Sébastien Roy

Partner
Attorney at law

Cours de Rive 13
1204 Geneva
Switzerland
T +41 22 999 96 40
sebastien.roy@pestalozzilaw.com



Sébastien Roy advises financial institutions, corporations and individuals on their transactions, contracts and operations. His practice focuses in particular on financing transactions, mergers and acquisitions and private equity. As part of his practice, Sébastien Roy is also regularly involved in debt and corporate restructurings.

Sébastien Roy heads the Financial Services Group and is a member of the Corporate / M&A Group in Geneva.

His practice covers all types of transactions in the financial services industry, with an emphasis on financing and M&A transactions. He advises banks, investment funds and other lenders in financing transactions of all types in Switzerland. In parallel, Sébastien Roy is deeply involved since the early 2010s' in the so-called consolidation of the Swiss private banking industry, where he acts regularly for sellers and buyers of banks, asset managers and other financial institutions (and of their assets).

Sébastien Roy is active in corporate and commercial transactions and contracts, including M&A, private equity and joint ventures. He advises Swiss and foreign companies to set up operations in Switzerland as well as on their corporate and commercial matters. He has an established experience in drafting and negotiating complex contracts, including share and asset purchase agreements, joint venture agreements, shareholders agreements and key commercial agreements.

As part of his banking and corporate practice, Sébastien Roy is regularly involved in debt and corporate restructurings as well as in insolvency work.

Sébastien Roy is recommended in his fields of expertise by various leading legal directories, including Chambers & Partners, Legal 500, IFLR1000 and Who's Who Legal. He is ranked as a "Leading Individual" by Legal 500 and as "Highly Regarded" by IFLR1000.

Market Perception

Sébastien Roy cuts through to the detail and is super commercial and pragmatic. He is also a client-friendly lawyer and it feels seamless working with him. He makes everything feel very easy. (Chambers Global, 2026)

Specific standout partner for me is Sébastien Roy. Arguably very knowledgeable and supportive. (Client Feedback, The Legal 500, 2025)

We worked closely with Sébastien Roy to sort a strategic highly risky matter. Mr. Roy provided us with excellent advice and solutions that allowed our company to solve this issue that could have resulted in millions in penalties. (Client Feedback, The Legal 500, 2025)

Sébastien Roy has become my trusted, go-to legal adviser. He is quite knowledgeable but composed and calm. He is not afraid to give you his advice which makes it worth your time. (Client Feedback, Chambers & Partners 2025)

Sébastien Roy is an excellent partner to work with. His demeanour, work ethic and knowledge of the issues are superb. I highly recommend him. (Client Feedback, Chambers & Partners 2025)

Sébastien Roy is my go-to Swiss lawyer. He has the perfect combination of great technical skills alongside commercial acumen, and is incredibly proactive and really welcoming to work with. (Client Feedback, Chambers & Partners 2024)

Named "Lawyer of the Year" by Best Lawyers® (Client Feedback, Mergers and Acquisitions Law 2022)

Sébastien was the principal reason that we decided to use Pestalozzi on this transaction, and we were not disappointed. He was a pleasure to deal with throughout the process, and we truly valued his excellent advice. (Client Feedback, IFLR1000 2020)

Sébastien Roy is described as a 'very clever' practitioner, with sources recognizing his track record in M&A transactions in the banking sector. (Client Feedback, Chambers & Partners 2019)

Career

2005	Partner at Pestalozzi
2002	Senior associate at major Swiss law firm, Zurich and Geneva
2001	Admitted as a Solicitor in England and Wales (not practising)
2000	Secondment, Norton Rose LLP, London
1996	Associate, Tavernier Tschanz, Geneva
1994	Admitted at the bar in Switzerland (Geneva)
1992	University of Geneva: lic.iur.

Languages

- German
- French
- English

Practice Areas

- Banking & Finance
- Swiss Financial Market Regulation
- Blockchain & Crypto Assets
- Capital Markets
- Compliance
- Corporate / M&A
- Financial Services
- Private Equity & Venture Capital
- Restructuring & Insolvency

Membership

- Swiss Bar Association (SAV)
- Geneva Bar Association (ODA)
- Association Genevoise de Droit des Affaires (AGDA)
- International Bar Association (IBA)