

The Legal 500 Europe, Middle East & Africa

2022

The clients' guide to law firms

WOLF THEISS

SCHUBERTRING 6
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- Banking and finance
- Capital markets
- Construction
- Dispute resolution: commercial litigation
- Dispute resolution: white-collar crime (including fraud)
- Employment
- Private client
- Public procurement
- Real estate
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- Commercial, corporate and M&A
- Data privacy and data protection
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- EU and competition
- Insolvency and corporate recovery
- Intellectual property
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WOLF THEISS

SCHUBERTRING 6, 1010 VIENNA

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THE FIRM

Wolf Theiss opened its first office in Vienna in 1957 and soon established a reputation as one of the region's leading law firms. The firm has since grown into a multinational team of approximately 340 lawyers, making it one of the largest integrated law firms in the region. It has offices* in Albania, Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Serbia, Slovak Republic, Slovenia and Ukraine.

This presence on the ground is one of the firm's key strengths. It works in a fast-moving part of the world that requires deep local knowledge and experience. By combining expertise with a strong international network, the firm is well-placed to handle complex cross-border transactions with a high degree of speed and flexibility.

Apart from its local offices in 13 CEE/SEE countries, Wolf Theiss also offers extensive regional experience in other countries in the region, such as Kosovo, Montenegro and North Macedonia.

*The firm has regulatory frameworks within which it needs to comply. So by 'presence', we mean a legal form that is in compliance with all applicable laws and regulations in that country.

AREAS OF PRACTICE

Wolf Theiss' full range of services covers financial services, competition and antitrust, corporate/mergers and acquisitions, corporate investigations, employment law, energy and infrastructure, intellectual property and information technology, litigation and alternative dispute resolution, real estate and construction, regulatory and procurement, and tax. The firm's dedicated practice teams provide in-depth specialist knowledge in their respective areas and collaborate closely to provide clients with seamless advice.

Austria: this is where it all began in 1957. The team is now one of the most recognised names in Austrian law and has received numerous recognitions and accolades of its excellence over the past years. Most of the lawyers are multilingual and have practised abroad, so there's a real multinational character to the office. Wolf Theiss Vienna – led by the firm's managing partners Andrea Gritsch, Sebastian Oberzaucher, Claus Schneider and Richard Wolf – comprises over 140 lawyers (including 39 partners).



MAIN CONTACTS

Department	Name	Email	Telephone
Financial services	Nikolaus Paul	nikolaus.paul@wolftheiss.com	+43 1 51510 5430
Competition/antitrust	Günter Bauer	guenter.bauer@wolftheiss.com	+43 1 51510 5600
Corporate/M&A	Horst Ebhardt	horst.ebhardt@wolftheiss.com	+43 1 51510 5100
Corporate/M&A	Florian Kuszner	florian.kuszner@wolftheiss.com	+43 1 51510 5590
Dispute resolution	Jitka Logesová	jitka.logesova@wolftheiss.com	+420 234 765 223
Dispute resolution	Wolfgang Müller	wolfgang.mueller@wolftheiss.com	+43 1 51510 5490
Employment	Ralf Peschek	ralf.peschek@wolftheiss.com	+43 1 51510 5230
Energy and infrastructure	Andreas Schmid	andreas.schmid@wolftheiss.com	+43 1 51510 5030
Intellectual property/TMT	Georg Kresbach	georg.kresbach@wolftheiss.com	+43 1 51510 5090
Real estate	Erik Steger	erik.steger@wolftheiss.com	+43 1 51510 5130
Regulatory & Administrative Law	Kurt Retter	kurt.retter@wolftheiss.com	+43 1 51510 5240
Public procurement	Manfred Essletzichler	manfred.essletzichler@wolftheiss.com	+43 1 51510 5350
Tax	Niklas Schmidt	niklas.schmidt@wolftheiss.com	+43 1 51510 5410

LANGUAGES

Albanian, Arabic, Bosnian, Bulgarian, Chinese (Mandarin and Cantonese), Croatian, Czech, English, French, German, Hungarian, Italian, Polish, Romanian, Russian, Serbian, Slovak, Slovenian, Spanish, Ukrainian

BANKING AND FINANCE

Tier 1

“**Wolf Theiss’s** sizeable banking and finance group is well equipped to guide financial institutions, funding and investment platforms, payment services providers and investment companies through a wide range of sector-specific matters. Its offering includes regulatory and transactional support with the latter including distressed situations, subsequent non-performing loan transactions and financial restructurings. Andrea Gritsch is a key contact in this space and also handles fintech-related matters. She is a core member of the team led by Nikolaus Paul, who specialises in financing transactions in Austria and the CEE and SEE region with a focus on infrastructure and real estate projects. This focus is shared by Marika Lomashvili, who made partner in June 2021 and also coordinates the firm’s Russian desk, and projects team head Andreas Schmid. As another key individual, Markus Heidinger’s broad banking and finance expertise extends to dispute resolution and regulatory investigations.”

Leading individuals

Andrea Gritsch

Markus Heidinger

Andreas Schmid

CAPITAL MARKETS

TIER 1

“**Wolf Theiss** enjoys an excellent reputation in the DCM and structured finance space, resulting in a steady flow of instructions from predominately financial sector clients on the issuance of bonds, including blockchain-based and green bonds, regulatory matters and on debt issuance programmes. This specialism correlates with team head Claus Schneider’s set of expertise, which combines skills in banking and finance, including blockchain and crypto assets, with wide-ranging capital markets capabilities. Richard Wolf is another key member of the team and a key contact for work at the intersection between banking and finance, corporate and capital markets, as is Alexander Haas, whose expertise extends to derivatives. Counsel Christine Siegl is a name to note for regulatory matters.”

Leading individuals

Claus Schneider

Hall of Fame

Richard Wolf

Rising stars

Christine Siegl

Next Generation Partners

Alexander Haas

CONSTRUCTION

TIER 1

“**Wolf Theiss**’s close cooperation with its offices across the CEE and SEE region makes it an attractive partner for construction companies, joint ventures, project developers and employers requiring assistance with large-scale national and cross-border construction and infrastructure projects, while its cross-practice cooperation also enables the team to provide associated public procurement and real estate advice alongside litigation and arbitration support. This combined approach is also reflected in Wolfgang Müller’s expertise, which spans contentious and non-contentious construction and development law. He jointly heads the practice with Thomas Anderl, who covers an equally broad spectrum and has substantial expertise in FIDIC contracts and, together with Michael Müller (counsel since May 2021), is among the key contacts for Building Information Modelling (BIM). Senior associate Hannah Schaflinger has a specialism in construction litigation and construction insurance law.

