



Fines for cartel offences, antitrust damages, merger control, and compliance: our experienced lawyers provide efficient and safe solutions covering the full spectrum of antitrust law.

For companies, it is crucial to know the limits that antitrust law sets to their activities. Misconceptions can entail severe consequences – fines, claims for damages, public procurement sanctions or failed merger projects. It is equally important for suppliers, customers, or competitors to identify violations of antitrust law at an early stage in order to prevent them or to enforce claims to obtain compensation for damage suffered.

To provide optimal advice on antitrust law our lawyers integrate both elements in their services: defence and enforcement. Identifying and avoiding antitrust risks from the onset, our legal specialists provide our clients with maximum room for manoeuvre, whilst defending their interests and averting disadvantages in proceedings before the antitrust authorities or in court.

We cover the full spectrum of German and European antitrust law – from advisory services to litigation. With offices in Brussels, Berlin and Bonn, we are present at the important political hubs to represent the interest of companies, associations and private individuals. What sets us apart is our lawyers' indepth knowledge of the various industries and markets and the good contacts we maintain with the antitrust agencies. This enables us to provide optimal support in all matters relating to antitrust and competition law.

Our areas of practice

- antitrust proceedings for the imposition of fines
- antitrust damages
- merger control
- horizontal and vertical cooperation projects
- competition for distribution
- abusive behaviour
- ▶ sector-specific antitrust law
- ▶ compliance

Clients

Defence of companies, associations and individuals in antitrust proceedings; litigation in antitrust proceedings, in particular antitrust damages proceedings (private damage claims); transaction-related antitrust and merger control advice to national and international companies; advice on sales models/e-commerce; drafting joint ventures and cooperation projects (consortiums, bidding or supplier consortiums, joint R&D, purchasing and production partnerships); advice on standards and standardisation; assistance with sector investigations by the antitrust authorities; compliance training

Credentials

Deutsche Bahn for antitrust damages against air freight cartel; FLUXX/ mybet for antitrust damages against the lotto cartel (Federal Court of Justice "Lottoblock II", Düsseldorf Higher Regional Court "liability for damages of the lottery companies"); antitrust damages proceedings, inter alia, relating to the truck cartel and the sugar cartel; cartel fine proceedings in the areas of sausage, confectionery and flour; acted as counsel in the first case of application relating to the bonus scheme of the Federal Cartel Office; ARTE in dispute with cable network operators regarding feedin tariffs (Federal Court of Justice "Einspeiseentgelt" and "Gemeinschaftsprogramme"); Deutsche Telekom before the European Court of Justice over file access rights (Case T-210/15); ARD in the BKartA proceedings relating to Springer/ProSiebenSat.1 merger; Federal Government before the European Court of Justice on the merger control procedure Toll-Collect (Case T-48/04)

With regard to our commitment to professional discretion, the list of credentials is restricted to cases in which we acted as council for published by the courts/that are public knowledge (section 43a (2) of BRAO.





Dr Andreas Rosenfeld
Partner*

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German and European competition law (antitrust, merger control), state aid law, EU law, compliance, legislative practice.

Joined the firm in 2004.

Studied law in Würzburg and Dublin. 1996 first, 1998 second State Examination. 1997 Academy of International Law The Hague. 1998–2002 Lecturer for European law at the Academy for Administration of Berlin. 2000 doctoral degree with Prof Dr Blumenwitz, Würzburg. Since 2000 lawyer in Berlin, Brussels and Bonn.

Member of the German Antitrust Law Association, member of the International Bar Association, member of Berliner Gesprächskreis zum Europäischen Beihilfenrecht e. V.

Various articles on state aid law, antitrust law and EU law. Co-author in "Münchener Kommentar zum Europäischen und Deutschen Wettbewerbsrecht" (Munich commentary on European and German competition law).

Antitrust proceedings for damages inter alia involving the truck cartel, Defending companies and individuals in cartel proceedings (e. g. confectionery, building materials, sausages), air freight cartel, sugar cartel and lottery cartel; acted as counsel for ARTE in antitrust disputes against cable network operators before various regional courts, superior regional courts and the German Federal Court of Justice; numerous merger control proceedings for public and private companies.



Dr Sebastian Steinbarth, LL.M. Partner*

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German and European antitrust law, merger control, compliance, anti-dumping, EU law, constitutional law.

Joined the firm in 2013.

Studied law in Hanover and Leuven (Belgium). 2000 Magister Legum Europae (MLE), 2002 first State Examination, 2004 Magister Legum (LL.M.) at K.U. Leuven, 2004–2006 research assistant at Hanover University, 2007–2009 legal clerkship with stages in the antitrust/competition practice group of an international business law firm in Hamburg and at the General Court of the European Union in Luxembourg, 2009 second State Examination, 2010 doctoral degree. Since 2010 lawyer in Frankfurt and Brussels.

