



# Profiles - Ellul & Co. & Fintech Team



**Ellul & Co**

Law Firm Notaries Public

# Ellul & Co. – Firm Profile & Fintech Team

## Ellul & Co.

Ellul & Co. is a leading Gibraltar law firm established in 1973 offering a wide range of services including: fintech, funds, tax, corporate, commercial, company management, fiduciary services, trusts, Gibraltar residence for high net worth individuals, property and notarial work.

The firm has particular expertise in the Gibraltar fintech sector advising on all aspects of the set-up of regulated cryptocurrency exchanges, token sales (ICOs) and digital asset investment funds.

The firm is well-respected and has built a trusted reputation for providing practical and effective legal solutions. We build our service around each client. With specialist knowledge in a range of disciplines, we recognise the legal and commercial challenges faced by businesses in this sector. Our experienced team of lawyers and professionals are experts in their fields, approachable and happy to help.

We represent several cryptocurrency exchanges, which are applying for Gibraltar licences) and token sale companies. Notable clients include the ProximaX token sale conducted by a founder of the NEM Foundation that oversees the development of the NEM blockchain technology.

## Our Fintech Team

The professionals in our Fintech Team are:

- **Marc X. Ellul** – Lawyer and Managing Partner of the firm with 25 years' experience. Fintech team leader.
- **Neil Lopez** – Lawyer and Senior Associate of the Firm with over 13 years' experience. Neil specialises in whitepaper reviews, token sale contractual documents and data protection.
- **Oliver Gotmann** – Chartered Accountant with over 12 years' experience. Until October last year he worked with our regulator, the Gibraltar Financial Services Commission. He specialises in risk management and the financial aspects of DLT businesses.

# Fintech Team Profiles



**Marc X. Ellul** | [marc@ellul.gi](mailto:marc@ellul.gi)

Marc is the Managing Partner of Ellul & Co and a Notary Public. Marc began practising in London in 1993 and established himself in Gibraltar in 1995. He was a general practitioner during his early career, undertaking criminal and civil litigation, property, corporate and private client work. He now mainly practises as a corporate, funds, tax and financial services lawyer and leads the firm's fintech team. He is actively involved in blockchain work in Gibraltar advising on the set-up of regulated cryptocurrency exchanges, token sale (ICOs) and on the establishment of digital asset investment funds.

Marc holds a licence, issued by Gibraltar's Financial Services Commission, to provide directorships for all nature of companies including Experienced Investor Funds. For the past 10 years, he has been a member of the Gibraltar Finance Centre Council which works together with the Government to develop Gibraltar's finance centre. In 2014 he was Chairman of the Company Law Reform Committee which brought about extensive changes to the Gibraltar Companies Act.

Marc is currently the Chairman of the Association of Trust & Company Managers which represents the Trust and Corporate Services industry in Gibraltar. This is his second term as Chairman having previously served for a three year period. He has been heavily involved in the work of this association in recent years where he has served as board member and also as Vice Chairman.

In 2013, as a member of the Technical Committee of the Gibraltar Funds and Investment Association, he formed part of the team that drew up the Code of Conduct for Directors of Gibraltar Experienced Investor Funds. In 2016, Marc formed a part of the Gibraltar Bar Council team which drew up the anti-money laundering guidance notes for legal practitioners.

He holds a Bachelor of Arts (Hons) in English Law and Spanish from Cardiff University, which included a year of Spanish law at the Universidad Complutense of Madrid. In 2010 he obtained a Post Graduate Diploma in Notarial Practice from Cambridge University. He is bilingual in English and Spanish.



**Neil A. Lopez** | [neil@ellul.gi](mailto:neil@ellul.gi)

Neil commenced practice in 2004 as a general practitioner. Throughout his career he has worked for two of Gibraltar's largest law firms and has also served as in-house counsel for Deloitte where he specialised in tax, private client and insolvency matters.

He joined Ellul & Co in 2012 and for the first few years at the firm worked predominantly on civil litigation matters with an emphasis on family, employment and commercial disputes. He later focused on corporate, commercial and corporate finance work which he has been doing for the past few years. Neil forms part of the fintech team of Ellul & Co and provides advice on a wide range of matters in this field including token sales (ICOs), data protection and applying for a financial services licence for Gibraltar DLT businesses including cryptocurrency exchanges.

Neil also retains a keen interest in shipping and heads the firm's practice in this area. Neil's shipping expertise extends to ship registration, ship financing, ship arrests and admiralty litigation. His other practice areas include property/conveyancing and probate work. Neil is particularly interested in property transactions which have an international element to them.

He also sits on the Gibraltar Football Association's Club Licensing First Instance Board to assess Gibraltar clubs' applications to participate in UEFA competitions.

In September 2016 he obtained a Post Graduate Diploma in Notarial Practice from University College London. Neil holds an LLB from Leeds Beckett University and is bilingual in English and Spanish.



**Oliver Gotmann** | [oliver@ellul.gi](mailto:oliver@ellul.gi)

Oliver is a consultant to Ellul & Co who joined the team in October 2017; FCCA accountant since 2004 and holds an MBA (2009) and has completed his doctoral thesis on the Driving forces behind Strategic Decision-Making in the Online Gambling Industry.

With a passion for start-ups and innovation, Oliver brings great energy to the team. His experience in a variety of sectors including funds, online gaming, pharmaceuticals, financial services and audit, amongst other regulated industries, makes him an ideal member of the team to be able to draw upon a broad array of practical and theoretical knowledge.

Before joining Ellul & Co, Oliver worked with the Gibraltar Financial Services Commission. His experience and qualifications together with his deep interest in blockchain technology makes him an excellent addition to the team in advising on Distributed Ledger Technology licensing in Gibraltar. He is actively involved in blockchain work in Gibraltar advising cryptocurrency exchanges and token sales (ICOs), mainly, in respect of financial aspects, capital adequacy and risk management.



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