

MARIA TERESA (MAITE) NADAL

PROFILE

Spanish qualified lawyer specialized in Procedural Law and Sports Law. Twenty years of professional experience in Sports Law.

CAS arbitrator since May 2023. Included in the general list and in the Football specialized list.

She currently advises a number of operators in the sports field (athletes, agents and intermediaries, public and private sports bodies and institutions, audio-visual, and sports management companies etc.) in contractual, disciplinary, and statutory matters and acts in proceedings with FIFA, FIBA, and other national and international institutions relating to sports.

She combines her professional duties with teaching national and international master programmes and seminars in subjects concerning the procedural aspects of sports law including arbitration and procedural matters.

Arbitrator of the Spanish Court of Arbitration for Sport (TEAD) since 2013

Member of the Appeal and Disciplinary Court of the Royal Spanish Automobile Federation (RFEDA). since 2017

Sports Arbitrator of the Centro Brasileiro de Mediação e Arbitragem ("CBMA") since 2019.

Permanent arbitrator of the Committee of Experts on the Sports and Entertainment Industry of the Court of Arbitration of the European Arbitration Association since 2020.

Arbitrator of the Alternative Dispute Resolution Body of the Royal Spanish Athletics Federation (RFEA).

Arbitrator of the European Handball Court of Arbitration since 2023.

Member of the Ethics and Compliance Committee of the Royal Spanish Athletics Federation (RFEA) since 2021.

Member of the Sports and Entertainment working group of the Madrid International Arbitration Center Ibero-American Arbitration Center (CIAM-CIAR) since 2025.

Member of the Exco of AIAF (International Association for Football Lawyers) and Spanish Sports Law Association. Vice-president of Madrid Sports Law Association,

Member of the Madrid Bar Association and representative of its Governing Board between 2012 and 2017. Founder of the Madrid Bar Association Sports Law Commission.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

"LAFFER ABOGADOS." Madrid. Since September 2017. Partner. Head of the Sports Litigation department.

- External Counsel of the Royal Spanish Athletics Federation (RFEA). Providing recurrent advice on contractual and statutory matters and disciplinary cases.
- Currently representing RFEA before Spanish Administrative Courts in cases related the inclusion of "Trail Running" in RFEA's statutes.
- Advised and/or represented athletes, clubs, intermediaries etc. on cases regarding contractual stability, contractual infringements, and disciplinary issues.
- Represented clients before Spanish Courts and before national and international sports bodies (RFEF, FIFA, FIBA).
- Represented clients before CAS in ordinary and appeal arbitration procedures (contractual and disciplinary cases).
- Member of the Electoral Commission of the Professional Female Football League.

"NF SPORTS LAW." Madrid. (May 2010 – July 2017). Partner. Head of the Sports Law department.

- External Counsel of the Royal Spanish Automobile Federation (RFEDA). Providing recurrent advice on contractual and statutory matters and disciplinary cases.
- Member of the Electoral Commission of the RFEDA and the Spanish Tennis Federation.

- Advised and/or represented candidates for the elections of the Spanish Volleyball Federation (RFEB) and Royal Spanish Golf Federation (RFEG).
- Represented clients before Spanish Courts and before national and international sports bodies (RFEF, FIFA)
- Represented clients before CAS in ordinary and appeal arbitration procedures (contractual and disciplinary cases).

“TEBAS & COIDURAS. – SPORT LAW.” Madrid. (July 2002- February 2010). Coordinator of the Sport Law department.

- Advised “G30” (a group of first and second division football clubs), in proceedings held with companies of the Sogecable group related to the television broadcasting rights during seasons 2007/08 and 2008/09.
- Represented clients before CAS in ordinary and appeal arbitration procedures (contractual and disciplinary cases). Deemed non-confidential: CAS 2004/A/620 Xerez Club Deportivo, S.A.D. v/ Hajduk Split Club, CAS 2004/A/642 Hertha BSC v/ Guillermo Pereyra & Club Atlético River Plate & Real Club Deportivo Mallorca, TAS 2008/0/1559 Club Atlético Boca Juniors c/ Real Madrid Club de Fútbol.
- Negotiated and drafted international transfer of federative rights, economic rights, and sponsorship agreements.
- Provided recurrent advice on matters such image rights, economic rights, broadcasting rights, sponsorship. Clients included Spanish first division football clubs, ACB Basketball Clubs, players.

“GRUPO CENCLA”. Internal consultancy. Madrid. (September 2001 / June 2002).

- Litigation department.

“BUFETE LÓPEZ-OROZCO & ASOCIADOS”, Madrid. (June 1999/August 2001).

- Litigation department.

“BUFETE BAZ, IGLESIAS & DÍEZ, ABOGADOS ASOCIADOS”. Madrid. (May1997/October 1998).

- Assistant of the head of the Procedural-Civil Law department.

EDUCATION

- **2023** CIAR – CGAE Executive Program in International Commercial Arbitration.
- **2021** FIFA Executive Program in Sports Arbitration, first edition.
- **2015** Award Writing in Domestic Arbitration. Advanced on-line Program. ICAM.
- **2012** “National and International Arbitration Procedures – Legal aspects”. Advanced on-line Program. ICAM-ICAV-ICAB- ICASV-ICAMálaga.
- **2010-2011** Ph.D. program. Rey Juan Carlos University (Madrid).
- **1998-1999** LLM, Private law. Instituto de Estudios Superiores de la Fundación San Pablo- CEU University (Madrid).
- **1992- 1998** Degree in European Law. Centro de Enseñanza Superior San Pablo- CEU (Madrid).
- **1992- 1997** Law Degree. Complutense University (Madrid).

