



AVELLUM

Annual Report

1 JANUARY – 31 DECEMBER 2023

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Introduction

Mykola Stetsenko
Managing Partner



With great pleasure, we present our inaugural annual report, marking a significant milestone in the history of AVELLUM. Established 15 years ago with a team of six dedicated individuals, we have flourished into a robust organisation comprising 80 professionals, proudly serving as a cornerstone of Ukraine's legal landscape.

I.

RESILIENCE
IN THE
FACE OF
CHALLENGES



REFLECTING ON OUR JOURNEY

Over the past decade and a half, AVELLUM has evolved from its modest beginnings to emerge as a prominent force in the Ukrainian legal market. Our journey is defined by steady growth fuelled by a steadfast commitment to excellence and client service. Today, we stand as one of the leading law firms in Ukraine, a testament to our enduring dedication and unwavering pursuit of success.

CHAMPIONING TRANSPARENCY AND BEST PRACTICES

At AVELLUM, we firmly believe in the importance of transparency and accountability. As such, this inaugural annual report represents a significant step in our journey towards adopting best international practices. By providing stakeholders with a comprehensive overview of our activities and achievements, we aim to foster trust and confidence in our firm while setting a new standard for transparency within the legal industry in Ukraine.

NAVIGATING CHALLENGES WITH RESILIENCE

Despite facing ongoing challenges, including the continued Russian aggression in Ukraine, AVELLUM has remained steadfast in its commitment to growth and development. Over the past year, we have successfully expanded our team, welcomed new talent into our ranks, and sustained our annual internship programme, demonstrating our unwavering dedication to growing the next generation of legal professionals.

EXPANDING OUR REACH

In addition to our internal growth, AVELLUM has expanded its service offerings to meet our clients' evolving needs better.

With the addition of defence sector expertise and white-collar crime practice, we are well-positioned to provide comprehensive legal solutions to diverse clients, further solidifying our reputation as a leading full-service law firm in Ukraine.



II.

STRENGTHENING OUR PARTNERSHIP

Total 10 partners



Mykola Stetsenko
Managing Partner



Glib Bondar
Senior Partner



Kostiantyn Likarchuk
Senior Partner



Maksym Maksymenko
Partner



Vadim Medvedev
Partner



Yuriy Nechayev
Partner



Mykyta Nota
Partner

AVELLUM was proud to announce in January the expansion of our partnership from seven to ten esteemed partners. This growth reflects our firm's commitment to nurturing talent and fostering professional development, as well as the depth of expertise and leadership within our ranks. Our expanded partnership is a testament to our collective vision and shared determination to uphold the highest standards of legal excellence.

3 NEW PARTNERS



Andriy Fortunenکو
Partner



Andriy Romanchuk
Partner



Anton Zaderyholova
Partner

III.



BUSINESS AND FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE



REVENUE

\$6.4m 

TOTAL TAX CONTRIBUTION

\$1.4m

please see the last page for the disclaimer

COSTS

\$4.6m

costs are the sum of all expenses

PRO BONO HOURS

1,000+

PROFIT FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR

\$1.8m

PROJECTS

500+



IV.

PRACTICE INSIGHTS



ANTITRUST

MERGER CLEARANCES SECURED FOR UKRNAFTA'S STRATEGIC ACQUISITIONS

AVELLUM advised Ukrnafta, Ukraine's largest oil producer, on obtaining approvals of the Antimonopoly Committee of Ukraine for managing UNB and Glusco. These strategic transactions enhance Ukraine's energy sector.

— ANTITRUST 

SALIC OBTAINS MERGER CLEARANCE FOR OLAM AGRI HOLDINGS ACQUISITION

AVELLUM advised SALIC on securing merger clearance of the acquisition of a 35.4% minority stake in Olam Agri Holdings Pte. Ltd. SALIC specialises in agricultural investment and livestock production, while Olam Agri is a leading commodity trading and processing company. The partnership will add to SALIC's international portfolio and contribute to food security in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

— ANTITRUST 

MERGER CLEARANCE FOR HIGH-NET-WORTH INDIVIDUAL'S BANK ACQUISITION

AVELLUM advised a high-net-worth individual on obtaining merger control clearance to acquire a minority stake in a large Ukrainian bank. The bank provides comprehensive banking services focusing on prompt and convenient service since 1993.

