

# news release

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## **MANDARIN ORIENTAL HOTEL GROUP ANNOUNCES THE APPOINTMENT OF ARABELLA EL BARKOUKI AS HEAD OF REGIONAL SALES, EUROPE**

**HONG KONG, 1 March 2016** -- [Mandarin Oriental Hotel Group](http://www.mandarinoriental.com) is delighted to announce the appointment of Arabella El Barkouki as Head of Regional Sales, Europe effective immediately. This new role has been created to support the importance of Europe as a feeder market as well as Mandarin Oriental's expansion in the region. El Barkouki is based at the Group's Area Sales Office in London and reports to Emily Snyder, Mandarin Oriental Hotel Group's Vice President of Global Sales.

El Barkouki will lead Mandarin Oriental Hotel Group's European Regional Sales Offices based in London, Paris and Frankfurt, overseeing the Group's Sales activities in UK, Scandinavia, German speaking Europe, Benelux and Southern Europe as well as the Russia and CIS market.

A seasoned professional with extensive experience in the luxury hotel industry; prior to joining Mandarin Oriental, El Barkouki spent over 12 years in senior Sales roles including Director of Sales & Marketing for Le Richemond in Geneva, Regional Director of Sales for Dorchester Collection and Director of Sales at Four Seasons Canary Wharf, London

British born El Barkouki holds a Bachelor of Arts in Modern Languages and European Literature and speaks fluent French and is conversational in Italian and Arabic.

El Barkouki succeeds Ambar Franco whose most recent role with the Group was as Regional Director of Sales, UK & Scandinavia and who has now assumed the new position as Regional Director of Consumer Marketing, Europe, Middle East & Africa.

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“I am delighted to welcome Arabella to the Group and I look forward to working closely with her. 2015 was a fantastic year for Mandarin Oriental with the successful opening of our hotels in both Milan and Marrakech as well as the acquisition of Hotel Ritz Madrid. With an exciting pipeline of hotels to open in key destinations around the world, Arabella joins the Group at an excellent time. I would like to thank Ambar for her fantastic contribution over the past eight years in her Sales capacity and wish her all the best as she transitions to her new role in Consumer Marketing” said Emily Snyder, Vice President of Global Sales.

### **About Mandarin Oriental Hotel Group**

Mandarin Oriental Hotel Group is the award-winning owner and operator of some of the most luxurious hotels, resorts and residences. Having grown from a well-respected Asian hotel company into a global brand, the Group now operates, or has under development, 47 hotels representing 11,000 rooms in 25 countries, with 21 hotels in Asia, 10 in The Americas and 16 in Europe, Middle East and North Africa. In addition, the Group operates or has under development, 17 *Residences at Mandarin Oriental* connected to its properties.

Photography of Mandarin Oriental is available to download in the [Photo Library](#) of our [Media](#) section, at [www.mandarinoriental.com](http://www.mandarinoriental.com).

Visit [Destination MO](http://www.mandarinoriental.com/destination-mo/) (<http://www.mandarinoriental.com/destination-mo/>), the online version of [Mandarin Oriental Hotel Group](#)'s bespoke publication, *MO*. News about our award-winning hotels, the best dining experiences, spa treatments, travel retreats and interviews with the Group's celebrity fans is now just a click away. Further information is also available on our [Social Media](#) channels.

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