

Chambers

Europe —————

2020

Europe's Leading Lawyers for Business

Austria



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BANKING & FINANCE

Banking & Finance
Leading Firms
Band 1
BINDER GRÖSSWANG Rechtsanwälte GmbH *
Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer LLP
Schoenherr *
Wolf Theiss *
Band 2
CERHA HEMPEL *
CMS *
DORDA *
Eisenberger & Herzog *
Band 3
Brandl & Talos Rechtsanwälte GmbH *
DLA Piper Weiss-Tessbach *
Fellner Wratzfeld & Partners *
Band 4
Baker McKenzie – Diwok Hermann Petsche *
Barnert Egermann Illigassch *
Graf & Pitkowitz Rechtsanwälte GmbH *
PHH Prochaska Havranek Rechtsanwälte GmbH & Co
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Ebner Martin Schoenherr *
Jergitsch Friedrich Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer LLP
Schmid Andreas Wolf Theiss *
Tiefenthaler Stefan BINDER GRÖSSWANG Rechtsanwälte
Band 2
Benes Marcus Eisenberger & Herzog
Fellner Markus Fellner Wratzfeld & Partners
Feyl Peter Schoenherr *
Hanslik Günther CMS
Heidinger Markus Wolf Theiss *
Klimscha Florian Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer LLP
Varga Tibor DORDA *
Band 3
Fabian Tibor BINDER GRÖSSWANG Rechtsanwälte GmbH
Huber Wolfram PHH Prochaska Havranek Rechtsanwälte GmbH
Illigassch Alexander Barnert Egermann Illigassch *
Rautner Uwe Rautner Rechtsanwälte GmbH (ORL) ◇
Welten Emanuel BINDER GRÖSSWANG Rechtsanwälte GmbH
Wolf Richard Wolf Theiss *
Zahradnik Andreas DORDA *
Band 4
Buchberger Dieter KPMG Law (ORL) ◇
Taucher Bernd Graf Patsch Taucher Rechtsanwälte (ORL) ◇
Wächter Otto Graf & Pitkowitz Rechtsanwälte GmbH
Zivny Thomas CERHA HEMPEL *
Zwitter-Tehovnik Jasna DLA Piper Weiss-Tessbach *

* Indicates firm / individual with profile.

◇ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.

Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

Banking & Finance: Regulatory
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Binder Michael BINDER GRÖSSWANG Rechtsanwälte GmbH
Brandl Ernst Brandl & Talos Rechtsanwälte GmbH
Feyl Peter Schoenherr *
Heidinger Markus Wolf Theiss *
Jergitsch Friedrich Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer LLP
Knobl Peter CERHA HEMPEL *
Zahradnik Andreas DORDA *
Band 2
Hörtlner Bettina Dr Bettina Hörtlner, Attorney at Law (ORL) ◇
Oppitz Martin a2o Kooperation selbständiger (ORL) ◇
Schneider Claus Wolf Theiss *
Band 3
Diwok Georg H Baker McKenzie – Diwok Hermann Petsche *
Fletzberger Bernd PFR – Proksch & Fritzsche Frank (ORL) ◇
Gritsch Andrea Wolf Theiss *
Heckenthaler Stephan BINDER GRÖSSWANG Rechtsanwälte
Siegl Christine Wolf Theiss *

Band 1

BINDER GRÖSSWANG Rechtsanwälte GmbH

See profile on p.188

What the team is known for Market-leading team advising prestigious domestic and international financial entities. Covers the full range of banking services, including banking regulation, real estate finance and restructuring matters. Also well placed to assist borrowers with project finance deals. Clientele includes social impact foundations and technology companies. Offers strong international capabilities thanks to its solid links with top global firms.

Strengths One client admires the “extremely responsive and engaged top-quality lawyers,” who offer “comprehensive commercial understanding and seamless co-operation.”

Another source underlines the “hands-on, practical and usable advice” given by the team, further adding: “The level of quality that their lawyers bring to the table is really quite impressive.”

Work highlights Advised Verbund on a EUR500 million pioneering environmental, social and corporate governance loan, whereby the interest rate is steered by sustainability rating, issued by a syndicate of 12 banks.

Notable practitioners

Leading regulatory lawyer **Michael Binder** boasts several well-known banks as clients, whom he assists with implementation of new regulations, M&A and privatisation matters. **Stefan Tiefenthaler** is particularly active on high-profile project and real estate financing mandates, as well as handling loan refinancing matters. One impressed client states: “Stefan

Tiefenthaler is an excellent lawyer whom I would also highly recommend for his high-quality, practical, to-the-point and timely advice.” The “highly experienced” **Tibor Fabian** lends his expertise to a range of matters, including debt restructuring, real estate finance and market entries in the financial sector. **Stephan Heckenthaler** advises clients on the regulatory aspects of transactions and services provision, as well as assisting with market entries in the financial sector. One appreciative interviewee says: “He is absolutely on top of things. If he promises something, you know that you will get that and he will make the decisions too.” **Emanuel Welten** offers “very short response times” and is “very focused on solutions,” according to one client. He advises on construction and acquisition financing, with a focus on the lender side. He has further experience in sustainable lending matters.

Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer LLP

What the team is known for Outstanding practice with notable strength in matters across the CEE region. Regularly represents Austrian and German banks as well as international financial entities and companies in acquisition finance and refinancing transactions. Also assists with restructuring and insolvency issues. Handles structured finance matters and regulatory aspects of deals. Further strength handling matters concerning cryptocurrency.

Strengths One client appreciates the team’s “very international outlook” as well as its “high-quality output.”

Another client highlights the team’s “ability to be well rounded whilst delivering in an in-depth manner.”

Work highlights Acted for UniCredit Bank as part of a syndicate among other international financial institutions on the EUR477.2 million financing for the takeover of Magnesita Refratários.

Notable practitioners

Friedrich Jergitsch boasts broad expertise in the banking sector, encompassing regulatory matters, finance transactions and cryptocurrency deals. He is especially active on structured financing deals. One interviewee states: “He is an exceptional lawyer and a hard-working partner with huge know-how.” **Florian Klimscha** advises clients across the CEE region on financings and restructuring agreements, typically acting for international financial institutions. One client enthuses: “I can rely on him for anything. He is calm and confident and gives you complete confidence in what he is doing.”

Schoenherr

See profile on p.209

What the team is known for Exceptional banking and finance team with excellent capabilities in

the CEE region. Handles a range of transactions including acquisition and real estate financing, as well as mergers within the banking sphere. Frequently acts for regional banks on the purchase and divestment of non-performing loan portfolios. Assists with restructuring and insolvency matters and offers further strength in regulatory issues.

Strengths One client praises the team as “quick, responsive and accurate,” adding: “The team will give you something that you can actually use and make a decision on.”

Another interviewee states: “The lawyers have very good industry know-how, and are very efficient and solution-oriented.”

Work highlights Assisted Aves One with all aspects concerning the financing for its acquisition of NACCO.

Notable practitioners

Martin Ebner (see p.113) is praised for his “exceptional understanding of our business needs and his proactive approach” by one client. He covers a range of mandates in his practice, including restructuring issues, as well as non-performing loan transactions and acquisition financings. **Peter Feyl** (see p.114) offers particular strength in banking regulatory matters, with additional expertise in debt restructuring and banking M&A. One client says: “He has a wealth of experience and outstanding banking industry know-how, and is solution-oriented and always available.”

Wolf Theiss

See profile on p.212

What the team is known for Highly impressive banking and finance team regularly instructed by leading international and domestic financial services providers as well as major corporations. Equipped with substantial experience in real estate finance as well as acquisition, project and infrastructure finance. Also active in refinancing and debt restructuring. Well placed to assist with international matters, leveraging its network of offices across the CEE and SEE regions.

Strengths One impressed interviewee confirms Wolf Theiss's top position in the market, stating: “They have a high degree of professionalism. In negotiations they are so knowledgeable and are often lecturing the other side. They are just better than others.”

One client admires the “straightforward and direct” approach of the team and further underlines its reach across the CEE region.

Work highlights Advised on the refinancing of a EUR450 million credit facility for Trans Austria Gasleitung.

Notable practitioners

“True expert” **Andreas Schmid** (see p.114) is noted for his cross-border strength, especially his work across the CEE region. He has a particular focus on acquisition financing and restructuring matters. **Markus Heidinger** (see p.176) offers a broad practice spanning regulatory advice, corporate finance, banking M&A and financial investigations. Interviewees describe him as “good and recommendable.”

Claus Schneider (see p.181) acts for international corporations and regional banks, advising on financial restructuring, regulatory advice and structured finance matters. **Andrea Gritsch** (see p.175) “is a very talented lawyer” according to market sources, who further underlines her strength in fintech. She also offers experience in banking-related M&A. **Christine Siegl** (see p.182) is a “mastermind of regulatory,” according to impressed commentators.

She assists with banking M&A as well as non-performing loan portfolio acquisitions. The “very reputable” **Richard Wolf** (see p.184) offers experience in corporate finance matters, as well as assisting with mandates concerning distressed and disputed assets.

Band 2

CERHA HEMPEL

See profile on p.192

What the team is known for Esteemed practice regularly representing banks based in Austria, Germany and across the CEE region. Noted for its strong regulatory capabilities and is frequently seen advising management and supervisory boards on compliance issues. Also assists clients with financing structures, syndicated loans and refinancing deals.

Strengths One client states: “In addition to the excellent and very broad legal know-how, the law firm is characterised by the fact that all partners respond very individually to client needs and have excellent market knowledge.”

Another source appreciates the “very high solution-orientation, reliability and on-time delivery” offered by the team.

Work highlights Advised DVAG on banking secrecy and compliance issues.

Notable practitioners

Peter Knobl (see p.177) is “technically very strong and a real legal expert in his field,” according to one satisfied client. He advises domestic and international banks on a wide spread of regulatory matters, including compliance, secrecy and liability issues.

Thomas Zivny (see p.184) is a “problem solver with a very broad entrepreneurial focus” who offers an “enormous commitment to his clients,” enthuses one client. He is best known for his work on project and real estate financing.

CMS

See profile on p.193

What the team is known for Highly active team with a strong foothold in Austria and CEE, advising on acquisition, project and real estate finance transactions. Assists with domestic and cross-border regulatory requirements. Primarily acts for lenders on syndicated and bilateral financing transactions, but also serves investors and corporates as clients.

Strengths One client underlines the team’s “great responsiveness and very good understanding of the banking industry.”

Another client states: “They look at work through their customers’ eyes, so they are very solution-oriented.”

Work highlights Advised a syndicate of banks, co-ordinated by UniCredit, on the issuance of a EUR500 million green loan for Verbund.

Notable practitioners

Günther Hanslik gains praise from one client, who states: “You know that you’re in good hands with him,” while another interviewee adds that he is “quick at solving complex problems.” He focuses on financing matters, typically acting for international banks on the lender side.

DORDA

See profile on p.195

What the team is known for Respected banking and finance team representing international and domestic lenders in syndicated finance and real estate finance transactions. Also acts for borrowers on acquisition finance and asset-based finance deals.

Leverages insolvency expertise to assist banks with restructuring measures and DIP financing. Offers further experience in contentious matters and regulatory issues. Increasingly active in start-up and IT project financing.

Strengths One satisfied client enthuses: “They bring service to a different level.”

Work highlights Assisted a group of international funds as debtors to Steinhoff Europe with the securing of a lock-up agreement to a total value of EUR9.6 billion.

Notable practitioners

Tibor Varga (see p.183) offers expertise in debt restructuring as well as in real estate and acquisition financing. One client lauds his “impressive knowledge and experience in financing.” **Andreas Zahradnik** (see p.184) handles a range of issues within the banking sphere including regulatory matters and disputes as well as financial structuring deals. He is also active in banking M&A.

Eisenberger & Herzog

See profile on p.196

What the team is known for Dynamic practice offering a wealth of experience in the sector, acting on both domestic and cross-border mandates for financial institutions. Assists clients with acquisition and real estate financing matters, with additional strength in debt restructuring. Also active in banking M&A, as well as offering regulatory advice.

Strengths One client states: “They are detailed and focused and try to get the best for the customer,” adding: “I feel well supported in the mandate.”

Another impressed client states: “They are service-oriented, responsive, provide good value for money and are overall a pleasure to work with.”

Work highlights Assisted Deutsche Private Equity with the EUR40 million financing to acquire VTU Holding.

Notable practitioners

Marcus Benes is “pragmatic, very thoughtful and responsive,” enthuses one interviewee. He is active on cross-border financing deals, as well as assisting with revolving credit agreements and restructuring matters.

Band 3

Brandl & Talos Rechtsanwälte GmbH

See profile on p.190

What the team is known for Highly experienced finance team that stands out for its excellent regulatory and financial litigation capabilities. Regularly acts for leading global and domestic banks, insurance companies and investment funds. Further strengths include advice on financial crime allegations as well as start-up financing.

Strengths One client underlines the team as “very specialised on regulatory issues.”

Another client adds that the team is “very experienced,” and offers a “thorough approach” to mandates.

Notable practitioners

Ernst Brandl draws praise from one client who appreciates “his excellent knowledge and expertise.” He covers a range of regulatory issues in the financial services sphere, including start-up advice and financial litigation.

DLA Piper Weiss-Tessbach

See profile on p.76

What the team is known for Notable team offering

significant international capacity, particularly in the CEE and SEE regions. Acts for both lenders and borrowers, with a strong focus on project finance deals involving real estate, infrastructure or renewable energy assets. Further recognised for its activity in banking litigation and advice on regulatory matters.

Strengths One client appreciates the team's "fast and reliable" approach to mandates, as well as its cross-border strength, stating: "They get to the point quickly and have very good teams throughout Europe."

A source adds that the team is "always able to deliver on time and with highest quality."

Work highlights Acted for Eiffel Investment Group on the financing of several photovoltaic systems in Poland.

Notable practitioners

Jasna Zwitter-Tehovnik (see p.114) is particularly active on financing matters in the infrastructure and renewable energy sectors. One impressed client states: "Her knowledge of regulations is really profound, and her availability and response times are really outstanding."

Fellner Wratzfeld & Partners

See profile on p.199

What the team is known for Solid team best known for its strength in banking disputes, compliance and large-scale restructurings. Represents a number of significant international and domestic banks and investment funds. Also advises on the regulatory aspects of M&A transactions in the banking sector. Boasts additional experience in real estate and acquisition financing.

Strengths One client praises the firm's ability to deal with very sophisticated work, stating: "While we can get advice from other firms on plain matters, we look to Fellner Wratzfeld & Partners to help us out where high-end advice is needed."

Another interviewee states: "They have a good reputation in the Austrian market and a strong position in specific banking fields."

Work highlights Represented BAWAG in collective proceedings concerning fees for cash withdrawals at ATMs.

Notable practitioners

Markus Fellner advises on a range of matters, including negative interest rates and banking secrecy issues. He also represents clients in restructuring and financing mandates, as well as acting on non-performing loan transactions. One client lauds his "practical, hands-on approach in quickly identifying the core issues," further admiring him as a "very strong negotiator."

Band 4

Baker McKenzie – Diwok Hermann Pet-sche Rechtsanwälte LLP & Co KG

See profile on p.64

What the team is known for Solid team with notable strength in financing mandates, covering projects in the renewable energy and real estate sectors. Also offers advice on regulatory issues and banking M&A. Assists domestic and global financial institutions as well as international corporations. Also acts on restructuring matters. Clients benefit from the firm's large global network for cross-border work.

Strengths One source appreciates the team's "excellent understanding of our requirements, preferences and processes, as well as the timely delivery of critical matters."

Work highlights Acted for UBS on the financing of Charles Vögle following its insolvency.

Notable practitioners

Georg Diwok (see p.174) is "calm, precise and result-oriented," states one interviewee. He is noted for his advice to international banks on regulatory issues, investigations and refinancing matters.

Barnert Egermann Illigasch

See profile on p.187

What the team is known for Notable banking and finance team with a strong focus on financing matters, both domestic and international. Often represents borrowers in corporate financings, including those related to infrastructure projects and trade.

Notable practitioners

Alexander Illigasch (see p.177) acts on syndicated project financing, as well as advising on the division of leveraged portfolios. He is also noted for his experience in insolvency-related litigation. One interviewee describes him as a "bright and hard-working guy."

Gräf & Pitkowitz Rechtsanwälte GmbH

See profile on p.200

What the team is known for Active banking and finance team recognised for its experience in banking litigation. Handles a range of structured finance transactions, including real estate finance and acquisition finance, further to assisting with regulatory issues. Additionally active on debt financing and insolvency issues. Instructed by both Austrian banks and international financial institutions.

Strengths One client lauds that the lawyers within the team are "technically excellent and have outstanding communication and negotiation skills." Another interviewee states that the team is "committed and solution-oriented."

Work highlights Represented Niki in Austrian insolvency proceedings.

Notable practitioners

Otto Wächter represents clients in banking-related disputes, as well as advising on acquisition and real estate financing. One client states: "His solutions are always very practical and business-oriented."

PHH Prochaska Havranek Rechtsanwälte GmbH & Co KG

What the team is known for Active team with notable strength in acquisition and project financing, entering the rankings due to extensive market praise. Additional focus on restructuring matters and insolvency proceedings. Also acts on banking-related M&A and acquisitions of non-performing loan portfolios.

Strengths One client points to the "commercial knowledge combined with exceptional legal expertise" offered by the team, as well as its "attention to detail even under time pressure."

Another source notes: "The firm has an impressive know-how in the banking and finance sector and the team members are ready to go the extra mile for the client."

Work highlights Advised Austrian Anadi Bank as lenders on the EUR15 million acquisition financing of a Vienna hotel.

Notable practitioners

Wolfram Huber "provides well thought out, quality advice and is responsive," according to one appreciative client. He acts on acquisition and project financing matters, as well as advising on cashless payment services and banking secrecy issues.

Other Ranked Lawyers

Dieter Buchberger is appreciated by one source for his "very good expertise and high customer focus." He acts on banking-related M&A, as well as handling loan restructurings and project financing.

The "excellent" **Bernd Fletzberger** enters the rankings with commendations from market commentators for his work in insurance supervisory issues.

Bettina Hörtnner offers notable strength in banking compliance and transparency matters, with a particular focus on money laundering prevention. One client enthuses: "She is always contactable, extremely commercially savvy and a very practical person," adding: "Her knowledge of the market and regulatory relationships are really good and actually set her apart from others in the market."

Martin Oppitz draws praise from one interviewee for his "pragmatic and customer-oriented" approach to mandates. He is also noted for his work in contentious banking mandates, as well as advising on regulatory matters.

Uwe Rautner offers "commercially minded legal advice," according to one client, while another source appreciates his "calm and strategic approach to projects." He advises clients on financing transactions in the renewable energy and real estate sectors, with additional strength in banking M&A and contentious matters.

Bernd Taucher offers experience in domestic and cross-border corporate finance and restructuring matters. One client appreciates his "personal approach and the effort to explain the differences in the legal concept of Austrian law compared to other jurisdictions."

CAPITAL MARKETS

Capital Markets
Leading Firms
Band 1
CERHA HEMPEL *
Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer LLP
Wolf Theiss *
Band 2
BINDER GRÖSSWANG Rechtsanwälte GmbH *
DORDA *
Schoenherr *
Weber & Co. *
Band 3
Baker McKenzie – Diwok Hermann Petsche *
DLA Piper Weiss-Tessbach *
Senior Statespeople
Senior Statespeople: distinguished older partners
Hlawati Edith CERHA HEMPEL *
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Pachinger Stephan Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer LLP
Schneider Claus Wolf Theiss *
Weber Stefan Weber & Co. *
Band 2
Brogyanyi Christoph DORDA *
Glas Volker CERHA HEMPEL *
Khol Florian BINDER GRÖSSWANG Rechtsanwälte GmbH
Rath Ursula Schoenherr *
Temmel Christian DLA Piper Weiss-Tessbach *
Zivny Thomas CERHA HEMPEL *
Band 3
Haas Alexander Wolf Theiss *
Mayr Andreas DORDA *
Moser Christoph Weber & Co. *
Segur-Cabanac Eva-Maria Baker McKenzie – Diwok *
Varga Tibor DORDA *
Band 4
Fabian Tibor BINDER GRÖSSWANG Rechtsanwälte GmbH
Kinsky Philipp Herbst Kinsky Rechtsanwälte GmbH (ORL) ◇
Knobl Peter CERHA HEMPEL *
Zuffer Martin CMS (ORL) ◇
Associates to watch
Bazil Victoria Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer LLP
Hall Christopher Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer LLP
* Indicates firm / individual with profile.
◇ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

Band 1

CERHA HEMPEL

See profile on p.192

What the team is known for Cutting-edge capital markets team leading on complex, high-value transactions. Advises on debt issuance programmes as well as large-scale capital increase projects. Further strength assisting with regulatory issues, such as MiFID II implementation. Particularly well versed in advising clients from the real estate and financial services sectors.

Strengths One client lauds the team's tailored approach: "In addition to the excellent and very broad legal know-how, the law firm is characterised in particular by the fact that all partners respond very individually to client needs and have excellent market knowledge."

Another client admires the reactivity and availability of the team, stating: "The work is excellent and on time, and we can just pick up the phone and call them."

Work highlights Advised CA Immo on the issuing of a 1.875% EUR150 million corporate bond.

Notable practitioners

"The grand dame of Austrian capital markets" Edith Hlawati (see p.176) is lauded by commentators as a "well-versed and experienced practitioner" in the field. She is best known for advising listed companies on equity transactions and privatisations. **Volker Glas** (see p.175) advises clients who are active in the real estate and banking sectors on bond issuances and regulatory requirements, as well as assisting with disclosure matters. One client describes him as "very dedicated and solution- and detail-oriented." **Thomas Zivny** (see p.184) shows "enormous commitment to his clients," according to one interviewee. He advises clients from the banking sector on consolidation of multinational programmes, as well as assisting with prospectus approvals and bond issuances. **Peter Knobl** (see p.177) offers notable strength handling DCM matters, including issuance programmes. He also assists clients with disclosure issues, as well as listings and compliance matters. One client states: "I go to him for very specific and challenging topics, which he takes on and handles well."

Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer LLP

What the team is known for Leading team, providing full-service capital markets advice including bond issuances, MTN programmes and securitisations. Highly experienced in sizeable IPOs, acting for issuers. Also acts for banking consortiums as lead arrangers. A strong choice for cross-border deals, drawing on the firm's international brand and network. Enjoys a varied base of clients, including those active in the life sciences, chemicals, automotive and retail sectors.

Strengths One source admires the team as "really excellent and highly responsive."

Another client highlights the close-knit international network of the team, stating: "They are very responsive and have an international network behind them for anything related to the CEE region. We can call up a partner in London too and have a team put together quickly."

Work highlights Acted for UniCredit as arranger with other international banks on the update of its EUR40 billion medium term note programme.

Notable practitioners

Stephan Pachinger is "very easy to work with, responsive and able to co-ordinate with the Freshfields network," according to one client. He advises clients from the retail, oil and gas and life sciences sectors on cross-border IPOs and bond issuances. The "very hard-working" **Victoria Bazil** is regularly involved in cross-border mandates, such as IPOs. She offers further assistance in MTN and debt issuance programmes. **Christopher Hall** offers "huge know-how" to his clients, according to one commentator. He is active for multinational life sciences and retail companies regarding listing issues and IPOs.

Wolf Theiss

See profile on p.212

What the team is known for Outstanding capital markets team known for its prowess in issuer-side advice. Particularly acclaimed for its proficiency in large-scale bond transactions. Offers the benefits of a strong CEE-wide network, frequently assisting with cross-border matters in the region. Predominantly

active for banks, with clients also stemming from the manufacturing and insurance sectors.

Strengths An interviewee praises the clear and direct approach of the team: "The team is very professional, organised, straightforward and just great to work with. They are very reliable and not too complicated."

Clients particularly recommend the firm for DCM matters, with one stating: "Wolf Theiss as a firm is at the very top in that field."

Work highlights Acted for BMI Securities as lead manager on the issuance of EUR200 million 4.75% notes by Republika Srpska due 2023.

Notable practitioners

Claus Schneider (see p.181) advises on a range of both domestic and cross-border matters, including the digital issuance of promissory notes, debt issuance and fixed-rate mortgage bonds. One commentator notes that he is "very bright and pleasant to work with." **Alexander Haas** (see p.175) is noted by market commentators for his work in DCM-related matters. He also advises on the placement of mortgage-backed bonds and structured securities programmes. One client states that he is "very much our trusted partner in Austria."

Band 2

BINDER GRÖSSWANG Rechtsanwälte GmbH

See profile on p.188

What the team is known for Represents both companies and underwriters in ECM and structured finance. Particular strengths include handling capital increases and fund distribution. Also advises on compliance matters and has notable expertise in prospectus approvals with the Austrian FMA.

Strengths One client admires the "extremely responsive and engaged" team, underlining the "top-quality lawyers with comprehensive commercial understanding."

Another source reports that the team "reacts very quickly, which is important for us, and always finds a reasonable solution."

Work highlights Acted for BKS Bank on a EUR60 million capital increase, including prospectus approval before the FMA.

Notable practitioners

Florian Khol frequently advises clients on capital increases, with additional strength acting on bond issuance programmes and compliance matters. "He is committed and does a good job," according to interviewees. **Tibor Fabian** offers "proven knowledge in capital markets and a hands-on approach." He advises clients on the structuring of issuance programmes, including prospectus preparations and FMA approval.

DORDA

See profile on p.195

What the team is known for Well-known team advising both Austrian-based and foreign entities on the offering of bonds, with further experience in derivative products. Also assists clients with the listing of shares on the Vienna Stock Exchange, as well as capital markets-related litigation.

Strengths One source reports: "DORDA understands our business really well and the lawyers have also developed a very good understanding of our internal

dynamics and processes.”

Another client adds: “The team does an excellent job and delivers exactly what we need.”

Work highlights Assisted EGGER with its issuance and public offering of subordinated notes worth EUR150 million.

Notable practitioners

Christoph Brogyanyi (see p.174) is “pragmatic, knowledgeable and experienced,” according to one commentator. He assists clients with the listing of shares, as well as advising on capital market aspects in public M&A transactions. **Andreas Mayr** (see p.179) is best known for his work in public M&A, most notably in the banking industry. One client appreciates his “fast responses,” as well as his “service-oriented” approach to mandates. **Tibor Varga** (see p.183) is “extremely precise in his legal advice and always goes straight to the point,” reports one impressed source. He advises on the listing of shares and bonds as well as on derivatives matters.

Schoenherr

See profile on p.209

What the team is known for Highly active on large-scale derivatives and structured finance matters. Often acts as Austrian counsel on international transactions. Experience in derivatives-related litigation, as well as bond offerings and restructuring and regulatory compliance. Increasingly active in cryptocurrency matters.

Strengths A source appreciates that the team “responds quickly” and “works well with us and within the frame that we need.”

Work highlights Acted for CONDA on the ICO of its CWRD Token.

Notable practitioners

Ursula Rath (see p.180) is “hands-on and reliable,” according to one client, while another source states: “She works in a very impressive way and is dedicated to clients.” She advises on a range of capital markets matters, including notes offerings, structured products and derivative matters.

Weber & Co.

See profile on p.211

What the team is known for Active boutique with noteworthy capital markets capabilities. Advises on equity and equity-linked transactions including

IPOs and convertible bonds. Its DCM offering includes bond issuances and hybrid products. Also noteworthy activity in capital markets compliance advice. As well as acting for financial institutions, clients also stem from the energy, gaming and insurance sectors.

Strengths One interviewee is impressed with the “profound capital markets expertise and detailed regulatory know-how in recent rulings and law interpretation,” adding: “The main strength is the ability to understand the needs of the clients and the ability to co-work with a series of transaction teams including the company, banks, auditors and other lawyers.” Another client says: “The firm’s client service always exceeds my expectations.”

Work highlights Advised Deutsche Bank, J.P. Morgan, Société Générale and UniCredit as managers on the Austrian aspects of the issuance of a EUR500 million benchmark bond governed by German law.

Notable practitioners

Stefan Weber (see p.184) acts on bond issuances and equity restructuring mandates, as well as advising on reporting obligations and compliance. One client lauds him as an “absolute expert who can clarify issues promptly.” **Christoph Moser** (see p.179) represents clients in IPOs of financial institutions and life sciences companies. He also advises on covered and hybrid bond issuances and compliance matters. One client states: “He is an extremely quick thinker, gives highly valuable and hands-on legal advice and his responsiveness is outstanding.”

Band 3

Baker McKenzie – Diwok Hermann Pettsche Rechtsanwälte LLP & Co KG

See profile on p.64

What the team is known for Notable team advising both domestic and international clients on a range of capital markets issues. Advises on IPOs, disclosure requirements and prospectus preparations. Further experience includes handling capital markets-related disputes.

Work highlights Acted for s Wohnbaubank on the restructuring of its housing loan business, as well as on the base prospectus for a bond issuance pro-

gramme.

Notable practitioners

Eva-Maria Segur-Cabanac (see p.181) offers an “excellent combination of knowledge and social skills,” according to one client. She is particularly active handling IPOs, as well as bond issuances.

DLA Piper Weiss-Tessbach

See profile on p.76

What the team is known for Acts on the issuance of corporate bonds, including assistance with prospectus topics. Also advises on regulatory issues, such as market abuse allegations. Frequently acts for clients within the real estate and energy sectors, as well as financial services providers and public entities.

Strengths Clients appreciate the team for its “very responsive and quick” service, also adding: “DLA Piper has a very strong international platform offering seamless and very professional service.”

Work highlights Acted for a banking syndicate consisting of Erste Group, ING, Société Générale and UniCredit on the issuance of a EUR300 million corporate bond by Borealis.

Notable practitioners

Christian Temmel (see p.182) covers a range of matters, including advice concerning the issuance and exchange of corporate bonds, as well as regulatory issues. One interviewee says: “He has an impressive, well-founded knowledge of the law and at the same time applies a hands-on and solution-oriented approach.”

Other Ranked Lawyers

Philipp Kinsky is a “very strong communicator liaising seamlessly with other lawyers to make legal communication as efficient as possible,” according to one client. He advises on IPOs, cryptocurrency matters and also assists with regulatory and compliance issues.

Martin Zuffier acts on hybrid bond and debt issuance programmes, exchange offers and buy-backs. He also assists clients with regulatory issues. One client says: “We know that we can rely on him at any time, he stays calm and is always very clear-minded.”

COMPETITION/EUROPEAN LAW

Band 1

bpv Huegel

See profile on p.189

What the team is known for Outstanding practice, particularly renowned for multi-jurisdictional merger control procedures. Displays strength also in contentious elements of competition law, frequently representing clients in multinational competition litigation, cartel cases and follow-on damages claims involving the Austrian and EU competition authorities, with expertise in the local implementation of EU directives. Substantial knowledge of state aid proceedings and compliance matters, including internal training and compliance programmes. Represents a range of clients from the energy, construction and technology industries in competition litigation and arbitration before the European courts.

Strengths bpv Huegel is highly praised by one client

who admires the “excellent level of service, very short response time and ability to rapidly grasp the relevant issues,” adding: “They provide great co-ordination of internal teams and are always easy to understand.”

Work highlights Represented IMMOFINANZ in cross-border merger control issues relating to its acquisition of shares in S-Immo and CA-Immo.

Notable practitioners

Astrid Ablasser-Neuhuber (see p.173)’s breadth of expertise includes defending clients in cartel proceedings, dawn raid support and litigation cases. She represents high-profile clients across a range of industries including technology, media and energy. One interviewee states: “She has excellent knowledge, provides practicable solutions and has a hands-on working attitude. She always fights for her clients and their legal position like a lion.” **Florian Neumayr** (see p.180) advises on cartel proceedings including damages claims as well as compliance matters. He fre-

quently represents clients in dawn raid procedures. His clientele includes companies in the technology, pharmaceutical and manufacturing industries.

Schoenherr

See profile on p.209

What the team is known for Acclaimed competition practice, providing an outstanding level of advice and legal representation to international and domestic clients in merger filings. Also represents clients in cartel disputes including dawn raid assistance as well as private enforcement matters. Further areas of focus include abuse of dominance investigations as well as state aid litigation. Benefits from a network of offices around the CEE region to provide a team that is exceptionally well equipped to handle cross-border compliance matters.

Strengths One impressed client states: “They are our first choice for high-profile competition work because

Competition/European Law	
Leading Firms	
Band 1	
bpv Huegel *	
Schoenherr *	
Band 2	
BINDER GRÖSSWANG Rechtsanwälte GmbH *	
CERHA HEMPEL *	
Eisenberger & Herzog *	
Wolf Theiss *	
Band 3	
Baker McKenzie – Diwok Hermann Petsche *	
Barnert Egermann Illigasch *	
DORDA *	
Band 4	
Haslinger / Nagele Rechtsanwälte GmbH	
Reidlinger Schatzmann Attorneys-at-Law	
SCHIMA MAYER STARLINGER Rechtsanwälte GmbH	
Taylor Wessing	
Leading Individuals	
Star individuals	
Wollmann Hanno Schoenherr *	
Band 1	
Ablasser-Neuhuber Astrid bpv Huegel *	
Bauer Günter Wolf Theiss *	
Hartung Isabella Barnert Egermann Illigasch *	
Hoffer Raoul BINDER GRÖSSWANG Rechtsanwälte GmbH	
Kofler-Senoner Bernhard CERHA HEMPEL *	
Reidlinger Axel Reidlinger Schatzmann Attorneys-at-Law	
Thalhammer Dieter Eisenberger & Herzog	
Urlesberger Franz Schoenherr *	
Band 2	
Eckel Martin Taylor Wessing	
Kühnert Heinrich DORDA *	
Neumayr Florian bpv Huegel *	
Traugott Andreas Baker McKenzie – Diwok Hermann Petsche *	
Band 3	
Feldner Judith Eisenberger & Herzog	
Mayer Christian SCHIMA MAYER STARLINGER Rechtsanwälte	
Thyri Peter PETER THYRI (ORL) ◇	
Zellhofer Andreas Eisenberger & Herzog	
Band 4	
Anweiler Jochen Wolf Theiss *	
Dietz Christine BINDER GRÖSSWANG Rechtsanwälte GmbH	
Hummer Christina Saxinger, Chalupsky & Partners (ORL) ◇	
Innerhofer Isabelle BINDER GRÖSSWANG Rechtsanwälte	
Kristoferitsch Hans CERHA HEMPEL *	
Legat Georg Law Office Dr Georg Legat (ORL) ◇	
Oder Martin Haslinger / Nagele Rechtsanwälte GmbH	
Polster Stephan BECKER GÜNTHER POLSTER REGNER (ORL) ◇	
Schuhmacher Florian DLA Piper Weiss-Tessbach (ORL) ◇	
Stempkowski Martin Haslinger / Nagele Rechtsanwälte	
Zandler Dieter CMS (ORL) ◇	
Up-and-coming individuals	
Mayer Michael CERHA HEMPEL *	
Stegbauer Stefanie Schoenherr *	
Stenitzer Franz Reidlinger Schatzmann Attorneys-at-Law	

* Indicates firm / individual with profile.

◇ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.

Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

of their outstanding combination of industry and legal knowledge, flexibility and their dedication to achieve the best possible results.”

Another client praises the firm's ability in cross-border matters, stating: “We go to our point of contact in Vienna and ask them to organise everything for us. It really works seamlessly, with the Vienna guys you can be sure that they tell their colleagues how we expect the service to be, and that is helpful.”

Work highlights Represented Verkehrsverbund

Ost-Region in an Article 101 and 102 investigation by the European Commission into abusive and collusive behaviour relating to a regional transportation alliance.

Notable practitioners

“Pre-eminent” lawyer **Hanno Wollmann** (see p.184)'s vast experience includes advising on abuse of dominance, cartel and merger control mandates as well as providing state aid and general regulatory advice. One client highlights his “enormous technical expertise, his great ability to recognise connections and his pragmatism.” **Franz Urlesberger** (see p.183) is recognised for his work on abuse of dominance matters, contract disputes, dawn raid support and follow-on damages claims. He is described by clients as “extremely customer-oriented, flexible and technically competent.” Described as “very competent and customer-oriented,” **Stefanie Stegbauer** (see p.182) is added to the rankings due to her strengthened profile in the market. She assists with cartel matters including damages claims as well as merger control matters.

Band 2

BINDER GRÖSSWANG Rechtsanwälte GmbH

See profile on p.188

What the team is known for Highly regarded firm offering a comprehensive range of competition-related advice. Advises on all matters relating to cartels including dawn raid assistance, leniency applications, litigation and private enforcement. Also active on abuse of dominance claims and vertical restraints. Expert merger control practice, frequently assisting with phase II proceedings. Specific industry knowledge in the pharmaceutical, automotive and technology industries, additionally providing competition compliance assistance.

Strengths One impressed client states: “They are my go-to firm in Austria for antitrust law. They are very responsive and pragmatic, I would recommend them to any client.”

Another interviewee praises the teamwork and availability, stating: “They have good connection between the partners. If one is not available, you always have a second person to connect with.”

Work highlights Advised Lenzing on a range of matters including merger filings, supply agreements and distribution law.

Notable practitioners

Raoul Hoffer acts on cartel matters including leniency applications and damages claims. He is also active on distribution matters and abuse of dominance claims. One impressed client states: “We particularly value his strategic thinking and solution-focused approach. He certainly is one of, or even the top player amongst the competition lawyers in Austria.” **Christine Dietz** is best known for her work on merger notifications but also assists with abuse of dominance matters and distribution agreements.

One interviewee states: “She is very responsive and answers questions quickly. She goes out of her way and manages her team efficiently.” **Isabelle Innerhofer** is recognised for her work on contentious and non-contentious matters including distribution matters, abuse of dominance claims and follow-on actions. Clients say: “She is able to handle very complex competition issues.”

CERHA HEMPEL

See profile on p.192

What the team is known for Comprehensive practice offering national and EU advice on all types of competition matters. Renowned for handling internal investigations and cartel cases, providing clients with support during investigations by the Austrian Competition Authority and subsequent proceedings. Also represents clients before the European courts and in merger control and state aid proceedings. Strong capabilities in abuse of dominance cases, as well as compliance mandates, representing parties in bid-rigging investigations. Particularly active in the airline, retail, energy and technology sectors, representing a mixture of international and domestic clients.

Strengths One client says of the team: “We have been very happy and impressed with them,” adding: “They have great knowledge and understanding of the Austrian competition laws.”

Another client is impressed by the firm's strong bench, stating: “We are extremely satisfied with the services of the law firm and with the individual quality of our partners. In addition to their excellent and very broad legal know-how, the partners have excellent market knowledge.”

Work highlights Assisted Cisco Systems with the merger clearance relating to its acquisition of Duo Security.

Notable practitioners

Bernhard Kofler-Senoner (see p.177) is best known for his work on complex merger clearings including phase II proceedings, but also assists with state aid matters, compliance and dawn raids. One impressed client enthuses: “He is an excellent consultant in anti-trust and compliance matters. Apart from the fact that he is undoubtedly one of the best in his field, Dr Kofler-Senoner possesses real managerial qualities.”

Hans Kristoferitsch (see p.178) is recognised for his expertise on state aid and EU law. He further assists with bid-rigging matters and abuse of dominance allegations. One client attests: “He is a profound expert in the functioning of the European Commission and a very valuable legal mentor to any European public affairs activity.” **Michael Mayer** (see p.179) advises market-leading technology, retail, transport and construction companies on merger control proceedings, acquisition disputes, bid rigging and abuse of dominance mandates. Impressed clients state: “He has a really good understanding of the market and how market dynamics play out.”

Eisenberger & Herzog

See profile on p.196

What the team is known for Comprehensive team offering an all-encompassing range of competition advice including cartel investigations, abuse of dominance and merger control mandates. Assists with damages claims and compliance schemes as well as distribution agreements. Clients include national and international corporations in the pharmaceutical, retail, transportation and media sectors.

Strengths An impressed client praises the team's availability and efficient working style, noting: “You get a lot of partner attention and the firm was quite accommodating to changing timelines and impromptu meetings,” adding: “They used their resources efficiently and with an eye to costs. They quickly understood our needs and structured their work accordingly.” Another client states: “In addition to the outstanding responsiveness and the very high quality of work, they have a pragmatic approach to cases which leads to sat-

isfying results.”

Work highlights Advised Douglas on merger control proceedings relating to its acquisition of Akzente.

Notable practitioners

Dieter Thalhammer advises clients on competition aspects of M&A, cartel proceedings, abuse of dominance and dawn raid mandates. One of his clients enthuses: “He is extremely skilled, solution-oriented and experienced. He is a great leader with an incomparable feel for how to approach authorities and how to get the best bargaining result. His hands-on approach is the key: if there is a problem he names it and tackles it.” **Judith Feldner** represents clients from the gaming, pharmaceutical and manufacturing industries in merger filings, cartel proceedings and bid rigging. She rises in the rankings due to extensive praise from the market, with one client stating: “Ms Feldner provides excellent expertise and shows incredible efforts to support us with the highest-quality legal advice. For complicated competition law cases she is the first one you want to talk to.” **Andreas Zellhofer** is recognised for his work on abuse of dominance and supply agreement mandates. One client states: “He simply knows the field and he is a good communicator. He is very solid and reliable.”

Wolf Theiss

See profile on p.212

What the team is known for Substantial practice offering clients a network throughout the CEE region to provide consistent cross-border competition-related advice across Europe. Advises multinational and regional corporations from a wide range of industries, such as the pharmaceutical, telecommunications, construction and consumer goods sectors. Particularly active in merger control cases, but also assists with compliance, state aid law and cartel matters including dawn raids and damages claims. Offers additional expertise in vertical restraints.

Strengths Clients appreciate the team’s “very thorough and strategic” approach.

Work highlights Advised on the EU and domestic merger clearance of Hisense Group’s USD347 million acquisition of Gorenje.

Notable practitioners

Günter Bauer (see p.174) provides strong expertise in merger clearances and cartel matters including dawn raids and follow-on actions. Bauer also supports clients on audits and state aid matters. Interviewees deem him “one of the most knowledgeable lawyers in Austria.” **Jochen Anweiler** (see p.173) is praised by market sources as “an excellent competition lawyer who understands both the legal and economic side.” Anweiler advises clients on merger control proceedings as well as on state aid matters.

finance and media industries.

Strengths One satisfied client states: “The quality is high, they are responsive and have a commercial approach.”

Work highlights Represented Schindler in Austrian as well as European courts in private enforcement claims relating to the lift cartel.

Notable practitioners

Clients state **Andreas Traugott** (see p.183) is “technically competent, practical, easy-going, flexible and client-oriented.” Traugott represent clients in damages claims, merger control proceedings and distribution matters.

Barnert Eggermann Illigasch

See profile on p.187

What the team is known for Notable practice advising international and domestic clients on a full range of competition issues. Best known for its work in merger control filings, representing clients from the technology, finance, infrastructure and logistics industries. Also assists with issues related to distribution.

Work highlights Advised SIA on the Austrian merger control filing relating to its acquisition of First Data Corporation’s card processing businesses in CEE.

Notable practitioners

Representing domestic as well as international clients from the finance, energy, media and automotive industries, **Isabella Hartung** (see p.176) advises on merger control matters as well as distribution issues. One interviewee states: “She is smart and knows the answers to every difficult question. She is a very good competition lawyer.”

DORDA

See profile on p.195

What the team is known for Reputable team providing clients with a broad range of competition law services, particularly active on merger control issues related to acquisitions. Also advises clients from a range of industries including pharmaceutical, transportation and retail on state aid, distribution and pricing matters. Further assists with cartel matters including damages litigation.

Strengths Clients describe the team as “very responsive and supportive.”

Work highlights Represented iRobot before the Austrian Federal Competition Authority in a matter relating to alleged price maintenance.

Notable practitioners

Heinrich Kühnert (see p.178) is described as “pragmatic and responsive to client wishes.” His broad practice includes advising on merger control matters, cartel proceedings and state aid.

Martin Oder advises on a range of competition matters and is particularly recognised for his work on merger control and procurement mandates. Representing clients in the banking, energy and automotive industries, **Martin Stempkowski** advises on a range of matters including merger control, procurement and state aid.

Reidlinger Schatzmann Attorneys-at-Law

What the team is known for Respected firm with noteworthy experience in competition matters and compliance issues. Particular areas of expertise include cartel investigations and damages claims as well as internal investigations. Also well versed in merger control matters as well as state aid.

Strengths One interviewee states: “They are very responsive, practical and have a strong team.”

Notable practitioners

Described as a “leading name in the market” by a market source, **Axel Reidlinger** is highly regarded for his work on compliance mandates, merger control and cartel cases. He also advises on private enforcement proceedings. **Franz Stenitzer** is praised by market sources who state: “His quality is undisputed.” Stenitzer advises on the full range of competition matters including merger control clearances, cartel support and private enforcement claims.

SCHIMA MAYER STARLINGER Rechtsanwälte GmbH

What the team is known for Recognised firm advising on the full spectrum of matters including competition aspects of M&A, state aid law, distribution law and compliance advice. Also represents clients in cartel proceedings. Regularly advising clients in the energy sector with further experience in the hospitality and manufacturing industries.

Strengths One interviewee commends the team on its efficiency, stating: “They are extremely speedy, always available, meet the deadlines and manage their work well.”

Another satisfied client states: “They have absolutely splendid knowledge of the market and a pragmatic approach finding solutions that suit the client, which is the important part of the work.”

Work highlights Represented Sri Trang Agro Industry and Rubberland Products before the Cartel Court in a matter relating to distribution restrictions of an examination glove product that were allegedly operated by the clients and their joint venture partner.

Notable practitioners

Christian Mayer advises on merger notification, state aid and contentious distribution law issues. One appreciative client remarks: “He is a problem solver: he listens carefully, provides a solution and that is a gift. He is a very good networker and is able to negotiate impeccably with anyone to achieve the best results.”

Band 3

Baker McKenzie – Diwok Hermann Pettsche Rechtsanwälte LLP & Co KG

See profile on p.64

What the team is known for Well-established firm offering a significant global reach and a full range of competition law services to corporate clients, including cartel litigation representation and distribution advice. Handles merger control applications and competition law due diligence on company mergers including on cross-border deals. Particularly skilled in private enforcement defence. Boasts a strong base of clients in the energy, pharmaceutical,

Band 4

Haslinger / Nagele Rechtsanwälte GmbH

What the team is known for Established team based in Linz offering expertise in private enforcement proceedings, abuse of dominance, cartel investigations and merger filings. Represents both private and public clients in state aid matters, ranging from federal bodies to international companies in the telecommunications and financial services sectors. Also offers its clients compliance and dawn raid training and is particularly well known in the market for its procurement expertise.

Notable practitioners

Taylor Wessing

What the team is known for Well-recognised firm offering clients an international network and expertise in multi-jurisdictional merger filings, particularly those involving Germany and CEE. Assists clients with distribution systems and competition compliance. Possesses particular sector expertise in the construction, food and retail industries. Also well versed in competition litigation, especially in penalty proceedings. Provides further advice on business co-operation agreements and abuse of dominance.

Strengths A client lists the firm’s strengths as being

its “knowledge, international experience, reliability and understanding of our company culture.”

Work highlights Advised Ankerbrot on a resale price maintenance allegation in front of the Cartel Court.

Notable practitioners

Martin Eckel provides advice to clients in the construction, food and retail industries on a range of competition matters including distribution agreements, merger notifications and compliance.

Other Ranked Lawyers

Representing companies in the automotive, retail, insurance and engineering sectors, **Christina Hummer** advises clients on bid rigging, supply agreements and merger filing matters. One client states: “You receive valuable feedback as she would have had similar experiences before. Most times her first shot is on point.”

Georg Legat is recognised by market sources for his long-standing experience in the market, often advising on regulatory, cartel and procurement issues.

Stephan Polster has notable experience in competition and regulatory matters relating to the energy and telecommunications industries.

Florian Schuhmacher is best known for his work on merger control matters and is particularly active in the gaming, construction and retail industries.

Peter Thyri advises on a range of competition and European law matters and is especially noted for his work in the automotive industry.

Dieter Zandler specialises in merger control proceedings often advising clients in the media, banking and private equity sectors. Zandler also provides expertise on joint ventures and bid rigging.

CORPORATE/M&A

Corporate/M&A	Corporate/M&A	Corporate/M&A
Leading Firms	Senior Statespeople	Senior Statespeople
Band 1	Senior Statespeople: distinguished older partners	
BINDER GRÖSSWANG Rechtsanwälte GmbH *	Plesser Willibald Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer LLP	
CERHA HEMPEL *		
DORDA *	Leading Individuals	
Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer LLP	Star individuals	Talos Thomas Brandl & Talos Rechtsanwälte GmbH
Schoenherr *	Herbst Christian Schoenherr *	Trenkwalder Johannes CMS
Wolf Theiss *	Band 1	Band 4
Band 2	Birkner Albert CERHA HEMPEL *	Bachner Robert Schoenherr
bpv Huegel *	Brodey Martin DORDA *	Cvak Florian Schindler Attorneys
CMS *	Hasenauer Clemens CERHA HEMPEL *	Doralt Maria DLA Piper Weiss-Tessbach *
Eisenberger & Herzog *	Hödl Sascha Schoenherr *	Ettmayer Wendelin KPMG Law (ORL) ◇
Band 3	Huber Peter CMS	Gall Mario EY Law Pelzmann Gall Größ Rechtsanwältinnen (ORL) ◇
Baker McKenzie – Diwok Hermann Petsche *	Winkler Peter Eisenberger & Herzog	Graf Wolfgang Graf Patsch Taucher Rechtsanwälte
Brandl & Talos Rechtsanwälte GmbH *	Band 2	Hauser Wulf Gordian Hauser Partners Rechtsanwälte (ORL) ◇
Herbst Kinsky Rechtsanwälte GmbH	Ebhardt Horst Wolf Theiss *	Kaspar Rainer PHH Prochaska Havranek Rechtsanwälte GmbH
Band 4	Gröller Konrad Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer LLP	Kinsky Philipp Herbst Kinsky Rechtsanwälte GmbH
Barnert Eggermann Illigassch *	Hermann Gerhard Baker McKenzie – Diwok Hermann *	Kittel Jürgen DORDA *
DLA Piper Weiss-Tessbach *	Kutschera Michael BINDER GRÖSSWANG Rechtsanwälte	Lettau Thomas bpv Huegel *
Doralt Seist & Csoklich *	Schirmer Thomas BINDER GRÖSSWANG Rechtsanwälte GmbH	Mager Christoph DLA Piper Weiss-Tessbach *
Fellner Wratzfeld & Partners *	Zottl Thomas Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer LLP	Mikosch Christian Wolf Theiss *
Band 5	Band 3	Napokoj Elke bpv Huegel *
Graf Patsch Taucher Rechtsanwälte	Barnert Michael Barnert Eggermann Illigassch *	Rakosi Alexander CMS
PHH Prochaska Havranek Rechtsanwälte GmbH & Co	Diregger Christoph Doralt Seist & Csoklich	Reich-Rohrwig Johannes CMS
Saxinger, Chalupsky & Partners (SCWP Schindhelm) *	Fellner Markus Fellner Wratzfeld & Partners	Reich Roman Brandl & Talos Rechtsanwälte GmbH
Schindler Attorneys	Frotz Stephan Frotz Riedl Rechtsanwälte (ORL) ◇	Sigari-Majd Farid Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer LLP
Taylor Wessing	Gibitz Florian bpv Huegel *	Steiner Marco Eisenberger & Herzog
* Indicates firm / individual with profile.	Khol Florian BINDER GRÖSSWANG Rechtsanwälte GmbH	Trettnak Thomas CERHA HEMPEL *
◇ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.	Kusznier Florian Wolf Theiss *	Up-and-coming individuals
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.	Mayr Andreas DORDA *	Kulnigg Thomas Schoenherr *
	Popp Alexander Schoenherr *	Stichmann Elisabeth DLA Piper Weiss-Tessbach *
	Schindler Clemens Philipp Schindler Attorneys	

Band 1

BINDER GRÖSSWANG Rechtsanwälte GmbH

See profile on p.188

What the team is known for Widely praised for its strength in both domestic and cross-border M&A transactions. Advises on both the buy and sell sides and is well versed in private equity-led deals. Also assists noteworthy Austrian and international clients with local and multi-jurisdictional restructurings and joint ventures. Further experience in squeeze-outs and shareholder agreements. Active across a range of sectors, including automotive, financial services and pharmaceuticals.

Strengths One source highlights the team as “very hands-on and extremely hard-working,” adding: “I was very impressed by their creativity, responsiveness and willingness to test new waters.”

Another interviewee points to the team’s “very good international network” as a key strength.

Work highlights Advised Daikin on its EUR881 mil-

lion acquisition of AHT from Bridgepoint.

Notable practitioners

Michael Kutschera is admired as a “very important figure” in the Austrian market by one commentator, while another source hails his “very hands-on” approach. He acts on some of the firm’s biggest cross-border and domestic transactions. **Thomas Schirmer** is “technically well versed, highly client-focused and hands-on in his approach,” according to one impressed client. He is active on a range of transactions, including acquisitions, mergers and carve-outs, with a particular strength in the financial services sector. **Florian Khol** is active across the manufacturing and chemical sectors, with notable strength handling joint ventures and transactions on both the buy and sale sides. One interviewee states: “His delivery and performance were very high, he knew what to focus on and he was very pleasant to work with.”

CERHA HEMPEL

See profile on p.192

What the team is known for Highly respected team with a proven track record in acting for both buyers and sellers on public and private M&A. Well known for large-scale mergers and reorganisations. Offers additional expertise in the area of joint ventures. Also assists with corporate governance issues. Advises clients across a broad range of sectors, including those active in financial services, biotechnology and hospitality.

Strengths One interviewee enthuses: “The law firm is extremely service-oriented and enables a pleasant and efficient work environment even in difficult moments.” Another client adds: “The team is highly responsive, fully understands our business and provides us with great value for our money.”

Work highlights Acted for Saubermacher on the establishment of its cross-border waste disposal services joint venture with Veolia.

Notable practitioners

Albert Birkner (see p.174) *"thinks on his feet and has the ability to explain complex situations clearly,"* notes one impressed client. Another source praises him as *"a true expert and an absolute pleasure to deal with,"* adding: *"His dedication, know-how and negotiation skills are amazing."* He is active on both domestic and cross-border transactions in the waste disposal, market research and construction fields. **Clemens Hasenauer** (see p.176) is particularly active on share transactions and transfers, with additional strength in restructuring mandates. He advises clients from a range of sectors including energy, pharmaceuticals and financial services. One client enthuses: *"He always stays calm in difficult situations and thinks at least one step ahead of the other lawyers at the table. He understands complex issues quickly and comes up with solutions that really work in practice."* **Thomas Trettnak** (see p.183) is noted by one client for his *"straightforward thinking and clear advice."* He offers experience in shareholder squeeze-outs, cross-border acquisitions and start-ups.

DORDA

See profile on p.195

What the team is known for Strong team acting on large, international M&A matters advising corporates as well as private equity investors. Also handles significant corporate restructurings and international joint venture projects. Particularly active in the technology sector, but also advises on deals in the pharmaceutical, manufacturing and automotive industries.

Strengths One client extols the service offered: *"DORDA were very responsive, commercially aware and fast at understanding the situations at hand. The lawyers were good at simplifying complex issues and finding solutions. They took an holistic approach to their role and instilled confidence and trust throughout the process."*

Another source underlines the thorough approach of the team: *"The lawyers are always able to find a solution that works, no matter how difficult the problem."*

Work highlights Acted for the shareholder of ZKW on its EUR1.1 billion sale to LG Electronics.

Notable practitioners

Martin Brodey (see p.174)'s *"approach is direct, solutions-oriented and pragmatic,"* praises one client who adds: *"He is a strong communicator who brings confidence and trust."* He often acts on international transactions in the entertainment, healthcare and financial sectors. **Andreas Mayr** (see p.179) is noted by market commentators for his work on transactions in the financial sector. He offers experience in cross-border deals, advising on both the buy and sell sides. One client deems him *"definitely someone I would recommend."* **Jürgen Kittel** (see p.177) *"is very hands-on, always available and has a commercial, solution-oriented approach,"* says one impressed interviewee. Kittel is active in the fields of life sciences, gaming and security, advising on acquisitions and joint ventures.

Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer LLP

What the team is known for Outstanding transactional firm with a broad M&A and corporate offering, acting for clients from the real estate, telecommunications and automotive sectors. Provides market-leading seller- and buyer-side representation and supports prominent corporations in large-scale takeovers. Also assists with complex carve-outs and regulatory matters. Additional expertise in corporate litigation, drawing on its top-rated disputes team.

Strengths One interviewee describes the firm as *"the top one for international work."*

Another client enthuses: *"I have an excellent impression of them. Freshfields are consistent wherever you go, I have never had a negative experience. They have the office on the ground in Austria so they can provide international and local advice all in one go."*

Work highlights Acted for Liberty Global on the EUR1.9 billion sale of UPC Austria to T-Mobile.

Notable practitioners

Willibald Plesser is *"a tremendous lawyer,"* according to one market commentator, and is further singled out for his focus on the CEE region. He offers long-standing experience in the area, covering transactions and disputes within the corporate sphere.

Konrad Gröller is particularly active on cross-border acquisitions, acting for clients in the technology and automotive sectors. **Thomas Zottl** advises on a range of matters, representing target companies as well as buyers. One client notes his work in the public M&A market, describing him as *"very good and commercial."* **Farid Sigari-Majd** is *"very reliable"* according to one client, who adds that he is also *"very commercial and responsive."* He has a notable focus on the aviation sector, advising on regulatory issues and transactions.

Schoenherr

See profile on p.209

What the team is known for Market-leading team boasting strength in both domestic and cross-border mergers and takeovers, offering notable strength in CEE. Additional experience handling management buyouts, as well as advising on shareholder agreements. Active in a range of sectors including oil and gas, finance and automotive.

Strengths One client underlines the team's *"solid legal approach combined with pragmatic thinking and creative solutions."*

The service-oriented approach of the team is also highlighted by clients, with one appreciating the *"proactive support"* offered, while another states that the team is *"very responsive and will never sacrifice quality under pressure."*

Work highlights Acted for Starwood on the acquisition of a 26% stake in CA Immo to a value of EUR757.9 million from IMMOFINANZ.

Notable practitioners

The *"very impressive"* **Christian Herbst** (see p.176) is *"really outstanding,"* says one market commentator. He advises clients on takeover offers and acquisitions, as well as handling squeeze-out and de-listing matters. He is particularly active in the real estate industry. **Sascha Hödl** (see p.176) focuses on cross-border transactions, with notable strength in the CEE region. He is best known for his strength in public M&A. One client enthuses: *"He is very pragmatic, looks to solve problems and very much helps us to get things done. He is also a very good negotiator."*

Alexander Popp (see p.180) is noted for his work in the CEE region, with a focus on transactions and partnership agreements. One client attests: *"He is a key contact for the teams in other countries. He is the supervisor who translates our needs and the details to the others,"* adding: *"He is very clear and has an extra level of understanding of how to handle our business issues from a legal point of view."* **Robert Bachner** is *"very solution-oriented, keeps his cool in heated negotiations, is responsive and quick in delivering results,"* according to one source. He offers experience in a variety of matters, including establishment of strategic partnerships as well as takeovers. **Thomas**

Kulnigg (see p.178) advises on cross-border transactions, covering squeeze-outs and de-listing matters. One client appreciates that he *"always delivers solutions, and is an excellent communicator and a tough negotiator."*

Wolf Theiss

See profile on p.212

What the team is known for Particularly strong in CEE and SEE countries, benefiting from its network of local offices and the cross-border experience of the Austrian team. Assists with prominent restructuring issues and has notable experience in the finance and technology sectors. Regularly acts as local counsel on cross-border acquisitions. Further strength lies in mergers and reorganisations.

Strengths One source lauds: *"The team has a very deep knowledge in M&A, and is also very quick."*

Another client praises the great work ethic displayed by the team, stating: *"We could rely on that the firm represented our needs without surprises and with tenacity. They worked hard to make things happen so that our process never slowed down."*

Work highlights Represented the shareholders of Eurasia Invest Holding in the EUR275 million sale of all shares to Mayr-Melnhof.

Notable practitioners

Horst Ebhardt (see p.113) is *"very diligent and easy to work with,"* notes one appreciative commentator. He acts on acquisitions and reorganisations in the life sciences, technology and telecommunications sectors. **Florian Kuszner** (see p.178) offers *"real legal expertise with a business-focused approach which really impressed me,"* reports one client. He is active in acquisitions, such as management buyouts, including transactions with international aspects. He also acts for start-ups. **Christian Mikosch** (see p.114) is *"exceptionally capable and strategic in negotiations,"* reports one interviewee. He offers experience in a range of domestic and cross-border transactions, including joint ventures and acquisitions in the transport and telecommunications fields.

Band 2

bpv Huegel

See profile on p.189

What the team is known for Well-known team in the Austrian market offering strength in reorganisations, mergers and joint ventures. Assists with cross-border matters, working in co-operation with the bpv LEGAL network. Frequently advises clients from the financial services and aviation sectors, with an additional industry focus on the life sciences sector.

Strengths One client praises the *"good combination of legal and business approach"* demonstrated by the team, further reporting: *"It is very responsive and well adjusted to working in a cross-border context."*

Another interviewee underlines the *"high level of expertise, reliability and quick feedback on questions"* as key strengths of the team.

Work highlights Acted for IMMOFINANZ on the EUR760 million sale of its 26% stake in CA Immo to Starwood.