— ANTITRUST 

CORPORATE

KERNEL ACQUIRES SUNFLOWER OIL TRANSSHIPMENT TERMINAL IN RENI

AVELLUM advised Kernel Group on the USD24.75 million acquisition of a sunflower oil transshipment terminal in Reni port. The terminal has a storage capacity of 15 thousand tons and is the only Ukrainian river port on the Danube with proper intake, storage, and off-loading capacities. It allows the export of sunflower oil even in case of the blockade of the Black Sea ports.

Kernel is the world's leading producer of sunflower oil and Ukraine's largest exporter.

— MERGERS AND ACQUISITIONS 

ARISTOCRAT COMPLETES USD1.2B ACQUISITION OF NEOGAMES

AVELLUM acted as Ukrainian legal counsel to Aristocrat Leisure Limited in its USD1.2 billion acquisition of NeoGames, a global leader in content and technology solutions for the online Real-Money Gaming industry.

— CORPORATE, M&A, EMPLOYMENT 

DMARKET ACQUIRED BY MYTHICAL GAMES

AVELLUM acted as legal counsel to DMarket in its acquisition by Mythical Games, leading to the launch of Mythical Marketplace 2.0 on a new blockchain platform. The marketplace is built on Mythical's new layer blockchain and powered by the Mythos native ecosystem token MYTH.

— CORPORATE, TAX 



DISPUTES

AVELLUM CLIENT DEFEATS CHALLENGE TO USD20M LCIA AWARD IN UK HIGH COURT

UK High Court dismissed challenges to an arbitration award under s. 68 of the Arbitration Act 1996, which clarifies the applicability of cross-examination rules in international arbitration in London. The Court emphasised fairness to witnesses and parties, allowing tribunals discretion in conducting proceedings, including the option to forego oral cross-examination. AVELLUM team achieved this outcome, reinforcing London's position as a leading arbitration centre.

— INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATION 

SUCCESSFUL DEFENCE OF HIGH-PROFILE CLIENT IN ANTICORRUPTION CASE

AVELLUM successfully defended a Member of Parliament and Lieutenant General of the Ukrainian Armed Forces in a criminal case before the High Anticorruption Court. The case was investigated for two years for wilful failure to disclose property in the annual public declaration.

— WHITE-COLLAR CRIME 

SUCCESSFUL REPRESENTATION BEFORE SUPREME COURT

AVELLUM successfully represented a client before the Supreme Court in a case concerning illegal construction. The case invalidated the Department for State Architectural and Construction Control of Kyiv City's decision to grant a construction permit. The construction works posed a threat of destruction to a nearby residential building.

— LITIGATION 

VICTORY IN SUPREME COURT FOR US INVESTORS

US investors, ACP and Innovatus, invested hundreds of millions of dollars in Ukraine and faced issues with GNT Group's failure to meet loan obligations. To protect their assets, the investors initiated bankruptcy proceedings against two GNT Group companies. The Supreme Court ruled in favour of the investors and upheld the bankruptcy proceedings against GNT Group companies.

The decision prevents further illegal withdrawal of property and helps maintain jobs and revenue in the grain corridor of Ukraine. Senior partners of AVELLUM and Hillmont Partners led this case.

— LITIGATION 

ANTI-SUIT INJUNCTION APPLICATION BEFORE HIGH COURT IN ENGLAND AND WALES

AVELLUM's partner, Vadim Medvedev, acted as a Ukrainian law expert in a high-profile case before the High Court of Justice. AVELLUM's assistance led to the approval of an anti-suit injunction application against the defendant. The team prepared a report on Ukrainian procedural law, addressing issues related to cross-border proceedings, the enforceability of disputed Ukrainian judgments, its implications for case participants and third parties, and the finality of such judgments.

— LITIGATION 

FINANCE

MHP SE LOAN FINANCING FROM EBRD, IFC, AND DFC

MHP SE, a leading food and agrotech group headquartered in Ukraine, received a loan of USD480 million from EBRD, IFC, and DFC. This deal aims to facilitate the refinancing of MHP's Eurobonds and maintain the company's stability amidst economic challenges and geopolitical uncertainties.

