# **CONSOLIDATED ANNUAL REPORT**

beginning of financial year: 01.01.2023 end of the financial year: 31.12.2023

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# Table of contents

| Management re  | eport   | 3  |
|----------------|---|----|
| The annual acc | counts  | 27 |
| Consolic       | dated statement of financial position                   | 27 |
| Consolic       | dated income statement                                  | 28 |
| Consolic       | dated statement of comprehensive income                 | 29 |
| Consolic       | dated statement of cash flows                           | 30 |
| Consolic       | dated statement of changes in equity                    | 31 |
| Notes          |   | 32 |
| No             | ote 1 Accounting policies                               | 32 |
| No             | ote 2 Cash and cash equivalents                         | 35 |
| No             | ote 3 Receivables and prepayments                       | 36 |
| No             | ote 4 Tax prepayments and liabilities                   | 37 |
| No             | ote 5 Shares of subsidiaries                            | 38 |
| No             | ote 6 Property, plant and equipment                     | 39 |
| No             | ote 7 Intangible assets                                 | 40 |
| No             | ote 8 Payables and prepayments                          | 41 |
| No             | ote 9 Loan commitments                                  | 41 |
| No             | ote 10 Share capital                                    | 42 |
| No             | ote 11 Net sales  | 42 |
| No             | ote 12 Grants   | 42 |
| No             | ote 13 Other operating income                           | 43 |
| No             | ote 14 Goods, raw materials and services                | 43 |
| No             | ote 15 Miscellaneous operating expenses                 | 43 |
| No             | ote 16 Operating lease                                  | 43 |
| No             | ote 17 Labor expense                                    | 44 |
| No             | ote 18 Other financial income and expense               | 44 |
| No             | ote 19 Income tax                                       | 44 |
| No             | ote 20 Contingent liabilities and assets                | 45 |
| No             | ote 21 Related parties                                  | 45 |
| No             | ote 22 Non consolidated statement of financial position | 47 |
| No             | ote 23 Non consolidated income statement                | 48 |
| No             | ote 24 Non consolidated statement of cash flows         | 49 |
| No             | ote 25 Non consolidated statement of changes in equity  | 50 |
| Signatures     |   | 51 |
| Sworn auditor  | 's report   | 52 |



# Consolidated annual report of Advokaadibüroo Sorainen OÜ

for the economic year ended on 31 December 2023

# SORAINEN

sorainen.com

# Management Report

Diverse team, one purpose We are an international business law firm working as one integrated team towards a single goal: helping clients succeed in business.



# 15 000+ clients, one approach

We combine our legal skills with business knowledge to be a strong partner for local and international businesses.

# ECONOMIC IMPACT OF 2023

Most likely, Sorainen Estonia achieved the best possible outcome for 2023, although we had set higher hopes and goals for the year. Unfortunately, the Estonian economy continued to decline in 2023, and overall business activity remained lower than expected. Faster growth in real estate law and dispute resolution fields somewhat offset the stagnation of the M&A and financial services market. Nevertheless, the growth was insufficient to compensate for the overall increase in labour costs, resulting in lower-than-planned revenue growth and profits.

Despite the economic challenges, we consider the year strategically successful. Our strategy focuses on providing excellent client service, developing and empowering our team, and implementing new technologies to support our clients and team members. We made significant progress in these areas in 2023.

Our clients receive top-tier services in the market. We maintained our high point score from the previous year in the Prospera client satisfaction survey, and although we narrowly missed the top spot, we secured second place overall. Most importantly, clients rated our lawyers' legal expertise as the highest in the market—Sorainen led 9 out of 14 evaluated legal fields. Ultimately, our dedication to legal advisory competence remains at the core of our service.

Our employees continue to view us as a reliable employer. Despite the economic challenges, we maintained competitive salaries and continued investing in our team through training and professional development programs. Our internship program also continued, and we welcomed new colleagues onboard. We are another year closer to the perfect Sorainen Dream Team.



Kaupo Lepasepp, country managing partner of Sorainen Estonia

Technology integration into our legal services has always been integral to Sorainen's DNA, and 2023 was particularly eventful. The explosive development of generative AI brought a wave of excitement. Although many practical uses of AI are still in the realm of imagination, it is no longer possible to ignore AI, even in the conservative world of legal services. Sorainen has established a task force to find practical applications for AI, allowing us to create and experiment with various innovative tools.

Overall, 2023 was a challenging but exciting year that pushed us to focus on strategically essential developments. You can read more about these initiatives below.

# ACHIEVEMENTS RELATED TO THE MANAGEMENT OF OUR ORGANISATION

 Sorainen ranks first in the "Best legal competence" category among top-tier Baltic law firms, according to the annual **Baltic Kantar Prospera Tier 1 Law Firm Review.** Sorainen placed first in 9 out of 14 legal competence categories to earn this ranking, including dispute resolution, government relations, real estate and energy services, competition and EU law, employment, tax and corporate advisory law. Additionally, clients highly valued our lawyers' availability and excellent service, good personal contacts with the lawyers, and our culture of operating as a unified regional firm. The Sorainen brand also remains the most well-known among law firms in Estonia.

• We are one of the biggest employers in the legal market in Estonia. The average number of employees in the firm has grown organically since its foundation in 1995, reaching 85 employees in 2023. For several years, we have been among the legal sector's biggest employers and payers of state taxes. In 2023, the firm paid EUR 4,606,685 in social, income and value-added tax. Our labour cost reached EUR 4,717,882.

 The Estonian Ministry of Defence recognised our contribution to the security of our country. For the first time in 2023, 50 Estonian companies and organisations received this recognition. The purpose of the award is to highlight the employers that not only support our national security by exempting reserve soldiers from their work duties but also consciously support them. We fully support our employees' participation in national defence by continuing to pay their salaries and providing additional leave for two weeks per year for the members of the Defence League, the Women's Voluntary Defence Organization and reservist training participants. National defence topics are closely related to our firm's identity, both in internal and public communication, as well as in the activities of our management.



■2018 ■2019 ■2020 ■2021 **■**2022 **■**2023



Partner Maria Pihlak

• Maria Pihlak, head of the firm's International Arbitration sub-practice in Estonia, was promoted to partner. Maria helps clients solve highly complex and resource-heavy disputes before arbitral tribunals in Estonia and abroad. Clients have resorted to her expertise and assistance in international disputes, whose total value in 2022 alone amounted to EUR 56 million. For several years, she has been among a few selected arbitration experts in Estonia recommended by the Who's Who Legal: Arbitration list featuring market-leading arbitrators, counsel, and expert witnesses.

• Our firm is among the most attractive employers in the legal sector. Law students chose Sorainen as the most attractive private-sector employer in the legal field. 6,000 respondents took part in the survey conducted by the Instar employer branding agency in 2023, of which 2,647 were students.



Advokaadibüroo Sorainen AS

Attractive Employer 2023

Estonian Students' Employer Image Survey According to Students of Law



The Estonian Ministry of Defence recognised our contribution to the security of our country

• Our firm received nominations for The Financial Time Innovative Lawyers Awards Europe 2023, including the "Most Innovative Law Firm in Europe" and the "Innovative Lawyers in Technology" awards. Sorainen was the only law firm from the Baltic and Nordic regions ranked among 50 of the most innovative European law firms, placing 29th. We received the nomination for pioneering innovative legal solutions and applying innovation in developing and training our people and in social responsibility.

• Sorainen was named Baltic Law Firm of the Year at the Chambers Europe Awards 2023. The award recognises our law firm's pre-eminence in key regional jurisdictions, outstanding work, impressive strategic growth, and excellence in client service.



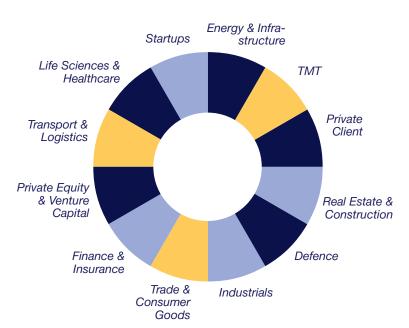
Karin Madisson at the Pärnu Leadership Conference

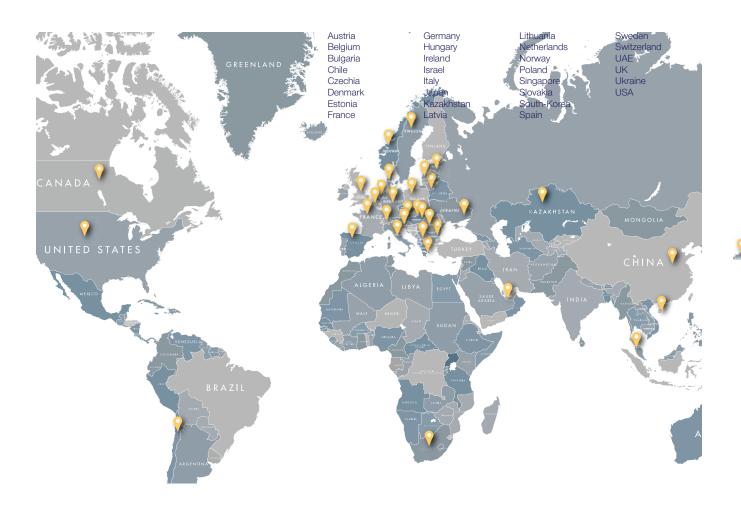
# OUR CLIENTS AND SERVICES

## Business-minded legal advice. Our

lawyers specialise in legal fields and business sectors to gain in-depth knowledge of our clients' businesses. In 2023, considering economic trends, we put a special focus on developing expertise and services in the energy and infrastructure, life sciences and healthcare, private clients, and defence sectors.

Sorainen's legal and tax advisors work on cross-border projects daily as a single team in all Baltic countries. Through our global cooperation network, we can assure clients have access to high-quality legal assistance worldwide in large-scale international projects.