Member of the Studienvereinigung Kartellrecht, the Kartellrechtsforum Frankfurt am Main and the Belgian-German law association.

Lecturer at the Faculty of Law of Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg.

Various publications. Co-author in "Loewenheim-Kartellrecht" inter alia "Beck'scher Onlinekommentar Kartellrecht".

Various national and international antitrust damage compensation proceedings (e.g. air freight, trucks); successful defence in antitrust fine proceedings (e.g. confectionery, building materials); ongoing merger controls and advice on distribution systems/e-commerce; many years of experience in compliance programmes and in-house training.



Andreas Okonek
Partner *

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Protection of intellectual property, competition and trademark law, publishing and copyright law, information technology and new media law.

Joined the firm in 1996.

Studied law in Bonn. 1992 first, 1995 second State Examination. German-American Chamber of Commerce, Washington D.C. and the German-Australian Chamber of Commerce, Sydney in 1995.

Chairman of the firm's management committee.

Member of the Deutsche Vereinigung für gewerblichen Rechtsschutz und Urheberrecht e. V., of the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Recht und Informatik e. V., of the Working Group for Intellectual Property and Media and founding member of the Working Group for Information Technology in the German Bar Association. Member of the State Examination Office at Cologne Court of Appeals and Ministry of Justice North Rhine-Westphalia.

Publications: various articles in the area of competition law.

Mybet action seeking damages against Westlotto due to a call for a boycott in violation of antitrust law.



Dr Stephan Gerstner

Partner *

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Regulatory and sector-related antitrust law, energy law, in particular renewable energy, EU law.

Joined the firm in 2001.

Studied law in Freiburg im Breisgau and Geneva, Switzerland. 1991 first, 1995 second State Examination. Research assistant at the Institute for Public Law, University of Freiburg im Breisgau, 1991–1994. 1994 doctoral degree with Prof Dr Wahl, Freiburg im Breisgau. Since 1996 lawyer in Berlin.

Member of the German antitrust law association.

Editor and author: "Grundzüge des Rechts der Erneuerbaren Energien"; inter alia author on network access in Beck'scher AEG-Kommentar and Beck'scher PostG-Kommentar and author in Kment (ed.), NomosKommentar zum EnWG.

Comprehensive legal advice to Deutsche Post AG on price and access regulation by the Federal Network Agency; advising infrastructure operators in the railway sector on wide-ranging issues relating to access and price regulation; advising and acting as counsel in regulatory follow-on proceedings; legal advice in landmark proceedings involving system security in the field of energy law.



Dr Simone Lünenbürger

Associate Partner **

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Sector-specific antitrust law, State aid law and EU law, regulatory law.

Joined the firm in Bonn in 1999, resident in the Brussels office since 2010.

Studied law at the University of Mannheim. 1994 first, 1999 second State Examination. 1994–1997, research associate at the Christian Albrechts University of Kiel, Germany. 1998 doctoral degree with Prof Dr von Mutius, Kiel.

Member of the German Bar Association's "Administrative Law Working Group" for the Land of North Rhine-Westphalia.

Numerous publications, including research reports for the German Federal Environmental Agency/Federal Ministry for the Environment on environmental state aid law, most recently on the ex-post evaluation of aid schemes (https://www.umweltbundesamt.de/publikationen).

Antitrust proceedings involving compensation for damage, e.g. in connection with the lottery cartel; comprehensive advisory work on questions of ecological sustainability within the meaning of the Taxonomy Regulation, cartel damages proceedings, e. g. regarding the "Lottokartell" and the "Rundholzkartell".



Liza Schäfer

Counsel

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German and European antitrust law, merger control, compliance, European labour and social security law, EU law.

Joined the firm in 2019.

Studied law in Jena. 2012 first, 2015 second State Examination. Legal clerkship at the District Court of Gera with stages in Gera and Brussels. 2015–2019 Parliamentary Assistant to Dieter-Lebrecht Koch, MEP at the European Parliament in Brussels with main focus on European labour and social security law.

Member of the Studienvereinigung Kartellrecht.

Publications on antitrust law.

Advising and acting as counsel for numerous companies in antitrust damages proceedings, e. g. on truck cartels and e-commerce/distribution antitrust law; regularly acting as counsel for national and international companies in antitrust and European complaints proceedings, in particular before the European Commission; ongoing advice to companies on antitrust compliance; extensive experience in European labour and social security law.



Julia Pieper, LL.M.Eur.

Senior Associate

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German, European and distribution antitrust law, merger controls, state aid law and European law.

Joined the firm in 2017.

Studied German and European law at Wurzburg University and Universitat de Barcelona (Spain). 2009 first, 2015 second State Examination. 2011 Master of European Laws (LL.M. Eur.). 2009–2012 research assistant for European Law and International Economic Law at the University of Wurzburg. Legal training at the German Federal Cartel Office and the European Commission, Directorate for Competition in Brussels and a corporate law firm in Cologne.