”

Hall of Fame

Wolfgang Müller

Rising stars

Hannah Schaflinger

Next Generation Partners

Thomas Anderl –Wolf Theiss

DISPUTE RESOLUTION: COMMERCIAL LITIGATION

TIER 1

“ Thanks to its strong cross-departmental cooperation, **Wolf Theiss**'s dispute resolution practice is able to provide full-service litigation assistance, which is frequently called upon in a cross-border setting. Particular strengths include shareholder disputes, finance and insolvency-related litigation, unfair competition and product liability claims alongside litigation at the intersection with white-collar crime. The team's client base is equally diverse and, while containing a large number of financial services providers, also includes clients from other sectors such as real estate, transport, healthcare and energy. Stefan Riegler heads the firm-wide dispute resolution practice and is best known for his arbitration expertise. ”

DISPUTE RESOLUTION: WHITE-COLLAR CRIME (INCLUDING FRAUD)

TIER 1

“**Wolf Theiss** provides individuals and corporations, including victims of criminal conduct, with combined civil and criminal law expertise, which, thanks to its strong network, spans various jurisdictions with particular strength in Russia-related work. The team led by Clemens Trauttenberg advises on criminal and civil proceedings pertaining to allegations of fraud, breach of fiduciary duty and money laundering, among other matters, as well as associated investigations. Counsel Nikolaus Loudon is a key contact for internal investigations and routinely advises corporations as victims of criminal conduct in criminal proceedings.”

Rising stars

Nikolaus Loudon

EMPLOYMENT

TIER 1

“**Wolf Theiss**’s services in employment law span restructurings, pensions, and day-to-day management to litigation and cross-border matters. The firm is especially active in the litigation and restructuring spheres, often acting on behalf of large domestic and international companies. Ralf Peschek is the key partner leading the team and has over 25 years’ experience in labour and employment law. Multinational projects involving several jurisdictions in the CEE and SEE region are regularly handled by Matthias Unterrieder. Senior associate Isabel Firneis specialises in restructuring matters and contentious employment cases.

”

Leading individuals

Ralf Peschek

Matthias Unterrieder

Rising stars

Isabel Firneis

PRIVATE CLIENT

TIER 1

The private client practice at **Wolf Theiss** is sought after by high net-worth individuals and family-owned businesses for the full range of legal and tax services, including advice on cross-border estate planning, prenuptials, asset management, foundations, and charitable organisations. The team serves clients throughout the CEE and SEE region and is co-headed by certified public tax advisor Niklas Schmidt. Fellow practice lead Karl Binder is routinely active in assisting with real estate transactions, estate and succession planning as well as inheritance law. Counsel Eva Stadler is specialised in international tax law and tax planning.

Leading individuals

Niklas Schmidt

Rising stars

Eva Stadler

PUBLIC PROCUREMENT

TIER 1

“**Wolf Theiss’s** public procurement practice advises on large-scale tenders on both contractor and bidder sides for clients in sectors such as construction, IT, public transport and real estate. The team maintains close relations with other practice groups including regulatory and IP/IT, which allows it offer seamless advice to international and domestic clients. Manfred Essletzbichler leads the practice and is well versed in structuring and conducting tenders and supply contracts. Sebastian Oberzaucher and Silvia Fessler are co-heads with comprehensive experience in public procurement matters.”

Leading individuals

Manfred Essletzbichler

Silvia Fessler

REAL ESTATE

TIER 1

“**Wolf Theiss’s** real estate and construction team has a strong profile for transactional work in the CEE and SEE regions and, thanks to its cross-departmental cooperation, is well placed to handle associated financing, tax, construction, regulatory and contentious matters. Erik Steger, who has substantial residential and hotel sector experience, Karl Binder, who, as the firm’s private client group co-head, also acts for wealthy individuals and family offices, and Peter Oberlechner are among the key contacts for real estate transactions. Binder also handles real estate project finance and has recently advised on project developments in the IT space. Birgit Kraml is another key member of the team and combines her transactional expertise with litigation capabilities, which has recently translated into several Covid-19-related rent reduction disputes between landlords and tenants. Clients include real estate investors, developers, retailers, energy companies and public sector players.”

Hall of Fame

Peter Oberlechner

Next Generation Partners

Karl Binder

TAX TIER 1

Corporate tax, tax planning for clients, real estate tax, litigation and fiscal criminal law are among the areas covered by the tax practice at **Wolf Theiss**. The firm has most recently expanded its services into the tax-related aspects of crypto assets, decentralised finance and non-fungible tokens, areas where practice head Niklas Schmidt is particularly active in addition to M&A and corporate restructurings, private clients, and the taxation of financial instruments. Eva Stadler and Melanie Dimitrov are also noted for their expertise in this area.

Hall of Fame

Niklas Schmidt

Rising stars

Eva Stadler

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ADMINISTRATIVE LAW AND PUBLIC SECTOR

TIER 2

“**Wolf Theiss’s** administrative and public sector work covers areas including trade law matters, environmental law and planning law. Foreign direct investment has additionally been a growing field of activity, an area where practice head Kurt Retter has extensive know-how. The firm has also recently been involved in a growing number of Covid-19-related matters, particularly within life sciences.”

Leading individuals

Kurt Retter

COMMERCIAL, CORPORATE AND M&A

TIER 2

“**Wolf Theiss** has a considerable track record in mid-to large-cap M&A transactions, with recent activity in the life sciences, telecoms and financial institutions space. With offices in Poland and Ukraine, among others, it is noted for its *'strong footprint in the CEE'*. The team can also advise on foreign direct investment control, corporate structuring, commercial agreements, and governance matters. Horst Ebhardt also knows corporate financings well, and leads the practice jointly with public takeover specialist Florian Kuszner . Hartwig Kienast is further well versed in restructurings and reorganisations, and Sarah Wared has know-how in the VC and PE area. Christian Mikosch *'is an amazing business partner.'*”

DATA PRIVACY AND DATA PROTECTION

TIER 2

“The team at **Wolf Theiss** provides a range of advice from compliance issues to data breach responses and has developed a strong contentious practice, representing clients in a significant number of litigation cases, some of which have gone before the CJEU. The team also offers certification of IT products and IT-based services under the EuroPriSe privacy seal. Roland Marko is at the helm, he is experienced in defending clients against damage claims, in proceedings before Austrian Data Protection Authority and at court with the support of counsel Paulina Pomorski .”

Leading individuals

Roland Marko

DISPUTE RESOLUTION: ARBITRATION AND MEDIATION

TIER 2

“**Wolf Theiss** has cross-border work at its heart with a particular focus on the CEE and SEE regions. Counsel Venus Valentina Wong extends this geographical focus with expertise in acting for parties from Greater China, while counsel Emmanuel Kaufman, who returned to the firm in September 2021 from KNOETZL HAUGENEDER NETAL, is a key contact for disputes involving Hispanic parties. Kaufman has a focus on construction arbitration, which is an area of particular expertise for the team and is routinely led by Thomas Anderl. Other key sectors include manufacturing, infrastructure, engineering and energy, which corresponds with team head Stefan Riegler’s sector focus. The practice handles arbitrator and party counsel mandates and is well versed in the major arbitration rules as well as in ad-hoc arbitration proceedings.”

