

Gianni & Origoni Launches Cybersecurity Practice With 3-Lawyer Hire

Stefano Mele, a partner and expert in cybersecurity, joins with two associates from the Italian business law firm Carnelutti.



The Italy-based international firm Gianni & Origoni has snagged a three-lawyer, partner-led team from a rival Italian firm to establish a cybersecurity practice, joining a growing list of European firms that are adding firepower in the area of data protection.

Stefano Mele joins with two associates from the Italian business law firm Carnelutti, Gianni & Origoni said in a statement.

An acknowledged expert in cybersecurity in both the public and private sectors, Mele practiced as a partner for 10 years at Carnelutti, during which he also served on high-level commissions on cybersecurity in Italy, Saudi Arabia and San Marino.

The arrival of Mele and his team brings Gianni & Origoni's IP, IT and media department to over 20 professionals, including five partners.

"With the arrival of Stefano and his team, we further enrich our already large and excellent group of experts," Massimo Sterpi, co-head with Nino Di Bella of the department, said in a statement.

Noting that cybersecurity "is considered to be one of the most important and high economic impact sectors of the future," Mele said he was "thrilled" to bring his team's "specialized and transversal experience" to the firm.

Cybersecurity has become an area of significant growth in Europe in the wake of the 2016 EU General Data Protection Regulation, or GDPR, and as more sectors grapple with data breaches that threaten their operations and customer bases.