Notable practitioners

Florian Gibitz (see p.175) provides experience in a range of matters, such as corporate restructurings and acquisitions. He offers additional strength handling shareholder disputes and agreements. **Thomas Lettau** (see p.178) is *"very thorough and solution-oriented,"* notes one commentator. He has experience in

management buyouts and carve-outs, as well as in auction processes. **Elke Napokoj** (see p.180) advises on company creations, auction processes and acquisitions, as well as assisting with shareholder issues. One client enthuses: *"Napokoj impresses us with her accuracy, speed and quality of work. She is a perfect team player as she listens to the parties involved and then finds a good solution."*

CMS

See profile on p.193

What the team is known for Well-regarded team assisting with both domestic and cross-border strategic corporate restructurings and complex transactions, such as spin-off and leaseback matters. Also advises on shareholder activism and post-M&A disputes. Offers further experience in corporate governance issues. Advises clients from the energy, life sciences and real estate sectors.

Strengths One client appreciates the international network on offer: *"The team has a great network in the CEE region, which is very helpful and required in cross-border transactions."*

Another source admires the collegial atmosphere when working with the team: *"The legal analysis is great, but the lawyers are also very enjoyable to work with and dealt with everything in a very sensible manner."*

Work highlights Advised Alpha on its acquisition of 100% of the shares in Argo.

Notable practitioners

Peter Huber is active across a range of sectors, most notably in the life sciences and financial services fields. His expertise includes cross-border transactions, joint ventures and advice on shareholder issues. One client states: *"He has some real strengths in negotiations. Everything was as agreed, he really delivered what was promised."* **Johannes Trenkwalder** is noted by market commentators for his focus on transactional matters. He also handles regulatory issues and restructurings, with clients stemming from the energy and biotechnology fields. **Alexander Rakosi** is particularly active in the financial services sector, with notable strength in loan portfolio transactions and joint ventures. Sources say: *"He is a very good negotiator and he has a great understanding of the client's business."* **Johannes Reich-Rohrwig** offers particular strength in the field of corporate advisory and litigation, notably on post-M&A disputes. Interviewees describe him as *"well known and reputable."*

Eisenberger & Herzog

See profile on p.196

What the team is known for Thriving corporate practice with in-depth expertise in the financial services, energy and transport sectors. Visible on significant domestic and cross-border transactions, with additional experience in restructuring matters. Frequently acts for bidders on tender processes.

Strengths One client notes the team is able to *"deliver excellent quality with a pragmatic approach."* Another source adds: *"The team is service-oriented, responsive and a pleasure to work with."*

Work highlights Acted for Wienerberger on the sale of Semmelrocks to Rohrdorfer.

Notable practitioners

Peter Winkler acts for financial services and technology clients on transactions, joint ventures and related compliance issues. One client enthuses: *"He impresses us and our negotiation counterparties alike. He is incredibly focused and is on point with his advice. I can 100% rely on him."* **Marco Steiner** "has

an efficient and flexible hands-on approach," admires one interviewee. He is active across the CEE region and domestically on joint ventures, restructuring and share deals for clients in the pharmaceutical and energy fields.

Band 3

Baker McKenzie – Diwok Hermann Pet-sche Rechtsanwälte LLP & Co KG

See profile on p.64

What the team is known for Long-established team active on cross-border instructions for European and global clients, benefiting from the firm's large international network. Advises across a range of transactional and corporate matters, with further strength handling shareholder activism and post-M&A disputes. Experienced across a variety of sectors including financial services, life sciences and real estate.

Strengths One appreciative interviewee states: *"The knowledge and practice of local law were excellent. I found their drafting to be high-quality and I was impressed by their responsiveness."*

Another source adds: *"The lawyers are very proactive and come to us with ideas."*

Work highlights Advised TA Associates on the sale of its stake in Amann Girschbach to Capvis.

Notable practitioners

Gerhard Hermann (see p.176) *"has extremely good knowledge, works very hard and has never let us down,"* says one source. He advises on transactions within the financial services sector, as well as offering experience in corporate restructurings and general corporate matters.

Brandl & Talos Rechtsanwälte GmbH

See profile on p.190

What the team is known for Well-known team on the Austrian market, with a notable focus on transactions within the gaming sector. Further experience in restructurings and joint ventures, with additional regulatory strength. Also active in the start-up scene and boasts multinational venture capital and private equity funds amongst its client base.

Strengths One source says: *"The team understands our business, which allows for fast, clear and to-the-point advice. The team knows our needs, anticipates our questions and is always very focused on finding solutions."*

Another interviewee attests to the firm's strength in the gaming industry, stating: *"It is impressive that the firm can act with deep expertise on both the M&A, corporate and gaming fronts. Such a strong combination is in my view unique."*

Work highlights Advised Sportradar and its founder on the sale of a significant stake of the company to CPPIB and TCV.

Notable practitioners

Thomas Talos is *"invaluable and super practical on the business side,"* enthuses one client. He is noted by market commentators for his focus on the gaming sector and offers further experience handling joint ventures and regulatory advice in the pharmaceutical space. **Roman Rericha** assists clients with a range of matters, including carve-out and sales, takeovers and start-up advice. One client admires his *"eye for the essential details,"* and further highlights his *"extensive legal and economic know-how."*

Herbst Kinsky Rechtsanwälte GmbH

What the team is known for Noteworthy team in the local market, with experience in both domestic and cross-border mandates. Assists clients with joint ventures, carve-outs and restructuring matters, as well as handling market entry issues. Active in the biotechnology, insurance and media sectors and frequently acts on private equity transactions.

Strengths One client admires the *"flexible, straightforward and helpful"* team.

Another client hails the team's *"very fast and expert start-up service."*

Work highlights Acted as local counsel on Sun Capital's EUR400 million acquisition of ESIM Chemicals.

Notable practitioners

Philipp Kinsky is *"very flexible and responsive and a loyal partner,"* reports one source. He offers advice on a range of matters, including cross-border sales, carve-outs and mergers.

Band 4

Barnert Egermann Illigasch

See profile on p.187

What the team is known for Well-known team offering advice across a range of matters, including transactions, joint ventures and corporate issues. Further recognised for its work in the financial sphere, with additional strength in the retail and energy sector.

Strengths One client admires the *"high-quality advice across all areas,"* and further adds that the team is *"reliable and responsive."*

Another source appreciates the team's *"strong performance in defining a strategy."*

Notable practitioners

Michael Barnert (see p.173) assists clients with mergers and company formation issues, among other matters. One client lauds: *"He is very experienced and pragmatic and his team is well organised."*

DLA Piper Weiss-Tessbach

See profile on p.76

What the team is known for Represents notable Austrian and international clients, including financial services providers, as well as life sciences and technology companies. Assists with the Austrian aspects of global corporate reorganisations and transactions thanks to its strong global network. Additional experience in corporate governance and private foundation law.

Strengths One client says: *"The team we have worked with is highly professional, responsive and solution-focused, always striving to understand the business rationale, and is thus able to provide outstanding strategic and innovative legal solutions."*

The style of the team is also commented upon by another source who appreciates the *"pragmatic and modern approach of DLA."*

Work highlights Acted for ABRY Partners as local counsel on its EUR350 million sale of Basefarm Holding to Orange.

Notable practitioners

Maria Doralt (see p.174) offers *"excellent technical skills and sound business judgement,"* according to one client, who adds: *"She is a very strong communicator, excellent at listening and at spotting and resolving critical issues."* She acts as local counsel on international transactions, as well as advising on share and asset deals, joint ventures and reorganisations. She also offers strength in corporate governance matters.

Christoph Mager (see p.179) is active on reorganisation matters and auction processes. One client notes: *"He is very pragmatic, makes good suggestions and is open and transparent."* **Elisabeth Stichmann** (see p.182) enters the rankings following excellent feedback, including from one client who says: *"She is highly responsive, accessible and provides solution-oriented advice based on a structured approach and thorough understanding of complex situations."* She acts on reorganisations and acquisitions for clients in the agricultural and pharmaceutical sectors.

Doralt Seist & Csoklich

See profile on p.194

What the team is known for Notable team active on domestic and cross-border transactions, including asset deals, public tender offers and mergers. Further experience in restructuring mandates. Clients stem from the real estate, finance and media fields.

Work highlights Acted for TalentChamp Consulting on the sale of its shares to All for One.

Notable practitioners

Christoph Diregger is a *"strong lawyer,"* according to one commentator. He is active on transactions stemming from the banking sector, as well as advising clients on public tender offers and restructuring matters.

Fellner Wratzfeld & Partners

See profile on p.199

What the team is known for Robust team renowned for its restructuring expertise. Acts on a diverse range of deals, including spin-offs, takeovers and joint venture projects. Often represents shareholders in transactions, with supplementary support in contentious issues. Clients stem from the finance, manufacturing and professional services industries.

Strengths One client praises the team's *"strong market know-how, analytical capabilities and negotiation powers,"* and further lauds the service of the team, adding: *"The team is highly customer-oriented and always reachable with short response times."*

Another client underlines the team's commercial awareness: *"The team takes not only a legal approach but also takes the business side into consideration to provide tailor-made advice."*

Work highlights Acted for Wienerberger on its acquisition of a brick factory in southern Austria.

Notable practitioners

Markus Fellner is active for clients across the banking, retail and manufacturing sectors on restructurings and takeovers. One client reports: *"He is a very responsive and reliable partner; whenever you need something, he is there for you."*

Band 5

Graf Patsch Taucher Rechtsanwälte

What the team is known for Focused on mid-market M&A transactions for Austrian clients as well as assisting with large international restructurings, as well as providing general corporate advice. Clients

are typically investors or corporates stemming from diverse sectors, such as aviation, medicine and gaming.

Strengths One client appreciates the *"very good and effective"* team for *"making the effort to find quick solutions."*

Another source describes the team as *"responsive and very efficient."*

Work highlights Acted for APS on the EUR111 million acquisition of VB-Leasing.

Notable practitioners

Wolfgang Graf advises on cross-border M&A and restructurings for a broad range of clients, including those active in the aviation and energy sectors.

PHH Prochaska Havranek Rechtsanwälte GmbH & Co KG

What the team is known for Active on domestic and cross-border mandates, such as mergers, restructurings, carve-outs and share transfers. Further experience in auction processes and shareholder issues. Assists clients from the education, biotechnology and manufacturing sectors. Also frequently acts for start-ups.

Strengths One client praises the calming influence of the lawyers within the team: *"They are very professional and down to earth, and remain cool-headed even in difficult situations. They always see a light at the end of the tunnel."*

Another source underlines the team as *"very responsive and business-friendly,"* adding: *"The lawyers always know what I need."*

Work highlights Acted for the founders of Lernquadrat on the sale of their shareholding to Studienkreis.

Notable practitioners

Rainer Kaspar *"is easy to work with, can quickly adapt to changing situations and always stays positive,"* according to one satisfied client. He is active on share transactions, as well as advising on bidding processes.

Saxinger, Chalupsky & Partners (SCWP Schindhelm)

See profile on p.207

What the team is known for Assists with national and cross-border restructurings, sales, acquisitions and joint venture establishments. Also advises on corporate governance issues. Clients stem from the real estate, banking and energy sectors.

Strengths One client enthuses: *"I really appreciate the team's commitment and efficient, solution-oriented approach. The lawyers are able to unravel even very complex problems in the shortest possible time and bring them to point in a way that is comprehensible to the client."*

Another impressed interviewee adds: *"They have an excellent understanding of the industry and our business. The lawyers always manage to present complex issues in an understandable way and always adhere to set time lines."*

Work highlights Acted for AVV Investment on several transactions including its acquisition of 33% of

the shares in Sealantium Medical.

Notable practitioners

Immanuel Gerstner and Franz Mittendorfer are key contacts for clients.

Schindler Attorneys

What the team is known for Best known for its work for start-ups and private equity transactions. Assists clients with corporate governance and shareholder relations. Additional experience in domestic and cross-border joint ventures and public and private M&A transactions. Also advises on post-M&A disputes.

Notable practitioners

Clemens Schindler offers *"super legal expertise,"* according to one commentator. He offers experience in corporate matters and transactions, as well as advice on restructuring mandates. **Florian Cvak** is recognised for his corporate strength, as well as his work with start-ups. He also advises on restructuring mandates.

Taylor Wessing

What the team is known for Benefiting from the firm's global network of offices, the team is active on cross-border transactions as well as providing Austrian counsel in international reorganisations. Also active on the start-up scene. Experienced in various sectors, such as real estate and construction, manufacturing and financial services.

Strengths One client highlights the team's *"very flexible and fast"* approach to matters.

Work highlights Acted for Walstead on its acquisition of NP Druck.

Notable practitioners

Head of department Raimund Cancola is a key contact for queries.

Other Ranked Lawyers

Wendelin Ettmayer advises on corporate governance in addition to his work on domestic and international transactions for clients in the real estate and financial services sector. One client appreciates his *"calm and strategic"* approach, further underlining him as *"very trustable in negotiations, and he supports his client to the maximum."*

Stephan Frotz is noted by commentators for his strength in corporate advisory matters and also offers experience in restructuring and M&A deals. Interviewees describe him as *"extremely pleasant to deal with as his objective is to reach an agreement instead of gaining unfair advantages."*

Mario Gall advises on squeeze-outs, joint ventures and auction processes. He is active for a diverse client base, including those active in the chemical and telecommunications sectors.

Wulf Gordian Hauser is *"responsive and available,"* notes one appreciative interviewee. He offers experience in cross-border transactions, as well as assistance with joint ventures.

DISPUTE RESOLUTION

Dispute Resolution	Dispute Resolution: Litigation	Dispute Resolution: Arbitration
Leading Firms	Senior Statespeople	Leading Individuals
Band 1	Senior Statespeople: distinguished older partners	Band 1
BINDER GRÖSSWANG Rechtsanwälte GmbH *	Theiss Andreas Wolf Theiss *	Zeiler Gerold zeiler.partners Rechtsanwälte GmbH
DORDA *	Leading Individuals	Band 2
Band 2	Band 1	Haugeneder Florian KNOETZL
Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer LLP	Klauegger Christian BINDER GRÖSSWANG Rechtsanwälte	Konrad Christian Konrad & Partners
KNOETZL *	Knötzl Bettina KNOETZL	Kremslehner Florian DORDA
Schoenherr *	Kremslehner Florian DORDA	Pitkowitz Nikolaus Graf & Pitkowitz Rechtsanwälte GmbH
Wolf Theiss *	Kustor Thomas Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer LLP	Riegler Stefan Wolf Theiss *
zeiler.partners Rechtsanwälte GmbH	Band 2	Welser Irene CERHA HEMPEL *
Band 3	Fellner Markus Fellner Wratzfeld & Partners	Band 3
Baker McKenzie – Diwok Hermann Petsche *	Klauser Alexander Brauneis Klauser Prändl Rechtsanwälte *	Beisteiner Lisa zeiler.partners Rechtsanwälte GmbH
CERHA HEMPEL *	Reich-Rohrwig Johannes CMS	Fellner Markus P. Saxinger, Chalupsky & Partners (SCWP)
CMS *	Welser Irene CERHA HEMPEL *	Fiebinger Rudolf Fiebinger Polak & Partner (ORL) ◇
Graf & Pitkowitz Rechtsanwälte GmbH *	Band 3	Hauser Wulf Gordian Hauser Partners Rechtsanwälte (ORL) ◇
Band 4	Csoklich Peter Doralt Seist & Csoklich	Klauegger Christian BINDER GRÖSSWANG Rechtsanwälte
Brandl & Talos Rechtsanwälte GmbH *	Frad Thomas KWR Karasek Wietrzyk Rechtsanwälte GmbH	Lindinger Christoph Schoenherr *
Brauneis Klauser Prändl Rechtsanwälte GmbH *	Hörlsberger Felix DORDA *	Peters Philipp Konrad & Partners
Doralt Seist & Csoklich *	Karollus-Bruner Daniela CMS	Vavrovsky Nikolaus Vavrovsky Heine Marth Rechtsanwälte *
Fellner Wratzfeld & Partners *	Petsche Alexander Baker McKenzie – Diwok Hermann *	Band 4
Konrad & Partners	Trautenberg Clemens Wolf Theiss *	Böhm Erhard Baier Rechtsanwälte (ORL) ◇
KWR Karasek Wietrzyk Rechtsanwälte GmbH *	Band 4	Grill Anne-Karin Vavrovsky Heine Marth Rechtsanwälte *
Saxinger, Chalupsky & Partners (SCWP Schindhelm) *	Aigner Lukas Aigner Lehner Zuschin + Partner (ORL) ◇ *	Öhlberger Veit DORDA
Vavrovsky Heine Marth Rechtsanwälte *	Albiez Stefan BINDER GRÖSSWANG Rechtsanwälte GmbH	Petsche Alexander Baker McKenzie – Diwok Hermann *
* Indicates firm / individual with profile.	Bauer David Christian DLA Piper Weiss-Tessbach (ORL) ◇ *	Siwy Alfred zeiler.partners Rechtsanwälte GmbH
◇ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.	Bielez Holger CERHA HEMPEL *	Wong Venus Valentina Wolf Theiss *
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.	Brandl Ernst Brandl & Talos Rechtsanwälte GmbH	Up-and-coming individuals
	Heine Dieter Vavrovsky Heine Marth Rechtsanwälte *	Boras Filip Baker McKenzie – Diwok Hermann Petsche *
	Karasek Georg KWR Karasek Wietrzyk Rechtsanwälte GmbH	Associates to watch
	Pitkowitz Nikolaus Graf & Pitkowitz Rechtsanwälte GmbH	Fischer Eliane Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer LLP
	Schett Gregor Fellner Wratzfeld & Partners	
	Schima Georg SCHIMA MAYER STARLINGER (ORL) ◇	
	Strasser Philipp Vavrovsky Heine Marth Rechtsanwälte *	
	Vavrovsky Nikolaus Vavrovsky Heine Marth Rechtsanwälte *	
	Up-and-coming individuals	
	Lenz Christian Brandl & Talos Rechtsanwälte GmbH	

Band 1

BINDER GRÖSSWANG Rechtsanwälte GmbH

See profile on p.188

What the team is known for Strong dispute resolution team particularly noted for its litigation advice. Further instructed on international arbitration cases. Strong focus on banking-related disputes, including those involving negligent advice and mismanagement. Also active in the automotive and IT sectors. Advises on real estate conflicts and competition law disputes and regularly defends companies in class actions. Additional expertise in enforcement proceedings and trade mark disputes.

Strengths Clients appreciate the great customer service offered, one stating: “They really take care of the clients, we are always informed of the current status of the matters. The department is well managed, the argumentation is self-contained and prepared, and they do not shy away from trying new ideas or strategies.”

Another lists the team’s strengths as “impressive in-depth knowledge, availability and very strong-quality advice.”

Work highlights Represented immigon in claims by investors regarding mismanagement and false information.

Notable practitioners

Leading litigator **Christian Klauegger** garners praise for his “very well-grounded knowledge,” with a particular focus on his strength in IT-related disputes. He assists with disputes involving trade marks, distribution and licensing agreements, as well as advising on enforcement proceedings and class actions. He is also well versed in arbitration proceedings. **Michael Kutschera** offers clients long-standing expertise in corporate and commercial disputes, with a focus on post-M&A and contractual claims. He frequently acts as arbitrator. **Stefan Albiez** has a “stra-

tegic and prudent approach” and is further noted for his “in-depth knowledge of all the details of our cases,” according to one client. He has particular strength in the financial services sector, acting on investment disputes and mass claim proceedings.

DORDA

See profile on p.195

What the team is known for Market-leading practice with formidable strength in both litigation and international arbitration. Expertise covers product liability and damages claims in the retail, energy and real estate sectors, as well as post-M&A and insurance disputes, with a focus on D&O issues. Additional strength handling cases in the banking sector. Further experience in breach of agreement conflicts.

Strengths One client highlights the client-oriented approach of the firm, noting that the team is “very responsive to critical timelines,” and further appreciates its “excellent job in simplifying the key issues from complicated fact structures and documents.”

Another source points to the team’s ability to “think outside the box and come up with suggestions and alternatives.”

Work highlights Represented Chubb as D&O insurers of FACC in a ‘fake president’ case regarding company losses amounting to EUR53 million.

Notable practitioners

Christian Dorda (see p.174) is hailed as a “very seasoned practitioner” by commentators. He frequently acts as arbitrator in ICC proceedings, with

a focus on banking and insurance mandates. **Florian Kremslehner** is active in both litigation and arbitration proceedings, particularly those concerning financial disputes. He offers additional experience in unfair competition and contract disputes. According to clients, Kremslehner offers an approach “tailored to the clients’ needs in the most effective and efficient manner.” **Felix Hörlsberger** (see p.176) is noted by peers for his work in insurance-related litigation proceedings, such as D&O and industrial liability claims. **Veit Öhlberger** wins praise from clients for his “clear and concise advice and recommendations.” He is active in commercial arbitration concerning share transfers and contractual disputes, and often represents clients from the financial services sector.

Band 2

Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer LLP

What the team is known for Well-known team handling a variety of high-profile cross-border mandates. Strong focus on corporate and shareholder litigation, as well as post-M&A disputes. Additional strength in energy and investment arbitration, with further experience defending against mass proceedings. Represents clients from the financial, technology, construction and automotive sectors.

Strengths One client states: “We engaged Freshfields for an arbitration case and we were very satisfied with the service.”

Work highlights Represented EVN in ICSID proceedings concerning electricity tariffs engaging an investment treaty between Austria and Bulgaria.

Notable practitioners

The “excellent” **Thomas Kustor** is further described as a “good, strategic litigator” by market commentators.

Dispute Resolution Most in Demand Arbitrators
Senior Statespeople
Senior Statespeople: distinguished older partners
Dorda Christian <i>DORDA</i> *
Liebscher Christoph <i>Liebscher Dispute Management (ORL)</i> ◇
Torggler Hellwig <i>Torggler Rechtsanwälte (ORL)</i> ◇
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Reiner Andreas <i>ARP Andreas Reiner & Partners (ORL)</i> ◇
Zeiler Gerold <i>zeiler.partners Rechtsanwälte GmbH</i>
Band 2
Baier Anton <i>Baier Rechtsanwälte (ORL)</i> ◇
Fiebinger Rudolf <i>Fiebinger Polak & Partner (ORL)</i> ◇
Hauser Wulf Gordian <i>Hauser Partners Rechtsanwälte (ORL)</i> ◇
Hausmaninger Christian <i>Hausmaninger Kletter (ORL)</i> ◇
Band 3
Böhm Erhard <i>Baier Rechtsanwälte (ORL)</i> ◇
Hahnkamper Wolfgang <i>Wolfgang Hahnkamper (ORL)</i> ◇
Konrad Christian <i>Konrad & Partners</i>
Kutschera Michael <i>BINDER GRÖSSWANG Rechtsanwälte</i>
Pitkowitz Nikolaus <i>Graf & Pitkowitz Rechtsanwälte GmbH</i>
Platte Martin <i>Platte disputes.solutions (ORL)</i> ◇
Spiegelfeld Benedikt <i>CERHA HEMPEL</i> *
* Indicates individual with profile.
◇ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

He offers notable experience in mass proceedings and corporate litigation. **Eliane Fischer** regularly assists with cross-border mandates, including investment- and energy-related arbitration in the CEE region. She has further strength handling disputes in the technology and healthcare sectors.

KNOETZL

See profile on p.203

What the team is known for Ambitious boutique offering extensive expertise in local and cross-border litigation as well as international arbitration. Frequently acts on construction-related disputes, with additional experience in enforcement proceedings. Active across a range of industries including banking, energy and life sciences.

Strengths One client states that the team is “very reliable, always in time and always delivers very high standards.”

Another source relays: “KNOETZL is my go-to firm in Austria,” further underlining: “A particular strength is the firm’s responsiveness.”

Work highlights Represented Österreichische Staatsdruckerei in an asset tracing and freezing case against the Republic of Kosovo.

Notable practitioners

Bettina Knötzl is “an outstanding and very experienced lawyer” who is noted as a “very responsive and brilliant litigator” by one commentator. She represents clients in a range of cases, such as insurance and product liability litigation, damages claims and enforcement proceedings, both at a domestic and cross-border level. **Florian Haugeneder** gains praise for his service-oriented approach, with one client underlining him as “responsive and pragmatic,” and adding that he is “very hands-on and good in cross-examinations.” He acts for clients on arbitration cases, including post-M&A and agreement disputes, as well as termination and defect claims.

Schoenherr

See profile on p.209

What the team is known for Solid team with a

strong track record in international arbitration cases, representing governments, financial institutions and multinational corporations, benefiting from its extensive network of offices in the CEE and SEE regions. Active in investment as well as construction and energy arbitration proceedings. Offers additional experience in pharmaceutical and insurance cases.

Strengths One interviewee states that the team is “very good at understanding the client’s needs and difficulties and what needs to be done.”

Another interviewee enthuses: “We have never come across any other firm that delivers this level of legal advice and advocacy, whether in writing or orally. In our opinion Schoenherr leaves its competitors far behind.”

Work highlights Acted for Zelena and Energo-Zelena on a EUR42 million investment arbitration against the Republic of Serbia.

Notable practitioners

Head of department **Christoph Lindinger** (see p.179) represents clients in a range of international arbitration mandates, particularly those concerning investments and post-M&A disputes. His clients include those active in the financial services, automotive and pharmaceutical sectors.

Wolf Theiss

See profile on p.212

What the team is known for Noteworthy team with an extensive network in CEE and SEE. Frequently advises on corporate and shareholder disputes as well as insolvency and insurance litigation. Offers experience in cross-border product liability conflicts. Additional strength in market abuse and antitrust proceedings. Clients stem from a range of sectors, including financial services, construction, aerospace and chemical companies.

Strengths One client appreciates the strong communication skills displayed by the team, with one stating: “I am very satisfied with the examination and preparation of written documents and also with the personal conversation. The representation in the court proceedings was impeccable.”

Another source underlines the team’s cross-border ability: “Its main strength is the international outreach in the SEE region.”

Work highlights Assisted KA Finanz with civil proceedings concerning mismanagement of funds and liability issues to an estimated value of EUR148 million.

Notable practitioners

Andreas Theiss (see p.182) is recommended for his long-standing experience in the field. He offers experience in corporate litigation, as well as banking and insurance disputes. Sources attest: “He is probably one of the most well-connected lawyers in Austria. He really knows everybody.” **Stefan Riegler** (see p.181) “combines vast knowledge with a pragmatic, common-sense approach,” according to one client. He represents clients from the technology, construction and energy sectors in post-M&A disputes and enforcement proceedings.

Clemens Trauttenberg (see p.183) acts for both domestic and international clients, with a particular focus on banking litigation. He also represents clients in shareholder disputes and offers further strength in white-collar crime cases. **Venus Valentina Wong** (see p.184) acts on international arbitration proceedings, covering post-M&A disputes and enforcement matters for clients in the construction, oil and manufacturing sectors. One source admires “the high accuracy of her work and

her great expertise in international arbitration law.”

zeiler.partners Rechtsanwälte GmbH

What the team is known for Dynamic disputes boutique predominantly active in the arbitration sphere, acting on significant cross-border matters, most notably in the CEE region. Noted for its involvement in investment arbitrations relating to energy, with further strength in insurance and construction-related disputes. Clients stem from a range of industries including retail, engineering and manufacturing.

Strengths One client appreciates that the team is “highly responsive, giving valuable replies within a very short time.”

Work highlights Represented the Czech Republic in a EUR90 million investment arbitration regarding the trade of poppy seeds.

Notable practitioners

Gerold Zeiler is “very impressive and very good with clients,” according to one source. He is active on energy-related disputes involving investments and competition issues, with additional strength in insurance mandates. **Lisa Beisteiner** represents clients from the energy, retail and telecommunications sectors on corporate and commercial arbitration. The “impressive” **Alfred Siwy** is focused on cross-border investment arbitration, as well as handling competition-related claims. He acts for both multinational companies and government bodies.

Band 3

Baker McKenzie – Diwok Hermann Petsche Rechtsanwälte LLP & Co KG

See profile on p.64

What the team is known for Active team acting on both domestic and cross-border matters. Offers representation in international arbitration mandates, such as those involving investment and insolvency issues. Also active in cross-border litigation, particularly in the SEE region. Notable strength in post-M&A and ownership rights disputes, with additional expertise in construction cases. Financial services forms a key industry focus within the team, with clients also stemming from hospitality, biotechnology and steel sectors.

Strengths One client notes “the high grade of expertise” demonstrated by the team, as well as its “accurate service and very deep understanding of our business.” Another source appreciates that “everything is delivered on time, even if we ask for it on short notice.” The same source adds: “They do research even beyond what we would expect and have discovered many useful facts for our case.”

Work highlights Represented the Albanian municipality of Vlorë in arbitration proceedings following an early termination of a concession agreement relating to a contract for parking payment systems.

Notable practitioners

Alexander Petsche (see p.180) represents clients in a range of litigation mandates, including post-M&A and shareholder disputes, as well as insolvency-related cases, and offers additional expertise in arbitration proceedings. One client appreciates his focused approach, stating: “He is very direct, open and very realistic regarding expectations.” **Filip Boras** (see p.174) wins plaudits from one client for his “great insights and impressive strategic approach which has helped set the case in the right direction.” He offers particular strength in the area of international

investment arbitration, as well as assisting clients with construction and ownership disputes.

CERHA HEMPEL

See profile on p.192

What the team is known for Well-rounded team experienced in complex litigation matters, offering additional strength in international arbitration matters, with team members acting as arbitrators and as counsel. Particularly knowledgeable in unfair competition proceedings and construction-related conflicts. Further expertise lies in post-M&A and shareholder disputes, as well as ownership and mining rights claims. Represents clients from a range of industries including engineering, real estate and healthcare.

Strengths One client states: *"In addition to the excellent and very broad legal know-how, the law firm is characterised in particular by the fact that all partners respond individually to client needs and have excellent market knowledge."*

The team's responsiveness is also appreciated by sources, with one noting: *"We always appreciated CERHA HEMPEL's quick and helpful answers to urgent matters."*

Work highlights Represented SmartStream Technologies in an embezzlement case against former employees.

Notable practitioners

Irene Welser (see p.184) is noted for her strength in both arbitration and litigation proceedings. She often advises on cases pertaining to unfair competition and construction, as well as shareholder disputes. One client praises her *"thoughtful and strategic actions,"* adding: *"She is a first-class negotiator; for all foreseeable issues she already has clear, elaborated negotiation lines."* **Benedikt Spiegelfeld** (see p.182) offers long-standing experience in the field of arbitration. His recent work includes representation in ownership and post-M&A disputes, including tax liability issues. **Holger Bielez** (see p.174) garners praise from one client for *"thinking outside of the box and finding the right solutions."* He represents multinational clients in commercial and insolvency-related litigation.

CMS

See profile on p.193

What the team is known for Noted for both its litigation and arbitration practices, covering both domestic and international cases. Expertise includes contentious construction and insurance matters as well as damage claims and liability cases. Further experience in post-M&A and unfair competition disputes. Clients stem from a range of fields including energy, travel and financial services.

Strengths One source underlines that the lawyers are *"very attentive and bring the best ideas to the table."*

Work highlights Represented STRABAG in an arbitration process concerning the termination of a construction contract in Bosnia.

Notable practitioners

Johannes Reich-Rohrwig is noted by commentators for his strength in shareholder and corporate disputes. He offers additional expertise in construction and unfair competition proceedings. One interviewee attests: *"He is a very good lawyer for litigation, specifically concerning shareholder and corporate law."* **Daniela Karollus-Bruner** has notable strength in damages claims, while also offering expertise in unfair competition and employment proceedings.

Graf & Pitkowitz Rechtsanwälte GmbH

See profile on p.200

What the team is known for Notable team representing high-profile multinational corporations from sectors such as financial services, construction and energy. Advises on class actions and fraud allegations. Further strength in employment disputes and enforcement proceedings. Also participates in international arbitration, appearing as both arbitrators and counsel.

Strengths One client notes that the team is *"very responsive and easy to work with."*

Work highlights Acted for McArthurGlen on a range of lease-related disputes, including unpaid rent and costs, as well as handling claim enforcement matters.

Notable practitioners

Nikolaus Pitkowitz is noted as *"very calm"* in proceedings by one client, who further appreciates the *"good overall picture and strategic approach"* that he offers. He handles a broad range of work in both litigation and arbitration proceedings, including data protection and distribution-related disputes. He offers particular strength in the construction industry.

Band 4

Brandl & Talos Rechtsanwälte GmbH

See profile on p.190

What the team is known for Well-regarded team with particular expertise in representing insurance companies and banks in financial and regulatory disputes. Active in commercial litigation and regularly handles damages claims. Also notably active on construction disputes, with additional experience in liability cases.

Strengths One client stresses *"the firm's strategic planning and extensive preparation of every single process."*

Another source states that the team is *"very good, precise and deep into the right points."*

Notable practitioners

Ernst Brandl is active in insurance-related litigation, including issues such as right of withdrawal and alleged incorrect advice. One source appreciates his ability to *"translate the legal speak into normal German."* **Christian Lenz** is *"straight to the point, even in complex structures,"* admires one source. He is active in disputes for banks and insurance companies, representing them in loan repayment litigation as well as in damages claims.

Brauneis Klauser Prändl Rechtsanwälte GmbH

See profile on p.191

What the team is known for Offers civil and commercial litigation expertise, including in cross-border disputes. Recognised for its activity in consumer protection cases, where it represents both individuals and groups, with further experience in insolvency litigation. Clients include financial institutions and professional services companies. Offers additional strength in insurance and employment litigation.

Strengths One client states that the team is *"always available, offers a quick and satisfying response"* and provides *"good solutions for tricky cases."*

Another source adds: *"They give clear advice and they are always very thorough."*

Work highlights Represented Spirits Interna-

tional in the Austrian part of a dispute with the Russian Federation concerning ownership of the STOLICHNAYA and MOSKOVSKAYA trade marks.

Notable practitioners

Alexander Klauser (see p.177) gains praise from one client for his *"very accurate and constructive approach"* in mandates. He offers experience in employment and insolvency litigation, as well as strength in disputes concerning professional negligence.

Doralt Seist & Csoklich

See profile on p.194

What the team is known for Best known for its representation of financial services providers in regulatory and insolvency litigation. Also active in damages claims and director liability litigation. Further experience in breach of secrecy matters. The team also acts for clients from the pharmaceutical, telecommunications and insurance sectors.

Notable practitioners

Peter Csoklich offers experience in litigation proceedings pertaining to insolvency, insurance and tax matters, on both an international and domestic level.

Fellner Wratzfeld & Partners

See profile on p.199

What the team is known for Notable strength in finance-related disputes involving foreign currency loans and investments, with further experience in competition and employment litigation. Highly active within the banking field, while also assisting clients from the retail and sports sectors. Additional experience in collective proceedings and claim enforcement.

Strengths One client praises the team's *"profound knowledge and understanding of our business,"* adding that the team *"does not take a mere legal approach but also takes the business side into consideration to provide tailor-made advice."*

Another underlines the *"high accessibility"* of the team, as well as its *"quick handling"* of matters.

Work highlights Represented BAWAG in collective proceedings against a consumer protection organisation and the Federal Chamber of Labour concerning fees for cash withdrawals at ATMs.

Notable practitioners

Markus Fellner is a *"very experienced lawyer with a hands-on mentality,"* according to one client. He acts on a range of contentious mandates including alleged malpractice, termination of agreements and enforcements. **Gregor Schett** is particularly active in banking litigation, covering money transfers and alleged misleading advice, as well as offering representation in collective proceedings. One client states: *"Alongside his legal expertise, we value his strategic skills and tenacity."*

Konrad & Partners

What the team is known for Ambitious boutique focusing on international commercial and investment arbitration. Also noted for its expertise in insurance-related conflicts. Sectors of focus include telecommunications, construction and energy. Additional experience in alternative dispute resolution.

Notable practitioners

Christian Konrad acts as both arbitrator and counsel on international proceedings, with a notable focus on disputes in the CEE region. He advises clients on a variety of matters, including disputes related to infrastructure projects, investments and construction. The *"very strong"* **Philipp Peters** rep-

resents clients in international arbitration, involving supply and delivery contracts as well as construction and energy projects.

KWR Karasek Wietrzyk Rechtsanwälte GmbH

See profile on p.205

What the team is known for Active in both domestic and international cases, with recognised experience in real estate litigation. Supports clients in loan repayment and liability lawsuits, as well as in enforcement proceedings. Further expertise handling conflicts in construction and infrastructure projects. Clients include those from the media, energy and banking sectors.

Strengths One client describes the team as “*motivated, flexible and powerful*.”

Another interviewee notes: “*They are quick, to the point and give relevant information*.”

Notable practitioners

Thomas Frad handles damages claims in real estate and construction projects, as well as advising on alleged defective products cases. He offers further strength in loan repayment and liability disputes. One client describes him as a “*good litigator who quickly captures the problem and keeps track even in complicated procedures*.” The “*very prominent construction litigator*” **Georg Karasek** is recognised by commentators for his experience handling real estate and construction conflicts. He offers further strength in architects’ law.

Saxinger, Chalupsky & Partners (SCWP Schindhelm)

See profile on p.207

What the team is known for Handles both domestic and cross-border matters and is known for its expertise in industrial disputes, including those stemming from the construction and engineering sectors. Acts on insurance-related matters, as well as share transfer and credit liability conflicts.

Strengths One client underlines the team’s accessibility, stating: “*It is a dynamic team with very high reactivity*.”

Another client states: “*It is worth noting their procedural expertise and their willingness to provide clients with the best possible ability to support*.”

Work highlights Represented ASFiNAG in a EUR4 million dispute concerning alleged additional costs.

Notable practitioners

Markus P Fellner represents companies in a variety of fields including the insurance, engineering and automotive sectors. He handles damages claims, as well as disputes regarding non-compliance and

licensing agreements. One client describes him as “*dynamic*,” adding: “*He has a good capacity to analyse complex issues*.”

Vavrovsky Heine Marth Rechtsanwälte

See profile on p.210

What the team is known for Enters the rankings with strong market support. Expertise covers a range of issues, such as unfair competition, insolvency and construction litigation, with a particular focus on insurance mandates. Further strength in arbitration cases, including investor-state disputes. Clientele covers those active in the financial services, real estate and technology fields.

Strengths One client highlights the team’s ability to “*find solutions to very complex issues in a very short period of time*,” adding: “*We know that we are in safe hands and have full confidence in the firm*.”

Another source lauds: “*The client service is first class. The team excels in service orientation and is highly responsive and approachable. The lawyers are absolutely focused on their clients’ objectives, and their efficiency, commitment and responsiveness are remarkable*.”

Work highlights Represented Häusermann in product liability litigation concerning allegedly defective components.

Notable practitioners

Anne-Karin Grill (see p.175) handles termination of contracts, non-payment of fees and post-M&A disputes and is also active in alternative dispute resolution. One interviewee appreciates her as a “*very positive and solution-oriented lawyer*.” **Dieter Heine** (see p.176) represents clients in licensing, employment and product liability litigation. One client praises him as a “*strong litigator with excellent negotiation and mediation skills*,” adding: “*He is economically savvy and understands our business like the back of his hand*.” **Philipp Strasser** (see p.182) is praised for his capability to provide “*both analytical, in-depth advice as well as solution-oriented, hands-on proposals for action*.” He offers expertise in both domestic and cross-border insurance litigation, with a particular strength in liability issues. **Nikolaus Vavrovsky** (see p.183) is lauded as an “*exceptionally gifted strategist*” by one client, while another source underlines him as “*proactive, personally available and completely reliable*.” He is active in both litigation and arbitration proceedings, with a focus on real estate and construction matters. He offers additional strength in unfair competition proceedings and banking-related disputes.

Other Ranked Lawyers

Lukas Aigner (see p.173) gains praise from one client for his “*superb analysis, precise drafting and good communication skills*.” He represents clients in banking-related litigation, including reimbursement and foreign currency loan issues, with further strength in insurance disputes.

Anton Baier acts on conflicts within the construction and technology fields involving investments, loans and post-M&A disputes.

David Christian Bauer (see p.173) covers data protection, liability and termination of agreements disputes for clients active in the financial services sector, with additional experience in the life sciences field.

Erhard Böhm acts as both counsel and arbitrator in international arbitration proceedings, with a focus on construction and investment matters.

Rudolf Fiebinger is best known for his long-standing experience in the arbitrations field where he acts as counsel or arbitrator in various international tribunals.

Wolfgang Hahnkamper offers lengthy experience within the arbitration field, particularly in regard to commercial disputes. One client notes: “*He is a safe pair of hands and really goes into the details*.”

Wulf Gordian Hauser enjoys a varied caseload, acting on conflicts in the manufacturing, construction and automotive sectors, with particular strength in financing and post-M&A disputes. One source describes him as “*a very reliable, knowledgeable lawyer and an experienced arbitrator*.”

Christian Hausmaninger is recognised by market commentators for his work as arbitrator. His areas of expertise include corporate and banking disputes.

Christoph Liebscher is noted by commentators for his wealth of experience as arbitrator. He often acts on international mandates, with a focus on CEE.

Martin Platte is well known in the market for sitting as arbitrator, covering a range of matters such as insurance, distribution and transport issues.

Andreas Reiner is recognised for his long-standing experience in the field, with further commendations for his work in cross-border arbitration. Interviewees describe him as “*an excellent international arbitrator of the very first class*.”

Georg Schima is well known in the market, with commentators noting his expertise in employment disputes. He is also active in class action suits.

Hellwig Torggler is recognised for his experience as arbitrator, with one source noting that he is “*very sharp-minded*,” while another adds that he is “*very reputable and reliable*.”

EMPLOYMENT

Employment
Leading Firms
Band 1
CMS *
SCHIMA MAYER STARLINGER Rechtsanwälte GmbH
Wolf Theiss *
Band 2
Burgstaller & Preyer
MOSATI Rechtsanwälte
Band 3
Baker McKenzie – Diwok Hermann Petsche *
BINDER GRÖSSWANG Rechtsanwälte GmbH *
CERHA HEMPEL *
DORDA *
FREIMÜLLER / OBEREDER / PILZ
Schoenherr *
Band 4
Dr Helmut Engelbrecht Rechtsanwälte
Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer LLP
Gerlach Rechtsanwälte
Rechtsanwaltskanzlei Gahleitner
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Burgstaller Gerald Burgstaller & Preyer
Gahleitner Sieglinde Rechtsanwaltskanzlei Gahleitner
Gerlach Roland Gerlach Rechtsanwälte
Hainz Bernhard CMS
Obereder Alois FREIMÜLLER / OBEREDER / PILZ
Peschek Ralf Wolf Theiss *
Preyer Helmut Burgstaller & Preyer
Schima Georg SCHIMA MAYER STARLINGER Rechtsanwälte
Tinhofer Andreas zeiler.partners Rechtsanwälte (ORL) ◇
Wolf Christoph CMS
Band 2
Angermair Thomas DORDA *
Egermann Clemens Barnert Egermann Illigasch (ORL) ◇ *
Engelbrecht Helmut Dr Helmut Engelbrecht Rechtsanwälte
Feichtinger Julian CERHA HEMPEL *
Kühteubl Stefan Schoenherr *
Marhold Franz Herbst Kinsky Rechtsanwälte GmbH (ORL) ◇
Pallwein-Prettner Angelika BINDER GRÖSSWANG
Unterrieder Matthias Wolf Theiss *
Band 3
Eichmeyer Jana Eisenberger & Herzog (ORL) ◇
Köck Stefan Greindl & Köck Attorneys At Law (ORL) ◇
Lukanec Horst BINDER GRÖSSWANG Rechtsanwälte GmbH
Maier Philipp Baker McKenzie – Diwok Hermann Petsche *
Band 4
Buzanich-Sommeregger Karin Freshfields Bruckhaus
Celar Michael Celar Senoner Weber-Wilfert (ORL) ◇
Kapek Wolfgang Taylor Wessing (ORL) ◇
Kinner Wolfgang BIRKNER KINNER Rechtsanwälte (ORL) ◇
Knell Alexandra Alexandra Knell (ORL) ◇
Körber-Risak Katharina KÖRBER-RISAK (ORL) ◇
Laimer Hans Georg zeiler.partners Rechtsanwälte (ORL) ◇
Majoros Thomas Dietrich, Majoros & Walzel (ORL) ◇
Mertinz Anna KWR Karasek Wietrzyk Rechtsanwälte (ORL) ◇
Prchal Robert Prchal Rechtsanwälte GmbH (ORL) ◇
Widner Jakob Graf & Pitkowitz Rechtsanwälte GmbH (ORL) ◇
Winter Jens CMS
Wratzfeld Kurt Fellner Wratzfeld & Partners (ORL) ◇
Up-and-coming individuals
Hahn Natalie SCHIMA MAYER STARLINGER Rechtsanwälte
Associates to watch
Pöschl Walter Wolf Theiss *

* Indicates firm / individual with profile.

◇ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.

Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

Band 1

CMS

See profile on p.193

What the team is known for Market-leading practice providing expert advice on all aspects of public and private employment law. Has particular know-how in the area of pension law, medical employment law and public service law. Represents clients before courts and authorities as well as negotiating with works councils and trade unions. Broad client base that encompasses a range of industries, including education, financial services, telecommunications, manufacturing, arts and culture.

Strengths A client appreciates that the practice “has very smart partners, understands the needs of the company and finds pragmatic solutions.”

Market sources note that the firm has “a very strong labour law department” and a “well-established” presence in the market.

Work highlights Advised ADX Energy on all employment law aspects of its takeover of the Zistersdorf & Gaiselberg oilfields from RAG, including advice on transfer of operations and company pensions.

Notable practitioners

Bernhard Hainz remains one of the leading figures in the Austrian employment law market. His broad remit of expertise spans dismissals, restructuring procedures, pensions law disputes and employment contracts. A pleased client reports: “He is very experienced, focused on solutions and knows how to reach our goals.” Interviewees describe **Christoph Wolf** as “hands on” and “brilliant,” singling him out as an “excellent lawyer.” He enjoys a strong reputation for his handling of both contentious and advisory mandates and continues to be highly active on internal reorganisations, dismissal cases and contractual disputes. **Jens Winter** handles non-contentious and litigious employment law mandates on behalf of a diverse client portfolio including organisations from the biotech, finance, manufacturing and energy sectors. He advises employers on a range of topics including company pensions law, employment contracts and the employment law aspects of transactional mandates.

SCHIMA MAYER STARLINGER Rechtsanwälte GmbH

What the team is known for Outstanding employment practice with particular strength in employment litigation. Further expertise lies in cases regarding pensions, benefits and social security. Also specialises in business restructurings, working time law, works council relations and collective bargaining issues. Assists clients with the employment aspects of corporate transactions and closure of business operations. Attracts high-profile clients from a range of sectors, including the public sector, healthcare, telecommunications, IT, transportation and retail. Recent work has included advising employers on the implementation and consequences of the GDPR.

Work highlights Represented Austrian Airlines in 120 court cases brought by pilots and other on-board personnel in connection with salary reductions.

Notable practitioners

The “prominent” **Georg Schima** continues to win widespread support for his contentious employment law practice. “He stands out,” confirms one market

source. He represents clients in disputes concerning a range of topics, including dismissals, terminations, working time and remuneration issues. **Natalie Hahn** enters the rankings after winning endorsements from market sources for her employment law practice. She focuses her practice on non-contentious employment law matters and often assists companies with restructurings, employment contracts and the employment aspects of transactions.

Wolf Theiss

See profile on p.212

What the team is known for Wide international reach makes Wolf Theiss one of the best-equipped teams to handle large-scale mandates across multiple jurisdictions, offering services both in Austria and across the CEE/SEE region. Particular expertise advising clients from the banking sector on compliance with new remuneration guidelines. Often assists with the transfer of employees, working time issues and contentious dismissals. Further experience in internal investigations and restructuring mandates. Also has a number of clients from the retail and technology sectors. Increasingly active on contentious employment law matters.

Strengths An enthused client praises the practice group, noting that “the legal advice is application-oriented” and “combined with a pragmatic approach.”

“Wolf Theiss partners provide well-balanced and risk-conscious advice,” reports an interviewee, highlighting that the team’s “services are rendered with a high level of precision and quality.”

Work highlights Represented ESIM Chemicals in litigation brought by trade unions in relation to additional holiday for employees.

Notable practitioners

A distinguished practitioner in the employment law space, **Ralf Peschek** (see p.180) is singled out by sources as “one of the top lawyers” in the market. He is highly active on a range of individual and collective employment mandates, including collective bargaining agreements, restructurings and terminations. **Matthias Unterrieder** (see p.183) has extensive experience in the employment law field and often advises on contentious matters, including disputes arising from unfair dismissal and discrimination claims. He provides further experience in non-contentious matters and collective bargaining issues. **Walter Pöschl** (see p.180) handles a range of employment law disputes and offers particular expertise in cases involving salary-dumping and terminations. He also advises on data protection issues as part of his non-contentious practice. “He is knowledgeable and definitely an associate to watch,” reports an impressed market source.

Band 2

Burgstaller & Preyer

What the team is known for Prestigious boutique firm with a solid reputation in both contentious and non-contentious mandates. Principally acts for employers, and also advises senior management on issues including employment contracts and pensions. Advises on a range of individual and collective employment law issues, ranging from litigation to drafting of contracts, data protection issues and social plans.

Strengths An impressed client highlights the team's attentive client service and "excellent expertise in employment law."

Work highlights Represented a domestic flight control company in negotiating and drafting collective bargaining agreements.

Notable practitioners

Gerald Burgstaller maintains a strong reputation in the market and has over two decades of experience advising on employment law matters. He frequently handles disputes and advises on collective agreements, employee data protection and mobile working arrangements. **Helmut Preyer** is a highly regarded partner with a practice spanning both individual and collective employment law matters. He frequently handles collective bargaining agreements, pensions law disputes and working time issues. "He is a very strategic lawyer and tough in negotiations," reports an appreciative source.

MOSATI Rechtsanwälte

What the team is known for Established employment boutique covering all aspects of employment law and social security law. Areas of expertise include employment contracts, leasing, remuneration, working hours, equal treatment, restructuring and company pensions. Represents clients in employment litigation before courts and government authorities. Also advises on maternity leave, paternity leave and topics relating to protection from unfair dismissal. Knowledgeable in both Austrian and international employment law.

Notable practitioners

Judith Morgenstern is a key contact for the practice.

Band 3

Baker McKenzie – Diwok Hermann Petsche Rechtsanwälte LLP & Co KG

See profile on p.64

What the team is known for Global firm particularly known for handling the employment aspects of restructurings across a range of sectors, including life sciences, retail, construction, technology and finance. Further experience handling employee secondment matters and works council negotiations. Active in employment litigation and represents employers in a variety of disputes, including unfair dismissals, discrimination and disciplinary matters. Additional expertise in bonus schemes, working hours, pension plans and collective bargaining agreements.

Work highlights Acted for Accenture on all aspects of its acquisition of PXP/X, including the associated employee transfer, employee leasing and working time issues.

Notable practitioners

Philipp Maier (see p.179) acts on a variety of non-contentious mandates, including trade union matters, collective agreements and restructurings. He offers additional experience in employment law disputes. "I appreciate his work; he is to the point and quick," notes a satisfied client.

BINDER GRÖSSWANG Rechtsanwälte GmbH

See profile on p.188

What the team is known for Established employment team notable for its strong client base across a number of industries, including pharmaceutical, financial services and automotive companies. Acts on restructuring and transactional matters, which

are effectively supported by its prominent M&A team. In-depth experience advising on dismissals, as well as employment agreements and works council topics. Also acts for clients in high-profile litigation cases. Expertise in working time flexibility, the relocation of workforce resources and outsourcing.

Strengths An interviewee reports that the firm's "client service is top of its class" and that the team is "excellent in terms of understanding clients and their business needs."

"They always try to think outside the box and work out solutions that perfectly fit our needs," states an impressed source.

Work highlights Acted for Husky KTW on a redundancy procedure and the negotiation of a social plan following the closure of a plant.

Notable practitioners

Angelika Pallwein-Prettner rises in the rankings after attracting strong endorsements for her wide-ranging contentious and advisory collective employment law practice. A pleased client highlights that she is "exceptionally knowledgeable in her area of expertise, but also displays a very high level of general business acumen," while another describes her as "a brilliant mind, and an attorney whose experience and opinion you can trust." An appreciative client reports that **Horst Lukanec** is "very good at explaining topics calmly, in a patient and comprehensive way for non-law-specialists." He acts on a range of cases, but has a particular interest in company reorganisations and workforce reduction procedures, in addition to handling employment law disputes.

CERHA HEMPEL

See profile on p.192

What the team is known for Knowledgeable in all aspects of employment law, with particular expertise in collective bargaining agreements. Attracts clients from a variety of sectors, including travel, transportation, retail, technology and financial services. Notable strength in employment-related restructuring matters. Works closely with its strong M&A department on the employment aspects of transactions. Expertise extends to data protection and compliance issues, as well as pension and salary schemes, social plans and working time arrangements. Offers experience in contentious matters and frequently acts for clients on employment law litigation cases.

Strengths A client appreciates that the team is "proactive" and "customer-oriented."

Work highlights Acted for All Nippon Airways on employment law matters associated with its market entry into Austria, including advice on work permits and employee contracts.

Notable practitioners

Julian Feichtinger (see p.175) offers extensive experience in litigious employment law mandates and also advises on collective bargaining matters, as well as employment policies. Clients appreciate that he is "extremely down to earth" and offers "excellent knowledge, a customer-centric approach and availability when needed."

DORDA

See profile on p.195

What the team is known for Solid department offering a comprehensive range of employment law services to both employers and employees. An extensive network facilitates the team's ability to handle matters throughout the CEE region. Assists with contract drafting, restructuring, incentive schemes and pensions, alongside working hours and collec-

tive bargaining topics. Advises clients on regulations against wage and social dumping. Client roster ranges from arts and culture organisations to prominent international corporates. Also assists with the employment law aspects of transactions.

Strengths A client notes: "The firm is always quick to reply with a holistic solution that covers tactical and economic aspects."

"We go to them when we need reliable advice on highly complex matters," reports another impressed source, adding: "What I like is that they're able to take you by the hand and guide you entirely."

Work highlights Advised GE Healthcare on the storage and processing of employee data and a works council consultation process.

Notable practitioners

Thomas Angermair (see p.173) regularly assists clients with the employment law elements of company restructurings and corporate transactions, in addition to acting on disputes. An appreciative client describes him as "responsive, innovative and commercially smart," adding: "Thomas is the legal counsel you wish to have on your side."

FREIMÜLLER / OBEREDER / PILZ RECHTSANWÄLT_INNEN GMBH

What the team is known for Esteemed domestic offering with a respected market presence and a focus on court litigation, acting on behalf of employees, works councils and trade unions. Handles topics within both individual and collective employment law. Also advises on social law and data protection issues. Has a strong focus on the employment law implications of new technologies.

Strengths Several market sources praise the practice's reputation, with one interviewee noting: "The firm is very well known for acting on behalf of employees and for labour union work."

Notable practitioners

Alois Obereder retains his position as a celebrated figure in the Austrian employment law market. He is well known for his representation of employees and unions in high-profile litigation cases. "The number of cases he has been involved in is incredible," notes one source, with another interviewee adding: "He is really outstanding for representing employees."

Schoenherr

See profile on p.209

What the team is known for Experienced in both contentious and non-contentious employment law. Advises on restructurings, collective agreements and public sector employment issues. International reach allows the practice to handle cross-border employment issues, especially regarding the posting and transfer of employees. Also supported by the firm's M&A team for transaction-related employment issues, as well as issues arising from integrations and reorganisations. Offers further experience in advising on terminations and redundancies.

Strengths A pleased client notes: "I enjoy working with Schoenherr because they are proactive and they keep to their word."

Another interviewee appreciates that the team "always provides comprehensive and practical advice," adding: "They also respond quickly, which is important for us."

Work highlights Acted for Terex on the employment law aspects of the sale of its Demag Mobile Cranes business to Tadano.

Notable practitioners

Clients agree that **Stefan Kühteubl** (see p.178) is

"commercially aware" and "a true business partner," who "helps to calm the situation." He offers experience in restructurings and employee transfers and also acts for employers in contentious cases. One client further states: "He understands our business and processes and combines this with excellent legal knowledge to achieve good solutions."

Band 4

Dr Helmut Engelbrecht Rechtsanwälte

What the team is known for Boutique practice with an exclusive focus on employment law. Strong firm for Austrian employment matters, with experience representing clients in court proceedings and negotiations. Acts for companies and senior management on pension issues, compliance matters, contract mandates and new employment regulations. Client base includes both national and international banks.

Strengths A client appreciates that the team provides "relevant consulting expertise and a high level of knowledge about risks and opportunities."

Further impressed sources note that the practice's "client service is super" and go on to praise its "very prompt and friendly advice, and goal-oriented solutions."

Notable practitioners

Helmut Engelbrecht represents a range of Austrian and international companies in litigation cases, in addition to advising on employment law compliance mandates and pensions schemes. "His intense experience across topics and industries means that he can combine legal know-how with managerial expertise, which is simply unique and great," reports a client.

Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer LLP

What the team is known for Globally integrated practice known for its international client base and strategic cross-border work. Expertise in structural advisory matters, such as executive appointments and terminations and employee working hours. Top-tier M&A department supports the team's transactional activities. Provides non-contentious employment advice as well as support in key litigation proceedings, including discrimination claims and works council disputes. Offers particular expertise in company pension scheme mandates, including agreement negotiations and structuring. Also offers experience acting on behalf of clients in internal investigations.

Work highlights Advised ABB on the employment and pensions law aspects of the sale of a majority stake in its power grids division to Hitachi.

Notable practitioners

Karin Buzanich-Sommeregger's expertise spans a variety of individual and collective employment law mandates. She provides a skilful handling of contentious matters, including internal investigations and whistleblowing issues, as well as handling restructuring processes. Interviewees consider her to be "a great lawyer" and "an extremely good litigator."

Gerlach Rechtsanwälte

What the team is known for Specialised boutique employment firm assisting international companies with establishing business in Austria, as well as Austrian companies branching out into international markets. Advises clients on a range of employment issues, such as drafting contracts and restructurings. Further experience handling data protection issues as well as works council negotiations. Offers strength

in employment litigation and the employment aspects of social security regulations and company law. Also known for its expertise in pension-related issues.

Strengths An impressed client describes the team as "highly professional and goal-oriented, but also able to compromise."

A market source singles out the practice as "a well-known boutique with a lot of good cases and clients."

Work highlights Acted for an international chemical company on the employment law aspects associated with the closure of a site in Austria.

Notable practitioners

Roland Gerlach is singled out by impressed sources as "a standout practitioner," and a "strong litigator." He has significant experience in handling a range of employment law matters, including disputes, restructurings and social compensation plans. He is also a popular choice of counsel among companies seeking advice on the employment law aspects of establishing new entities and closing down business operations.

Rechtsanwaltskanzlei Gahleitner

What the team is known for Boutique with an exclusive focus on representing employees. Extensive expertise in employment litigation, acting on both collective and individual employment law matters. Advises on a range of employment issues, including contracts, equal treatment, personnel leasing, pensions, working time arrangements and remuneration agreements. Also equipped to manage matters arising from corporate restructurings, including redundancy plans and transfer of business.

Strengths The firm is singled out by one market source as a "great labour law boutique."

Notable practitioners

Interviewees agree that **Sieglinde Gahleitner** is "one of the most excellent lawyers" in the market. She remains highly respected amongst peers for her representation of clients in high-profile litigation, in addition to her non-contentious practice. She is described by another impressed source as a "very pragmatic, talented and experienced lawyer."

Other Ranked Lawyers

Michael Celar wins praise from interviewees for his representation of employees in employment law disputes. "He knows his stuff and he is a fierce litigator," reports an impressed source.

Clemens Egermann (see p.175) frequently advises clients on the employment law aspects of transactions and also represents clients in litigation before the labour courts and civil courts. Clients highlight his commercial awareness and appreciate that he "works conscientiously" and "is very calm in negotiations."

Jana Eichmeyer rises in the rankings after attracting strong endorsements for her contentious and advisory employment law expertise. An impressed source describes her as "very pragmatic and really helpful," adding: "She isn't lost in the specifics, but comments on the actual issues at hand."

The "very proactive and customer-driven" **Wolfgang Kapek** is praised by clients for his "pragmatic approach." A new addition to the rankings, he acts on both individual and collective employment law issues, including restructurings, disputed terminations and employee data protection matters.

A client singles out **Wolfgang Kinner** as "busi-

ness-oriented, calm and super responsive," and goes on to describe him as "the most thoughtful lawyer I've ever worked with." His wide-ranging practice spans dismissal proceedings, bonus schemes and social dumping, in addition to advice on the employment law aspects of corporate transactions.

Alexandra Knell offers expertise in contentious employment law cases and also assists with restructuring procedures and contractual matters. Sources single her out as a "great" practitioner, adding: "We trust her."

Stefan Köck maintains a robust reputation for his involvement in collective agreements and contractual matters. He is singled out for his publications and contributions in the academic sphere, with one market source describing him as a "very smart individual."

A new entry to the rankings, **Katharina Körber-Risak**, wins support from clients for her "hands-on attitude and solution-based approach." She is active on a wide variety of employment law matters including disputes and restructurings, and provides advice on working time models and outsourcing procedures. "She has a very good knowledge of industrial relations law in Austria, so she can give an answer immediately," according to an interviewee.