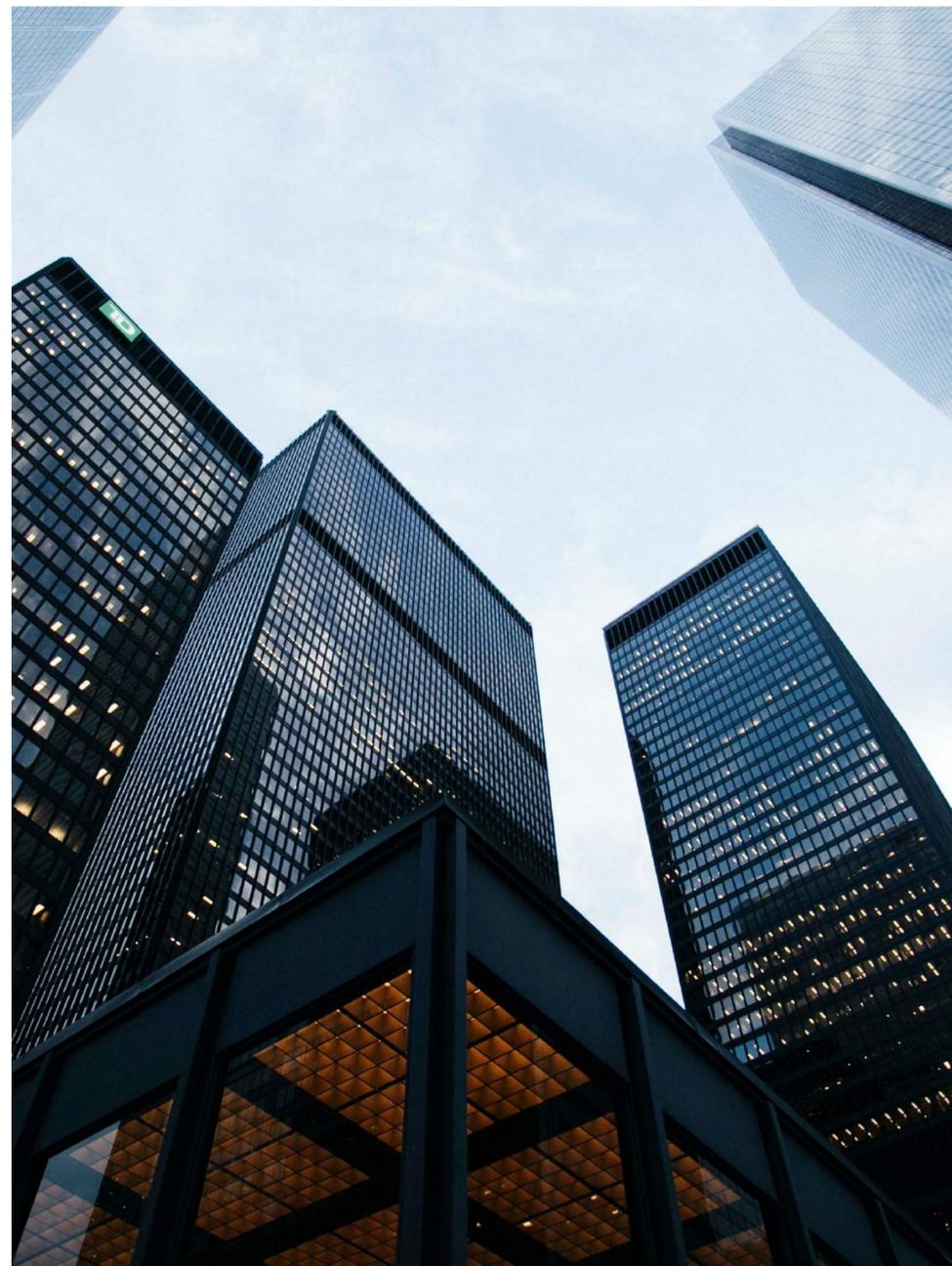
AVELLUM served as MHP's Ukrainian legal counsel throughout the transaction, advising on project structuring, loan documentation, and regulatory aspects.

— FINANCE 

MINISTRY OF FINANCE SECURES GBP26.3M LOAN WITH UK EXPORT FINANCE SUPPORT

AVELLUM acted as legal counsel to the Ministry of Finance of Ukraine for a GBP26.3 million export loan from Citibank, guaranteed by UK Export Finance. The loan will fund the reconstruction of six bridges in the Kyiv Region, damaged in 2022 due to Russian military aggression. The loan marks one of the first financings to reconstruct Ukraine.

