

The Japan Desk

Launched in **2015** by partner Dario Spinella, the Japan Desk at the Milan office of Simmons & Simmons is a strategic initiative designed to enhance our legal services. It supports Italian clients with their investments in Japan and assists Japanese clients conducting business in Italy, including as part of multi-jurisdictional projects involving our wider network. With **Japanese language capabilities**, the Japan Desk ensures authentic and effective communication, bridging cultural and linguistic gaps

The Japan Desk is instrumental in facilitating both inbound and outbound business activities between Italy and Japan and in providing expert legal advice. This helps our clients tackling the complexities of international business, positioning them to take full advantage of opportunities in both markets. While focusing primarily on **M&A (private and public), corporate and commercial**, in all kinds of sectors (including technology, healthcare, energy and manufacturing), the desk is also skilled in coordinating with other groups within our firm to provide full-service support in employment law, intellectual property, banking, regulatory, insolvency and litigation, among others

Our collaboration with **Simmons & Simmons Tokyo Office** (headed by partner Aaron Patience) is crucial, enriching our market understanding and enabling nuanced advice that spans local and international perspectives. Additionally, in Japan we can rely on our alliance with leading Japanese law firm **TMI Associates**, which we formed in 2001. This market-leading alliance enables us to offer seamless, multi-jurisdictional and full-service legal support in Japan and internationally.

The Japan Desk at the Milan office exemplifies Simmons & Simmons' dedication to meeting the global needs of our clients. This initiative broadens our legal service offerings and affirms our role as a firm dedicated to facilitating global business success

Representative transactions include advising:

a **Japanese dental corporation** in acquiring the entire stake held by another business partner in joint venture companies established in 2003 in Italy and Germany

a **Japanese steel trading company** on the acquisition and subsequent disposal of a substantial minority interest in one of Italy's largest steel manufacturers

a significant **Italian listed company** on methods of increasing its stake in a Tokyo Stock Exchange listed company

an **Italian industrial conglomerate** on a proposed purchase of a Japanese manufacturing business

an **Italian auto parts manufacturer** on its exit from the Japanese market and the termination of contracts with a major Japanese automotive manufacturer

a **Japanese multinational conglomerate** on the restructuring and sale of an energy business in Italy, with operations extending to Europe and Africa

a **Japanese listed company** on the acquisition of 75% of an Italian healthcare company

a **Japanese leading pharmaceutical company** on a significant restructuring in Italy, involving the dismantling of its urology business

a **Japanese media company** on the acquisition and subsequent sale of interests in an Italian media company