Hans Georg Laimer acts for both domestic and international companies in a range of employment law and industrial relations matters. He assists clients with their day-to-day employment law issues, in addition to advising on contested terminations and contractual disputes. "He has excellent communication skills and always offers the best advice and service, due to his in-depth knowledge and years of experience," notes an appreciative source.

Thomas Majoros is noted by interviewees for his strength representing unions and employees. His expertise spans advisory and litigious mandates.

Franz Marhold is active on a wide range of matters including workforce restructuring, pensions law and employment contracts. Sources endorse him as "a well-known expert," who "has the required coolness to handle cases" and is "a pleasure to work with."

Anna Mertinz is highlighted by one impressed client for her expertise in labour law and data protection matters. She acts for both employers and employees on contentious and advisory mandates, with strength advising on workforce transfers and terminations.

Robert Prchal continues to build up his practice, advising clients on various employment issues as well as acting on contentious cases. Clients appreciate that he is "reliable and easy to reach in urgent situations," with one interviewee adding: "I was very impressed by his deep knowledge of our industry. It was simply superb; I felt like I was talking to one of our own employees."

Sources continue to single out **Andreas Tinhofer** as a "very well-connected" figure and "an important person in the market," going on to praise his "brilliant brain and huge expertise." An experienced litigator, he also advises on non-contentious employment law mandates, including restructurings and company pensions issues.

Jakob Widner handles both individual and collective employment law mandates and is recognised by sources for his work advising public sector entities. He has particular experience advising on workforce transfers, employment terms and contracts and terminations.

Kurt Wratzfeld is appreciated by one client for his "specialist knowledge," with further sources praising his negotiating skills and saying: "He is good to have

on the other side.” His wide-ranging practice encompasses employee transfers, terminations, data protection matters and the employment law aspects of corporate transactions.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Intellectual Property
Leading Firms
Band 1
Gassauer-Fleissner Rechtsanwälte
Schoenherr *
Band 2
GEISTWERT
Schwarz Schönherr Rechtsanwälte KG
Witschek Plasser Rechtsanwälte
Band 3
CMS *
DORDA *
Salomonowitz Rechtsanwälte
Wolf Theiss *
Band 4
Anwälte Burger & Partner *
Baker McKenzie – Diwok Hermann Petsche *
BINDER GRÖSSWANG Rechtsanwälte GmbH *
Brauneis Klausner Prändl Rechtsanwälte GmbH *
Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer LLP
KWR Karasek Wietrzyk Rechtsanwälte GmbH *
Taylor Wessing
Senior Statespeople
Senior Statespeople: distinguished older partners
Walter Michel Sole Practitioner (ORL) ◇
Witschek Lothar Witschek Plasser Rechtsanwälte
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Gassauer-Fleissner Christian Gassauer-Fleissner
Kucsko Guido Schoenherr *
Band 2
Anderl Axel DORDA *
Engin-Deniz Egon CMS
Kletzer Constantin GEISTWERT
Kresbach Georg Wolf Theiss *
Kuchar Barbara KWR Karasek Wietrzyk Rechtsanwälte GmbH
Pöchlacher Christof Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer LLP
Schönherr Georg Schwarz Schönherr Rechtsanwälte KG
Schumacher Christian Schoenherr *
Band 3
Göbel Dominik Gassauer-Fleissner Rechtsanwälte
Grötschl Markus Schwarz Schönherr Rechtsanwälte KG
Haller Albrecht Dr Albrecht Haller Rechtsanwalt (ORL) ◇
Horak Michael BINDER GRÖSSWANG Rechtsanwälte GmbH
Mosing Max GEISTWERT
Plasser David Witschek Plasser Rechtsanwälte
Reinisch Martin Brauneis Klausner Prändl Rechtsanwälte *
Runge Ivo BINDER GRÖSSWANG Rechtsanwälte GmbH
Salomonowitz Sascha Salomonowitz Rechtsanwälte
Schnider Alexander GEISTWERT
Schultes Rainer GEISTWERT
Band 4
Adocker Thomas Schwarz Schönherr Rechtsanwälte KG
Ciresa Meinhard Meinhard Ciresa (ORL) ◇
Cizek Alexander CIZEK IP (ORL) ◇
Csáky Claudia Graf & Pitkowitz Rechtsanwälte GmbH (ORL) ◇
Grama Martina Baker McKenzie – Diwok Hermann Petsche *
Koller Alexander Schmidtmayr Sorgo Wanke (ORL) ◇
Prohaska-Marchried Martin Taylor Wessing
Seling Andreas DORDA *
Woller Michael Schoenherr *
Up-and-coming individuals
Majchrzak Katharina CERHA HEMPEL (ORL) ◇ *

* Indicates firm / individual with profile.

◇ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.

Band 1

Gassauer-Fleissner Rechtsanwälte

What the team is known for Celebrated IP boutique widely recognised for its leading patent work, frequently mandated on behalf of major life sciences companies. Particularly active in IP disputes concerning infringement of patents and trade marks, as well as protected designation of origin. Further experience in enforcement matters and contributory infringement claims. In addition to its focus on pharmaceutical companies, the firm acts for clients from a range of sectors, including automotive, FMCG and technology.

Strengths Clients appreciate that the lawyers “are very responsive and give clear advice,” highlighting that “they are also proactive in identifying new opportunities, suggesting new strategies as the litigation develops.”

Another client is particularly impressed with the team’s “profound knowledge, with thorough specialisation when it comes to technological aspects,” adding that its members “also always take into consideration the commercial side of things, providing quick and implementable advice.”

Notable practitioners

Christian Gassauer-Fleissner is a market leader in the field of patent litigation, catering to an impressive client roster on both domestic and international matters. He acts on the defendant as well as plaintiff side and frequently represents well-known pharmaceutical, technology and food corporations. He regularly covers the Austrian part of multi-jurisdictional matters. Sources applaud his work ethic and client focus, saying: “After all these years and the reputation he enjoys, he is still hard-working and makes as great an effort as he did on the first day. He is very committed to his clients, always available and doesn’t just delegate to others.” **Dominik Göbel** is well known for his work in patent litigation and furthermore assists with trade mark and copyright disputes. He primarily represents high-profile life sciences multinationals as well as companies from the food and drinks industry. Interviewees say: “He explains the details comprehensively enough without writing long memos, so it’s very easy to communicate with him. Clearly, his knowledge of the substance of law is very high.”

Schoenherr

See profile on p.209

What the team is known for Outstanding firm offering all-inclusive IP advice. Strong focus on contentious IP matters, including copyright, trade secrets, trade mark infringement and enforcement litigation. Further strength in transaction-related IP issues as well as trade mark portfolio management, frequently co-ordinating measures across its broad network of offices in the CEE region. Notable presence in domain name issues and anti-piracy matters. Represents major global names from a variety of sectors, including life sciences, food and insurance.

Strengths The team members inspire much praise for being “smart, practical lawyers,” with interviewees asserting that “it’s just a great experience working with them; I couldn’t say enough good things about them.”

Work highlights Represented Uber in an unfair

trade dispute with Taxi 40100, defending the client in enforcement proceedings based on allegations of infringing a preliminary injunction.

Notable practitioners

Guido Kucsko (see p.178) is one of the most renowned IP lawyers in Austria, experienced in a wide range of topics. With a focus on contentious issues, he excels at Austrian copyright levy and trade secret cases, as well as trade mark protection across the CEE region. Invariably referred to in terms such as “an icon in the market” and “a recognised authority for many years,” Kucsko maintains his reputation as a top adviser. **Christian Schumacher** (see p.181) is a highly regarded adviser on diverse trade mark issues, also representing clients in trade secret disputes. He assists with trade mark portfolio management and transactions as well as prosecution and enforcement litigation in Austria and across CEE. A client confirms that “Dr Schumacher has the best knowledge in terms of trade mark law as well as having decidedly good expertise in civil proceedings,” praising his advocacy style as marked by “precise and linguistically convincing pleadings, without being sententious.”

Michael Woller (see p.184)’s practice is wide and covers trade mark protection work, enforcement, opposition and cancellation proceedings for life sciences and media clients. He is also active in the IT sphere, advising on software copyright and domain name disputes and furthermore covers unfair competition matters. A client says: “I particularly appreciate his ability to understand and advise on technical issues. I can always count on Michael to understand the latest developments.”

Band 2

GEISTWERT

What the team is known for Offers a well-regarded comprehensive IP service with a particular focus on patent and trade mark-related advice, including portfolio management and infringement litigation. Additional experience in domain name and co-existence matters as well as licence agreements and copyright disputes. Also assists with counterfeiting and customs measures. Attracts clients of various industries, including fintech, food and drink, life sciences and construction.

Strengths The team is praised for its exemplary client service, as one interviewee points out: “The lawyers are punctual and plain-talking, they are always available and also very transparent in terms of costs.”

Another client highlights the firm’s structure, saying: “We appreciate that we are always cared for by partners.”

Work highlights Represented SIG Sauer in a patent dispute against Glock before the patent office and in court proceedings.

Notable practitioners

Constantin Kletzer is a well-respected and experienced specialist for patent disputes. He assists international clients from various sectors with enforcement proceedings, often representing global life sciences corporations before Austrian courts as part of multi-jurisdictional litigation. Kletzer is also active on trade mark matters, including

filing and clearing up non-used trade marks. Interviewees applaud his litigation skills, with one person asserting that he is *“very thoughtful, strategically thinking and very goal-oriented in his advice on proceedings.”* **Max Mosing** is an active adviser with particular strength in trade mark and copyright matters. He regularly represents clients in domestic and international disputes, including before the Austrian Supreme Court. Clients are fond of his experienced and practical working style, stating that *“Max Mosing knows the market and our needs very well and he is always punctual and reliable. All our problems are solved in such a way that the reasoning is comprehensible to our employees.”* **Alexander Schnider** is well known for his expertise in matters concerning trade marks, unfair competition and software development. In addition to trade mark clearance and other non-contentious issues, he represents clients in court proceedings and settlement negotiations. Schnider's clients hail from a variety of sectors, including pharmaceuticals, food and drink, as well as IT and gaming. A client proclaims that *“his qualities are definitely his analytical skills, his technical background, his enthusiasm for new technologies and his ability to put himself quickly in the position of a negotiating partner.”* **Rainer Schultes** improves his ranking thanks to strong market feedback and a high level of activity in leading high-profile IP proceedings. He advises both claimants and defendants before domestic and EU courts, with regard to patent and trade mark as well as trade secret and unfair competition disputes. Clients especially appreciate that *“he has a technical background, which is exactly what we need. He always seems to be personally concerned with winning a case and approaches the matters with a lot of dedication.”*

Schwarz Schönherr Rechtsanwälte KG

What the team is known for Represents an impressive range of luxury brands in matters relating to trade mark infringements, design disputes, unfair competition and anti-counterfeiting. Particularly recognised for its substantial involvement in contentious mandates, including patent litigation and opposition proceedings, and also manages trade mark portfolios. Further clientele comprises companies from the life sciences, automotive and retail sectors as well as the world of art and film.

Strengths Sources stress that *“the particular strength of the firm is that it is absolutely reliable and fast, without conceding the high quality.”*

A client also commends their court capabilities, stating: *“They are especially good in the litigation area because of their international presence and good industry knowledge. They deliver high quality very quickly.”*

Work highlights Advised the Novartis Group on its Austrian trade mark portfolio including prosecutions and protection advice as well as unfair competition matters.

Notable practitioners

Georg Schönherr enjoys a notable reputation in the market based on many years of experience. In addition to assisting international clients with their trade mark portfolios, he is a seasoned litigator in unfair competition and trade mark cases before Austrian authorities and courts. He has a particular focus on clients from the fashion, consumer goods, automotive and pharmaceutical industries. Sources portray him as *“extremely experienced, very quick and, above all, he has a very good commercial understanding of the problems of the clients.”* **Markus Grötschl** rises

in the rankings based on exceptional feedback and a high level of advice for notable clients. He is most visible in the trade mark domain, advising on portfolio management as well as infringement, anti-counterfeiting and unfair competition litigation. He has additional expertise in design registrations. Sources emphasise that *“he is very easy to deal with and has excellent knowledge.”* **Thomas Adocker** advises on patent litigation, representing defendants or claimants in often complex infringement proceedings. He primarily advises pharmaceutical clients, but also assists chemicals companies and those in the construction materials industry. He has further experience acting on high-level international mandates. Sources note that he is *“very diligent, able to familiarise with new materials quickly, and quick-witted before court.”*

Wiltschek Plasser Rechtsanwälte

What the team is known for Noteworthy IP boutique with a strong focus on clients from the life sciences sector, as well as those active in the advertising, media and technology fields. Advises on unfair competition and data protection matters in the trade mark and patent sphere. Further experience in protection of design and personality rights.

Notable practitioners

“One of the prime Austrian unfair competition lawyers,” **Lothar Wiltschek** is a highly reputed practitioner boasting many years of experience in the market. He is furthermore focused on patent and copyright issues as well as employee invention and trade mark matters. **David Plasser** ascends in the rankings thanks to excellent feedback and increased market visibility. His broad IP practice includes matters concerning trade marks, patents, protection of designs and data protection. Sources particularly note his quick wit and industriousness, as one person asserts that *“he is brilliant.”*

Band 3

CMS

See profile on p.193

What the team is known for Best known for its significant focus on trade marks, with a particular strength in litigation, including trade secrets disputes and cancellation proceedings. Further experience in the area of parallel imports and copyright mandates. Represents clients from a plethora of industries such as food, life sciences, media, manufacturing and hospitality. Acts in co-operation with its international network on cases with parallel proceedings in other jurisdictions.

Strengths Clients are pleased with the team's performance: *“What I like about the team is the quick and reliable communication, the great level of experience, as well as the understanding for our business, our commercial interests and also how we want things to be handled.”*

Another client particularly values the firm's international network and diverse specialist teams: *“Especially with litigation and transactions that are covering more than one country, it makes sense to have a firm with multiple offices. And the firm's full-service approach is absolutely valuable for me too.”*

Work highlights Obtained an injunction for Sky in litigation concerning signal piracy against an Austrian TV station.

Notable practitioners

Egon Engin-Deniz is the highly active head of the

firm's IP and media department. A respected market practitioner, his broad litigation practice includes trade mark infringement, copyright and trade secret disputes. He also assists with non-contentious issues, such as trade mark registrations and clearances. A client applauds *“his high level of technical knowledge and experience, the commercial understanding and that he is also personally very pleasant,”* adding: *“He is just very experienced in terms of litigation and tactics.”*

DORDA

See profile on p.195

What the team is known for Established practice with notable strength in unfair competition disputes as well as IT-related copyright issues. Further experience in contentious trade mark and patent matters, such as opposition and infringement proceedings. Also offers assistance with trade mark portfolio work and acts for clients from a range of sectors, including technology, financial services, life sciences and arts and media.

Strengths Several clients praise the team's ability in cross-border settings, as one source explains: *“Whenever I require international legal expertise, it is either provided by DORDA directly or, when we receive expertise from the firm's co-operating lawyers, DORDA makes sure I get the excellent quality I am used to.”*

Another client enthuses: *“The greatest strength is the team's breadth, its consistency at a very high level, the internationality and the pragmatic, rapid approach.”*

Work highlights Represented Echoscens in litigation under civil and criminal law against a Chinese competitor, based on patent, trade mark and unfair competition infringements, as well as co-ordinating enforcement proceedings in other countries, including Romania and India.

Notable practitioners

Axel Anderl (see p.173) enjoys a strong market standing, particularly for his combination of IP and IT expertise. He advises on copyright issues concerning software, media and art and assists with trade mark use agreements, design registration and defence. He is moreover highly experienced in unfair competition litigation. A client notes: *“His style is hands-on, practical, very effective and demonstrates in-depth industry knowledge. Axel is a thought leader, a fiercely good negotiator and has approached all tasks with enthusiasm and true dedication.”* **Andreas Seling** (see p.182) covers a wide range of IP issues for Austrian companies, including the transfer of IP rights, copyright damages claims and the protection of trade secrets. He is also experienced in patent infringement and misleading advertising disputes for high-profile clients. One client especially values his *“quick reaction and fast turnaround time,”* adding: *“Dr Seling is also often available for very short-term enquiries with quick expertise.”*

Salomonowitz Rechtsanwälte

What the team is known for Has a strong focus on unfair competition and anti-counterfeiting mandates. Offers experience in contentious matters, including copyright ownership disputes, trade mark infringement and imitation. Also assists several well-known companies with trade mark prosecution. Acts for clients from a wide variety of sectors, such as biotechnology, manufacturing and beverages.

Strengths Clients praise the value for money offered by the firm, stating: *“In quality and price-performance ratio they are on par with much larger firms and we get the advantage of personal support by partners.”*

Work highlights Represented Trodat in appeal proceedings against a Turkish competitor in a dispute concerning the client's trade mark and product get-up.

Notable practitioners

Sascha Salomonowitz assists with multi-jurisdictional trade mark disputes and rebranding cases. He has a particular focus on trade mark litigation and copyright ownership disputes and also acts on matters concerning website blocking.

Wolf Theiss

See profile on p.212

What the team is known for Well-reputed firm with a key IP practice, assisting domestic and international clients, including technology and media companies, as well as medical product manufacturers. Advises on patent, copyright, unfair competition and trade mark mandates. Further strength in the negotiation of licensing agreements and contentious matters, such as infringement of personality rights. Frequently active as local counsel and on mandates that have parallel proceedings abroad.

Strengths A client praises the team's pragmatism: *"We are so pleased with the IP practice at Wolf Theiss because they give us no abstract recommendations, but always have the practical effects and implementations in mind."*

Another client confirms that the *"lawyers not only have an analytical approach to legal issues but also have the capability to provide hands-on solutions which take into account the specific needs of our company and business field."*

Work highlights Represented Facebook in civil proceedings concerning infringement of personality rights alleged by an Austrian politician.

Notable practitioners

Georg Kresbach (see p.178) offers a high level of experience to notable multinational companies and Austrian clients. He is particularly well versed in copyright, unfair competition and privacy issues connected to media and technology, moreover representing clients in patent infringement disputes. A client emphasises his status as a *"modern lawyer,"* explaining: *"Georg Kresbach has maintained his willingness to deal with new legal issues and supports us with creative new approaches and ideas."*

Band 4

Anwälte Burger & Partner

See profile on p.186

What the team is known for Enters the rankings on the basis of excellent client feedback and high levels of activity. Strong focus on patents, including filings and infringement negotiations as well as opposition and nullity proceedings. Assists with trade mark applications, protection and infringement disputes. Acts before Austrian and EU authorities and co-ordinates multi-jurisdictional civil proceedings for clients.

Strengths Clients appreciate the firm's multi-sided approach, stating that it *"is very well set up, there are specialists for all areas of IP"*

Another client values the team's *"excellent availability"* and highlights its *"strength in quickly developing its knowledge in new subject areas, being always up to date."*

Work highlights Successfully represented Swarovski Optik in a hearing before a five-member senate of the European Patent Office's board of appeal.

Notable practitioners

Hannes Burger, Clemens Ofner and Katarina Casals Ide are the partners of the department and key contacts for queries.

Baker McKenzie – Diwok Hermann Petzsche Rechtsanwälte LLP & Co KG

See profile on p.64

What the team is known for Focuses on trade mark portfolio management and enforcement matters. Assists with rights transfers in M&A transactions, anti-counterfeiting measures and coexistence agreements. Also advises on licensing, copyright levies and infringement issues and represents clients in IP-related litigation. Active in the pharmaceutical, energy, video game development and technology fields. Enjoys a strong cross-border reach thanks to the firm's global network.

Strengths A client commends the team for being *"proactive, client-oriented and reliable."*

Several other clients are especially pleased with the team's cross-border capacities, as one person points out that *"the networking works well and the response time is brilliant."*

Work highlights Advised THQ Nordic on IP issues connected to the acquisition of Koch Media, which included the negotiation of a licence agreement as well as the due diligence of the exploitation rights for existing computer games and a corresponding trade mark portfolio.

Notable practitioners

Martina Grama (see p.175) manages clients' global trade mark portfolios, working in co-ordination with other offices from the firm's international network. She also assists with trade mark enforcement proceedings and further contentious issues, such as representing clients in design infringement cases.

BINDER GRÖSSWANG Rechtsanwälte GmbH

See profile on p.188

What the team is known for Noteworthy practice primarily advising on trade marks, including licensing, registration and protection. Also assists with unfair competition and product labelling issues. Further experience acting for clients from the luxury goods sector on counterfeit issues. Assists clients from a wide range of industries, including multinationals and their subsidiaries, with IP issues in Austria.

Strengths Clients appreciate that the team's *"advice is provided promptly, the attorneys are always available for discussion and the co-operation is very pleasant, easy and efficient."*

Another client enthuses that the *"department has excellent expertise in many areas,"* adding: *"The lawyers process our enquiries quickly and yet the examinations are detailed and very useful."*

Work highlights Represented the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences with regard to infringements of its Oscar trade mark in Austria.

Notable practitioners

Michael Horak offers a range of expertise, covering advice on unfair competition, trade mark and design issues. Particularly strong in contentious matters, he represents defendants, claimants and third parties. One client states: *"He has an exceptionally client-oriented and pragmatic approach without neglecting the legal and technical details."* **Ivo Rungg** is a familiar figure in the market, managing international trade mark portfolios for domestic clients as well as acting as infringement counsel to multinational companies

in Austria. He also advises on product piracy and unfair competition issues. Rungg enjoys a strong reputation for his client-friendly advice: *"He knows our issues very well and manages to apply and communicate an excellent legal assessment so that the critical points are clear and we receive added value."*

Brauneis Klauser Prändl Rechtsanwälte GmbH

See profile on p.191

What the team is known for Focuses on trade mark matters with notable expertise in portfolio management. Advises on trade mark, design and image protection, representing clients in proceedings against infringement, product counterfeiting and unfair competition. Assists domestic and multinational clients from a range of industries, including luxury goods, drinks and non-profit organisations.

Strengths The team invokes praise from a client for being *"able to deal with complex legal situations and keeping in mind our business goals and commercial approach."*

Work highlights Advised Shiseido on trade mark infringement and anti-counterfeiting matters as well as acting as co-ordinating counsel for CEE in relation to trade mark protection and selective distribution systems.

Notable practitioners

Martin Reinisch (see p.181) is active in trade mark portfolio management, litigation and opposition proceedings. He assists Austrian and international clients with matters pertaining to infringement, counterfeiting and dilution of trade marks, including representation before national and EU courts. His practice also covers copyright and unfair competition law advice. Clients see Reinisch as *"a skilled and dedicated IP lawyer,"* with one stating: *"He is very solution-oriented, competent and great to work with. I very much appreciate his farsightedness and rewarding tactical approach."*

Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer LLP

What the team is known for Advises on unfair competition and trade secret matters as well as licensing, trade mark and copyright issues. Acts for large multinational companies on the IP aspects of transactions. Frequently represents clients from the technology, manufacturing, automotive and healthcare sectors.

Work highlights Assisted LG with the IP aspects of its acquisition of ZKW.

Notable practitioners

"One of the premier Austrian IP lawyers," **Christof Pöchhacker** is regarded for his experience in assisting notable clients with trade mark portfolio matters and opposition proceedings. He is active in IP issues related to IT, commercial contracts as well as M&A transactions. He has further experience in copyright, unfair competition and trade secret matters.

KWR Karasek Wietrzyk Rechtsanwälte GmbH

See profile on p.205

What the team is known for Offers strength in trade mark and copyright mandates. Acts for clients on a broad range of matters, including portfolio administration, know-how protection and personality rights, with further experience handling anti-piracy, licensing and unfair advertising matters. Regularly provides representation in application, opposition and cancellation proceedings. Acts for domestic and regional companies as well as high-profile multina-

tional corporations.

Strengths An interviewee especially appreciates that the team offers clients a “pleasant, personal and trusting atmosphere.”

Work highlights Represented an individual Austrian producer of pumpkin seed oil against Landwirtschaftskammer Steiermark before the CJEU in trade mark cancellation proceedings related to issues of genuine use of a mark and protected geographical indication.

Notable practitioners

Highly regarded practitioner **Barbara Kuchar** has an active practice covering IP advisory and disputes for both domestic and multinational clients. She is experienced in trade mark, patent and advertising mandates. She frequently represents claimants and defendants in proceedings. Clients especially praise her reliability and “deep understanding of economic connections and requirements.”

Taylor Wessing

What the team is known for Assists with various trade mark matters, including portfolio management, registrations and opposition proceedings, as well as representing clients in IP disputes. Further strength in unfair competition and licensing agreements for the use of copyrighted material. Acts for well-known Austrian clients across a number of sectors such as manufacturing, food and retail and pharmaceuticals. Also advises international corporations on IP issues in Austria.

Strengths A client commends the team’s service orientation, highlighting its “responsiveness and excellent adaptation to our needs.”

Another client praises the “excellent business-related

advice, true network of legal experts and fast support in all matters addressed.”

Work highlights Represented Continental in opposition proceedings against an Austrian word and figurative trade mark.

Notable practitioners

Martin Prohaska-Marchried regularly advises clients on international trade mark and domain portfolios. He additionally acts on opposition and infringement proceedings concerning trade marks and designs. Moreover he assists with unfair competition matters and co-existence agreements. Clients appreciate Prohaska-Marchried for being a “pragmatic and reliable” adviser.

Other Ranked Lawyers

Meinhard Ciresa is viewed as “very skilled in copyright issues.” He additionally acts on unfair competition matters and is versed in media-related work. His practice covers advertising and marketing, design and art, as well as internet and IT issues.

Alexander Cizek is best known for his work on trade mark matters, most notably prosecutions and opposition proceedings. He also assists with portfolio management. He is admitted to both the Austrian and New York Bar, and sources also emphasise his “international background and representation of international clients.”

Claudia Csáky assists domestic and international clients with a variety of IP matters, such as copyright and unfair competition issues, patent infringement disputes and strategic advice on trade marks. A client especially values her efficiency and client-friendly

advice, stating: “Her strengths are that she is quick and precise. Finding solutions and making decisions is done without any digressions.”

Albrecht Haller is known for his strong focus on copyright and media law. Interviewees also emphasise his academic activities as a lecturer and his publishing of commentary on media law.

Alexander Koller enters the rankings on account of splendid feedback from diverse market sources as well as a high level of activity in IP disputes. He represents domestic and international clients in proceedings concerning patent opposition, trade mark and copyright infringement and unfair competition practices. Koller additionally provides advice on non-contentious work, such as trade mark administration and licence and distribution agreements. One interviewee states: “Koller stands out for his extensive knowledge in all relevant areas of intellectual property. Among his great strengths is his analytical approach to possible weak points of a decision or verdict that can be appealed.”

Katharina Majchrzak (see p.179) continues on her up-and-coming trajectory, with a strong performance in unfair competition litigation and advice on contentious trade mark and copyright mandates. She also assists with advertising compliance as well as international licensing agreements. Sources are fond of her working style, stating that “she delivers quickly, you always get very prompt feedback that is always very much to-the-point.”

“The most famous Austrian copyright lawyer,” **Michel Walter** maintains his outstanding reputation and enjoys great respect in this market.

PUBLIC LAW

Public Law: Public Procurement/PPP	Public Law: Public Procurement/PPP	Public Law: General
Leading Firms	Leading Individuals	Leading Firms
Band 1	Band 1	Band 1
CMS *	Elsner Bernt CMS	Schoenherr *
Schramm Öhler	Essletzichler Manfred Wolf Theiss *	Band 2
Wolf Theiss *	Heid Stephan Heid & Partner Rechtsanwälte GmbH	bvp Huegel *
Band 2	Oder Martin Haslinger / Nagele Rechtsanwälte GmbH	DORDA *
Doralt Seist & Csoklich *	Öhler Matthias Schramm Öhler	Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer LLP
Eisenberger & Herzog *	Schiefer Martin Schiefer Rechtsanwälte GmbH	Haslinger / Nagele Rechtsanwälte GmbH
Haslinger / Nagele Rechtsanwälte GmbH	Schramm Johannes Schramm Öhler	Wolf Theiss *
KWR Karasek Wietrzyk Rechtsanwälte GmbH *	Sturm Oliver Doralt Seist & Csoklich	Band 3
Band 3	Band 2	BINDER GRÖSSWANG Rechtsanwälte GmbH *
Breitenfeld Rechtsanwälte GmbH & Co KG	Breitenfeld Michael Breitenfeld Rechtsanwälte GmbH & Co KG	CERHA HEMPEL *
DORDA *	Casati Claus Casati Rechtsanwalt (ORL) ◇	Herbst Kinsky Rechtsanwälte GmbH
Estermann Pock Rechtsanwälte	Schwartz Walter SHMP Schwartz Huber-Medek Pallitsch	Leading Individuals
Fellner Wratzfeld & Partners *	Schwartz Walter SHMP Schwartz Huber-Medek Pallitsch	Band 1
Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer LLP	Seherschön Ulrike Eisenberger & Herzog	Bergthaler Wilhelm Haslinger / Nagele Rechtsanwälte GmbH
Heid & Partner Rechtsanwälte GmbH	Stickler Gregor Schramm Öhler	Denk Stephan Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer LLP
Schiefer Rechtsanwälte GmbH	Trettnak-Hahn Katharina KWR Karasek Wietrzyk	Schmelz Christian Schoenherr *
SHMP Schwartz Huber-Medek Pallitsch	Band 3	Band 2
* Indicates firm / individual with profile.	Denk Stephan Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer LLP	Hecht Michael Fellner Wratzfeld & Partners
◇ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.	Müller Bernhard DORDA *	Müller Bernhard DORDA *
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.	Stempkowski Martin Haslinger / Nagele Rechtsanwälte	Retter Kurt Wolf Theiss *
	Band 4	Schneider Christian bvp Huegel *
	Ertl Robert Breitenfeld Rechtsanwälte GmbH & Co KG	Band 3
	Katary Roland Joklik Katary Richter Rechtsanwälte (ORL) ◇	Barbist Johannes BINDER GRÖSSWANG Rechtsanwälte GmbH
	Oberzaucher Sebastian Wolf Theiss *	Herbst Christoph Herbst Kinsky Rechtsanwälte GmbH
	Pock Ralf Estermann Pock Rechtsanwälte	Huber Stefan CERHA HEMPEL *
	Stalzer Johannes Schoenherr *	Kristoferitsch Hans CERHA HEMPEL *
	Zellhofer Georg Schramm Öhler	

The editorial is in alphabetical order by firm name.

BINDER GRÖSSWANG Rechtsanwälte GmbH

See profile on p.188

What the team is known for Notable team that frequently assists with administrative and regulatory

Public Law: Planning and Environment**Leading Firms****Band 1**

Haslinger / Nagele Rechtsanwälte GmbH

Onz, Onz, Kraemmer, Hüttler

Schoenherr *

Band 2

Eisenberger & Herzog *

Fellner Wratzfeld & Partners *

Niederhuber & Partner Rechtsanwälte GmbH

SHMP Schwartz Huber-Medek Pallitsch

Wolf Theiss *

Leading Individuals**Band 1**

Bergthaler Wilhelm Haslinger / Nagele Rechtsanwälte GmbH

Onz Christian Onz, Onz, Kraemmer, Hüttler

Schmelz Christian Schoenherr *

Band 2

Berger Wolfgang Haslinger / Nagele Rechtsanwälte GmbH

Hecht Michael Fellner Wratzfeld & Partners

Niederhuber Martin Niederhuber & Partner Rechtsanwälte

Band 3

Altenburger Dieter Jarolim Partner (ORL) ◇

Eisenberger Georg Eisenberger & Herzog

Huber-Medek Katharina SHMP Schwartz Huber-Medek

Mendel Michael Onz, Onz, Kraemmer, Hüttler

Nußbaumer Markus Saxinger, Chalupsky & Partners (ORL) ◇

Schneider Christian bpv Huegel *

Vana Heinrich Breitenacker, Kolbitsch and Vana (ORL) ◇

Up-and-coming individuals

Schachinger Wolfram Wolf Theiss *

* Indicates firm / individual with profile.

◇ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.

Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

issues. Has a wealth of experience in court cases, ranging from the administrative to the constitutional level. Clients include automotive, life sciences and pharmaceutical companies, as well as financial and public entities. Regularly advises energy sector clients on regulatory issues. Additionally assists with trade and product law matters.

Strengths Clients highlight the value for money offered by the practice, with one emphasising they gained “a very good impression of the firm.”

Work highlights Assisted the European Investment Bank and Erste Bank with the financing of wind farm projects.

Notable practitioners

Johannes Barbist mainly assists clients with trade, energy and product law in the public sphere, further offering in-depth knowledge on building regulations. He is highly recommended by one source who states they “know him as a service-oriented, fast and reliable lawyer who is very easy to work with.”

bpv Huegel

See profile on p.189

What the team is known for Versatile public law practice rising in the rankings following strong feedback, whose client roster spans from private companies to municipalities and public bodies. Advises on public law issues in a range of regulated industries, including waste, infrastructure and life sciences. Particularly active in the energy sector, advising on matters ranging from network tariffs to litigation. Regularly represents clients before administrative courts.

Strengths One client praises the “expertise of the bpv Huegel lawyers.”

Work highlights Advised the Association of Gas and

District Heating Undertakings on the RED II directive.

Notable practitioners

Christian Schneider (see p.181) is well acquainted with the energy sector, assisting clients with regulatory issues and administrative court proceedings. One client highly rates him for his “accurate and immense knowledge that allows him to be fast, precise and to the point.”

Breitenfeld Rechtsanwälte GmbH & Co KG

What the team is known for Reputed public procurement boutique assisting clients with public tenders as well as regularly representing them in contentious proceedings before administrative and constitutional courts. Client base includes public authorities and both public and private companies. Frequently involved in procurement topics related to construction projects and regularly advises manufacturing companies.

Notable practitioners

Michael Breitenfeld provides expert advice on procurement proceedings, with one interviewee endorsing him as a “well-known household name.”

Robert Ertl is an active adviser on procurement mandates, offering experience in construction matters and related disputes.

CERHA HEMPEL

See profile on p.192

What the team is known for Acts for clients from the energy and life sciences sectors on regulatory issues, and advises public institutions including higher education organisations. Represents both private and public sector clients in contentious cases, including proceedings before courts and authorities at both a national and European level. Also handles regulatory matters relating to the tobacco industry. Further offers clients assistance with issues surrounding the restructuring of state-controlled assets.

Strengths The firm is reputed among clients for its high-quality advice, with one stating: “They are providing very good service from strategy to execution.”

One client describes the firm as “very responsive,” adding it gave them the “assurance that we are on the right track.”

Work highlights Represented the Republic of Austria in a EUR31 billion matter before the European Commission regarding state aid for the Hinkley Point power plant.

Notable practitioners

Stefan Huber (see p.176) specialises in state aid and manufacturing regulations in addition to contentious matters. He advises a range of national and international clients from the tobacco and energy sectors in addition to assisting public bodies. He is endorsed by one client who states: “He reacts very promptly, and is very flexible and well connected.”

Hans Kristoferitsch (see p.178) has notable experience in tobacco regulations and state aid matters. He is further very experienced in representing clients in cross-border mandates. He is valued by one client for his efficiency in addition to “providing feedback in a succinct manner.”

CMS

See profile on p.193

What the team is known for Highly regarded experts in PPP projects with a particular emphasis on those within the infrastructure and construction sectors. Dominant force in the public procurement market, advising both public and private entities on

all aspects of procurement procedures and related litigation. Additional expertise includes state aid issues. Renowned for its bidder-side work. Especially visible on railway and hospital projects. Further offers expertise on cross-border mandates.

Strengths The team draws praise from clients for its work ethos, stating: “They are very motivated to help us meet tough deadlines.”

Work highlights Represented STRABAG and Salini Impregilo in the EUR1 billion tender for the Brenner Base Tunnel.

Notable practitioners

Bernt Elsner advises clients on public procurement and PPP matters, with a focus on the construction sector. He is further adept at handling procurement disputes. His knowledge is recognised by market commentators, one deeming him an “excellent and very academic procurement lawyer.”

Doralt Seist & Csoklich

See profile on p.194

What the team is known for Esteemed public procurement offering with a client roster made up of prominent public sector names. Recognised for its wealth of experience in PPP projects and also regularly handles public tenders. Significant experience in the healthcare, transportation and waste management fields and has considerable knowledge of construction projects. Equipped to advise public bodies and municipalities on Austrian procurement law. Represents both contracting authorities and bidders.

Strengths Clients value the firm for its commercially oriented approach, one noting that the firm “understands our business very well and is always reachable.”

Work highlights Represented Wiener Linien in the EUR500 million procurement procedure relating to the construction of parts of the U2 and U5 subway lines.

Notable practitioners

Oliver Sturm assists clients from the healthcare, banking and education sectors with procurement procedures. One client describes him as “an essential partner for us,” adding: “He is a genius in contracts and procurement.”

DORDA

See profile on p.195

What the team is known for Highly visible in tender procedures, mainly advising bidders, and additionally acts on PPP projects. Most active in the financial services, gaming, energy and healthcare sectors, assisting with regulatory issues. Provides advice on ancillary issues such as food labelling law and trade licences. Also handles contentious constitutional and administrative law cases. Client roster consists of both domestic and international companies.

Strengths One client highlights the firm’s performance and stresses its “extraordinary expertise and absolute reliability.”

Another client extols the firm’s “very good advice and practical approach.”

Work highlights Acted for Mjam on trade law matters, including food labelling and the application of the Payment Services Act.

Notable practitioners

Bernhard Müller (see p.180) is at his most visible advising clients from the pharmaceutical and manufacturing sectors on procurement issues, offering additional experience on related disputes. He further offers advice on permits and trade licences as well as labelling and transport regulations. One client highlights his “extraordinary expertise, constant availa-

bility and perfect business knowledge.”

Eisenberger & Herzog

See profile on p.196

What the team is known for Highly respected firm with a flourishing public law practice based in Graz and Vienna. Handles the planning and environmental aspects of energy and public infrastructure projects, such as EIAs and approval procedures. Additionally advises on public procurement, tenders and contract awards, with particular expertise in the construction, transportation and utilities fields. Offers special expertise on the development of residential and commercial building projects. Represents clients in contentious cases, including challenges to award decisions.

Strengths One client rates the firm, stating it “offers quick and competent solutions for complex questions.” A market-observer further lauds the firm for its “strong reputation in environmental law.”

Work highlights Assisted Wirtschaftskammer Steiermark with the tendering for the procurement of advertising services.

Notable practitioners

Ulrike Sehrschn has considerable experience in advising clients on framework agreements in the real estate, IT and construction industries. She offers additional expertise on tenders in the health sector. A satisfied client enthuses: “She is fast, well prepared and hard-working.” **Georg Eisenberger** regularly assists with urban development projects and EIAs as well as related arbitrations.

Estermann Pock Rechtsanwälte

What the team is known for Niche public procurement firm with offices in Vienna and Klagenfurt. Represents both bidders and contracting authorities in tender processes, outsourcing and procurement proceedings. Especially active in the infrastructure and construction sectors. Highly visible in review proceedings and disputes in the healthcare and life sciences sector. Additionally offers expertise on PPP projects.

Notable practitioners

Ralf Pock regularly assists with tenders and is noted for his strong presence in the market. He is at his most visible advising clients from the healthcare sector.

Fellner Wratzfeld & Partners

See profile on p.199

What the team is known for Strong environmental law group, active on construction and zoning law, as well as urban development contracts, assisting both real estate investors and developers. Further assists with EIAs and permits. Advises public bodies and local and regional governments on public procurement, including related disputes. Also deals with the implementation of PPP projects and related issues.

Strengths The team is praised for its approach, with one client valuing the “very individual service,” adding: “They have and give a very clear overview.”

Work highlights Advised Urban Innovation Vienna on finding a location for a multi-functional arena with a seating capacity of 20,000.

Notable practitioners

Michael Hecht is a well-established figure in the market with experience in EIAs, building permits and contract zoning matters as well as all related regulations.

Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer LLP

What the team is known for Well-regarded practice assisting with general public law issues, including trade matters and regulations in the energy and finance sectors. Particular focus on regulatory-driven disputes and constitutional and administrative litigation, often involving other European jurisdictions. Additionally active on public procurement procedures, including tenders. Clients profit from the firm’s additional experience in pharmaceutical regulations and the IT sector.

Strengths Clients value the team for its “fast and customer-oriented responses and very good understanding of risks related to tender management.”

The firm is appreciated by another client for being “extremely responsive,” adding: “They have all expertise available.”

Work highlights Acted for Fresenius Medical on tenders related to the procurement of dialysis devices for all state-owned hospitals.

Notable practitioners

Stephan Denk is a leading practitioner in the public law sector, advising clients on tenders as well as tender challenges, project procurement and related contracts. He further offers advice on regulatory matters in the area of manufacturing, aviation and product law. His expertise enables him to support clients during audits, particularly in the healthcare sector.

Haslinger / Nagele Rechtsanwälte GmbH

What the team is known for Market-leading team, covering the full spectrum of public law issues. Boasts a thriving environmental practice, with a strong track record of assisting clients with EIAs. Also offers support on environmental permits. Regularly advises on high-value public procurement tenders and related litigation. Has further expertise in constitutional and administrative law issues, representing clients in both domestic and international proceedings. Considerable experience in the transportation, IT and healthcare sectors, acting for both private and public entities.

Notable practitioners

Wilhelm Berghaler rises in the rankings based on excellent client feedback, with one source stating that he is “an eminence, not just in environmental law but also general public law.” He is highly skilled at advising on mandates ranging from permitting procedures and regulatory matters to contentious proceedings.

Martin Oder demonstrates an excellent track record acting on behalf of both bidders and contracting authorities across an array of procurement issues. He is particularly well positioned to assist clients in the healthcare sector. **Wolfgang Berger** is well equipped to undertake a mix of environmental law issues, including EIAs and permit procedures. He also has notable experience in environmental and planning-related disputes. **Martin Stempkowski** is best known for his work on public procurement matters in the area of construction and IT. His client base includes both public and private entities.

Heid & Partner Rechtsanwälte GmbH

What the team is known for Newly established practice with an already strong presence in the market. Prepared to take on an array of public procurement issues, with particular expertise in the transport and healthcare sectors. Also experienced in PPP projects and tenders.

Notable practitioners

Stephan Heid is an outstanding practitioner with a

vast amount of experience in complex tenders. One source describes him as “one of the most prominent names in the market.”

Herbst Kinsky Rechtsanwälte GmbH

What the team is known for Experienced public law team that is notably active on constitutional and administrative law matters. Also focuses on regulatory work, with considerable expertise in the energy, pharmaceutical and healthcare sectors. Noteworthy client roster, ranging from federal states to private companies. Regularly advises clients on cross-border mandates.

Strengths One client notes the high-quality advice offered by Herbst Kinsky, lauding its “excellent performance.”

Another satisfied client notes the team’s clear replies to all their requests, adding: “Their response time was very good.”

Work highlights Acted for Gebühren Info Service on proceedings relating to the VAT charges on ORF TV fees to a value of EUR60 million.

Notable practitioners

Christoph Herbst is frequently seen advising on trade law issues and regulatory matters as well as tender procedures. His clients stem from the telecommunications, healthcare, finance and hospitality sectors.

KWR Karasek Wietrzyk Rechtsanwälte GmbH

See profile on p.205

What the team is known for Well-respected public procurement team, known for providing advice to bidders, but also benefits from experience representing public contracting authorities. First-class expertise in construction makes it well placed to advise on procurement matters in this area. Also stands out for its work in energy sector procurement, with increasing activity in the hospitality sector.

Strengths One client emphasises the support they received from the firm, stating they are “very happy with the quality of the work.”

Work highlights Represented Vienna Volkstheater in the award procedure concerning its general renovation.

Notable practitioners

Clients endorse **Katharina Trettnak-Hahnl** as “highly pragmatic and efficient,” adding: “She always finds a way to get matters done smoothly and quickly.” She frequently advises clients on tenders for constructions and renovations, offering support on procurement processes from start to finish. Further assists clients with utility project tenders.

Niederhuber & Partner Rechtsanwälte GmbH

What the team is known for Highly specialised environmental law team, reputed for its expertise in planning permits. Acts for both public and private sector clients on EIA mandates. Active on water law and waste water management. Experience representing clients in contested cases before the constitutional and administrative courts. Clients further profit from the firm’s experience in emission law matters.

Notable practitioners

Martin Niederhuber is respected for his presence on environmental mandates, offering expertise on waste law, emission law and construction permits.

Onz, Onz, Kraemmer, Hüttler

What the team is known for Stellar planning and environmental law boutique with an exceptional reputation in the market. Especially acclaimed for EIA matters, and noted for its work for clients from the power industry. Excels in waste management issues, as well as water supply and sewage treatment schemes. Offers additional expertise in water law. Regularly advises clients on pollution matters, including representing them in criminal proceedings. Additionally well-versed in building and permitting law.

Strengths One market commentator affirms the practice's "excellent reputation" in environmental matters.

Another source highlights the firm as a "clear market leader."

Notable practitioners

Christian Onz is reputed among market observers for his top-league environmental expertise, with particular strength in EIAs. **Michael Mendel's** broad practice comprises various environmental and planning law issues. He offers additional expertise in building law.

Schiefer Rechtsanwälte GmbH

What the team is known for Recently formed firm housing a range of expertise on public procurement matters. Particularly well positioned to advise prominent clients from the healthcare and IT sectors. Offers ancillary expertise on compliance issues in this area.

Notable practitioners

Martin Schiefer is a leading lawyer in the area of procurement, with experience in advising clients in the IT sector.

Schoenherr**See profile on p.209**

What the team is known for Pre-eminent planning and environment team with strong links to the firm's offices within the CEE region. Key focus on environmental law issues, where the team is most prominent in EIA proceedings and environmental disputes arising from renewable energy, healthcare, infrastructure and public transportation projects. Also well-versed in water rights law and nature conservation issues, as well as event and noise control laws. Highly acclaimed general public law practice whose client roster includes state-owned and private companies. Increasingly advises manufacturers on packaging matters. Frequently represents clients in a broad range of administrative and constitutional court proceedings.

Strengths The firm's awareness of commercial risks is subject to praise among clients, one further valuing the team for being "always available, very friendly and solution-oriented," also commending its "good overview and brief summaries of key matters and fast feedback in urgent cases."

Another client enthuses: "We felt very well advised at all times during the process. They did a fantastic job and helped us a lot."

Work highlights Advised BRAMAC on the EUR2.5 million dispute before the Austrian Constitutional Court regarding its complaint against the landscape protection tax.

Notable practitioners

Christian Schmelz (see p.181) is a leading lawyer with expertise in the area of environmental law as well as general public law. He frequently handles EIAs and enjoys a large client base in the energy

and transportation sectors. He is further adept at handling licensing and regulatory issues. **Johannes Stalzer** (see p.182) frequently assists both bidders and contracting authorities with public procurement issues, including tender procedures and related disputes. His clients come from a range of sectors including health and IT.

Schramm Öhler

What the team is known for Exceptional boutique firm with an outstanding track record in public procurement. Advises on tender procedures, particularly representing publicly owned companies and contracting authorities on state and federal levels. Highly active in the fields of healthcare, housing and higher education. Regularly advises clients on a range of infrastructure projects including railway, bus and tram networks. Also demonstrates expertise in the area of IT procurement projects.

Strengths One satisfied client enthuses: "They are very client-oriented and handle all cases with the highest diligence."

Another client underlines the team's attentiveness, flagging up its "very quick response times to any legal matter," as well as their "outstanding competence."

Work highlights Acted for PwC Germany on the EUR5 billion procurement regarding the operation of the German truck tolling system.

Notable practitioners

Matthias Öhler is an outstanding practitioner with a vast amount of experience in assisting municipalities and public sector entities with procurement and tender procedures. His collaborative manner is praised among market commentators, one deeming him "a great lawyer to work with." Deemed "one of the pioneers" by market observers, **Johannes Schramm** is an authority on public procurement in Austria. He regularly advises public bodies on framework agreements and procurement matters encompassing transport and construction. He offers further expertise on large renovation projects in the public sector. **Gregor Stickler** is frequently instructed on PPP and public procurement mandates in the healthcare, construction and education sectors. Universities, insurers and hospitals are among his clients. **Georg Zellhofer** enters the rankings following his increased activity in the market. He is acknowledged for his work in the transport sector, where he advises a number of municipalities and public bodies.

SHMP Schwartz Huber-Medek Pallitsch Rechtsanwälte OG

What the team is known for Compact public law offering with a strong and long-standing reputation. Receives recognition for its work in planning and environmental law, including EIAs for construction projects in both urban and non-residential areas. Particularly distinguished for its work on mandates involving waste management. Handles water law, environmental remediation and emissions law. Also commands notable experience in public procurement law, advising both bidders and contracting authorities.

Notable practitioners

Walter Schwartz is highly recommended by market observers as "an expert in procurement law." He has notable experience in advising public institutions on both procurement and PPP projects. **Katharina Huber-Medek** maintains a strong profile in the market, with sources singling her out as "very active in waste management law," in addition to her expertise in planning matters.

Wolf Theiss**See profile on p.212**

What the team is known for Excellent team advising bidders as well as public authorities on large-scale, high-value tender procedures. Also represents clients in related disputes. Key sectors for procurement activity include IT, transportation and healthcare. Additionally, handles both contentious and non-contentious environmental matters, with particular knowledge of large construction projects and EIA issues. Regularly assists clients from the insurance, energy, financial services and transport sectors with regulatory matters. Also combines media and telecommunications expertise for complex regulatory matters. Additional areas of focus include event law and all related issues. Offers strong coverage in the CEE region.

Strengths The firm is recognised by clients for its work ethos, one saying: "I value the reliability in terms of keeping deadlines," and its "flexibility in offering customised solutions."

Another client states: "They provide us with very good detailed legal advice and insights into Austrian public law, healthcare law and adjacent areas."

Work highlights Assisted Verkehrsverbund Ost-Region with the EUR1.5 billion reorganisation of the ordering regime for public passenger transport services.

Notable practitioners

Manfred Essletzbichler (see p.175) has an excellent standing in the market as an active adviser to public bodies and municipalities on tender procedures in the transport, IT and healthcare sectors. He further offers his clients expertise in procurement-related disputes. **Kurt Retter** (see p.181) is well-versed in constitutional and administrative law, as well as regulatory matters. One client characterises him as "very reliable and a real expert." He advises clients from a range of sectors including telecommunications, public transport and defence. **Sebastian Oberzaucher** (see p.180) assists both bidders and contractors with an array of tender procedures in addition to related regulatory and contentious issues. He is well positioned to handle mandates in the pharmaceutical, telecommunications and infrastructure industries. **Wolfram Schachinger** (see p.181) regularly acts on behalf of clients from the agriculture sector, with notable experience in EIAs, permitting and zoning issues. He further provides expertise on waste law. Market observers particularly highlight him for his activity on mandates from clients in the energy sector.

Other Ranked Lawyers

Dieter Altenburger is at his most visible advising on infrastructure matters, where he most notably represents clients from the transportation industry.

Claus Casati is a well-established figure in the market with experience in PPP projects, often advising clients in the education sector.

Roland Katary regularly advises on procurement matters, where clients profit from his experience as a former judge.

Markus Nußbaumer offers clients expert advice on waste management as well as construction law.

Heinrich Vana offers a range of expertise on environmental matters and is very well known for representing NGOs in proceedings against large planning projects.

REAL ESTATE

Real Estate
Leading Firms
Band 1
Doralt Seist & Csoklich *
Schoenherr *
Wolf Theiss *
Band 2
DORDA *
Vavrovsky Heine Marth Rechtsanwälte *
Band 3
Arnold Rechtsanwälte GmbH
CERHA HEMPEL *
Eisenberger & Herzog *
Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer LLP
Saxinger, Chalupsky & Partners (SCWP Schindhelm) *
Band 4
Baker McKenzie – Diwok Hermann Petsche *
BINDER GRÖSSWANG Rechtsanwälte GmbH *
Bock Fuchs Nonhoff Rechtsanwälte OG
CMS *
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Artner Stefan DORDA *
Lagler Michael Schoenherr *
Marth Christian Vavrovsky Heine Marth Rechtsanwälte *
Oberlechner Peter Wolf Theiss *
Seist Wilfried Doralt Seist & Csoklich
Band 2
Arnold Florian Arnold Rechtsanwälte GmbH
Madl Peter Schoenherr *
Offenheimer Alric Eisenberger & Herzog
Band 3
Etzl Gabriele Jank Weiler Operenyi Rechtsanwälte (ORL) ◇
Fuchs Johannes Bock Fuchs Nonhoff Rechtsanwälte OG
Gerstner Immanuel Saxinger, Chalupsky & Partners (SCWP)
Größ Stephan EY Law Pelzmann Gall Größ (ORL) ◇
Band 4
Bock Gerhard Bock Fuchs Nonhoff Rechtsanwälte OG
Eichinger Arabella Schoenherr *
Foerster Martin Graf & Pitkowitz Rechtsanwälte GmbH (ORL) ◇
Harasser Birgit BRAND Rechtsanwälte GmbH (ORL) ◇
Huber Alexandra Nemetschke Huber Koloseus (ORL) ◇
Krenn Mark CERHA HEMPEL *
Nemetschke Alfred Nemetschke Huber Koloseus (ORL) ◇
Neuwirther Felix Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer LLP
Patsch Alexander Graf Patsch Taucher Rechtsanwälte (ORL) ◇
Rainer Herbert Dr. Herbert Rainer (ORL) ◇
Schlein Wilhelm Dr. Wilhelm Schlein Rechtsanwalt (ORL) ◇
Weselik Nikolaus CMS
Winkler Oskar DLA Piper Weiss-Tessbach (ORL) ◇ *
Zottl Thomas Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer LLP
Up-and-coming individuals
Binder Karl Wolf Theiss *
Fritz Julia PHH Prochaska Havranek Rechtsanwälte (ORL) ◇
Associates to watch
Mitterdorfer Nina Doralt Seist & Csoklich

* Indicates firm / individual with profile.

◇ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.

Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

The editorial is in alphabetical order by firm name.

Arnold Rechtsanwälte GmbH

What the team is known for Active on a range of real estate matters with particularly strong transactional expertise, including advising on construction contracts. Also acts on long-term development pro-

Real Estate: Construction
Leading Firms
Band 1
KWR Karasek Wietrzyk Rechtsanwälte GmbH *
Wolf Theiss *
Band 2
CMS *
Band 3
CERHA HEMPEL *
Hule Bachmayr-Heyda Nordberg Rechtsanwälte
Müller Partner Rechtsanwälte
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Karasek Georg KWR Karasek Wietrzyk Rechtsanwälte GmbH
Müller Wolfgang Wolf Theiss *
Weselik Nikolaus CMS
Band 2
Hule Michael Hule Bachmayr-Heyda Nordberg Rechtsanwälte
Müller Katharina Müller Partner Rechtsanwälte
Band 3
Seebacher Georg Scherbaum Seebacher (ORL) ◇
Up-and-coming individuals
Anderl Thomas Wolf Theiss *

jects, most notably in the retail sector and has experience assisting with leasing contracts and tenancy law. Clientele includes major real estate companies.

Strengths “They are hands on and work quickly,” a source reveals.

Notable practitioners

Florian Arnold rises in the rankings due to his great market reputation. He works for major real estate companies on transactions and development projects.

Baker McKenzie – Diwok Hermann Petsche Rechtsanwälte LLP & Co KG

See profile on p.64

What the team is known for Advises on larger real estate transactions and M&A, drawing on its strong corporate practice. Represents real estate developers and companies acquiring office space. Also assists with lease agreements and contractor negotiations.

Notable practitioners

Wolfgang Eigner is the head of the practice and a key contact for queries.

BINDER GRÖSSWANG Rechtsanwälte GmbH

See profile on p.188

What the team is known for Notable deal-focused team that assists with real estate-related joint ventures, purchases and disposals. Regularly acts for international companies, increasing their property interests in Austria. Active on lease agreements as well as disputes. Advises a variety of clients, including real estate investors and retailers, as well as high net worth individuals. Also offers assistance with financing and refinancing.

Strengths Clients admire the hard work and dedication displayed across the entire team, stating: “They can handle any matter at almost any given time limit with incredible dedication. The lawyers at BINDER GRÖSSWANG also closely and seamlessly work together as a team to cover intersections between various topics and to add real benefit to the legal advice.”

Work highlights Advised CORESTATE Capital on its acquisition for third TriIple tower as a forward purchase deal.

Notable practitioners

Tibor Fabian and Markus Uitz are the key contacts for the practice.

Bock Fuchs Nonhoff Rechtsanwälte OG

What the team is known for Well-regarded boutique assisting with a variety of real estate issues. Handles transactions, often acting for investment funds and asset management companies as sellers on cross-border mandates. Also advises on urban development projects, financings, leases and land transfer law.

Notable practitioners

Johannes Fuchs advises on real estate transactions as well as lease law matters. One interviewee says: “He is calm and positive and he really listens to arguments and tries to see our point of view to find a solution.” **Gerhard Bock’s** broad practice spans transactions as well as lease law and asset management in the real estate sector.

CERHA HEMPEL

See profile on p.192

What the team is known for Comprehensive real estate and construction team, regularly advising on sizeable real estate development projects. Handles property acquisitions including forward purchase transactions and lease agreements. Assists with construction contracts and related disputes. Frequently acts for real estate investors, joint ventures and private companies. Often engaged in cross-border projects involving the CEE region.

Strengths Clients praise the pragmatic advice produced by the team, stating: “The commercially minded real estate team is straightforward, responsive and has broad expertise. The lawyers take not only the legal aspects of the case into consideration but also the strategic, economic aspects of our matters.”

Clients further note that the “quality of advice is outstanding.”

Work highlights Assisted Value One with its joint venture with Nuveen Real Estate for their EUR600 million investment in pan-European student accommodation.

Notable practitioners

Mark Krenn (see p.177) acts for investors and joint ventures on real estate, hotel and retail transactions. His clients view him as “a lawyer that quickly comprehends complex topics in a well-founded manner, organises them well and optimally implements the wishes of his clients.”

CMS

See profile on p.193

What the team is known for Respected team with a reputation for its activity in both real estate and construction. Acts on development projects, contracts and disputes. Regularly assists prominent clients with leasing issues, real estate transactions and related litigation. Client base includes high-profile construction companies and national developers as well as international investors and manufacturers. Heavily active on mandates across the CEE drawing on its broad network in the region.

Strengths Clients appreciate that the team is “highly responsive, helpful and available if needed for discussions.”

Another client describes the firm as “extremely efficient and spot-on with high local expertise, as well as

an international focus and network."

Work highlights Advised Projektgemeinschaft Brenner Basistunnel Nord, the construction consortium for the Brenner Base railway tunnel, on construction and planning law issues as well as contract negotiations and drafting.

Notable practitioners

Nikolaus Weselik is best known for his expertise in construction law, frequently representing clients in disputes relating to damages, liability and warranties. He also assists with real estate transactions, lease agreements and investments.

Doralt Seist & Csoklich

See profile on p.194

What the team is known for Esteemed team that garners acclaim for its flourishing transactional practice. Excels in share and asset deals as well as portfolio transactions, often with a joint venture or SPV structure. Counts listed property companies and investment funds among its clients. Particular affinity for deals involving logistics, residential and retail properties and developments.

Strengths One interviewee certifies Doralt Seist & Csoklich's leading position in the market, stating: "They are real top-tier lawyers for big real estate transactions in Austria."

Work highlights Advised Immo Kapitalanlage on the acquisition of two logistics buildings to a value of EUR52.5 million.

Notable practitioners

Leading real estate lawyer **Wilfried Seist** works on high-profile transactions in the office, retail and residential sectors. One client says: "He is a very experienced lawyer with in-depth knowledge in what you need for running transactions," adding: "He is also quite easy to approach and that of course makes it easier to get the deal through and share opinions."

Nina Mitterdorfer is praised by clients for being "approachable and pragmatic and willing to think through different questions." She assists primarily with transactions in the retail industry, but also acts on deals involving office space.

DORDA

See profile on p.195

What the team is known for Well-regarded team with strong experience in property portfolio management, M&A, financing and leasing work. Transactional work includes share deals, asset deals, forward purchase agreements and sale and leaseback transactions. Also active on real estate development projects. Active in the retail, corporate and hotel sectors and advises a range of domestic and international clients.

Strengths Clients endorse the team's working style, stating: "They are solution-focused, efficient and pragmatic and have a prudent approach," adding: "They are also very polite and very responsive."

Another source says: "They were excellent in getting up to speed and helping to manage the demands of the client on what was a tight deadline. Their work was of a very high quality and they were always available."

Work highlights Assisted Amundi Real Estate with the EUR100 million acquisition of Media Quarter Marz from a joint venture of the City of Vienna and private investors following a successful bidding process.

Notable practitioners

Highly commended **Stefan Artner** (see p.173) handles a broad range of transactional mandates, including leases and forward purchase deals for

properties including office buildings, residential properties and shopping centre portfolios. His clients describe him as a "superb, experienced transaction lawyer."

Eisenberger & Herzog

See profile on p.196

What the team is known for Strong team that regularly appears on high-value individual and portfolio transactions, acting for both sellers and buyers. Visible on cross-border transactions and forward purchase matters. Also active on bids for PPPs and developments. Particular experience in advising hotel groups, energy companies, developers and real estate firms.

Strengths Clients say: "In terms of negotiations they have proven their skills. What we really liked it is that they demonstrated business assessment of the matters and not just wearing the legal lenses."