Leading individuals

Stefan Riegler

Next Generation Partners

Venus Valentina Wong

EU AND COMPETITION

TIER 2

“ Merger control, antitrust and cartel matters and contentious work are among the services offered by **Wolf Theiss** to its domestic and international clients. The firm has particular industry focuses on retail, consumer products, financial services, pharmaceuticals, construction, transport, chemicals, as well as TMT. Practice head Guenter Bauer *shows an exceptional understanding of the Austrian competition system and is very well connected with all involved players*. Abuse of dominance, private enforcement and distribution cases falls into Robert Wagner’s areas of expertise. ”

Hall of Fame

Guenter Bauer

INSOLVENCY AND CORPORATE RECOVERY

TIER 2

“**Wolf Theiss**’ multidisciplinary approach with a focus on the intersection between restructuring and finance alongside the firm’s cross-border capabilities lead to regular banking and finance sector instructions. Typical work includes the restructuring of non-performing loans, debt and investments alongside distressed M&A, while the team is also well versed handling related disputes as well as in-court and out-of-court restructurings. With team head Eva Spiegel’s expertise in insolvency law and commercial litigation, she is a key contact for contentious work (but also leads on many non-contentious matters) and routinely assists creditors with insolvency proceedings and the protection of creditors’ rights. The team’s specialism in financial restructuring was further underlined with the promotions of Matthias Schimka and Marika Lomashvili to partner in June 2020 and June 2021 respectively. Lomashvili also heads the firm’s Russia desk.

”

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

TIER 2

Household names from the digital sector seek out **Wolf Theiss** for its '*practical and client specific legal advice*' and its support in domestic and European courts in complex and prominent matters. The practice covers all aspects of IP law, from patents and unfair competition to trademarks and copyrights with particular strengths in contentious work. Georg Kresbach has a wide range of experience including in pharmaceutical and life sciences-related patent matters. Senior associate Maren Jergolla-Wagner is '*very to the point and solution driven*'.

PROJECTS AND ENERGY

TIER 2

“**Wolf Theiss’s** energy and projects practice is active in regulatory and environmental law, development and structuring, contracts and agreements as well as project finance and acquisitions. Recent work has seen the firm called on to advise clients in the construction industry on Covid-19 related matters, including force majeure clauses and safeguard measures. Sustainability and renewable energy are other areas of expertise for the team, which is led by Andreas Schmid, Manfred Essletzbichler, Silvia Fessler, Sebastian Oberzaucher and Kurt Retter.”

TMT TIER 2

Wolf Theiss provides clients with legal advice that runs the whole gamut of TMT aspects, with particular specialisations in IT sourcing, e-commerce, online entertainment and media, as well as data protection. Austrian and international companies from a broad range of sectors are supported in regulatory, corporate, and contentious matters. Digital space expert Georg Kresbach heads the firm's IT/IP practice, while Roland Marko has a broad range of experience in IT-law and IT-compliance. Leading the regulatory practice group, Kurt Retter's expertise lies within the regulated industries, data protection, and online gambling.

Leading individuals

Georg Kresbach



Markus Aigner

WORK DEPARTMENT

Banking & Finance.

POSITION

Senior Associate, specialising in acquisition, project and real estate financing and debt restructuring.

CAREER

Admitted to the bar in Austria, 2021

LANGUAGES

German, English

EDUCATION

University of Graz (Mag. iur.), 2015



Thomas Anderl

WORK DEPARTMENT

Real Estate & Construction

POSITION

Partner, since 2017, specialising in construction law. 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 Adjudication Boards.

CAREER

Associate, WolfTheiss (2012-2014), Senior Associate (2014-2015), Counsel (2016); Associate, Karasek Wietrzyk (2010-2012). Thomas also spent over 5 years working in the construction field as international claim manager for a renowned construction firm and as a construction technician in Austria.

LANGUAGES

English, German.

EDUCATION

Certified FIDIC/VBI-Adjudicator (2014); Bar Exam (2013); University of Vienna, law degree (Mag.iur. 2008, Dr. iur. 2011); University of Vienna, Diploma in "Real Estate and Construction Law" (2009); Vienna University of Applied Sciences (Dipl.-Ing. (FH), degree in construction engineering and management, 2007); Qualified master builder "Baumeister" (since 2009); Higher Technical Institute for construction engineering in Vienna (2003).



Guenter Bauer

WORK DEPARTMENT

Competition & Antitrust, Corporate/Mergers & Acquisitions.

POSITION

Partner; specialised in EU competition law, national and CEE/SEE antitrust law (cartels, dominance issues, merger control, compliance programmes, cooperation agreements and vertical restraints), distribution law, State aid.

CAREER

Partner, Wolf Theiss, since 2007; admitted to the bar in Austria, since 2000, and in Belgium, since 2001.

LANGUAGES

German, English, French.

MEMBERSHIPS

Vienna Bar Association, Brussels Bar Association / Belgium, IBA Competition Law, Studienvereinigung Kartellrecht (the Antitrust Lawyers Association for Germany, Austria and Switzerland).

EDUCATION

University of Salzburg (Mag. iur.), 1993, (Dr. iur.), Université d'Auvergne, France, 1995; Kings College, London, (LL.M.) 1999.



Karl Binder

WORK DEPARTMENT

Real Estate.

POSITION

Partner, specializing in Real Estate, Corporate, EC-Law, Inheritance-Law, Private Clients.

CAREER

Counsel, WolfTheiss, 2013 – 2015, Senior Associate, WolfTheiss, 2011 – 2013, Associate, WolfTheiss, 2008 – 2011, admitted to the Bar in Austria since 2011.

LANGUAGES

German, English, French.

EDUCATION

Notary exam II (with Honors), 2007, Notary exam I (with Honors), 2006, University of Graz, (Dr. iur.), 2006, University of Krems, (LL.M.), 2004, University of Graz, (Mag. iur.), 2003.



Doris Buxbaum

WORK DEPARTMENT

Corporate / Mergers & Acquisitions / Restructuring / Private Client

POSITION

Counsel; specialized in Corporate Law, Mergers & Acquisitions, Restructuring, Project Management and Private Client Business. Doris has particular expertise in corporate and contract law, international project management, mergers and acquisitions and as well as in the estate administration of high net worth clients and their families.

CAREER

Counsel, WolfTheiss, since 2016; Senior Associate, WolfTheiss, 2014 – 2016; admitted in Austria since 2006; Before joining WolfTheiss, Doris already worked for several years in a renowned law firm in Vienna.

LANGUAGES

German, English, French

MEMBERSHIPS

Vienna Bar Association, International Bar Association

EDUCATION

University of Amsterdam, (LL.M. 2001); University of Vienna, (1999).



Melanie Dimitrov

WORK DEPARTMENT

Tax.

POSITION

Consultant.

CAREER

Prior to joining Wolf Theiss, Melanie worked in a boutique tax advisory firm and later gained experience at a renowned law firm in Vienna.

LANGUAGES

Bulgarian, English, German.

MEMBERSHIPS

Melanie is member of the Sofia Bar Association since 2015 and admitted to the bar in Vienna since 2017. She is also a member of the International Fiscal Association (IFA).

EDUCATION

Melanie obtained her law degree from the University of Vienna. In addition, she holds a degree in International Business Administration from the University of Vienna and an LL.M. degree from Columbia Law School in New York City.



Nikolaus Dinhof

WORK DEPARTMENT

Capital Markets. Nikolaus specialises in banking law as well as debt capital market and financing transactions and regularly advises clients with regard to admissions of securities to the Austrian stock exchange.

POSITION

Senior Associate.

CAREER

Prior to joining the firm, Nikolaus gained valuable insights and working experience during several internships (e.g., at an Austrian credit institution and a tax consultancy firm).

EDUCATION

He studied Business Law (LL.M.) and Business Administration (BSc) at the Vienna University of Economics and Business.



Horst Ehardt

WORK DEPARTMENT

Corporate / Mergers & Acquisitions.