# SOME NOTABLE TRANSACTIONS AND CASES WE ADVISED ON IN 2023

• We advised the Estonian Ministry of Climate on the possibility of introducing nuclear energy to Estonia.

• We advised Deutsche Bank on a EUR 600 million syndicated loan agreement with Eesti Energia, the largest energy company in Estonia.

• We successfully represented Saaremaa Laevakompanii, an Estonian-based shipping company, in a dispute over the recovery of a compromise agreement of over EUR 60 million.

• We advised AstraZeneca, a global research-based biopharmaceutical company, regarding its participation in a novel public-private partnership to improve the lung cancer patient pathway and implementation of the national cancer control plan.

• We advised Škoda on signing a cooperation agreement with Elron, a government-owned passenger train operator in Estonia, for the construction of 10 additional electric trains. As a result of the contract, Elron's train fleet will increase by more than 40% by 2027.

• We successfully represented Lux Express and several other Estonian bus operators in their dispute with the Estonian state. The Estonian state is required to compensate bus operators for free rides.

• We advised Northern Horizon Capital, an independent real asset manager pursuing healthcare and other specialized real estate investment strategies in Northern Europe, on issuing EUR 42 million of Baltic Horizon Fund corporate bonds to refinance outstanding bonds.

• We advised Sunly, an independent power producer, on raising EUR 30 million from the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD).

• We represented Elisa, Estonia's leading telecommunications services provider, in a public procurement dispute with Estonian Railways regarding the terms of a public tender announced by the latter. The parties reached an agreement, essentially a compromise, a rare occurrence in public procurement.

• We advised Energiasalv, an energy storage solutions company, on acquiring EUR 11 million in additional financing for its EU Project of Common Interest (PCI project), the "Zero Terrain Paldiski" Pumped Hydro Energy Storage (PHS) plant in Estonia.

• We advised Nova Post, a Ukrainian company, on opening its Estonian branch and obtaining a postal license.

• We helped the Estonian art association Kanvas.ai, which offers technical solutions for artists, collectors, and galleries, open its Web3 platform Nft.kanvas.ai.



# OUR INNOVATION

**Certified IT security.** Our IT security has been certified with the ISO/IEC 27001 standard since 2021.

**Legal technology solutions.** We continue to implement various legal technology solutions, including Green Meadow Document Drafter, Definitely, Foxit, xLaw, Nuix, Visio, and Grammarly. These tools help to enhance our efficiency and productivity in various legal processes and tasks.

**Green Meadow Document Drafter.** We have continued to improve our lawyers' work efficiency by automating document templates. In collaboration with ExtendLaw, we developed a new feature that automatically integrates board member data into documents.

**TiqTime.** We have integrated TiqTime into our workflows, significantly improving time tracking and management. TiqTime is a top-tier time-tracking software designed to simplify the process of recording billable hours and optimise resource allocation within the organisation.

**AI team.** We established the AI@Sorainen working group, comprising assistant lawyers

and business services representatives. This team's focus is to promote AI training programs, develop tailored solutions with external service providers, and draft a strategy for future developments in the field.

Artificial intelligence. We updated our licensing policy and tightened confidentiality requirements, enabling the adoption of state-of-theart AI tools from leading technology providers while maintaining stringent confidentiality standards. We prototype new AI tools with these new tools and build intelligent, automated solutions using various automation tools.

## Document management system iManage.

We completed the transition to the latest version of our document management system. This upgrade represents a strategic investment to enhance our document management capabilities and ensure our organisation's highest security and compliance standards.

## Sorainen spin-off technology company.

Crespect, our spin-off technology company developing comprehensive work management software for law firms, received innovative product development support and closed its first investment round.

# OUR PEOPLE

## In 2023, 15 employees joined Sorainen Estonia.

In addition to legal staff, our office has a support team of 30 members.

## Lawyers who joined in 2023:



**Aivar Kamal** Finance and Insurance



**Iris Rebane** Dispute Resolution and Risk Management



**Moon Lokk** Dispute Resolution and Risk Management



Liisa Kähr Real Estate and Construction



**Robin Sarapuu** Finance and Insurance



**Nele Otsalt** Real Estate and Construction



Our partner Paul Künnap celebrated 25 years with Sorainen

## **Our celebrations and achievements** In 2023, the firm celebrated its 28th anniversary.

**5 Years:** 11 employees reached this milestone (27 colleagues have worked at Sorainen Estonia for 5-10 years).

**10 Years:** 4 employees reached this milestone (10 colleagues have worked with us for 10-15 years).

**15 Years:** 3 employees reached this milestone (12 colleagues have worked with us for 15-20 years).

**25 Years:** 1 employee reached this milestone (5 colleagues have worked with us for over 25 years).

The average employee tenure at Sorainen Estonia is 6 years and 1 month, and the average age is 34 years.

In 2023, 14 of our lawyers successfully passed their bar examination.



Robin Teever, Piret Jesse, and Mirell Prosa celebrated their work anniversaries



Fresh members of the Estonian Bar Association: Katariina Kuum, Kadri Puu, and Krista Ševerev

### 2023 consolidated annual report



# OUR WORK ENVIRONMENT

We furnished our Tartu HUB — remote workspaces in the college town, to provide employees who live or study in Tartu with a flexible workplace and for colleagues living and studying in Tallinn an option for a change of scenery. The cosy space has IT solutions and other necessary workstations, a meeting room, a kitchen, and a comfortable gathering area.

### We offer flexible work arrangements and

**relations.** Many people start working for us while studying at university and remain with us for decades. We offer our people the opportunity to gain external work experience by allowing them to work on a project basis with our clients in Estonia and abroad or through secondments to international law firms. We also offer flexibility in other ways – everyone can choose their work location and form. Younger colleagues can assist lawyers on the side while studying at university, and lawyers who wish to work part-time can choose their own workload.

## We support continuous development.

Individuals are increasingly seeking to further their education at local or international universities. We support this by offering part-time work opportunities and supporting people's desire to develop and learn. We have developed iKnow, our e-learning platform, which provides learning materials for external and internal training with various topics and formats. We have created individual learning pathways for our staff. Our people regularly participate in training courses in Estonia and abroad to build professional competence.

## We ensure equal pay and career oppor-

tunities. Our career model and salary system apply equally to everyone. Everyone has equal opportunities for salary growth and career advancement based on each individual's contribution and results. The career ladder and employee remuneration system are reasonable and depend on objective indicators known to employees. Managers regularly hold development discussions with employees to give and receive feedback and advice to guide their development.

## We are proud of our people and their achievements. We celebrate various work-related and personal milestones office-wide, such as passing the bar exam, work anniversaries, promotions, graduations, etc. We organise events for employees and their families: New Year's party, Valentine's Day, Shrove Tuesday, International Women's Day, family hiking day, theatre evening, art exhibition openings in our office, children's Christmas event, and Sorainen's cosy Christmas evening.

We cherish and recognise our people. In 2023, the Sorainen Estonian office also held an internal selection of the best of the year. We accepted nominations in seven categories and recognised the best ones at our festive New Year's party.



Family Day

**Mentoring.** We strive to make newcomers and those returning to work after longer periods of leave feel welcome when they (re)join us, which is why we have set up a mentoring programme. In 2023, there were 28 mentoring pairs in Sorainen Estonia.

Wellbeing and satisfaction. In addition to the annual satisfaction and motivation survey, we held the second Sorainen Opinion Festival in the autumn of 2023. We asked our people how to achieve a more productive and even better work environment. Our flexible working arrangements and equal treatment still received the highest ratings. We support those participating in athletic challenges to balance mental and physical effort. For several years, we have participated in the Women's Run, and together, we tested ourselves on various distances within the Tallinn Marathon.

## Summer days and team events.

All Sorainen employees across the Baltics come together every two years for regional summer days. In 2023, summer days did not take place. Instead, we had regional team events, where teams could choose when and in which country to meet and how to spend their time together. The regional team meetings have received positive feedback from our people, as they strengthen our relationships, and we get to know each other better outside of everyday work life.



Recognition of the Best of the Year



Women's Run

### 2023 consolidated annual report



Sorainen Student Academy

# OUR CONTRIBUTION TO YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

We recruit talented young people to the office during their studies, which helps them get to know our work culture and the expectations for future lawyers early on. Students can gain experience in various legal fields, allowing them to choose the focus closest to their hearts for building their careers.

**From summer intern to employee.** In 2023, 66 young people applied for our summer internship. We selected 17 young people for summer internships, 5 of whom are now working permanently at Sorainen. We also involved interns in the business services sector for the first time.

**Job shadowing.** We offer job shadowing throughout the school year to students from Grade 9 onwards. In 2023, we welcomed 9 job shadowers to our firm.

Sorainen brings together young people working and interning through the Sorainen ThinkTank, allowing them to organise their work on their terms. Working students lead the ThinkTank, thereby getting the opportunity to develop valuable leadership skills early on.

**Sorainen Student Academy consistently supports the development of young law students.** From October to April, Sorainen lawyers lecture law students, introducing their field of work and discussing interesting cases. This process helps students understand how to apply the knowledge gained at university in real-life scenarios and what the daily life of a lawyer involves, enabling them to make more informed career choices after graduation. In 2023, 22 law students graduated from the Estonian Student Academy programme, with 10 continuing as trainees in the Estonian office and 4 being offered permanent positions at

## 2023 consolidated annual report



The University of Tartu recognised our partner Carri Ginter with a medal for his long-term significant contribution to the university's development

the company. In the autumn of 2023, we also began the new 12th season, which saw applications from 194 students across the region, including 65 in Estonia. The Sorainen Student Academy 2023—2024 season started in October with 23 curious young participants. Young people's continued interest in participating in the Academy confirms that it is a necessary and valued program.

