



## Kenichi Masuda

Partner

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Kenichi Masuda has represented many local and foreign clients in a broad spectrum of businesses and industries. He has extensive experience in advising foreign clients and is familiar with cross-border issues. In particular, he regularly advises clients on mergers and acquisitions of listed and unlisted businesses (including, but not limited to, share acquisitions and divestments and business acquisitions and divestments for foreign clients where the target is a Japanese company or business), joint ventures and other cross-border investments, and corporate restructurings. His scope of experience also includes assisting and representing venture companies in various aspects including start-up, equity finance and initial public offerings, as well as establishing venture capital or other private equity funds, advising venture or other private equity funds on investments in Japanese businesses including high-tech businesses as well as distressed companies. He regularly provides legal services on employment and labor union relations (including representation of client companies at the court and other dispute resolution forum), real property transactions, intellectual property issues, general corporate matters (including corporate governance and compliance issues for listed companies) and commercial matters.

Mr. Masuda served as a Committee Member for two committees organized by the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry for the purpose of stimulating venture business and investments into the venture business in Japan: the Committee for Improving the Business Environment for Private Equity Finance in Japan in 2000, which developed proposals for revisions to the Japanese corporate law, and the Committee for Examining Desirable Disclosure Systems of the Venture Business in Japan in 2001, which developed proposals for revisions to the Japanese Securities Exchange Law.

Mr. Masuda also taught M&A as an adjunct lecturer at the Graduate School for Law and Politics of The University of Tokyo (2011-2013, 2014-2016).

### Topics

Achievements  
Oct 4, 2023

Who's Who Legal: Japan 2023

Achievements  
Sep 14, 2023

asialaw 2023-24

## Practice Groups

Corporate Transactions

Labor Law

## Background

1986	The University of Tokyo (LL.B.)
1992	University of Chicago (LL.M.)
1992 - 1994	Trained at law firms in the United States
2019 - 2022	Visiting Professor, Graduate School of Law, The University of Tokyo

## Publications

Introduction to Japanese Business Law & Practice Fifth Edition	Anderson Mori & Tomotsune	Nov 2021
A GUIDEBOOK FOR CORPORATE AUDIT & SUPERVISORY BOARD MEMBERS	Shojihomu Co., Ltd.	Aug 2021
A GUIDEBOOK FOR CORPORATE DIRECTORS	Shojihomu Co., Ltd.	Jul 2021
Japanese Start-Up Financing Documents: Annotated Model Contracts	Shojihomu Co., Ltd.	Dec 2020
Blockchain and Crypto Currency Building a High Quality Marketplace for Crypto Data	Springer Open	Apr 2020
Introduction to Japanese Business Law & Practice Fourth Edition	Anderson Mori & Tomotsune	Sep 2019
Introduction to Japanese Business Law & Practice Third Edition	Anderson Mori & Tomotsune	Sep 2017
Unfair Stock Issuance	Jurist Special Edition	May 2013
"Focus on Trends of Practical Finance by Lawyers," in Careful Selection of Comments about Authority of Finance	Nihon Kajoshiki Shuppan Kabushikigaisha	Feb 2013
Latest M&A practice	Nippon Jitsugyo Publishing	Dec 2012

Introduction to Japanese Business Law & Practice	LexisNexis Hong Kong	Dec 2012
Appointments of outside directors in financial institution	Financial Law Journal No.1955	Oct 2012
ANALYSIS Take Over Bid	Shojihomu	Sep 2009
Japanese Business Law and Practice	Law Press China	May 2009
New Business Law	Kobundo	Dec 2006
Guide to Japan's New Corporation Law: An analysis of the new corporate system based upon a review of the new provisions		Aug 2005
Competition After Retirement and Retirement Allowance	Journal of Management Lawyers Vol. 118	Sep 1997

## Lectures

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Basic Corporate Laws – Corporate Governance	Shojihomu	Dec 1, 2017
Basic Corporate Laws – Corporate Governance	Shojihomu	Dec 6, 2016
3rd Asia Pacific Regional Forum Conference	IBA (International Bar Association)	Nov 25 - 27, 2012
Hot topics in Shareholder Activism	IBA (International Bar Association)	Jun 12 - 13, 2008
How to prepare for the next Shareholders Meeting after the Bull-Dog Sauce Supreme Court Case		Nov 7, 2007