Member of the Studienvereinigung Kartellrecht.

Publications on european law.

Advising and acting as counsel for various companies in the area of e-commerce/distribution antitrust law and actions involving compensation for damage caused by cartels; ongoing advice to companies and associations in the area of antitrust compliance.



Dr Friederike Dorn

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German and European antitrust law, merger control, compliance, EU law.

Joined the firm in 2019.

Studied law in Heidelberg and Montpellier (France). 2012 first, 2019 second State Examination. 2012–2016 research assistant at the Chair for Civil Law and Insolvency Law at the University of Heidelberg. 2018 doctoral degree with Prof Dr Andreas Piekenbrock, Heidelberg. 2019 Research Award of the Section for 'Insolvency and Reorganisation' within the German Bar Association. 2017–2019 legal clerkship with stations, among others, at the Representation of the State of Rhineland-Palatinate to the EU and the European Commission (DG Justice and Consumers).

Studienvereinigung Kartellrecht, Belgian-German Lawyers' Association.

Publications on comparative law, insolvency and corporate law.

Advising and acting as counsel for numerous enterprises and government authorities in antitrust damages proceedings; acting as counsel for national and multinational enterprises on a regular basis in complaint proceedings, in particular before the European Commission; advising companies and associations in the field of antitrust compliance on an ongoing basis.



Anja Hämmerl

Senior Associate

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German and European antitrust law, merger controls, European law, compliance.

Joined the firm in 2019.

Studied law in Bonn. For several years work at the Center for European Integration Studies at Bonn University with Prof Dr Koenig, LL.M. 2016 first, 2019 second State Examination. 2017–2019 legal clerkship including work at an international law firm in corporate and antitrust law, the Federal Cartel Office and the German Consulate General in Miami.

Member of the Studienvereinigung Kartellrecht.

Publications on european law.

Advising business enterprises and associations in anti-trust cases, actions to obtain compensation for damage incurred through cartels and merger control procedures; EU merger controls (several foundings of joint ventures before the European Commission in the areas of building material and local transport) along with support in internal restructurings.



Dr Torsten Stirner

Senior Associate

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German and European antitrust law, European Law, merger control on the national and European level.

Joined the firm in 2021.

Studied law in Freiburg and Heidelberg. 2014 first, 2018 second State Examination. 2014–2016 researcher at the Institute for International and European Law at the University of Göttingen. 2016–2018 legal clerkship with stations, among others, at the Federal Cartel Office in Bonn and the European Commission in Brussels. Attorney-at-law at a Corporate Law firm in Stuttgart in Antitrust law 2019–2020. 2021 doctoral degree with Prof Dr Seibert-Fohr, Göttingen.

Member of the Studienvereinigung Kartellrecht.

Publications in antitrust law and international law.

Advising companies on horizontal cooperation, distribution antitrust law, advising and representing national and international companies as well as the public sector in cartel damages proceedings, German and European merger control; Advising companies, in particular joint ventures, on antitrust compliance; drafting compliance programmes and conducting in-house training; representing companies in administrative and fine proceedings before the antitrust authorities.



Dr Kristina Stomper

Senior Associate

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German and European antitrust law, European law, merger control, compliance.

Joined the firm in 2021.

Studied law in Bonn and Uppsala (Sweden). 2016 first, 2019 second state examination. 2016–2021 research associate at the University of Bonn, until 2019 at the Chair of Criminal Law and Criminal Procedure Law as well as International and European Criminal Law, until 2021 at the Institute of Commercial and Business Law. 2020 doctoral thesis under the supervision of Prof Dr Daniel Zimmer, LL.M. on a topic related to antitrust criminal law, supported by a scholarship of the Arbeitskreis Wirtschaft und Recht. 2017–2019 legal clerkship, including stations at the German Federal Cartel Office and the German Embassy in Washington, D.C.

Various publications on antitrust law.

Providing legal advice and acting as counsel for companies and authorities in cartel damages and cartel fine proceedings, in the area of cartel law compliance and in the area of distribution cartel law.



Dr Marie Köhler

Associate

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German and European antitrust law, merger control, European law, compliance.

Joined the firm in 2023.

Studied law in Bonn, Cologne and Prague. 2016 first, 2022 second state examination. 2015 to 2021 research assistant in internationally active commercial law firms in the area of dispute resolution in Cologne and Düsseldorf. 2020 to 2022 legal traineeship, including a period at the German Federal Cartel Office. 2022 Doctoral thesis with Prof Dr Wolfgang Wurmnest, LL.M. on a topic related to antitrust civil procedure.

Ongoing advice and representation of companies and authorities in antitrust damages and antitrust fine proceedings, in the area of antitrust compliance and in the area of distribution antitrust law.

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