We also contribute to the development of law students more broadly through various scholarships, grants, and other forms of collaboration. Our good partners include:

- Estonian Young Lawyers Association
- Estonian Law Students' Association
- ELSA (European Law Students' Association) Estonia
- Estonian Law Students' Union
- Estonian Moot Court Society

- Salzburg International Summer School
- Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot
- Youth For Understanding

Many Sorainen employees mentor students' bachelor's, master's, and doctoral theses, give lectures at universities and vocational schools, and assist international students in international studies.

The University of Tartu recognised our partner and associate professor of European Law, Carri Ginter, with a medal for his significant long-term contribution to the university's development. Carri's service at the university dates back to 2003, and he has been named Lecturer of the Year twice by his students. He is the founding father of the Sorainen ThinkTank – a team uniting law students working in the firm – and the Sorainen Student Academy program.

# **OUR LECTURERS**

## **UNIVERSITY OF TARTU**



Carri Ginter



Gerli Helene Gritsenko



Heidi Rand



Kadri Härginen



Kaido Künnapas



Lee Raudsepp



Liisa-Maria Puur



Lise-Lotte Lääne



Marcus Niin

# **TALTECH**



Mihkel Miidla

TALLINN UNIVERSITY



Raul Kartsep



Sandra Mikli



Steven Andrekson



Kaido Künnapas



PALLAS UNIVER-

SITY OF APPLIED

Norman Aas

**SCIENCES** 

**TTK UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES** 



Sandra Mikli



Isabel Kärtner



Liisa Maria Kuuskmaa



Verner Silm



Oliver Kuusk

# **TALLINN SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS**

2023 consolidated annual report





Business breakfasts

# OUR FREE LEGAL ADVICE

• As part of the Shared Mission program, we provide EUR 100,000 worth of free legal assistance every year. In 2023, we selected 17 innovative and sustainable energy projects, alongside our pro bono work focused on Ukraine, to receive free legal and tax advice from Sorainen through the Shared Mission program. The Shared Mission program started in 2020 when we aimed to contribute to the region's faster recovery from the health and economic crises caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. We decided to offer free legal assis-

tance to valuable initiatives. After a successful inaugural year, Shared Mission became part of our sustainability strategy and evolved into an annual project.

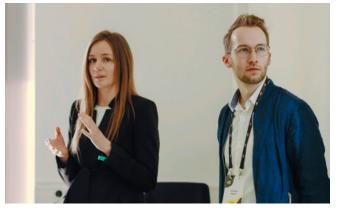
• Our Public Procurement and Public Projects team created the "Public Procurement Academy" series of video lectures, which benefit law students, procurement specialists, and entrepreneurs. In 2023, the Sorainen Public Procurement Academy released 14 new lectures.

### 2023 consolidated annual report



Our lawyers Gerli Helene Gritsenko and Mario Sõrm at the recording of the Public Procurement Academy video lectures.

• We helped Startup Estonia create a free sample package of legal documents to simplify the lives of aspiring entrepreneurs and startups. The package includes 25 essential contracts and documents that entrepreneurs and startup founders most commonly need initially. We also provided startups with free personalised advice in the free legal aid clinic "Legal Clinic for Startups: Start Up Smart" consultation sessions. We have been supporters and partners of the business festival sTARTUp Day for years.



Our lawyers Olivia Kranich, Oliver Kuusk, and Mirell Prosa presenting at the sTARTUpDay festival.





Kaupo Lepasepp, Reigo Ahven, Marian Moldau, and Oliver Ämarik at the recording of the Sorainen Frequency podcast

# OUR OPINION LEADERS AND CONTRIBUTION TO LEGISLATION

We initiate discussions. Many of our lawyers are opinion leaders and spokespersons in their fields. We speak to the media to stand up for our values and give our input on improving the legal and economic environment. On our monthly podcast, Soraineni sagedus (in English: Sorainen Frequency), we hold discussions on the topics of the day, such as intellectual property in business, climate change related legislation, hate speech and whistleblower laws, community involvement in large projects, business opportunities for Estonian companies in Ukraine, and Estonia's ranking in tax system ratings, to name a few.

Our assistant lawyers and senior associates have spoken in the media on topical subjects such as the transition to Estonian-language education, Estonia's political culture, imposing an additional tax on banks, the legality of background checks in employee recruitment, the use of surveillance devices in employment relationships, creating a misleading greenwashing image of a company, using ideas seen in Al-created or well-known works and copyright, and the development of climate legislation.

# We contribute to entrepreneur-friendly

**legislation.** Sorainen lawyers fight for a legal environment that is entrepreneur-friendly and less bureaucratic and contribute to designing laws:

- We contributed to the development of legislation regulating hate speech (Carri Ginter).
- We provided feedback on the draft amendment to the Competition Act, which would allow the application of group exemption regulations valid under European Union law in the context of domestic competition law (instead of creating separate domestic regulations), and on the draft amendment to the Competition Act, which transposes the ECN+ Directive into Estonian law (Piibe Lehtsaar as part of the Bar Association's Competition Law Committee).
- We assisted the University of Tartu draft the long-term personalised medicine program for the Estonian state (Lise-Lotte Lääne, Jaanika Alevi, Kärt Saar).
- We analysed the Weapons Act and submitted proposals for its improvement (Aku

Sorainen, Kaupo Lepasepp, Mario Sõrm, Stenver Pärn, Henry Heinleht).

• We analysed and submitted amendment proposals for the draft Law on the Organization of Research, Development, and Innovation. We participated in a meeting of the Parliament of Estonia's Cultural Affairs Committee (Carri Ginter, Albert Linntam).

• We analysed the draft Whistleblower Protection Act (Albert Linntam).

• We participated in the Ministry of Justice's roundtable on the development of whistleblower legislation (Karin Madisson).

• We participated in a brainstorming session organised by the Chairman of the Parliament of Estonia to overcome legislative obstruction (Allar Jõks).

• We participated in discussions on the development of climate legislation (Karin Madisson).

• We contributed to the drafting of a bill related to derivative and repo transactions in collaboration with the Ministry of Finance and the EBRD (Jane Eespõld, Kätlin Krisak, Kaido Künnapas, Krista Ševerev).

• We helped to establish the legal framework for creating a nuclear regulator in Estonia (Sandra Mikli).

• We contributed to developing a legal framework for financing social infrastructure (Sandra Mikli, Britta Pärk, Liisa Kähr).

• We conducted a business analysis for the new legal framework of the Building Register to facilitate the adoption of data-driven solutions (Sandra Mikli, Elina Mizerova, Cathriin Torop).

• We analysed the process of administrative procedures in Estonia at the request of the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications and submitted proposals for improving these procedures (Paul Künnap, Britta Retel, Kaspar Endrikson, Sandra Mikli, Anu Liinsoo, Andra Grünberg).



Our partner Allar Jõks speaking at a Sorainen business breakfastl



Kadri Härginen, head of our public procurement team, at the recording of the Sorainen Frequency podcast

# We actively participate in the work of the Estonian Bar Association:

Allar Jõks member of the Fundamental Rights Committee
Karin Madisson member of the Commercial Law Committee
Kätlin Krisak member of the Finance Committee
Maria Pihlak member of the Ethics and Methodology Committee
Mihkel Miidla member of the IP and IT Law Committee
Piibe Lehtsaar member of the Competition Law Committee
Pirkko-Liis Harkmaa member of the Employment Law Committee
Piret Jesse chairman of the Commercial Law Committee
Triin Toom member of the board



Client event at the Niguliste Church-Museum, organised in partnership with the Art Museum of Estonia

# OUR CHARITY WORK AND CONTRIBUTION TO CULTURE

• **Christmas joy for foster children.** For years, we have been working with the NGO Naerata Ometi to give Christmas presents to children in need.

• Contributing to the "Donate Time" project. Sorainen has long allowed each employee to take one day off work for charity volunteering. Due to the outbreak of war and our people's desire to help Ukraine, we increased the number of volunteering days to three a year.

• Cooperation partner of the Business and Professional Women Organisation

**Estonia (EENA).** We support EENA and participate actively in its work.

• **Supporting Ukraine.** Sorainen donated funds to the charitable foundation "Tryzub" to support Ukraine by purchasing an ambulance and other vehicles.

• **Supporting culture.** We have a long-term partnership with the Art Museum of Estonia, the Estonian Artists' Union, the Estonian Composers Union and the Cultural Partnership Foundation. Our partner Toomas Prangli is a member of the supervisory board of the Estonian National Symphony Orchestra.



Our ESG leader, Elina Mizerova, and practice group coordinator, Getter Orav with the Green Office certification.

# OUR ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY ACTIVITIES

• We published our sustainability report for the second consecutive year. The 2023 report provides an overview of Sorainen's sustainability initiatives in Latvia, Lithuania, and Estonia, along with environmental, social, and governance (ESG) risks, impacts, and opportunities. During the reporting period, our primary focus was measuring and promoting environmental sustainability. For example, we calculated our ecological footprint and actively worked on incorporating the Environmental Management System under ISO 14001.

• The Legal 500 Global Green Guide, a prestigious legal publication, recognises our ESG achievements in all Baltic countries. The recognition is awarded based on the firm's efforts and legal work in the ESG field.

• As part of the ISO 14001 certification process, we developed an office-wide Environmental Management System guideline. The guideline includes the environmental aspects and impacts of our activities, objectives, and indicators.

• Our Tallinn office's commitment and efforts in environmental sustainability were recognised with the **European Green Office certifica-**tion.

• We actively contribute to **organisations promoting corporate social responsibility**, such as Rohetiiger (Green Tiger) and VEF (Responsible Business Forum Estonia).



# STRUCTURE AND DIVIDEND POLICY OF THE REGIONAL GROUP

In 2023, the legal form of Advokaadibüroo SORAINEN AS (public limited company) was transformed into Advokaadibüroo Sorainen OÜ (private limited company) to simplify the management structure.