The team is further endorsed for its "outstanding partner involvement."

Work highlights Assisted IMMOFINANZ with the EUR900 million sale of a shopping centre portfolio in Russia.

Notable practitioners

Alric Ofenheimer frequently advises on cross-border transactions involving retail and hotel units. He also assists with lease agreements.

Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer LLP

What the team is known for Skilled at overseeing multi-jurisdictional property-related dispositions and purchases, including advice on forward purchase agreements, tender processes and share deals. Additionally assists with creating joint venture structures. Clients include banks and international investment management firms as well as retail and hotel chains. Also assists with leasing matters including disputes.

Work highlights Advised UniCredit on its lease and other property-related matters concerning its Austrian headquarters in Vienna.

Notable practitioners

Felix Neuwirth advises on larger real estate transactions and development projects. His further areas of expertise include lease agreements, terminations and disputes. **Thomas Zottl** "handles complex transactions very well," according to interviewees. Zottl operates a broad practice advising on portfolio sales, real estate matters relating to M&A, lease agreements and disputes.

Hule Bachmayr-Heyda Nordberg Rechtsanwältinnen GmbH

What the team is known for Boutique firm with long-standing reputation in the construction law arena. Adept at handling construction and development contracts as well as public law approval procedures. Also assists clients with construction litigation mandates. Best known for representing large developers, and also acts for investors, contractors and project financiers.

Notable practitioners

Michael Hule represents developers and construction companies in contracts and construction projects and represents clients in related disputes.

KWR Karasek Wietrzyk Rechtsanwälte GmbH

See profile on p.205

What the team is known for Leading construction team drawing on its abilities in public law to advise on PPPs, infrastructure projects and project develop-

ment. Also highly active in construction litigation as well as real estate and lease disputes. Primarily acts for construction companies and investors but also houses architects and engineers among its clientele.

Strengths Clients deem the firm to be "real experts in Austria."

Work highlights Represented AY-KA Bau in two different proceedings regarding assertion of claims against principals amounting to a combined value of EUR17.5 million.

Notable practitioners

Georg Karasek advises on construction, public procurement and architects law and also frequently represents clients in construction disputes. Clients are impressed with his standing in the market, stating: "He is one of the best experts in Austria and an authority. If you turn up with Karasek, people know you are represented well."

Müller Partner Rechtsanwälte

What the team is known for Prominent domestic boutique that has successfully carved out a niche in construction law. Presents clients with extensive litigation experience, representing contractors in various disputes, with particular expertise in claims concerning damages, wages and additional costs claims. Also advises on construction planning, contracts and warranty issues and provides full management support from tender to implementation phase. Frequently represents clients in the field of engineering and building technology.

Strengths Clients appreciate that the team has "state of the art knowledge in a very innovative business combined with a perfect risk mitigation approach," adding: "They are extremely sensitive in tricky cases and full of empathy, which helps a lot with difficult counterparts."

Notable practitioners

Katharina Müller is best known for representation in construction proceedings but also advises on all aspects of construction projects. Clients say: "She is very loyal, confident and really experienced."

Saxinger, Chalupsky & Partners (SCWP Schindhelm)

See profile on p.207

What the team is known for Steadfast in property acquisitions and sales, with additional expertise in real estate finance and refinancing. Acts for sellers and buyers, including a significant number of developers. Also represents clients in transaction-related disputes. Know-how in property division and regulatory matters, as well as land registration and project planning.

Strengths One client reports: "In addition to the excellent legal expertise, I would like to emphasise the great customer service and the personal contact to the lawyers," adding: "Responsiveness and eagerness to adapt the client's needs are the key elements of SCWP's practice."

Clients praise the firm's cross-border capabilities, stating: "The team perfectly manages the balancing act between local presence and global orientation," adding: "The quality standards are extremely high, even in international matters."

Work highlights Assisted UBM Development with the share-deal sale of its headquarters in Laa am Wiener Laaerberg.

Notable practitioners

Immanuel Gerstner advises on large-scale single asset as well as portfolio transactions, often involving office units. He also assists with financing mat-

ters. One impressed client states: *"His dedication and broad expertise in transactional matters always impress me. He is very well connected and has a deep industry understanding. He is strong in negotiations and quickly grasps the essentials of the transaction."*

Schoenherr

See profile on p.209

What the team is known for Outstanding transactional real estate team, frequently acting for prominent developers on high-value acquisitions and sales of real estate portfolios, also providing advice on financing. Experienced in handling significant cross-border real estate deals spanning CEE countries, utilising its impressive spread of regional offices. Frequently acts for real estate investors and property owners. Particularly active on large-scale transactions in the commercial, hotel and residential sectors.

Strengths Clients praise the corporate capabilities of the team, stating: *"They are a top firm for transactions of all kinds."*

Their *"outstanding responsiveness and availability"* and *"excellent knowledge in the real estate industry"* are also lauded by clients.

Work highlights Advised KTB Investment & Securities on the acquisition of T-Center via the purchasing of all shares in MM Liegenschaftsbesitz.

Notable practitioners

Michael Lagler (see p.178) advises on large-scale property and portfolio transactions in Austria and CEE comprising office, retail and residential properties. One client states: *"He is the leading individual in real estate. He is to the point, polite and always finds the right words. He is a top negotiator with the ability to push back with full power if needed."* **Peter Madl** (see p.179) assists with deals in the hotel and retail industries including sale and leaseback transactions. He also advises on zoning and development contracts. **Arabella Eichinger** (see p.175) represents investors and operators in transactions in the retail and residential sectors as well as on leases and management agreements in the hotel industry.

Vavrovsky Heine Marth Rechtsanwälte

See profile on p.210

What the team is known for Excellent track record representing investment funds, construction companies and developers, with a number of clients from across the DACH region. Assists with the sale and acquisition of property and portfolios, as well as with leases and forward purchase transactions. Represents public authorities in real estate transactions. Handles commercial and retail as well as residential developments including student accommodation projects. Also advises on real estate disputes.

Strengths On impressed interviewee states: *"They are very innovative, flexible and really good specialists in real estate matters."*

Work highlights Assisted Volksbank Wien with the sale of its headquarters in Vienna as well as with the leasing of its new headquarters from CA Immo.

Notable practitioners

Christian Marth (see p.179) advises on high-profile real estate transactions, frequently representing

open real estate funds in portfolio transactions. He assists with deals involving office buildings, residential developments and healthcare institutions. He is viewed by clients as *"a brilliant lawyer with impeccable legal know-how and market understanding. His finesse and calm in negotiations are among his biggest strengths as well as his eye for detail and thoroughness."*

Wolf Theiss

See profile on p.212

What the team is known for First-class offering in both real estate and construction matters. Dedicated construction team with an impressive track record, representing prominent construction companies in complex disputes and arbitration. Also assists with contracts and procurement for construction projects, primarily in the healthcare and infrastructure sectors. Advises investors as well as property companies on major real estate transactions in the retail, office and hotel deals. Works closely with its branches across the CEE and SEE regions to assist clients with cross-border and multi-jurisdictional transactions.

Strengths Clients highlights the team's *"very good understanding of the commercial impacts of contract clauses"* and enthuse: *"The quality of service is superior."*

Another client says: *"They are very well connected in the field of construction and they have a lot of specialised knowledge that they use in practice."*

Work highlights Advised PORR on the construction of the Koralm Tunnel including representation in related disputes concerning extensions and additional costs.

Notable practitioners

Noted construction lawyer **Wolfgang Müller** (see p.180) advises on major infrastructure projects as well as residential and industrial developments. He assists with contracts and strategic decisions as well as related construction disputes. One client states: *"He is excellently networked and goes beyond the substantive issues to bring added value for our company."*

Top-ranked **Peter Oberlechner** (see p.114) advises on domestic as well as cross-border transactions, most notably in the retail industry. His clientele comprises investors and private companies as well as public authorities. One client says: *"He is commercial and he knows our business."* **Thomas Anderl** (see p.173) represents construction companies, principals and developers in a broad range of construction disputes, often acting on matters pertaining to claims for compensations and defects or additional costs. He also assists with construction contract drafting. Clients appreciate his technical expertise, stating: *"He is a very hands-on and pragmatic lawyer, who is very resourceful and offers sound and goal-oriented legal advice. Beside his undeniable legal expertise, he brings with him a wealth of experience, having worked on the technical side of construction before joining the firm."* **Karl Binder** (see p.174) builds his reputation in the real estate industry, advising on transactions in the real estate, office and hotel sectors. He also assists with lease issues. Clients describe him as being *"diligent and solution-oriented."*

Other Ranked Lawyers

Gabriele Etzl advises on a broad range of real estate deals including transactions as well as financing matters and lease agreements. Clients praise her *"excellent subject knowledge of real estate and construction law."*

Martin Foerster enters the rankings due to his increased visibility on real estate deals. He is best known for his work on lease agreements and disputes, but also assists with property transactions.

Julia Fritz advises on project developments but is also active in property management and real estate transactions. One client says: *"She is very fast but also has a lot of knowledge. She knows what we should add in the contracts, which adds to a better understanding for us and the buyers."*

Stephan Größ has a broad practice advising on transactions in the retail industry as well as urban development projects. He also assists with lease matters. One client reports: *"Stephan Größ is a very focused transactional lawyer who is very quick in finding pragmatic solutions."*

Birgit Harasser advises on financing and transactions in commercial real estate as well as on lease agreements.

Alexandra Huber primarily represents real estate investors in transactions, but her practice also includes project developments and real estate financing.

Alfred Nemetschke advises investors and developers on transactions and projects in the real estate industry. One interviewee states: *"He knows what he is talking about, he is very experienced and knows how things are done and that's why he is still successful."*

Alexander Patsch advises on transactions involving residential projects as well as hotel and leisure properties. He also assists with leases.

Herbert Rainer advises primarily on lease contracts and asset management but is also active on transactions. Interviewees deem him *"a very focused expert on core real estate questions."*

Wilhelm Schlein is best known for his work on leases, frequently assisting with tenancy disputes. He is regarded by market commentators as *"a really good real estate expert."*

Georg Seebacher is best known for his work in construction disputes, advising insurers, architects and engineers. One impressed interviewee states: *"In court cases, Dr Seebacher analyses the situation precisely and works out a solution-oriented approach."*

Oskar Winkler (see p.184) assists with real estate transactions most notably in the residential and hotel sector. His clients report: *"He has an incredible technical experience and he throws in ideas about the latest legal issues and trends he has dealt with."*

RESTRUCTURING/INSOLVENCY

Restructuring/Insolvency
Leading Firms
Band 1
Fellner Wratzfeld & Partners *
Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer LLP
Schoenherr *
Band 2
BINDER GRÖSSWANG Rechtsanwälte GmbH *
DORDA *
Eisenberger & Herzog *
Wolf Theiss *
Band 3
CERHA HEMPEL *
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Fellner Markus Fellner Wratzfeld & Partners
Höller Wolfgang Schoenherr *
Jergitsch Friedrich Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer LLP
Band 2
Benes Marcus Eisenberger & Herzog
Ebner Martin Schoenherr *
Gassner Gottfried BINDER GRÖSSWANG Rechtsanwälte GmbH
Band 3
Hörlsberger Felix DORDA *
Klimscha Florian Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer LLP
Schmid Andreas Wolf Theiss *
Welten Emanuel BINDER GRÖSSWANG Rechtsanwälte GmbH
Band 4
Jaufer Clemens Scherbaum Seebacher (ORL) ◇
Reisch Ulla Urbanek Lind Schmied Reisch (ORL) ◇
Simsa Miriam Schoenherr *
Spiegel Eva Wolf Theiss *
Trettnak Thomas CERHA HEMPEL *
* Indicates firm / individual with profile.
◇ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

Band 1**Fellner Wratzfeld & Partners**

See profile on p.199

What the team is known for Elite and highly experienced team, acclaimed for its work on high-profile restructurings. Mainly advises financial institutions as well as companies as creditors but also assists distressed companies with restructuring matters. Notable expertise in the recapitalisation of public companies via a range of financial instruments and also tackles insolvency litigation. Frequently acts on insolvencies and restructurings in the construction and manufacturing industries.

Strengths An interviewee states: "They are the best in the field of insolvency and banking law."

Another client appreciates the expedient service, stating: "No law firm knows so quickly what to do. Fellner Wratzfeld & Partners saves us a lot of work and is a guarantor for us to do the right thing. If someone would ask me for a recommendation, this firm would clearly be number one."

Work highlights Advised Steinhoff Europe on a range of corporate issues and disposals relating to its restructuring, including reaching a lock-up agreement with its creditors.

Notable practitioners

Markus Fellner is recognised as a market leader for restructuring mandates and is best known for advising financial institutions as creditors. He assists with takeover procedures resulting from creditor

Restructuring/Insolvency: Administration
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Abel Norbert Abel & Abel Rechtsanwälte GmbH (ORL) ◇
Isola Alexander Graf & Pitkowitz Rechtsanwälte GmbH (ORL) ◇
Reisch Ulla Urbanek Lind Schmied Reisch (ORL) ◇
Riel Stephan Jaksch Schoeller Riel (ORL) ◇
Band 2
Lentsch Michael Kosch & Partner Rechtsanwälte (ORL) ◇
Scherbaum Norbert Scherbaum Seebacher (ORL) ◇
Schmidt Matthias Preslmayr (ORL) ◇
Band 3
Stapf Christof Stapf Neuhauser Weber-Wilfert (ORL) ◇
Unger Georg Schulyok Unger & Partner Rechtsanwälte (ORL) ◇
Vavrovsky Karl Ludwig Vavrovsky Heine Marth (ORL) ◇ *
Weileder Stefan Graf & Pitkowitz Rechtsanwälte (ORL) ◇

enforcement, as well as debt restructurings and representation in related disputes. One client states: "What I really like is that he is very business-minded, he simply understands transactions and knows how to structure things, paired with his negotiation skills."

Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer LLP

What the team is known for Outstanding team acclaimed for its work on behalf of banks, with notable capabilities in cross-border restructurings. Considerable expertise in pre-insolvency restructurings, but also assists with insolvency litigation mandates. Active on multi-jurisdictional matters, most notably relating to CEE. Particularly active in the retail and automotive industries.

Strengths One interviewee praises the working style of the firm, stating: "It was a very collegiate experience working with the team. They are very reputable, calm, constructive and really very pleasant."

Notable practitioners

Friedrich Jergitsch is a well-known practitioner primarily advising financial institutions on insolvency claims and banking regulatory matters. He frequently represents clients in insolvency-related disputes. One interviewee attests: "He is very strong in international banking and if there is a restructuring in Austria, he is always present." **Florian Klimscha** is best known for representing financial institutions in debt restructuring and refinancing matters, as well as NPL transactions and equity substitutions.

Schoenherr

See profile on p.209

What the team is known for First-class team offering leading expertise in the restructuring of financial institutions, but is also active on restructuring cases in the oil and gas, retail and construction industries. Also represents corporates and creditors in some of the most high-profile insolvency cases in the market. Benefits from the proficiency of the firm's premier banking and M&A practices, with extensive knowledge of distressed M&A and real estate-related insolvency issues. Recognised for its cross-border work, in particular in the CEE region.

Strengths One client praises the "experienced, thorough lawyers who work fast and effectively."

Work highlights Acted for HETA on its first resolution action for the BRRD framework for recovery and resolution of credit institutions.

Notable practitioners

Wolfgang Höller (see p.176) is recognised as a leading individual on the restructuring and insol-

vency scene in Austria, having acted on some of most high-profile cases. He is particularly active representing financial institutions in credit protection matters. One client enthuses: "He is an industry expert. His legal knowledge is outstanding, especially on European matters." **Martin Ebner** (see p.113) acts on reorganisation mandates, assisting with debt restructuring and non-recourse finance. He is especially acclaimed for his work on NPL transactions. **Miriam Simsa** (see p.182) assists with company reorganisations and out-of-court restructurings. She frequently represents financial institutions in pre-insolvency transactions and on the sale of NPLs. One client says: "Her working style consists of searching and finding an amicable solution even in complex structures."

Band 2**BINDER GRÖSSWANG Rechtsanwälte GmbH**

See profile on p.188

What the team is known for Well-reputed team with broad expertise that includes corporate and financial restructuring. Best known for its work representing investors and creditors, but also highly recommended for distressed M&A transactions and pre-insolvency reorganisations. Additionally active in insolvency-related disputes. Houses extensive expertise in the financial services, retail and construction sectors.

Strengths One client is impressed with the team's commitment to keep up with market trends, stating: "I have the impression that the lawyers are very much involved in current developments and are active in various working groups, which is very helpful."

Another interviewee praises the team's client care, stating: "BINDER GRÖSSWANG brings comparatively more commitment and shows all-round care for the client."

Work highlights Advised members of the TUI Group on the Austrian law matters relating to Air Berlin and NIKI's insolvency proceedings.

Notable practitioners

Gottfried Gassner is known for acting on the creditor side of major insolvency cases. He advises on debt restructurings and asset divestitures, as well as on distressed M&A matters. Sources say that he possesses "tremendous experience here," adding: "He has deep understanding of the financial market in Austria. He is a real sparring partner and we really appreciate his points." **Emanuel Welten** advises on cross-border insolvency matters as well as out-of-court restructuring mandates. He frequently represents creditors. Clients say: "He is flexible and provides well-founded statements within a very short time frame."

DORDA

See profile on p.195

What the team is known for Highly regarded team acting on large-scale restructuring cases. Strong cross-border practice often teaming up with large international firms. Advises investors and bondholders as well as distressed companies on a range of pre-insolvency reorganisation and refinancing matters. Also active in M&A and insolvency litigation. Clients include corporates, investors, and restructuring funds. Particularly active in the real estate and

retail sectors.

Strengths One source sees DORDA's strong reputation as an advantage, stating: *"They know all the players in the market and because of their good work they have relationships of trust everywhere. They also have an extremely pragmatic approach to the topics."*

Another impressed interviewee adds: *"They were very calm and measured, even in stressful situations where the whole deal hinged on small details."*

Work highlights Represented SEAG Lenders, a group of funds holding debt issued by Steinhoff, in the extrajudicial restructuring of Steinhoff Group.

Notable practitioners

Felix Hörlsberger (see p.176) is recognised for representing creditors in large-scale restructuring mandates, as well as in in-court insolvency proceedings. He also advises distressed borrowers on pre-insolvency refinancings. One client describes him as a *"mastermind in restructuring,"* adding: *"What makes him stand out is that within that whole insolvency madness, he was one of the only ones who always remained calm and structured and retained an overview of the situation."*

Eisenberger & Herzog

See profile on p.196

What the team is known for Well-regarded team with a strong reputation for corporate and financial restructuring, including the restructuring of debt, bonds, and loans as well as NPL transactions. Present in all the major insolvency and restructuring cases in Austria. Also active on cross-border matters, most notably involving the UK and Germany, frequently teaming up with large international firms.

Strengths One interviewee exclaims: *"We worked with them on some of the largest restructurings, and I cannot praise them enough,"* adding: *"They are extremely intelligent, focused, and well organised."*

Another interviewee is impressed by the firm's development, stating: *"They had an incredible track record over the last few years and fought their way to the top. In finance, regulatory and restructuring they provide a fantastic service."*

Work highlights Advised QuadraCir as co-counsel on the restructuring of debt as well as the sale of all of the group's assets.

Notable practitioners

Marcus Benes is best known for his work on refinancing and bond restructurings in insolvency proceedings. One impressed client states: *"He is very practical, focused and to the point. But it's also his business understanding; whenever we have a difficult moment in a big transaction he really knows how to steer everything in the right direction."*

Wolf Theiss

See profile on p.212

What the team is known for Substantial practice group drawing on the strength of the firm's banking and finance, corporate and dispute resolution expertise. Consequently well equipped to handle large-scale financial and corporate restructuring, exit financing, NPL transactions and insolvency-related litigation. Chiefly acting for creditors, and also offers support to distressed companies and shareholders.

Excellent reputation for its cross-border work within CEE and SEE.

Strengths One interviewee praises the firm's strength in the CEE market, stating: *"It is definitely a go-to firm in Austria, they are very eminent and present. Their main strength is the incredible network in the eastern part of Europe, they know everything."*

Another states: *"We have a lot of experience working with Wolf Theiss. They are a great partner in these issues, I would definitely recommend them."*

Work highlights Advised DDM Group and its consortium partner B2Holding on the purchase of a portfolio of distressed assets in Croatia from HETA ASSET RESOLUTION.

Notable practitioners

Andreas Schmid (see p.114) is noted for his experience advising individual financial institutions as well as creditor consortia in high-profile insolvency cases. Market sources confirm he has *"broad experience in restructuring matters."* **Eva Spiegel** (see p.182) advises clients on major corporate debt restructurings, liability claims and insolvency matters. One client enthuses: *"We have a very good impression of the case management done by Spiegel, who did that extremely efficiently and co-ordinated her associates well."*

Band 3

CERHA HEMPEL

See profile on p.192

What the team is known for Best known for representing banks and business partners as creditors in insolvency cases, as well as advising on the banking aspects of insolvency proceedings and pre-insolvency debt collecting. Also active in the areas of distressed M&A and financial restructuring.

Strengths One client praises the firm's *"very high-quality advice,"* adding: *"I would highly recommend them for complex high-end business."*

Another client highlights the team's international capabilities, stating: *"Many of the questions we brought to the firm related to cross-border projects. Here, the firm's network in CEE should be praised."*

Work highlights Advised AIDA Cruises on claims against NIKI relating to its insolvency proceedings.

Notable practitioners

Thomas Trettnak (see p.183) heads the firm's restructuring and insolvency practice. He is mainly active on the creditor side, advising on creditor protection, distressed M&A and reorganisations. One client states: *"The advice was to-the-point and he was reliable in his statements."*

Other Ranked Lawyers

Norbert Abel is a highly respected insolvency administrator working on some of the largest insolvencies in the country. Abel is also dual-qualified in Germany.

Alexander Isola is a leading insolvency lawyer in the Austrian market, advising on insolvency administration, restructurings and reorganisations. He advises

creditors, debtors as well as investors. One interviewee states: *"He is very structured, innovative and target-oriented in his work."*

Clemens Jaufer assists with out-of-court restructuring processes, claim enforcement in insolvencies and representation in related litigation. One client states: *"His strength is his high technical knowledge paired with a working style that is deeply engaged in the case."*

Michael Lentsch is greatly endorsed for his work as insolvency administrator and is also increasingly active as debtor representative. One interviewee states: *"He is really straightforward and excellent on insolvency rights and company structure issues."*

Ulla Reisch is best known for her leading position in insolvency administration but is also well reputed for representing debtors. She is described by market sources as *"one of the absolute top stars in Austria."*

Stephan Riel is highly regarded for his work as insolvency administrator and on in-court restructurings. Riel is deemed *"one of the top insolvency administrators"* by market sources.

Norbert Scherbaum acts as trustee on high-profile restructurings in Austria, assisting with financing, restructuring plans and claims against estates. *"He was always very pragmatic in his thinking and business-driven and he acted for the benefit of the company,"* one client states.

Matthias Schmidt acts for management boards and insolvency estates in his role as administrator and trustee. He is also renowned for his work on international matters. Sources describe him as *"excellent in administration and also in out-of-court restructuring."*

Christof Stapf remains a reputed name in insolvency administration. He is described by interviewees as an *"esteemed insolvency practitioner."*

Georg Unger advises on insolvency law and corporate restructuring, frequently acting as insolvency administrator.

Salzburg-based **Karl Ludwig Vavrovsky** (see p.183) is a popular choice for administration appointments, but also acts for distressed corporations and entities on advisory matters. One client says: *"I would describe his working method as detailed and efficient. Due to his many years of experience and authority he gets the different participants on board and develops economically sensible solutions."*

Stefan Weileder is recognised for his capabilities as insolvency administrator, advising on avoidance law, capital maintenance and equity compensation. He frequently advises clients on complex cross-border insolvency mandates. One client is impressed by Weileder's *"extremely quick decision making and creative solutions,"* adding: *"He is highly professional, purposeful and always focused on achieving the fastest and most unbureaucratic success in negotiations."*

TAX

Tax
Leading Firms
Band 1
Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer LLP
Wolf Theiss *
Band 2
BINDER GRÖSSWANG Rechtsanwälte GmbH *
bpv Huegel *
CERHA HEMPEL *
Band 3
Aigner Buzanich Rechtsanwälte OG
DLA Piper Weiss-Tessbach *
DORDA *
Schindler Attorneys
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Schmidt Niklas Wolf Theiss *
Sedlaczek Michael Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer LLP
Staringer Claus Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer LLP
Wimpissinger Christian BINDER GRÖSSWANG Rechtsanwälte
Band 2
Doralt Paul DORDA *
Twardosz Benjamin CERHA HEMPEL *
Band 3
Aigner Hans-Jürgen Aigner Buzanich Rechtsanwälte OG *
Althuber Franz ALTHUBER SPORNBERGER & PARTNER (ORL) ◇
Buzanich Herbert Aigner Buzanich Rechtsanwälte OG *
Hable Andreas BINDER GRÖSSWANG Rechtsanwälte GmbH
Schachner Gerald bpv Huegel *
Band 4
Petriz-Klar Michaela Taylor Wessing (ORL) ◇
Prinz Johannes CERHA HEMPEL *
Schindler Clemens Philipp Schindler Attorneys
Urtz Christoph Baker McKenzie – Diwok Hermann (ORL) ◇ *
Vondrak Philip Grama Schwaighofer Vondrak (ORL) ◇
Up-and-coming Individuals
Gläser Lars Schindler Attorneys
Hristov Dimitar DLA Piper UK LLP *
Wittmann Kornelia bpv Huegel *
* Indicates firm / individual with profile.
◇ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

Band 1**Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer LLP**

What the team is known for Exceptional practice offering full-service tax advice. Particularly acclaimed for its expertise on domestic and cross-border M&A transactions and corporate restructurings. Shows further prowess on multilateral tax audits and international transfer pricing mandates. Also advises on refinancing, VAT law and tax disputes.

Strengths Sources describe the practice as “market leaders.”

An impressed client states: “They are very professional and solution-oriented. You get first-class tax advice.”

Work highlights Advised Liberty Global on the sale of its Austrian cable subsidiary UPC Austria to T-Mobile Austria including on tax aspects related to the transaction and the related documents and agreements.

Notable practitioners

Co-head of department **Michael Sedlaczek** is a seasoned tax practitioner with a focus on matters related to M&A and cross-border reorganisation as well as on litigation. His clientele often stem from the finan-

cial sector. **Claus Staringer** enjoys an excellent reputation for his advice on tax aspects of transactional agreements, structured financing and corporate restructurings. He also handles matters concerning VAT, international transfer pricing and multilateral tax audits.

Wolf Theiss**See profile on p.212**

What the team is known for Highly regarded team experienced on both domestic and cross-border matters. Offers expertise on corporate tax matters including on M&A, restructurings and holding structures. Also advises private clients on trusts, estate planning and asset protection. Further adept at tax litigation as well as financial crime matters.

Strengths One client states: “Wolf Theiss always delivers very helpful input on Austrian regulatory and tax law.”

Another one adds: “You get solid and up-to-date knowledge on Austrian tax law and practical advice on how to minimise tax exposure.”

Work highlights Advised DDM Group and B2Holding on the purchase of a portfolio of distressed assets in Croatia from HETA ASSET RESOLUTION.

Notable practitioners

Head of the firm's tax team, **Niklas Schmidt** (see p.181) maintains a broad practice, advising clients on tax-related M&A and corporate restructurings, transfer pricing and voluntary disclosures. He also assists with the taxation of crypto-currencies. One client states: “He is just extremely good at finding solutions when we present him with complicated matters. He is an excellent lawyer.”

Band 2**BINDER GRÖSSWANG Rechtsanwälte GmbH****See profile on p.188**

What the team is known for Held in high regard for its broad tax practice and its handling of multinational transactional tax law matters. Advises clients in areas such as M&A, corporate income tax, restructurings, asset transfers and financial products. Clientele includes several clients in the private equity industry, high net worth individuals, and domestic and international companies.

Strengths One client notes: “The team is always making an effort to fully understand the issues, and has a great grasp of our needs in terms of risks.”

Another client praises the team's responsiveness, stating: “We had a very good experience with the team of BINDER GRÖSSWANG. They had quick response times and we could arrange face-to-face meetings very fast in order to sort our issues.”

Work highlights Assisted Deutsche Private Equity with tax aspects relating to its acquisition of a majority stake in the BE-terna Group.

Notable practitioners

Christian Wimpissinger is acclaimed for his work on international tax law, transactional, corporate income, VAT and restructuring tax matters. One client states: “Mr Wimpissinger made a perfect concept for us with detailed information and overview. He was taking our needs perfectly into consideration and at the end we did the set-up as recommended from

his side.” **Andreas Hable** is recognised for his M&A and restructuring tax advice. He also advises high net worth individuals on private client matters. One satisfied client notes: “Andreas is absolutely goal-oriented. He is very strategic, he thinks ahead but also considers what is happening in the present. He is excellent at addressing the issues in advance, avoiding problems in the future.”

bpv Huegel**See profile on p.189**

What the team is known for Widely respected tax firm with experience in corporate tax advice as well as cross-border transactions and restructurings. Strong reputation in tax litigation, with notable strength in criminal proceedings, advising on alleged tax evasion. Frequently advises on stamp duty, VAT, audits and tax due diligence.

Strengths Clients praise the team's “first-class, practical and commercial tax advice,” explaining: “They are very commercially aware, they are not simply reciting tax law.”

Another source enthuses: “The client service and technical expertise of the team are fantastic. What I most like is that they always give a crystal-clear answer. The combination of tax and corporate law skills provides a great benefit.”

Work highlights Advised IMMOFINANZ on the sale of its 26% stake in CA Immobilien to Starwood.

Notable practitioners

Department head **Gerald Schachner** (see p.181) is highly valued for his tax-related transaction and restructuring advice. His practice also extends to audits and compliance, as well as litigation. One client says: “I appreciate the sensational technical tax skills, the practical and goal-orientated approach as well as the pleasant way of working, combined with many years of experience. He is also a leading lawyer for tax disputes.” **Kornelia Wittmann** (see p.184) is particularly valued for her tax litigation practice. She is further experienced in VAT, audits and structural assessments. One client states: “She has fantastic technical skills and is very client-oriented.”

CERHA HEMPEL**See profile on p.192**

What the team is known for Specialised team with a strong reputation across a broad range of corporate tax work including matters relating to M&A, restructuring and real estate. Also renowned for its due diligence advice and litigation practice. Clients emanate from diverse industries, including major financial institutions, investment funds and gaming companies, with notable experience advising clients from Brazil.

Strengths One client applauds the team for its “expedient response and tailor-made solutions,” adding that the information provided was “over and above what was requested.”

Another client enthuses: “CERHA HEMPEL was the best partner for our needs. The responsiveness was very good and all our questions were answered quickly. The whole team was very qualified but also practice-oriented.”

Work highlights Assisted Klabin Austria with advice on a range of tax matters including structuring the Austrian part of its USD1 billion notes issuance.

Notable practitioners

Benjamin Twardosz (see p.183) has a broad practice

that sees him undertake a range of work including advising clients on cross-border bills of exchange, transactions, litigation, compliance and structuring matters. One client praises his *"excellent experience,"* explaining: *"It was a tricky matter, but he has a lot of knowledge and came back with reliable opinions."* **Johannes Prinz** (see p.180) advises on transactional matters, particularly those involving corporate restructuring and international tax law. He is also noted for his strength in transfer pricing and VAT matters.

Band 3

Aigner Buzanich Rechtsanwälte OG

What the team is known for Recognised tax boutique with a respected position in the market. Well known for its expertise in dealing with commercial tax planning and transaction-related matters. Further sought after for its expertise in criminal investigations, VAT and tax aspects of financial restructuring mandates. Client roster includes multinational corporations, high net worth individuals and financial institutions.

Strengths One client describes the team as a *"one of the most solution-oriented law firms I have come across."*

Work highlights Assisted Bruker Corporation with Austrian tax due diligence relating to its acquisition of Alicona Imaging.

Notable practitioners

Corporate tax expert **Hans-Jürgen Aigner** (see p.173) advises clients on tax matters relating to transactions. He also displays strong capabilities in criminal tax and accounting as well as restructuring matters. **Herbert Buzanich** (see p.174) specialises in corporate tax matters. His broad and comprehensive practice includes restructurings and VAT advice, as well as financial transactions. One enthused client provides a strong appraisal, stating: *"The complexity of the matters was extremely high but Herbert has the knowledge and capacity to break down difficult matters. I highly appreciated him and his work."*

DLA Piper Weiss-Tessbach

See profile on p.76

What the team is known for Solid market reputation advising on an array of transactional mandates, both for domestic and international clients. Further expertise in corporate contractual agreements, asset management, compliance, tax planning and audits. Clientele comprises private companies, financial institutions and high net worth individuals.

Work highlights Advised Abry Partners on the Austrian due diligence relating to its disposal of Basefarm Holding to the Orange Group.

Notable practitioners

Head of practice **Dimitar Hristov** (see p.176) enters the rankings following strong market recognition. He is valued for his experience assisting with the tax elements of corporate transactions, often involving international entities.

DORDA

See profile on p.195

What the team is known for Solid tax team best known for its cross-border advisory and transactional practice most notably representing Brazilian clients. Demonstrates expertise on cross-border tax structures, acquisition of loan portfolios, pricing projects and audits. Additional strength in refinancing, real estate and infrastructure assets mandates. Clients come from diverse industries, including oil and gas and financial, as well as private individuals.

Strengths One client appreciates the team's *"high-end tax advice"* and hails it for being *"very innovative."*

Another source praises the *"long-standing experience in advice on international structures"* as a valuable expertise.

Work highlights Represented Ocyan Group in the tax audit of its Austrian operations.

Notable practitioners

Paul Doralt (see p.174) is commended by sources for being *"very hands-on"* and demonstrating *"a very good drive towards the goal."* He is valued for his deep knowledge of cross-border transactions and corporate restructurings, advising on related tax aspects.

Schindler Attorneys

What the team is known for Highlighted for its coverage of commercial tax matters for corporate clients as well as private equity funds and private clients.

Impressive international capabilities, often advising on cross-border M&A, real estate, reorganisations and transfer pricing mandates. Further sought after for its tax litigation and audit practice drawing on its risk management expertise.

Strengths One impressed client states: *"It is honestly one of the best firms I have ever worked with."*

Another client appreciates their methodology, highlighting *"a clear and down-to-earth way of working."*

Work highlights Advised Elaston as local counsel on the legal and tax due diligence, financing and SPA relating to its acquisition of Infoniqua Group.

Notable practitioners

Clemens Philipp Schindler specialises in corporate tax, with a particular focus on mergers and reorganisations. He also displays a strong litigation practice. One client says: *"What I value most is his advice. He is business-oriented and knows that people need something practical. He gives clear statements and is very honest."* **Lars Gläser** has extensive knowledge of tax structures in the financial sector, often advising on transfer pricing, financial products, investments and funds. One client describes a positive relationship: *"He is very accurate and responsive, definitely a pleasure to work with."*

Other Ranked Lawyers

Franz Althuber is best known for his strength in tax disputes, advising companies as well as private individuals on liability and criminal procedures in front of courts and authorities.

Michaela Petritz-Klar maintains a strong practice, advising both domestic and international clients on tax planning, restructurings, transactions and disputes.

Christoph Urtz (see p.183) is the head of the firm's tax practice group. His comprehensive advice covers corporate and international tax law, including restructurings, transactions, group taxation, transfer pricing, and VAT. He is also renowned for his ability in tax disputes.

Philip Vondrak is best known for his advice to family companies, private foundations and high net worth individuals on tax matters. One client says: *"He is very proactive and has excellent technical skills. He is very easy to reach."*

TMT

TMT: Information Technology	
Leading Firms	
Band 1	
DORDA *	
Band 2	
GEISTWERT	
Band 3	
Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer LLP	
Wolf Theiss *	
Band 4	
Andréewitch & Partner	
Baker McKenzie – Diwok Hermann Petsche *	
BINDER GRÖSSWANG Rechtsanwälte GmbH *	
Brauneis Klausner Prändl Rechtsanwälte GmbH *	
CERHA HEMPEL *	
* Indicates firm with profile.	
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.	

The editorial is in alphabetical order by firm name.

Andréewitch & Partner

What the team is known for Known for assistance with software development, licensing, cloud computing and outsourcing matters. Active in the area of data protection advising on data registers, data transfers, video surveillance and IT security as well as online marketing matters. Offers further experience in enforcement and compliance matters.

Notable practitioners

Markus Andréewitch is considered to be a *"great lawyer"* by interviewees. He dedicates his practice to mediation, outsourcing, and contractual matters.

Baker McKenzie – Diwok Hermann Petsche Rechtsanwälte LLP & Co KG

See profile on p.64

What the team is known for Established firm known for its strength in IT matters with a particular focus on both contentious and non-contentious aspects of data protection. Offers support in GDPR compliance. Also advises on cybersecurity and privacy matters. Often instructed by domestic and international businesses active in the fields of technology, real estate and telecommunication. Further offers expertise in data transfer and e-commerce.

Strengths Clients are quick to point out the firm's *"responsiveness, efficient legal service and pragmatic solutions,"* adding it *"delivers high quality from start to finish."*

Another interviewee was impressed by *"the creativity and the passion they had for the work,"* adding: *"I*

TMT: Information Technology	
Leading Individuals	
Band 1	
Anderl Axel	DORDA *
Knyrim Rainer	Knyrim Trieb Rechtsanwälte OG (ORL) ◇ *
Band 2	
Marko Roland	Wolf Theiss *
Mosing Max	GEISTWERT
Band 3	
Andréewitch Markus	Andréewitch & Partner
Burtscher Bertram	Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer LLP
Feiler Lukas	Baker McKenzie – Diwok Hermann Petsche *
Kresbach Georg	Wolf Theiss *
Leissler Günther	Schoenherr (ORL) ◇ *
Schnider Alexander	GEISTWERT
Band 4	
Juranek Johannes	CMS (ORL) ◇
Prändl Felix	Brauneis Klauser Prändl Rechtsanwälte GmbH *
Trieb Gerald	Knyrim Trieb Rechtsanwälte OG (ORL) ◇ *
Up-and-coming individuals	
Tlapak Nino	DORDA *
* Indicates firm / individual with profile.	
◇ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.	
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.	

really cannot speak more highly of the team there.”

Work highlights Advised Standard Verlagsgesellschaft on proceedings before the Austrian Data Protection Authority regarding the conditional access to its website requiring either user consent to cookies or a paid subscription.

Notable practitioners

Lukas Feiler (see p.175) is widely recognised as a data protection specialist, with clients praising him as a “highly collaborative and technically very knowledgeable” lawyer, adding: “I would recommend him to anyone without hesitation.” He is further adept at handling matters related to net neutrality, e-commerce and telecommunications.

BINDER GRÖSSWANG Rechtsanwälte GmbH

See profile on p.188

What the team is known for Highly integrated offering drawing on the firm’s strong IP and dispute resolution practices. Active in both IT and telecoms law, covering data protection, data transfer and software distribution. Additionally offers support in data protection matters, including GDPR compliance. Notably active in IT outsourcing and regulatory matters. Also advises on licensing agreements, with additional experience in trade mark matters.

Strengths One satisfied client says: “The whole team is very proactive and has a truly service-oriented approach.”

Work highlights Advised Tiroler Glashütte on the launch of its new online sale and distribution system and all connected co-operation agreements with distributors.

Notable practitioners

Head of department Ivo Rungg is a key contact for client queries.

Brauneis Klauser Prändl Rechtsanwälte GmbH

See profile on p.191

What the team is known for Handles significant e-commerce and data protection matters with clients from the technology, retail and telecommunications industries. Assists with licensing issues and is also active in court proceedings and IT-related public procurement mandates. Offers additional expertise

TMT: Media	
Leading Firms	
Band 1	
Höhne, In der Maur & Partners	
Korn Rechtsanwälte	
Band 2	
DORDA *	
Lansky, Ganzger & Partner Rechtsanwälte	
Band 3	
FREIMÜLLER / OBEREDER / PILZ	
Leading Individuals	
Band 1	
Ganzger Gerald	Lansky, Ganzger & Partner Rechtsanwälte
Höhne Thomas	Höhne, In der Maur & Partners
Korn Gottfried	Korn Rechtsanwälte
Rami Michael	Gheneff Rami Sommer Rechtsanwälte (ORL) ◇
Band 2	
Anderl Axel	DORDA *
Windhager Maria	Dr. Maria Windhager (ORL) ◇
Band 3	
Korn Stefan	Korn Rechtsanwälte
Pilz Michael	FREIMÜLLER / OBEREDER / PILZ
Zöchbauer Peter	Zöchbauer & Partner (ORL) ◇

in software licensing.

Notable practitioners

Felix Prändl (see p.180) is proficient in handling IT matters related to public procurement and corporate issues. He is further active in IT litigation.

CERHA HEMPEL

See profile on p.192

What the team is known for Assists with IT matters, including M&A deals in the sector as well as outsourcing and cloud computing. Notable data protection expertise, ranging from data transfer and international regulatory advice to representation before the Austrian data protection authorities. Also advises clients on competition matters. Additionally handles IT procurement. Represents clients from the technology, telecommunications, retail and consumer goods industries.

Strengths Clients highlight the firm for its “very competent TMT department, with extraordinary know-how and practical experience.”

The team receives further praise for having “a unique understanding of all aspects of their client’s business,” adding: “Their advice always provides an added value.”

Work highlights Supported SPAR on the group-wide, cross-border implementation of the GDPR.

Notable practitioners

Head of department Hans Kristoferitsch is a key contact for queries.

DORDA

See profile on p.195

What the team is known for Excellent team covering all aspects of TMT. Enjoys an outstanding market reputation in IT matters and is active on a wide spectrum of areas covering e-commerce, data protection, cloud computing and outsourcing as well as handling regulatory and contractual issues. Additional areas of focus include software development. Also known for advising clients on broadcasting and digital media as well as telecommunications matters. Further areas of expertise include network security, carrier selection and infrastructure sharing as well as digital marketing strategies. Adept at representing clients in media litigations and assisting with the handling of data breaches.

Strengths Clients highlight the team’s customer care,

emphasising that it is “able to align with customers’ underlying needs in order to find the best legal solution and advice,” adding they are “very aware of the local market, have deep experience in the IT industry and are able to involve teams from other countries when it comes to global needs.”

Another client says: “DORDA particularly impresses me with the speed and quality of their service. The topics are always dealt with competently, comprehensibly and quickly.”

Work highlights Advised Do & Co Aktiengesellschaft on its GDPR implementation project and data privacy impact assessments regarding sensitive information of both customers and employees.

Notable practitioners

Axel Anderl (see p.173) is well-versed in both information technology and media matters, focusing his practice on outsourcings, cloud computing and trade mark issues. One client praises his “outstanding knowledge in intellectual property law, e-commerce and data protection law.” Another source endorses him as a “very approachable and extremely skilled” lawyer. **Nino Tlapak** (see p.182) enters the rankings on the back of positive feedback from clients, one of whom says: “Nino is very knowledgeable, and has extensive experience in guiding and counselling IT companies dealing with data protection requirements. He delivers high-quality advice, is approachable and exactly understands the business challenges of his clients. Nino is great at translating difficult requirements into pragmatic solutions.” He specialises in data security and GDPR implementations.

FREIMÜLLER / OBEREDER / PILZ RECHTSANWÄLT_INNEN GMBH

What the team is known for Acknowledged for its expertise in the area of media law. Handles copyright, restitution, trade mark and competition law aspects of media mandates. Further offers experience in data protection matters.

Notable practitioners

Michael Pilz is proficient in handling matters relating to IP such as trade marks and copyrights. He also acts on competition-related mandates.

Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer LLP

What the team is known for Well-regarded team for IT matters, undertaking significant work in the area of data protection and big data technology projects. Highly experienced in handling corporate, regulatory and transactional matters and is often instructed on cross-border projects. Also advises on consumer protection law and corporate structuring. Offers further experience in competition and compliance matters and is noted for its strong international network.

Strengths Clients are quick to recognise the team’s “remarkable knowledge of the sector.”

Notable practitioners

Bertram Burtscher is adept at handling matters relating to outsourcing, data management and licensing. He further advises clients on GDPR implementations.

GEISTWERT

What the team is known for TMT boutique offering dependable expertise in IT and related IP matters. Noted for high-quality work in software contracts and game development. Additionally handles related IP aspects, especially copyright and trade mark matters. Further areas of activity include data protection, international e-commerce and IT outsourcing. Often seen advising technology start-ups as well as

numerous clients in the media, entertainment and electronics industries. Represents state-owned and private companies on both domestic and multi-jurisdictional matters.

Strengths The firm receives praise by a client who enthuses: *"Cross-border work is handled brilliantly by GEISTWERT, not least because of the very strong international network of the law firm."*

Another satisfied client further appreciates the team's ability to *"explain complicated facts in a simple and practical way."*

Work highlights Advised Mi'pu'mi Games on the negotiations regarding the contracts for the development of a new game franchise.

Notable practitioners

Max Mosing frequently assists clients with data protection, e-commerce and large IT projects. One satisfied client says: *"He knows the market and our needs very well, and is always punctual and reliable. All our problems are solved in such a way that the reasoning is comprehensible for our employees."* **Alexander Schnider** is best known for acting on complex gaming, betting and gambling mandates as well as consumer protection matters. One client enthuses: *"His working style is fast, accurate, solution-oriented and efficient."*

Höhne, In der Maur & Partners

What the team is known for Highly prestigious media law team covering all areas of the market, including print media, film and digital media. Active in the full range of contentious and non-contentious media law matters, covering contracts, regulatory issues and disputes. Clientele comprises radio stations, publishers and film companies. Provides additional experience in data protection regarding media publications. Also advises on slander and freedom of expression matters in social media.

Strengths Clients enthuse: *"The firm is absolutely reliable and has very specific know-how."*

Sources also highlight the team's *"extremely practical solutions."*

Work highlights Advised the Austrian Medical Association on the implementation of GDPR, including requests to access personal data.

Notable practitioners

Thomas Höhne is held in high regard for his work, often representing individuals in litigation related to freedom of expression and defamation issues. He is highlighted as *"extremely strong"* by interviewees.

Korn Rechtsanwälte

What the team is known for Highly specialised boutique firm, widely commended for its strong media law expertise. Especially well known for capabilities

in media and broadcasting. Advises on ancillary areas such as employment, competition and IP. Also active in copyright matters, with additional experience in design and internet law.

Notable practitioners

Gottfried Korn is highly recognised in the market and offers special expertise on copyright and broadcasting issues as well as competition matters in the media sector. One source describes him as *"very experienced and one of the finest in Austria."* **Stefan Korn** is proficient in mandates relating to broadcasting and sports law.

Lansky, Ganzger & Partner Rechtsanwälte

What the team is known for Well-regarded team with a strong reputation in media. Especially visible in the areas of TV and radio broadcasting, print and digital publishing. Offers support in data protection and GDPR matters. Also assists with copyright, trade mark and IP issues relating to the media sector. Additional strength in civil disputes, including defamation and unfair competition proceedings.

Strengths Clients value the team's *"quick responses and high trustworthiness."*

Others praise the team's *"experience in the whole field of communications,"* valuing how they *"successfully work with experts from adjacent areas."*

Work highlights Advised Radio Energy on the implementation of the GDPR and loyalty programmes.

Notable practitioners

Gerald Ganzger is singled out as *"excellent in media and copyright law"* by one satisfied client. He frequently advises high-profile media clients on data protection, gaming and contractual matters. In addition he acts for publishing houses on advertising law and trade mark issues.

Wolf Theiss

See profile on p.212

What the team is known for Handles significant mandates in the field of data protection and is also active in the areas of cloud computing, software licensing and e-commerce. Also offers support in GDPR compliance projects. Represents clients in proceedings before both civil and criminal courts, including those involving personality rights and the right to be forgotten. Frequently advises on cross-border mandates and has a prestigious international client base comprising digital media, major technology and gaming companies.

Strengths Clients describe the team as *"very efficient with high competencies."*

Another client enthuses: *"We rely on the great experience of the department and we would like to underline*

the specialisation of the team in the digital market."

Work highlights Advised Microsoft on cloud computing manuals and its compliance with IT and data privacy laws.

Notable practitioners

Clients describe **Roland Marko** (see p.179) as a *"very diligent and very proactive"* lawyer, lauding his *"strong IT background."* He frequently assists with e-commerce, cloud computing and data protection matters, offering expertise on GDPR implementation projects. **Georg Kresbach** (see p.178) specialises in gaming mandates, data protection and competition law matters. He also assists clients with regulations and IP-related issues such as trade mark law.

Other Ranked Lawyers

Johannes Juranek is adept at advising on software licensing and data protection matters, including GDPR compliance. He further assists with the sale of assets within the IT sector.

Rainer Knyrim (see p.177) is held in high regard for being *"pragmatic and efficient"* and is endorsed by another source as *"the eminence in data protection in Austria."* He assists clients with GDPR implementations, data processing operations and data protection management systems.

Günther Leissler (see p.178) rises in the rankings due to his increasing recognition in the market. He dedicates his practice to data protection matters, including investigations by authorities and ensuing litigations as well as GDPR implementations. He is characterised by one client as *"very knowledgeable and very experienced."*

Michael Rami has excellent standing in the market as an active adviser on media disputes involving defamation and hate speech.

Gerald Trieb (see p.183) focuses his practice on data protection matters as well as GDPR compliance, with one client highlighting him as *"skilled and calm."* Besides data flow, processing and management issues he also handles related contractual matters.

Sole practitioner **Maria Windhager** advances in the rankings due to her in-depth experience in handling politically sensitive media matters. She has notable expertise in copyright, radio and television law and frequently handles cases involving slander, freedom of expression and privacy issues in both the traditional and new media sectors.

Peter Zöchbauer is a recognised practitioner in the market who focuses his media practice on matters relating to the protection of personality rights.

WHITE-COLLAR CRIME

White-Collar Crime
Leading Firms
Band 1
CERHA HEMPEL *
Band 2
Baker McKenzie – Diwok Hermann Petsche *
Rechtsanwaltsbüro SOYER KIER STUEFER
Wolf Theiss *
Band 3
DORDA *
KNOETZL *
PHH Prochaska Havranek Rechtsanwälte GmbH & Co
Band 4
Brandl & Talos Rechtsanwälte GmbH *
petsche pollak attorneys at law *
Senior Statespeople
Senior Statespeople: distinguished older partners
Eichenseder Herbert Dr. Herbert Eichenseder (ORL) ◇
Moring Wolfgang Haslinger / Nagele Rechtsanwälte (ORL) ◇
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Krakow Georg Baker McKenzie – Diwok Hermann Petsche *
Lewisch Peter CERHA HEMPEL *
Ruhri Gerald Ruhri & Partner Rechtsanwälte (ORL) ◇
Soyer Richard Rechtsanwaltsbüro SOYER KIER STUEFER
Wess Norbert WKK Law Rechtsanwälte (ORL) ◇
Band 2
Knötzl Bettina KNOETZL
Kollmann Lukas Kollmann Wolm Attorneys (ORL) ◇
Rohregger Michael Rohregger Scheibner (ORL) ◇
Trautenberg Clemens Wolf Theiss *
Band 3
Dietrich Otto Dietrich Rechtsanwälts GmbH (ORL) ◇
Kier Roland Rechtsanwaltsbüro SOYER KIER STUEFER
Kralik Thomas DLA Piper Weiss-Tessbach (ORL) ◇ *
Kremslehner Florian DORDA
Kristoferitsch Hans CERHA HEMPEL *
Paulitsch Heidemarie PAULITSCH LAW (ORL) ◇
Preuschl Mathias PHH Prochaska Havranek Rechtsanwälte
Band 4
Ainedter Manfred Ainedter & Ainedter (ORL) ◇
Neuhuber Christoph Neuhuber (ORL) ◇
Petsche Alexander Baker McKenzie – Diwok Hermann *
Pollak Andreas petsche pollak attorneys at law
Schrank Christopher Brandl & Talos Rechtsanwälte GmbH
Stuefer Alexia Rechtsanwaltsbüro SOYER KIER STUEFER
Up-and-coming individuals
Kiehl Klara Schoenherr (ORL) ◇ *

* Indicates firm / individual with profile.

◇ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.

Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

Band 1

CERHA HEMPEL

See profile on p.192

What the team is known for Standout team with impressive experience in numerous white-collar crime matters, such as bid rigging and embezzlement allegations. Expertise spans compliance advice as well as internal investigations and leniency applications. Also offers experience in handling cases concerning trade secrets and sanctions. Varied client base includes prominent domestic corporations, international organisations and financial institutions as well as senior management. Additionally adept at cross-border matters.

Strengths One client reports: “The team is a perfect

combination of being thorough in their analysis and timely in their responses.”

Another source highlights CERHA HEMPEL’s vast network, stating: “The firm is very used to managing multi-jurisdictional or community-wide issues and always handled them to our utmost satisfaction.”

Work highlights Represented Wiener Stadtwerke in proceedings concerning allegations of fraud, corruption and manipulation of tender proceedings.

Notable practitioners

Peter Lewisch (see p.178) advises his clients on a vast range of white-collar issues, including allegations of embezzlement, tax evasion and bribery, offering assistance during investigations as well as court proceedings. One client says: “He impresses with his analytical strength and his ability to put very complicated and complex issues into a concise and powerful presentation before the courts.” **Hans Kristoferitsch** (see p.178) is “quick, always to the point and delivers exactly what we need,” according to one impressed client. He is active in internal investigations relating to bid rigging and fraud, while also handling compliance programmes.

Band 2

Baker McKenzie – Diwok Hermann Petsche Rechtsanwälte LLP & Co KG

See profile on p.64

What the team is known for Highly regarded team offering support to domestic and multinational companies and financial institutions on compliance matters. Represents clients before court in matters relating to tax evasion, breach of trust and corruption. Further experience includes handling whistle-blowing cases and investigations into alleged cartel behaviour.

Strengths One interviewee appreciates the team as “a reliable and trusted partner.”

Notable practitioners

The “excellent criminal defence lawyer” **Georg Krakow** (see p.177) is particularly active in investigations, including those relating to cartel behaviour, embezzlement and bribery, as well as representing clients in tax evasion and negligent bankruptcy proceedings. He also advises on compliance issues and anti-money laundering schemes. **Alexander Petsche** (see p.180) focuses on the implementation of compliance programmes, acting for Austrian clients on cross-border mandates. One interviewee describes him as “very knowledgeable, straightforward and candid.”

Rechtsanwaltsbüro SOYER KIER STUEFER

What the team is known for Highly reputable boutique firm advising on criminal law mandates. Particularly active on white-collar crime matters relating to compliance issues and financial criminal law. Represents clients in both domestic and international courts.

Notable practitioners

Richard Soyer is noted by commentators for his expertise, with one hailing him as the “grand seigneur of this field and one of the most well-known experts here.” He advises on corporate and international criminal law, as well as compliance-related topics.

Roland Kier is endorsed as a “very structured and precise lawyer” by one source. He offers experience

in corporate crime and criminal appeal mandates. **Alexia Stuefer** rises in the rankings with strong market praise. One commentator labels her a “smart lawyer” and praises her ability to “think outside of the box.” Her areas of expertise include financial and corporate crime.

Wolf Theiss

See profile on p.212

What the team is known for Strong firm with impressive experience in a broad range of domestic and international white-collar crime mandates. Well reputed for representing financial institutions and big multinationals in criminal proceedings connected to commercial fraud and allegations of bribery. Additional strength in asset tracing and recovery as well as internal forensic investigations. Expertise further includes money laundering issues and corporate criminal liability.

Strengths One client states: “The team of Wolf Theiss works very conscientiously, quickly and efficiently.”

Work highlights Represented the National Bank Trust in proceedings regarding alleged fraudulent lending transactions.

Notable practitioners

Clemens Trautenberg (see p.183) enjoys a varied practice, with experience covering investigations into allegations of collusion and banking fraud, as well as advising on asset tracing and corporate criminal liability.

Band 3

DORDA

See profile on p.195

What the team is known for Practice group with marked experience, advising corporate clients on criminal proceedings and civil claims. Particularly well versed in cross-border cases concerning fraud and embezzlement. Also defends high-profile individuals against allegations of tax evasion, bribery and corruption. Additional experience handling extortion and coercion issues, as well as advising on compliance matters.

Strengths One client highly rates the team, stating: “We were particularly impressed by their defence strategy and court appearance and are very satisfied with the firm’s client service. All our matters are handled very professionally and the responsiveness of DORDA’s lawyers is outstanding.”

Notable practitioners

Florian Kremslehner is described by one source as “a great counsellor,” adding that he is “very thorough and smart.” He is particularly active in matters pertaining to fraud, embezzlement and tax evasion.

KNOETZL

See profile on p.203

What the team is known for Well-reputed firm drawing on its impressive skill in corporate and commercial litigation to advise multinational companies and financial institutions on various white-collar crime issues. Notably well versed in compliance matters and criminal proceedings regarding corruption and money laundering. Additional experience handling internal investigations regarding allegations of price fixing.

Strengths One source lauds the “good strategic

thinking and thorough analysis" offered by the team. Another client describes the team as "reliable and very responsive."

Notable practitioners

Bettina Knötzl is recognised as "a very good strategic thinker" by one client, while another enthuses: "She is very competent, quick and reliable. She works in an extremely analytical, well-structured manner and submits razor-sharp, accurate and very precise arguments." Knötzl acts for clients in both internal investigations and proceedings before the courts, with notable experience in matters related to price fixing, tax evasion and asset recovery.

PHH Prochaska Havranek Rechtsanwälte GmbH & Co KG

What the team is known for Represents individuals and corporations in an array of white-collar crime matters. Offers notable skill in investigation proceedings connected to cases of bribery, corruption, money laundering and embezzlement. Acts mainly for defendants, but also represents claimants in damages claims and appeals proceedings. Also acts on issues surrounding breach of trust and insolvency-related fraud.

Strengths One client highly appreciates "the quick responses to questions and the deep and detailed understanding of our business."

Another interviewee admires the team for its experience, adding: "They are very reliable and there is a good working atmosphere with them."

Notable practitioners

Mathias Preuschl "is very sage, very tactical and very collegial," according to one market observer. He predominantly acts for individuals in proceedings relating to bribery and breach of trust, as well as advising on the recovery of damages for injured parties.

Band 4

Brandl & Talos Rechtsanwälte GmbH

See profile on p.190

What the team is known for Notable team active in both civil and criminal proceedings and particularly well versed in assisting senior management with matters concerning embezzlement, bribery and breach of trust. Additionally advises on criminal law cases that relate to anti-competitive agreements or violations of the Austrian Stock Exchange Act. Also assists clients with the implementation of compliance structures.

Strengths One interviewee appreciates the "excellent team that is well co-ordinated and very competent. It is very pleasant to work with Brandl & Talos because

the firm is always available to answer questions regarding urgent problems and always develops first-class defence strategies."

Another client describes the team as "very accessible and oriented to make the procedure as smooth as possible."

Work highlights Advised a former CEO of Alpine on allegations concerning investor fraud and wrongful accounting.

Notable practitioners

Christopher Schrank receives praise from one client, who highlights him as "fast, exacting, pragmatic and a good strategist." He represents clients in both investigations and proceedings, including those concerning bribery, collusion and investor fraud. He also acts on compliance implementation mandates.

petsche pollak attorneys at law

See profile on p.206

What the team is known for Solid dispute resolution boutique enjoying activity on high-profile white-collar crime matters. Acts for corporates and senior managers on matters relating to embezzlement, fraud and corporate criminal liability. Also assists with the set-up of whistle-blowing systems. Further experience in competition-related matters, predominantly involving allegations of cartel behaviour.

Strengths The team's organisational skills are admired by sources, with one stating: "The team has shown great organisational and strategic capabilities, handling large amounts of information and providing structured frameworks to clients."

Work highlights Defended STRABAG against allegations of anti-competitive behaviour regarding public tenders, following information filed by a whistle-blower.

Notable practitioners

Andreas Pollak has notable strength handling cartel-related investigations and criminal proceedings, as well as advising on allegations of bribery and embezzlement. He also offers experience in the set-up of whistle-blowing systems and wins praise from one client who describes him as "very hands-on and easy to work with."

Other Ranked Lawyers

Manfred Ainedter gains recognition from market commentators for his long-standing experience of the field, most notably for his representation before the courts. He offers experience in fraud, corruption and bankruptcy offences.

Otto Dietrich moves up in the rankings due to his increasing market recognition. He advises on both

corporate and individual defence and further offers experience in compliance matters.

Herbert Eichenseder is recognised by peers for his long-standing presence in the white-collar crime market.

Klara Kiehl (see p.177) is "very responsive and smart," according to one source, who further stresses: "You can always count on her." She acts for multinational clients on internal investigations, advising on whistle-blowing and voluntary self-disclosure measures. She also offers experience in criminal proceedings stemming from breach of trust and embezzlement and advises on compliance frameworks for anti-money laundering measures.

Lukas Kollmann is "strong in strategy and tactics, and a good communicator," according to one source. He acts on allegations of corruption, embezzlement and bribery in investigations and proceedings, further advising on compliance training.

Thomas Kralik (see p.177) advises on both domestic and international mandates, with experience in assisting clients with investment fraud, compliance and breach of trust issues. One client admires his "structured, goal-oriented approach," and further praises his "quick and flexible reaction."

Wolfgang Moring is admired by commentators for his great experience in the market. He acts on matters concerning commercial and financial crime.