— FINANCE 



MINISTRY OF FINANCE SECURES CAD2.4B LOAN FROM CANADA

AVELLUM acted as legal counsel to the Ministry of Finance of Ukraine for a CAD2.4 billion (USD1.8 billion) concessional loan from Canada, facilitated through the Administrated Account of the International Monetary Fund. With a 10-year repayment period and a 1.5% p.a. interest rate, this marks Canada's fifth long-term concessional loan to Ukraine since February 2022, bringing their total financial commitment to CAD4.8 billion (USD3.6 billion). These funds are crucial for financing priority expenditures in Ukraine's state budget and mitigating the economic impact of the Russian invasion.

— FINANCE 

REBUILDING UKRAINE

AMERICAN UNIVERSITY KYIV ESTABLISHES CAMPUS IN HISTORIC KYIV RIVER PORT

AVELLUM provided comprehensive legal support to American University Kyiv in establishing an innovative educational institution in the historic Kyiv River Port building. Our team ensured compliance, sustainability, and risk mitigation throughout the project.

Continuously advising on building works and lease agreements, we facilitated the opening for offline student studies in May 2022. AUK, the first Ukrainian university partnered with Arizona State University, aligns with U.S. higher education standards, fostering bilateral ties and advancing Ukrainian education.

— REAL ESTATE & INFRASTRUCTURE 



CONSTRUCTION OF DRY PORT AND INDUSTRIAL PARK IN WESTERN UKRAINE

AVELLUM advised a major Ukrainian agriproduct trading and logistics company on constructing a dry port and establishing an industrial park in Western Ukraine near the border. The client plans to build a dry port with a total area of 8.5 ha, which includes the construction of an intermodal container terminal and a grain elevator with a 50,000 mt capacity, and establish an industrial park with a total area of 35 ha, where agriproducts processing facilities and solar panels will be located. The dry port is constructed with a consortium of Italian trading and logistics companies.

— REAL ESTATE & INFRASTRUCTURE 

EXPANSION OF MUNICIPAL HOSPITAL BY AMERICAN CHARITY PROJECT

AVELLUM advised a US-based charity to implement a pilot project to expand a municipal hospital in Western Ukraine. Our team developed the most feasible donation options, enabling our client to effectively control the spending of donated funds while allowing the municipal partners the necessary flexibility to implement the project. Once completed, the project will facilitate rebuilding Ukraine's healthcare system by empowering the local community with the infrastructure needed to deliver accessible, high-quality patient care. It is expected that the project will be expanded to other Ukrainian cities.

— REAL ESTATE & INFRASTRUCTURE 

V.



REMARKABLE ACHIEVEMENTS



CEE LEGAL MATTERS

In April 2023, AVELLUM won the Ukrainian Deal of the Year and the CEE Deal of the Year awards at the CEE Deal of the Year Awards. The achievement stemmed from its work on Ukraine's Consensual Deferral of External Debt Worth Over USD25 Billion, led by senior partner Glib Bondar. The annual awards are the most prestigious peer-selected awards for the legal industry in Central and Eastern Europe, recognising the most significant deals in the region.

IFLR

EUROPE
AWARDS 2023

AVELLUM won two prestigious awards at the IFLR Europe Awards 2023: "National Law Firm of the Year: Ukraine" and "Deal of the Year: Debt and Equity-Linked" for its role in Ukraine's Consensual Deferral of External Debt. These accolades demonstrate the firm's exceptional expertise, innovative solutions, remarkable impact on the legal industry, and unwavering dedication to clients.

AVELLUM was awarded Ukraine Firm of the Year at the IFLR Europe Awards for its exceptional performance in 2021, 2022, and 2023.

ITR WORLD TAX

AVELLUM Tax Practice was recognised in the ITR World Tax 2024 ranking in two categories: General Corporate Tax (Tier 2) and Transfer Pricing (Tier 3). ITR World Tax is a global guide to top tax firms, covering more than 140 jurisdictions worldwide. The ranking also acknowledges our partners Vadim Medvedev, Mykola Stetsenko, Kostiantyn Likarchuk, and Anton Zaderyholova.

Remarkable Achievements



IFLR1000

AVELLUM achieved outstanding recognition in the prestigious IFLR1000 rankings, listed in the highest Tier 1 for Banking and Finance, M&A, Capital Markets, Restructuring & Insolvency, and Tier 3 for Project Development work. The ranking also underscores achievements of our partners, Glib Bondar, Mykola Stetsenko, Yuriy Nechayev, Maksym Maksymenko, and Andriy Romanchuk.

