

GRACE YU

Partner

Fangda Partners

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PRACTICE AREAS

MS. YU SPECIALISES IN M&A AND FINANCIAL REGULATION. SHE IS SKILLED IN ADVISING ON COMPLEX TRANSACTIONS AND SOLVING CUTTING-EDGE LEGAL AND REGULATORY ISSUES. MS. YU ALSO ADVISES ON FOUNDATION RELATED ACTIVITIES. MS. YU ADVISES MULTINATIONAL GROUPS INCLUDING ANT FINANCIAL, MORGAN STANLEY, JPM, UBS, CREDIT SUISSE, HSBC, STANDARD CHARTERED, BANCO SANTANDER AND THE HONG KONG STOCK EXCHANGE.

REPRESENTATIVE MATTERS AND CASES

M&A

- **Public take-overs:** Advised Alibaba on its investment in FocusMedia; advised Alibaba on its investment in Huatai Securities; advised Lafarge on its merger with Holcim involving the takeover of two domestic listed companies; advised Reckitt Benckiser on its cooperation with China Recourses
- **Asset management/NPL:** Advised UBS on its strategic investment in China Cinda Asset Management Company; advised Warburg Pincus on its strategic investment in China Huarong Asset Management Company; advised Societe Generale on selling its equity in a fund management company in China; advised a PRC company on the setup of a fund management company; and advised a US PE on the set up of a platform for purchasing non-performing loan assets in China

- **Securities/Futures:** Advised JPM, Morgan Stanley, Credit Suisse, Nomura, HSBC, RBS, CLSA and China Renaissance on their respective securities joint venture projects in China, including greenfield setup, restructuring, equity increase and disposal; advised Alibaba on its investment in Huatai Securities; advised JPM and RBS on their respective futures joint ventures in China; advised two international investors on the establishment of their respective risk management companies controlled by futures companies in China
- **Consumer finance:** Advised an internet company on the setup of auto financing platforms; advised Nissan, Fiat, GM and Ford on setting up their auto finance companies in China and on their day-to-day operations
- **Commercial banking:** Advised UBS on its investment in China Postal Bank; advised RBS on its sale of ABN AMRO's retail banking business; advised Standard Chartered Bank, Mizuho, UBS, and ABN AMRO on their conversion of bank branches in China to wholly owned subsidiaries
- **Wealth management:** Advised UBS on its innovative wealth management joint venture in China
- **Trust companies:** Advised JPM on its investment in Bai Rui Trust Co., Ltd.; and advised BMO on its investment in COFCO Trust Co., Ltd.
- **Insurance:** Advised Nomura on its investment in New China Life Insurance Co., Ltd.

Financial regulatory legal service

With more than ten years' experience in advising international financial groups, Ms. Yu quickly responds to various legal issues from financial institutions and provides creative solutions. Her broad coverage includes:

- International business of mainland China and Hong Kong financial institutions
- Cross-border financial services of international institutions to PRC customers
- Fintech related advice, structuring and documentation involving supply chain finance, auto finance, consumer finance, fund products distribution, etc.
- Cyber security, data and privacy protection, and IT compliance
- Structuring and documenting derivative transactions involving currency, commodity, equity, gold, etc. as underlying
- Information disclosure in domestic capital markets
- Insider dealing and market manipulation
- Liabilities of directors and senior officers of financial institutions and listed companies

- Foreign exchange
- Financial leasing
- Factoring
- Asset management
- Financial market infrastructure: onshore securities, futures, commodity and currency trading, clearing, and settlement related issues
- Custodian related issues and documentation
- Depository receipt (CDR and GDR) issues and documentation
- Share and bond issuance and underwriting
- Shanghai-Hong Kong Stock Connect
- Cross-border investment: (R)QFII, (R)QDII, QDIE, QDLP, QFLP, Shanghai/Shenzhen-Hong Kong Connect, Shanghai-London Connect, Bond Connect, etc.
- Regulatory investigations on securities investment, asset management, banking, foreign exchange, money-laundering, etc.

Foundations and charity law

- Advised a number of international banks and well-known science foundations on their activities in China
- Advised on charity law and charitable trust related issues

OTHER INFORMATION

Education

- Peking University School of Law, LL.B

Professional Qualification

- Admitted to practice in the PRC

Honors and Awards

- Ms. Yu was awarded “Next Generation Partners” in corporate/M&A law in Asia-Pacific by The Legal 500.

Professional Background

Ms. Yu joined Fangda as a partner in 2018. Before joining the firm, she worked as counsel at a Magic Circle firm and, afterwards, as a partner at a Chinese law firm

jointly operating with that Magic Circle firm. She sits on the panel of members of Securities Research Committee of the Shanghai Bar Association.