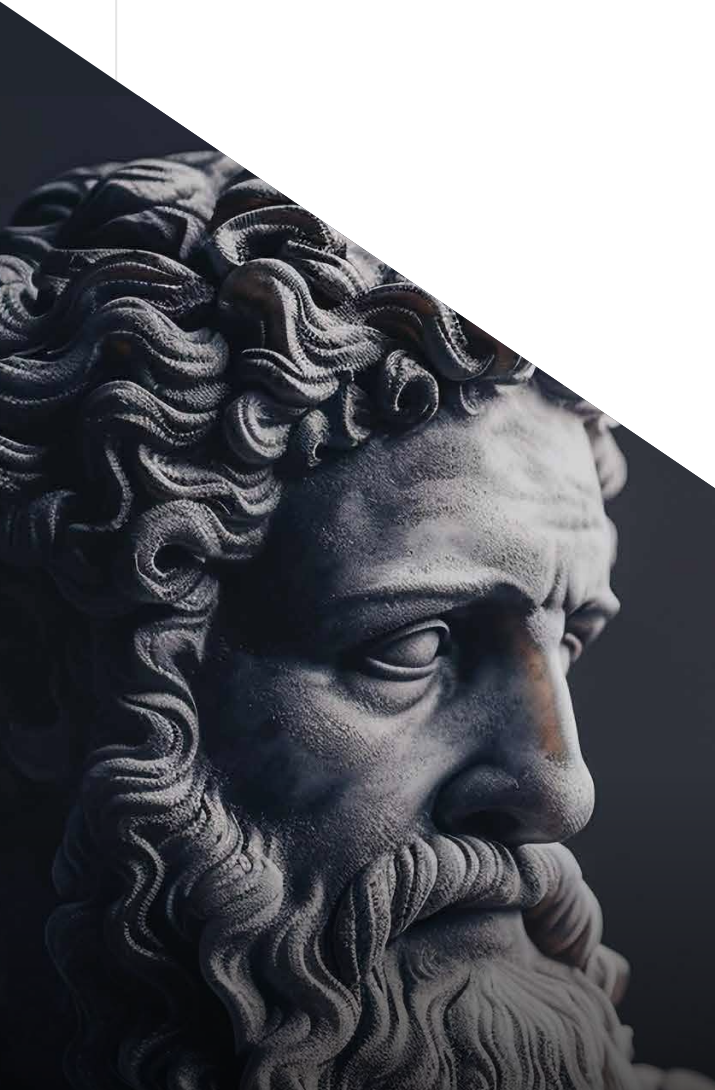


**⚡ RECOMMENDED READING**

**"Sophie's World"**  
by Jostein Gaarder

Juan Pablo Ramírez  
SENIOR ASSOCIATE



Questioning ourselves, about who we are and everything that surrounds us, is far more common and useful than we might suppose.

It is an exercise—questioning ourselves—that begins at a very early age, almost instinctively and unconsciously; but one of which, as we grow and develop, we begin to become aware and to deepen our questioning.

However, despite being something almost universal, not all of us manage to carry it out with the depth and complexity of reasoning or analysis with which we should.

Sometimes we need something, in addition to someone, that helps us generate a genuine and intimate interest in questioning everything. Not to tear anything down in particular, but to contribute to understanding and building everything better.

It is something that some of us may enjoy and, I would even say, may come to feel passionate about.

In my case, what led me to continue questioning everything, in a critical, rational, and thoughtful way, is reading.

One book in particular, read at a very early age, captivated me and helped me to ask—and ask myself—many questions that I might otherwise never have asked, as well as to seek and, in many cases, find answers.

# JUAN PABLO RAMÍREZ



**“QUESTION  
EVERYTHING.  
NOT TO TEAR  
ANYTHING  
DOWN IN  
PARTICULAR,  
BUT TO  
UNDERSTAND  
AND BUILD  
EVERYTHING  
BETTER.”**

I returned to it more than once, and if you have not yet read it—although written for young students and regardless of your age—I recommend it: it is at once light, entertaining, intelligent, and profound without becoming dense, and its title is *\*Sophie’s World\**, by Jostein Gaarder.

It is, above all, an invitation to continue questioning ourselves, maintaining a sense of wonder in order to find answers—tools that are very useful in professional practice, especially if you are a lawyer.