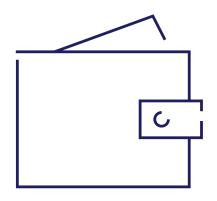
As of 31 December 2023, the Group consists of the parent company and the following entities:

- ASLO Konsultatsioonid OÜ (registered in Estonia, ownership: 100%)
- UAB SLOV SERVICES (registered in Lithuania, ownership: 100%)
- SIA SLOR (registered in Latvia, ownership: 100%)
- SLOH OY (registered in Finland, ownership: 100%)
- IOOO SORAINEN i Partnery (registered in Belarus, owned by SLOH OY: 100%)

- Crespect OÜ (registered in Estonia, ownership: 100%)
- Crespect Investors Syndicate OÜ (registered in Estonia, ownership: 100%)

UAB SLOV SERVICES, SIA SLOR, and ASLO Konsultatsioonid OÜ specialise in rental and administration services. Crespect OÜ's main area of activity is developing and marketing cloud-based software for the daily management and operation of mid-sized international law firms. SLOH OY has no active business activity. IOOO SORAINEN i Partnery provides legal services in Belarus.

The Group has not declared a dividend at a maximum rate from the consolidated profits of the year. The exact dividend amount depends on the Group's results for the year that ended, its liquidity position, and its shareholders' decisions. 2023 consolidated annual report



# KEY FINANCIAL INDICATORS OF ADVOKAADIBÜROO SORAINEN OÜ (PARENT COMPANY)

Key non-consolidated financial results of the parent company Advokaadibüroo Sorainen OÜ in the current financial year, as compared to the 2022 results:

|  | Growth (%) | 2023       | 2022       |
|--|------------|------------|------------|
| Sales revenue  | 3,4%       | 15 063 617 | 14 561 961 |
| Operating profit (EBIT)  | -9,0 %     | 5 295 776  | 5 823 089  |
| Debt ratio (total liabilities/assets)                            | -3,2 %     | 15,9%      | 19,1%      |
| Liquidity ratio (total current assets/total current liabilities) | 19,1 %     | 5,6        | 4,7        |

Labour cost and number of personnel of Advokaadibüroo Sorainen OÜ:

|  | 2023      | 2022      |
|--|-----------|-----------|
| Labour cost (in EUR, excl. fees paid to executive and senior management) | 4 717 882 | 4 444 923 |
| Average number of personnel (excl. executive and senior management)      | 85        | 82        |

At the time of the preparation of the annual report, the Management Board of the parent company had 14 members.

The Group's sales revenue increased by 1.1% compared to 2022 (2023: EUR 20,374,808; 2022: EUR 20,147,063). The operating profit of the Group decreased by 32.60% (2023: EUR 4,311,704; 2022: EUR 6,398,126).

The business of Group entities is not seasonal. The management believes it has taken all necessary measures to ensure the Group's sustainability and growth under the current conditions and in the coming years.

In 2024, the Company plans to continue its core activities.

# The annual accounts

# Consolidated statement of financial position

(In Euros)

|  | 31.12.2023 | 31.12.2022 | Note |
|--|------------|------------|------|
| Assets   |            |            |      |
| Current assets   |            |            |      |
| Cash and cash equivalents  | 4 844 305  | 5 713 651  | 2    |
| Financial investments  | 10 000     | 10 000     |      |
| Receivables and prepayments                                      | 6 543 379  | 6 019 291  | 3    |
| Total current assets   | 11 397 684 | 11 742 942 |      |
| Non-current assets   |            |            |      |
| Receivables and prepayments                                      | 94 968     | 81 657     | 3    |
| Property, plant and equipment                                    | 1 235 098  | 1 519 703  | 6    |
| Intangible assets  | 1 247 815  | 668 469    | 7    |
| Total non-current assets   | 2 577 881  | 2 269 829  |      |
| Total assets   | 13 975 565 | 14 012 771 |      |
| Liabilities and equity   |            |            |      |
| Liabilities  |            |            |      |
| Current liabilities  |            |            |      |
| Loan liablities  | 1 298 207  | 0          | ç    |
| Payables and prepayments   | 2 542 815  | 2 461 755  | 8    |
| Provisions   | 0          | 52 612     |      |
| Total current liabilities  | 3 841 022  | 2 514 367  |      |
| Non-current liabilities  |            |            |      |
| Provisions   | 556        | 55 824     |      |
| Total non-current liabilities                                    | 556        | 55 824     |      |
| Total liabilities  | 3 841 578  | 2 570 191  |      |
| Equity   |            |            |      |
| Equity held by shareholders and partners in parent company       |            |            |      |
| Issued capital   | 25 358     | 25 358     | 10   |
| Statutory reserve capital  | 2 556      | 2 556      |      |
| Unrealised exchange rate   | 44 503     | -43 946    |      |
| Retained earnings (loss)   | 6 368 467  | 5 943 069  |      |
| Annual period profit (loss)                                      | 3 693 103  | 5 515 543  |      |
| Total equity held by shareholders and partners in parent company | 10 133 987 | 11 442 580 |      |
| Total equity   | 10 133 987 | 11 442 580 |      |
| Total liabilities and equity                                     | 13 975 565 | 14 012 771 |      |

# **Consolidated income statement**

(In Euros)

|  | 2023       | 2022       | Note |
|--|------------|------------|------|
| Revenue  | 20 374 808 | 20 147 063 | 11   |
| Other income   | 230 106    | 46 883     | 13   |
| Work performed by entity and capitalised                       | 54 594     | 14 053     |      |
| Raw materials and consumables used                             | -1 722 681 | -2 110 526 | 14   |
| Other operating expense  | -4 408 564 | -3 490 220 | 15   |
| Employee expense   | -9 450 284 | -7 632 284 | 17   |
| Depreciation and impairment loss (reversal)                    | -724 618   | -529 853   | 6,7  |
| Other expense  | -41 657    | -46 990    |      |
| Operating profit (loss)  | 4 311 704  | 6 398 126  |      |
| Interest income  | 69 699     | 4 004      |      |
| Interest expenses  | -71 152    | -5 527     |      |
| Other financial income and expense                             | 280 936    | 34 270     | 18   |
| Profit (loss) before tax                                       | 4 591 187  | 6 430 873  |      |
| Income tax expense   | -898 084   | -915 330   | 19   |
| Annual period profit (loss)                                    | 3 693 103  | 5 515 543  |      |
| Profit (loss) from shareholders and partners in parent company | 3 693 103  | 5 473 501  |      |
| Profit (loss) from minority interests                          | 0          | 42 042     |      |

# Consolidated statement of comprehensive income (In Euros)

2023 2022 Annual period profit (loss) 3 693 103 5 515 543 Other comprehensive income (expense): Effect on unrealised exchange rate changes 52 688 -43 741 -43 741 Total other comprehensive income (expense) 52 688 Annual period comprehensive income (expense) 3 745 791 5 471 802 Comprehensive profit (loss) from shareholders and 3 745 791 5 429 760 partners in parent company Comprehensive profit (loss) from minority interests 0 42 042

# Consolidated statement of cash flows

(In Euros)

|  | 2023       | 2022       | Note |
|--|------------|------------|------|
| Cash flows from operating activities                                   |            |            |      |
| Operating profit (loss)  | 4 311 704  | 6 398 126  |      |
| Adjustments  |            |            |      |
| Depreciation and impairment loss (reversal)                            | 724 618    | 529 852    | 6,7  |
| Other adjustments  | -90 668    | 298 132    |      |
| Total adjustments  | 633 950    | 827 984    |      |
| Changes in receivables and prepayments related to operating activities | -395 185   | -1 392 373 |      |
| Changes in payables and prepayments related to<br>operating activities | -461 525   | 352 152    |      |
| Interest paid  | 0          | 4 579      |      |
| Total cash flows from operating activities                             | 4 088 944  | 6 190 468  |      |
| Cash flows from investing activities                                   |            |            |      |
| Purchase of property, plant and equipment and intangible assets        | -927 943   | -727 719   | 6,7  |
| Other cash payments to acquire subsidiaries                            | 0          | -179 930   |      |
| Other cash payments to acquire other financial investments             | 0          | -15 000    |      |
| Other cash receipts from sales of other financial investments          | 0          | 12 500     |      |
| Loans given  | -8 500     | -10 505    |      |
| Repayments of loans given  | 10 455     | 1 650      |      |
| Interest received  | 57 301     | 0          |      |
| Other cash outflows from investing activities                          | 0          | -173 712   |      |
| Total cash flows from investing activities                             | -868 687   | -1 092 716 |      |
| Cash flows from financing activities                                   |            |            |      |
| Loans received   | 1 298 207  | 0          | 9    |
| Repayments of loans received   | 0          | -172 556   |      |
| Interest paid  | 0          | -20 302    |      |
| Dividends paid   | -4 535 780 | -4 084 261 |      |
| Income tax refund (paid)   | -852 030   | -915 330   |      |
| Total cash flows from financing activities                             | -4 089 603 | -5 192 449 |      |
| Total cash flows   | -869 346   | -94 697    |      |
| Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period                       | 5 713 651  | 5 808 348  | 2    |
| Change in cash and cash equivalents                                    | -869 346   | -94 697    |      |
| Cash and cash equivalents at end of period                             | 4 844 305  | 5 713 651  | 2    |

# Consolidated statement of changes in equity

(In Euros)

|   |                |  |                          |                             |           | Total      |
|---|----------------|--|--------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------|------------|
|   | Equity held    | Equity held by shareholders and partners in parent company |                          |                             |           |            |
|   | Issued capital | Statutory reserve capital                                  | Unrealised exchange rate | Retained<br>earnings (loss) | interests |            |
| 31.12.2021                                    | 25 358         | 2 556  | -1 816                   | 10 131 267                  | 325 887   | 10 483 252 |
| Annual period profit (loss)                   | 0              | 0  | -43 741                  | 5 473 501                   | 42 042    | 5 471 802  |
| Changes through other contributions of owners | 0              | 0  | 0                        | -61 895                     | -367 929  | -429 824   |
| Declared dividends                            | 0              | 0  | 0                        | -4 084 261                  | 0         | -4 084 261 |
| Other changes in equity                       | 0              | 0  | 1 611                    | 0                           | 0         | 1 611      |
| 31.12.2022                                    | 25 358         | 2 556  | -43 946                  | 11 458 612                  | 0         | 11 442 580 |
| Annual period profit (loss)                   | 0              | 0  | 52 688                   | 3 693 103                   | 0         | 3 745 791  |
| Declared dividends                            | 0              | 0  | 0                        | -4 720 000                  | 0         | -4 720 000 |
| Other changes in equity                       | 0              | 0  | 35 761                   | -370 145                    | 0         | -334 384   |
| 31.12.2023                                    | 25 358         | 2 556  | 44 503                   | 10 061 570                  |           | 10 133 987 |

## Note 1 Accounting policies

#### **General information**

The financial statements have been prepared under Estonian financial reporting standards. Estonian financial reporting standard is internationally accepted accounting and reporting principles-based accounting, whose basic requirements are established by the Estonian Accounting Act and supplemented by the guidelines issued by the Accounting Standards Board.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, except for the cases which are described in the accounting policies below.