## Achievements

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Oct 4, 2023	Who's Who Legal: Japan 2023
Sep 14, 2023	asialaw 2023-24
Jul 27, 2023	IFLR1000 2023
Apr 20, 2023	The Best Lawyers in Japan™ 2024
Sep 22, 2022	Who's Who Legal: Japan 2022
Sep 19, 2022	IFLR1000 32nd edition (IFLR1000 2022-23)
Sep 16, 2022	Asialaw Profiles 2023
Apr 14, 2022	Best Lawyers 2023
Oct 9, 2021	Who's Who Legal: Japan 2021
Sep 17, 2021	Asialaw Profiles 2022
Sep 13, 2021	IFLR1000 31st edition (IFLR1000 2022)
Apr 15, 2021	Best Lawyers 2022
Oct 1, 2020	IFLR1000 30th edition (IFLR1000 2021)
Sep 17, 2020	Asialaw Profiles 2021
Sep 1, 2020	Who's Who Legal: Japan 2020
Apr 9, 2020	Best Lawyers 2021
Feb 14, 2020	Chambers Global 2020
Dec 6, 2019	Chambers Asia-Pacific 2020
Nov 29, 2019	Who's Who Legal: Japan 2019
Sep 30, 2019	IFLR1000 Financial and Corporate 2020
Sep 19, 2019	Asialaw Profiles 2020
Apr 4, 2019	Best Lawyers 2020
Feb 14, 2019	Chambers Global 2019
Nov 30, 2018	Chambers Asia 2019
Nov 12, 2018	IFLR1000 Financial and Corporate 2019
Nov 9, 2018	Asialaw Profiles 2019
Nov 7, 2018	Who's Who Legal: Japan 2018
May 14, 2018	Asialaw Leading Lawyers 2018
Feb 16, 2018	Chambers Global 2018
Dec 7, 2017	Chambers Asia 2018
Nov 29, 2017	The Legal 500 Asia Pacific 2018
Nov 13, 2017	Asialaw Profiles 2018
Nov 2, 2017	Who's Who Legal: Japan 2017
Oct 16, 2017	IFLR1000 Financial and Corporate 2018

Aug 2, 2017	Asialaw Leading Lawyers 2017
Mar 17, 2017	Chambers Global 2017
Jan 13, 2017	Chambers Asia 2017
Nov 10, 2016	The Legal 500 Asia Pacific 2017
Nov 2, 2016	Who's Who Legal: Japan 2016
Oct 31, 2016	IFLR1000 Financial and Corporate 2017
Mar 18, 2016	Chambers Global 2016
Feb 9, 2016	Chambers Asia 2016
Nov 13, 2015	The Legal 500 Asia Pacific 2016
Oct 27, 2015	IFLR1000 Financial and Corporate 2016
Sep 1, 2015	Who's Who Legal: Japan 2015
Mar 13, 2015	Chambers Global 2015
Feb 13, 2015	Chambers Asia 2015
Nov 20, 2014	The Legal 500 Asia Pacific 2015
Oct 10, 2014	IFLR1000 Financial and Corporate 2015
Mar 14, 2014	Chambers Global 2014
Feb 18, 2014	Chambers Asia 2014
Nov 13, 2013	The Legal 500 Asia Pacific 2014
Oct 11, 2013	IFLR 1000 2014
Mar 21, 2013	Chambers Global 2013
Mar 4, 2013	Chambers Asia 2013
Nov 30, 2012	The Legal 500 Asia Pacific 2013
Oct 31, 2012	IFLR 1000 2013
Jul 17, 2012	Best Lawyers 2012
Mar 25, 2012	Chambers Global 2012
Feb 24, 2012	Chambers Asia 2012
Oct 17, 2011	IFLR 1000 2012
Dec 8, 2010	Legal 500 2010/2011
Sep 14, 2010	Best Lawyers 2010
Dec 2, 2008	Chambers Asia 2009
Dec 2, 2008	Legal500 2008/2009

## Professional Admissions

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Japan (1988)  
New York (1993)

## Professional and Academic Associations

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Daini Tokyo Bar Association

## Languages

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Japanese (first  
language)                      English