POSITION

Partner; specialised in cross border M&A and corporate restructuring transactions in the region, including advising leading European financial institutions and health care companies on corporate transactions and Private Equity investors on corporate acquisitions and reorganisations of portfolio companies.

CAREER

Partner, Wolf Theiss, since 1997; Admitted in Austria, since 1994 and in the Czech Republic, since 1998.

LANGUAGES

German, English, French.

MEMBERSHIPS

Vienna Bar Association, International Bar Association, Czech Bar Association, SBL.

EDUCATION

Institut Catholique de Paris, 1981; Haute Ecole de Sciences Politiques et Sociales, 1982 – 1983; University of Graz, (Dr. iur. 1984); University of Sorbonne, London School of Economics and Political Science, (LL.M. 1986).



Manfred Essletzbichler

WORK DEPARTMENT

Regulatory & Procurement, Banking & Finance.

POSITION

Partner; specialised in Public Procurement Law, Business Law, Competition and Antitrust Law. Manfred regularly advises on major infrastructure projects and on tenders concerning intellectual services, medical devices or IT-systems as well as on alleged infringements of procurement law. He represents parties in review proceedings before Procurement Review Authorities and also specializes in compliance regarding public tenders.

CAREER

Partner, Wolf Theiss, since 2002; Admitted in Austria, since 2002.

LANGUAGES

German, English.

MEMBERSHIPS

Vienna Bar Association, Forum Vergabe e.V.

EDUCATION

University of Vienna, (Mag. iur. 1996).



Silvia Fessl

WORK DEPARTMENT

Regulatory and Procurement

POSITION

Partner, specializing in public procurement, state aid and contract law, as well as in PPP's and project development.

CAREER

Graf & Pitkowitz Rechtsanwälte (Associate, 2006-2009), Fellner Wratzfeld & Partner Rechtsanwälte (Senior Associate, 2009-2011; Junior Partner, 2011 – 2014), Wolf Theiss (Counsel, 2014 – 2015).

LANGUAGES

English, French, German, Portuguese.

EDUCATION

University of Vienna (Mag.iur., 2005), Bar Exam (2010).



Claudia Fessler

WORK DEPARTMENT

Litigation & Dispute Resolution.

POSITION

Consultant, specializing in Litigation, Civil Law, Criminal Law.

CAREER

Consultant, Wolf Theiss, since 2012, Associate, Wolf Theiss, 2010-2012.

LANGUAGES

German, English, French.

MEMBERSHIPS

Österreichischer Juristenverband.

EDUCATION

Bar Exam 2007, University of Vienna, (Mag. iur.), 2001.



Isabel Firneis

WORK DEPARTMENT

Employment

POSITION

Senior Associate, specialising in extrajudicial advice and employment litigation, with a special focus on restructuring, executive agreements and employment contracts as well as cross-border issues.

CAREER

Associate, WolfTheiss, 2015 – 2017.

LANGUAGES

German, English

MEMBERSHIPS

Isabel is admitted to the bar in Austria.

EDUCATION

University of Vienna (Mag.iur.)



Anna Freund

WORK DEPARTMENT

Disputes.

POSITION

Senior Associate.

CAREER

Qualified (non-practising) solicitor in the Republic of Ireland, 2021

Qualified solicitor in England and Wales, 2018

LANGUAGES

German, English

MEMBERSHIPS

Law Society of England and Wales

Law Society of Ireland

London Court of International Arbitration (LCIA)

Young International Arbitration Group (YIAG) LCIA

Young Austrian Arbitration Practitioners (YAAP)

EDUCATION

BBP Law School, Postgraduate Diploma in Legal Practice (LPC), 2015

Queen Mary University of London (LL.B. in English and European Law), 2014

Università di Bologna (exchange year), 2012-2013

University College London, 2010

Klara Fuchs

WORK DEPARTMENT

Public Procurement.

POSITION

Senior Associate, since 2018, specialising in national and international procurement law.

CAREER

Associate, WolfTheiss, 2015 – 2018. Prior to joining WolfTheiss, she worked as an associate at a Viennese law firm specializing in civil law for several years. In addition, she worked for a well known Viennese procurement law firm gaining valuable experience in conducting tender procedures and advising clients during tender review proceedings before national authorities.

EDUCATION

University of Vienna (Mag.iur.)



Clara Gordon

WORK DEPARTMENT

Corporate/M&A.

POSITION

Partner, since 2020, specialising in M&A transactions and corporate matters. She has been involved in numerous Austrian and cross-border transactions and restructurings in the healthcare / life science, IT, manufacturing, construction, transport, real estate and consulting industries.

CAREER

Associate, Wolf Theiss, 2013 – 2018; Senior Associate, Wolf Theiss, 2018 – 2019; Counsel, Wolf Theiss, 2019-2020

MEMBERSHIPS

AIJA.



Zeno Grabmayr

WORK DEPARTMENT

Banking & Finance, Corporate/M&A. Zeno advises clients in the fields of banking and finance as well as M&A and corporate law, with a particular focus on international banking, distressed M&A, restructuring and financing transactions.

POSITION

Counsel.

CAREER

His work experience includes a secondment to the financing group of the renowned Magic Circle firm Slaughter and May in London as well as working for a PR firm and at the Asian headquarter of a multi-national industrial company in Singapore.

EDUCATION

Zeno holds a master's degree in law from the University of Vienna and a bachelor's degree in international management from the Vienna University of Economics and Business.



Andrea Gritsch

WORK DEPARTMENT

Financial sector team

POSITION

Partner, since 2013; Andrea Gritsch is a member of the financial sector team, as well as the firm's Management Board. Andrea has a strong focus on the financial industry and specializes on cross-border M&A, distressed situations including NPL, corporate and financial restructuring, banking and financial services as well as regulatory compliance. Her clients include banks, financial institutions, insurance undertakings, strategic and financial investors as well as private equity. Andrea is also active in the fast-evolving area of financial technology (FinTech), assisting regulated and non-regulated businesses in digital transformation and taking up new technologies.

CAREER

Member of the WolfTheiss Management Board since 2019. Counsel, WolfTheiss 2013, Senior Associate, WolfTheiss, 2011 – 2013, Associate, WolfTheiss, 2008 – 2011, admitted to the Bar in Austria since 2011.

LANGUAGES

German, English, Spanish.

EDUCATION

Bar exam with distinction (2010), University of Innsbruck, Austria, Dr.iur. with distinction (2006 – 2008), St. Mary's University, USA, Summer School on World Legal Problems (2007), University of Innsbruck, Austria, Mag.rer.soc.oec. (2001 – 2005), University of Innsbruck, Austria, Mag.iur. (2000 – 2005), Aston University, UK, Erasmus Exchange (2003 – 2004), University of New Orleans, USA, Summer School (2001).

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Natascha Gschaider

WORK DEPARTMENT

Real Estate & Construction.

POSITION

Senior Associate.

CAREER

Admitted to the bar in Austria, 2021

LANGUAGES

English, German, French

EDUCATION

Vienna University of Economics and Business (LL.M.), 2016



Alexander Haas

WORK DEPARTMENT

Banking & Finance.