The financial statements are prepared in euros.

The 2023 consolidated financial statements reflect the financial indicators of Advokaadibüroo SORAINEN OÜ (the parent company) and its subsidiaries ASLO Konsultatsioonid OÜ, SLOH OY, UAB SLOV Services, SIA SLOR, IOOO SORAINEN i Partnery, Crespect OÜ and Crespect Investors Syndicate OÜ. Percentages of holdings in subsidiaries and areas of activities are discussed in more detail in the management report.

The main accounting policies used in preparing these financial statements are set out below.

| Additional item name               | 31.12.2022 | Change   | 31.12.2022 |
|------------------------------------|------------|----------|------------|
| Accounts recevable                 | 6 100 948  | -81 657  | 6 019 291  |
| Long term accounts receivable      | 0          | 81 657   | 81 657     |
| Retained earnings<br>(loss)        | 5 775 988  | 167 081  | 5 943 069  |
| Annua period profit<br>(loss)      | 5 682 624  | -167 081 | 5 515 543  |
| Profit (loss) from<br>subsidiaries | 167 081    | -167 081 | 0          |

#### Changes in accounting policies or presentation of information

#### Preparation of consolidated statements

The consolidated financial statements address the parent company and subsidiaries as a single economic entity. Financial indicators of parent companies and subsidiaries (items in the balance sheet, income statement and cash flow statements, as well as financial indicators published in notes and other sections of the report) are aggregated on a line-by-line basis (revenues and expenses of the subsidiary arising before the acquisition date and cash flows are not included in the consolidated income statement and cash flow statement). All intra-group receivables and liabilities, transactions between group entities and unrealized gains and losses are eliminated. If necessary, accounting policies of subsidiaries are adjusted so that they comply with the Group's accounting policies.

Subsidiaries are entities controlled by the parent company. Control is presumed when the parent company owns more than 50% of the voting rights in the subsidiary or the parent company is otherwise able to control the financial and operating policies of the subsidiary. The subsidiary of the company is recognized in the Group report since the acquisition of control until it is assigned.

Group entities use the currency of the primary economic environment - euro (EUR) in Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and Finland, and ruble (BYN) in Belarus. In the consolidated annual financial statements the currency of presentation is the euro. All financial statements and the notes are presented in euros.

Assets and liabilities of subsidiaries located in foreign countries are converted into euros on the basis of exchange rates in force at the end of the reporting period. Income and expenses are converted to euros at exchange rates valid at the transaction date or, if the exchange rate between the euro and the currency has been stable, at an average exchange rate for the reporting period.

Exchange rate differences used in the revaluation by using exchange rates of different dates are recognized in the income statement line item "Unrealised exchange rate differences" and unrealised exchange rate differences arising in revaluation of indicators of subsidiaries are included

in the parent company's consolidated equity report under "Unrealised exchange rate differences".

#### Recognition of subsidiaries in unconsolidated financial statements of the parent company

In the unconsolidated financial statements of the parent company which are presented in notes to the consolidated financial statements, investments in subsidiaries are carried at cost and investments in subsidiaries that are under common control are recognized in the balance sheet at net asset value (ie, as the acquired assets and liabilities were recognized in the balance sheet of the acquired company). The difference between the acquisition cost and the carrying amount of net assets acquired is recognized as a decrease or increase of the acquirer's equity.

#### **Financial assets**

Financial assets include cash, a contractual right to receive cash or other financial assets (e.g. accounts receivable) from the counterparty, equity instruments of other undertakings and contractual right to exchange financial assets with a counterparty under potentially favourable conditions.

Financial assets are initially recognized at cost, being the fair value of the payment made or received for the financial asset. The initial acquisition cost includes all transaction costs that are directly related to the financial asset.

When the adjusted historical cost method is used, the financial asset is recognized in the balance sheet in its initial acquisition cost discounted with an internal rate of interest less repayments of the principal and possible impairment caused from loss of value or unlikelihood of collection.

A financial asset is derecognized if the company loses the right to receive cash flows arising from the given financial asset or transfers to a third party cash flows arising from this financial asset and most risks and benefits related to this financial asset.

#### Cash and cash equivalents

The balance sheet item "Cash" includes bank accounts and short term deposits.

Cash flows from operating activities are prepared by using the indirect method. Cash flows from investing and financing activities are recorded as gross receipts and disbursements of the reporting period.

#### Foreign currency transactions and assets and liabilities denominated in a foreign currency

Foreign currencies are all currencies other than the functional currency of the euro. Foreign currency transactions are recorded at the official currency exchange rates quoted by the European Central Bank on the transaction day\*. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in a foreign currency (cash receivables and loans) are revalued to the functional currency at the balance sheet date by using exchange rates of the European Central Bank valid in the balance sheet date.

The Belarusian company is revalued by using exchange rates between BYN and foreign currencies established by the Central Bank of Belarus.

Non-monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies (such advances, property, plant and equipment and intangible assets) are not revalued at the balance sheet date but are recognized on the basis of the exchange rate valid on the transaction date. Exchange gains and losses are recognized in the income statement.

#### **Financial investments**

Equity and debt instruments that are intended for realization during the next reporting period are recognized in the balance sheet under "Current financial investments". Long-term shares and other securities are recorded as fixed assets in the balance sheet under "Non-current financial investments."

#### **Receivables and prepayments**

Current and non-current trade receivables are carried at amortized cost, i.e. at their present value less doubtful receivables. In case of trade receivables whose collection is partly or fully doubtful, the impairment is recognized in the income statement under "Other operating expenses". Trade receivables whose collection is not feasible or economically justified are considered uncollectible and written off.

Loans granted and other current receivables are recorded at amortized cost.

#### Plant, property and equipment and intangible assets

Tangible fixed assets are assets that the Group uses for providing services or for administrative purposes for more than one year with the value of at least 1,000 euros. Tangible fixed assets are recorded at cost, which includes the purchase price and other directly attributable costs.

The linear depreciation method is used for calculating depreciation. The depreciation rate is assigned for object of the tangible fixed asset or to its each identifiable component separately depending on the useful life as follows:

- equipment 20% - 35% per annum;

- furniture and fixtures 10% - 25% per annum.

Improvements to tangible fixed assets are capitalized if they meet the definition of tangible fixed assets and the asset recognition criteria, including the participation of their expenses in generating future economic benefits. Maintenance and repairs are expensed when incurred.

Intangible fixed assets are intangible assets that the Group intends to use for a longer period than one year, and which are controlled by the Group, whose cost can be reliably estimated and that will generate probable future economic benefits for the Group. Tangible fixed assets are recorded at cost, which includes the purchase price and other directly attributable costs. Intangible fixed assets are depreciated on the linear method. Annual depreciation rates of patents, licenses and trademarks are between 17 and 35%.

#### **Financial liabilities**

Financial liabilities include contractual obligations to pay the other party cash or other financial assets or to exchange financial assets with another party under conditions that are potentially unfavorable.

Financial assets are initially recognized at cost, being the fair value of the receivable or payable for the financial asset. The initial acquisition cost includes all transaction costs that are directly related to the financial asset.

Depending on the type of financial assets, financial liabilities are further accounted either at fair value, cost or amortized cost.

The difference received in discounting the long-term liability between the nominal value and current value is recognized when accounting the long-term liability as interest income. In subsequent recognition, interest expense is debited and the balance of long-term liability is credited, i.e. the balance of the long-term liability grows to its nominal value by the end of the payment period.

Long-term liabilities are liabilities recognized in the balance sheet that mature later than one year after the balance sheet date. All other liabilities are classified as current liabilities.

A financial liability is derecognised when it is discharged, cancelled or expired.

#### Provisions and contingent liabilities

Provisions are recognized in the balance sheet as liabilities incurred in the reporting period or in previous periods, which have a legal or contractual basis, which requires a future outflow of resources and whose cost can be reliably determined, but whose final cost or payment date is not certain. Provisions are determined based on management estimates, experience and when necessary, by independent experts.

A provision which is likely to be realized later than in 12 months is recognized in the balance sheet at its discounted value, ie in the present value of the outflows related to the provision, unless the effect of discounting is immaterial. Present value is calculated using the discount rate for similar liabilities with respect to the prevailing market interest rate.

Increase in the discounted value of long-term provisions in connection with the arrival of the realization date is recognized in the income statement as interest income.

Promises, guarantees and other commitments that in certain circumstances may become liabilities are disclosed as contingent liabilities in the notes to financial statements.

#### **Revenue recognition**

Revenue is recognized on an accrual basis or in fair value of the receivable, i.e. in amounts receivable for services rendered less rebates. Revenue from the sale of service is recognized during the period if the receipt of the revenue for the provision of the service is likely and the revenue and expenses related to the provision of services can be reliably measured.

Interest revenue is recognized on an accrual basis and dividend revenue is recognized when the entitlement to dividends occurs.