Chambers AND PARTNERS

AVELLUM was recognised in the Chambers and Partners 2023 Global Guide for outstanding work in Competition, Corporate/M&A, and Dispute Resolution. Partners Mykola Stetsenko, Kostiantyn Likarchuk, Yuriy Nechayev, Mykyta Nota, Andriy Romanchuk, and Counsel Oleksii Maslov were also recognised as spotlighted individuals.



AVELLUM earned 12 practice rankings, and 10 of our lawyers received individual recognitions in the 2023 edition of The Legal 500.

Eight practices have the highest Tier 1 ranking, including Banking, Finance and Capital Markets, Commercial, Corporate/M&A, Competition, Dispute Resolution, Employment, Private Client, Real Estate and Construction, and Tax. Additionally, AVELLUM received Tier 2 rankings in Energy, Intellectual Property, International Trade, and White-collar Crime.

The ranking also acknowledges our partners Mykola Stetsenko, Glib Bondar, Kostiantyn Likarchuk, Yuriy Nechayev, Maksym Maksymenko, Vadim Medvedev, Mykyta Nota, Andriy Romanchuk, Andriy Fortunenko, and Anton Zaderyholova.

VI.

PEOPLE
AND
PERFORMANCE



Team members

65

LAWYERS

80

TOTAL TEAM MEMBERS

39%

31 MEN

61%

49 WOMEN



37% Men & 63% Women
in firm's promotions

Promotions

60

TOTAL PROMOTIONS



At AVELLUM, we prioritise our people and their well-being. We offer comprehensive benefits, including corporate medical insurance, fully paid vacation and sick leaves, and additional days off for social projects. Our office provides secure and comfortable environment. We value community involvement and support Pro Bono work, counting up to 240 hours toward annual billing targets. Despite challenges, such as the war in 2023, we have maintained our commitment to employee growth, conducting transparent quarterly evaluations and paying bonuses twice a year. Additionally, we increased salary ranges by 20% to remain competitive amidst inflation.

VII.

PARTNERSHIPS



PARTICIPATION IN BUSINESS AND LEGAL ASSOCIATIONS

Throughout 2023, our team actively engaged with leading business and legal associations, participating in speaking engagements, collaborations, and events. This served to demonstrate our expertise and commitment to the legal industry.



АСОЦІАЦІЯ ПРАВНИКІВ УКРАЇНИ
UKRAINIAN BAR ASSOCIATION



AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE UKRAINE



International Bar Association
the global voice of the legal profession



Ukrainian Arbitration Association

INVOLVEMENT IN PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

- AVELLUM was the General Partner of the Ukrainian Bar Association in 2023.
- Mykola Stetsenko, AVELLUM's Managing Partner, was elected as the President of the Ukrainian Bar Association in August 2023.
- Maksym Maksymenko was elected a Co-Chair of the Chamber Infrastructure Committee of the American Chamber of Commerce in Ukraine

- Five AVELLUM lawyers were elected to various committees of the Ukrainian Bar Association:

Mykyta Nota, FCI Arb, Partner and Head of Competition Practice at AVELLUM, was elected to the Committee on Competition Law.

Andriy Fortunenko, Partner in DR Practice and Head of WCC Practice, was elected to the Committee on Criminal Law and Criminal Procedure.

Andriy Romanchuk, Partner in Corporate and M&A Practices, was elected to the Committee on Corporate Law & Stock Markets.

Roman Syniuta, Managing Associate with AVELLUM's Dispute Resolution Practice, was elected to the Committee on ADR.

Oleksandr Kozhukhar, Managing Associate with AVELLUM's Corporate Practice, was elected to the Committee on IT, Media, and Personal Data Protection.

VIII.

COMMUNITY INVESTMENT AND ESG



LEGAL PRO BONO

At AVELLUM, we are dedicated to meeting the needs of our community and prioritising social responsibility as a company. We have been involved in numerous initiatives to support the country and its people affected by the Russian aggression in Ukraine.



1,077+

PRO BONO HOURS

AVELLUM team's pro bono projects have successfully prevented the use of international organisations by the aggressor. These efforts suspended Russia's membership in international organisations, demonstrating their ability to impact complex geopolitical issues positively.



We advised Ukraine's Ministry of Finance and State Financial Monitoring Service on imposing FATF sanctions on Russia.

We helped to bring attention to war crimes and compensate victims, aiming to bring justice and limit Russia's economic influence.



