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BUSINESS

Family holding group takes stake in family office deal sourcing platform; appoints head as COO



Brussels, Belgium. Grand Place. Market square surrounded by guild halls.

By **Family Capital** 20th February 2025

A Belgian-based family holding and investment group has bought a majority stake in a Luxembourg deal-sourcing and advisory platform and hired the group's head as its new chief operating officer.

Capnor, owned by the De Clercq family, has paid an undisclosed amount for a stake in Calista Direct Investors, a Luxembourg-based deal sourcing and advisory platform aimed at single-family offices.

Calista works with many European family offices to help them source private equity and venture deals, and provide strategic advice on private markets

Founded in 2021 by seasoned private market specialist Rajaa Mekouar, Calista works with many European family offices to help them source private equity and venture deals, and provide strategic advice on private markets.



Rajaa Mekouar

Mekouar, who has previously worked at a multi-family office, Kharis Capital, and was head of private equity at a single-family office, has also been appointed COO at Capnor.

Mekouar told *Family Capital*: “The tie-up between Louis De Clercq’s Capnor (the founder and CEO) and Calista comes as a natural next step to both of us, in continuity with the several investments and projects we have in common.”

She added: “Calista is now starting an enhanced journey as Capnor’s partner for its private equity and venture capital investments while remaining an independently operating hub for families and entrepreneurs keen to boost their investment efforts.”

The De Clercq family previously owned Interparking, one of Europe’s biggest parking infrastructure groups, until they sold it last year. They also have a separate family office, Imocobel, which Louis De Clercq used to head before setting up Capnor.