POSITION

Partner, specializing in Banking & Finance, Debt Capital Markets, Corporate. Legal advice to both issuers and underwriters in relation to banks' funding, the issuance of corporate bonds, structured products (stand-alone and base prospectus documentation). Liability management transactions, bank and stock exchange regulation matters.

CAREER

Partner, Wolf Theiss, since 2016, Counsel, Wolf Theiss, 2014 – 2016, Senior Associate, Wolf Theiss, 2011 – 2014, Associate, Wolf Theiss, 2006 – 2011, admitted in Austria, since 2011.

LANGUAGES

German, English.

EDUCATION

University of Vienna, (Mag. iur.), 2005, Vienna University of Economics and Business Administration, 1998 – 2000.



Markus Heidinger

WORK DEPARTMENT

Banking & Finance, Corporate/Mergers & Acquisitions.

POSITION

Partner; specialised in finance and corporate finance, finance regulatory. 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 FMA.

CAREER

Partner, Wolf Theiss, since 1993; Admitted in Austria, since 1993 and in the Czech Republic, since 1999.

LANGUAGES

German, English.

MEMBERSHIPS

Vienna Bar Association (panel member), International Bar Association, Lawyers Association, Austrian Chinese Friendship Society, Czech Bar Association.

EDUCATION

University of Graz (Dr.iur. 1989); University of London, King's College (LL.M. 1991).



Petra Heindl

WORK DEPARTMENT

Corporate / M&A

POSITION

Counsel specialising in Mergers & Acquisitions, Banking & Finance, Corporate Law.

CAREER

Counsel, WolfTheiss, since 2019; Senior Associate, WolfTheiss, 2013 – 2019; Foreign Associate, Wuersch & Gering LLP, New York, 2013; Senior Associate, Binder Grösswang Rechtsanwälte GmbH, Vienna, 2011-2013; Associate, Binder Grösswang Rechtsanwälte GmbH, Vienna, 2009 – 2011; Associate, WolfTheiss, Vienna, 2007 – 2008; Law Clerk, 2005 – 2006; Paralegal, Prunbauer, Themmer & Toth, Vienna, 2002 – 2004; Intern, Voest Alpine International, Moscow, 2003, 2004; Intern, Ericsson Austria AG, Vienna, 2002.

LANGUAGES

German, English, Russian, Spanish.

EDUCATION

Santa Clara University, USA (LL.M.), 2006 – 2007; Danube University of Krems, Austria, (LL.M.), 2005 – 2006; University of Vienna, Austria, Mag. iur. 2005, Dr. iur. (with distinction) 2008; University of Rovaniemi, Finland, 2004; admitted in Austria, since 2011.

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Martina Edlinger

WORK DEPARTMENT

Corporate/M&A.

POSITION

Senior Associate.

CAREER

Admitted to the bar in Austria, 2020

LANGUAGES

German, English

EDUCATION

University of Vienna (Mag. iur.), 2015



Leopold Hoehner

WORK DEPARTMENT

Banking & Finance

POSITION

Partner, since 2018, specializing in financing and capital market transactions with a focus on advising national and international clients on domestic and cross-border structured debt financing transactions (in particular project financings, acquisition financings and corporate lending), secured finance transactions, restructuring transactions and issuance of bonds. He has extensive experience as counsel to lenders and arrangers as well as debtors and issuers in Austria and CEE.

CAREER

Counsel, WolfTheiss, 2016 – 2018. Before joining WolfTheiss, Leopold worked at the Vienna and Prague office of one of the major law firms in Austria.

EDUCATION

Leopold completed his studies at the University of Vienna (Mag. iur. 2005).

Christian Hoenig

WORK DEPARTMENT

Corporate/M&A.

POSITION

Partner since 1992. Christian is an internationally recognised specialist in corporate/M&A, private equity/venture capital and insolvency/restructuring with some deep background in tax from his early years in practice. He played a key role in the expansion of Wolf Theiss into the CEE/SEE region starting from 1995. Christian has extensive experience with major transactions in the renewable energy, steel, railway, automotive, tobacco, financial, real estate, telecommunications and IT industries. He also advises start-ups and VC funds, in particular in the fields of biotechnology, pharmaceuticals and medical products.

EDUCATION

Christian studied law in Vienna (Dr. iur.) and San Diego (LL.M. with honours) and he also holds a degree in economics from the University of Economics and Business Administration, Vienna (Mag. rer. soc. oec.). Christian is admitted as Attorney at Law in Austria and in New York.



Valerie Hohenberg

WORK DEPARTMENT

Dispute Resolution.

POSITION

Partner, Wolf Theiss, since 2017, specialising in Corporate Litigation, D&O Liability and Life Sciences.

CAREER

Counsel, Wolf Theiss, 2016 – 2017; Senior Associate, Wolf Theiss, 2013 – 2016; Associate, Wolf Theiss, 2008 – 2012; Kommunalkredit Austria AG, Secondment, 2014; Baxter AG, Legal Department, Secondment, 2012; Wolff & Galen Immobilientreuhänder GmbH, 2006 – 2007; Self-employed in the Family Business, 2005 – 2008; Associate, Wolf Theiss, 2004 – 2005; District Court of Salzburg, Judicial Clerkship, 2003 – 2004; Federal Ministry for Health, Family and Youth, Trainee, 2001; "Die Presse", 2000 – 2001.

LANGUAGES

German, English, Russian.

EDUCATION

University of Vienna, (Mag. iur.), 2003.

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Florian Horak

WORK DEPARTMENT

Dispute Resolution

POSITION

Consultant, since 2018, specialising in civil & commercial litigation and white collar crime disputes, including bribery and corruption, fraud and compliance.

CAREER

Associate, WolfTheiss, 2015 – 2018

EDUCATION

Florian has a law degree from the University of Vienna.



Stefan Horn

WORK DEPARTMENT

Real Estate & Construction. Stefan specialises in leasing law and real estate dispute resolution.

POSITION

Senior Associate.

CAREER

Prior to joining WolfTheiss, Stefan was an associate in the real estate practice group of an international commercial law firm. He subsequently spent four years as an assistant at the Institute for Civil Law of the University of Vienna, and was a lecturer in civil law at the University of Vienna.

EDUCATION

Stefan holds a law degree from the University of Vienna and a Master of Laws (LL.M.) in International Construction Law from the University of Vienna.



Mimo Hussein

WORK DEPARTMENT

Banking and Finance

POSITION

Counsel, specialising in banking, investment funds and capital markets law with a focus on advising national and international clients in regulatory questions.

CAREER

Before joining Wolf Theiss, Mimo worked with the Austrian Financial Market Authority (FMA) in the department Integrated Supervision where he actively participated in the supervision practice of the FMA.

MEMBERSHIPS

Mimo is admitted to the bar in Austria.

EDUCATION

University of Graz (Mag.iur), 2010



Johann Hwezda

WORK DEPARTMENT

Public Procurement. Johann specializes in public procurement law, in particular on tender procedures for complex planning contracts, construction works and PPP issues. He has extensive practical experience in handling high level procurement procedures.

POSITION

Counsel.

CAREER

Prior to joining the firm, Johann gained valuable experience working for several years at two prestigious procurement law boutiques in Vienna.

EDUCATION

Johann studied law at the University of Vienna, where he graduated in 2011. He completed his legal clerkship in 2012 and has been admitted to the Austrian bar since 2017.