ROMAN RATUSHNYI SCHOLARSHIP

AVELLUM has helped to create and promote the Roman Ratushnyi Scholarship since 2022. The scholarship awarded by the Charitable Foundation in Memory of Roman Ratushnyi is aimed to support engagement of students in human rights protection, rule of law, and civil society engagement. Allen & Overy, Morgan Lewis, Norton Rose Fulbright, and AVELLUM are supporting this scholarship. Four law students have received the scholarship for the 2023-2024 academic year coming from Taras Shevchenko National University (Kyiv), Ukrainian Catholic University (Lviv), and National Law University (Kharkiv). This year's competition attracted 23 participants from KNU, UCU, and NLU, with submissions evaluated by the Scholarship Committee.

CHARITY

We proudly support Detdom.info Platform, an organisation dedicated to assisting children in need, including orphans and those from challenging backgrounds. Last year, we awarded scholarships to two aspiring lawyers affiliated with the foundation and look forward to incorporating them into our educational programmes.

We joined forces with the Children of Heroes Foundation for their Secret Santa campaign, marking the beginning of what we hope will be a lasting partnership. We have also launched various fundraising initiatives to aid the Armed Forces of Ukraine, demonstrating our unwavering commitment to our nation's defenders.

Community Investment and ESG

ECOLOGY INITIATIVES

At AVELLUM, we believe in the power of collective action to protect our planet. Every step we take towards sustainability is a step towards a brighter future. Here's how we are leading the change:

Efficient Waste Management: Actively sorting and recycling waste to reduce landfill contributions.

Reusable Practices: Promoting the use of reusable dishware and other items to decrease the reliance on single-use plastics.

Packaging Reduction: Minimising the use of disposable packaging wherever feasible.

Water and Energy Conservation: Implementing practices for conserving water and energy, including the use of motion sensor switches for lights and appliances.

Digital Transformation: Embracing digital tools and electronic document management.

IX.

**EMPOWERING
FUTURE LEGAL
LEADERS**



JOIN AVELLUM INTERNSHIP

72

APPLICATIONS

14

JOINED

10

EMPLOYMENT
OFFERS



Since 2017, our internship programme, Join AVELLUM, has provided law students and recent graduates with practical legal experience, serving as a pathway to the legal profession. Over 60% of our current legal team started with us as interns or shortly after graduating, highlighting our dedication to nurturing talent and promoting career growth. We prioritise the development of our interns, offering mentorship and guidance, with many top performers receiving job offers upon completion. In 2023, we welcomed 14 interns, with 10 receiving employment offers, demonstrating the success of our programme in preparing future legal professionals.

This marketing report contains information accurate as of December 31, 2023. Please verify with the latest updates for any changes.

10TH ANNUAL M&A ACADEMY

9

LAWYERS, INCLUDING 2 PARTNERS

182

STUDENTS

44

STUDENTS CERTIFIED



In 2023, AVELLUM celebrated the 10th annual “M&A Academy,” a milestone in our commitment to educating law students and graduates in M&A transactions. With 2 partners and 7 lawyers leading, the Academy served 182 students, with 44 earning certifications. By offering the Academy free of charge, we continue to support our mission of educating aspiring lawyers and equipping them with essential skills for their careers.

SUPPORT OF STUDENT ORGANISATIONS

At AVELLUM, we prioritise nurturing the next generation of legal talent through steadfast support for student organisations like Jessup Ukraine, ELSA, UBA Students League, and the moot court societies. We provide financial support and guidance to students participating in local and international moot court competitions such as Jessup International Moot Court Competition, Vis Moot Court Competition, John H. Jackson Moot Court Competition, and International and European Tax Moot Court Competition.

We see our engagement with student initiatives as an investment in the future of the legal profession and a commitment to fostering excellence and innovation in the legal community.



This report is a marketing document intended to provide information on the activities, data, and aggregated financial details of LLC "Avellum Partners" and AO "Avellum" (collectively referred to as "AVELLUM"). All numerical values in this report have been rounded, which may result in minor discrepancies compared to exact figures. The information provided herein is accurate as of 31 December 2023.

The financial data in this report is calculated using the dollar exchange rate prevalent on 31 December 2023.

For purposes of this report Total Tax Contribution includes the following taxes AVELLUM paid for the fiscal year 2023: personal income tax, military duty, social security contribution, value added tax, corporate income tax, and single tax.

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