TEACHING ACTIVITIES

- **Since 2021** Lecturer “Expert in International Sports Law Practice”, ESADE (Barcelona).
- **Since 2018** Lecturer “Master in Sports Law Applied to Professional Football”, LaLiga (Madrid).
- **Since 2014** Lecturer “Master in Sports Law”, (LLM) Escuela Universitaria Real Madrid, (Madrid).
- **2014-2016** Lecturer “Advanced Sports Mediation Course”. Spanish Olympic Committee, (COE).
- **2012-2014** Lecturer “MBA Sports Management La Liga”. UCAM University (Murcia).
- **2010- 2012** Lecturer “Sports Management Certificate”. European School of Economics, (ESE,). (Madrid)
- **2009-2013** Lecturer, “Master in International Law” (LLM), Instituto Superior de Derecho y Economía, (ISDE), (Madrid).
- **2007- 2013** Lecturer, “Master Internacional en Derecho y Gestión Deportiva” (“International Masters in Law and Sport Management”), Instituto Superior de Derecho y Economía, (ISDE), (Madrid). Proceedings before judicial bodies and national and international arbitration institutions.
- **2006- 2013** Lecturer, “master’s in international Sport Law” (LLM), Instituto Superior de Derecho y Economía, (ISDE) Madrid. Proceedings before international arbitration institutions FIFA and CAS.
- **2005-2010:** Professor and coordinator “Estructura y Organización de las Instituciones Deportivas” (“Structure and Organization of Sport Institutes”) at “Alfonso X el Sabio” University. (Madrid).

SELECTED PUBLISHING.

- Co- author “Fútbol: *aspectos actuales de derecho y gestión deportiva*”. (Football: topical aspects of law and Sports management”. *Coord. Felipe Toranzo*. Ed. La Ley. Madrid 2021.
 - Co- author “*Ellas. Retos, amenazas y oportunidades en un mundo conectado*”. ¿Supone una amenaza la incorporación de la tecnología al deporte? (Challenges, threats, and opportunities in a in an interconnected world. Is Technology a threat to sports?). *Coord. Paloma Llana*. Ed. Wolters Kluvers España. Madrid 2019.
 - Co- author “*Sports Law 2019*”. Getting the Deal Trough. Law and Business Research. London 2019
 - Co- author “*Derecho Deportivo. Una radiografía de sus aspectos más cruciales*”. *Los E-Sports Estado actual y regulación legal*. (Sports Law; crucial aspects. E-Sports current state and legal regulation) *Coord. Hans Böck*. Ed. Nueva Economía Social, Madrid 2018.
 - Co-author “*Mediación y Deporte*” (Mediation and Sports). *Coord. María Pérez Ugena*. Ed. Dykinson, Madrid 2016.
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- *La aplicación de las políticas FIFA contra los abusos físicos, psicológicos y sexuales: CAS 2019/A/ 6388 Karim Keramuddin v. FIFA* (FIFA’s policies against physical, psychological and sexual abuses In *Revista Aranzadi de Derecho de Deporte y Entretenimiento* 2020. Number 69.
 - *La gradación de la culpa como criterio para proceder a la reducción del período de suspensión por uso de sustancias específicas prohibidas conforme al artículo 10.5 del Código Mundial Antidopaje 2015. CAS 2017/A/ Sara Errani v. International Tennis Federation (ITF). CAS 2017/A/5302 NADO Italia v. Sara Errani & International Tennis Federation* (reduction of the period of ineligibility based on no significant fault or negligence according to art. 10.5 of WADA Code). In *Revista Aranzadi de Derecho de Deporte y Entretenimiento* 2018, Number 61.
 - *La legalidad e idoneidad de la prohibición de los TPO según TAS. (TAS 2016/a/4490 RFC Seraing c.*

FIFA) (Legality, and suitability of TPO prohibition according to TAS) In *Revista Aranzadi de Derecho de Deporte y Entretenimiento* 2017, Number 57.

- *Anulación o reducción del período de suspensión por uso de sustancias específicas. (art. 10.4 y 10.5.2 del Código Mundial Antidopaje).* (Elimination or reduction of the period of ineligibility based on no significant fault or negligence, art. 10.4 y 10.5.2 of WADA Code). In *Revista Aranzadi de Derecho de Deporte y Entretenimiento* 2013, Number 38.
- *El caso “Mullera” y la exclusión de atletas de las selecciones nacionales por “razones técnicas” (CAS OG 12/06),* (Mullera’s case and the exclusion of athletes from Nation Associations Teams due to “technical reasons”). In *Revista Aranzadi de Derecho de Deporte y Entretenimiento* 2013, Number 37.
- *“El fraude deportivo y sus implicaciones para representantes de club y a la propia entidad”* (Sporting fraud and its implications for club representatives and the club itself). In *Revista Aranzadi de Derecho de Deporte y Entretenimiento* 2012 , Number 35.
- *El tratamiento del Fraude Deportivo por el TAS. El caso FK Pobeda.* (CAS and Sporting Fraud. FK Pobeda’s case). In *Revista Aranzadi de Derecho de Deporte y Entretenimiento* 2010, Number 30.

RANKINGS

- Who's who Legal Sports & Entertainment 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025
- WWL: Thought Leaders – Sports 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025
- Best Lawyers, Sports & Entertainment 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025

LANGUAGES

- SPANISH: NATIVE
- ENGLISH: C2
- FRENCH: B2

Madrid, June 2025