One client describes **Christoph Neuhuber** as a "pragmatic and solution-oriented team player," adding: "He is highly responsive, flexible and continuously delivers high quality while maintaining a sound overview of the case and the client's needs." He provides advice on a range of matters, including corporate liability, bribery and bid rigging.

Heidemarie Paulitsch advises on internal investigations and represents clients in court proceedings, as well as offering support in compliance mandates. She further acts on whistle-blowing matters and claim enforcement proceedings.

Michael Rohregger is praised by commentators as a "sharp mind and great strategist," and gains recognition for his work in investigations. He is further known for advising on politically sensitive issues before the Austrian Constitutional Court.

Gerald Ruhri is well regarded by peers for his advice on white-collar crime matters. One interviewee hails him as a "strong defence lawyer and brilliant in his analysis of procedural issues and strategy."

Norbert Wess maintains his leading position in the market, frequently acting for clients on internal investigations and compliance issues, as well as advising on corporate criminal law. One commentator appreciates him as "a very good lawyer and always a pleasure to work with on a case."

Leaders' Profiles in Austria

ABLASSER-NEUHUBER, Astrid

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Featured in Competition/European Law (Austria)

Practice Areas: European and Austrian Competition Law (Antitrust, Merger Control and Market Dominance), Distribution Law, European Law, International Business Transactions, Representation before Austrian and European courts and competition authorities
Career: University of Salzburg (1993 Mag. iur., 1997 Dr. iur.), University of Salzburg: Master in Journalism and French (1997 Mag. phil.), 1995 European Commission (Directorate General for Competition, stage in the Merger Task Force), 1998 court practice at the Cartel Court (Legal Assistant to the President), 1998 internship with Linklaters & Alliance (London), 1998–2002 Associate with an International Law Firm (Vienna), since 2002 Associated Partner with bvp Huegel, since 2004 Partner, Head of Competition & Antitrust

Professional Memberships: Board member of the Austrian Federation for the Protection of Intellectual Property (ÖV) Vice-President of the Competition Law Commission of the UIA International Bar Association (IBA) Vienna Bar Association Studienvereinigung Kartellrecht International League of Competition Law (LIDC)
Publications: <https://www.bvp-huegel.com/en/jurist/mmag-dr-astrid-ablasser-neuhuber/>

Personal: A frequent speaker at seminars and conferences, numerous nominations in national and international rankings and publications

AIGNER, Hans-Jürgen

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Featured in Tax (Austria)

Practice Areas: Hans-Jürgen is a founding partner of Aigner Buzanich attorneys at law focusing on (tax) structuring and implementing reorganisations, the tax aspects of M&A and PE transactions, value added taxation, tax litigation, tax due diligence, criminal tax law and the taxation of banking products and activities.

Career: Hans-Jürgen is a member of the faculty of the Vienna University of Economics and Business where he regularly teaches Austrian and international tax law, a member of the faculty of Johannes Kepler University Linz where he regularly teaches criminal tax law and a faculty member of the WU Executive Academy. He is also an expert witness for tax and accounting matters at the commercial court of Vienna. He was a member of the International Tax Group of Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer in Vienna and London (2004 to 2012).

Professional Memberships: IFA, ÖJT
Publications: Hans-Jürgen is author and (co-)editor of books, book chapters and more than 50 articles in research journals.

Personal: Bar admission: Austria; Hans-Jürgen holds a Master of Laws degree (Mag. iur.) and a Doctor of Jurisprudence degree (Dr. iur.) from the University of Vienna. Hans-Jürgen is also a graduate of the Vienna University of Economics and Business

(Master of Business Administration, Mag. rer.soc.oec.).

AIGNER, Lukas

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Featured in Dispute Resolution (Austria)

Practice Areas: Litigation & Dispute Resolution, Investor protection law, Corporate law, Capital markets and Securities law
Career: Attorney at Law at since 2005; Partner, founder and head of department Investor protection law at Kraft & Winternitz Rechtsanwälte; Founder and naming partner Aigner Lehner Zuschin + Partner Rechtsanwälte (2015).

Professional Memberships: Member of the international WIN Network (World Investor Lawyer Network)

Publications: Co-author "Liability of investment advisors" (Orac/Lexisnexis, 2004); Co-author "Commentary on Securities Supervision Act (WAG)" (Orac/Lexisnexis, 2007).

ANDERL, Axel

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Featured in Intellectual Property (Austria), TMT (Austria)

Practice Areas: IT law and E-Commerce Outsourcing Intellectual Property Data Protection Unfair Competition Media Law Social Media

Career: Axel Anderl heads the firm's IT/IP and media department. He is well-known for his work in e-commerce and software law. His practice covers drafting and negotiation of international IT-related contracts, outsourcing, license, franchising and distribution contracts, as well as IT/IP and media litigation. Additionally, he frequently assists his clients on all aspects of data protection law (legal analysis of data processings and transfers including pragmatic advice to establish legitimate operations; notification and approval proceedings with the Authority; drafting of accompanying documentation, in particular consent declarations and data processing agreements; etc). He advises several national and international companies in the IT/IP field on a regular basis. Axel Anderl graduated from the University of Vienna (Mag iur 2000, Dr iur 2004) and completed his LL.M. in IT Law with distinction in 2001. He specialised in IT-Law and became an associate at a renowned internationally active business law firm based in Vienna from 2001 until 2005. With his admission to the Austrian Bar in September 2005, he joined DORDA as a partner and has been elected as managing partner in 2018.

ANDERL, Thomas

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Featured in Real Estate (Austria)

Practice Areas: Partner Thomas Anderl co-heads the Construction team of Wolf Theiss. As a construction law expert, Thomas is regularly involved in complex matters in this field of expertise, both national and international, including representing construction companies before courts, arbitral tribunals and FIDIC-Dispute Boards. He is a member

of the Austrian Association for Construction Law (ÖGEBAU), a regular author of numerous articles on construction law and has been a frequent lecturer at universities of applied science on these topics.

Career: Prior to his law career, Thomas spent more than 5 years working in the construction field as international claim manager in the CEE/SEE region and as a construction engineer in Austria.

Personal: In addition to his Austrian law degree, Thomas holds a degree in construction engineering and construction management from the Vienna University of Applied Sciences. Further, he is a qualified builder ("Baumeister"), a certified FIDIC-Adjudicator (VBI / FIDIC) and is registered with the German Association of Consulting Engineers (VBI) in the list of Dispute Adjudicators.

ANGERMAIR, Thomas

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Featured in Employment (Austria)

Practice Areas: Labour Law Corporate Law Trusts and Foundations Intellectual Property Arts

Career: Thomas Angermair has been a partner and head of the employment law team at DORDA since 1993. He is an expert in Austrian and European labour law, corporate law, foundation law, IP and the fields of art and culture. His employment law practice focuses on service, management and executive contracts, works agreements, stock options, incentive plans, employee benefits, termination agreements, severance payments and tax aspects of employment relationships. He also has many years of experience in labor court and arbitration proceedings. His expertise in corporate mergers and restructurings includes due diligence on labor liability issues and outsourcing of services, as well as strategic advice on plant closures and mass redundancies. Thomas Angermair is a member of the supervisory boards and board member of several private foundations. Thomas Angermair graduated from the University of Vienna and was admitted to the bar in 1992. He is a member of the Austrian Arbitration Association and of the international law firms IBA and UIA. In addition to his work as a lawyer, he is a lecturer at seminars and author of numerous articles on special issues of labour law and directors' liability.

ANWEILER, Jochen

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Featured in Competition/European Law (Austria)

Practice Areas: EU, Austrian and CEE Competition Law; Multi-national Merger Control; State Aid; General EU Law.

Career: Counsel, Wolf Theiss, since 2010; Counsel, O'Melveny & Myers, Brussels, 2004–2010; Senior Associate, CMS Hasche Sigle, Brussels, 1999–2004; Associate, Bruckhaus Westrick Heller Löber, Düsseldorf, 1998.

Professional Memberships: Düsseldorf Bar; Vienna Bar; Studienvereinigung Kartellrecht.

Publications: Articles 7-10, Council Regulation (EC)1/2003, Loewenheim/Meessen/Riesenkampff/Kersting/Meyer-Lindemann

(Editors), Kartellrecht – Europäisches und Deutsches Recht, Kommentar, 4th Edition 2020; Die Auslegungsmethoden des Gerichtshofs der Europäischen Gemeinschaften (Interpretation methods applied by the ECJ, PhD thesis), 1997.

Personal: University Göttingen (1st State Exam 1992, Dr.iur. 1997); Regional Court Kassel (2nd State Exam, 1997).

ARTNER, Stefan

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Featured in Real Estate (Austria)

Practice Areas: Real Estate M&A Tenancy and Condominium Law Real Estate and Construction Law Development Projects (BTVG Agreements) Hotel Projects

Career: Stefan Artner, partner at DORDA, heads the firm's Real Estate Practice Group. Born in 1968. Associate at various business law firms, international trainee at Shearman&Sterling/NY, since 1998 with DORDA. Education: University of Vienna (Mag iur 1993) Vienna University of Economics and Business Administration (Mag rer soc oec in Economics 1996) Studies of International Property Valuation (European Business School, near Wiesbaden 2007). Initiator, founder and board member of the Legal Tech Hub Vienna. Editor and co-author of the Praxishandbuch Immobilienrecht (2nd edition, Linde 2017). Co-author of Real Estate Financing and Loan Collateral (Fritz Knapp, 2016). Author of several expert publications on real estate law and corporate law. Regularly lectures at the University of Vienna and the Donau-Universität Krems and holds specialist seminars, in particular on real estate law and due diligence. He is a member of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (MRICS), IBA and of the gruppe1031 (Economic Club of the Austrian Industrial Association).

BARNERT, Michael

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Featured in Corporate/M&A (Austria)

Practice Areas: Has particular experience in corporate law, public and private M&A transactions, joint ventures, restructuring, energy law and related matters.

Career: Co-founded present firm in 2004. Began career as an associate with Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer in their Vienna and Brussels offices (1997–2003).

Professional Memberships: Vienna Bar Association, IBA, Lexwork.

Publications: Co-author of several corporate law text books such as 'Directors' Liabilities in Case of Insolvency' (Kluwer 1999), 'Der Aufsichtsrat / The Austrian Supervisory Board' (Linde 2005), 'Societas Europaea, A Practitioners' Guide in German/English' (Manz 2005).

Personal: Born 1971. University of Vienna (Mag. iur. 1993, Dr. jur. 2000); College of Europe, Bruges (LLM 1996). Speaks German, English and French.

BAUER, David Christian

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Featured in Dispute Resolution (Austria)

Career: David Christian Bauer is a litigation and regulatory practitioner who is involved in many high-profile corporate and M&A cases, as well as banking/capital markets law matters. He is a certified asset advisor and partner of "RCO-Partners Network – involved in family business". David is the Country Managing Partner for DLA Piper in Austria.

BAUER, Günter

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Featured in Competition/European Law (Austria)

Practice Areas: EU Competition Law; National and CEE/SEE Antitrust Law (cartels, dominance issues, merger control, compliance programmes, cooperation agreements and vertical restraints); State Aid; Distribution Law.

Career: Partner, Wolf Theiss, since 2007 (head of the Competition/Antitrust Practice Group); Magic circle firm in Brussels 1999 – 2005; admitted to the Bar in Austria, since 2000, in Belgium, since 2001.

Professional Memberships: Vienna Bar Association, Austria; Brussels Bar Association, Belgium; IBA; Studienvereinigung Kartellrecht (the Antitrust Lawyers Association for Germany, Austria and Switzerland). **Personal:** Born 1969 in Austria; University of Salzburg (Mag.iur. 1993, Dr.iur. 1995); Université d'Auvergne, France; Kings College, London, (LL.M. 1999).

BIELESZ, Holger

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Featured in Dispute Resolution (Austria)

Practice Areas: Litigation & Arbitration, White Collar Crime, Compliance & Investigations

Career: Holger is a partner with CERHA HEMPEL since 2020. Over the past 15 years, he has specialized in litigation and commercial dispute resolution, including in the fields of white-collar crime and compliance. His practice areas include the representation of corporations and other financial institutions, as well as supporting businesses in strategically relevant liability proceedings under civil and corporate law. In this regard, he represents corporations and financial service providers in complex liability proceedings, among others a renowned international bank against numerous consumer claimants. In this capacity, he has also represented the client before the European Court of Justice. Institutional investors were among his clients in large-scale bail-in proceedings in Austria. **Professional Memberships:** Vienna Bar; American Bar; IBA

Publications: The Banking Litigation Law Review, The Law Reviews, (2019; co-author) Class & Group Actions 2019 (iclg.com; co-author); Austria: Financial Services Disputes 2019 (iclg.com; 2019; co-author) (Große) Kronzeugenregelung "Reloaded", ecolo 2017, 124

Personal: University of Vienna (Mag. iur. 1998, Dr. iur. 2005); University of Freiburg (CH) (1997-1998); College of Europe, Brügge (2001)

BINDER, Karl

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Featured in Real Estate (Austria)

Practice Areas: Karl is frequently seen as advisor on Austria's most prominent real estate transactions, including both large scale portfolio deals (with a focus on retail, office and hotel properties) but also the acquisition of trophy real properties. Karl also took a leading role in advising on high-volume real estate financing matters. He works for investors, financial institutions, listed companies and wealthy individuals on all types of real estate transactions. Apart from his broad real estate practice, Karl is also co-head of the firm's private client practice.

Career: Karl holds an LL.M. degree in European business law and has 15 years of professional experience. Prior to his career as attorney, he spent three years with a notary public and passed all professional exams with honors. He joined Wolf Theiss in early 2008. Karl is co-author of the standard commentary on Austrian land register law.

BIRKNER, Albert

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Featured in Corporate/M&A (Austria)

Practice Areas: M&A, Takeovers, Restructuring, Corporate, Privatisations

Career: Managing Partner and Head of Department of Takeovers & Antitrust. Partner since 2004, with CERHA HEMPEL since 1995. Albert specializes in mergers and acquisitions, public takeovers, corporate reorganizations and restructurings, as well as joint ventures with a special focus on Austria and (CEE/SEE). He has developed particular expertise in the fields of structuring and implementation of corporate transactions, takeover mechanics and the modelling of co-ownership structures. Albert was/is a lead partner on many prominent matters for several years already and holds an extremely vast track record. He is an author and regular contributor of numerous publications. Recent examples of deals include, advice to Karl Wlaschek Group (KWPS) and AMISO-LA Immobilien AG in real estate portfolio purchases with a value of approximately EUR 400 million, as well as advice to GfK SE in a pol-European sale of its custom research business.

Professional Memberships: Vienna Bar, Czech Bar, IBA

Publications: Handbuch Übernahmerecht; Verhaltensmaßstäbe für die Zielgesellschaft im Hostile Takeover, in Polster-Grüll/Zöchling/Kranebitter (Hrsg.), Handbuch Mergers & Acquisitions, 483 ff (with Mag. Christian Thaler); Law and Practice Austria, Chambers Global Practice Guide Corporate M&A 2019 (with Dr. Clemens Hasenauer LL.M./MBA) **Personal:** University of Vienna (Dr iur 1995) University of Cambridge (LLM 1995)

BORAS, Filip

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Featured in Dispute Resolution (Austria)

Practice Areas: Please visit <https://www.bakermckenzie.com/en/people/b/boras-filip> to know more about our lawyers.

BRODEY, Martin

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Featured in Corporate/M&A (Austria)

Practice Areas: Mergers and Acquisitions and Restructurings International Transac-

tions (especially in the CEE region) Corporate Law Corporate Governance Liberalised Markets (Energy, Telecoms) Life Sciences

Career: Martin Brodey heads the M&A and CEE practice groups of DORDA. His practice focuses on M&A and restructurings, international transactions, corporate law and corporate governance. He advised numerous international and domestic clients on a wide range of M&A transactions, including privatisations, corporate restructurings and private equity transactions in Austria, Central Europe and the Far East region and was retained as strategic lead counsel in sizeable M&A projects. Sectors include automotive, banking, construction, energy, telecoms, life sciences, IT and specialised industries.

BROGYANYI, Christoph

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Featured in Capital Markets (Austria)

Practice Areas: Corporate Law and Restructuring Capital Markets and Regulatory Law Takeover Law M&A Directors' Liability

Career: Christoph Brogyanyi is a partner at DORDA and his main areas of expertise are: Capital market law, corporate law, private equity, corporate finance, restructuring and mergers and acquisitions. He has extensive experience in international transactions and is a graduate of the University of Vienna (Mag iur 1996). Furthermore, he is the author of several publications in the field of corporate law and gives lectures at seminars and conferences in the fields of capital market law and corporate law.

Publications: – Marktmissbrauch wird bald viel härter geahndet (2016) – Haftung von Aufsichtsratsmitgliedern für "Golden Handshakes" (2008) – Rechts- und Haftungsfragen des GmbH-Geschäftsführers (2004)

BUZANICH, Herbert

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Featured in Tax (Austria)

Practice Areas: Herbert Buzanich is a founding partner of Aigner Buzanich, a law firm engaged primarily in the practice of tax law. Herbert focuses on international tax planning, corporate tax including M&A and reorganisations, finance taxation including structured finance and capital market as well as financial products, tax litigation and private clients.

Career: Before founding Aigner Buzanich, Herbert led the tax practice at Schönherr and was a member of the International Tax Group of Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer.

Professional Memberships: IFA, NYSBA. **Publications:** Herbert is an author of books and articles on Austrian and international tax law.

Personal: Bar admissions: Austria (2005), New York (2006); New York University (International Tax Program, LL.M. 2004), University of Vienna (Dr iur 2001, Mag iur 1998).

DIWOK, Georg H

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Featured in Banking & Finance (Austria)

Practice Areas: Please visit <https://www.bakermckenzie.com/en/people/d/>

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DORALT, Maria

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Featured in Corporate/M&A (Austria)

Career: Maria Doralt's practice focuses on corporate law and capital markets law. Maria has ample experience in public and private M&A and P/E transactions, international corporate reorganizations (ICR) and all aspects of corporate law. Her experience includes corporate finance advisory from a business perspective. She started her professional career at Goldman Sachs, where she worked in the Investment Banking Division based in Frankfurt. Maria advised clients on cross-border M&A transactions, sell-side processes and the defence against hostile takeovers. As a lawyer, Maria advises listed and non-listed companies and private equity investors on M&A and P/E transactions and international corporate reorganizations (ICRs). Clients regularly seek her advice on complex corporate law issues, questions relating to corporate governance and directors' duties. Maria regularly advises supervisory boards. She currently serves as supervisory board member in two companies.

DORALT, Paul

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Featured in Tax (Austria)

Practice Areas: Taxation Mergers & Acquisitions Structured Finance Trusts and Estates

Career: Paul Doralt is licensed as lawyer and as a tax consultant. He has extensive experience in tax law (corporate tax law, mergers & acquisitions). Further focal points of his work are foundation and inheritance law as well as structured financing. Paul Doralt is the IBA's Austrian reporter for tax issues. The international reference book "World Tax" recommends him as one of the leading Austrian specialists for M&A tax planning. Before joining DORDA, Paul Doralt worked for Schönherr Rechtsanwälte, where he headed the tax department. From 2001 to 2003 he worked as Senior Tax Manager in the International Corporate Tax division and as Head of the Austrian Tax Desk at KPMG in New York. From 1998 to 2001 he was Tax Manager at KPMG in Vienna. Paul Doralt is the author of several specialist publications in the fields of tax law and foundation law. He completed his studies at the University of Vienna (Mag. iur. 1994, Dr. iur. 1996) and at King's College of the University of London (LL.M. 1997).

DORDA, Christian

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Featured in Dispute Resolution (Austria)

Practice Areas: Arbitration Mergers & Acquisitions Corporate

Career: Christian Dorda is the founding partner of DORDA Rechtsanwälte GmbH. He is known as a seasoned M&A and corporate lawyer who combines now this background with international commercial arbitration. His current practice focuses on arbitration, in particular disputes relating to joint ventures, distribution and construction. He is regularly sought after as arbitrator and party counsel in both international and domestic commercial disputes. He has acted

as arbitrator in numerous cases, mostly as the chairman of the tribunal and several times as a sole arbitrator; almost always in the English language. Having served as a member of the ICC International Court of Arbitration (2006-2009), Christian Dorda is now Vice-Chairman of ICC Austria. He is a delegate to the ICC Commission on Arbitration and ADR, Paris, and serves on its Task Forces. He is active on the Board of Trustees of the American Chamber of Commerce in Austria and is the permanent legal counsel to the French-Austrian Chamber of Commerce. For several years, Christian was the chairman of the M&A commission of the Union Internationale des Avocats.

Professional Memberships: Member of the Austrian and of the Swiss Arbitration Association

EBHARDT, Horst

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Featured in Corporate/M&A (Central & Eastern Europe), Corporate/M&A (Austria)

See under Central & Eastern Europe for profile.

EBNER, Martin

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Featured in Banking & Finance (Central & Eastern Europe), Banking & Finance (Austria), Restructuring/Insolvency (Austria)

See under Central & Eastern Europe for profile.

EGERMANN, Clemens

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Featured in Employment (Austria)

Practice Areas: Has advised Austrian and foreign companies on numerous high profile labour law issues, concerning inter alia pension schemes, executive employment agreements as well as other labour law litigation. Also practises corporate law (including M&A), commercial and real estate law and has a strong litigation practice.

Career: Co-founded present firm in 2004. Began career as an associate with Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer in Vienna (1998-2003).
Professional Memberships: Vienna Bar Association.

Publications: Author of numerous articles and lecturer at various institutions.

Personal: Graduated from Vienna law school in 1998, Dr jur in 1999.

EICHINGER, Arabella

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Featured in Real Estate (Austria)

Practice Areas: Partner in the Real Estate practice group. Arabella is a real estate and construction law expert and specialises in advising and accompanying national and international real estate development projects and transactions, with a focus on the hotel industry (lease agreements, management agreements, franchise agreements). She also advises on tenancy law (residential, office, retail, logistics). Her real estate experience in both Austria and Central and Eastern Europe is comprehensive and longstanding.

Career: Admitted to the Austrian bar in 2003

Personal: University of Vienna (Mag. iur. 1997)

ESSLETZBICHLER, Manfred

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Featured in Public Law (Austria)

Practice Areas: Public Procurement Law; PPPs; EC Law; Competition Law; Life Sciences; Construction; Compliance. Manfred leads the procurement team and draws from 20 years of experience. He regularly advises on major infrastructure projects and on tenders concerning intellectual services, medical devices, and IT-systems. He is also very active in the (public) transport sector (e.g. dealing with complex framework agreements for the supply and maintenance of trams, trains and other rolling stock) including in tender procedures for the respective infrastructure (rail, road and airports). In addition, he regularly advises on alleged infringements of procurement law and represents parties in review proceedings before Austrian and European Procurement Review Authorities. He also specializes in the field of anti-corruption regarding public tenders.

Career: Partner, Wolf Theiss, since 2002; admitted in Austria, since 2002.

Professional Memberships: Vienna Bar Association; Forum Vergabe e.V.

Personal: University of Vienna, (Mag.iur. 1996).

FEICHTINGER, Julian

CERHA HEMPEL, Vienna
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Featured in Employment (Austria)

Practice Areas: Labor & Employment, Pensions & Benefits

Career: Julian is partner at CERHA HEMPEL since 1997 and with the firm since 1992. He is the Head of the Employment Law team, and specializes in labour law litigation, restructuring, company pension schemes. Julian advises and represents clients on all aspects of collective and individual employment law, predominantly acting for international and national companies but also NGOs and higher education institutions. He is valued by the clients not only for his precise assessments of the prospects of success and the course of court proceedings, but also for his pragmatic approach.

Professional Memberships: Vienna Bar

Publications: "International Labor and Employment Laws by the ABA Section of Labor and Employment Law" published by "The Bureau of National Affairs, Inc.", Austrian Chapter on Employment Law; Co-author of "Compliance Management für Unternehmen"

Personal: Washington College of Law (LL.M. 1992); University of Vienna (Mag. iur. 1989)

FEILER, Lukas

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Featured in TMT (Austria)

Practice Areas: Please visit <https://www.bakermckenzie.com/en/people/f/feiler-lukas> to learn more about our lawyers.

FEYL, Peter

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Featured in Banking & Finance (Central & Eastern Europe), Banking & Finance (Austria)

See under Central & Eastern Europe for profile.

GIBITZ, Florian

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Featured in Corporate/M&A (Austria)

Practice Areas: Florian Gibitz has a broad range of expertise in M & A, Corporate Law, Corporate Real Estate, Financing Transactions, Arbitration, and Private Equity.

Career: Florian Gibitz studied at the University of Salzburg (1988 Mag. iur., 1991 Dr. iur.) and at the University of Michigan Law School (1993 LL.M.). After his court internship (1991-1992), 3 years at Heller Löber Bahn & Partner (1994-1997), he joined Huegel & Partner in 1997 (Partner from 1998). From 2001-2005 he was an International Partner at Haarmann Huegel in Vienna and since 2006 he has been Partner at bpv Huegel.

Professional Memberships: International Bar Association (IBA) Vice Chair Securities Law Committee, IBA Vienna Bar Association

GLAS, Volker

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Featured in Capital Markets (Austria)

Practice Areas: Banking & Finance, Capital Markets, Privatisations, Capital Maintenance and Equity Replacement

Career: Volker Glas is Partner at CERHA HEMPEL since 1999 and specializes in capital markets and corporate finance transactions. He represents issuers and underwriters in debt and equity capital markets transactions, corporate borrowers and Austrian and international banks in syndicated loans, acquisition and project financings, and structured finance transactions. In 2019, he and his team advised Frequentis AG on its IPO (dual listing Vienna/Frankfurt), IMMO-FINANZ AG in its debut EUR 500 million investment grade bond issuance, voestalpine AG in its EMTN programme update 2019 and a EUR 500 million drawdown, and S Immo AG in two (EUR150 plus 100 million) liability management transactions involving bond issuances. He represented the lenders in two (EUR100 plus 50 million) railway infrastructure financings by way of New York law governed notes purchased by a Chinese insurance company. In bank financing, he advised e.g. a Boston-based life insurance company in the unbundling and termination of a sewage and rainwater infrastructure financing and a Cincinnati-based bank in the termination of a pump-storage hydropower plant financing.

Professional Memberships: Vienna Bar; New York Bar; IBA

Personal: University of New York (LL.M. 1994); University of Vienna (Dr. iur. 1993)

GRAMA, Martina

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Featured in Intellectual Property (Austria)

Practice Areas: Please visit <https://www.bakermckenzie.com/en/people/g/grama-martina> to learn more about our lawyers.

GRILL, Anne-Karin

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Featured in Dispute Resolution (Austria)

Practice Areas: Anne-Karin Grill specializes in ADR (commercial and treaty arbitration, mediation) and advises clients in complex litigation proceedings before the Austrian state courts. She also sits as arbitrator in multi-jurisdictional disputes and acts as mediator in both domestic and international mediation settings. Anne-Karin is a lecturer at the University of Vienna and a sought-after speaker at professional conferences and events. She is also the author of a number of publications on the subject of dispute resolution and ADR. She speaks German, English, French and Swedish.
Career: CEDR and World Bank Investor-State Mediator Training (2018); Mediator Accreditation (CEDR, 2013); Bar Admission (Vienna Bar Association, 2009); M.A. in International Security Studies (Georgetown University; Fulbright Fellow, 2004); Mag. iur. (University of Vienna, 2001)

Professional Memberships: ICC International Court of Arbitration (court member); Austrian Arbitration Association (board member); Vienna International Arbitral Center (VIAC mediation advisory board member); Hong Kong International Arbitration Center (HKIAC listed member); Médiation & Résolution (member); Vienna Bar Association; International Bar Association; Inter-Pacific Bar Association; London Court of International Arbitration

GRITSCH, Andrea

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Featured in Banking & Finance (Austria)

Practice Areas: M&A, banking and financial services, regulatory compliance, corporate and financial restructuring. Andrea has a strong focus on the financial industry and regularly advises in multi-jurisdictional transactions, including distressed situations as well as performing and non-performing asset deals. She is also active in financial technology (FinTech), assisting regulated and non-regulated businesses in digital transformation and taking up new technologies.

Career: Partner, Wolf Theiss, since 2013; admitted in Austria, since 2011; Trainee Judge, Austria, until 2008.

Professional Memberships: Vienna Bar Association

Personal: University of Innsbruck, Austria (Mag.rer.soc.oec. and Mag.iur., 2005, Dr.iur. with honors, 2008); Aston University, UK, 2004.

HAAS, Alexander

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Featured in Capital Markets (Austria)

Practice Areas: Debt Capital Markets.

Work includes legal advice for both issuers and underwriters in relation to banks' funding, the issuance of corporate bonds as well as structured products under stand-alone and base prospectus documentation. Also handles liability management transactions and advises on bank and stock exchange regulation matters.

Career: Partner, Wolf Theiss, since 2016; Counsel, Wolf Theiss, 2014-2016; Senior Associate, Wolf Theiss, 2011-2014; admitted in Austria, since 2011.

Personal: Born 1979 in Vienna, Austria; Vienna University of Economics and Business Administration, 1998 – 2000; University of Vienna, (Mag. iur. 2005); Certified Stock Exchange Trader (2018).

HARTUNG, Isabella

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Featured in Competition/European Law (Austria)

Practice Areas: All areas of Austrian and EU competition law. Has particular experience in energy, construction and transport.
Career: Joined Barnert Eggermann Illigasch as a partner in 2007. Started career as an associate with Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer in their Vienna and London offices (2000-06).

Professional Memberships: Vienna Bar Association, Studienvereinigung Kartellrecht.
Publications: Author of several articles on competition law topics and co-author of a text book on Austrian competition law ('Das österreichische Kartellrecht – Ein Handbuch für Praktiker', Linde Verlag).

Personal: Born 1975. University of Vienna (Mag. jur. 1997, Dr. jur. 2000); College of Europe, Bruges (LLM 1999); internships at European Parliament (1996) and European Commission (1998); admitted to Vienna bar 2003. Speaks German, English and French.

HASENAUER, Clemens

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Featured in Corporate/M&A (Austria)

Practice Areas: M&A, Banking and Finance, Capital Markets, Corporate, Takeovers

Career: Managing Partner and Head of Department Corporate Transactions. Clemens specialises in mergers and acquisitions, takeover law, banking and finance, reorganisations and restructurings. His broad experience includes numerous complex public and private M&A transactions, and he is particularly renowned for structuring large international joint ventures and public takeovers. In past years Clemens regularly advised on Austria's most prominent sales processes.

Professional Memberships: Vienna Bar, ABA, IBA, The Law Society, New York State Bar

Publications: Commentary on Article 17 (Public disclosure of inside information) and 19 (Director's Dealings) of the European Market Abuse Regulation in Kalss/Oppitz/U. Torggler/Winzer, BörseG/MAR Commentary (2019) (together with Univ.-Prof. Dr. Susanne Kalss, LL.M.); Due Diligence – Praxisleitfaden für Transaktionen (Practitioner's Guide for Transactions), Linde Verlag 2015 (with Dr. Harald Stingl, LL.M.); Aktuelles zur Ad-hoc-Publizität bei Beteiligungs- und Unternehmenstransaktionen (with Univ.-Prof. Dr. Susanne Kalss, LL.M.), Der Gesellschafter, 5/2014, 269 et seq.; Der Vorstandsvorsitzende (with Mag. Lorenz Pracht, LL.M.) in Kalss/Frotz/Schörghofer, Handbuch für den Vorstand, 481 et seq. (facultas 2017); Grenzüberschreitende Sitzverlegung von Gesellschaften (Cross-Border Migration of Companies) (with Dr. Harald Stingl, LL.M.) in Kirchmayr/Mayr/Oberhammer/Rüffler/Torggler, Umgründungen in Gesellschafts- und Steuerrecht (Festschrift Hügel) 117 et seq. (LexisNexis 2016)

HEIDINGER, Markus

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Featured in Banking & Finance (Austria)

Practice Areas: Finance; Corporate Finance; Finance Regulatory; Finance Litigation. Work includes all forms of financing structures and products, M&A and restructuring in the finance industry, banking and capital markets regulatory, representing clients against the Austrian regulator (FMA).

Career: Qualified in 1993; Joined Wolf Theiss as partner in 1994; Managing Partner 2004-2006; Senior Partner 2006-2010.

Professional Memberships: Vienna Bar Association; International Bar Association.
Publications: Numerous publications on corporate, finance and regulatory topics, including commentaries on the Investment Fund Act, the AIFM Act, and the Stock Corporation Act.

Personal: Born 23 April 1963; Attended the University of Graz and King's College London.

HEINE, Dieter

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Featured in Dispute Resolution (Austria)

Practice Areas: Dieter Heine is a founding partner at Vavrovsky Heine Marth Rechtsanwälte in Vienna. He specializes in dispute resolution – especially complex commercial litigation and ADR/CDR, in particular commercial mediation – with a main focus on competition law as well as IP, IT & Media. He advises clients in all phases and aspects of conflict prevention and resolution – from strategic advice and representation before national and international courts and tribunals to protection and assertion of rights. In addition, he counsels clients on issues relating to innovative technologies, such as social media and the shared economy.

Career: Partner at Vavrovsky Heine Marth Rechtsanwälte (since 2014); Partner at PHH Prochaska Heine Havranek Rechtsanwälte (2004 – 2013)

Professional Memberships: Vienna Bar Association; Advisory Council of ALLIURIS Alliance of International Business Lawyers; Advisory Counsel at 98.3 Radio Superfly; Disciplinary Board of the Vienna Bar Association (2008 – 2011); Supervisory Board of Lomographische AG (2005 – 2006).

Publications: Various publications and lectures, especially on IP law, recently including: Monograph Intellectual Property Austria, International Encyclopaedia of Laws (2017); Chambers Global Practice Guide: Litigation 2019 – Law and Practice in Austria; Getting The Deal Through: Complex Commercial Litigation 2020 – Austria
Personal: University of Innsbruck, Austria (Mag. iur., 1997)

HERBST, Christian

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Featured in Corporate/M&A (Austria)

Practice Areas: Partner with Schoenherr since 1990. Christian's main practice areas are corporate M&A, public takeovers, private equity and corporate finance transactions. He represents international/Austrian blue chip corporations in (cross-border) transactional work. With over 25 years of transactional experience, Christian has covered a wide range of industries, including financial services, energy and telecoms.

Professional Memberships: IBA (Co-Chair of the Corporate and M&A Law Com-

mittee of the International Bar Association 2015-2016); UIA

Publications: Author of articles on international transactions, corporate M&A, takeovers and corporate law.

Personal: Harvard University (LL.M. 1984); Johns Hopkins University, Bologna/Italy (Diploma 1983); University of Salzburg (Dr. iur. 1982)

HERMANN, Gerhard

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Featured in Corporate/M&A (Austria)

Practice Areas: Please visit <https://www.bakermckenzie.com/en/people/h/hermann-gerhard> to learn more about our lawyers.

HLAWATI, Edith

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Featured in Capital Markets (Austria)

Practice Areas: Banking and Finance, Capital Markets, Corporate, M&A, Corporate Governance

Career: Edith Hlawati, Senior Partner, with the firm since 1983 and a partner at CERHA HEMPEL since 1987, heads the firm's Banking & Corporate Finance team. Her practice areas include capital markets, mergers and acquisitions, takeovers, banking and finance. With a client focus on listed companies, she has advised on some of Austria's largest capital market transactions, public takeovers and privatisations. Furthermore, she is the Chair of the Supervisory Board for Telecom Austria, Österreichische Post and for Energie-Control Austria, as well as a Deputy Chair of the Board for Friends of the Albertina Museum.

Professional Memberships: Vienna Bar, IBA, British-German Jurists' Association
Publications: Besonderheiten des Aufsichtsrats in der börsennotierten Gesellschaft, Kalss/Kunz (Eds.), Handbuch iPraxis (2018-2019); Practice with Theodore Goddard, London (1982-1983); University of South Africa (Comparative Law); University of Vienna (Dr. iur. 1980)

HÖDL, Sascha

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Featured in Corporate/M&A (Austria)

Practice Areas: Partner with focus on (cross-border) mergers and acquisitions, public takeovers, and private equity transaction (Austria/CEE). Sascha has been involved in high profile banking m&a transactions. He also co-heads the firm's Corporate Investigations task force which assists clients in crises situations and internal investigations.

Career: Legal service of the European Commission, Brussels (1995-96). Lecturer on international m&a, Vienna University of Economics and Business Administration (since 2003).

Professional Memberships: Member of the board of the Harvard Law School Association of Europe

Personal: Born 1970. University of Graz (Mag iur 1993, Dr iur 1996). Harvard Law School (LLM 2000).

HÖLLER, Wolfgang

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Featured in Restructuring/Insolvency (Austria)

Practice Areas: Partner, specialising in insolvency law, commercial litigation and compliance & white collar crime. He represents Austrian and international corporates and commercial banks in Austria, advising them on all aspects of out of court restructurings, insolvency law and creditor protection. Wolfgang advises numerous banks on derivatives transactions with Austrian and CEE counterparties and inter alia is Austrian counsel to ISDA on issues of close-out netting.

Publications: Author of numerous articles on restructurings and insolvency

Personal: Admitted to Austrian Bar 2002; University of Graz/Austria (Mag iur 1996, Dr iur 2001); University of St. Gallen/Switzerland (M.B.L.-HSG 2000-01); University of Trier/Germany (1995)

HÖRLSBERGER, Felix

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Featured in Restructuring/Insolvency (Austria), Dispute Resolution (Austria)

Practice Areas: Focuses on Insurance Law, Restructuring and Insolvency and high scale Commercial Litigation. Also advising on Compliance, Data Protection and Contract Law.

Career: Joined firm in 2002, Partner since 2009.

Professional Memberships: Austrian Bar Association, Austrian Lawyer's Club, IBA (Insurance, Litigation), Vice-president and founding member of YACLA (Young Austrian Commercial Litigation Association).

Publications: Author of several expert publications on insurance, data protection, banking and corporate law.

Personal: University of Vienna (Mag iur 2000; Dr iur 2003), Vienna University of Economics and Business Administration (Mag rer soc oec 2003).

HRISTOV, Dimitar

DLA Piper UK LLP, London

Featured in Tax (Austria)

Career: Dimitar Hristov heads the Tax practice in DLA Piper's Vienna office. As an attorney-at-law with completed tax advisor education he has vast experience in international tax law, corporate taxation, tax planning and tax advice in connection with international restructurings and reorganizations, mergers and acquisitions, corporate finance transactions, venture capital and private equity structures. Dimitar advises High Net Worth Individuals and their Family Offices especially from Germany, the CEE area, Russia and Ukraine in estate, gift and succession tax planning, usage of foundations and trusts for tax purposes and the migration of High Net Worth Individuals from and to Austria.

HUBER, Stefan

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Featured in Public Law (Austria)

Practice Areas: Public Law & European Law; Compliance & Investigations; White Collar Crime; Public Procurement; Litigation & Arbitration

Career: Partner at CERHA HEMPEL since 2015, with the firm since 2007. Is an expert in Austrian higher education law, public and European law and highly active in compliance work, criminal law as well as white collar crime. Also one of Austria's leading experts in export control law. Frequently advises on public procurement issues, e.g.

the Federal Ministry of Finance on certain procurement aspects for a legislative project; Vienna Business University on procurement impacts of a restructuring project. Likewise, has a focus on both environmental and constitutional law. Before joining the firm, he worked as an assistant professor for European and public law at the University of Innsbruck and the University of Vienna and as secretary general to the Austrian Science Council. Stefan lectures in Foreign Trade Law at the University of Applied Sciences Burgenland and frequently speaks at conferences.

Professional Memberships: Vienna Bar; IBA

Publications: Co-author of the Austrian Handbook on Higher Education Law and contributor to the leading German commentary on Foreign Trade Law.

Personal: University of Innsbruck, Université libre de Bruxelles (Mag. iur. 2001, Mag. phil. 2001, Dr. iur. 2003); Schloß Hofen, Lochau (LL.M. European Law 2004)

ILLIGASCH, Alexander

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Featured in Banking & Finance (Austria)

Practice Areas: Banking, capital markets, restructuring and regulatory. Has considerable experience advising major Austrian and foreign companies and financial institutions on domestic and international banking, capital market, restructuring and regulatory issues. Has advised on numerous high-profile asset finance, project finance and structured finance transactions.

Career: Co-founded present firm in 2004. Began career as an associate with Hügel Dallmann & Partners in Vienna (1995-99) and continued his practice with Shearman & Sterling in New York (1999-2001) and with Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer in Vienna (2001-03), in each case in the respective (corporate) finance department.

Professional Memberships: Vienna Bar Association, Lexwork.

Publications: Co-author of 'Societas Europaea, A Practitioners' Guide in German/English', Manz 2005.

Personal: Born 21 May 1968. Graduated from Vienna law school in 1994.

KIEHL, Klara

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Featured in White-Collar Crime (Austria)

Practice Areas: Attorney focusing on civil and criminal litigation as well as compliance. Klara works in dispute resolution with a strong focus on criminal law and criminal compliance. Klara advises and defends institutional and individual clients in a wide range of criminal matters, including claims of fraud, anti-corruption law violations and breach of trust. Klara has designed and implemented internal compliance programmes, established search warrant response plans and conducted internal investigations.

Professional Memberships: Austrian Criminal Bar Association

Personal: University of Vienna (Mag. iur. 2006, Dr. iur. 2012); Univerzita Karlova v Praze, Prague/Czech Republic (2006)

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Featured in Corporate/M&A (Austria)

Practice Areas: M&A Private Equity

Career: Jürgen Kittel is a partner of DORDA and an expert in M&A and Private Equity. Jürgen Kittel advises on a wide range of M&A transactions, including public tender offers (take-over law), finance and private equity transactions, as well as major corporate restructurings. Jürgen Kittel is a graduate of the University of Vienna (Dr iur 2002) and of the New York University School of Law (LL.M. 2001). He is admitted to the New York Bar as well as the Austrian Bar and Member of IBA, New York Bar Association, American Bar Association and AIJA. Jürgen Kittel is Lecturer on capital markets law at the University of Vienna (2002) and Author of the book "Handbuch für Aufsichtsratsmitglieder" (Verlag Österreich, 2006) and of several other expert publications on corporate and capital markets law.

KLAUSER, Alexander

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Featured in Dispute Resolution (Austria)

Practice Areas: Head of BKP's Litigation and Insolvency Department.

Career: Lawyer, Austrian Defence Ministry (1983-85); intern, European Commission (1989-90); admitted (1990); Founding Partner BKP; Insolvency Administrator; Lecturer: University of Vienna, University of Graz, Austrian Attorneys' Academy

Professional Memberships: Vienna Bar; IBA (past Co-Chair, Insolvency Section); International Insolvency Institute.

Publications: Numerous publications on Austrian and European Civil Procedure and Insolvency Law.

Personal: Born 1959; University of Vienna (Dr iur, 1983); University of the Pacific/McGeorge School of Law Sacramento (Diploma in Advanced International Legal Studies, 1990).

KNOBL, Peter

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Featured in Banking & Finance (Austria), Capital Markets (Austria)

Practice Areas: Banking and Capital Markets, Stock Exchange and Banking Regulatory, AML and other Compliance, Investment Funds (UCITS and AIFs), Prospectus Regulation, MiFID II, Market Abuse Regulation, issuer's compliance, insurance regulatory.

Career: Peter has been a Partner at CERHA HEMPEL since 2005 and leads our banking, insurance supervision and capital markets regulatory practice. He is a trainer to supervisory board members of Austrian licenced and stock exchange operating companies on fitness and propriety issues. He advises Austrian licenced banks (SIs and LSIs), investment firms, insurances, corporate issuers, fund management companies and stock exchange operating companies on compliance and regulatory law queries and was involved in the establishment of the first bad bank in Austria.

Professional Memberships: Vienna Bar, European Community Studies Association Austria (ECSA), IBA

Publications: Die Schaffung und Übertragung von Wertrechten via Blockchain-Technologie (with Mag. Shivam Subhash), Wirtschaftsrechtliche Blätter 2019, 612ff; WAG 2018 – Zur Vor-Ort-Verfügbarkeit qualifizierter Berater, ÖBA 2019, 806ff; "Austria" in Bösch, Banking Regulation4 (2019) – A Global Guide From Practical Law (Thomson Reuters)

Personal: Education: Erste Bank der Sparkassen AG (Bank Merchant's Exam 1992); University of Vienna (Mag. iur. 1986, Dr. iur. 1987) Awards: Leopold Kunschak-Förderungspreis 1994, Walther Kastner Prizes 1992 and 1997

KNYRIM, Rainer

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Featured in TMT (Austria)

Practice Areas: Rainer's working focuses are Data Protection Law, Telecommunications/E-Commerce Law, Collective Employment Law and Contract Law. He advises mainly companies/groups from the sectors of consumer product manufacturing, energy, food and drink producers, government, health care, industrial engineering, insurance, pharmaceuticals, software and computer services, technology and retail. Rainer is a much-sought speaker and trainer for privacy law.

Career: Please visit: <https://www.kt.at/en/the-team/>

Professional Memberships: Rainer is a certified EuroPriSe expert and holder of the CIPP/E, CIPT and CIPM certificates (IAPP).

Publications: Rainer is editor in chief of the Austrian data protection law review "Datenschutz konkret" and editor-in-chief of the largest Austrian commentary of the GDPR. For a detailed list of publications please visit www.kt.at.

Personal: When Rainer began to focus on Data Protection and Privacy this was a courageous decision for a law field still developing. His dedication an energy made him one of Austria's leading experts and authors. As a co-founder/partner of Knyrim Trieb Attorneys -at-Law Rainer established Austria's first law boutique specialized in Data Protection and IT-law, where a growing team is living their "Passion for Privacy" to the best benefit of their clients. Working with Rainer is a guarantee for highly experienced and customer-oriented advice. Rainer is listed as "Fellow of Information Privacy" (IAPP).

KOFLER-SENONER, Bernhard

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Featured in Competition/European Law (Austria)

Practice Areas: Antitrust, Compliance, Mergers and Acquisitions.

Career: Bernhard is a partner at CERHA HEMPEL since 2010. With almost 20 years of experience in the area of competition law, he heads the firm's Antitrust and Competition Practice Group comprising lawyers from its office in Vienna and its CEE offices. Bernhard is renowned for his know-how in complex (Phase II) merger control proceedings and high profile cartel proceedings (especially in the mobile phone, consumer electronics, food retail, real estate, and construction sectors). He has vast experience in designing and implementing compliance management systems and in establishing national and international distribution networks with a special focus on the electronics

sector. He also advises clients on damage claims that are made following competition law infringements.

Professional Memberships: Vienna Bar; IBA; Member of the "Studienvereinigung Kartellrecht".

Publications: Numerous publications on Austrian and European antitrust law and regularly publishes on competition law developments (e.g. Europe competing with China and the USA, 2019; The assessment of vertical price fixing by the German Federal Cartel Office, 2018; Austria Asphalt: A landmark decision on EU merger control, 2017).

Personal: Admitted to the Austrian Bar in 2006; Fordham University (LL.M. 2002), Fulbright Scholarship; Robert Schuman Prize; University of Innsbruck (Mag. iur. 1999, Dr. iur. 2001).

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Featured in White-Collar Crime (Austria)

Practice Areas: Please visit <https://www.bakermckenzie.com/en/people/k/krakow-georg> to learn more about our lawyers.

KRALIK, Thomas

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Featured in White-Collar Crime (Austria)

Career: Thomas Kralik has extensive experience in business criminal law where he has represented and defended clients in numerous proceedings in recent years. His practice includes all aspects of criminal investigations from internal investigation, risk assessment of individual business fields to the defence of companies and individuals against criminal charges as well as general compliance advice. Thomas completed his professional education with the well-known Austrian criminal lawyer Dr. Herbert Eichenseder. Shortly after he had started to work as self-employed lawyer, Thomas focused on white collar crime and defended clients successfully in several major white collar crime cases. Besides acting as defence lawyer in courts, he has been advising notable, also internationally active Austrian companies in compliance and white collar crime related matters.

KRENN, Mark

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Featured in Real Estate (Austria)

Practice Areas: Real Estate, Mergers & Acquisitions, Corporate, CEE, Intellectual Property

Career: Partner Mark Krenn, is responsible for CERHA HEMPEL's Real Estate Transaction Team. He has considerable experience handling large volume real estate transactions in Austria and CEE, as well as in setting up joint ventures for real estate projects. Mark's work covers all real estate asset classes, including shopping centres, residential projects, hotels, offices and logistics projects. Furthermore, he engages in domestic real estate development projects, such as acting as counsel and trustee for building organiser projects (Bauträgerprojekte), green field developments of retail and residential projects, as well as advising landlords with respect to their standard lease agreements related to their investments. Recently, Mark has been invited by the German "Arbeitskreis

Hotelmobilien" (Study Group for Hotel Properties) to contribute on the elaboration of an overview on the legal framework in Austria for the Hotel Industry. Some of Mark's key clients: SES Spar European Shopping Centers; CA Immobilien Anlagen AG; Aberdeen Standard Investments; S IMMO AG; areos development and BIG/ARE; HETA Asset Resolution AG; SPAR Austria.

Professional Memberships: Vienna Bar; IBA

Publications: Numerous publications in his areas of expertise. Edited the firms Guide to Real Estate & Construction Laws in CEE.

Personal: University of Vienna (Mag. iur. 2004)

KRESBACH, Georg

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Featured in Intellectual Property (Austria), TMT (Austria)

Practice Areas: IP (trademarks, patents, designs, copyrights); TMT (software, service level and maintenance agreements, outsourcing); Unfair Competition; New Media/Internet; Pharma and Healthcare.

Career: Partner, Wolf Theiss, since 1996; admitted in Austria, since 1996.

Professional Memberships: Vienna Bar Association; International Bar Association; INTA; AIPPI; ECTA; Österreichische Vereinigung für Gewerblichen Rechtsschutz; LES; Marques.

Publications: "E-Commerce" (Kommentierte Ausgabe zum ECG); "Patentschutz für gentechnologische Erfindungen" (Patent Protection and Gentechnologie); "Fragen zum Miteigentum an Patenten" (Questions on Joint Ownership of Patents); Co-author, "Commentary to the Austrian Patent Law and Utility Model Act" (2019).

Personal: University of Graz, University of Vienna, (Dr.iur. 1993 with honours).

KRISTOFERITSCH, Hans

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Featured in Competition/European Law (Austria), White-Collar Crime (Austria), Public Law (Austria)

Practice Areas: Public Commercial&European Law, Competition and State Aid, Constitutional&Administrative Law, Privacy and IT, White Collar Crime

Career: Partner with CERHA HEMPEL since 2013 and Head of the new Department Regulatory and White Collar. Hans is leading in areas of data protection, telecommunications, e-commerce and regularly assists Austrian and global clients with international data transfers, outsourcing projects, cloud computing and behavioral advertising. Assisted and coordinated GDPR compliance, regulatory projects for numerous large multinational clients. Also an expert in white collar crime and took the lead in some of the biggest internal investigations in Austria. Frequently represents companies damaged by criminal conduct in trials and asset tracing. Active in all areas of regulatory, public, administrative law and handles various cases under the fundamental freedoms, including infringement proceedings before the European Commission, as well as other areas of EU law (in particular state aid, regulated industries, EU litigation). Acts regularly before the CJEU.

Professional Memberships: Vienna Bar; IBA; Studienvereinigung Kartellrecht

Publications: He is a university lecturer for EU law and gives lectures on compliance, data protection and criminal law and is an author of several publications (textbook Austrian data protection law).

Personal: Harvard Law School (LL.M. 2005), University of Vienna (Mag. iur. 2002, Mag. phil. 2004, Dr. iur. 2004)

KUCSKO, Guido

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Featured in Intellectual Property (Austria)

Practice Areas: Partner at Schoenherr since 1986, co-heading the IP group. Guido represents Austrian and international clients in various IP matters i.e. intellectual property transactional work, licensing and litigation.

Career: Adjunct professor in IP law, University of Vienna (since 2001)

Professional Memberships: INTA, AIPPI, GRUR

Publications: Textbook Intellectual Property (2017); co-editor of commentaries to Copyright Act (2nd edition 2017) and Trademark Act (2nd edition 2013), both recognised standard publications for Austrian IP Law; author of various publications in competition and IP law.

Personal: Austrian Bar (1984); University of Vienna, (Dr. iur. 1979); Max Planck Institute for Intellectual Property, Competition and Tax Law, Munich/Germany (Scholar 1979)

KÜHNERT, Heinrich

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Featured in Competition/European Law (Austria)

Practice Areas: Competition and Antitrust Energy Law Telecommunications Law Compliance Distribution

Career: Heinrich Kühnert is partner and heads DORDA's antitrust and regulatory practice group. Heinrich advises domestic and international clients on all aspects of Austrian and European competition law (merger control, antitrust, abuse and state aid). He has broad experience in a large number of industries, including energy, transport, telecom, media, healthcare, mechanical engineering as well as retail. In addition to his advisory work, Heinrich publishes regularly on competition law topics. Prior to joining DORDA in March 2016, Heinrich practiced as partner in a leading Austrian competition practice, and as principal associate in the antitrust, competition and trade group of Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer. Heinrich received his legal education at the Universities of Vienna, Oxford and Fribourg (Switzerland).

KÜLTEUBL, Stefan

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Featured in Employment (Austria)

Practice Areas: Partner and head of the labour and employment practice. Stefan's field of expertise includes all aspects of contentious and non-contentious employment law, including providing continuing advice to employers on out of court matters, restructuring and transactions, advising and representing managing directors and management board members, as well as international employment law and public sector law, including outsourced entities. Stefan covers employment law (Austria/CEE), corporate

litigation, pension and benefits, outsourcing and restructuring.

Professional Memberships: ABA; EELA

Publications: Various articles and books on employment law.

Personal: University of Vienna (Mag. iur. 1997, Dr. iur. 2004)

KULNIGG, Thomas

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Featured in Corporate/M&A (Austria)

Practice Areas: Partner with Schoenherr and head of Schoenherr's technology & digitalization group (<https://tech.schoenherr.eu>). Thomas is specialized in M&A and venture capital transactions in technology industries and in other technology & digitalization matters. Thomas has further experience in US Securities Law, capital markets transactions and ICOs/STOs.

Career: Thomas Kulnigg has been with Schoenherr since 2006, and has been a partner since 2015; Secondment to London office of Davis Polk & Wardwell (2008/2009).

Publications: Several publications on M&A, civil and corporate law as well as start-up and technology matters

Personal: Admitted to bar in 2010; University Vienna (Dr. iur. 2006, Mag. iur. 2005)

KUSZNIER, Florian

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Featured in Corporate/M&A (Austria)

Practice Areas: Partner in the Corporate/M&A practice with a focus on (cross-border) M&A, Florian mainly represents foreign clients; both strategic and financial investors. Florian specialises in M&A, takeovers and general corporate law. His industry specialisation is the healthcare/life sciences sector but he has also acted for clients in a variety of other industries.

Publications: Florian regularly publishes on healthcare, corporate and takeover law as well as selected capital markets aspects.

Personal: Admitted to the Austrian Bar in 2007. The London School of Economics, London/UK (LL.M. 2003); University of Innsbruck, Innsbruck/Austria (Dr. iur. 2002, Mag. iur. 2001).

LAGLER, Michael

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Featured in Real Estate (Austria)

Practice Areas: Focused on corporate real estate and m&a-driven property transactions and developments for Austrian/international clients in Austria/CEE. Alongside Schoenherr's offices, Michael regularly handles all aspects of commercial real estate deals, including acquisition and development of office, leisure, hotel, retail and residential properties. Further, Michael has a very strong track record in portfolio transactions in Austria and CEE.

Career: Partner with Schoenherr since 2005

Publications: Co-author of International Real Estate Handbook (2006); Handbuch des internationalen GmbH-Rechts (2006); Author of various articles on real estate and CEE business law

Personal: University of Salzburg (Mag. iur. 1994, Dr. iur. 1996); Pallas Consortium, Nijmegen, The Netherlands (LL.M. 1997)

LEISSLER, Günther

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Featured in TMT (Austria)

Practice Areas: Contract Partner in Regulatory practice, focusing on data protection, IT & telecommunications, life science and new technologies; Heads firm's Data Protection & Privacy Group; Günther advises on corporate data protection matters such as the implementation of global database projects, web-based telecommunications services or data-based compliance projects.

Professional Memberships: Frequently opines on privacy draft legislation on behalf of the ABA

Publications: Author of various publications in data protection and privacy law. Günther also lectures in the areas of data protection and privacy law.

Personal: Admitted to Austrian Bar (2008); University of Vienna (Dr. iur. 2006, LL.M. 2002, Mag. iur. 1997)

LETTAU, Thomas

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Featured in Corporate/M&A (Austria)

Practice Areas: •Banking •Financial services regulatory •M&A •Private equity

Career: Thomas has been a partner of bpv Huegel since 2010. He is co-head of bpv Huegel's Corporate/M&A department. Thomas has extensive experience acting for strategic and financial investors on cross-border M&A transactions, reorganizations and joint ventures. Work highlights include:

•Raiffeisen-Informatik on its sale of global operating COMPAREX to KKR backed SoftwareONE •€390mn strategic acquisition in listed S Immo by Immofinanz from Signa and RPR •€760mn sale of stake in listed CAI to Starwood Capital by Immofinanz •ISS on the sale of its Compact Cleaning business in an MBO •Sale of A.M.I. Agency for Medical Innovation GmbH to AWS Mittelstandsfonds Beteiligungs GmbH

Personal: University of Vienna School of Law, Universidad de La Laguna, Spain, University of Cape Town (LL.M. in Commercial Law).

LEWISCH, Peter

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Featured in White-Collar Crime (Austria)

Practice Areas: Commercial criminal law, in particular white collar crime, public commercial and European law, constitutional and administrative law, antitrust and regulation

Career: Peter, a criminal law specialist, is a senior attorney at Cerha Hempel where he leads the white collar crime team. He is also a full professor for criminal law at the University of Vienna and director of the Law School's Centre for Business and Financial Crime. He is regarded as the leading Austrian lawyer for complex and high profile business crime and white collar cases, in particular for cases with an international background, with a success rate of around 98%. Peter enjoys wide recognition among the judiciary, the Supreme Court and the Ministry of Justice. Peter is also known for his profound knowledge of pertinent questions of constitutional law (being a professor for this area, too) and of the ECHR (having been on the Austrian

government's shortlist for the position of a ECHR judge a couple of years ago).

Professional Memberships: Vienna Bar; IBA

Publications: Leading commentaries and textbooks on Austrian criminal law.

Personal: University of Vienna (Dr. iur. 1985, Dr. rer. soc. oec. 1987). Since 2011 Professor of Criminal Law and Criminal Procedure, Department of Criminal Law, Law School, University of Vienna.

LINDINGER, Christoph

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Featured in Dispute Resolution (Austria)

Practice Areas: Partner, head of dispute resolution practice for several years, having previously been active in m&a. Christoph focuses on international arbitration proceedings conducted under the rules of the world's leading arbitration institutions (i.e. ICC, LCIA, Swiss Rules, ICSID and VIAC), with a particular emphasis on investment arbitration and post-m&a arbitrations.

Career: With Schoenherr since 1986, Christoph has served as managing partner from 2001-2016.

Professional Memberships: Vienna Bar Association, IBA, ICC

Publications: Author of articles on commercial, banking and antitrust law; Co-author of Austrian Accounting Law Commentary

Personal: Admitted to Austrian Bar (1991); University of Salzburg, Salzburg/Austria (Dr. iur. 1984)

MADL, Peter

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Featured in Real Estate (Austria)

Practice Areas: Senior partner in the Real Estate and Construction group focused on commercial property, project development and finance, construction and real estate transactions (Austria and SEE).

Career: Assistant Professor at University of Vienna (1983-86); Lecturer at Vienna University of Economics and Business Administration, Vienna, and University of Vienna – law faculty for Real Estate Law.

Publications: Author of articles and books on real estate law, IT law, private law and product liability.

Personal: Born 1960. Admitted to Austrian Bar in 1990. University of Vienna (Dr. iur. 1983). Vienna University of Economics and Business Administration, Vienna (Mag. rer. soc. oec. 1987).

MAGER, Christoph

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Featured in Corporate/M&A (Austria)

Career: Christoph heads the Corporate and M&A practice in Austria. He has extensive experience in cross-border M&A transactions, corporate structuring and reorganisations. Further, Christoph focuses on advising high net-worth individuals to structure their asset allocation and he is a recognized advisor for Austrian private foundations and foundations in Liechtenstein which he also uses to manage for clients as legal advisor and as member of the management board. In addition, Christoph has a thorough understanding of the automotive and the life sciences industries and regularly advises

clients on industry specific matters and transactions.

MAIER, Philipp

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Featured in Employment (Austria)

Practice Areas: Please visit <https://www.bakermckenzie.com/en/people/m/maier-philipp> to know more about our lawyers.

MAJCHRZAK, Katharina

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Featured in Intellectual Property (Austria)

Practice Areas: Unfair competition, Intellectual property (trademark, design, copyright and patent law), Law governing employee inventions, Food law, E-Commerce and distance selling (E-Commerce Act, Distance Selling Act, Consumer Protection Act)

Career: In 2020, just two years after joining the firm's IP practice, Katharina was promoted to Counsel at CERHA HEMPEL. She is specializing in the whole range of IP with over ten years' experience in trademark clearance and administration, prosecution and litigation, unfair competition, design, copyright law, as well as employee inventions. Katharina advises national and international clients in wide spread sectors; retail, fashion and food, especially at the interface between food law and unfair competition (misleading commercial practices e.g. labelling, false advertising, exploitation of reputation of PDOs). She regularly lectures on trademarks and unfair competition at the University of Applied Sciences Burgenland and at the Academy of Notaries in Vienna.