Maren Jergolla-Wagner

WORK DEPARTMENT

Dispute Resolution, Intellectual Property & Information Technology.

POSITION

Senior Associate; specialised in Intellectual Property (in particular trade mark law, design law, copyright law, and anti-counterfeiting; licensing and distribution law), Life Science (in particular pharmaceutical and medical device law, including advertising law), Unfair Competition Law (in particular advertising law, law on sales promotion and law on product imitations), Litigation, mainly in the above-mentioned fields.

CAREER

Senior Associate, WolfTheiss, since 2009; admitted in Germany since 2007; admitted in Austria since 2010.

LANGUAGES

German, English, French.

MEMBERSHIPS

Karlsruhe Bar Association, Vienna Bar Association.

EDUCATION

University of Mannheim, 1993 – 1997; 1st State Examination January 1998; 2nd State Examination April 2000; University of Cambridge, (LL.M. 2001); Doctor Studies, 2001 – 2002.



Christopher Juenger

WORK DEPARTMENT

Corporate/M&A.

POSITION

Senior Associate.

CAREER

Admitted to the bar in Austria, 2021

LANGUAGES

German, English

EDUCATION

Vienna University of Economics and Business (LL.M.), 2015

Vienna University of Economics and Business (LL.B.), 2013



Emmanuel Kaufman

WORK DEPARTMENT

Disputes, Construction.

POSITION

Counsel, specialising in international commercial and investment arbitration as well as construction disputes. He has gained considerable experience working under the major arbitration rules, including the ICC, ICSID, UNCITRAL and Vienna Rules. Emmanuel focusses on disputes in the CEE/SEE region and on disputes involving, in particular, Spanish and South American parties.

CAREER

Admitted to the City of Buenos Aires Bar, 2012

LANGUAGES

Spanish, English, German

MEMBERSHIPS

ICC YAF (Representative for Europe and Russian)

Spanish Club of Arbitration (Board member and former President of the Austrian-German Section)

ICC Commission on Arbitration and ADR

Founder of Argentina Young Arbitration Practitioners

Editorial Committee of the law review "Arbitraje. Revista de Arbitraje Comercial y de Inversiones" published by the Centro Internacional de Arbitraje, Mediación y Negociación (CIAMEN)

EDUCATION

University of Buenos Aires (Abogado), 2005



Hartwig Kienast

WORK DEPARTMENT

Corporate/Mergers & Acquisitions.

POSITION

Partner, specialised in mergers & acquisitions, corporate reorganizations and day-to-day corporate matters. He has gained extensive professional experience with transactions in the infrastructure, energy, consumer goods and pharmaceutical sectors, as well as in domestic and cross-border reorganizations.

CAREER

Senior Associate, WolfTheiss, 2009 – 2014; Counsel, WolfTheiss, 2014 – 2015.

LANGUAGES

German, English.

EDUCATION

University of Vienna, School of Law (Mag. iur. 2001); Vienna University of Economics and Business Administration (Mag. rer. soc. oec. 2004).



Michael Kienzl

WORK DEPARTMENT

Corporate/M&A.

POSITION

Senior Associate.

CAREER

Before joining Wolf Theiss, Michael built a 15 year long career in the financial sector as an investment banker and asset manager. He gained experience at several international investment banks in product development and trading, most recently as director of a Luxembourg SICAV-FIS. Being affiliated with the US stock exchanges, he has extensive knowledge of capital market products and has also set up, managed and successfully sold an international holding company in the field of commercial real estate.

EDUCATION

Michael has studied in New York and holds degrees in engineering in aviation technology, economics and law. Additionally, he also holds an MBA degree from the Institute of Management.

Martin Kind

WORK DEPARTMENT

Projects, Regulatory & Procurement, Banking & Finance.

POSITION

Of Counsel, Wolf Theiss, since 2011; specializing in environmental law, EU policy and constitutional and administrative law.

LANGUAGES

German, English.

Thomas Klicka

WORK DEPARTMENT

Dispute Resolution.

POSITION

Of Counsel specializing in Civil Procedure Law and International Civil Procedure Law.

CAREER

Of Counsel, Wolf Theiss since 2006.

LANGUAGES

English German.

MEMBERSHIPS

Deutsche Zivilprozessrechtslehrervereinigung; International Assembly of Civil Procedure Law.

EDUCATION

University of Vienna (Mag., 1985; Dr., 1988).



Dominik Koenig

WORK DEPARTMENT

Public procurement.

POSITION

Senior Associate.

LANGUAGES

German, English

EDUCATION

University of Business and Economics Vienna (LL.M.)



Birgit Kraml

WORK DEPARTMENT

Dispute Resolution, Real Estate.

POSITION

Partner; specialised in planning and environmental proceedings, lease agreements, planning and construction agreements and in dispute resolution. Moreover, Birgit is an expert for shopping centres, and provides advice and represents clients before national civil and administrative courts and authorities.

CAREER

Attorney, Wolf Theiss, since 2005; admitted in Austria, since 2005.

LANGUAGES

German, English, French, Spanish.

EDUCATION

University of Vienna, (Mag. iur. 1998); (Dr. iur. 2001); Université René Descartes, 1997; London School of Economics and Political Science, (LL.M. 2001).



Georg Kresbach

WORK DEPARTMENT

Intellectual Property & information Technology, Real Estate, Litigation & Alternative Dispute Resolution.

POSITION

Partner; specialised in Intellectual Property (Trademarks, Patents, Copyrights, Designs), TMT (software, service level and maintenance agreements, outsourcing), Unfair Competition, New Media and Internet, Pharma and Health Care.

CAREER

Partner, Wolf Theiss, since 1996; admitted in Austria, since 1996.

LANGUAGES

German, English.

MEMBERSHIPS

Vienna Bar Association, International Bar Association, INTA, AIPPI, ECTA, Österreichische Vereinigung für Gewerblichen Rechtsschutz, Marques.

EDUCATION

University of Graz, University of Vienna, (Dr. iur. 1993).



Florian Kuszniér

WORK DEPARTMENT

Corporate/M&A. Florian Kuszniér specialises in cross-border M&A transactions, takeovers and start-up services. He advises strategic and financial investors in a range of industry sectors but has a particular focus on healthcare and life science, as well as on technology and digitalisation.

POSITION

Partner

LANGUAGES

German, English, French

EDUCATION

The London School of Economics (LL.M.), 2003

University of Innsbruck (Mag.iur., 2001; Dr.iur.), 2002

University of Copenhagen, 1999



Wolfgang Lauchner

WORK DEPARTMENT

Public Procurement

POSITION

Partner, member of the WolfTheiss public procurement team since 2010.

CAREER

Wolfgang has already worked on complex public procurement matters and tender procedures in various fields from IT and medical technology to works contracts and intellectual services and has an excellent understanding of the economics and driving forces of those industries. In addition, he advises clients on review procedures before national review authorities.

EDUCATION

University of Vienna (Mag.iur).



Marika Lomashvili

WORK DEPARTMENT

Banking & Finance

POSITION

Partner, since 2021, specialising in banking, finance and capital markets. During her years as a qualified lawyer she has advised international financial institutions, corporations, credit institutions on a numerous capital market transactions, numerous aspects of banking and capital markets law as well as on regulatory matters, corporate law and private equity.

