

Former Peruvian prime minister returns to Benites Vargas

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Juan Jiménez Mayor

After a year serving as the consul of Peru in Costa Rica, former Peruvian prime minister Juan Jiménez Mayor has returned to Benites, Vargas & Ugaz Abogados as of counsel and head of its newly established public compliance practice area.

Jiménez, 59, rejoined the firm last month. The firm now has one of counsel, one counsel and 13 partners.

With his return, Benites Vargas formalises its public compliance group. The firm's broader compliance practice is jointly led by partner Luis Vargas Valdivia, counsel Liliana Calderón and managing partner Roberto Pereira.

Jiménez has experience in both the public and private sectors. For the last year, he has worked as the Peruvian consul in San José. He left Benites Vargas in May 2023, just under a year after he [joined](#) the firm as counsel. Before that, Jiménez has spent four years as an independent legal consultant. He had previously occupied several roles within the Organization of American States (OAS), a multilateral body focused on human rights, electoral integrity and social and economic development for 35 member states. Jiménez previously served as both special representative for the OAS on an anti-corruption mission in Honduras and as Peruvian ambassador to the body in Washington, DC.

The compliance and constitutional-focused lawyer has also held positions within the Peruvian government. Between 2012 and 2013, during Ollanta Humala's administration, Jiménez served as prime minister, following a year as Peru's Minister of Justice and Human Rights.

Before entering politics, Jiménez ran his own firm, Estudio Jiménez Quintana Abogados Asociados, for 15 years until it was dissolved in 2011.

According to managing partner Pereira, "Juan's return to Benites Vargas is important because of the contribution that his outstanding career in the state, as well as in the administration of justice and the fight against corruption, both locally and internationally, that he provides to the firm."

Commenting on the launch of the public compliance practice, Pereira believes that the new area will allow the firm to "substantially enrich our service offering in the compliance sector, especially in criminal compliance." Through taking what he describes as an "innovative approach," Pereira believes that this is "undoubtedly a way to contribute to the reduction of corruption in Peru."

Benites Vargas is Highly Recommended for its anti-corruption, litigation and labour practices, among others. It was the [winner](#) of this year's Pro Bono Law Firm of the Year, with more than 80% of its staff completing more than 20 hours of pro bono hours a year. An in-depth interview with managing partner Pereira about the firm's pro bono practice and work will be published in the coming weeks.