#### Taxation

Consolidated income statement reflects the corporate income tax expense and deferred tax expense or income calculated from the profits of subsidiaries in Latvia, Lithuania and Finland, corporate income tax expense of dividends of companies registered in Estonia and the corporate income tax expense of the company registered in Belarus.

According to the Estonian Income Tax Act, legal entities are not liable to pay income tax from the profit earned in the reporting period. Income tax is paid on fringe benefits, gifts, donations, costs of entertaining guests, dividends and payments not related to business. Therefore, Estonia does not differ between the tax base and carrying amount of assets that would incur deferred income tax.

Income tax assets and liabilities and income tax expenses and income are classified as current (payable) income tax and deferred income tax. Current tax liabilities are recognized as current assets or liabilities and deferred income tax liabilities are recognized as non-current assets or liabilities.

Deferred tax assets and liabilities are calculated at the balance sheet date as a difference between the tax bases of assets and liabilities and temporary differences in the book value. Deferred tax is calculated on current or expected tax rates, which are applicable in the periods when the temporary differences and tax losses are realized. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are offset only within a group company. Deferred tax assets is recognized in the balance sheet only if a deferred tax liability of a similar amount with the deferred tax asset is likely to incur in the foreseeable future that can be offset.

#### **Related parties**

- The Group considers as related parties:
- owners of Law Firm SORAINEN;
- management and supervisory boards;
- the abovementioned persons and undertakings under their control or significant influence.

# Note 2 Cash and cash equivalents

(In Euros)

|                                 | 31.12.2023 | 31.12.2022 |
|---------------------------------|------------|------------|
| Settlement accounts             | 3 444 305  | 4 713 651  |
| Term deposits                   | 1 400 000  | 1 000 000  |
| Total cash and cash equivalents | 4 844 305  | 5 713 651  |

# Note 3 Receivables and prepayments

(In Euros)

|  | 31.12.2023 | Allocation by remaining maturity |        |              |  |
|--|------------|----------------------------------|--------|--------------|--|
|  |            | Within 12 months 1 - 5 years     |        | Over 5 years |  |
| Accounts receivable                      | 5 377 007  | 5 377 007                        | 0      | 0            |  |
| Accounts<br>receivables                  | 5 675 172  | 5 675 172                        | 0      | 0            |  |
| Allowance for<br>doubtful<br>receivables | -298 165   | -298 165                         | 0      | 0            |  |
| Tax prepayments and receivables          | 168 231    | 168 231                          | 0      | 0            |  |
| Loan receivables                         | 5 150      | 5 150                            | 0      | 0            |  |
| Other receivables                        | 182 556    | 182 556                          | 0      | 0            |  |
| Interest<br>receivables                  | 13 197     | 13 197                           | 0      | 0            |  |
| Accrued income                           | 169 359    | 169 359                          | 0      | 0            |  |
| Prepayments                              | 876 977    | 782 009                          | 13 311 | 81 657       |  |
| Deferred<br>expenses                     | 579 455    | 579 455                          | 0      | 0            |  |
| Other paid prepayments                   | 297 522    | 202 554                          | 13 311 | 81 657       |  |
| Other short-term receivables             | 28 426     | 28 426                           | 0      | 0            |  |
| Total receivables and prepayments        | 6 638 347  | 6 543 379                        | 13 311 | 81 657       |  |

|  | 31.12.2022 | Allocation by remaining maturity |             |              |   |
|--|------------|----------------------------------|-------------|--------------|---|
|  |            | Within 12 months                 | 1 - 5 years | Over 5 years |   |
| Accounts receivable                      | 5 009 404  | 5 009 404                        | 0           | 0            |   |
| Accounts receivables                     | 5 173 299  | 5 173 299                        | 0           | 0            |   |
| Allowance for<br>doubtful<br>receivables | -163 895   | -163 895                         | 0           | 0            |   |
| Tax prepayments and receivables          | 77 870     | 77 870                           | 0           | 0            | 2 |
| Loan receivables                         | 8 505      | 8 505                            | 0           | 0            |   |
| Other receivables                        | 348 874    | 348 874                          | 0           | 0            |   |
| Interest<br>receivables                  | 2 566      | 2 566                            | 0           | 0            |   |
| Accrued income                           | 346 308    | 346 308                          | 0           | 0            |   |
| Prepayments                              | 628 003    | 546 346                          | 0           | 81 657       |   |
| Deferred<br>expenses                     | 511 965    | 511 965                          | 0           | 0            |   |
| Other paid prepayments                   | 116 038    | 34 381                           | 0           | 81 657       |   |
| Other short-term receivables             | 28 292     | 28 292                           | 0           | 0            |   |
| Total receivables and<br>prepayments     | 6 100 948  | 6 019 291                        | 0           | 81 657       |   |

# Note 4 Tax prepayments and liabilities (In Euros)

|   | 31.12              | .2023           | 31.12.2022         |                 |
|---|--------------------|-----------------|--------------------|-----------------|
|   | Tax<br>prepayments | Tax liabilities | Tax<br>prepayments | Tax liabilities |
| Corporate income tax                      | 19 433             | 11 158          | 0                  | 79 835          |
| Value added tax                           | 16 636             | 247 668         | 0                  | 238 341         |
| Personal income tax                       | 0                  | 81 757          | 0                  | 73 579          |
| Fringe benefit income tax                 | 9 616              | 9 033           | 0                  | 5 427           |
| Social tax                                | 0                  | 130 779         | 0                  | 135 742         |
| Contributions to mandatory funded pension | 0                  | 5 851           | 0                  | 6 239           |
| Unemployment insurance tax                | 0                  | 7 128           | 0                  | 7 329           |
| Other tax prepayments and liabilities     | 3                  | 727             | 0                  | 12 704          |
| Prepayment account balance                | 122 543            |                 | 77 870             |                 |
| Total tax prepayments and liabilities     | 168 231            | 494 101         | 77 870             | 559 196         |

### Note 5 Shares of subsidiaries

| Shares of subsidiaries, general information |                                 |               |  |                           |            |  |  |
|---|---------------------------------|---------------|--|---------------------------|------------|--|--|
| Subsidiary's<br>registry code               | Name of subsidiary              |               | Principal activity   | Ownership interest<br>(%) |            |  |  |
| registry code                               |                                 | incorporation |  | 31.12.2022                | 31.12.2023 |  |  |
| 10916533                                    | ASLO Konsultatsioonid OÜ        | Estonia       | Administrative services  | 100                       | 100        |  |  |
| 40003355893                                 | SLOR SIA                        | Latvia        | Administrative services  | 100                       | 100        |  |  |
| 111658118                                   | UAB SLOV Services               | Lithuania     | Administrative services  | 100                       | 100        |  |  |
| 1870614-0                                   | SLOH OY                         | Finland       | Administrative services  | 100                       | 100        |  |  |
| 190961147                                   | IOOO SORAINEN i Partnery        | Belarus       | Legal services   | 100                       | 100        |  |  |
| 16557621                                    | Crespect OÜ                     | Estonia       | Data processing, web hosting                                     | 100                       | 100        |  |  |
| 16633670                                    | Crespect Investors Syndicate OÜ | Estonia       | Other business support<br>activities not elsewhere<br>classified | 100                       | 100        |  |  |

# Note 6 Property, plant and equipment

|                            |                |                                      |  |                  |                                     | Total      |
|----------------------------|----------------|--------------------------------------|--|------------------|-------------------------------------|------------|
|                            |                |                                      |  | Machinery        | Other                               |            |
|                            | Transportation | Computers<br>and computer<br>systems | Other<br>machinery<br>and<br>equipment | and<br>equipment | property,<br>plant and<br>equipment |            |
| 31.12.2021                 |                | 1                                    |  |                  | 1                                   |            |
| Carried at cost            | 87 164         | 1 037 134                            | 786 575                                | 1 910 873        | 1 483 157                           | 3 394 030  |
| Accumulated depreciation   | -2 612         | -842 867                             | -227 267                               | -1 072 746       | -674 757                            | -1 747 503 |
| Residual cost              | 84 552         | 194 267                              | 559 308                                | 838 127          | 808 400                             | 1 646 527  |
| Acquisitions and additions | 0              | 240 073                              | 27 662                                 | 267 735          | 10 131                              | 277 866    |
| Depreciation               | -13 217        | -128 491                             | -87 542                                | -229 250         | -175 605                            | -404 855   |
| Other changes              | -2             | 21 869                               | 0                                      | 21 867           | -21 702                             | 165        |
| 31.12.2022                 |                |                                      |  |                  |                                     |            |
| Carried at cost            | 87 163         | 1 299 075                            | 814 237                                | 2 200 475        | 1 471 586                           | 3 672 061  |
| Accumulated depreciation   | -15 830        | -971 357                             | -314 809                               | -1 301 996       | -850 362                            | -2 152 358 |
| Residual cost              | 71 333         | 327 718                              | 499 428                                | 898 479          | 621 224                             | 1 519 703  |
| Acquisitions and additions | 0              | 102 489                              | 69 468                                 | 171 957          | 1 567                               | 173 524    |
| Depreciation               | -8 681         | -169 154                             | -97 520                                | -275 355         | -172 549                            | -447 904   |
| Other changes              | 2              | -15 710                              | 5 487                                  | -10 221          | -4                                  | -10 225    |
| 31.12.2023                 |                |                                      |  |                  |                                     |            |
| Carried at cost            | 87 163         | 1 684 300                            | 902 554                                | 2 674 017        | 1 483 227                           | 4 157 244  |
| Accumulated depreciation   | -24 509        | -1 438 957                           | -425 691                               | -1 889 157       | -1 032 989                          | -2 922 146 |
| Residual cost              | 62 654         | 245 343                              | 476 863                                | 784 860          | 450 238                             | 1 235 098  |

