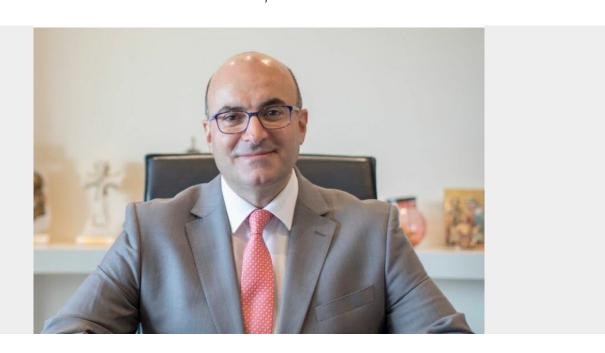
WALID MERHEJ MERGES INTO EL-KHOURY & PARTNERS LEGAL COUNSEL

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EKP has announced the merger of Walid Merhej Law Firm into El-Khoury & Partners Legal Counsel ("EKP"), effective September 1, 2022.

The joining of the two regionally recognized law firms based in Beirut resulted in the appointment of a new partner, **Walid Merhej** (pictured), as well as the addition of two lawyers to the Beirut team. The robust combination brings decades of collective experience and legal expertise of two of the most trusted law firms in Lebanon.

With more than 20 years' experience, Walid Merhej has worked on numerous areas of law such as Banking, Real Estate, Intellectual Properties, NGO Set up & Management, Wealth Management and Inheritance that are complementary to EKP's existing client base in the legal industry.

Announcing the merger, EKP's Managing Partner, **Ziad G. El-Khoury** commented: "This combination is in furtherance of our steady growth strategy. Our combined operations will further solidify our regional platform and broaden the scope of services we offer to our clients in Lebanon and across the ME region.

Through its offices in Beirut, Dubai, and Riyadh, EKP serves the entire Middle East region and delivers capabilities that span across a wide range of practice areas and are tailored to the local legal regimes, customs, and markets.