CAREER

Senior Associate, WolfTheiss, 2014 – 2017, Counsel, WolfTheiss, 2017-2021. In addition to an Austrian law degree and admission to the Austrian bar, Marika is a court certified translator for the Russian language.

LANGUAGES

English, German, Russian.



Nikolous Loudon

WORK DEPARTMENT

Dispute Resolution. Nikolous specializes in commercial and corporate litigation, arbitration and white collar crime.

POSITION

Counsel

MEMBERSHIPS

Member of the Austrian bar since 2017. Member of the Young Austrian Arbitration Practitioners (YAAP)

EDUCATION

Nikolaus obtained his law degree from the University of Vienna in 2012.



Ingrid Makarius

WORK DEPARTMENT

Regulatory and Procurement; Projects

POSITION

Consultant, Wolf Theiss, since 2012, specialising in public procurement and public business law.

CAREER

Wolf Theiss, 2005 – 2009; In-House Lawyer, Technical University Vienna

LANGUAGES

German, English, French, Italian

EDUCATION

In addition to her law degree from the University of Vienna and the Université René Descartes in Paris, she has an MBA in General Management. She is also a professional crisis manager.



Philipp Marboe

WORK DEPARTMENT

Regulatory and Procurement

POSITION

Counsel, since 2015, specialising in public procurement law, in particular on planning and implementing tender procedures. He advises and represents Austrian and international clients – both bidders and contracting authorities – in reviewing procedures.

CAREER

Wolf Theiss (Senior Associate, 2014-2015); Schönherr Rechtsanwälte (Junior Partner, 2010-2013; Associate, 2008-2010), Lambert Eversheds Rechtsanwälte (Associate, 2006 – 2008), Rechtsanwaltskanzlei S.C.P. Weissberg, Gaetjens, Ziegenfeuter & Associés (WGZ) in Paris (Associate, 2003), Dr. Emberger Rechtsanwälte (Associate, 2002).

LANGUAGES

English, French, German, Spanish.

EDUCATION

Universidad Autónoma in Madrid (Erasmus, 1994-1995), University of Vienna (Mag.iur., 1996; Dr.iur., 2001), Bar Exam (2009).



Roland Marko

WORK DEPARTMENT

Intellectual Property & Information Technology, Dispute Resolution.

POSITION

Partner, specialised in information technology law, data protection law, intellectual property law, unfair competition law, food law (all fields including litigation).

CAREER

Counsel, WolfTheiss, 2012 – 2015; Senior Associate, WolfTheiss, 2008 – 2012; admitted to the Bar in Austria since 2008.

LANGUAGES

German, English, Italian.

MEMBERSHIPS

Wissenschaftliche Interessensgemeinschaft für Informationsrecht IT-LAW.AT.

EDUCATION

University of Graz (Academic Media Expert 2001), (Mag. iur. 2002); University of Vienna, (LL.M. 2004).



Tanja Melber

WORK DEPARTMENT

Real Estate & Construction.

POSITION

Senior Associate.

CAREER

Before joining Wolf Theiss Tanja worked in the Banking, Regulatory, Corporate/M&A, and Competition/Antitrust teams of various Austrian law firms. Tanja also gained experience as inhouse lawyer at an international banking group servicing corporate customers in CEE. She is the author of numerous publications on law related topics in daily papers, law magazines and guides.

EDUCATION

In addition to her Austrian doctoral degree in law from the University of Vienna, Tanja holds an LL.M degree from The Pennsylvania State University.



Christian Mikosch

WORK DEPARTMENT

Corporate/M&A.

POSITION

Partner specialising in corporate law, international commercial law and mergers & acquisitions with particular expertise in the CEE/SEE region. Besides being the responsible partner for Wolf Theiss' work in Kosovo, Christian has developed a unique know-how in privatizations and negotiations with governments.

EDUCATION

Christian holds LL.M. degrees from both the University of Manchester and the University of Rotterdam.



Michael Mueller

WORK DEPARTMENT

Construction.

POSITION

Counsel, specialized in construction law. Michael focuses on project-related legal advice on construction projects (tunnel and cavern construction, road transport infrastructure, power plant construction, property construction, residential buildings etc) and also represents construction companies in alternative dispute resolution procedures and before courts. He also advises on legal questions regarding Building Information Modeling (BIM).

LANGUAGES

German, English

MEMBERSHIPS

Since March 2015, Michael has been the general secretary of the Austrian Society for Construction Law and Construction Business Management (ÖGEBAU). He is also an active member of a research group of the Austrian Association for Engineers and Architects (ÖIAV) and the Austrian Association for Geomechanics (ÖGG).

EDUCATION

In addition to his Austrian doctoral degree in law Michael holds a degree in economics. During his studies, he spent an academic exchange year at the University of Nottingham (United Kingdom).



Wolfgang Mueller

WORK DEPARTMENT

Construction. Disputes.

POSITION

Partner, Wolf Theiss, since 2012, specializing in Civil and Company Law; Building Contracts; Compensation for damages and defects liability; Dispute Resolution before state courts, arbitral tribunals and FIDIC Dispute Adjudication Boards. For the past 20 years, Wolfgang has focused entirely on project-related legal advice on construction projects (property construction, infrastructure projects, tunnel and cavern construction, power plant construction, plant construction, FIDIC agreements).

CAREER

ILF Consulting Engineers ZT GmbH Austria and Switzerland (1991-1994); Associate and Partner at a renowned Vienna law firm; Lecturer at the FH Campus Vienna (construction engineering – construction management); continual speaker at Universities & Construction Events; permanent editor of the construction magazine "SOLID Wirtschaft und Technik am Bau"; certified FIDIC Adjudicator (VBI / FIDIC).

LANGUAGES

German, English.

MEMBERSHIPS

Society for Construction Law (Gesellschaft für Baurecht); Austrian Society for Geomechanics (ÖGG).

EDUCATION

Bar Exam (2006); University of Vienna (Mag. iur. 2001); Vocational training as construction tracer (1991-1994) and Legal Consultant with ILF Consulting Engineers ZT GmbH Dornbirn (1994-2001).



Marcell Nemeth

WORK DEPARTMENT

Banking & Finance

POSITION

Partner since 2017, specializing in banking and capital markets. During his career he has advised on a wide range of finance matters including lending, projects, regulatory and other banking transactions such as acquisitions and loan portfolio issues.

CAREER

Allen & Overy, 2000-2009 (Senior Associate – Partner); Pinsent Masons, 2009-2012 (Partner); Unicredit Bank Austria, 2013-2015 (Vice President); Wolf Theiss, 2015 – 2017 (Counsel).

LANGUAGES

English, German, French, Hungarian.

MEMBERSHIPS

Law Society; Budapest Bar Association.

EDUCATION

ELTE Faculty of Law, Budapest; QLTT London.



Peter Oberlechner

WORK DEPARTMENT

Corporate / Mergers & Acquisitions, Real Estate.

POSITION

Partner; specialised in Mergers & Acquisitions, General Corporate, Real Estate.

CAREER

Partner, Wolf Theiss, since 1999; admitted in Austria, since 1995 and in the Czech Republic, since 1999.

LANGUAGES

German, English, French.