# Note 7 Intangible assets

|                                     |                             |                      |   |   | Total      |  |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|---|---|------------|--|
|                                     | Development<br>expenditures | Computer<br>software | Concessions,<br>patents,<br>licences,<br>trademarks | Unfinished<br>projects and<br>prepayments |            |  |
| 31.12.2021                          |                             | -                    | 2   | 2   | 0          |  |
| Carried at cost                     | 0                           | 0                    | 3 299 634   | 0   | 3 299 634  |  |
| Accumulated depreciation            | 0                           | 0                    | -2 956 021  | 0   | -2 956 021 |  |
| Residual cost                       | 0                           | 0                    | 343 613   | 0   | 343 613    |  |
| Acquisitions and additions          | 262 741                     | 0                    | 87 788  | 99 324                                    | 449 853    |  |
| Additions via business combinations | 262 741                     | 0                    | 0   | 0   | 262 741    |  |
| Depreciation                        | 0                           | 0                    | -124 996  | 0   | -124 996   |  |
| Reclassifications                   | -262 741                    | 0                    | 0   | 0   | -262 741   |  |
| Other changes                       | 0                           | 0                    | -1  | 0   | -1         |  |
| 31.12.2022                          |                             |                      |   |   |            |  |
| Carried at cost                     | 262 741                     | 0                    | 3 387 411   | 99 324                                    | 3 749 476  |  |
| Accumulated depreciation            | 0                           | 0                    | -3 081 007  | 0   | -3 081 007 |  |
| Residual cost                       | 262 741                     | 0                    | 306 404   | 99 324                                    | 668 469    |  |
| Acquisitions and additions          | 0                           | 808 852              | 52 721  | 0   | 861 573    |  |
| Depreciation                        | -52 548                     | -90 859              | -133 307  | 0   | -276 714   |  |
| Reclassifications                   | 0                           | 99 324               | 0   | -99 324                                   | 0          |  |
| Other changes                       | 0                           | 0                    | -5 513  | 0   | -5 513     |  |
| 31.12.2023                          |                             |                      |   |   |            |  |
| Carried at cost                     | 262 741                     | 908 176              | 3 434 487   | 0   | 4 605 404  |  |
| Accumulated depreciation            | -52 548                     | -90 859              | -3 214 182  | 0   | -3 357 589 |  |
| Residual cost                       | 210 193                     | 817 317              | 220 305   | 0   | 1 247 815  |  |

# Note 8 Payables and prepayments

(In Euros)

|                                | 31.12.2023 | Within 12 months | Note |
|--------------------------------|------------|------------------|------|
| Trade payables                 | 260 542    | 260 542          |      |
| Employee payables              | 1 156 937  | 1 156 937        |      |
| Tax payables                   | 494 101    | 494 101          | 4    |
| Other payables                 | 477 239    | 477 239          |      |
| Interest payables              | 70 776     | 70 776           |      |
| Dividend payables              | 184 220    | 184 220          |      |
| Other accrued expenses         | 222 243    | 222 243          |      |
| Prepayments received           | 133 926    | 133 926          |      |
| Other received prepayments     | 133 926    | 133 926          |      |
| Total payables and prepayments | 2 542 815  | 2 542 815        |      |
|                                |            |                  |      |
|                                | 31.12.2022 | Within 12 months | Note |
| Trade payables                 | 237 946    | 237 946          |      |
| Employee payables              | 1 110 384  | 1 110 384        |      |
| Tax payables                   | 559 196    | 559 196          | 4    |
| Other payables                 | 197 293    | 197 293          |      |
| Other accrued expenses         | 197 293    | 197 293          |      |
| Prepayments received           | 356 936    | 356 936          |      |
| Other received prepayments     | 356 936    | 356 936          |      |
| Total payables and prepayments | 2 461 755  | 2 461 755        |      |

# Note 9 Loan commitments

|                                    | 31.12.2023 | Allocatio           | on by remaining | g maturity   | Interest rate            | Base<br>currencies | Due date   |
|------------------------------------|------------|---------------------|-----------------|--------------|--------------------------|--------------------|------------|
|                                    |            | Within 12<br>months | 1 - 5 years     | Over 5 years |                          |                    |            |
| Current loans                      |            |                     |                 |              |                          |                    |            |
| Loans from a private enterprise    | 910 000    | 910 000             |                 |              | 8%                       | EUR                | June 2024  |
| Loans from private<br>individuals  | 120 007    | 120 007             |                 |              | 8%                       | EUR                | June 2024  |
| Loans from a private<br>enterprise | 80 000     | 80 000              |                 |              | variable, up<br>to 8%    | EUR                | open-ended |
| Loans from private individuals     | 188 200    | 188 200             |                 |              | variable, up<br>to 8%ess | EUR                | open-ended |
| Current loans total                | 1 298 207  | 1 298 207           |                 |              |                          |                    |            |
| Loan commitments total             | 1 298 207  | 1 298 207           |                 |              |                          |                    |            |

# Note 10 Share capital

(In Euros)

|                        | 31.12.2023 | 31.12.2022 |
|------------------------|------------|------------|
| Share capital          | 25 358     | 25 358     |
| Number of shares (pcs) | 2          | 4 025      |

### Note 11 Net sales

(In Euros)

|   | 2023       | 2022       | Note |
|---|------------|------------|------|
| Net sales by geographical location        |            |            |      |
| Net sales in European Union               |            |            |      |
| Estonia                                   | 8 201 588  | 8 125 748  |      |
| Other European Union net sales            | 9 275 210  | 8 800 305  |      |
| Total net sales in European Union         | 17 476 798 | 16 926 053 |      |
| Net sales outside of European Union       |            |            |      |
| Other net sales outside of European Union | 2 898 010  | 3 221 010  |      |
| Total net sales outside of European Union | 2 898 010  | 3 221 010  |      |
| Total net sales                           | 20 374 808 | 20 147 063 |      |
| Net sales by operating activities         |            |            |      |
| Legal services                            | 17 444 739 | 17 491 660 |      |
| Operating lease income                    | 622 199    | 586 336    | 17   |
| Other                                     | 2 307 870  | 2 069 067  |      |
| Total net sales                           | 20 374 808 | 20 147 063 |      |

### Note 12 Grants

|  | 31.12       | .2022       | Received | Recognized in           | 31.12.2023  |             | Note |  |
|--|-------------|-------------|----------|-------------------------|-------------|-------------|------|--|
|  | Receivables | Liabilities |          | the income<br>statement | Receivables | Liabilities |      |  |
| Grants for acquisition of non-current assets             |             |             |          |                         |             |             |      |  |
| Total grants for<br>acquisition of<br>non-current assets | 0           | 0           | 211 372  | 211 372                 | 0           | 0           |      |  |
| Total grants   | 0           | 0           | 211 372  | 211 372                 | 0           | 0           |      |  |

### Note 13 Other operating income

(In Euros)

|                                       | 2023    | 2022   | Note |
|---------------------------------------|---------|--------|------|
| Revenue from grants                   | 211 372 | 0      | 12   |
| Profit from exchange rate differences | 4 036   | 16 372 |      |
| Other                                 | 14 698  | 30 511 |      |
| Total other operating income          | 230 106 | 46 883 |      |

# Note 14 Goods, raw materials and services

(In Euros)

|   | 2023       | 2022       | Note |
|---|------------|------------|------|
| Services purchased for resale           | -840 222   | -1 157 583 |      |
| Leases                                  | -622 199   | -586 336   | 16   |
| Other                                   | -260 260   | -366 607   |      |
| Total goods, raw materials and services | -1 722 681 | -2 110 526 |      |

# Note 15 Miscellaneous operating expenses

(In Euros)

|  | 2023       | 2022       |
|--|------------|------------|
| Leases                                 | -483 982   | -496 820   |
| Miscellaneous office expenses          | -498 749   | -492 389   |
| Exploration and development expense    | -1 012 761 | -841 521   |
| Travel expense                         | -281 648   | -143 657   |
| Training expense                       | -105 198   | -85 270    |
| Allowance for doubtful receivables     | -199 117   | -55 316    |
| Other                                  | -1 827 109 | -1 375 247 |
| Total miscellaneous operating expenses | -4 408 564 | -3 490 220 |

# Note 16 Operating lease

(In Euros)

Accounting entity as lessor

|                        | 2023    | 2022    | Note |
|------------------------|---------|---------|------|
| Operating lease income | 622 199 | 586 336 | 11   |

Accounting entity as lessee

|  | 2023       | 2022       | Note |
|--|------------|------------|------|
| Operating lease expenses                                   | 1 106 181  | 1 083 156  |      |
| Future lease expense under non-cancellable lease contracts | 31.12.2023 | 31.12.2022 | Note |
|  |            |            | Note |
| Within 12 months   | 1 169 386  | 1 106 181  |      |
| 1 - 5 years  | 4 510 557  | 5 151 627  |      |
| Over 5 years   | 772 862    | 1 301 178  |      |

#### Note 17 Labor expense

(In Euros)

LABOR EXPENSE OF ADVOKAADIBÜROO SORAINEN AS (non-consolidated financial results of parent company)

Wage and salary expense: 3 511 359 EUR (2023); 3 306 481 EUR (2022)

Social security taxes: 1 206 523 EUR (2023); 1 138 442 EUR (2022)

Total labor expense: 4 717 882 EUR (2023); 4 444 923 EUR (2022)

Average number of employees in full time equivalent units: 85 (2023); 82 (2022).

The mentioned results excluding fees paid to executives and senior management and average number of persons under executive and senior management (note 21).

CONSOLIDATED LABOR EXPENSE

As at 31.12.2023, the Group consists of the parent company and the following entities: ASLO Konsultatsioonid OÜ, UAB SLOV SERVICES, SIA SLOR, SLOH OY, IOOO SORAINEN i Partnery, Crespect Investors Syndicate OÜ and Crespect OÜ. The total consolidated labor expense was the following: 9 450 284 EUR (2023); 7 632 283 EUR (2022). Average number of employees in full time equivalent units: 177 (2023); 170 (2022).