Professional Memberships: Österreichische Vereinigung für Gewerblichen Rechtsschutz und Urheberrecht (ÖV); Vienna Bar; IBA

Publications: Author of several publications and of a new blog "Food Law Corner" (<http://www.foodlawcorner.com/>) where she provides insight into current legal developments and the latest case-law in the food and beverage industry.

Personal: University of Vienna (Mag. iur. 2005, Dr. iur. 2008); University of Maastricht (2004)

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Featured in TMT (Austria)

Practice Areas: Information Technology Law; Data Protection and IT Security Law; Intellectual Property Law; Unfair Competition Law; Food Law (all fields including litigation).

Career: Admitted in 2008; Senior Associate, Wolf Theiss, 2008-2012, Counsel 2012-2015, Partner, since 2015; lecturer for media and telecom law, University of Applied Sciences St. Pölten since 2006.

Professional Memberships: International Technology Law Association (ITechLaw); Academic Society for Information Law.

Publications: Co-author of the first Austrian legal compendium on cloud computing; several other publications in the field of IT/IP-law.

Personal: University of Vienna (LL.M., 2004); University of Graz (Mag. iur. 2002; Academic Media Expert, 2001).

MARTH, Christian

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Featured in Real Estate (Austria)

Practice Areas: Christian Marth is a founding partner at Vavrovsky Heine Marth Rechtsanwälte in Vienna. He focuses on real estate and construction law issues and is among Austria's leading experts in his field. Christian is best known as a specialist in national and cross-border real estate transactions regarding all asset classes (commercial, office and residential properties) as well as micro-living projects such as student accommodation and retirement homes. Leading national and international real estate funds trust his expertise. In addition to real estate transactions, Christian also focuses on real estate project development and matters relating to tenancy and real estate brokerage law.

Career: Partner at Vavrovsky Heine Marth Rechtsanwälte (since 2014); Partner at PHHV Prochaska Heine Havranek Vavrovsky Rechtsanwälte (2011 – 2014); Attorney at Law at Dorda Brugger Jordis Rechtsanwälte (2004 – 2006)

Professional Memberships: Vienna Bar Association

Publications: Regular publications and lectures on real estate and construction related topics

Personal: Austrian Bar Exam (with distinction, 2006); Legal expert within the course of a European Commission's PHARE project 'Competition and Consumer Protection', Warsaw, Poland (2003); University of Innsbruck, Austria (Dr. iur., 2002); University of Wales College of Cardiff, United Kingdom (Diploma in Legal Studies, 1997)

MAYER, Michael

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Featured in Competition/European Law (Austria)

Practice Areas: Antitrust & Competition; Distribution Law; Compliance & Investigations

Career: Appointed as Counsel in 2017 and with CERHA HEMPEL since 2013, Michael has been working as specialized competition lawyer since 2008. Michael has considerable experience in all areas of competition law. His focus lies in merger control and fines proceedings both before the Austrian competition authorities and the EU Commission, as well as in the implementation of compliance systems. Michael has advised national and international clients in a wide range of industries, in particular in the sectors of consumer goods (SPAR), electronic goods (Samsung), construction (STRABAG), oil & gas (OMV), IT (Cisco Systems), manufacture of machinery (not disclosed client) and media (Bauer Media).

Professional Memberships: Vienna Bar; IBA

Publications: Managementhaftung in der Praxis, Eberhardt/Gurmann (Hrsg.), Verlag Österreich 2016, Kapitel I.3. Kartellrecht; Various publications in Austrian competition law journals.

Personal: University of Vienna (Mag. iur. 2004, Dr. iur. 2011); Vienna University of Economics and Business (Mag. rer. soc. oec. 2008); Università di Bologna (2003-2004)

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Featured in Corporate/M&A (Austria), Capital Markets (Austria)

Practice Areas: Capital Markets Law Mergers and Acquisitions Commercial Law

Career: Andreas Mayr is Co-head of the firm's M&A practice and Head of its Capital Markets practice. He focuses on in- and outbound cross-border transactions as well as on international equity and debt capital market transactions. He also advises listed companies, investment banks and private equity firms on corporate governance and compliance related matters as well as in connection with investigations by regulators and authorities. Andreas also advises listed companies in defense mandates for example in connection with capital market related claims and class actions filed by investors. Andreas is admitted to the bars in Austria (1998) and in the State of New York (1993). He has been an approved capital markets coach of the Vienna Stock Exchange for many years and has several years of experience as a member of the ATX committee of the Vienna Stock Exchange ("VSE") and of the Legal and Regulatory Committee of EASD. Andreas has excellent and longstanding contacts to important Austrian regulators and institutions such as for example the Austrian Takeover Commission, the Austrian Financial Market Authority, the Austrian Competition Authority and the Vienna Stock Exchange.

Professional Memberships: IBA and the New York Bar Association

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Featured in Corporate/M&A (Central & Eastern Europe), Corporate/M&A (Austria)

See under Central & Eastern Europe for profile.

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Featured in Capital Markets (Austria)

Practice Areas: Capital Markets, Corporate Finance, Banking, Corporate/M&A

Career: Christoph Moser has extensive experience in Austrian capital market and finance matters. He has headed temas on numerous equity capital markets transactions, including initial public offerings (IPOs) and capital increases for listed companies, secondary placements (including accelerated book building transactions), debt capital markets issues (corporate bonds, high-yield, covered bonds, secured bonds, regulatory capital issues etc) and public takeover matters. Christoph regularly advises international and Austrian banks, issuers, investors and other market participants on capital markets, securities and corporate law with a focus on transactional and regulatory work, banking and corporate governance/compliance. He also serves as board room and compliance advisor to several Austrian listed companies and assists the issuers on all types of capital market and finance related matters.

Professional Memberships: IBA (International Bar Association), Vienna Bar Association

Personal: Partner, Weber & Co (since 2014); Attorney-at-law (since 2011); Associate/Senior Associate, Vienna (2005-2006);

2008-2011); University Linz, law clerk (2003-2005); University Linz (Mag. iur. 2004)

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Featured in Public Law (Austria)

Practice Areas: Public Law Public Procurement Law Environmental Law Regulatory Law Constitutional and Administrative Law European Union Law Telecommunications Law Energy Law

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Featured in Real Estate (Austria)

Practice Areas: For almost 20 years, Wolfgang has focused entirely on project-related legal advice through all stages (from preparation to warranty) of construction and infrastructure projects (property, tunnels/caverns, powerplant/plant construction, roads/railways, FIDIC agreements). Experience includes dispute resolution before state courts, arbitral tribunals and FIDIC Dispute Adjudication Boards as well as interdisciplinary support regarding claim and contract management.

Career: Partner, Wolf Theiss, since 2012. Head of Real Estate & Construction, since 2015.

Professional Memberships: Austrian Society for Construction Law (ÖGEBAU); Austrian Society for Geomechanics (ÖGG).

Personal: University of Vienna (Mag. iur., 2001); admitted in Austria since 2006; certified FIDIC Adjudicator (VBI).

NAPOKOJ, Elke

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Featured in Corporate/M&A (Austria)

Practice Areas: Elke Napokoj specialises in national and international M&A transactions, corporate law, reorganisations, restructurings, private equity and capital markets. Elke has been advising national and international companies for over 20 years and has extensive experience in corporate M&A, private equity and capital markets, particularly in the pharmaceutical and life sciences, aviation, banking, insurance, energy and industrial sectors.

Career: Elke graduated from the University of Vienna in 1999 (Dr.iur.) and holds an LL.M. in banking and financial law from King's College London. In 2018, Elke completed an Excellence Programme for Supervisory Boards at the Frankfurt School of Finance and Management. She has been a Partner and Co-Head of Corporate M&A practice group since 2007.

Professional Memberships: Member of Supervisory Board of Sanochemia Pharmazeutika AG Chairwoman of the Foundation Board of Waleria Private Foundation Member of Supervisory Board of Bausparkasse der österreichischen Sparkassen Aktiengesellschaft Member of Advisory Board of Austrian Association of Company Law International Bar Association Vienna Bar Association King's College London Alumni Association VGR Scientific Association for Corporate and Company Law Association for Corporate Growth International Women's Forum

Publications: <https://www.bpv-huegel.com/en/jurist/dr-elke-maria-napokoj-ll-m-london/>

Personal: Legal 500 ("perfect team player"), IFLR 1000 ("Highly regarded"), JUVE lists Elke as the only woman among the leading names in corporate and M&A law

NEUMAYR, Florian

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Featured in Competition/European Law (Austria)

Practice Areas: Florian has years of experience in advising on all aspects of Austrian and EU competition law (cartels, abuse of market dominance, merger control and procurement). A special focus of his is dispute resolution (litigation, arbitration, mediation) and, in particular, private enforcement. Clients include top undertakings in the telecoms, energy, pharma, automotive, trading and retail as well as construction and waste disposal sectors. Florian has a considerable track record in representing national and international clients (private and public) in different fora.

Career: Following law school (Vienna and Thessaloniki) and an LL.M. in international commercial law (Nottingham), including international dispute resolution, Florian earned a PhD in procurement law (Vienna). After positions with large commercial law firms, he has joined bpv Huegel, where Florian has become a partner in 2010 and has been co-managing partner since 2016. He heads the Dispute Resolution practice and, together with Astrid Ablasser-Neuhuber, the Antitrust Practice Group.

Professional Memberships: Domestic Advisory Board of VIAC Mediator of Energy Community German Association for Antitrust Law (Austrian Section) Honorary Fellow, Center for International Legal Studies Vienna Bar Association UIA International League of Competition Law (LIDC) Viennese Society of the History of Law Spanish Austrian Law Association Liechtenstein Arbitration Association Austrian Arbitration Association (Arb|Aut).

Publications: <https://www.bpv-huegel.com/en/jurist/dr-florian-neumayr-ll-m-nottingham/>

BERLECHNER, Peter

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Featured in Real Estate (Central & Eastern Europe), Real Estate (Austria)

See under Central & Eastern Europe for profile.

BERZAUCHER, Sebastian

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Featured in Public Law (Austria)

Practice Areas: Public Procurement Law; PPPs; Construction Law. Sebastian co-leads Wolf Theiss' procurement team and focuses on advising contracting authorities on planning and implementing complex tender procedures for works, supply and service contracts predominantly in the infrastructure and healthcare sector. Moreover, he represents contracting authorities and bidders in review proceedings before the relevant reviewing authorities. Furthermore he advises bidders during tender procedures in order to safeguard full compliance of their

bids with public procurement law and the tender specifications.

Career: Partner, Wolf Theiss; admitted in Austria, since 2011.

Professional Memberships: Vienna Bar Association.

Personal: University of Vienna (Mag.iur. 2004).

PESCHEK, Ralf

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Featured in Employment (Austria)

Practice Areas: The firm-wide Employment practice group leader, Ralf Peschek specializes in the fields of executive agreements, restructuring, workers' participation rights, manager liability, European employment law, pension plans & benefits, and representation of clients in front of courts and governmental authorities.

Publications: Ralf is the author of numerous articles and books on employment law and has been a frequent lecturer at universities and business colleges.

Personal: In addition to his Austrian law degree, Ralf holds an MBA degree from the University of Economics and Business Administration, Vienna and an LL.M. degree from the University of San Diego.

PETSCHKE, Alexander

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Featured in White-Collar Crime (Austria), Dispute Resolution (Austria)

Practice Areas: Please visit <https://www.bakermckenzie.com/en/people/p/petschke-alexander> to know more about our lawyers.

POPP, Alexander

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Featured in Corporate/M&A (Austria)

Practice Areas: Partner heading the Corporate/M&A practice. Alexander acts mainly for clients active in the energy, insurance and telecoms industry, advising them in particular in M&A projects and on foreign direct investments in Central Eastern Europe (CEE). Alexander has been active in CEE for 15 years and has substantially contributed to the development of the schoenherr network in the region.

Professional Memberships: Vienna Bar Association; New York Bar Association; International Bar Association

Publications: Publications on M&A and foreign investments in Central Eastern Europe

Personal: Born 1974; University of Vienna (Dr. iur. 2000, Mag. iur. 1998); New York University (LL.M. 2002)

PÖSCHL, Walter

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Featured in Employment (Austria)

Practice Areas: Employment. Walter is involved in many significant employment law matters and is particularly active in key employment litigation.

Career: With Wolf Theiss since 2010. Counsel, since 2016. He is one of the core members of the employment practice group in Vienna. Prior to joining Wolf Theiss, Walter worked in the employment and litigation practice of a major CEE-focused Viennese

law firm. He started his career at the Austrian Chamber of Economy where he advised all kinds of Austrian companies in employment and social insurance law matters. Walter has been lecturing on employment law for over 15 years.

PRÄNDL, Felix

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Featured in TMT (Austria)

Practice Areas: corporate law; mergers and acquisitions; cross-border transactions; information technology.

Career: Admitted 1992 in Austria. Founding partner of bkp. Regular lectures and seminars on corporate, software, distribution.

Publications: Numerous articles on software and corporate, eg. Open Source Software – Legal Framework in Austria (together with Univ Prof Dr Andreas Wiebe), OEJZ 2004/39; Appropriate Manager Salaries in the Financial Crisis (with Bernhard Grohs/Christian Havranek), Aufsichtsrat aktuell 2009, 8.

Personal: Born 1959 in Munich. University of Vienna (Dr iur, 1982); Tulane Law School (LLM, 1984); Stanford Law School (JSM, 1986).

PRINZ, Johannes

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Featured in Tax (Austria)

Practice Areas: Tax Law, International Tax Law, Taxation of Groups and Corporate Reorganisations, Corporate Reorganisations, Corporate, Mergers & Acquisitions

Career: Johannes joined CERHA HEMPEL in 2002 after having worked for several years at a Vienna based accounting firm. He became partner at CERHA HEMPEL in 2010. Johannes is dual qualified as Austrian attorney and as a tax adviser. He is a tax expert focussing on taxation of corporate groups and corporate restructuring, tax planning, taxation of mergers and acquisitions and private equity investments, value added tax, non-profit organizations, withholding tax and tax treaty issues, domestic and cross-border group internal reorganisations and business restructuring, holding structures, taxation of inbound and outbound investments, as well as structured finance. Johannes is also experienced in tax litigation and is an expert within the bank and energy industry. He is frequently interviewed by journalists and newspapers on current tax law topics. Johannes regularly lectures at the Austrian Legal Academy for the preparation of young lawyers for the bar exam on transaction related tax law.

Professional Memberships: Vienna Bar; International Bar Association; International Fiscal Association

Publications: Johannes has published numerous articles and publications on tax.

Personal: University of Vienna (Mag. iur., Mag. phil.); Università di Trieste

RATH, Ursula

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Featured in Capital Markets (Austria)

Practice Areas: Ursula Rath is a partner at Schoenherr in its Vienna office where she specialises in financial services regulation, capital markets transactions, investment

funds and M&A transactions in the financial services industry. For over a decade she has advised issuers, selling shareholders, banks and other financial institutions as well as investors on international and local capital markets transactions and on combined bank debt and high-yield bond issuances. She has a broad range of experience in initial public and secondary offerings, stock exchange listings, liability management transactions, notes offerings (in particular high yield) and private placements of debt or equity instruments. Ursula advises national and international players on regulatory developments and changes such as in relation to Brexit contingency planning, PSD II or MiFID II. She is also a member of the Austrian Ministry of Finance's FinTech Advisory Board where she consults on priority actions around start-up financing, ICOs and digital assets.

Personal: Admitted to Austrian Bar in 2006. University of Vienna (Dr. iur. 2001, Mag. iur. 1999); London School of Economics and Political Science (LL.M. 2003)

REINISCH, Martin

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Featured in Intellectual Property (Austria)

Practice Areas: Head of BKP's IP Department, specialising in trademark, design, copyright, patent, unfair competition and distribution law; advising numerous clients in the food/beverages, advertising, fashion, cosmetics and pharmaceutical industries; IP litigation and prosecution, in particular regarding trademarks before Austrian and EU IP offices and courts.

Career: Admitted 2002 in Austria. Partner with Brauneis Klausner Prändl since 2006.

Professional Memberships: MARQUES (Member of Well-known and Famous Trademarks Team), ECTA, INTA, Coalition Against Piracy (CAPIPEU).

Publications: Numerous articles on IP and unfair competition law.

Personal: Born 1972. University of Vienna (Mag. iur. 1996), 1995-96 Universität van Amsterdam (Amsterdam Law Certificate).

REITTER, Kurt

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Featured in Public Law (Austria)

Practice Areas: Kurt specialises in various fields of constitutional, administrative and EU law including: planning and environmental law, regulated industries (energy, telecommunications and rail), life sciences, insurance, banking and finance, gambling, compliance, data protection, infrastructure, aviation, as well as private clients.

Career: Partner, Wolf Theiss, since 2001; admitted in Austria, since 2001. Kurt started his career teaching constitutional and administrative law at the University of Vienna before gaining valuable business experience in the insurance sector with the Austrian subsidiaries of Allianz insurance.

Professional Memberships: Vienna Bar Association

Personal: University of Vienna, (Mag. iur. 1991), (Dr. iur. 1997); Yale Law School, (LL.M. 1995).

RIEGLER, Stefan

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Featured in Dispute Resolution (Austria)

Practice Areas: Stefan Riegler specialises in advising companies on commercial disputes, especially in the energy, construction and infrastructure sectors; he is also experienced in handling corporate, post-M&A and banking disputes. Stefan has acted as counsel and arbitrator under major arbitration rules, such as the ICC, VIAC, DIS and Swiss Rules, as well as in ad hoc arbitration proceedings. In addition, he advises on private enforcement issues.

Career: Partner at Wolf Theiss. Head of the firm-wide Disputes practice group.

Professional Memberships: VIAC (Board Member), ArbAUT (Vice-president), ICC Commission on Arbitration and ADR, MCIArb, LCIA, ASA, DIS.

Publications: In the field of arbitration, publications include "Austria" and "Vienna Rules" in "World Arbitration Reporter", Juris Publishing; the Austria and "Taking of Evidence" chapters in GAR's Guide to M&A Arbitration; "Die Bestellung des Schiedsgerichts" in "Schiedsverfahrensrecht", Liebscher/Oberhammer/Rechberger, Springer; "Arbitration Law of Austria: Practice and Procedure", Juris Publishing.

Personal: Vienna Bar; University of Vienna (Dr. iur.); London School of Economics and Political Science and School of International Arbitration (LL.M.).

SCHACHINGER, Wolfram

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Featured in Public Law (Austria)

Practice Areas: Public law with a particular focus on infrastructure, environmental and zoning law. Wolfram regularly advises clients on environmental issues in relation to complex infrastructure projects and assists them vis-à-vis public authorities in related regulatory procedures, some of which enjoy high public attention.

Career: Having joined Wolf Theiss in 2013, Wolfram has been a member of the bar for several years and has specialized in public law since the beginning of his legal career. **Publications:** Wolfram frequently addresses audiences on related topics and has authored numerous specialist publications and articles in the daily media.

SCHACHNER, Gerald

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Featured in Tax (Austria)

Practice Areas: Tax Audit; Tax Litigation; Corporate Tax; International Tax Planning; Corporate Reorganisations; Private Clients; Corporate M&A.

Career: Partner; admitted as Attorney in Austria since 2007; admitted as Certified Public Tax Advisor in Austria since 2004; prior Arthur Andersen; Deloitte & Touche; Herbst Vavrovsky Kinsky; Norton Rose LLP, London. **Professional Memberships:** Tax & Legal Excellence – Head of Lounge Vienna; IFA; IBA; Vienna Bar Association; Austrian Chamber of Certified Public Accountants.

SCHMELZ, Christian

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Featured in Public Law (Austria)

Practice Areas: Head partner of Regulatory practice, specialising in Environmental Law (incl. planning and permitting), Projects & Energy, Digitalisation & Technology Regulation, Life Sciences and other fields of Public Law. Christian advises not only national and international corporate clients but also municipalities, provinces, the federal administration, the Austrian Chamber of Commerce and the European Commission. **Professional Memberships:** IBA; Vienna Bar Association; Austrian Water and Waste Management Association **Publications:** Author of many books and articles on public law, especially on environmental law, energy & infrastructure **Personal:** Honorary Professor for administrative and constitutional law at the University of Vienna

SCHMID, Andreas

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Featured in Banking & Finance (Central & Eastern Europe), Banking & Finance (Austria), Restructuring/Insolvency (Austria)

See under Central & Eastern Europe for profile.

SCHMIDT, Niklas

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Featured in Tax (Austria)

Practice Areas: International Tax Law; Taxation of Financial Instruments; Tax Planning of International Groups; Private Clients; Cryptocurrencies and Blockchain Technology.

Career: Wolf Theiss, since 2000; admitted as Tax Advisor, since 2001; admitted as Attorney, since 2004; partner at Wolf Theiss, since 2004; co-chair of the IBA's Private Client Tax Committee, since 2019.

Professional Memberships: Austrian Chamber of Certified Public Accountants; Vienna Bar Association; International Fiscal Association (IFA); International Bar Association (IBA); American Bar Association (ABA); Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners (STEP).

Personal: Born 1972 in Vienna, Austria; University of Economics and Business Administration, Vienna, (Mag. rer. soc. oec. 1995); University of Vienna (Mag. iur. 1998, Dr. iur. 2000); Advanced Management Program at IESE in Barcelona and Munich (2001/2012); Postgraduate Diploma in Financial Strategy at Oxford University (2013); author of various books and articles on taxation topics; frequent lecturer at international conferences.

SCHNEIDER, Christian

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Featured in Public Law (Austria)

Practice Areas: Christian specialises in public economic, energy, telecommunication, environmental, procurement and European law (internal market, State aid). Christian has been advising and representing national and international undertakings from the energy, telecommunication and waste management industry as well as national, regional and local government institutions and associations. **Career:** Christian earned a doctor degree in law at Vienna University and in business administration at Vienna University of Economics and Business. Since 2001 he has been

attorney-at-law and since 2004 Partner and Head Public Economic Law. In 2013 he was awarded the right to teach Constitutional Law and Administrative Law and the related fields of European Law for a two volume post-doctoral thesis on the Regulatory Law in the Network Industries by Vienna University ("Habilitation").

Professional Memberships: Vienna Bar Association Austrian Commission of Jurists Association of German Tutors of Constitutional Law Austrian Association for European Law

Publications: <https://www.bpv-huegel.com/en/jurist/priv-doz-ddr-christian-f-schneider/>

Personal: 2020: Client Choice Award "Energy & Natural Resources" 2018: Lawyer of the Year for regulatory law in Austria in the Handelsblatt Ranking, in 2019 he was recommended in the four categories energy law, European law, public economic law and regulatory law. Legal 500: Leading individual in Administrative Law and Public Sector Who's Who Legal Energy, State Aid, Public Procurement

SCHNEIDER, Claus

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Featured in Banking & Finance (Austria), Capital Markets (Austria)

Practice Areas: Capital Markets; Debt and Structured Finance; Bank Regulatory Law; Corporate Transactions. A debt, hybrid and structured issues expert, Claus has worked on some of the most innovative and other first-time debt and hybrid issues in Austria. He is also a leading expert in bank regulation, advising financial institutions in Austria and CEE/SEE in relation to issues of regulatory capital.

Career: Partner, Wolf Theiss, since 2003; admitted in Austria, since 2003; Lawyer, World Bank (Washington D.C., 1998).

Professional Memberships: Vienna Bar Association; IBA.

Personal: University of Innsbruck, (Mag. iur., 1995, Dr. iur., 1999); London School of Economics, (LL.M. 1997).

SCHUMACHER, Christian

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Featured in Intellectual Property (Austria)

Practice Areas: Partner in IP group focused on intellectual property, media and unfair competition law. He regularly advises Austrian/international clients on all aspects of IP law, specifically on trademark, design, copyright and unfair competition law.

Professional Memberships: Austrian Association for the Protection of Intellectual Property and Copyright (board member), AIPPI, INTA (committee member), Marques (team member)

Publications: Editor-in-chief of main Austrian IP-specialist law journal; Co-editor of trademark commentary regularly cited by the courts (Kucsko/Schumacher, markenschutz); Author of several publications in IP field **Personal:** Admitted to Austrian Bar in 2003; University of Vienna (Dr. iur. 1999, Mag. iur. 1994); New York University (LL.M. 1998)

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Featured in Capital Markets (Austria)

Practice Areas: Please visit <https://www.bakermckenzie.com/en/people/s/segurca-banac-evamaria> to know more about our lawyers.

SELING, Andreas

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Featured in Intellectual Property (Austria)

Practice Areas: Act on Unfair Competition Intellectual Property Law (Trade Marks, Designs, Patents and Copyright) IT and e-commerce Media Law Social Media

SIEGL, Christine

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Featured in Banking & Finance (Austria)

Practice Areas: Capital Markets; Debt and Structured Finance; Bank Regulatory Law; Corporate Transactions. Christine is an expert in the financial sector with exceptional knowledge and practical experience in banking and regulatory law as well as in capital markets law. She advises a Austrian and international institutions in the financial sector on financial regulatory matters, M&A transactions, acquisitions, capital increases, IPOs and debt issuances of credit institutions and insurance companies. She worked on a number of AT 1 and Tier 2 issuances of banks in Austria and throughout the CEE region. She was one of the key legal advisors regarding bank support measures and of HETA creditors and is a leading expert in bank regulatory capital matters.

Career: Counsel, Wolf Theiss, since 2010. Before joining Wolf Theiss, Christine, inter alia, worked at Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer, Raiffeisen Bank International and the Austrian Financial Market Authority (FMA).

Professional Memberships: Vienna Bar Association

Publications: Christine is an author of the leading Austrian commentaries on BWG (Dellinger, Editor) and CRR* (Dellinger/Blume Editors), and recently published "Unabhängige Mitglieder von Aufsichtsräten bei Kreditinstituten", ZFR 2019/75.

Personal: Johannes Kepler Universität Linz (Mag.iur., 1998; Mag.rer.soc.oec., 2003); Bar Exam (with distinction, 2008)

SIMSA, Miriam

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Featured in Restructuring/Insolvency (Austria)

Practice Areas: Miriam Simsa is the managing partner at Schoenherr's Zagreb office, specialising in Insolvency & Restructuring and Banking & Finance, with a focus on restructuring driven transactions. Miriam is regularly advising on complex restructurings, re-financings and loan sales in Austria and CEE/CIS and on Austrian insolvency law. She mainly advises national and international financial institutions and investors. In 2013/14 Miriam was seconded to Slaughter and May, London, where she worked in the firm's finance group.

Personal: University of Vienna, Vienna/Austria (Mag. iur. 2008). Miriam is fluent in German and English.

SPIEGEL, Eva

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Featured in Restructuring/Insolvency (Austria)

Practice Areas: Partner specialising in insolvency law and commercial litigation. Work includes complex restructurings with a cross-border focus as well as representation of major creditors in insolvency proceedings, the protection and enforcement of creditors' rights and insolvency related litigation. Further broad experience in handling various complex commercial litigation cases, acting for national and international clients.

Career: Admitted in Austria and Partner Wolf Theiss, since 1998.

Professional Memberships: Vienna Bar Association; International Bar Association; INSOL.

Publications: Various articles and publications on insolvency law.

SPIEGELFELD, Benedikt

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Featured in Dispute Resolution (Austria)

Practice Areas: Arbitration, M&A, Corporate, Distribution Law

Career: Benedikt Spiegelfeld is at CERHA HEMPEL since 1979 and has 40 years' experience of advising international clients. He is regularly acting as chairman, sole arbitrator and co-arbitrator in numerous arbitrations throughout Europe. As an arbitrator he is mainly active in ICC proceedings, ad-hoc arbitrations and arbitrations under the Vienna Rules. As counsel he has represented various Austrian and international clients in connection with commercial disputes. Benedikt is a board member at the ITI International Theological Institute, WORTHINGTON Cylinders (Deputy Chairman) and of the Austrian Japanese Society (Vice President). **Professional Memberships:** Vienna Bar, IBA, UNION Viennese Society of Attorneys at Law, Austrian Arbitration Association, ICC Austria, ACG Austria Verein für Unternehmenswachstum, Austrian Franchise Federation, Managementclub Vienna, Austrian-Japanese Society

Publications: Domestic and international franchising, master franchising, and regulation of franchise agreements in Austria: overview (with Mag. Lukas Moser), Practical Law Global Guide, November 2018; „Fundamentals of Franchising, Europe“ / Robert A.Lauer and John Pratt, Editors, ABA Forum on Franchising, Austrian Chapter, September 2017

Personal: University of Vienna (Dr iur 1974)

STALZER, Johannes

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Featured in Public Law (Austria)

Practice Areas: Expert in public procurement law. With more than 15 years in his areas of practice in Austria/CEE, he has extensive expertise in advising governmental bodies and private sector clients in all potential issues in relation to complex procurement structures (such as PPP) and cross-border procurement procedures. Johannes works on all procurement-related aspects, particularly in structuring complex IT procurements and provides a wide coverage of services to domestic and international clients across various industries.

Career: Counsel with Schoenherr since 2013, Johannes teaches public procurement law in an MBA program of the Technical University of Vienna and leads seminars on public procurement law.

Publications: Frequently publishes articles and author in an inferential public procurement commentary

Personal: Admitted to Austrian Bar (2007); University of Vienna (Mag. iur. 2001)

STEGBAUER, Stefanie

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Featured in Competition/European Law (Austria)

Practice Areas: Stefanie Stegbauer is a counsel with Schoenherr in Vienna, where she focuses on competition law and the management of internal investigations. She advises clients in all aspects of Austrian and EU merger control and antitrust law, as well as regarding the implementation of comprehensive antitrust compliance programmes. Within Schoenherr's corporate investigations and crisis management team, Stefanie acts as the main point of contact for forensic measures and e-discovery projects.

Career: With Schoenherr since 2008, she has previously worked for an international law firm.

Publications: Author of numerous articles on European and Austrian Competition Law.

Personal: Admitted to Austrian Bar (2011); University of Vienna (Mag. iur. 2004)

STICHMANN, Elisabeth

DLA Piper Weiss-Tessbach, Vienna
Featured in Corporate/M&A (Austria)

Career: Elisabeth Stichmann advises domestic and international clients across the whole range of corporate law including regulatory advice for the market entry to Austria. She focuses on M&A, corporate commercial, strategic advice of shareholders in listed and private companies, global corporate restructuring of company groups including post-M&A integration, as well as on setting up, structuring and operating private foundations. She has in-depth knowledge of the life sciences and retail sectors and regularly advises clients on industry-specific legal matters. Furthermore, Elisabeth regularly advises the representative organs of private foundations on operational questions and professional liability aspects and represents such clients in court. Elisabeth also held positions in the management boards of several Austrian private foundations. Another core aspect of her advisory work includes supporting corporations on aspects of corporate management and compliance.

STRASSER, Philipp

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Featured in Dispute Resolution (Austria)

Practice Areas: Philipp Strasser enjoys an impeccable reputation as one of the leading insurance litigators in Austria. His expertise covers every conceivable area of insurance law including reinsurance, corporate liability issues, product and public liability and property insurance. His breadth of niche expertise in specialist insurance areas such as professional liability, errors and omissions (E&O) and director and officer (D&O) is rarely found in Austria. Apart from insurance, Philipp is recognized for his expertise in contract and tort disputes, as well as post-M&A, restructuring and shareholder disputes. Through his work, Philipp has been shaping the Austrian insurance law landscape and he continues to leave his imprint through the

high-profile cases he is put in charge of by some of the largest insurers in the world.

Career: Partner at Vavrovsky Heine Marth Rechtsanwälte (since 2017); Attorney at Law at GLTP – Gassner Lenz Thewanger + Partner (2013 – 2014); Attorney at Law at Herbst Kinsky Rechtsanwälte (2008 – 2013)

Professional Memberships: Austrian Bar Association; Austrian Arbitration Association (Arb|Aut); The Insurance and Reinsurance Arbitration Society (ARIAS) **Publications:** Regular publications on dispute resolution, insurance and reinsurance topics.

Personal: University of Innsbruck (Mag. iur., 2003)

TEMMELE, Christian

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Featured in Capital Markets (Austria)

Career: Christian Temmel has extensive experience in corporate, capital markets and securities law, with a special focus on capital markets transactions (debt and equity), M&A transactions and corporate restructurings. He regularly advises clients on both a national and an international basis. Christian heads the capital markets and public M&A practice as part of the Corporate practice in Austria.

THEISS, Andreas

Wolf Theiss, Vienna
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Featured in Dispute Resolution (Austria)

Practice Areas: Bankings; Litigation; Insurance; Private Clients; White Collar Crime.

Career: Partner, Wolf Theiss, since 1977; admitted in Austria, since 1977.

Professional Memberships: Vienna Bar Association; Executive Committee of the Vienna Bar Association, 1986–1990; International Bar Association; SBL. Member of the board of the 'TUW Foundation' – a charitable foundation supporting the Technical University of Vienna. Involvement in the TUW Foundation's 'digitalisation and society' project to set up an institute to research the question 'Does technology drive people, or is it rather people driving technology?' **Personal:** Born 1946 in Gmunden, Austria; University of Vienna, (Dr. iur. 1971).

TLAPAK, Nino

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Featured in TMT (Austria)

Practice Areas: Data Protection IT-Law and e-commerce Intellectual Property Law (Trade Marks, Designs, Patents and Copyright) Media Law Unfair Competition Social Media

Career: Nino Tlapak joined DORDA's IT/IP team in 2012. Since 2017, he has been admitted to the Austrian Bar. He is specialised in IT and IP law and his main areas of practice include data protection, cyber security, outsourcing and e-commerce. In addition, Nino regularly lectures at the University of Vienna, the Danube University Krems, Pharmig Academy, the Austrian "IT Law Day", ARS, IIR, at Wi-Fi, and at inhouse workshops for clients. He is also the author of numerous specialist publications.

TRAUGOTT, Andreas

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Featured in Competition/European Law (Austria)

Practice Areas: Please visit <https://www.bakermckenzie.com/en/people/t/traugott-andreas> to know more about our lawyers.

TRAUTTENBERG, Clemens

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Featured in White-Collar Crime (Austria), Dispute Resolution (Austria)

Practice Areas: Commercial Litigation; White Collar Criminal Defence & Investigations; Crisis Management; Financial Markets Litigation; Securities Litigation; Complex Corporate Investigations; Insurance Coverage Disputes; Shareholder Disputes; Investor Protection; Distribution Law. Clemens typically works on highly sensitive matters which often pose substantial threats to the overall existence of clients or cover a significant part of the client's business.

Career: Partner, Wolf Theiss, since 2010; admitted in Austria, since 2007.

Professional Memberships: Vienna Bar Association; Austrian Franchise Association; Executive M.B.L.-HSG Alumni-Vereinigung.

Personal: Born 1973 in Linz, Austria; University of Salzburg, (Mag. iur. 2001), (Dr. iur. 2002); University of St. Gallen (M.B.L.-HSG 2004).

TRETNAK, Thomas

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Featured in Corporate/M&A (Austria), Restructuring/Insolvency (Austria)

Practice Areas: M&A, Private Equity and Venture Capital, Corporate, Insolvency and Restructuring

Career: Thomas is Partner at CERHA HEMPEL since 2010 and with the law firm since 2004. He is Head of CEE Insolvency & Restructuring Practice, concentrating in mergers and acquisitions and corporate reorganizations with a special focus on insolvency & restructuring, as well as venture capital and private equity mandates. Thomas is particularly renowned for cross-border transactions, often for Anglo-Saxon clients in view of his admission to the New York Bar. He has worked in-house in M&A for a listed construction company. Thomas is a guest lecturer in Mergers & Acquisitions at the Vienna University of Economics and Business.

Professional Memberships: Vienna Bar, New York Bar, American Bar, Young Entrepreneurs Vienna

Publications: Wann machen W&I-Versicherungen Sinn? JUVÉ Handbuch Österreich 2018/2019; Austria: The Restructuring Review 2019, Edition 12; Austria: Bankruptcy & Restructuring, Annual Review 2019, Interview, Financier Worldwide

Personal: Secondment at STRABAG SE, Capital Markets & M&A, Compliance Officer (2007/2008); University of Graz (Mag. iur. 1999, Dr. iur. 2003); Goldberg, Gelman & Harnik, New York (2002); Kellogg School of Management, Master's Degree in Business Administration (2001); Cremades & Sánchez Pintado, Madrid (1999); Northwestern University School of Law (LL.M. 2001); Universidad de Alcalá, Madrid (1998-1999);

TRIEB, Gerald

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Featured in TMT (Austria)

Practice Areas: Gerald's working focuses are Data Protection Law, IT, Telecommunications, E-Commerce Law, Collective Employment Law and Contract Law. He advises companies/groups e.g. from the manufacturing industry, electricity, health care, debt collection, automobiles and parts, pharmaceuticals, software and computer services, technology, hardware and electronics, telecommunications and utilities as well as the financial services sector; has accompanied numerous large compliance projects including drafting and negotiating agreements with providers and company agreements. He has also developed our own online platform for the establishment and maintenance of the records of processing activities and compliance with other obligations of the GDPR. Gerald also advises clients with (potential) data breaches and procedures with the Austrian DPA. Gerald regularly publishes articles in his field and is a much-sought speaker for privacy law.

Career: Please visit: <https://www.kt.at/en/the-team/>

Professional Memberships: Gerald is a certified EuroPriSe expert and holder of the CIPP/E and CIPT certificates (IAPP).

Publications: Gerald is co-editor of the largest Austrian commentary of the GDPR. For a detailed list of publications please visit www.kt.at.

Personal: Gerald's commitment to clients is outstanding and his attitude to Data Protection and IT-Law may best be described with a "Passion for Privacy". Working with Gerald is a guarantee for high-level and precise customer-oriented results.

TWARDOSZ, Benjamin

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Featured in Tax (Austria)

Practice Areas: International Tax Law and Planning, Corporate Reorganizations, Tax Litigation, Criminal Tax Law, Private Clients & Trusts

Career: Benjamin is Partner at CERHA HEMPEL since 2018. He is one of the most renowned experts for tax litigation and stamp duty in Austria and he has worked at the Austrian Supreme Administrative Court (2004-2006). Benjamin specialises in corporate tax law, international tax law, tax litigation, fiscal criminal law, real estate taxation and real estate transfer tax, stamp duty and wage related taxes. He has industry expertise within the real estate sector, the gaming industry, Brazilian clients and private equity funds.

Professional Memberships: Vienna Bar; IBA; IFA; International Tax Law Alumni Association; German Fiscal Association (Dt-StJG); Member of the Scientific Committee of the Chamber of Public Tax Advisors and Auditors

Publications: Handbook Voluntary Self-Disclosure, Co-Editor and Co-Author (2019); Handbook Appeals to the Supreme Administrative Court, 4th edition (2018); Commentary on the Stamp Duty Act, 6th edition (2015); Commentary on the Fiscal Criminal Act, Co-Editor and Co-Author (since 2014); Taxation of Interest (2007); and over 70 contributions and articles.

Personal: Vienna University of Economics and Business (Mag.rer.soc.oec., 2002, LL.M. 2004); University of Vienna (Mag. iur. 2003, Dr. iur. 2006); Admitted as Certified Public Tax Advisor since 2005

UNTERRIEDER, Matthias

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Featured in Employment (Austria)

Practice Areas: Matthias is a partner in the Vienna employment team. He is a specialist for labour and employment law with nearly 20 years of experience. In addition to his involvement in many significant employment matters in Austria, Matthias has extensive expertise in multinational projects involving Austria and countries in the CEE/SEE region, cross-border staff assignment, reorganizations and management contracts and litigation with managers.

Publications: Matthias is a regular lecturer on all employment law topics and regularly publishes on recent developments in labour and employment law in Austria and CEE/SEE countries.

URLESBERGER, Franz

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Featured in Competition/European Law (Austria)

Practice Areas: Partner, heading the EU & competition practice, focusing on all aspects of European and Austrian competition law and on multi-national competition law matters in CEE. Franz advises clients in a wide range of industries, including paper and packaging, pharmaceuticals, energy, oil and media. He is engaged in public and private litigation, merger control work, out of court advice and implementing comprehensive anti-trust compliance programmes.

Publications: Co-publisher/author of a comprehensive commentary on the Austrian Cartel Act (2016, 2nd Edition)

Personal: Admitted to Austrian Bar in 2003; University of Salzburg, (Dr. iur. 2000, Mag. iur. 1997); London School of Economics (LL.M. 1998/99)

URTZ, Christoph

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Featured in Tax (Austria)

Practice Areas: Please visit <https://www.bakermckenzie.com/en/people/u/urtz-christoph> to know more about our lawyers.

VARGA, Tibor

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Featured in Banking & Finance (Austria), Capital Markets (Austria)

Practice Areas: Banking and Finance Capital Markets Corporate Finance

Career: Tibor Varga's practice focuses on corporate finance, banking and capital markets. His professional focus includes loan restructuring, acquisition finance, syndicated loans, project finance, structured finance, equity and debt capital markets transactions, corporate restructuring, acquisitions primarily for private equity. Tibor Varga graduated from the University of Vienna (Mag iur 1992 and Dr iur 1998). He initially worked auditing banks as an associate for a big-four accounting firm. He joined DORDA in 1996 and has become a partner in 1999. He is

the author of several expert publications on banking, corporate and tax law; presentations at specialised seminars and conferences. He is a member of the IBA and the Austrian Industry Association.

VAVROVSKY, Karl Ludwig

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Featured in Restructuring/Insolvency (Austria)

Practice Areas: Karl Ludwig Vavrovsky is a founding partner at Vavrovsky Heine Marth Rechtsanwälte and head of the firm's Salzburg office. As an expert in the fields of corporate recovery, restructuring and insolvency, he acted as counsel in the major recovery, restructuring and insolvency cases of Austria's recent economic history. Karl Ludwig Vavrovsky further specializes in advising private clients, especially in asset structuring and business succession. He also focuses on real estate law and civil litigation. Moreover, the renowned lawyer advises clients on white-collar crime issues.

Career: Partner at Vavrovsky Heine Marth Rechtsanwälte (since 2014); Partner at PHHV Prochaska Heine Havranek Vavrovsky Rechtsanwälte (2012 – 2014); Partner at Herbst Vavrovsky Kinsky Rechtsanwälte (2005 – 2012); Partner at Vavrovsky Rechtsanwälte (2002 – 2005); Partner at Vavrovsky Stöger Rechtsanwälte (1990 – 1995); Partner at Ramsauer Vavrovsky Rechtsanwälte (1974 – 1990)

Professional Memberships: Salzburg Bar Association; University Council, Mozarteum University Salzburg (Chairman); Herbert von Karajan Foundation Salzburg Easter Festival (Chairman); Supervisory Board of Osterfestspiele Salzburg GmbH (Vice Chairman); Supervisory Board of Salzburg Wohnbau GmbH (Chairman); Supervisory Board of ÖSW Wohnbauvereinigung Gemeinnützige Gesellschaft m.b.H. (Chairman); Honorary President of the Salzburg Bar Association (since 2001); President of the Salzburg Bar Association (1992–2001)

Personal: University of Salzburg, Austria (Dr. iur., 1969)

VAVROVSKY, Nikolaus

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Featured in Dispute Resolution (Austria)

Practice Areas: Nikolaus Vavrovsky is managing partner at Vavrovsky Heine Marth Rechtsanwälte in Vienna where he heads the firm's arbitration practice. He specializes in international dispute resolution, with a particular focus on real estate as well as corporate and finance matters. Nikolaus is a highly experienced counsel in international arbitration proceedings in accordance with the rules of leading arbitral institutions (ICC, VIAC, HKIAC, DIS and others). In addition, he is an accomplished advisor in proceedings conducted under the ICSID and UNCITRAL Rules. Nikolaus is frequently appointed as (sole) arbitrator or tribunal chair in high-stakes international arbitration proceedings. He serves as chairman of the board of the Swiss Arbitration Academy Alumni Association and regularly publishes and lectures in his fields of expertise. In addition to his specialization in dispute resolution and international arbitration, Nikolaus is highly experienced in real estate and construction law with a particular focus on corporate and

finance issues as well as contract and claim management.

Career: Partner since 2002

Professional Memberships: ArbAut; DIS; LIS; ASA; LCIA; Swiss Arbitration Academy Alumni Association (Chairman of the Board); Vienna Bar Association

WEBER, Stefan

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Featured in Capital Markets (Austria)

Practice Areas: Corporate Finance, M&A, Banking, Capital Markets, Arbitration

Career: University of Vienna (Dr iur, 1982); Harvard Law School (LLM, 1985); admitted in Austria since 1991; Austrian Constitutional Court (1985-88); Oesterreichische Kontrollbank AG, legal consultant (since 1991); The Johns Hopkins University, SAIS, Washington DC, USA, Visiting Professor (1992-93); University of Saarland, Institute of European Studies, Germany (Professor of international business and finance law, 2003).

Professional Memberships: Vienna Bar, IBA, DIS, ICC

Personal: Stefan Weber advises national and international clients on corporate finance, capital markets law (equity and debt), banking regulatory matters, mergers and acquisitions as well as arbitration cases.

WELSER, Irene

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Featured in Dispute Resolution (Austria)

Practice Areas: Litigation & Arbitration, D&O Liability, Warranty and Liability Law, Shareholder Disputes, Post M&A Disputes.

Career: Irene Welsch became a Partner at CERHA HEMPEL before she turned 30. She heads the Contentious Business Department of the firm, with a team of approximately 20 lawyers. She has been practising law for more than 25 years and is also a former managing partner of the firm. Irene is a passionate litigator and arbitrator and advises domestic and international clients on commercial and civil law. She has a strong academic background and in 2003 she was appointed the youngest ever Honorary Professor (of Private Law) at the University of Vienna. Irene became the first female board member of the Vienna International Arbitral Centre. She is also a LEX MUNDI Global Chair Emeritus Litigation Arbitration Dispute Resolution and a member of numerous other advisory boards. Irene regularly lectures and speaks at international conferences and seminars around the world.

Professional Memberships: Vienna Bar; IBA; ArbAut; ASA; LCIA; CELA; Arbitral Women; Wiener Advokaten-gesellschaft UNION

Publications: Warranties in contracts on works and services (author); Austrian Yearbook on International Arbitration 2007-2020 (co-editor and author); some 100 further publications.

Personal: University of Vienna (Mag. iur. 1986, Dr. iur. 1988); Hon. – Prof. 2003

WINKLER, Oskar

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Featured in Real Estate (Austria)

Career: Oskar Winkler's practice covers all aspects of finance law, real estate law and corporate law including restructuring. He

advises clients on all questions of corporate transactions including asset and share transactions, operating real estate and on all types of real estate transactions, on the financing of real estate and infrastructure projects and transactions as well as on restructuring matters. Oskar has been involved in numerous national and international corporate and real estate transactions in Austria and across Central and Eastern Europe. Furthermore, he is a specialist in Austrian mining law advising his clients in all mining related legal and administrative matters. In addition, he has substantial experience in insurance law, including insurance supervisory law, and reinsurance. He also advises insurance companies on M&A transactions and represents clients in court in all insurance related disputes. Oskar heads the Finance & Projects practice in Vienna.

WITTMANN, Kornelia

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Featured in Tax (Austria)

Practice Areas: Tax Litigation; Tax Audit; Financial Criminal Law; Corporate Tax; International Tax Planning; Private Clients.

Career: Partner; admitted as attorney in Austria since 2011, in Germany since 2009; admitted as Certified Public Tax Advisor in Austria since 2012; Hungarian Tax Advisor since 2011; prior PwC.

Professional Memberships: Austrian Bar Association; Austrian Chamber of Certified Tax Advisors and Public Accountants.

Publications: Kornelia is author of numerous articles; she is lecturer at the University of Applied Sciences for Management (FH Wien der WKW).

Personal: University of Passau (2006 Diplom-Juristin Univ.); University Széchenyi István in Hungary (2007 Dr. jur.); 2008 Mediator (CVM Munich) – focus on business mediation; University of Passau: Diploma Study Business Administration (2010 Dipl.-Kffr. Univ.); Academy of the Chamber of Certified Tax Advisors and Public Accountants and Tax Advisers: Course Financial Criminal Law (2011 Certified expert in financial criminal law); Vienna University of Economics and Business (2013 LL.M. International Tax Law).

WOLF, Richard

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Featured in Banking & Finance (Austria)

Practice Areas: Equity Capital Markets; Financial Regulatory; Mergers and Acquisitions; Banking and Finance.

Career: Partner, Wolf Theiss, since 1994; admitted in Austria, since 1991. Prior to joining Wolf Theiss, Richard worked in the investment banking departments of Chase Manhattan Bank and Crédit Lyonnais in Vienna. He gained valuable cross-border transactional experience while working at international law firms in Vienna and Brussels, and at DG VI (Competition) of the European Commission.

Professional Memberships: Vienna Bar Association; International Bar Association; SBL.

Personal: Born 1962 in Paris, France; University of Vienna, (Dr. iur. 1985); Harvard Law School, (LL.M. 1986).

WOLLER, Michael

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Featured in Intellectual Property (Austria)

Practice Areas: Partner and co-head of the Schoenherr IP practice, with particular focus on patents, trademark portfolio management and unfair competition/advertising law.

Career: Lectures IP at University of Vienna (since 2016) and Danube University Krems (since 2013).

Professional Memberships: INTA, ITechLaw, Judicial Board of the Austrian Association of the Branded Goods Industry.

Publications: Co-Author of the practice handbook "Cloud Computing" (2019); Author of the IP arbitration and domain disputes section in the arbitration handbook "Handbuch Schiedsrecht" (Czernich/Deixler-Hübner/Schauer, 2018); Author of the section on database protection in the copyright commentary "urheber.recht" (2nd edition – Kucsko/Handig, 2017); Co-author of the section on trademark oppositions in the trademark commentary "marken.schutz" (2nd edition – Kucsko/Schumacher, 2013) and various publications and case comments on IP, domain names and unfair competition and procedural law in law journals.

Personal: Admitted to the Austrian bar in 2011;

WOLLMANN, Hanno

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Featured in Competition/European Law (Austria)

Practice Areas: Partner; Established the firm's EU and competition practice group; Hanno's practice focuses on European and Austrian competition law in various industries, including energy, environment, insurance, banking and finance, media, transport, health services and consumer goods.

Publications: Member of the Advisory Board of Wirtschaft und Wettbewerb; co-editor of ecolex; author of numerous books/articles on Austrian and European Competition Law, EC Law, Sector Deregulation (Telecom, Energy) and distribution matters

Personal: Admitted to Austrian Bar (1995); University of Exeter (LL.M. 1992); Vienna University of Economics (Mag. rer. soc. oec. 1991); University of Vienna (Dr. iur. 1991); King's College (MA in Economics for Competition Law 2013)

WONG, Venus Valentina

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Featured in Dispute Resolution (Austria)

Practice Areas: Valentina specialises in international arbitration. She has acted as counsel, arbitrator and administrative secretary in over 65 arbitration and other ADR cases under major arbitration rules, including ICC, LCIA, VIAC, DIS, Swiss Rules, CCIR, CAS and UNCITRAL. She has experience with parties from CEE/SEE, Turkey as well as from China and Hong Kong.

Career: Before joining Wolf Theiss Valentina worked for boutique law firms and interned at the ICC International Court of Arbitration in Paris and at CIETAC in Beijing.

Personal: Valentina studied in Vienna, Amsterdam and Taipei; obtaining degrees in law (Mag.iur., Dr.iur.) and sinology (Bakk.phil.)

ZAHRADNIK, Andreas

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Featured in Banking & Finance (Austria)

Practice Areas: Banking and Capital Markets Law Corporate Law Mergers and Acquisitions Corporate Restructurings (Insolvencies) Compliance

Career: After completing his law studies at the University of Vienna in 1991 he worked as assistant lecturer at the Institute of Public and Administrative Law at the University of Vienna. He joined DORDA after his practical court experience. Since 1996 he is a partner of DORDA. He is an expert in banking and capital markets law, M&A and restructuring (in particular relating to financial institutions) as well as corporate law and compliance. He mainly advises domestic and international banks, investment firms, private equity, venture capital, investment and hedge funds. Andreas Zahradnik is the author of books on financial services and EC-law and numerous articles on banking, capital markets and EC-law. He lectured on banking and capital markets law at the University of Vienna and also holds seminars on his specialized areas of practice.

Professional Memberships: Member of IBA and AVCO's Tax and Legal Committee

ZIVNY, Thomas

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Featured in Banking & Finance (Austria), Capital Markets (Austria)

Practice Areas: Capital Markets, Project Finance, Healthcare, Corporate

Career: Thomas Zivny joined CERHA HEMPEL in 2000 and is a partner since 2008. He is primarily active in the field of capital markets, project finance, healthcare and corporate law. His team advises banks in connection with project financing in the countries of Central and South-Eastern Europe, focussing in particular on real estate financing. The spectrum ranges from financing and restructuring to disposals and covers the entire life cycle of the real estate. In the field of debt capital markets, Thomas advises issuers of corporate bonds as well as bank issuance programmes.

Professional Memberships: Vienna Bar, IBA

Publications: Gegen Geldwäscherei und Terrorismusfinanzierung, Wiener Zeitung, 21.11.2019 (with Katharina Wilding); "Auf den Kopf gestellt", Der Standard, Wirtschaft & Recht, 18.10.2018 (with Katharina Wilding); Commentary on the Austrian Capital Markets Act (Kapitalmarktgesetz), 2nd Edition (2016)

Personal: University of Vienna (Mag iur 1997, Dr iur 2001); Harvard Law School (LL.M 1999); University of Sheffield, England (1997)

ZWITTER-TEHOVNIK, Jasna

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Featured in Banking & Finance (Central & Eastern Europe), Banking & Finance (Austria)

See under Central & Eastern Europe for profile.

AIGNER LEHNER ZUSCHIN + PARTNER RECHTSANWÄLTE

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Managing Partners: Dr. Johannes Lehner; Dr. Georg Zuschin, MBA; Mag. Roman Taudes, LL.M.

Senior Partner: Mag. Lukas Aigner

Number of Partners: 4 Number of Lawyers: 4

Languages: German, English, French, Spanish, Italian

Firm Overview:

Based in Vienna and Linz, Austria, with two head offices and two additional regional offices, Aigner Lehner Zuschin + Partner Rechtsanwälte serve clients throughout Austria and specialise in the areas of investor protection law, capital markets, banking & finance, insurance and litigation, real estate, construction law, real estate litigation and real estate dispute resolution. Aigner Lehner Zuschin + Partner Rechtsanwälte are proven specialists with market-leading expertise, which enables the team to understand their clients' concerns with a detailed industry perspective and to develop clear and efficient solutions for even the most complex problems. An international network enables tailored solutions for cross-border cases and transactions.

Main Areas of Practice:

Investor Protection Law:

Aigner Lehner Zuschin + Partner Rechtsanwälte are well known as a team of specialists who handle complex litigation, especially investor lawsuits. Aigner Lehner Zuschin + Partner Rechtsanwälte represent institutional as well as private investors including communities and state-affiliated companies. The law firm's special expertise comes from the combination of knowledge being derived from the financial markets industry, along with a strong international network of experts and financial engineers.

Large-Volume Civil Disputes:

With a strong academic background, Aigner Lehner Zuschin + Partner Rechtsanwälte are highly recognised for their outstanding legal due diligence within the scope of developing enforceable claims.

As an example, Aigner Lehner Zuschin + Partner Rechtsanwälte lead the litigation between the City of Linz and BAWAG PSK. The lawsuit is one of the largest ever brought before an Austrian Court with a dispute amount of EUR 640 million; Ever since the lawsuit was filed with the court, the case has been strongly covered by Austrian as well as international media.

Furthermore, Aigner Lehner Zuschin + Partner Rechtsanwälte are assigned by CA Immobilien Anlagen AG to enforce civil claims in context of the bid process around the 2004 privatisation of state run undertakings (BUWOG flats) worth EUR 960 million. Aigner Lehner Zuschin + Partner Rechtsanwälte also represent CA Immobilien Anlagen AG as a victim in the ongoing criminal proceeding against former Austrian Minister of Finance Karl-Heinz Grasser, among other defendants.

Real Estate:

Aigner Lehner Zuschin + Partner Rechtsanwälte has established a state-of-the-art boutique law firm which is now, within a short period of time, well known throughout Austria. Due to the special expertise of Dr. Johannes Lehner, the real estate law and real estate dispute resolution department has significantly widened the legal focus of the law firm.

The real estate team around Dr. Johannes Lehner advises on the full range of real estate-related issues and is experienced in handling all stages of real estate transactions, both share and asset deals. The main focus is on large-volume share deals, including deals with cross-border implications, for individuals as well.

PRACTICE AREAS

Litigation & Dispute Resolution
Real Estate
Corporate Law
Capital Market
Securities Law

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Another main practice area is in advising property developers. This means that Aigner Lehner Zuschin + Partner Rechtsanwälte are often involved in the reclassification of land - from rural land into land zoned for urbanisation, and the subsequent acting as trustees while rolling out developers' contracts. Additionally, the law firm has a bright reputation for civil disputes in real estate law.

AIGNER | LEHNER | ZUSCHIN

+PARTNER Rechtsanwälte

ANWÄLTE BURGER UND PARTNER

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Managing Partner: Dr. Hannes Burger

Number of partners: 3 Number of lawyers: 14

Languages: Dutch, English, French, German, Italian, Slovakian, Spanish

Firm Overview:

The head office of ABP in Windischgarsten, Austria, the home town of Managing Partner Dr. Hannes Burger, was founded in 2008. In recent years, ABP has opened further offices to cover the whole German-speaking market. The branch office in Vienna is headed by cooperating partner Sabine Mahringer, Austrian Attorney-at-Law. Through its Munich office headed by Partner Dr. Katarina Casals Ide, ABP can more directly interact with the European Patent Office so as to handle clients' issues personally and faster. A further office is located in Zurich, Switzerland. This constellation of offices is absolutely unique – there is no other IP law firm in Austria that can demonstrate such structure.

Since its foundation, ABP's main area of practice has been intellectual property. The firm consists of a large, synchronized and experienced team of Attorneys-at-Law, cooperating Patent Attorneys, searchers and technical engineers (in total more than 50 employees). The team is highly motivated and communicates by means of state-of-the-art media. One major goal of ABP is the synchronisation of know-how and experience among our practitioners in Austria, Germany and Switzerland. In regular meetings, the practitioners discuss recent case law and developments in the legal systems. This gives the team a deep insight into the different systems and enables ABP to provide comprehensive counselling for each client.

Main Areas of Practice:

Intellectual Property:

ABP offers the complete range of legal services with respect to patents, trademarks, registered designs, internet domains, IP contracts and agreements, IP disputes/conflict resolution and intellectual property searches. Companies all over the world benefit from the concentration of ABP's know-how in the special field of intellectual property, regardless of whether matters in the USA, Europe, Russia or Asia are concerned.

Managing Partner Dr. Hannes Burger, who is an Austrian Attorney-at-Law and a European Attorney-at-Law admitted to the Munich Bar Association, has been specialized in intellectual property rights for many years and advises and represents clients in IP related prosecution and litigation matters nationally and internationally. He has experience in IP-related negotiations (e.g. contract negotiations) not only in Europe, but also in Asia and in the US. His special focus is on national and international patent law as well as related legal and technical disputes.

Partner since foundation of ABP Dr. Clemens Ofner, Austrian Attorney-at-Law and European Attorney-at-Law admitted to the Munich Bar Association, has been specialised in intellectual property rights for many years, too. He also advises and represents clients in IP related prosecution and litigation matters nationally and internationally. His special focus is on Austrian, European and international trademark, design, copyright, domain and competition law, IP contracts and the monitoring of IP rights.

Partner Dr. Katarina Casals Ide, Austrian Attorney-at-Law and European Attorney-at-Law admitted to the Munich Bar Association, has a special focus on Austrian, European and international patent, trademark, design and competition law, IP-related contracts, particularly in the fields of IP and know-how transfer, research and development, confidentiality and licensing as well as prosecution and enforcement in Asian countries in close cooperation with local partners.

PRACTICE AREAS

Intellectual Property:
-Patent & Trademark Prosecution
-Licensing & Technology Transfer
-Patent Litigation
-Employee Inventions
-Oppositions & Nullity
-Due Diligence

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INTERNATIONAL OFFICES

GERMANY

MUNICH: ABP Burger Rechtsanwalts-gesellschaft

mbH, Herzog-Wilhelm-Straße 17, 80331 München

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Email: kanzlei@abp-ip.de

SWITZERLAND

ZÜRICH: ABP Patent Network AG

Othmarstrasse 8, 8008 Zürich

Tel: +41 44 552 40 70 Fax +41 44 552 40 74

Email: patent@abp-patentnet.ch

Key Clients: The client base of ABP Attorneys Burger and Partner is a longstanding and strong one, with very interesting and large prosecution projects. Almost all clients are internationally operating companies from the industrial sector (many of them are well-known and global players in their respective sectors) with revenues in the hundreds of millions of Euros.

Contacts: Dr Hannes Burger, Dr Clemens Ofner, Dr Katarina Casals Ide

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Anwälte Burger und Partner

We protect success!

