing. Furthermore, our practical experience provides us with insights that help us assist our clients in achieving their legal goals.

In case you have any queries regarding this document or would like to inquire as to how we could serve you best, please feel free to contact our partners Dr. Navid Sato and/or Dr. Nima Nasrollahi via [n.sato@elitepars.com](mailto:n.sato@elitepars.com) and/or [n.nasrollahi@elitepars.com](mailto:n.nasrollahi@elitepars.com).



## LEGAL UPDATE: APRIL 2022

### SHARES COULD BE HELD AS SECURITY

On 25 April, Majid Eshghi, the head of the Stock Exchange Market, announced that a new mechanism is being launched whereby shareholders could electronically present their shares as security. The importance of this type of security is arisen from the fact that the process of pledging the physical assets is usually complex and time consuming. Conversely, stock securities would make the process of receiving loan and pledging before courts much easier and quicker.

Mahmoud Hassanlou, Deputy Minister of Technology and Innovation Development of the Central Depository Company pointed out the method in which shares would be held as securities. According to his statements, the depository company provides information to the banks and the shareholder must refer to the bank application to take the actions related to stock security and receive a loan. With OTP (disposable) SMS, the shareholder's Sejam has been authenticated and if OTP is entered correctly, the shareholder's share securities will be displayed in the bank application. Afterwards, the shareholder could select its intended shares and enter the number of shares it seeks to pledge.

Consequently, the Central Bank announced the instructions for granting facilities in small amounts up to 200 million Tomans and exchange and non-exchange securities, including stocks, bonds, tangible property and SIM cards. These instructions have resulted from the efforts made by the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Finance and the Stock Exchange Organization in order to help investors to receive facilities.

### WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY DAY IN IRAN

Each year on April 26, the Center for Intellectual Property in the Real Estate Registration Organization of Iran, which is also the representative of the World Intellectual Property Organization in Iran, celebrates the world Intellectual Property day. As a celebration of this day, the head of the center recently stated that it is

the duty of this center to promote and raise public awareness of IP rights. In order to meet this goal, a summer school concerning intellectual property will be held in partnership with one of top universities in the country to educate relevant sector of the public. The center is also willing to hold a national ceremony to honor elites, inventors, industrial designers for the first time.

On this very day, Seyed Mohammad Ali Mirtaheri, the head of the Center for Intellectual Property, emphasized on the importance of geographical indications as means of protecting traditional arts and handicrafts. According to his statements, currently there have been collaborations with Sweden in order to register geographical indications of Iran including Zanjan's knife, Nain's carpet and Saveh's pomegranate.

### NO CONTRACT WILL BE REGISTERED WITHOUT CONFIRMATION CODE

On 2 May 2022, the deputy head of the Real Estate and Deeds Registration Organization announced that registering all kinds of contracts by the notary publics is only possible when a confirmation code is received by the applicants i.e. parties to the contract via SMS on their phones. The same procedure shall be followed by the applicants of registering official documents before notaries.

For the confirmation code to be sent to mobile numbers, the phone numbers must be registered in the name of the applicants.

This procedure will help verifying the real identity of the parties. Therefore, this electronical authentication would ensure the parties of the identity of their counterparties and their position. Thus, the risk of unauthorized transactions would be diminished.

### ENRIQUE MORA'S TRIP TO TEHRAN, A NEW STEP TOWARDS REVIVING JCPOA

On 7 May 2022, Enrique Mora, the deputy secretary-general of the European External Action Service visited Tehran. According to Nournews, an outlet affiliated with Iran's Supreme National Security Council (SNSC), "considering the EU's role in exchanging viewpoints between Tehran and

Washington, Enrique Mora's trip to Tehran can be regarded as a new step for constructive negotiations surrounding the few but important remaining issues." It has also been reported that in spite of US harsh sanctions and the onerous situation resulting from them in Iran, the country has remained in negotiation phase.

The talks to revive the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), started in April 2021 but have been suspended for months. The reason behind this delay was a few disagreements between Iran and the United States on a number of limited but significant issues. The major discordance between the two countries was as a result of Iran's request for the United States to waive its sanctions against Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC). Besides, Iran has insisted that guaranteeing its economic benefits from a revived nuclear deal is on the table, but has not elaborated on the details.

For this request to be fulfilled, the US has stated that Iran needs to assure us concerning its regional activities, not to mention that this issue is beyond the scope of nuclear deal.

Iran is of the position that its nuclear program is peaceful, but has significantly developed since the US withdrawal from the JCPOA. However, reviving the JCPOA would considerably restrict Iran's enrichment of nuclear materials in exchange for lifting the sanctions.



## **Dr. Navid Rahbar Sato**

### **Managing Partner**

Dr. Navid Rahbar Sato is a founding partner and the managing director of Elite Pars Law Firm. He is a qualified international and domestic lawyer in the Iranian market with a primary focus on cross border transactions and oil and gas law. With several years of experience, he has extensive comprehension of the national, regional and international commercial legal systems. He also handles litigation and arbitration cases where he sets out the legal strategies and heads the team in the process. He particularly advises clients on energy law, foreign direct investment, incorporation, mergers and acquisitions as well as import and export regulations in the region including sanctions' compliance matters.

Navid holds an SJD from Washington College of Law and is a Vanderbilt LL. M. graduate of NYU School of Law and an International Trade Law LLM graduate of the American University of Washington D.C. He is an assistant professor at Shahid Beheshti University of Tehran.

Navid speaks fluent Farsi and English, as well as basic French and Japanese.  
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## **Dr. Nima Nasrollahi Shahri**

### **Partner**

Dr. Nima Nasrollahi Shahri is a founding partner at Elite Pars Law Firm and heads the energy, investment law and arbitration practices of the firm. He is a seasoned lawyer in the field of oil and gas and renewable energies and has advised major international oil companies with respect to their participation in Iranian oil and gas projects. He holds a PhD in International Investment Law and has completed the LL. M. program of University of Dundee in Petroleum Law and Policy. He has a long list of Persian and English publications and is currently the director of oil and gas law LL. M. program at the University of Science and Culture in Tehran where he is now supervising several dissertation theses, mostly related to the same field as well as commercial arbitration. Nima regularly does pro bono educational activities. He speaks Farsi, fluent English and intermediate French and Arabic.

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