#### Note 18 Other financial income and expense

(In Euros)

|  | 2023    | 2022   |
|--|---------|--------|
| Profit (loss) from exchange rate differences | 281 835 | 34 270 |
| Other financial income and -costs            | -899    | 0      |
| Total other financial income and expense     | 280 936 | 34 270 |

#### Note 19 Income tax

| Income tax expense | 2023  |         | ncome tax expense 2023 |                    | 20 | 22 |
|--------------------|---|---------|------------------------|--------------------|----|----|
| components         | Taxable amount         Income tax expense         T |         | Taxable amount         | Income tax expense |    |    |
| Declared dividends | 4 720 000   | 882 305 | 4 084 261              | 915 330            |    |    |
| Total              | 4 720 000   | 882 305 | 4 084 261              | 915 330            |    |    |

# Note 20 Contingent liabilities and assets

(In Euros)

|   | 31.12.2023 | 31.12.2022 |
|---|------------|------------|
| Contingent liabilities                          |            |            |
| Distributable dividends                         | 8 364 800  | 9 369 889  |
| Income tax liability on distributable dividends | 1 741 273  | 2 044 777  |
| Total contingent liabilities                    | 10 106 073 | 11 414 666 |

## Note 21 Related parties

(In Euros)

#### Related party balances according to groups

| SHORT TERM  | 31.12.2023 | 31.12.2022 | Note |
|---|------------|------------|------|
| Receivables and prepayments   |            |            |      |
| Management and higher supervisory body and<br>individuals with material ownership interest and<br>material influence of management and higher | 2 224 802  | 2 203 248  |      |
| Total receivables and prepayments   | 2 224 802  | 2 203 248  |      |

| LONG TERM   | 31.12.2023 | 31.12.2022 | Note |
|---|------------|------------|------|
| Loan commitments  |            |            |      |
| Other entities belonging into same consolidation group  | 892 290    | 0          | 8,9  |
| Total loan commitments  | 892 290    | 0          |      |
| Payables and prepayments  |            |            |      |
| Management and higher supervisory body and<br>individuals with material ownership interest and<br>material influence of management and higher | 50 271     | 293 450    |      |
| Total payables and prepayments  | 50 271     | 293 450    |      |

| LOAN COMMITMENTS  | 31.12.2022 | Loans received | Loans received<br>repayments | 31.12.2023 | Interest<br>accrued for<br>period | Note |
|---|------------|----------------|------------------------------|------------|-----------------------------------|------|
| Management and higher<br>supervisory body and individuals<br>with material ownership interest<br>and material influence of<br>management and higher | 0          | 850 000        | 0                            | 850 000    | 42 290                            | 8,9  |
| Total loan commitments  | 0          | 850 000        | 0                            | 850 000    | 42 290                            |      |

#### Advokaadibüroo Sorainen OÜ

| SOLD  | 2023      | 2022      |
|---|-----------|-----------|
|   | Services  | Services  |
| Management and higher<br>supervisory body and individuals<br>with material ownership interest<br>and material influence of<br>management and higher | 6 200 451 | 5 681 060 |
| Total sold  | 6 200 451 | 5 681 060 |

| BOUGHT  | 2023     | 2022     |
|---|----------|----------|
|   | Services | Services |
| Management and higher<br>supervisory body and individuals<br>with material ownership interest<br>and material influence of<br>management and higher | 845 481  | 748 023  |
| Total bought  | 845 481  | 748 023  |

| Remuneration and other significant benefits calculated for<br>members of management and highest supervisory body |         |         |
|--|---------|---------|
|  | 2023    | 2022    |
| Remuneration   | 382 055 | 374 023 |

# Note 22 Non consolidated statement of financial position

|                               | 31.12.2023 | 31.12.2022 |
|-------------------------------|------------|------------|
| Assets                        |            |            |
| Current assets                |            |            |
| Cash and cash equivalents     | 3 743 702  | 4 773 750  |
| Receivables and prepayments   | 5 899 280  | 5 491 196  |
| Total current assets          | 9 642 982  | 10 264 946 |
| Non-current assets            |            |            |
| Financial investments         | 699 751    | 699 751    |
| Receivables and prepayments   | 81 657     | C          |
| Property, plant and equipment | 438 627    | 545 058    |
| Intangible assets             | 65 063     | 137 234    |
| Total non-current assets      | 1 285 098  | 1 382 043  |
| Total assets                  | 10 928 080 | 11 646 989 |
| Liabilities and equity        |            |            |
| Liabilities                   |            |            |
| Current liabilities           |            |            |
| Loan liablities               | 0          | 491 982    |
| Payables and prepayments      | 1 737 182  | 1 619 213  |
| Provisions                    | 0          | 52 612     |
| Total current liabilities     | 1 737 182  | 2 163 807  |
| Non-current liabilities       |            |            |
| Provisions                    | 0          | 55 149     |
| Total non-current liabilities | 0          | 55 149     |
| Total liabilities             | 1 737 182  | 2 218 956  |
| Equity                        |            |            |
| Issued capital                | 25 358     | 25 358     |
| Statutory reserve capital     | 2 556      | 2 556      |
| Retained earnings (loss)      | 4 680 119  | 4 369 154  |
| Annual period profit (loss)   | 4 482 865  | 5 030 965  |
| Total equity                  | 9 190 898  | 9 428 033  |
| Total liabilities and equity  | 10 928 080 | 11 646 989 |

### Note 23 Non consolidated income statement

|   | 2023       | 2022       |
|---|------------|------------|
| Revenue                                     | 15 063 617 | 14 561 961 |
| Other income                                | 5 146      | 31 039     |
| Raw materials and consumables used          | -465 430   | -581 341   |
| Other operating expense                     | -3 808 045 | -3 039 306 |
| Employee expense                            | -5 225 903 | -4 875 843 |
| Depreciation and impairment loss (reversal) | -233 665   | -227 476   |
| Other expense                               | -39 944    | -45 944    |
| Total operating profit (loss)               | 5 295 776  | 5 823 090  |
| Other financial income and expense          | 69 394     | -26 427    |
| Profit (loss) before tax                    | 5 365 170  | 5 796 663  |
| Income tax expense                          | -882 305   | -765 698   |
| Annual period profit (loss)                 | 4 482 865  | 5 030 965  |

# Note 24 Non consolidated statement of cash flows

|   | 2023       | 2022       |
|---|------------|------------|
| Cash flows from operating activities                                      |            |            |
| Operating profit (loss)   | 5 295 776  | 5 823 090  |
| Adjustments   |            |            |
| Depreciation and impairment loss (reversal)                               | 233 665    | 227 476    |
| Total adjustments   | 233 665    | 227 476    |
| Changes in receivables and prepayments related to<br>operating activities | -566 431   | -718 299   |
| Changes in payables and prepayments related to<br>operating activities    | -167 453   | 21 726     |
| Total cash flows from operating activities                                | 4 795 557  | 5 353 993  |
| Cash flows from investing activities                                      |            |            |
| Purchase of property, plant and equipment and intangible assets           | -55 063    | -386 567   |
| Other cash payments to acquire subsidiaries                               | 0          | -5 000     |
| Loans given   | -8 500     | -797 355   |
| Repayments of loans given   | 10 455     | 422 150    |
| Interest received   | 54 898     | 0          |
| Dividends received  | 36 617     | 0          |
| Other cash outflows from investing activities                             | 0          | -173 712   |
| Total cash flows from investing activities                                | 38 407     | -940 484   |
| Cash flows from financing activities                                      |            |            |
| Loans received  | 0          | 1 000 000  |
| Repayments of loans received  | -491 982   | -199 500   |
| Dividends paid  | -4 535 780 | -4 084 261 |
| Income tax refund (paid)  | -836 250   | -765 698   |
| Total cash flows from financing activities                                | -5 864 012 | -4 049 459 |
| Total cash flows  | -1 030 048 | 364 050    |
| Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period                          | 4 773 750  | 4 409 700  |
| Change in cash and cash equivalents                                       | -1 030 048 | 364 050    |
| Cash and cash equivalents at end of period                                | 3 743 702  | 4 773 750  |

# Note 25 Non consolidated statement of changes in equity

|   |                |                           |                          | Total      |
|---|----------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|------------|
|   | Issued capital | Statutory reserve capital | Retained earnings (loss) |            |
| 31.12.2021  | 25 358         | 2 556                     | 8 471 962                | 8 499 876  |
| Annual period profit<br>(loss)  | 0              | 0                         | 5 030 965                | 5 030 965  |
| Declared dividends  | 0              | 0                         | -4 084 261               | -4 084 261 |
| Other changes in equity   | 0              | 0                         | -18 547                  | -18 547    |
| 31.12.2022  | 25 358         | 2 556                     | 9 400 119                | 9 428 033  |
| Governing and material<br>influence ownership<br>interest value of<br>financial position    | 0              | 0                         | -699 751                 | -699 751   |
| Governing and material<br>influence on the value<br>Of holdings under the e<br>quity method | 0              | 0                         | 2 714 298                | 2 714 298  |
| Restated non<br>consolidated equity<br>31.12.2022   | 25 358         | 2 556                     | 11 414 666               | 11 442 580 |
| Annual period profit<br>(loss)  | 0              | 0                         | 4 482 865                | 4 482 865  |
| Declared dividends  | 0              | 0                         | -4 720 000               | -4 720 000 |
| 31.12.2023  | 25 358         | 2 556                     | 9 162 984                | 9 190 898  |
| Governing and material<br>influence ownership<br>interest value of<br>financial position    | 0              | 0                         | -699 753                 | -699 753   |
| Governing and material<br>influence on the value<br>Of holdings under the e<br>quity method | 0              | 0                         | 1 642 841                | 1 642 841  |
| Restated non<br>consolidated equity<br>31.12.2023   | 25 358         | 2 556                     | 10 106 072               | 10 133 986 |