BARNERT EGERMANN ILLIGASCH

www.beira.at **tel:** +43 1 513 80 08 0 **fax:** +43 1 513 80 08 40

Number of partners: 4 Number of lawyers: 15

Languages: *English, German*

Firm Overview:

BARNERT EGERMANN ILLIGASCH is a full-service Austrian law firm with specific strengths in corporate/M&A, banking and finance, competition law and employment law. BARNERT EGERMANN ILLIGASCH was founded in 2004. Since then, the lawyers of the firm have grown a substantial and diversified client base and have made their name in the legal and business communities, being consistently ranked in the highest tiers in the fields they are active in.

Main Areas of Practice:

Banking & Finance:

- Counsel to an Austrian utility as borrower with regard to a € 715 million syndicated guarantee facility for an international environmental project and a € 400 million syndicated revolving facility
- Counsel to three Austrian banks as mandated lead arrangers with regard to a € 200 million club facility for an Austrian gambling group
- Counsel to two of the largest Austrian banks as mandated lead arrangers with regard to a € 225 million club facility for an Austrian aerospace solutions provider
- Counsel to an Austrian utility holding with regard to a € 70 million EIB loan
- Advising a financial and strategic investment company in their ongoing derivatives activities under GMRA, GMLS and ISDA Master Agreements with major international investment banks (e.g., Citi, Credit Suisse, Deutsche Bank and Natixis)

Contact: Alexander Illigasch

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Corporate/M&A:

- Counsel to the largest European media group with regard to the sale of Austria's largest magazine publishing group
- Counsel to all sellers with regard to a \$ 485 million sale of a life science company to a global health-care company
- Counsel to the largest shareholder of one of Austria's major publicly listed real estate companies with regard to the sale of the entire shareholding
- Counsel to the Austrian motorway infrastructure and financing company, Austrian Federal Railways, Austrian Automobile Club, several public transport operators and other parties with regard to a joint venture regarding the Austrian-wide electronic traffic routing system
- Counsel to various utilities in M&A transactions with regard to a total of > € 10 billion

Key Clients: EVN, Wien Energie, Bertelsmann/Grüner + Jahr, ASFINAG

Contact: Michael Barnert

Tel: +43 1 513 80 08-52

Email: barnert@beira.at

Competition/European Law:

- Representation of an international freight forwarding group in cartel proceedings before the Austrian Cartel Court and the European Court of Justice (Case C-681/11, Schenker)
- Various merger control proceedings, including a reference to the European Court of Justice (Case C-248/16, Austria Asphalt), for one of Austria's largest construction companies
- Austrian counsel to a hotel booking platform in the pan-European investigations into parity clauses used in contracts with accommodations. Advising companies in several industries (e.g., logistics, construction, food & beverages) on competition compliance issues
- Representation of an art house cinema in civil proceedings brought by a competitor regarding allegedly illegal state aid

Key Clients: PORR, Gebrüder Weiss

Contact: Isabella Hartung

Tel: +43 1 513 80 08-56

Email: hartung@beira.at

Dispute Resolution:

- Counsel to a media group with regard to a multi-party ad hoc arbitration
- Counsel to a media group in an ICC arbitration
- Counsel in various DIS arbitrations relating to corporate disputes

Contact: Clemens Egermann / Michael Barnert

Tel: +43 1 513 80 08-52

Email: egermann@beira.at / barnert@beira.at

Employment:

- Continual representation before civil courts and advice to renowned national and international businesses, including Kromberg & Schubert, EVN, Rittal and Gebrüder Weiss, in all areas of employment law
- Structuring of group-wide company benefits, compensation systems and reward programs (executive and non-executive)
- Advice on mobility strategies and assisting with employee assignments as well as domestic and cross-border transfer of employees
- Advice in cross-border M&A transactions, including downsizing and remuneration changes

Key Clients: Kromberg & Schubert, EVN, Rittal

Contact: Clemens Egermann

Tel: +43 1 513 80 08-54

Email: egermann@beira.at

PRACTICE AREAS

Banking & Finance
 Capital Markets
 Competition/European Law
 Corporate/M&A
 Dispute Resolution
 Employment
 Energy
 New Technology
 Real Estate
 Restructuring/Insolvency

OFFICES

AUSTRIA

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BINDER GRÖSSWANG

www.bindergrösswang.at tel: +43 1 534 80 fax: +43 1 534 80 8

Managing Partners: Michael Kutschera, Thomas Schirmer

Number of partners: 22 Number of lawyers: 93

Languages: Croatian, Czech, English, French, German, Italian, Russian, Slovak, Spanish

Firm Overview:

Binder Grösswang's successful strategy is based on outstanding professional expertise combined with a team-work approach. More than 90 highly specialised professionals work together in teams to give the firm's clients outstanding support. The firm has gained an excellent reputation for its sophisticated and business-oriented approach and individually tailored solutions. Its legal experts are widely connected and rank amongst the best in their various practice areas.

The firm has ranked among Austria's leading law firms for over 50 years. Today it is one of the largest law firms in Austria and advises major Austrian and international corporations and financial institutions. Binder Grösswang strives to meet market expectations by identifying tomorrow's legal challenges, working with optimum efficiency and offering competitive prices, without compromising highest quality and full loyalty.

Main Areas of Practice:

Banking & Finance:

Lending, acquisition finance, structured finance, real estate, project and asset finance, securitisation, cash pooling, restructuring and insolvency, derivatives, bank and financial services regulation, investment funds.

Key Contacts: Michael Binder, Tibor Fabian, Stephan Heckenthaler, Stefan Tiefenthaler, Emanuel Welten

Capital Markets:

IPOs, SPOs, corporate bonds, debt issuance programmes, other equity and debt issuances, general meetings, boardroom advice, issuers' corporate governance and compliance, disclosure, public takeovers

Key Contacts: Tibor Fabian, Florian Khol

Competition:

Merger clearance, abuse of market power, damage recovery and defence, cooperation agreements, distribution agreements, compliance, state aid, public procurement (Austrian and EU law).

Key Contacts: Johannes Barbist, Christine Dietz, Raoul Hoffer

Corporate/M&A:

National and cross-border share and asset deals, auctions, reorganisations corporate housekeeping, proxy contests, boardroom advice, private trusts, venture capital, leveraged and management buy-outs, privatisations, distressed M&A and reorganisations, joint ventures, voting agreements.

Key Contacts: Michael Binder, Gottfried Gassner, Andreas Hable, Andreas Hable, Florian Khol, Michael Kutschera, Ivo Rungg, Thomas Schirmer, Bernd Schneiderbauer

Dispute Resolution:

Domestic and international litigation and arbitration, recovery of assets and other enforcement, alternative dispute resolution, forensic investigations.

Key Contacts: Stefan Albiez, Johannes Barbist, Ingeborg Edel, Christian Klausegger, Michael Kutschera

Employment Law:

Employment and executive contracts, national and international restructurings, relocations, reductions and transfers of workforce, business closures, employment litigation, constitutional labour law, unions and works councils, data protection law

Key Contacts: Horst Lukanec, Angelika Pallwein-Prettnner

Insolvency & Restructurings:

Out-of-court restructurings and insolvency proceedings, reorganisations and enforcement of security interests, cross-border insolvencies, capital maintenance, non-performing loan portfolios.

Key Contacts: Gottfried Gassner, Emanuel Welten

Private Clients & Entrepreneurs:

Succession, foundations, investments, acquisition of luxury goods, legal advice on property administration, real estate, change of residence, philanthropy.

Key Contacts: Andreas Hable, Bernd Schneiderbauer

Real Estate:

Real estate transactions, asset management, analysis and restructuring of portfolios.

Key Contacts: Tibor Fabian, Markus Uitz

Regulatory:

Administrative proceedings, market entry support, authorisations, industrial and other permits, public law compliance, sector regulation and other regulatory regimes.

Key Contacts: Johannes Barbist, Michael Binder, Raoul Hoffer, Christian Klausegger, Michael Kutschera

Tax:

Tax analysis and structuring of M&A transactions, reorganisations, financing and capital market transactions, fund structures, expatriates, employee participation programmes and stock option schemes, private trusts and wealth succession, proceedings before tax authorities and courts, criminal tax law.

Key Contacts: Andreas Hable,

Christian Wimpissinger

Unfair Competition & IP:

Advertising, media, e-commerce and domain law, direct marketing, trademarks, patents, copyrights and designs, product piracy, IP licence, transfer and purchase agreements, IT and software contracts, co-operation and delimitation agreements, contentious and non-contentious work, data protection.

Key Contact: Ivo Rungg

PRACTICE AREAS

Banking & Finance
Capital Markets
Competition
Corporate/M&A
Dispute Resolution
Employment
Insolvency & Restructuring
Private Clients & Entrepreneurs
Real Estate
Regulatory
Tax
Unfair Competition & IP

OFFICES

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International Work:

The majority of the firm's assignments are transnational. By working in cooperation with a global network of top-flight partner firms and selecting those local experts best qualified for the matter at hand in each particular case, Binder Grösswang is able to provide flexible, customised solutions in all major jurisdictions. In turn, Binder Grösswang is a reliable partner for international law firms whenever Austrian law issues are relevant in cross-border transactions.

BINDER GRÖSSWANG

BPV HUEGEL

www.bpv-huegel.com **tel:** +43 1 260 500 **fax:** +43 1 260 50 308

Managing Partners: Christoph Nauer, Florian Neumayr and Christian Macho

Number of partners: 14 Number of lawyers: 48

Languages: *English, French, German, Spanish*

Firm Overview:

bpv Huegel is one of the leading Austrian law firms. bpv Huegel advises national and international corporate and private clients in all fields of commercial law. Both nationally and, within the bpv legal group, internationally, integrated teams work closely together to provide clients with tailor-made solutions. bpv Huegel has close contacts and excellent working relationships with key regulators and government agencies (Republic of Austria, EU level and CEE).

Further members of bpv legal are: bpv Jádi Németh, Budapest, Hungary; bpv Grigorescu Stefanica; Bucharest, Romania; bpv Braun, Prague, Czech Republic and Bratislava, Slovakia.

Main Areas of Practice:

Corporate/M&A:

7 partners; 17 fee earners based in Austria

- Raiffeisen Informatik on the sale of global operating COMPAREX Group to KKR backed SoftwareONE and sale of re-investment in the CHF 2.9bn IPO of SoftwareONE
- EUR 760m sale of CA Immo stake
- Sapura Offshore Sdn Bhd on Austrian joint venture with Seadrill Seabras UK Limited
- EUR 4.1bn merger of RZB with listed RBI (highest profile transaction in the Austrian banking industry in 2017)

Key Clients: BAWAG PSK, BP Europa SE, KELAG, OMV, Raiffeisen Holding, RWA Raiffeisen Ware Austria, Verbund, International Airlines Group, CEMEX, Joyson

Contact: Thomas Lettau **Tel:** +43 2236 893 377

Email: thomas.lettau@bpv-huegel.com

Contact: Elke Napokoj **Tel:** +43 1 260 500

Email: elke.napokoj@bpv-huegel.com

Competition & Antitrust:

4 partners; 2 non-equity partners; 5 fee earners, based in Vienna and Brussels

- Representation of Nichicon, in the so-called Capacitors Case in the proceedings before the European General Court; liaising and coordination with other counsels worldwide
- Representation of BP Europa SE in all antitrust matters in Austria
- Representation of A1 Telekom Austria AG in all antitrust matters in Austria
- Representation of OTIS in numerous proceedings with regard to claims for compensation for damages following the Elevator Cartel

Key Clients: A1 Telekom Austria, BP Europa SE, OMV/OMV Gas, OTIS, RWA Raiffeisen Ware Austria, Logwin, Verbund, voestalpine, Beiersdorf, and many more (confidential)

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Contact: Florian Neumayr

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Contact (EU law): Christian F. Schneider

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Email: christian.schneider@bpv-huegel.com

Capital Markets, Banking & Finance:

2 partners; 8 fee earners based in Austria

- Raiffeisen as shareholder in CHF 2.8bn IPO of SoftwareONE on SIX
- Joint Bookrunners on EUR 305.6mn capital increase of BUWOG

- EUR 1.6bn BUWOG spin-off

Key Clients: STRABAG SE, Valneva SE, IMMOFINANZ Group, Raiffeisen Holding

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Email: christoph.nauer@bpv-huegel.com

Contact: Elke Napokoj **Tel:** +43 1 260 500

Email: elke.napokoj@bpv-huegel.com

Tax:

4 partners; 5 fee earners based in Austria

- Tax advice regarding M&A transactions, reorganisations, cross border group structures, private foundations, estate planning
- Tax litigation, tax audits, rulings
- Fiscal criminal law

Key Clients: See Corporate/M&A and Capital Markets, Banking & Finance above and many more (confidential)

Contact: Gerald Schachner **Tel:** +43 2236 893 377

Email: gerald.schachner@bpv-huegel.com

Dispute Resolution:

4 partners; 5 fee earners based in Austria

- Representation in ad-hoc as well as VIAC corporate and contract interpretation arbitration matters
- Lead counsel in ICC arbitration following multi-million an international M&A project in the automotive industry
- Advice to and representation with regard to competition law implications in an ICC energy arbitration case
- Defence in multi-plaintiff follow-on private enforcement cases

Key Clients: Carrier Transicold, OTIS, MAN, BP Europa SE, and many more (confidential)

Contact: Florian Neumayr **Tel:** +43 1 260 50 206

Email: florian.neumayr@bpv-huegel.com

Real Estate:

3 partners; 7 fee earners based in Austria

- Acquisition and sale (including forward sales) of real estate portfolios and single premises
- Advice on building projects, agreements for architects, general contractors and lease contracts as well as legal aspects of property management
- Real estate related litigation and judicial enforcement
- Project development and financing

Key Clients: IMMOFINANZ Group, FLE GmbH, LetoMotel GmbH, Gemeinnützige Bau- und Wohnungsgenossenschaft für Mödling reg. Gen.m.b.H., Mitras Immobilien Investmentgesellschaft mbH, Silfin Capital Advisory GmbH, One Way Capital Holding GmbH (CleverFit)

Contact: Michaela Pelinka

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PRACTICE AREAS

Capital Markets, Banking & Finance
Competition & Antitrust
Corporate/M&A
Data Protection
Dispute Resolution
Employment
Environmental & Energy
Intellectual Property & Technology
Litigation & Arbitration
Private Client
Real Estate
Restructuring & Insolvency
Tax

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BRUSSELS: Avenue Palmerston 26, B-1000

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Email: gerhard.fussenegger@bpv-huegel.com

Contact: Dominik Geyer

Tel: +43 2 236 893 377

Email: dominik.geyer@bpv-huegel.com

Intellectual Property/IT-Law/Data Protection:

1 partner; 3 fee earners based in Austria

- Advice to a software developer for software in products for audio services; advice relating to OEM agreement and software licence
- Advice to a television channel regarding the implementation of a video and streaming platform (OTT service)
- Advice to various companies regarding the implementation of an organisation in compliance with the GDPR, particularly advice with new market offerings, e.g. IoT-Applications, profiling technologies
- Advice to and representation with regard to trademark issues (inter alia administration of trademark portfolios, IP due diligences, license agreements)

Key Clients: Kapsch Group, cargo-partner, Beiersdorf (any many more confidential)

Contact: Sonja Dürager **Tel:** +43 1 260 500

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bpv HÜGEL

BRANDL & TALOS

www.btp.at tel: +43 1 522 5700 fax: +43 1 522 5701

Senior Lawyers: Ernst Brandl, Thomas Talos, Christopher Schrank, Roman Rericha, Christian Lenz, Markus Arzt, Nicholas Aquilina

Number of partners: 4 Number of lawyers: 25

Languages: *English, German, Russian, Italian, Ukrainian, Croatian, Bulgarian, Danish*

Firm Overview:

Brandl & Talos ranks among the leading Austrian firms in the fields of capital markets, M&A, venture capital and start-ups, banking and finance, gaming and entertainment as well as white-collar crime. With its team of lawyers trained at leading US law and business schools and top international law firms, Brandl & Talos has built an outstanding reputation in its areas of expertise. The firm has advised innovative start-ups from their first venture capital financing to successful IPOs, advised in large and complex international M&A transactions, assists leading banks and financial service institutions as well as international gaming and betting operators on a regular basis and advises in complex white-collar criminal cases. Brandl & Talos has a comprehensive client roster including major internationally listed companies and eight of the ten largest Austrian banks. Numerous international clients have made Brandl & Talos acquire substantial experience and international exposure, which is particularly reflected in the firm's growing track-record of high value, complex and innovative cross-border transactions.

Main Areas of Practice:

Corporate/Mergers & Acquisitions/Venture Capital & Start-ups:

The firm provides exceptional transactional services and has extensive experience in corporate and M&A transactions. Its core competence is to handle complex high-volume cross-border M&A transactions. Further, the firm has become one of the leading advisors on venture capital fund structuring and transactions in the Austrian market. The team provides clients with thoughtful strategic advice and has a thorough understanding of clients' businesses and needs. The firm is commercial-minded and committed to achieve the best possible deal for its clients.

Services:

- General Corporate Law
- M&A transactions (public and private)
- Takeover Law
- Venture Capital/Private Equity deals
- Fund Structuring
- Joint Ventures
- Management Buy-Outs/Management Buy-Ins
- Structured auctions
- Carve-Out Transactions & Asset Deals
- Leveraged Buy-Outs
- Management/Employee Participation Plans
- Acquisition Financing
- Due Diligence

Contacts: Thomas Talos, Roman Rericha, Markus Arzt

Capital Markets Law:

The firm advises on all aspects of capital markets law and its assignments regularly involve large international matters. Every type of transaction in the capital markets is in good hands with the team, not just the classic transactions such as IPOs, acquisitions, recapitalisations and bond issuances, as the team develops unique solutions for project financing in any sector (including the renewable energy sector).

Services:

- Equity and Debt Capital Markets
- Stock Exchange Offerings
- Consultant liability
- Corporate financing transactions (including issuance of bonds, participation rights and debt financing)
- Hybrid Equity Instruments

Contacts: Thomas Talos, Ernst Brandl, Christopher Schrank

Banking & Finance:

The firm understands regulatory activity, both from its work within regulatory bodies as well as from its years of experience representing clients vis-a-vis regulators. The majority of Austrian banks and insurance companies, as well as numerous national and international investment firms rely on the firm. The firm develops complex financial instruments, provides assistance to national and international financial service providers in proceedings with and against the Financial Markets Authority (FMA), and provides comprehensive regulatory advice and support in all matters concerning the FMA. Last but not least the firm has been engaged to represent its clients in matters of civil litigation involving thousands of opponents who claimed damages resulting from unlawful advice.

Services:

- Banking Law/Legal representation with respect to regulatory inquiries
- Loans
- E-Money
- Regulatory Law, Legal Enforcement
- Litigation

Contacts: Ernst Brandl, Christian Lenz

Gaming & Entertainment:

The firm has extensive international expertise in the wider gaming and betting sector, including social gaming, fantasy sports and e-sports. It provides regulatory, licensing and compliance advice at an international level and frequently advises on major multijurisdictional M&A deals in the gambling sector. The firm has also taken several multinational operators through licensing procedures and assisted with market access in jurisdictions across Europe and the US. As compliance becomes an area of increased attention for regulators and law enforcement agencies alike, the firm also focus on helping clients improve their approach towards compliance, including AML, responsible gaming, GDPR and ESG, thereby reducing the regulatory risk, successfully passing scrutiny of audits and due diligence as well as increasing value also in light of transaction suitability.

Services:

- Regulatory and transactional legal advice to international gaming and betting operators
- Support in market access and licensing
- Compliance: developing, reviewing, auditing and implementing compliance management in areas such as AML/CTF, responsible gaming or GDPR

PRACTICE AREAS

Banking & Finance
Capital Markets
Compliance
Dispute Resolution
EU Law
Gaming & Entertainment
Litigation
Mergers & Acquisitions
White-Collar Crime
Venture Capital & Start-ups

OFFICES:

AUSTRIA

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Website: www.btp.at

- Negotiating and drafting complex agreements for the gambling industry, including sponsor- and marketing agreements, software license agreements, white label agreements

Contacts: Thomas Talos, Nicholas Aquilina

White Collar Crime:

Organisations need to adapt their compliance regulations and keep their internal risk management in mind. The expertise of the firm's criminal lawyers and many years of experience in capital markets and corporate law is the perfect combination for balancing economic and criminal considerations. The firm is a reliable partner for companies as well as for individuals in all stages of criminal proceedings.

Services:

- White Collar Crime
- Criminal Procedural Law
- Compliance
- Advise in connection with criminal complaints

Contacts: Christopher Schrank

Dispute Resolution:

As proven experts in banking, capital markets, corporate law and white-collar-crime, the firm's clients appreciate the firm's full service and highly efficient way of coordinating and managing a large number of related but still individual, complex cases before various courts and administrative bodies. The firm is pioneering in Austrian civil procedure law with its coordination of a class action process involving over 120 civil cases and more than 1,720 plaintiffs.

Services:

- Banking Law
- Contract Law
- Insurance Law
- Civil defence regarding matters involving financial products or insurances
- Litigation

Contacts: Christopher Schrank, Christian Lenz, Ernst Brandl

BRANDL & TALOS
RECHTSANWÄLTE · ATTORNEYS AT LAW

BRAUNEIS KLAUSER PRÄNDL RECHTSANWÄLTE GMBH

www.bkp.at tel: +43 1 532 1210 fax: +43 1 532 1210 20

Senior Partners: Andreas Bauer, Arno Brauneis, Bernhard Girsch, Alexander Klausner, Gerald Otto, Felix Prändl, Orlin Radinsky, Martin Reinisch

Number of partners: 17 Number of lawyers: 19

Languages: German, English, French, Italian, Bulgarian, Croatian

Firm Overview:

bkp – Brauneis Klausner Prändl is one of Austria's leading business law firms. The firm is known for providing clients with high-profile services along with efficient and target-oriented advice. Due to its organisational structure bkp is particularly flexible and quick in advising and representing clients in all aspects of business law.

The firm is appreciated not only for its legal expertise, but also for its lawyers' hard work, commitment and availability. When advising clients, the firm considers it a matter of course to take into consideration the respective client's economic background and entrepreneurial goals.

bkp's clients are comprised of domestic and foreign corporations, including multinational corporations, headquarters of Austrian based international groups, medium-sized businesses, associations, private foundations, interest groups, and public sector companies. Due to long standing relationships with its clients, bkp has acquired specific knowledge of various industries, especially regarding real estate, consulting, banking and finances, IT and tourism.

Main Areas of Practice:

IT:

bkp's services include: software licences, hardware and software purchase maintenance agreements, project agreements, outsourcing, advice regarding online transactions, creation of e-commerce portals, domain registration and domain disputes, ISP liability issues.

Contacts: Felix Prändl, Georg Fellner

Telecommunications:

bkp's services include: advice on all regulatory issues, distribution agreements, consumer GT&Cs, individual supply agreements for telecommunication providers, representation in proceedings before the Austrian regulatory authorities and before the Austrian administrative Court in telecommunications matters, telecommunication transactions.

Contacts: Felix Prändl, Georg Fellner

Data Protection:

bkp's services include: advice on data protection issues arising from employment relationships, whistle-blowing hotlines data profiling activities such as behavioural advertising, cross border transfers of personal data, representation in proceedings before the Austrian Data Protection Authority.

Contact: Georg Fellner

Intellectual Property & Unfair Competition:

bkp's services include: advice in trademark, copyright and unfair competition law, patent and design law, advising and representing holders of IP rights in proceedings before IP offices, customs authorities and courts.

Contacts: Martin Reinisch, Georg Fellner, Petra Vyhmalik

Corporate & Company:

bkp's services include: commercial agreements, corporate reconstruction, corporate secretarial services, recovery of claims, distribution agreements, commercial agents, franchising and licences, IPOs, outsourcing, privatisations.

Contacts: Andreas Bauer, Bernhard Girsch, Stefan Gurmman, Felix Prändl, Philipp Gamauf, Lisa Matousek

Mergers & Acquisitions:

bkp's services include: due diligence, acquisitions (share and asset deals), cross-border transactions, distressed M&A.

Contacts: Arno Brauneis, Stefan Gurmman, Gerald Otto, Felix Prändl

Banking, Securities Exchange & Capital Markets:

bkp's services include: banking (advice on regulatory law aspects), capital market law (advice on regulatory law aspects as well as public and non-public placement of securities), investment funds, financial services (MiFID).

Contact: Felix Prändl

Litigation & Arbitration:

bkp's services include: commercial litigation, consumer litigation, litigation in relation to white collar crime, complex litigation (class action and other multi-party proceedings), multi-jurisdictional litigation, insolvency related litigation, proceedings before international courts and tribunals including the European Court of Justice and the European Court of Human Rights, commercial arbitration (ICC, Vienna Rules et al), including construction, corporate, energy, financial services and sports, investment arbitration.

Contacts: Alexander Klausner, Bernhard Girsch, Gerald Otto, Orlin Radinsky, Valentina Philadelphy, Lukas Weber

Real Estate, Tenancy & Building:

bkp's services include: acquisition of real estate, real property lease agreements, construction law.

Contacts: Arno Brauneis, Gerald Otto, Bernhard Girsch, Andreas Bauer, Lisa Matousek, Maria Vertesich, Valentina Philadelphy

EU & National Austrian Antitrust:

bkp's services include: distribution agreements, advice and mergers filings in relation with M&A projects, joint ventures, proceedings before the EU competition authorities and before the European Court of Justice, proceedings before the Austrian competition authorities.

Contact: Bernhard Girsch

Corporate Recovery & Insolvency:

bkp's services include: work-out of finance projects, debt rescheduling, out-of-court agreements, judicial reorganisation proceedings, bankruptcy and liquidation, recovery of claims, insolvency related litigation.

Contacts: Alexander Klausner, Lukas Weber, Gerald Otto

PRACTICE AREAS

IT

Telecommunications
Data Protection
Intellectual Property & Unfair Competition
Corporate & Company
Mergers & Acquisitions
Banking, Securities Exchange & Capital Markets
Litigation & Arbitration
Real Estate, Tenancy & Building
EU & National Austrian Antitrust
Corporate Recovery & Insolvency
Employment
Public Procurement & Public Law
Central & Eastern Europe (CEE)
Private Clients, Foundations & Associations
Distribution, Trade Agents & Mineral Oil
Corporate Criminal Law

OFFICES

AUSTRIA

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Email: office@bkp.at

Employment:

bkp's services include: advice in the context of employment agreements, works council agreements, collective bargaining agreements, labour constitution law, employee incentives, such as bonus systems, performance-linked compensations, etc., company pension schemes, employee profit shares.

Contacts: Georg Fellner, Philipp Gamauf

Public Procurement & Public Law:

bkp's services include: preparation of tender documents, opening and evaluation of bidding procedures; advice on public law matters, proceedings before the Austrian Constitutional and Administrative Courts.

Contacts: Thomas Neuwerth, Maria Vertesich

Central & Eastern Europe (CEE):

bkp's services include: permanently advise on clients' operations in the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Bulgaria, Romania, Poland, Hungary, Croatia, Slovenia, Serbia and Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Contact: Orlin Radinsky

Private Clients, Foundations & Associations:

bkp's services include: advising private clients including individuals, families, and charitable organisations on legal succession and wealth management; legal advice for/on foundations and associations.

Contacts: Bernhard Girsch, Stefan Gurmman, Andreas Bauer, Felix Prändl

Distribution, Trade Agents & Mineral Oil:

bkp's services include: distribution matters and severance payments of trade agents, environmental and construction matters.

Contacts: Andreas Bauer, Bernhard Girsch

Corporate Criminal Law:

bkp's services include: advice in all areas of corporate criminal law including criminal proceedings involving tax offenses, criminal proceedings initiated against auditors, tax consultants, and other professionals with security clearance, advising clients in relation to preliminary police investigations.

Contacts: Orlin Radinsky, Petra Vyhmalik

CERHA HEMPEL

www.cerhahempel.com tel: +43 1 514 350 fax: +43 1 514 35 35

Managing Partners: Albert Birkner, Clemens Hasenauer

Number of lawyers worldwide: 200

Languages: *Armenian, Bosnian, Bulgarian, Chinese, Croatian, Czech, Dutch, English, French, German, Hungarian, Italian, Korean, Polish, Romanian, Russian, Serbian, Slovak, Spanish, Tagalog*

Firm Overview:

CERHA HEMPEL is one of the leading corporate law firms in Central and Eastern Europe with its headquarters in Vienna. With a team of over 200 lawyers, the firm guarantees its clients experience and expertise in all areas of corporate and commercial law, both in Austria and Central and Eastern Europe.

CERHA HEMPEL is proud to be able to look back on a very successful history. Over the past 25 years, CERHA HEMPEL has been involved in a large number of the most significant transactions in Austria. The fact that the firm understands its clients' businesses has helped CERHA HEMPEL achieve a high rate of success. It is no coincidence that CERHA HEMPEL is the first port of call for a number of long-term clients whom the firm advises comprehensively on all of their day-to-day legal matters. This expertise – combined with the firm's years of experience in Central and Eastern Europe and its Lex Mundi network – ensures that its clients receive high-quality and sound advice, across disciplines and across borders.

Main Areas of Practice:

M&A & Corporate:

The focus at CERHA HEMPEL is not only on classic M&A, but also on private equity transactions, and on resolving complex, often cross-border issues in a practical and commercially oriented manner, as well as providing ongoing corporate legal advice and handling and overseeing corporate reorganisations. CERHA HEMPEL has particular expertise in public M&A, including takeover law and regulatory compliance under financial markets laws.

Banking & Finance:

CERHA HEMPEL supports its clients in the borrowing and investment decisions they make, such as in the context of financial and liquidity planning and treasury operations. It advises both borrowers and lenders alike. Recognised as a leading corporate law firm in the regulatory sector, CERHA HEMPEL advises international banks on establishing Austrian branches and offices and with respect to selling and trading securities in Austria. As advisor to over 100 managed investment funds which it represents in Austria regarding trading and compliance issues, CERHA HEMPEL has extensive expertise in the banking and finance sector.

Capital Markets:

As one of the leading law firms specialising in capital markets law, CERHA HEMPEL has handled the largest capital markets transactions in Austria over the past 25 years and has set the standards for this area. It handles all aspects of IPOs, capital increases and bond issuances, advising potential issuers and underwriters on due diligence issues, as well as preparing prospectuses in accordance with international standards and drafting documentation for capital increases.

Real Estate & Construction:

CERHA HEMPEL supports its clients in everything from project development, negotiating and drafting financing agreements, preparing planning and construction agreements, to residential and commercial leases and claims management. CERHA HEMPEL has outstanding contacts with the major market players, enabling it to offer its clients project management services as well.

Litigation & Arbitration:

Whether it be construction disputes, unfair competition, contractual interpretation, insurance law, warranty issues, or damages in contract or tort, CERHA HEMPEL's success rate is enviable. The team at CERHA HEMPEL covers the entire spectrum of corporate and commercial law, and focuses on giving its clients a clear picture of the opportunities and risks involved. Members of the firm act as arbitrators, chairpersons and counsel.

Employment:

CERHA HEMPEL provides first class legal advice on all aspects of employment law, from drafting contracts including options for greater flexibility in employment relationships, as well as implementing restructuring programmes.

Tax Law:

CERHA HEMPEL provides integrated tax and legal advice. The firm strives to provide clients with optimized tax solutions whilst taking into account all other legal aspects. CERHA HEMPEL offers clients comprehensive expertise on the tax-optimised structuring of transactions, especially with respect to mergers and acquisitions and corporate restructurings, as well as group taxation, holding structures, inbound and outbound investments, debt and equity financing and the taxation of financial instruments. The tax litigation team handles all aspects of tax disputes.

Public Law & European Law:

CERHA HEMPEL advises and represents clients before public administrative authorities and courts, as well as the European Court of Justice regarding questions of aviation law, public procurement law and telecommunications law, all of which the firm has been handling since such sectors were liberalised by the EU. The firm's lawyers have achieved an above-average rate of success in such cases. CERHA HEMPEL also has many years' extensive experience in commercial licensing law, healthcare law, university law, construction law, environmental law, and medical and pharmaceutical law.

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Email: office@cerhahempel.sk

LEGAL NETWORKS

Austrian member of Lex Mundi

International Experience:

With offices in Bratislava, Bucharest, Budapest, Minsk, Prague and Sofia, CERHA HEMPEL possesses an extensive network in Central, Eastern and South-Eastern Europe, together with broad-based expertise and many years' experience.

On top of this, the firm maintains close relationships with renowned law firms in those countries in which it does not have an office. All offices employ local, highly qualified and multilingual staff.

All CEE offices have continuous access to the resources of the entire CERHA HEMPEL network.

CERHA HEMPEL

CMS**CMS Reich-Rohrwig Hainz****www.cms.law** **tel:** +43 1 404 43 0 **fax:** +43 1 404 43 90000**Managing Partner:** Johannes Juranek

Number of partners: > 50 Number of other lawyers: > 150

Firm Overview:

CMS Reich-Rohrwig Hainz is one of the leading law firms in Austria and Southeast Europe, founded in Vienna in 1970. The firm provides full-service legal and tax advice in the CEE/SEE region with more than 340 staff members in Vienna and 10 further offices in Belgrade, Bratislava, Istanbul, Kiev, Ljubljana, Podgorica, Sarajevo, Skopje, Sofia and Zagreb.

Its expertise extends across the full range of commercial law and the firm's ability to combine legal specialisations with a thorough knowledge of markets and industries requiring specific expertise puts it in a position to serve clients as reliable long-term partners in all legal matters.

The firm is a member of CMS, making it part of an organisation of more than 4,800 lawyers and tax advisors at more than 70 offices in over 40 countries worldwide.

Main Areas of Practice:

With its full-service approach, the firm offers its clients legal advice on all areas of national and international commercial law. CMS Reich-Rohrwig Hainz is active for its clients in the following areas of expertise: corporate, mergers and acquisitions, private equity and venture capital, banking, capital markets, competition and merger control, state aid and EU law, intellectual property, media and press, life science, healthcare and medical law, individual and collective labour law, pension law, real estate and construction, hotels, IT and telecommunications, tax, insolvency and restructuring, utilities and energy, public commercial and environmental law, procurement, insurance, litigation and arbitration.

CMS:

Founded in 1999, with more than 70 offices in over 40 countries, CMS is one of the most global law firms in the AmLaw Global Top 100. More than 4,800 legal professionals across the world work in sector-based teams and are trained in project management. CMS offers specialist, business-focused advice in law and tax matters to clients operating in complex business and constantly changing regulatory environments. CMS lawyers focus on their clients and on providing the best possible service.

From major multinationals and mid-caps to enterprising start-ups, CMS provides the technical rigour, strategic excellence and long-term partnership to keep each client ahead whatever its chosen markets.

CMS has chosen a single organisational structure that suits clients doing business in Europe. Each CMS office is tailored to its local market, ensuring that clients benefit from personal service and market sensitivities, while working together under a shared mission and governance structure.

CMS Offices (& Associated Offices):

Aberdeen, Algiers, Amsterdam, Antwerp, Barcelona, Beijing, Belgrade, Berlin, Bogotá, Bratislava, Bristol, Brussels, Bucharest, Budapest, Casablanca, Cologne, Dubai, Duesseldorf, Edinburgh, Frankfurt, Funchal, Geneva, Glasgow, Hamburg, Hong Kong, Istanbul, Johannesburg, Kyiv, Leipzig, Lima, Lisbon, Ljubljana, London, Luanda, Luxembourg, Lyon, Madrid, Manchester, Mexico City, Milan, Mombasa, Monaco, Moscow, Munich, Muscat, Nairobi, Paris, Podgorica, Poznan, Prague, Reading, Rio de Janeiro, Riyadh, Rome, Santiago de Chile, Sarajevo, Seville, Shanghai, Sheffield, Singapore, Skopje, Sofia, Strasbourg, Stuttgart, Tirana, Utrecht, Vienna, Warsaw, Zagreb and Zurich.

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Contact: Nedžida Salihović-Whalen*

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Contact: Gentscho Pavlov*

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Contact: Milica Popović*

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Contact: Marija Filipovska*

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Contact: Radivoje Petričić*

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Contact: Peter Šimo*

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Contact: Gregor Famira

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Tel: +380 44 500 1718 Fax: +380 44 500 1716
Contact: Johannes Trenkwalder

* local lawyer

C/M/S**Law . Tax**

DORALT SEIST CSOKLICH

www.dsc.at tel: +43 1 319 4520 fax: +43 1 319 8322

Number of partners: 6 Number of lawyers: 24

Languages: English, French, German

Firm Overview:

Based in Vienna, Austria, the firm is particularly known as a leader in its main practice areas banking and finance, real estate, corporate, public procurement, public private partnership and litigation. On the one hand embedded in a global network of independent law firms, on the other hand by virtue of long established relationships with law firms in jurisdictions of importance for its clients, the firm provides on a regular basis cross border legal advice.

Main Areas of Practice:

Arbitration:

The firm represents clients in complex arbitration proceedings some of its members are frequently asked to serve as arbitrators.

Key Contact: Peter Csoklich

Tel: +43 1 319 45 20 37

Email: csoklich@dsc.at

Banking & Finance:

The firm represents both Austrian and foreign banks and financial institutions particularly in the 'traditional' field of banking law as well as in the course of actions filed by consumer protection agencies concerning standard terms employed by banks and financial institutions, liability actions instituted for the alleged breach of the bank's obligations towards costumers and defending banks in Austrian style 'class actions'.

Key Contact: Markus Kellner

Tel: +43 1 319 45 20 25

Email: kellner@dsc.at

Betting & Gaming:

The firm represents both Austrian as well as international players in the online gaming and betting business, in particular with regard to regulatory matters. Christoph Leitgeb has been active in this field of law for several years.

Key Contact: Christoph Leitgeb

Tel: +43 1 319 45 20 45

Email: leitgeb@dsc.at

Capital Markets:

The firm represents financial institutions as well as their managing directors in front of the Financial Market Authorities and provides legal services with respect to the regulatory financial framework.

Key Contact: Christoph Leitgeb

Tel: +43 1 319 45 20 45

Email: leitgeb@dsc.at

Corporate & M&A:

The firm's activities cover the establishment and reconstruction of companies, litigation between shareholders, defending companies against the avoidance of resolutions of shareholders' meetings, domestic as well as cross border M&A transactions.

Key Contact: Christoph Dregger

Tel: +43 1 319 45 20 56

Email: dregger@dsc.at

Litigation:

The firm represents its clients in all practice areas in litigation.

Key Contact: Peter Csoklich

Tel: +43 1 319 45 20 37

Email: csoklich@dsc.at

Public Procurement & PPP:

The firm represents both (federal and regional) authorities as well as bidders in this ever more complex field of law. Oliver Sturm, who was the head of the legal department of the Austrian Motorway Association before joining the firm, combines a supreme command of construction law with an in-depth knowledge of public procurement law as well as of PPP projects.

Key Contact: Oliver Sturm

Tel: +43 1 319 45 20 44

Email: sturm@dsc.at

PRACTICE AREAS

Arbitration
Banking & Finance
Betting & Gaming
Capital Markets
Corporate
Litigation
M&A
Public Private Partnership
Public Procurement
Real Estate
Takeover

OFFICES

AUSTRIA

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Real Estate:

The firm practices the whole range of real estate law, advising developers and investors (publicly listed real estate companies, open ended real estate funds, high net worth individuals, family offices etc.) in complex transactions as well as their everyday business.

Key Contact: Wilfried Seist

Tel: +43 1 319 45 20 24

Email: seist@dsc.at

Takeover:

The firm advised in connection with the thus far only mutual hostile take over battle between two Austrian publicly listed companies.

Moreover, Christoph Dregger once the administrative director of the Austrian takeover commission has an overall excellent reputation in this field.

Key Contact: Christoph Dregger

Tel: +43 1 319 45 20 56

Email: dregger@dsc.at



DORALT SEIST CSOKLICH

DORDA

www.dorda.at tel: +43 1 53 347 950 fax: +43 1 533 4797

Managing Partners: Axel Anderl, Martin Brodey, Francine Brogyányi

Number of partners: 21 Number of lawyers: 86 Of Counsel: 5

Languages: *Bosnian, English, Farsi, Finnish, French, German, Hungarian, Italian, Polish, Romanian, Russian, Serbian, Spanish, Ukrainian*

Firm Overview:

DORDA is a leading business law firm in Austria with a team of about 90 lawyers. The firm is a full-service law firm and it advises clients in all related areas of law. This holistic approach goes far beyond legal advice alone. The firm offers you tailor-made solutions, regardless of the complexity of the problem – and concise, clear risk assessments and proposals for action.

This innovative approach has earned the firm numerous prestigious awards and top rankings in international legal directories. Additionally, the firm works closely with renowned law firms all around the world, particularly in CEE. The firm's 'Best Friends'-network gives access to experienced lawyers who are well established locally.

Main Areas of Practice:

Core practice areas include M&A, corporate, tax, banking and finance, capital markets, competition and antitrust, real estate, employment, insurance, arbitration and litigation, trusts and estates, IP and IT, administrative and procurement law, restructuring and insolvency and advising private clients.

Banking & Finance:

DORDA advises domestic and international banks, funds, corporates and public entities on all matters relating to finance and banking. The firm assists clients in financial transactions, regulatory matters and bank contract law issues.

Capital Markets:

DORDA advises domestic and international investment banks, issuers and investors on all matters relating to stock exchange and capital markets law. The firm's expertise spans the full range of equity and debt issuance by private and public issuers. Key services cover a broad area, including private placements, public offerings, structured and high-yield debt issuances.

Competition & Antitrust:

The firm's services in this legal field range from the representation of clients in merger control and antitrust proceedings before Austrian and European authorities, the drafting and negotiation of customised agreements involving competition law issues to the development of antitrust compliance programmes.

Corporate/M&A:

Corporate law and M&A are central to DORDA's activities. The firm's experts advise and assist domestic and international enterprises in all matters — from choosing the form of business organisation and its establishment, to complex national and international transactions. The team assists strategic and financial investors in all aspects of private and public corporate acquisitions.

Dispute Resolution:

The firm offers comprehensive advice and representation in both domestic and international civil litigation and arbitration proceedings and white collar crime. The firm's experts regularly act as party counsel or arbitrator in corporate disputes and disputes relating to CEE countries. They advise private persons as well as domestic businesses, international groups, (foreign) authorities and governments in complex high-volume disputes.

Employment:

Practice extends to all aspects of labour law; representing the interests of either employer or employee. Services range from employment contracts, termination of employment, restructuring and outsourcing, to incentive schemes, stock option plans and pension benefits. Services also include litigation, arbitration and mediation.

Immigration:

The firm's experts regularly act as counsel for multinational corporations and their employees as well as selected private clients in all legal matters related to relocation to and from Austria. Rather than confining themselves to filing application packages, they develop comprehensive relocation scenarios and personally guide clients through each implementation step to reduce the strains associated with relocating to Austria to a minimum.

Insurance:

Experts provide professional advice on every aspect of both domestic and international insurance law for insurances, brokers or agents, companies and institutions. The firm assists clients in regulatory matters and all legal issues in connection with insurance policies as well as in associated bank and tax law issues.

IT & IP:

The firm provides comprehensive advice on all kinds of IT and IP issues. The practice has a strong record in e-commerce and software law, but also covers standard IP, unfair competition and data protection matters. The team has also advised on several complex outsourcing projects.

Life Sciences:

DORDA advises numerous international pharmaceutical producers, biotech companies, medical product companies and hospitals on all questions of pharmaceutical, medical product and health law. DORDA is the only Austrian member of the Biologics law firm network.

Public:

The firm's experts provide advice on all public law matters. They act as representatives in proceedings before the Austrian Constitutional and Administrative Courts, and before the European Court of Justice and the European Court of Human Rights. In the field of public procurement law, the team has extensive experience in advising both tender and contracting authorities.

PRACTICE AREAS

Banking & Finance
Capital Markets
Central & Eastern Europe
China
Commercial Law
Competition Law
Corporate
Data Protection
Dispute Resolution
Employment
IT / IP
Insolvency & Restructuring
Insurance
Life Sciences
M&A
Private Clients & Immigration
Public Law
Real Estate & Construction
Tax
Trade Agreements

OFFICES

AUSTRIA

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Real Estate:

The firm provides comprehensive advice on real estate investments of any kind and size. Clients receive advice on acquisition and sale of real estate, privatisation of real estate portfolios, corporate and private leases and real estate development projects.

Restructuring & Insolvency:

The firm provides comprehensive crisis and insolvency advice. Clients in this practice area include foreign and domestic banks, financial institutions, investors and insurance companies. The firm assists them in the field of financial restructuring and in the acquisition of companies from bankrupt estates and in reorganising or restructuring such companies to avoid insolvency proceedings. Furthermore, the firm assists creditors and debtors in all refinancing issues.

Trade & Distribution Law:

DORDA provides specialist legal advice on domestic and international commercial contracts, in particular sales, supply, agency, distribution and franchise agreements. The firm assists producers and suppliers, agents, distributors, franchisors and franchisees from the structuring and contract drafting stage up to termination matters, litigation and arbitration.

Tax:

This department is outstanding in the Austrian legal market, comprising experienced individuals, several of whom are certified tax advisors. The tax team ensures that tax benefits are optimised when structuring transactions in coordination with other practice groups, such as M&A, banking or real estate.

DORDA

EISENBERGER & HERZOG

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Number of partners: 18 Number of lawyers: 70

Languages: English, German

Firm Overview:

With more than 70 lawyers at its offices in Vienna, Graz and Klagenfurt, Eisenberger & Herzog (E&H) ranks amongst Austria's largest law firms. The firm is driven by a team of partners with an international background and practice. Thus, E&H is guided by a spirit of innovation, dedication and creativity. Throughout the duration of each project, partners assist their clients personally, ensuring quality, flexibility and efficiency. With a well-established network of partner law firms all over Europe and strong ties with first-tier business law firms in the US and Asia, E&H has become one of the leading Austrian referral firms and premier addresses for international clients.

Main Areas of Practice:

Banking & Finance:

E&H has established a unique position in the market by its interdisciplinary approach to combine the firm's top-tier corporate/M&A, and restructuring and finance practice groups. The firm advises domestic and international banks, financial institutions, funds and other actors in the finance sector, as well as foreign governments.

Contacts: Peter EJ Winkler, Marcus Benes

Capital Markets:

E&H has a strong practice in debt and equity capital markets transactions. The firm advises on complex bond transactions, regulatory securities law matters and stock exchange listings. Work includes structuring, documentation and rendering legal opinions.

Contact: Peter EJ Winkler

Central & Eastern Europe:

Providing expert advice on complex cross-border transactions, the CEE region is one of the most important strongholds of E&H's practice. E&H has gained an excellent reputation in the market for its expertise in this area.

Contact: Michael Strenitz

Corporate/M&A:

E&H has a strong track record of advising on all aspects in relation to corporate and M&A and is widely recognised for the high-profile transactions entrusted to the firm. Apart from private and public mergers and acquisitions, the firm handles strategic partnerships, joint ventures, auction sales and takeovers of listed companies.

Contacts: Peter EJ Winkler, Alric A Ofenheimer

Competition:

Recognised as one of the leading Austrian law firms in this area, E&H represents clients in numerous cartel and abuse of dominance proceedings pending before the European and Austrian authorities. The firm also regularly advises clients in merger control proceedings at the European and national level. In addition, E&H has particular experience in internal investigations and compliance matters.

Contacts: Dieter Thalhammer, Andreas Zellhofer

Dispute Resolution:

A well-trained team of experts handles litigations, arbitrations and settlements, ensuring that claims are adequately enforced in and out of court. Further, E&H serves as arbitrator in arbitration cases.

Contact: Jana Eichmeyer

IP/IT:

E&H supports clients active in a broad range of industries in effectively protecting their intellectual property, including trade marks, copyright works, software and know-how. The firm also has a specific focus on IT law and new media, and advises clients on complex projects at the interface of competition and IP/IT law.

Contacts: Andreas Zellhofer, Wilhelm Offenbeck

Public Procurement:

Due to its sector specific knowledge and grasp of clients' businesses, E&H is a specialist in complex procurement law matters that require creative and innovative integrated solutions. The firm regularly advises clients on tender proceedings, including representation before review bodies, and covers all legal aspects of procurement transactions.

Contacts: Ulrike Sehrschön, Wilhelm Offenbeck

Public Law & Environment:

E&H has a long-standing and wellknown public law team with extensive knowledge and experience in all areas of public law, including environmental and planning law, pharmaceutical, energy and data protection law.

Contacts: Georg Eisenberger, Ulrike Sehrschön

Real Estate:

E&H has a strong track record of advising on all legal aspects relating to real estate transactions and projects. E&H regularly advises on large portfolio transactions, real estate development projects and all types of real estate contracts.

Contacts: Alric A Ofenheimer, Michael Strenitz

PRACTICE AREAS

Banking & Finance
Capital Markets
Central & Eastern Europe
Corporate/M&A
Competition & Antitrust
Dispute Resolution
Employment
IT, IP & Media
Public Law & Environment
Public Procurement
Real Estate
Restructuring & Insolvency
White-Collar Defence

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Restructuring & Insolvency:

Unlike any other law firm in Austria, E&H has a track record of successfully advising on restructurings, both as company counsel and lender counsel. This is an immediate result of the firm's strong position in corporate/M&A and finance.

Contacts: Marcus Benes, Michael Strenitz

Employment:

E&H has particular expertise in advising clients in all areas of employment law, including HR matters, compliance and competition law. E&H is also strong in employment-related litigation.

Contact: Jana Eichmeyer

White-Collar Defence:

E&H represents clients in criminal investigations and proceedings, any connected civil claims, and (in cooperation with external media consultants) provides media relations support. Furthermore, E&H offers support during raids and prevention measures, such as staff trainings, codes of conduct and crisis communications strategies.

Contact: Mario Spanyi

EISENBERGER ✦ HERZOG

EVERSHEDS SUTHERLAND | STOLITZKA & PARTNER RECHTSANWÄLTE OG

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Managing Partner: Dr Georg Roehsner

Firm Overview:

Eversheds Sutherland represents the combination of two firms with a shared culture and commitment to client service excellence. Both firms are each known for their commercial awareness and industry knowledge and for providing innovative, tailored solutions for every client.

Increasing globalisation has changed the nature of business. It has also changed the type of advice clients need. Eversheds Sutherland was formed with this in mind. As clients expand globally, Eversheds Sutherland is with them. Lawyers around the globe are united by Eversheds Sutherland's vision, values and understanding of its clients' businesses and their needs. They provide legal advice of the highest quality whether they are operating within country or across borders from the firm's 69 offices in 34 countries across Africa, Asia, Europe, the Middle East and the United States.

Eversheds Sutherland considers every opportunity and issue with the same energy and creative, proactive approach. This can involve developing efficient structures for business transactions, devising novel case strategies in litigation and being at the forefront of new legal developments. The firm also offers a unique project management approach that enables it to deliver complex, multi-jurisdictional legal services through a single point of contact, providing efficiency and certainty for its clients.

Above all, Eversheds Sutherland listens to its clients. The firm's solutions-oriented, service-led approach attracts clients faced with issues and opportunities that demand in-depth understanding of business, specific industry knowledge and the ability to manage substantial matters across borders.

Main Areas of Practice:

The firm's main product areas are: commercial and IT; competition, EU and trade; corporate/M&A/capital markets; employment, energy and infrastructure; finance, financial services/investment products; insurance; intellectual property; litigation; pensions and benefits; real estate and tax.

Market Sectors:

Eversheds Sutherland provides high quality, commercially focused advice because its people are immersed in their chosen sectors. This broad industry knowledge encompasses automotive; capital markets; construction and engineering; consumer; diversified industrials; education; energy, environmental and commodities; financial services; health; hospitality; insurance; natural resources; pensions; private equity; public sector; real estate; sport; timber and forest products; technology, media and telecoms and transport.

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Brussels: Tel: +32 2 737 9340
Bucharest: Tel: +40 21 311 2561
Budapest: Tel: +36 1 394 3121
Dusseldorf: Tel: +49 211 86467 0
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EVERSHEDS SUTHERLAND

RRP ADVOGADOS

www.rrp.pt tel: +351 217 653 860 fax: +351 217 653 869

Managing Partner: Ricardo Reigada Pereira

Number of partners: 2 Number of lawyers: 23

Languages: Portuguese, English, Spanish, French, German

Firm Overview:

Established in 2016 by three lawyers originating from the Lisbon office of a magic circle law firm, RRP Advogados today a team of over 20 experienced professionals in several practice areas and in the most relevant sectors of the economy. The firm has a strong transactional focus and its lawyers are used to working with the full range of market players, in domestic or cross-border matters and transactions. RRP Advogados is part of a global network of law firms (EY Law network) with more than 3,300 lawyers and present in 85 jurisdictions worldwide.

Main Areas of Practice:

Banking & Finance:

With solid experience in the banking and finance sector, the team is fully capable of addressing clients' needs both in transactional and regulatory compliance matters. The firm provides advice to credit, financial services institutions and insurance companies across their full range of activities, as well as in supervision-related issues. Its lawyers are particularly tailored to assist clients on complex financing operations (acquisition finance, syndicated finance, real estate finance, asset finance), advising both lenders and borrowers, notably in cross-border transactions.

Contact: Carlos Vaz de Almeida

Tel: +351 217 653 860

Email: carlos.almeida@rrp.pt

Capital Markets & Financial Services:

The team has in-depth experience advising on equity and debt capital markets transactions alike, having assisted on public and private M&A transactions, on the issuance and offering or placement - both domestic and cross-border - of shares and several types of debt instruments and on the distribution of complex financial products. The team also advises on several matters of financial services regulations, including on the entry of new players in the banking and investment services sectors in Portugal and on compliance with prudential and conduct supervisory rules for all types of financial institutions. In addition, expertise is offered on the structuring, authorization and distribution of all types of collective investment schemes.

Contact: Manuel Cordeiro Ferreira

Tel: +351 217 653 860

Email: manuel.ferreira@rrp.pt

Corporate & M&A:

The technical expertise, combined with deal execution skills and local market knowledge together with the broad international coverage and experience of the EY Law network, enables the firm to provide complete end-to-end local and cross-border advice in different sectors to trade and financial investors on the buy and sell side.

In Corporate, the firm advises companies in the main aspects of their corporate life, including corporate governance, corporate finance, corporate reorganizations, shareholders' agreements, joint venture arrangements, distribution and other commercial agreements and on the day-to-day matters.

In M&A, the firm's advice includes, amongst others, pre-transaction structuring, legal due diligence, drafting and negotiation of transaction documents and post-transaction integration.

In Private Equity, the firm's advice includes, amongst others, the structuring and setting up of the investment structure, incorporation and funding of acquisition vehicles, interaction with regulators, governance and

management matters, transaction assistance and support throughout the investment cycle and with the divestment.

Contact: Rodrigo Falcão Nogueira

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Data Protection:

With consolidated experience, ranging from global projects of multinational organizations to legal assistance in specific issues of local scope, the Data Protection team boasts among its professionals several important certifications in this field, such as CIPP/E and OneTrust. Services include the mapping of regulatory obligations and mandatory procedures, assistance in their implementation and in the definition of long-term solutions to the governance of personal data. The team assists on the design, execution and implementation of inventories of personal data processing operations, global compliance programs for the protection of personal data, retention policies, privacy notice, training and awareness materials for employees, Privacy Impact Assessments (DPIAs), privacy audits, compliance analysis on Big Data and IoT and enabling structures for international transfers of personal data.

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Labour:

RRP Advogados' team provides ongoing legal advice on employment issues and dedicated assistance to its clients on the management of their human resources. The services provided in Labor Law include general advisory to corporate clients on day-to-day human resources issues, preparing and implementing large operations (such as lay-off procedures, redundancies and opening of new facilities or launching of new activities), management of individual and collective labor disputes in both pre-litigation and litigation stages and assisting with the labor aspects of M&A, in both national and cross-border transactions. The firm also advises international companies in the context of the nearshoring of their operations to Portugal, providing legal advice on the labor/employment-related issues.

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Public Law & Infrastructure Projects:

RRP Advogados has considerable expertise and experience in all fields of regulatory and administrative law, including public procurement.

Clients seek the firm's expertise in regulated sectors, in particular natural resources and energy (including renewables), infrastructure/construction, utilities, telecommunications and healthcare.

The team's experience spans over all key aspects of a project, including regulatory compliance, licensing/

PRACTICE AREAS

Banking & Finance
Capital Markets & Financial Services
Corporate & M&A
Data Protection
Labour
Public Law & Infrastructure Projects
Real Estate
Tax

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consenting and commercial/project contracts (e.g. construction, O&M, supply and offtake agreements).

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Real Estate:

RRP Advogados fields a team with solid experience, fully capable of providing advice to its clients in domestic and cross-border transactions and throughout the real estate life cycle. The firm advises on the structuring of a wide range of real estate and tourism investment transactions, including the setting up of real estate projects' financing operations and due diligence exercises. The team also assists clients with drafting and negotiating all kinds of real estate agreements, including works contracts, real estate use and management agreements and sale and leaseback transactions, always in close cooperation with other teams, such as Tax or Corporate and M&A. With an Anglo-Saxon approach, the team consistently pursues a balanced position that ensures parties can eventually reach an understanding. That has led multiple players - including brokers and international law firms - to recommend RRP Advogados as the must-go law firm to handle real estate deals, particularly in the most complex and convoluted cases.

Contact: Ricardo Reigada Pereira

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Email: ricardo.pereira@rrp.pt

Tax:

The firm aims at providing outstanding legal advice to its clients and has significant experience in international and domestic tax planning matters - encompassing both inbound and outbound transactions -, public and private M&A, corporate restructuring, real estate deals, debt restructurings and tax controversy. The tax practice is best known for its out of the box thinking, particularly by virtue of the successful ideas the respective lawyers were able to come up with throughout the years for the benefit of their clients. Some of the team's key successes eventually became public as a consequence of court decisions - taken both at domestic and at the European Union level - and that lead tax controversy to assume in the last few years an increasingly important role in the context of the firm.

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FELLNER WRATZFELD & PARTNER RECHTSANWÄLTE GMBH

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Managing Partners: Markus Fellner, Michael Hecht
Number of partners: 25 Number of lawyers: >60
Languages: *English, French, German, Italian, Spanish*

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Firm Overview:

Fellner Wratzfeld & Partners (fwp) is one of Austria's leading business law firms, offering with its 60 lawyers full legal services to its clients. The firm's clients include banks and other financial institutions, privately and publicly owned companies, industrial manufacturers and public sector authorities. The firm's expertise covers the full spectrum of industry sectors.

fwp's approach to providing legal services places particular emphasis on combining in-depth legal expertise and well-founded business knowledge with an entrepreneurial focus to meet client needs. In addition to their legal expertise, the firm's lawyers have either supplementary degrees in economics, complementary professional experience or have studied or worked abroad.

fwp has an established international practice and handles on an on-going basis major cross-border matters, with a particular focus on the CEE region. In advising on transactions outside of Austria the firm is assisted by other leading local firms within its extensive best friends network.

Main Areas of Practice:

Antitrust & Competition:

fwp has extensive experience in advising national and international companies on anti-trust aspects of mergers and acquisitions. fwp has successfully defended many of its clients in merger control and antitrust proceedings before Austrian antitrust authorities, courts and the European Commission.

Banking & Finance:

fwp advises major banks on financing issues on an on-going basis, not only in connection with project financing, but also in connection with funding complex consortiums and financing for company reorganisation purposes. fwp is able to anticipate the legal challenges and issues, and guide its clients accordingly.

Capital Markets:

fwp's capital markets expertise includes handling initial public offerings, capital increases and corporate bonds. The firm also has a wealth of experience in structuring alternative forms of investments, such as private placements. fwp advises potential issuers as well as underwriting banks. The firm further provides on-going advisory services to listed companies on matters ranging from stock exchange laws and regulations and corporate governance to dealing with the competent supervisory authorities.

Corporate/Mergers & Acquisitions:

Developing optimal solutions in these fields requires extensive knowledge and vast experience in many different legal areas, including corporate, tax, capital market, labour and tenancy as well as numerous other fields. fwp advises national and international companies in the acquisition and sale of companies as a core strength of the firm. The services cover everything from legal due diligence to antitrust regulations – and fwp's wide experience in the private and public sector, especially relating to cross-border transactions, takeover bids, private equity and venture capital – ensures the highest degree of efficiency and deal stability.

Environmental:

fwp's expertise ranges from environmental due diligence to applying for licenses required for industrial facilities and other businesses and in planning real estate development projects. Furthermore, fwp assists the public sector extensively in implementing environmentally relevant EU directives and drafting legislation as well as more specialised tasks, such as assessing the scope for consideration of environmental aspects when awarding public contracts.

Infrastructure & Procurement:

fwp has successfully handled both motorway and railway projects, and has provided valuable support for large-scale construction projects such as shopping centres, office and residential buildings. Know-how and experience in real estate, as well as financing and public procurement, have made fwp Austria's market leader in infrastructure law. fwp also advises Austria's authorities on public procurement procedures as well as bidders participating in contract award procedures.

Insolvency & Restructuring:

fwp advises both national and international banks on financings, structured finance and restructurings. One of fwp's core areas of financing expertise is the establishing of a sound legal basis for consortia and to provide continuing support for their further development. Supporting the financing or recapitalisation of listed companies via bonds, participation rights, mezzanine capital and other financing instruments also belongs to fwp's core area of expertise.