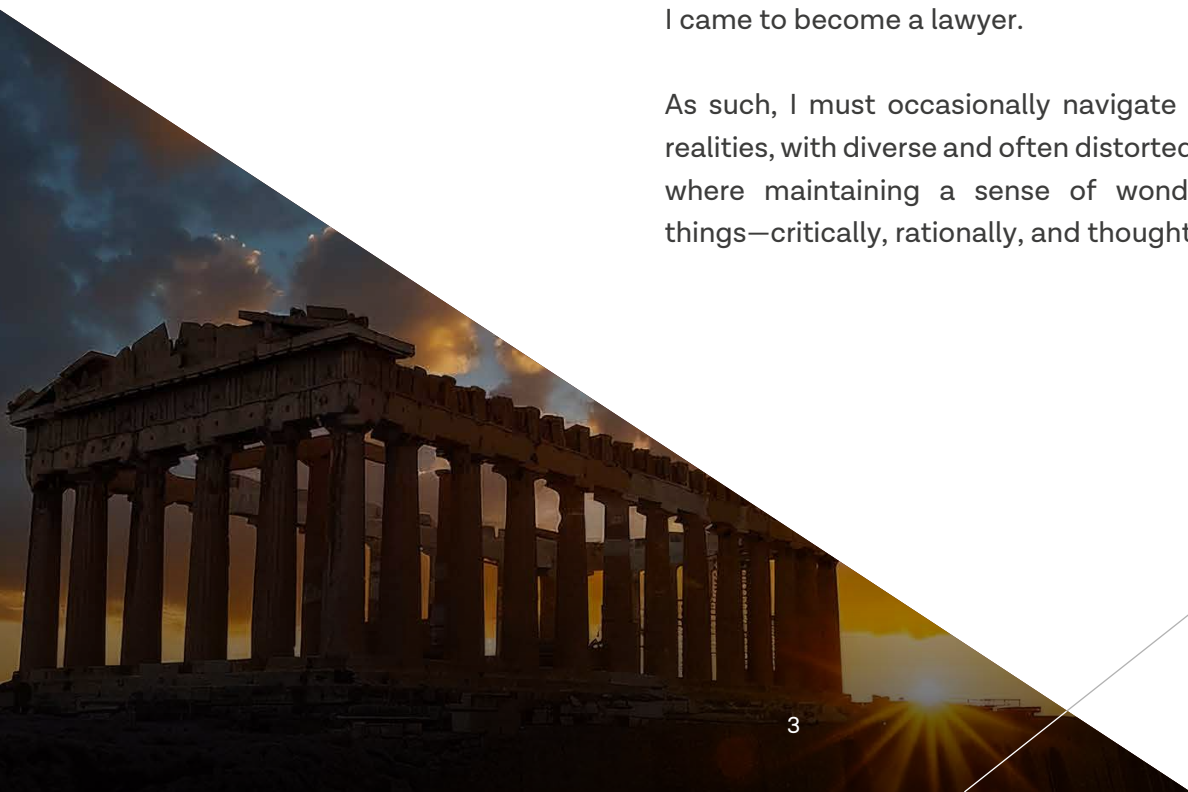
Thus, a book that seeks to bring us closer to the world of wisdom and philosophy—*\*Sophie’s World\**—through an ingenious plot and a journey through the most outstanding philosophical minds in history, was the small spark that illuminated, in my case, a path even broader than the one imagined by the author for his readers.

It can be said that the book begins with a question that we have all asked ourselves at some point: who are you?

Reading it invited me to inquire into and deepen my understanding of the complexities of a world that inevitably surrounds us all: the world of Justice.

This exploration led me to answer, if not completely, at least partially, the question: who am I? Since, through that search, I came to become a lawyer.

As such, I must occasionally navigate between “alternate” realities, with diverse and often distorted “centers of gravity,” where maintaining a sense of wonder and questioning things—critically, rationally, and thoughtfully—can become a



difficult path to follow, with many branches and requiring a great deal of energy, if not boldness, to find the answers you need.

You must strive greatly if you want to be prepared and trained to listen, understand, and assess a situation in order to argue and negotiate a potential conflict in a solution-oriented way.

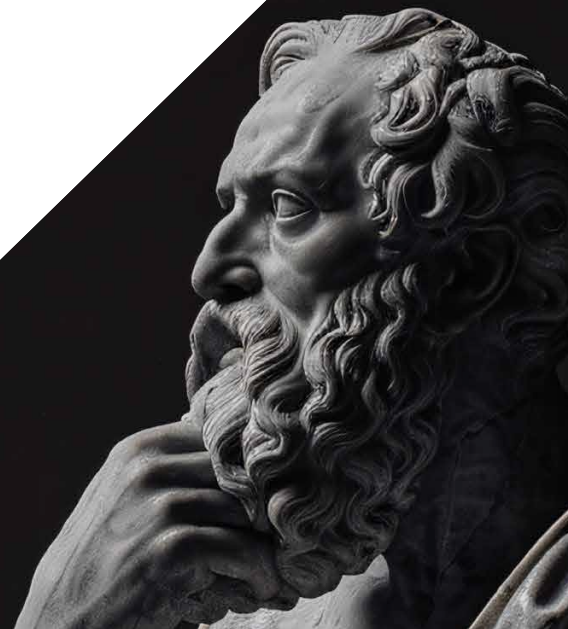
Sometimes, beyond the effort represented by many years of study, specialization, and continuous professional practice, it is the conscious and systematic exercise of questioning—strategies, approaches, positions, and everything surrounding a case—that becomes the path that allows us to find the answers we need.

It is this critical, rational, and thoughtful questioning that allows us to glimpse a possibility that sometimes goes beyond what we imagine and may become reality. Other times, it is the opposite, as happens to Sophie and Albert—two of the characters in the book—questions that, through the answers we find, dissolve a reality, transforming it into something ethereal: an imaginary spirit that attempts to intrude into reality.

At times, the “spirit” you may encounter through questioning could become much more than reality itself, even if it does not appear to exist or endure.

If you have not read this book, do so—and if you already have, take another look. Sometimes, beyond entertaining, it awakens the desire to maintain a sense of wonder, to question everything, and to better understand our reality in order to improve it.

**May you have a pleasant and fulfilling reading experience.**



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