Intellectual Property:

fwp has extensive experience in both protecting and exploiting, but also defending, intellectual property rights. This covers the assessment of advertising campaigns, motions for temporary injunctions, the preparation of licensing agreements as well as IT outsourcing. fwp's clients include telecommunications and media as well as trading companies.

Labour:

fwp advises companies on labour matters extensively, including the preparation and negotiation of employment contracts (both for employees and top executives) and the negotiation of works agreements. fwp also advises on compensation plans prepared in connection with the shutdown of plants and personnel reduction. fwp further represents employers in legal disputes before courts of law, as well as before conciliation boards, the Federal Equal Treatment Commission and public authorities.

Litigation & Arbitration:

fwp helps domestic and international clients navigate commercial disputes. The firm regularly advises clients on high-end litigation and arbitration matters, including in the areas of M&A and joint venture disputes, financing issues, corporate malfeasance, supply agreement disputes and claims based on antitrust violations.

Real Estate:

fwp regularly advises on cutting-edge real estate transactions, increasingly in a cross-border context. The firm is unrivalled in its ability to handle all public law aspects involved in the implementation of infrastructure projects, which also often requires an abundance of real estate planning and zoning expertise.

International Work:

fwp regularly acts as lead counsel on cross-border transactions, with a focus on M&A, banking and finance, real estate and joint ventures. The firm also frequently assists foreign law firms and clients on Austrian legal issues. Over the years, fwp has developed an established best friends network with other firms worldwide, particularly in the CEE region.



**fellner
wratzfeld
partner**

GRAF & PITKOWITZ

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Partners: Nikolaus Pitkowitz, Ferdinand Graf, Otto Waechter, Alexander Isola, Jakob Widner, Armenak Utudjian, Martin Foerster, Stefan Weileder
 Number of partners: 8 Number of lawyers: 40
 Languages: German, English, French

Firm Overview:

Graf & Pitkowitz, founded in 1994, is one of the leading independent Austrian commercial law firms with offices in Vienna and Graz. The full service firm advises in all fields of Austrian and European business law with a client base from all sectors of domestic and foreign industry and public authorities. Graf & Pitkowitz has 40 qualified lawyers including seven partners – most are recognised experts in their field and have years of international experience. The firm is internationally known for its hard work approach and efficient and creative way of handling complex cases in a solution-oriented manner. Graf & Pitkowitz has an extensive network with international leading law firms across the globe with whom the firm regularly cooperate based on a best friends philosophy.

Main Areas of Practice:

Banking & Finance:

Graf & Pitkowitz provides advice on the full range of banking law and on all types of financing, in particular acquisition and project financing. In recent years, the firm has built a strong banking litigation practice involving banking, regulatory and capital markets disputes — it has advised and represented in some of the largest cases/litigations in the aftermath of the financial crisis.

Contact: Otto Waechter **Email:** o.waechter@gpp.at

Competition & Antitrust:

The firm's competition and antitrust practice group has longstanding and extensive expertise — it provides comprehensive advice in all areas of European and Austrian competition law. Key strength areas are as follows: merger control filings, cartel/antitrust proceedings, abuse of dominance proceedings and advice on drafting contractual agreements and structuring of distribution systems, dawn raids and internal audits.

Contact: Ferdinand Graf **Email:** f.graf@gpp.at

Corporate/M&A:

From the very beginning corporate law and mergers and acquisitions have been a core competence of Graf & Pitkowitz. The firm's specialists advise on all matters of corporate law — often on complex corporate transactions such as restructurings, spin-offs, mergers and transformations — both in Austria and cross-border. Recent work highlights include advising a prominent Russian conglomerate on cross border restructurings and capital measures and advising one of the largest Austrian publicly listed corporations on the spin-off and subsequent merger of subsidiaries.

The firm has gained a strong practice in corporate litigation supporting clients in corporate disputes and representing in corporate litigation — both in judicial and arbitration proceedings.

Contacts: Ferdinand Graf, Otto Waechter
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Dispute Resolution:

Graf & Pitkowitz is a top tier firm for all types of complex commercial litigation and arbitration — both domestic and international. The team has wide practical experience in arbitration proceedings under all leading institutional rules, including Vienna Rules, ICC, SIAC, Swiss Chambers, KCAB, UNCITRAL, SCC, Hungarian Chamber of Commerce, Czech, and ad hoc arbitrations. The firm has become increasingly well known for its work in high profile cases in the restitution of looted art, social media/data protection, telecommunication, white collar crime and shareholder disputes.

Partner Nikolaus Pitkowitz is considered one of the preeminent Austrian arbitration and dispute resolution practitioners. He has participated in nearly 100 arbitral proceedings.

Contact: Nikolaus Pitkowitz
Email: n.pitkowitz@gpp.at

Employment:

Graf & Pitkowitz has for many years been recognised for its high quality work in employment law — advising individual and collective employment law — both in terms of an ongoing consultation as well as in the course of restructurings and business acquisitions (M&A related). Key strength areas include the drafting of all relevant employment law contracts, advising companies on compliance issues regarding labor relations and collective agreements, conflict management, and employment-related litigation.

Contact: Jakob Widner **Email:** j.widner@gpp.at

Estate Planning/Trusts & Estates:

Asset and succession planning pose a major challenge to many wealthy individuals and entrepreneurs. Partner Armenak Utudjian has an excellent reputation and is advising on all aspects of succession planning and asset structuring including advising on related relevant areas such as corporate, real estate and employment — often in collaboration with experts from other practice groups. Key areas include in particular drafting of and execution of wills, enforcement of and defense against inheritance claims, legal issues in connection with structuring foundations and trusts (Privatstiftung).

Contact: Armenak Utudjian
Email: a.utudjian@gpp.at

Insolvency & Restructuring:

Graf & Pitkowitz has decades long been a leading firm for insolvency, restructuring and reorganisation. Practice group co-head Alexander Isola has been ranked for years among the very top lawyers in his field in Austria in all relevant rankings and handbooks. In recent years, this practice group has advised on almost every major insolvency and restructuring case in Austria — on many occasions as insolvency administrator, otherwise as advisor to debtors, creditors, and investors.

Areas of expertise include in particular: advice on restructuring, insolvency, and reorganisation — both in and out of court, insolvency administration, distressed M&A, insolvency challenge rights, capital maintenance law and equity substitution, insolvency dispute resolution, international insolvency law.

Contacts: Alexander Isola, Stefan Weileder
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PRACTICE AREAS

Banking & Finance
 Competition & Antitrust
 Compliance & White Collar Crime
 Corporate/M&A
 Dispute Resolution
 Employment
 Estate Planning/Trust & Estates
 Insolvency & Restructuring
 Intellectual Property/ P & IT
 Projects/Procurement & Infrastructure
 Real Estate & Construction
 Regulatory

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Intellectual Property/IP & IT:

Intellectual property is another core competence of Graf & Pitkowitz. The firm advises and represents clients in all areas of intellectual property law, information technology and data protection compliance. The spectrum of services ranges from all matters concerning trademarks, copyrights, patents and e-commerce among others. The practice group has great expertise and knowledge in data protection law — it has published a great amount on the forthcoming EU General Data Protection Regulation.

Contact: Claudia Csáky **Email:** c.csaky@gpp.at

Projects/Procurement & Infrastructure:

Graf & Pitkowitz is renowned for its advisory work on large scale projects — in particular in the area of public procurement. In recent years, the firm has been involved in numerous large-scale projects representing domestic and international companies as well as public sector clients. The public procurement practice consists of advising clients on structure planning and implementing procurement proceedings for complex projects, including the right choice of procedure and assisting in drafting necessary procurement documentation and consultation on setting up and financing procurement companies.

Graf & Pitkowitz regularly assists private bidders in their successful procurement participation. Key strength industry areas include infrastructure and transport.

Contact: Otto Waechter
Email: o.waechter@gpp.at

Real Estate & Construction Law:

The firm's highly experienced practice group provides comprehensive advice relating to all matters of real estate including financing. Key areas comprise of drafting and negotiating real estate and sale-purchase contracts — from individual property to real estate portfolios — lease agreements, developer contracts, condominium agreements, relevant public law permits and representation in property related litigation. The client base includes private individuals and investors — both private and institutional — as well as developers.

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GRAF & PITKOWITZ

GREINDL & KÖCK RECHTSANWÄLTE

www.greindlkoeck.at tel: +43 1 494 63 63 0 fax: +43 1 494 63 63 63

Number of partners: 4 Number of lawyers: 6
Languages: English; German; Russian; Polish; Rumanian

Firm Overview:

Greindl & Köck Rechtsanwälte was founded in 2003 and is a boutique business law-firm located in Vienna/Austria with a strong international orientation. The firm's clients are mostly international corporations, Austrian companies as well as public corporations. Greindl & Köck advises and represents its clients in all key fields of commercial and employment law.

Main Areas of Practice:

Corporate/M&A:

- Due diligence reports and investigations
- Preparation of pre-binding documents (Letters of Intent, non-binding offers)
- M&A transactions, preparation and review of share or asset purchase agreements, contract negotiations
- Re-organisations, mergers, (cross-border) business contributions
- Capital reductions, capital increases
- Ongoing corporate law advice for companies, for instance on the position and duties of managing directors, on questions of the supervisory board, liability issues for management
- Incorporation of companies, consulting of start-up companies
- Representation and advice in all commercial register proceedings
- Organisation of Supervisory Boards and Advisory Councils and related corporate law questions
- Corporate law questions in relation to financial statements (filing, amendment, additional after-the-fact dividend distributions)

Contact: Dr. Gregor Greindl
Email: georg.greindl@greindlkoeck.at

Commercial Law/Contract Law:

- Agent, dealer, franchise and other distribution agreements
- Leasing and financing contracts
- General Terms and Conditions of Service
- Consumer protection law
- E-commerce

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Employment Law:

- Advising HR management on all legal issues of "day-to-day" employment law, such as drafting and reviewing of employment contracts, schemes of variable compensation, advice prior to terminations and dismissals
- Employment law advice in connection with company acquisitions, restructuring and other forms of transfer of undertakings
- Company pensions
- Design and review of agreements with works councils, e.g. flexible working time
- Optimisation of the applicable collective agreements
- Preparation, examination and negotiation of contracts for managing directors and members of the board
- Representation before the Labor and Social Court
- Occupational health and safety issues

Contact: Dr. Bettina Köck; Dr. Stefan Köck
Email: bettina.koeck@greindlkoeck.at; stefan.koeck@greindlkoeck.at

Real Estate:

- Real estate transactions (purchase, donation, transfers of property)
- Structuring and financing aspects
- Condominium
- Brokerage law
- Mortgage collateralisation of financing
- Buildings on third party land and construction law
- Easements and land charges
- Land Register procedures
- Construction law
- Rental and lease agreements
- Hotel management contracts
- Operator models and in rem securities

Contact: Mag. Markus Hofpointner
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PRACTICE AREAS

Corporate/M&A
Commercial Law/Contract Law
Employment Law
Real Estate
Business Law
Intellectual Property Law

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Business Law:

- Data protection
- Trade law
- Compliance and compliance training
- Industry-specific regulatory law: pharmaceuticals, medical devices, banking

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Intellectual Property Law:

- National and international trademark and design applications
- European Community trademarks and designs
- Creation and evaluation of license agreements
- Disputes arising from intellectual property claims
- Assessment of the eligibility for protection
- Brand monitoring
- Advice on questions of unfair competition and advertising issues

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GREINDL & KÖCK • RECHTSANWÄLTE
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Managing Partner: Wulf G Hauser

Number of partners worldwide: 3 Number of other lawyers worldwide: 5

Firm Overview:

Hauser Partners was established in 1987 and quickly assumed a leading position in its chosen fields of specialisation. As an independent, owner-managed law firm with a clear focus on an international practice, Hauser Partners' main areas of practice are cross-border mergers and acquisitions, international commercial arbitration, capital markets and banking and finance. The firm presently has offices in Vienna and in Vaduz, Liechtenstein. Hauser Partners is a boutique for highly specialised legal services where experience and an understanding of the business needs of the client provide the firm with a cutting edge for the benefit of the client.

Main Areas of Practice:

M&A & Corporate:

Hauser Partners has managed a number of significant national and international transactions and is one of the leading Austrian firms in the area of M&A.

Wulf G Hauser has led the team of Hauser Partners in many major European and overseas cross-border transactions. For example, Hauser Partner has been lead counsel in the acquisition of the largest paper mills in almost every Central and Eastern European country, including Russia.

Recent Transactions Include:

- Representing the purchaser in the acquisition of 100% in FMW Förderanlagen GmbH, a major player being active in the engineering business for pulp and paper mills
- Acting as lead counsel in the acquisition of 53.32% and 4.52% in Suez Bags Company, a company being active in the production of industrial bags, which is listed at the Cairo Stock Exchange
- Advising the Mondi Group in the acquisition of 50% in Mondi TSP, a leading Thai producer of industrial bags, bringing the Mondi Group's participation to 100%
- Representing a leading automotive supplier in the acquisition of 100% of German tyres, rims and lubrications business units in Germany
- Advising a leading industrial bag producer in the acquisition of an industrial bag plant in Egypt
- Advising a leading paper producer in the setting-up of a joint saw mill operation in the Czech Republic
- Representing the purchaser in the acquisition of a flexible packaging company with operating facilities in Russia
- Representing the purchaser in acquisition of a flexible packaging company with operating facilities in South Korea and Thailand
- Representing the seller in the sale of a flexible packaging company with two operating facilities in Malaysia
- Representing the Schweighofer Group in acquisition of the largest saw mill in Saxony, Germany
- Representing the purchaser in the acquisition of an automotive distribution business in Finland
- Advising the Mondi Group in acquisition of Intercall, the leading sack manufacturer in Serbia
- Advising the Mondi Group in the acquisition of two corrugated packaging plants in Ansbach, Germany and Bupak, Czech Republic
- Advising a consortium of investors on the contracts for a joint venture to build a major hydroelectric pump power plant in Austria
- Advising an overseas investor in the acquisition of a substantial package of shares in an Austrian listed company

International Commercial Arbitration:

Hauser Partners represents corporate clients before international and domestic arbitral tribunals and Austrian courts. Wulf Gordian Hauser has served as sole arbitrator, chairman of the arbitral tribunal, party appointed arbitrator or counsel for a party in numerous arbitrations before the International Court of Arbitration of the International Chamber of Commerce, the International Arbitral Centre of the Federal Economic Chamber, Vienna, in ad hoc arbitrations under the UNCITRAL-rules, under the arbitration rules of the Austrian Code of Civil Procedure and in other ad hoc arbitrations.

The ICC has published two of his decisions in the ICC Bulletin.

Recent Cases Include:

- Counsel for the Rothschild family in a dispute concerning the biggest charitable foundation in Austria
- Counsel for Respondent in a VIAC Dispute concerning claims under a Consulting Agreement under English law
- Counsel for Respondent in a VIAC Arbitration involving claims for a Success Fee under Consulting Agreement
- Counsel for Claimant in an ICC Arbitration in Singapore relating to fraud claims in a major M&A transaction
- Party-appointed arbitrator in an ad-hoc-dispute under Austrian law concerning restitutions in a South Eastern European Country
- Counsel for Claimant in a VIAC dispute including emergency measures
- Party-appointed arbitrator in an ICC dispute concerning long-term gas contracts
- Party-appointed arbitrator in a VIAC dispute under Austrian law concerning aircraft financing
- Counsel for Claimant in an annulment suit before Austrian courts against an arbitral award under Czech law concerning a dispute arising out of a Share Purchase Agreement with a leading industrial company
- Party representative in an arbitration before VIAC under German law concerning the charter agreements in connection with a cruise ship
- Party representative in an arbitration before VIAC under South-Eastern European Law concerning the electric energy sector
- Chairman in an ICC arbitration under French law concerning damages to a cruise ship

Banking & Finance:

Hauser Partners regularly acts as local counsel for international banking consortiums in high-level financing transactions involving various kinds of deal structures. Hauser Partners has profound experience and expertise in advising international financing institutions as well as international banking lawyers in cross-border transactions on general banking law mat-

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ters, corporate finance as well as securitisations, and the issuing of related legal opinions.

Capital Markets:

Hauser Partners has profound experience and expertise in advising international clients in relation to capital market issues, including proceedings before the Austrian Takeover Commission, of which Wulf G Hauser has been a member.

Recent Transactions Include:

- Representing a large group of minority shareholders in connection with a squeeze-out procedure of minority shareholder of one of the largest companies which had been listed at the Austrian Stock Exchange, including US discovery proceedings pursuant to 28 U.S.C § 1782
- Representing the controlling shareholder of ERSTE Bank in proceedings before the Austrian Takeover Commission, dealing with questions control over a foundation and issues of control within a syndicate
- Representing the controlling shareholder of Erste Bank in proceedings before the Austrian Takeover Commission, which led to a pioneering decision with respect to legal issues of acting in concert, control within a syndicate and the liability for mandatory offers triggered by one party of a star-shaped syndicate consisting of several parties
- Representing the controlling shareholder of Erste Bank in proceedings before the Austrian Takeover Commission, dealing with complex issues of the effect of the acquisition of non-voting stock and the subsequent transfer within a group of syndicate partners
- Advising a client from the UK in creating a prospectus in accordance with the provisions of the Liechtenstein AIFMG (Alternative Investment Funds Management Code), in particular with respect to several concrete marketing activities

International Work:

Hauser Partners focuses on international transactions providing high-end legal advice to companies. The majority of its activities have a cross-border aspect. Hauser Partners assists foreign clients with their activities in Austria in various aspects of corporate and commercial law. Even more important are international projects in which Hauser Partners advises clients in transactions in many countries, in particular in Central and Eastern Europe.

Clients:

Clients are typically international entities who retain Hauser Partners for their Austrian work or Austrian companies who require assistance in international transactions. They include leading companies, such as Mondi plc. (paper and packaging) and Erste Group Bank.

HAUSER PARTNERS
RECHTSANWÄLTE GMBH · ATTORNEYS AT LAW L.L.P.

KNOETZL

www.knoetzl.com **tel:** +43 1 34 34 000 **fax:** +43 1 34 34 000 999

Number of partners: 6 Number of lawyers: 21

Languages: *English, German, Spanish, Russian, French, Bosnian, Croatian, Serbian, Italian, Czech, Slovak, Hungarian***Firm Overview:**

KNOETZL is a leading Austrian law firm founded on a handshake by some of the most effective, experienced and perceptive legal minds dedicated to providing the highest quality of advocacy in dispute resolution and corporate crisis. The firm's mission is to achieve optimal outcomes for corporate, financial and governmental clients in their most significant and challenging disputes. With an all-star team, combined with a diversity of styles and specialisations, KNOETZL delivers new standards of excellence in the market.

Main Areas of Practice:**Arbitration:**

Arbitration and litigation are the bedrock of KNOETZL's practice. The members of the arbitration team are routinely engaged as counsel and as arbitrators under all significant arbitration rules. KNOETZL's lawyers handle international commercial arbitration, investment protection and arbitration-related court proceedings. KNOETZL's expertise includes construction and engineering, energy, gaming, hospitality, automotive, IT and telecommunications, life science, healthcare and pharmaceuticals and aviation. The distinct ability of KNOETZL to collaborate with partner law firms, experts and in-house counsel ensures high standards and efficient handling of the most complex cases. Because of the arbitration team's diversity, KNOETZL advises clients in various languages with deep, hands-on, market and expert legal knowledge in a wide range of jurisdictions (e.g., in Latin America, CEE and SEE). KNOETZL's team has been successfully involved in some of the largest and most complex commercial arbitrations in Austria and the CEE region of the last decade, and on behalf of some of the world's largest companies and has a consistent track record in delivering favorable results to its clients. A highlight of the arbitration practice includes advising Casinos Austria in a major investment arbitration against Argentina.

Asset Recovery | Enforcement:

KNOETZL acts for multinational corporations and high net worth individuals when victims of fraud. The close relationships and seasoned teamwork with experienced local and international forensic experts and fraud recovery lawyers around the globe ensures identification, tracing, freezing and recovering financial, book entry, and securing physical assets with the most effective use of dedicated resources. A KNOETZL partner is the president of the Transparency International (Austria Chapter) advisory board. In 2017, a member of the firm has been awarded the worldwide recognition of 'Lawyer of the Year' in the field of Asset Recovery by London business research publication *Who's Who Legal*. KNOETZL's expertise also includes effective provisional measures, such as freeze orders and attachments, in the domestic and international context, and enforcement of foreign judgments and arbitral awards.

Crisis Management:

KNOETZL supports local and international companies across all business and governmental sectors in dealing with critical situations, in a routine and focused manner even under serious time pressure, as is often necessary. The firm's primary objective is to help clients prevent and resolve crises and mitigate their effects. KNOETZL's extensive experience and

prompt response time can arm stressed clients with rapid and thorough assessments of all legal and practical issues encountered in times of corporate crisis, and provide viable and business-oriented solutions.

Fraud | Business Crime:

KNOETZL represents companies and individuals during fraud, criminal and irregularity investigation proceedings, and guides them through trials when they arise. KNOETZL's team expertly handles the legal aspects of white collar crime matters and is skilled at understanding and addressing commercial and reputational (including PR) risks.

Internal Investigations | Compliance:

KNOETZL assists its corporate clients in conducting internal investigations and as they face external investigations. A member of the firm enjoys an elite reputation of international prominence in the field of investigations. KNOETZL provides its clients with ready access to the necessary, top-of-the-class, network to handle multi-cross-border investigations quickly and effectively through its exclusive Austrian membership in FraudNet. KNOETZL's team of lawyers deals with technical aspects of internal and external investigations in a pragmatic and effective manner, including through the skilled utilisation of forensic software.

KNOETZL reviews actual, planned and contested business procedures and practices for compliance with laws, regulations and policies, assists in identifying risks to organisations and helps to develop appropriate policies and effective control. This work encompasses a broad spectrum of anti-corruption, reporting or disclosure, financial controls, money laundering, criminal and embargoed activities.

Litigation:

Litigation and arbitration are the elite bedrock of KNOETZL's practice. For many years KNOETZL lawyers have been ranked as top tier litigators with an outstanding win record. The litigation team has a clear mission and a driving purpose: to achieve optimal outcomes for corporate, financial and governmental clients in their most significant, sensitive and complex litigations before the Austrian courts, and well beyond.

KNOETZL's team of experienced trial lawyers is fearless and determined in achieving the goals, defined jointly with the client, in civil, commercial, sovereign, corporate and fraud litigation. Smart strategy, creative tactics in execution combined with in-depth knowledge of the law and longstanding experience and reputation built in the relevant courts pave the way for significant victories when attacking or defending.

Profound knowledge of asset-tracing, effective provisional measures in domestic and international

PRACTICE AREAS

Arbitration
Asset Recovery | Enforcement
Bribery | Corruption
Crisis Management
Fraud | Business Crime
Internal Investigations | Compliance
Litigation
Mediation | ADR

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contexts, and enforcement of foreign judgments together with the force of the business crime team makes KNOETZL a leader in the field. KNOETZL lawyers work seamlessly with international partner law firms and industry experts in the CEE and SEE regions and are widely regarded as true leaders and innovators in this market. Top-tier international law firms routinely seek KNOETZL as Austrian co-counsel.

Mediation | ADR:

KNOETZL uses alternative dispute resolution methods successfully to resolve disputes out of court. Often, the combination of classic mediation techniques and the know-how derived from experience in litigation lead to successful settlements. KNOETZL's accredited mediators conduct business mediations and also act as counsel.

Firm Contacts:**General Inquiries:**

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KNOETZL

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Managing Partners: Dr Rainer Knyrim, Dr Gerald Trieb, LL.M.

Number of partners: 2 Number of lawyers: 7

Languages: *English, German*

Firm Overview:

Based in Vienna, Austria, Knyrim Trieb attorneys-at-law is Austria's first law boutique of experts specialised in data protection law and IT-law. With more than 15 years of experience Knyrim Trieb attorneys are some of Austria's leading experts in the areas of data protection law, e-commerce law, collective employment law and contract law. Cooperating with a variety of external partners and the international Privacy Europe network, the firm acts as an expert and 'one-stop-shop' for international projects. Founded on January 1st, 2017 the firm has trebled within only three years, with an outstanding reputation of expertise in the field of IT and data protection law.

Main Areas of Practice:

Data Protection Law:

2 partners; 7 fee earners based in Vienna

Implementation of the European General Data Protection Regulation and the new Austrian Data Protection Act and covering any aspect of data protection, including in-house evaluation of IT systems, establishing of records of processing activities, data protection impact assessment, assessment of IT systems with respect to data protection by design and support and drafting of relevant documents and conducting data protection workshops for all company levels.

Key Clients: Boehringer Ingelheim RCV GmbH & Co KG, Lenzing AG, VÖEW (Austrian Association of Electricity Companies), Eli Lilly Ges.m.b.H., Immofinanz AG, voestalpine AG, KTM AG, Landesholding Burgenland GmbH, ÖAMTC (Austrian Automobile Club)

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IT, Telecommunications & E-Commerce Law:

2 partners; 7 fee earners based in Vienna

Advising both start-ups and established companies to design their apps and online services by ensuring that the wording of marketing consent, business terms and conditions, information materials and cookie declarations meet all the legal requirements.

Assessment and drawing up IT policies and agreements on the use of telephones, email, the internet and social media in the workplace and enforcing the client's rights in the event of breaches of competition law or domain rights.

Key Clients: Wolford AG, MANZ'sche Verlags - und Universitätsbuchhandlung GmbH, Wiener Netze GmbH (Vienna Utilities), Kia Austria GmbH

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Dr Gerald Trieb, LL.M.

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Collective Employment Law:

2 partners; 7 fee earners based in Vienna

Advising, assessment and drawing up company agreements, declarations of consent and information letters to employees, and supporting in negotiations with works councils.

Key Clients: Boehringer Ingelheim RCV GmbH & Co KG, Wiener Netze GmbH (Vienna Utilities), Lenzing AG

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PRACTICE AREAS

Data Protection Law
IT, Telecommunications & E-Commerce
Collective Employment Law
Contract Law

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Contract Law:

2 partners; 7 fee earners based in Vienna

Assessment and drawing up agreements, especially regarding software products, by evaluating and assessing the client's business and technical environment.

Key Clients: Energie Steiermark AG (Energy Styria), DAF Austria GesmbH, Immofinanz AG

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KWR KARASEK WIETRZYK RECHTSANWÄLTE GMBH

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Managing Partner: Dr Thomas Frad

Number of partners: 10 Number of lawyers: 41

Languages: *Bulgarian, English, French, German, Italian, Russian, Serbian, Spanish, Turkish*

Firm Overview:

KWR Karasek Wietrzyk Rechtsanwälte GmbH is one of Austria's leading corporate law firms based in Vienna, founded in 2004. The firm advises well-known national and international clients in all fields of business law. The firm's thorough understanding of the clients' needs, economic grasp and the newest developments in academic doctrine in addition to the expertise in the legal profession enables KWR to offer excellent legal advice and innovative solutions. Benefitting from a 'no barriers' working culture through an international network of handpicked lawyers, KWR is able to provide competent legal advice exactly where it's needed.

Main Areas of Practice:

Antitrust, Merger & Unfair Competition:

KWR holds extensive experience advising national and international clients in antitrust, merger/acquisition activities and competition matters. The highly specialised lawyers advise inter alia on federal competition authority proceedings, merger control, unfair competition, abuse of dominance, state aid, dawn raids, antitrust litigation/investigations, antitrust compliance, proceedings for preliminary injunctions.

Contacts: Jörg Zehetner, Thomas Rabl,

Thomas Haberer, Barbara Kuchar

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Construction/Real Estate:

Ranked in band one in *Chambers Europe* 2017, KWR is recognised as one of the top firms in this area in Austria and boasts a strong focus and outstanding experience on construction/real estate matters. KWR offers advice on a wide range, inter alia: project finance/development, transactions, sale/acquisition of property, lease agreements, private public partnership, construction/civil engineering projects, power plant engineering, traffic infrastructure, architects law, public procurement/verification procedures, construction/real estate litigation.

Contacts: Georg Karasek, Paul Schmidinger, Thomas Frad, Clemens M. Berlakovits, Jan Schiffko

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Corporate/M&A:

KWR advises on the full range of corporate legal issues, customised to the specific needs of the clients' business sector; inter alia: DD, establishment of stock companies, LLCs and partnerships, initial public offerings, privatisations, restructurings, take-over law, syndicate agreements, legal disputes arising from corporate relationships, rules of procedure for supervisory board, board of directors, management.

Contacts: Gerold Wietrzyk, Jörg Zehetner,

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Data Protection & Cyber:

KWR provides comprehensive advice in all contentious and non-contentious data-protection issues, inter alia in relation to the implementation of the EU - General Data Protection Directive (GDPR). KWR also has a strong focus on the interface of employment law and

data protection. KWR's practice encompasses cyber security matters such as cyber breach response.

Contacts: Anna Mertinz, Barbara Kuchar

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Employment Law:

The firm's employment practice covers all aspects of employment law inter alia: contracts of employment, remuneration/employee participation programs, cross-border deployment, temporary employment/personnel leasing, termination, business takeover, restructurings/outsourcings, employment DD, working time allocation, collective agreements, compliance issues, retirement, representation in court proceedings.

Contact: Anna Mertinz

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Energy, Renewables, Climate Protection:

The firm advises leading market players in the energy sector, inter alia on national/European energy law, renewable energy/green electricity, national and international trading contracts, energy efficiency, power and industrial plants, projects, restructuring, transactions, and competition, regulatory matters, representation before national and international regulatory authorities, before the Austrian Constitutional and Administrative Court, the European Commission and the Court of Justice of the European Union, litigation and arbitration, compliance counseling and DD.

Contact: Thomas Rabl

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Intellectual Property:

KWR provides advice in all contentious and non-contentious IP matters including trademarks, patents, designs, trade secrets, product piracy, personality rights, unfair competition, advertising law, franchising/licensing, copyright and the law of collecting societies. The KWR team has received substantial recognition from international market observers.

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Litigation & Arbitration:

KWR attorneys have extensive experience in representing in civil as well as arbitration proceedings in their respective practice areas; inter alia: representation in civil proceedings in all areas of business law as well as in national and international courts of arbitration (including the enforcement and appeal of the arbitration award).

PRACTICE AREAS

Antitrust, Merger Control & Unfair Competition
Banking & Capital Markets
Compliance Consultation
Corporate Law
Data Protection & Cyber
Employment Law
Energy, Renewables, Climate Protection
European Law
Foundations
Industry & Environment
Insurance Law
Intellectual Property
Litigation & Arbitration
Mergers & Acquisitions, IPOs
National & International Tax
Public Business Law
Public Procurement Law
Real Estate & Construction
Reorganisation & Restructuring
Technology/Media/Telecommunications (TMT)

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Contacts: All KWR attorneys in their respective practice area.

Public Commercial Law:

The experience of KWR in public commercial covers the full range, inter alia: constitutional/administrative law, state aid, environmental impact assessment, regulatory, financial regulatory authority, traffic law, trade law, public construction law, compliance, criminal administrative law, representation before the Austrian Constitutional Court, the Austrian Administrative Court and the Court of Justice of the European Union.

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Public Procurement Law:

The firm's practice encompasses all aspects of public procurement, inter alia: legal supervision before/during tender procedures, representation of tenderers/contracting authorities before procurement review bodies, public private partnerships, counselling on the consideration of grants for public projects, advising public clients/sector clients in preparing and issuing public tenders, advising companies on winning public tenders/on filing appeals.

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PETSCHE POLLAK ATTORNEYS AT LAW

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Firm Overview:

petsche pollak is one of the leading Austrian boutique law firms for dispute resolution.

The team of dedicated experts provides highest quality legal services in all aspects of litigation, arbitration and white-collar crime including dispute prevention and dispute management.

They advise large corporations as well as individuals, especially in high-profile white collar crime matters. As long-term partners to their clients they walk the extra mile to achieve their goals. Being utmost service oriented, they are committed to personal advice and individual solutions – legally and economically.

Main Areas of Practice:

White Collar Crime:

- Criminal defense and defense litigation related to:
 - Embezzlement matters
 - Bribery issues
 - Corruption matters
 - Business Fraud issues
 - Industrial espionage cases
 - Fiscal misconduct matters
 - Tax evasion matters
- Whistleblowing hotlines
- Asset recovery

2 partners, 6 fee earners, all based in Austria, Vienna.

- Defense of a major corporation in a high-profile PPO investigation matter including assistance with respect to internal investigation and assistance with the coordination of litigation PR
- Defense of an well-known individual in connection with his alleged involvement in a highly complex alleged internet fraud in several European countries

Contact: office@petschepollak.com

Dispute Resolution & Commercial Litigation:

- Commercial Disputes
- Engineering & Construction Disputes
- Real Estate & Real Estate Disputes
- Distribution Law
- Product Liability Law
- Cross-Border Disputes
- Conflict of Laws
- Investment Disputes

2 partners, 7 fee earners, all based in Austria, Vienna.

- Representing an international construction corporation as the plaintiff in a complex and long-lasting construction litigation regarding a landmark construction in Warsaw, Poland
- Representing the Austrian subsidiary of a major multi-national travel and leisure corporation in an investment dispute in one of the largest pending proceedings in Austria

Contact: office@petschepollak.com

PRACTICE AREAS

White Collar Crime
Criminal Defense / Defense Litigation
Whistleblowing Hotlines
Commercial Disputes
Real Estate
National & Cross-Border Commercial Disputes
Engineering & Construction Disputes
Distribution Law
Product Liability Law
Arbitration
Cross-Border Contracts
Conflict of Laws
Investment Disputes
Finance & Business Crime
Compliance

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Key Clients:

- Austrian Development Agency
- Borealis
- STRABAG
- JJW-Hotels
- KAEFER
- Octapharma
- proPellets Austria

**petsche
pollak**



attorneys at law

SCHOENHERR

www.schoenherr.eu tel: +43 1 534 37 0 fax: +43 1 534 37 66100

Number of lawyers: Over 300

Languages: Afrikaans, Arabic, Bosnian, Bulgarian, Croatian, Czech, English, French, German, Hungarian, Italian, Macedonian, Montenegrin, Norwegian, Polish, Portuguese, Romanian, Russian, Serbian, Slovak, Slovenian, Spanish, Turkish, Ukrainian.

Firm Overview:

Schoenherr is a leading full-service law firm in Central Europe. Operating in a rapidly evolving environment, we are a dynamic and innovative firm with an effective blend of experienced lawyers and young talent. As one of the first international law firms to move into CEE/SEE, the firm has grown to be one of the largest firms in the region. With 15 offices and several country desks, the firm's comprehensive coverage of the region means it can offer solutions that perfectly fit the given industry, jurisdiction and company.

Schoenherr has offices, country desks and permanent cooperation partners, and is in compliance with the respective local legal standards and conduct rules in all countries where it is active; therefore, the local firm name may vary from jurisdiction to jurisdiction.

Main Areas of Practice:

Banking & Finance:

The firm advises on general banking, including investment fund matters, and project, asset and structured finance including cross-border (equipment and facility) leases.

Capital Markets:

The firm has an IPO Practice and advises on cross-border equity and debt offerings, advising issuers, underwriters and transaction counsel.

Business to Consumer Protection:

Schoenherr's business to consumer protection group helps clients to ensure compliance with applicable consumer protection laws and regulations, litigates on their behalf, and provides instant assistance in urgent situations.

Compliance & Criminal Defence:

Criminal compliance risks are present in all areas of business. In response to this, Schoenherr has established a dedicated compliance and criminal defence team. The team has substantive legal and practical expertise in this area and is well equipped to handle all aspects of criminal compliance and criminal defence matters.

Corporate Investigations & Crisis Management:

As response times to emergency situations rapidly shorten in a connected world, Schoenherr has established a dedicated multi-faceted team of legal experts. It investigates the facts, advises on immediate next steps and assists with their implementation.

Corporate/M&A:

The core practice of the corporate/m&a team is advising and representing clients on transactions and complex corporate and commercial matters. The team has an outstanding track record on key transactions in Austria and throughout CEE/SEE.

Dispute Resolution:

Schoenherr stands for excellence in litigation, arbitration, and investor-state disputes. The team has scored some of the most publicised wins at ICSID and in the national courts. Clients value the first-rate legal skills and hands-on approach.

EU & Competition:

The eu and competition practice group advises clients in merger control, anti-trust and state aid matters at European and national levels throughout the firm's comprehensive network in the CEE region, and its office in Brussels.

Healthcare & Life Sciences:

Schoenherr's healthcare & life sciences group combines

lawyers with particular industry expertise with specialists from various teams across the firm's practice groups and offices. The group advises all stakeholders active in this industry.

Insolvency & Restructuring:

Schoenherr's insolvency and restructuring team handles complex, multi-creditor financial restructurings and distressed refinancings of corporates and financial institutions. Further the team advises in insolvency proceedings and insolvency related litigation.

Insurance:

Schoenherr's insurance practice group advises many of Austria's and Europe's leading insurers on transactions in the insurance sector, as well as on distribution structures, product design, and all related regulatory and tax matters for life, non-life, and reinsurance business.

IP & Unfair Commercial Practices:

The Schoenherr ip practice group has long-standing experience in inter alia trademark, design, patent, copyright and unfair competition matters. Its members frequently represent parties in groundbreaking court cases in national and European courts.

Labour & Employment:

The labour and employment team advises on all aspects of employment law, for both contentious and non-contentious matters. It focuses on inter alia issues arising from mergers and acquisitions, workforce restructuring and cross border transfer of employees.

Real Estate & Construction:

The real estate & construction practice group enjoys high visibility in the region's largest and most important transactions and development projects. The team advises on all aspects of acquisition of real estate, development/construction, restructurings, and real estate and construction-related litigation and arbitration.

Regulatory:

By providing a wide-ranging and consistently reliable service, the regulatory practice group has successfully advised leading players across a wide spectrum of sectors, and in all matters of constitutional and administrative law.

Start-up & Venture Capital Services:

The Schoenherr team covers the full range of commercial legal services, and is well equipped to handle all aspects that become relevant during the life cycle of a start-up. We advise investors and founders in Austria and CEE.

Tax:

Schoenherr's tax practice advises domestic and international clients on their most sophisticated and challenging tax matters. It supports clients not only in

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TURKEY

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detecting tax risks but in providing simple, clear and practical tax solutions.

Technology & Digitalisation:

The technology and digitalisation team provides 360° legal advice in the ever evolving world of new technology and digitalisation. The firm's experts from across its legal sectors ensure a comprehensive understanding of the clients' needs

SCHERBAUM SEEBACHER

www.scherbaum-seebacher.at tel: +43 316 832460

Number of partners: 9 Number of lawyers: 5

Number of associates and paralegals: 22

Languages: *English; German; Slovenian; French; Italian; Russian*

Firm Overview:

ScherbaumSeebacher is an internationally active Austrian full-service commercial law firm with offices in Vienna and Graz. The firm specialises in insolvency and restructuring, corporate, mergers and acquisitions, banking, finance and capital markets, private clients, damages and tort, labour and employment, real estate, construction contract and litigation, insurance law, international contract law, corporate compliance, tax and white-collar crime.

Main Areas of Practice:

Restructuring & Insolvency:

2 partners; 7 fee earners

Contact: Dr. Clemens Jaufer, Dr. Norbert

Scherbaum

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Email: scherbaum.norbert@scherbaum-seebacher.at

Key Clients: banks, insurances, private equity funds, companies

Real Estate & Construction (Damage Law):

4 partners; 10 fee earners

Contact: Dr. Georg Seebacher, Dr. Martin Gärtner,

Mag. Sascha Verovnik, Dr. Patrick Panholzer LL.M.

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Email: verovnik.sascha@scherbaum-seebacher.at

Email: panholzer.patrick@scherbaum-seebacher.at

Key Clients: banks, insurances, civil engineers, companies

Litigation & Arbitration:

4 partners; 10 fee earners

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Marco Riegler, Dr. Gerold Oberhumer, Dr. Patrick

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Email: panholzer.patrick@scherbaum-seebacher.at

Key Clients: legal and HR-departments, private clients, banks, insurances, companies, shareholder

PRACTICE AREAS

Antitrust Law

Banking & Capital Market Law

Commercial Agency Law

Commercial & Financial Criminal Law

Company Succession & Private Clients

Competition Law

Compliance

Construction (Damage) Law

Corporate Law & M&A

Data Protection Law

Inheritance Law

Insolvency Law, Restructuring & Insolvency

Administration

Insurance Contract Law

Intellectual Property Rights

International Commercial Contract Law

Labour Law

Liability Law

Post-marital Distribution of Assets

Public Law

Public Procurement Law

Real Estate Law

Tax & Duty Law

Tenancy Law & Condominium Ownership

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**SCHERBAUM
SEEBACHER**
RECHTSANWÄLTE

Austria Leading Law Firms

www.chambersandpartners.com

SCHOENHERR**www.schoenherr.eu** **tel:** +43 1 534 37 0 **fax:** +43 1 534 37 66100

Number of lawyers: Over 300

Languages: Afrikaans, Arabic, Bosnian, Bulgarian, Croatian, Czech, English, French, German, Hungarian, Italian, Macedonian, Montenegrin, Norwegian, Polish, Portuguese, Romanian, Russian, Serbian, Slovak, Slovenian, Spanish, Turkish, Ukrainian.

Firm Overview:

Schoenherr is a leading full-service law firm in Central Europe. Operating in a rapidly evolving environment, we are a dynamic and innovative firm with an effective blend of experienced lawyers and young talent. As one of the first international law firms to move into CEE/SEE, the firm has grown to be one of the largest firms in the region. With 15 offices and several country desks, the firm's comprehensive coverage of the region means it can offer solutions that perfectly fit the given industry, jurisdiction and company.

Schoenherr has offices, country desks and permanent cooperation partners, and is in compliance with the respective local legal standards and conduct rules in all countries where it is active; therefore, the local firm name may vary from jurisdiction to jurisdiction.

Main Areas of Practice:**Banking & Finance:**

The firm advises on general banking, including investment fund matters, and project, asset and structured finance including cross-border (equipment and facility) leases.

Capital Markets:

The firm has an IPO Practice and advises on cross-border equity and debt offerings, advising issuers, underwriters and transaction counsel.

Business to Consumer Protection:

Schoenherr's business to consumer protection group helps clients to ensure compliance with applicable consumer protection laws and regulations, litigates on their behalf, and provides instant assistance in urgent situations.

Compliance & Criminal Defence:

Criminal compliance risks are present in all areas of business. In response to this, Schoenherr has established a dedicated compliance and criminal defence team. The team has substantive legal and practical expertise in this area and is well equipped to handle all aspects of criminal compliance and criminal defence matters.

Corporate Investigations & Crisis Management:

As response times to emergency situations rapidly shorten in a connected world, Schoenherr has established a dedicated multi-faceted team of legal experts. It investigates the facts, advises on immediate next steps and assists with their implementation.

Corporate/M&A:

The core practice of the corporate/m&a team is advising and representing clients on transactions and complex corporate and commercial matters. The team has an outstanding track record on key transactions in Austria and throughout CEE/SEE.

Dispute Resolution:

Schoenherr stands for excellence in litigation, arbitration, and investor-state disputes. The team has scored some of the most publicised wins at ICSID and in the national courts. Clients value the first-rate legal skills and hands-on approach.

EU & Competition:

The eu and competition practice group advises clients in merger control, anti-trust and state aid matters at European and national levels throughout the firm's comprehensive network in the CEE region, and its office in Brussels.

Healthcare & Life Sciences:

Schoenherr's healthcare & life sciences group combines

lawyers with particular industry expertise with specialists from various teams across the firm's practice groups and offices. The group advises all stakeholders active in this industry.

Insolvency & Restructuring:

Schoenherr's insolvency and restructuring team handles complex, multi-creditor financial restructurings and distressed refinancings of corporates and financial institutions. Further the team advises in insolvency proceedings and insolvency related litigation.

Insurance:

Schoenherr's insurance practice group advises many of Austria's and Europe's leading insurers on transactions in the insurance sector, as well as on distribution structures, product design, and all related regulatory and tax matters for life, non-life, and reinsurance business.

IP & Unfair Commercial Practices:

The Schoenherr ip practice group has long-standing experience in inter alia trademark, design, patent, copyright and unfair competition matters. Its members frequently represent parties in groundbreaking court cases in national and European courts.

Labour & Employment:

The labour and employment team advises on all aspects of employment law, for both contentious and non-contentious matters. It focuses on inter alia issues arising from mergers and acquisitions, workforce restructuring and cross border transfer of employees.

Real Estate & Construction:

The real estate & construction practice group enjoys high visibility in the region's largest and most important transactions and development projects. The team advises on all aspects of acquisition of real estate, development/construction, restructurings, and real estate and construction-related litigation and arbitration.

Regulatory:

By providing a wide-ranging and consistently reliable service, the regulatory practice group has successfully advised leading players across a wide spectrum of sectors, and in all matters of constitutional and administrative law.

Start-up & Venture Capital Services:

The Schoenherr team covers the full range of commercial legal services, and is well equipped to handle all aspects that become relevant during the life cycle of a start-up. We advise investors and founders in Austria and CEE.

Tax:

Schoenherr's tax practice advises domestic and international clients on their most sophisticated and challenging tax matters. It supports clients not only in

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detecting tax risks but in providing simple, clear and practical tax solutions.

Technology & Digitalisation:

The technology and digitalisation team provides 360° legal advice in the ever evolving world of new technology and digitalisation. The firm's experts from across its legal sectors ensure a comprehensive understanding of the clients' needs.

Org ID: 4229

3 Out

Authorised by:

Date:

VAVROVSKY HEINE MARTH RECHTSANWÄLTE

www.vhm-law.at **tel:** +43 1 512 0353 **fax:** +43 1 512 03 5340

Partners: Karl Ludwig Vavrovsky, Nikolaus Vavrovsky, Dieter Heine, Christian Marth, Philipp Strasser, Daniela Pitzek, Anne-Karin Grill

Number of partners: 7 Number of lawyers: 32

Languages: *German, English, French*

Firm Overview:

With offices in Vienna and Salzburg, Vavrovsky Heine Marth supports corporate and private clients in all aspects of commercial life. The firm's main focuses are controversy and real estate, while its Salzburg office is a renowned firm for insolvency, restructuring and corporate recovery as well as private clients. In controversy, Vavrovsky Heine Marth leads clients through all phases of complex disputes. The team provides strategic support, leads the way through conflicts, avoids, manages and resolves disputes, and secures rights. In real estate, Vavrovsky Heine Marth is a one-stop firm that advises clients in all real estate and construction related matters — from transactions and financing, project development, construction and utilisation to real estate and construction law related disputes.

As the exclusive Austrian member of the Alliance of International Business Lawyers ALLIURIS, Vavrovsky Heine Marth provides access to over 450 experts all over the world.

Main Areas of Practice:

Controversy:

Many years of experience in complex cases, a passion for challenges, and individually selected teams make Vavrovsky Heine Marth a go-to address to guide clients through all facets of controversial situations. The firm's experts offer strategic advice in contract negotiations and the drafting phase, design clear strategies, models and procedures to prevent and resolve potential conflicts and support clients in contract and claim management. The partners are highly experienced in representing clients before national and international courts and authorities. They expertly defend clients against claims, advocate on their behalf, protect and enforce their rights. Following an integrated cross-method approach, Vavrovsky Heine Marth's professionals are, furthermore, highly adept as counsel and arbitrators in institutional as well as ad-hoc arbitration proceedings and support clients throughout all stages of arbitration. Based on extensive expertise, Vavrovsky Heine Marth offers the same high service quality in all other forms of Alternative and Consensual Dispute Resolution (ADR/CDR). Especially in mediation, Vavrovsky Heine Marth advises clients in a wide range of jurisdictions and cultures. The partners also often act as conflict managers and mediators themselves.

Vavrovsky Heine Marth's controversy portfolio covers all economic sectors and industries including M&A, corporate and commercial, capital markets, banking, insurance, competition law, IP, IT and media law, as well as energy, infrastructure, real estate and construction.

A special focus lies on:

■ Corporate & M&A:

Corporate law is a core expertise at Vavrovsky Heine Marth. Services cover strategic development, the setting up and execution of agreements, the dissolution of corporate structures and business successions. In addition, the firm advises national and international clients in all aspects related to management issues. Strong focus also lies on transactions, financing, corporate and commercial litigation

■ Insurance:

Vavrovsky Heine Marth offers its clients peerless competence in insurance law. The firm combines extraordinary dispute resolution and arbitration expertise with impeccable know-how in national and international insurance law, inter alia regarding Financial Lines/Specialty Lines (D&O, E&O, PI, POSI, W&I/TRI, etc), product and public liability, vehicle liability as well as property insurance. Among the firm's clients are renowned national and international (re-)insurers as well as industrial and institutional entities. Vavrovsky Heine Marth represents the clients' interests particularly in the area of insurance contract law and insurance related supervisory law, as well as in connection with underwriting risks. Moreover, the firm offers guidance in complex recovery actions and regularly acts as monitoring counsel in connection with handling major losses. Furthermore, the firm's experts successfully represent clients in insurance law related disputes

■ Competition:

In the area of competition law — ranging from anti-trust issues to unfair competition law — clients at Vavrovsky Heine Marth profit from extensive legal and industry expert knowledge. The firm counsels companies in connection with the filing of merger notifications and competition law implications of transactions. Furthermore, its experts advise clients with respect to their market presence and represent them in disputes concerning competition law

■ IP, IT & Media:

Vavrovsky Heine Marth holds long-lasting expertise in securing and defending registered and non-registered intellectual property rights. The firm has profound experience in media law and counsels media companies as well as private individuals and legal entities in disputes with the media. Vavrovsky Heine Marth also supports clients with respect to matters of transparency and the duties of due diligence. The firm's clients' matters are supported with ancillary Litigation-PR

PRACTICE AREAS

Controversy
Real Estate & Construction
Insolvency, Restructuring & Corporate Recovery
Private Clients

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Real Estate & Construction:

Vavrovsky Heine Marth is a one-stop firm for all real estate and construction related matters. The focus lies on complex national and cross-border transactions, where the team has long-standing experience in advising and representing clients in matters with a multitude of parties. Among the firm's clients are national and international investors and developers; another focus lies on the representation of national and international real estate funds. The real estate specialists at Vavrovsky Heine Marth are likewise familiar with all stages of project development and utilisation including tenancy and property law, zoning laws, heritage protection, total and general contractor agreements and easements. Services, furthermore, cover all real estate and construction related areas, especially corporate law and finance. As first contact point for its clients, the team regularly takes over the overall coordination for projects. Based on long-standing dispute resolution expertise, Vavrovsky Heine Marth is moreover sought-after counsel in real estate and construction law related disputes.

Corporate Recovery, Restructuring & Insolvency:

Vavrovsky Heine Marth regularly advises distressed enterprises. Its experts attain sustainable workout solutions and assist clients in restructurings as well as optimisation processes. Other services regard distressed M&A, outsourcing, cost-cutting as well as financing and refinancing. The firm, furthermore, counsels companies and individuals in all insolvency issues and takes over debtor and creditor representation.

Private Clients:

Vavrovsky Heine Marth provides services to foundations and private individuals in all aspects related to asset structuring, estate planning and succession issues. In addition, the firm counsels and represents clients in all family law issues.



Vavrovsky Heine Marth

WEBER & CO. ATTORNEYS AT LAW**www.weber.co.at** **tel:** +43 1 427 2000 **fax:** +43 1 427 2010

Number of partners: 5 Number of lawyers: 11

Languages: *English, French, German, Italian***Firm Overview:**

WEBER & CO. is one of the leading Austrian law firms. Its lawyers are highly specialised and committed to the highest standards of legal service and proficiency. On the basis of its long-standing tradition.

WEBER & CO. offers legal services in all areas relevant to businesses, with a focus on corporate, finance and mergers and acquisitions. The firm's approach is creative and pragmatic, helping its clients to assess and effectively manage legal risks and to find practical solutions in the relevant legal, business and, when necessary, political environments.

WEBER & CO. has extensive experience in the legal management of projects in Austria and in foreign jurisdiction. Partners of the firm have authored numerous articles and books on domestic and international business law and they teach in leading European law schools. The firm is regularly consulted by the Austrian legislature on legislative matters.

Main Areas of Practice:**M&A & Corporate:**

WEBER & CO. is active across the whole range of mergers and acquisitions, including public takeovers, acquisition finance, management buyouts and buyins, as well as private equity and venture capital for Austrian and foreign corporate and financial institutions. The mergers and acquisitions group supports clients at all stages of the transaction. Services include pre-acquisition restructuring, process planning and schedule coordination, legal due diligence reviews, labour law aspects (such as negotiating and drafting post-acquisition social plans in case of mass redundancies), corporate structures, and merger clearance proceedings before the Austrian and EU authorities.

Recent work includes:

Representation of parties in several notable M&A transactions, including restructuring deals as well as acting on the buyer's side for strategic acquisitions.

Contact: Stefan Weber (Partner)**Email:** s.weber@weber.co.at**Contact:** Christoph Moser (Partner)**Email:** c.moser@weber.co.at**Capital Markets, Banking & Finance:**

WEBER & CO. assists issuers and financial intermediaries in equity and debt financing in the capital markets (e.g. stock issues including IPOs and rights issues, secured and unsecured bond issues, high-yield bond and convertible bond issues, ABS and Tier 1 financing, hybrid and mezzanine financing). The firm's services include in particular legal implementation, the international structuring of the product, the drafting of general terms and conditions for securities, advice on regulatory matters, due diligence investigations, the drafting of private placement memoranda and prospectuses, the drafting of the legal documentation such as underwriting agreements, as well as support in selecting the stock exchange (in particular Vienna, Frankfurt, Luxembourg) and the preparation of road shows.

Recent work includes:

Representation of several large Austrian issuers on their EMTN and debt issuance programmes as well as notes issuances; representation of the underwriters as to Austrian law in a EUR2 billion+ rights issue by a financial institution in 2014; representation of an Austrian issuer on a prospectus exempt rights issue to institutional investors in June 2014; representation of Austrian banks on secured bond insurances, bonded loans (Schuldscheindarlehen) and securitisation transactions.

Contact: Christoph Moser (Partner)**Email:** c.moser@weber.co.at**Contact:** Stefan Weber (Partner)**Email:** s.weber@weber.co.at**Financial Regulation:**

WEBER & CO. has recognised experience in advising on the supervision and regulation of banks, insurance companies, investment firms, brokers, exchanges and clearing houses. The firm's lawyers provide support in all areas supervised by the Austrian Financial Markets Authority. The firm's financial regulation practice encompasses the legal structuring of new and innovative products, regulatory capital, e.g. Basel III, the establishment of financial services businesses such as banks and insurance companies, and e-banking structures. The firm's lawyers advise their clients in the application of regulatory rules in transactions, in regulatory investigations and anti-money laundering matters.

Contact: Stefan Weber (Partner)**Email:** s.weber@weber.co.at**Contact:** Christoph Moser (Partner)**Email:** c.moser@weber.co.at**Arbitration:**

The firm's lawyers advise and represent domestic and foreign clients in international and Austrian arbitration proceedings, in particular under Vienna, ICC, UNCITRAL or DIS rules. Partners of WEBER & CO. serve as arbitrators or chair arbitral tribunals. Services offered include arbitration agreements, pre-arbitral negotiations, the conduct of arbitral proceedings, advocacy at trial, as well as the challenge and enforcement of arbitral awards. Lawyers of the firm also appear before courts to prosecute or defend applications for interim measures in support of arbitration proceedings.

Contact: Stefan Weber (Partner)**Email:** s.weber@weber.co.at**Contact:** Katharina Kitzberger (Partner)**Email:** k.kitzberger@weber.co.at**PRACTICE AREAS**

Arbitration
Banking & Finance
Capital Markets
Commercial
Corporate
Competition & State Aid, Merger Control
Financial Regulation
Insolvency
Labour
Litigation & Forensic Services
Mergers & Acquisitions, Takeovers
Private Equity, Venture Capital
Project Finance
Real Estate
Unfair Competition

OFFICES**AUSTRIA****VIENNA:** Rathausplatz 4, 1010**Tel:** +43 1 427 2000 **Fax:** +43 1 427 2010**Email:** vienna@weber.co.at**Real Estate:**

WEBER & CO. offers real estate investors strategic assistance in all issues related to the acquisition, financing, and on-going administration of real estate. The firm regularly acts on behalf of listed real estate corporations, banks, insurance companies, investors and developers and also assists domestic and foreign real estate funds in setting up fund structures and buying and selling real property located in Austria.

WEBER & CO. offers building contractors and real estate developers solid knowledge of the typical real estate contractual stipulations, such as agreements with construction contractors, construction and work contracts, general contracting agreements, as well as public law.

Contact: Daniela Witt-Döring (Partner)**Email:** d.witt-doerring@weber.co.at**Contact:** Klaus Pfeiffer (Partner)**Email:** k.pfeiffer@weber.co.at**Litigation & Forensic Services:**

WEBER & CO. has extensive experience in representing industrial clients, banks and insurance companies before civil and criminal courts, regulatory authorities, the European Commission, the European courts and in arbitration proceedings. The main emphasis lies in complex disputes in commercial, criminal and corporate law matters. The firm provides investigations of economic crime or other violations of law, particularly where the integrity of board members has been called into question (forensic services). Services include regulatory investigations, competition and anti-trust, market abuse, contract compliance, warranty compliance, capital repayment, anti-money laundering, bribery and corruption and fraud.

Contact: Katharina Kitzberger (Partner)**Email:** k.kitzberger@weber.co.at**WEBER & CO.**

RECHTSANWÄLTE

WOLF THEISS

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Management Board: Andrea Gritsch, Sebastian Oberzaucher, Claus Schneider, Richard Wolf

Number of partners: 72 Number of lawyers: approx. 340

Languages: Albanian, Bosnian, Bulgarian, Chinese, Croatian, Czech, English, French, German, Hungarian, Italian, Polish, Romanian, Russian, Serbian, Slovak, Slovenian, Spanish, Ukrainian

Firm Overview:

Wolf Theiss is one of the leading European law firms in Central, Eastern and Southeastern Europe (CEE/SEE) with a focus on international business law. The complex, fast-developing markets of the CEE/SEE region require specialist knowledge and contacts – and the firm has plenty of both. Through its network of offices* in 13 countries, Wolf Theiss works with clients by combining business acumen and an understanding of the local culture to develop and execute solid business strategies while solving problems and creating opportunities.

Wolf Theiss was awarded *The Lawyer's Law Firm of the Year: For Austria* in 2014 and 2017, for *Eastern Europe & the Balkans* in 2015, 2012 and 2009 and for *Central Europe* in 2014 and 2010, and *IFLR's Law Firm of the Year: For Austria* in 2019, 2018, 2016, 2015, 2012 and 2011, for *Czech Republic* in 2010, for *Hungary* in 2009, as well as *Chambers' Austrian Law Firm of the Year* for 2012, 2013 and 2018 *Central European Law Firm of the Year* for 2017, and *Austrian Client Service Law Firm of the Year* for 2011.

Main Areas of Practice:

Financial Services:

From pension funds to project financing, asset finance to capital market transactions, Wolf Theiss provides rigorous and reliable advice to international banks and insurance companies.

Competition & Antitrust:

Wolf Theiss has developed one of the strongest competition and antitrust practices in the CEE/SEE region. The firm's specialists regularly advise on EC and national competition law, as well as issues such as merger control, co-operation and distribution agreements, competition law infringement and state aid.

Corporate/Mergers & Acquisitions:

The experience of Wolf Theiss covers the full range of corporate legal issues faced by its clients including international mergers and acquisitions and other complex transactions. The firm bases its advice on a close working knowledge of its clients' business sectors — with experience that ranges from banking to energy, real estate to telecoms.

Employment:

International employment law is a fascinating and increasingly complex field. The work of Wolf Theiss covers major cross-border transactions, as well as day to day employment issues such as managing incentive plans and pension schemes.

Intellectual Property & Information Technology:

Wolf Theiss offers advice and representation on a wide range of areas, including trademark law, patent law, design patent law, copyright law and unfair competition. The expertise extends to the fast-moving area of information technology, where the firm tackles issues ranging from e-commerce to interactive gaming.

Litigation & Alternative Dispute Resolution:

Wolf Theiss has the experience and know-how to handle even the most complex multi-jurisdictional cases. Recent examples have involved everything from insolvency law to inheritance disputes, competition law to contract award procedures, and white-collar criminal investigations.

Infrastructure & Energy:

The firm's infrastructure and energy practice covers various legal fields including energy, natural resources, environment, transportation infrastructure, social infrastructure, telecommunications, media and technology, as well as water, wastewater and waste management and hospitality, tourism and leisure.

Real Estate & Construction:

The firm's real estate practice encompasses construction, acquisition, project development, financing, landlord and tenant law, facilities management contracting and public law. Wolf Theiss acts as permanent counsel to major developers and investors in Austria and the CEE/SEE region.

Regulatory & Procurement:

As European and national regulatory requirements become ever more complex, Wolf Theiss helps its clients make sense of a range of day to day issues, as well as advising on their long-term strategic set-up. The work covers areas as diverse as life sciences, construction, insurance, banking, telecoms, gaming and others.

Tax:

As one of the first Austrian firms to advise on national and international tax law, Wolf Theiss has developed an unrivalled range of expertise covering everything from stock option plans to VAT issues, and cross-border leasing to private foundations.

**By office the firm means a legal form that is in compliance with all applicable laws and regulations in that country.*

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