MEMBERSHIPS

Vienna Bar Association, Czech Bar Association, International Bar Association (IBA), Studienvereinigung Kartellrecht e.V., Austrian Management Club, International Real Estate Federation FIABCI, Counselors of Real Estate (CRE).

EDUCATION

University of Vienna, (Dr. iur. 1982); London School of Economics and Political Science, (LL.M. 1993).



Sebastian Oberzaucher

WORK DEPARTMENT

Regulatory and Procurement

POSITION

Partner, Wolf Theiss, since 2014, specializing in Public Procurement Law, PPP, Construction Law, Competition and Antitrust Law. Sebastian advises contracting authorities on planning and implementing tender procedures regarding complex infrastructure projects. He advises and represents both contracting authorities as well as bidders in review procedures before the Austrian public procurement reviewing authorities and bidders during tender procedures in order to safeguard full compliance of their bids with public procurement law as well as the tender documents (tender specifications).

CAREER

Member of the Wolf Theiss Management Board since 2019, Counsel, Wolf Theiss, 2013 – 2014, Senior Associate, Wolf Theiss, 2011 – 2013, Associate, Wolf Theiss, 2010 – 2011.

LANGUAGES

German, English.

MEMBERSHIPS

Vienna Bar Association.

EDUCATION

Austrian bar examination, 2010, University of Vienna (Mag.iur., 2004).



Nikolaus Paul

WORK DEPARTMENT

Banking & Finance

POSITION

Partner and head of the firm-wide Banking & Finance team. Nikolaus has a special focus on financing transactions, including financial restructurings, in Austria and the CEE/SEE region. Besides his financing and restructuring focus, Nikolaus has extensive experience in the field of investment funds (UCITS and AIF), including the establishment of multi-jurisdictional fund structures.

EDUCATION

Nikolaus completed his studies at the University of Vienna (Mag. iur, 1999; Dr. iur. with honours, 2003).



Ralf Peschek

WORK DEPARTMENT

Employment Law, Litigation & Alternative Dispute Resolution, Corporate / Mergers & Acquisition.

POSITION

Partner; specialised in Agreements with Executives, Austrian and Eastern European Employment Law, Contracts, Corporate, Litigation and Representation Before Governmental Authorities, Mergers & Acquisitions, Outsourcing, Pension & Benefits, Restructuring and Rationalisation Measures.

CAREER

Partner, Wolf Theiss, since 2000; Admitted in Austria and in the Czech Republic, since 2000 and EU Attorney in Slovenia.

LANGUAGES

German, English.

MEMBERSHIPS

Vienna Bar Association, Czech Bar Association, Slovenian Bar Association, Lawyers Association, European Employment Lawyers Association (EELA).

EDUCATION

University of Vienna, (Dr. iur. 1994); University of Business Administration Economics Vienna (MBA 1994), (Mag. rer.soc.oec. 1994); University of San Diego, School of Law, (LL.M. 1999).



Paulina Pomorski

WORK DEPARTMENT

IP/IT

POSITION

Counsel, WolfTheiss, specialising in intellectual property law, unfair competition law, information technology and data protection.

LANGUAGES

English, French, German, Polish

EDUCATION

Paulina is admitted to the New York Bar and holds an LL.M from the New York University School of Law in Global Business Law (2012) as well as an LL.M. from the National University of Singapore in Asian Legal Studies (2012). Paulina obtained her law degree at the University of Vienna in 2008 and was admitted to the Austrian bar in 2016.



Kurt Retter

WORK DEPARTMENT

Regulatory

POSITION

Partner, since 2001. Kurt has practiced in various fields of regulatory law including: regulated industries (energy, telecommunications and rail), life sciences, insurance, banking and finance, gambling law, environmental law, compliance, data protection, infrastructure projects, aviation, as well as private clients.

EDUCATION

Holding degrees from Vienna University Law School and Yale Law School, Kurt started his professional career teaching constitutional and administrative law at the University of Vienna for five years.



Stefan Riegler

WORK DEPARTMENT

Dispute Resolution. Stefan specializes 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.

POSITION

Partner.

MEMBERSHIPS

Stefan is Vice-president of the Austrian Arbitration Association (ArbAut), a member of the board of the Vienna International Arbitral Centre (VIAC), member of the ICC Commission on Arbitration and of various other international arbitration organisations, as well as being the author of numerous articles and publications on arbitration.



Hannah Schaflinger

WORK DEPARTMENT

Real Estate & Construction

POSITION

Senior Associate, since 2014, specialising in construction law.

CAREER

Wolf Theiss (Associate, 2013 – 2014), Neudorfer Rechtsanwälte (Legal Assistant, 2003 – 2010; Associate, 2010-2013).

LANGUAGES

English, German.

EDUCATION

University of Vienna (Mag.iur., 2006).



Matthias Schimka

WORK DEPARTMENT

Banking & Finance, Corporate/M&A

POSITION

Partner, since 2020, specialising in banking law and debt financing transactions.

CAREER

Wolf Theiss (Associate, 2010 – 2014; Senior Associate, 2014 – 2017; Counsel 2017-2020), Research and Teaching Assistant, Institute for Civil and Business Law, Vienna University of Economics and Business Administration (2007-2010).

LANGUAGES

English, German.

EDUCATION

University of Vienna (Mag.iur., 2007), Free University Berlin (2007).



Andreas Schmid

WORK DEPARTMENT

Banking & Finance, Corporate, Projects (Infrastructure, Energy & Utilities), Real Estate.

POSITION

Partner; specialised in Structured Finance; Projects (Infrastructure, Energy & Utilities); Restructuring Andreas is an internationally renowned finance and projects expert known for his outstanding experience in high-profile transactions (including large infrastructure and energy projects) and his hands-on approach in transaction management. He has advised numerous financial institutions, large corporates and private equity funds on domestic and cross-border structured finance and debt-restructuring transactions.

CAREER

Partner, Wolf Theiss, since 1993; admitted in Austria, since 1991 and in the Czech Republic, since 2000.

LANGUAGES

German, English.

MEMBERSHIPS

Vienna Bar Association, International Bar Association, Loan Market Association

EDUCATION

University of Vienna, (Dr. iur. 1985); London School of Economics and Political Science, (LL.M. 1992).



Niklas Schmidt

WORK DEPARTMENT

Tax, Corporate / Mergers & Acquisitions.

POSITION

Partner; specialised in International Tax Law, Tax Planning of International Groups, Mergers & Acquisitions, Private Foundations, Capital Markets Law, Taxation of Investment Funds and Financial Instruments, Corporate Finance, Corporate Law, Private Clients.

CAREER

Partner, Wolf Theiss, since 2004; admitted Tax Advisor in Austria, since 2001; admitted as Attorney in Austria, since 2004.

LANGUAGES

German, English.

MEMBERSHIPS

Austrian Chamber of Certified Public Accountants, Vienna Bar Association, International Fiscal Association (IFA), International Bar Association (IBA), Institute of Economics and Tax Law.

EDUCATION

University of Economics and Business Administration, Vienna, (Mag.rer.soc.oec. 1995); University of Vienna (Mag. iur. 1998), (Dr. iur. 2000).



Claus Schneider

WORK DEPARTMENT

Banking & Financing, Corporate/Mergers & Acquisitions.

POSITION

Partner; specialised in 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 and has been one of the key legal advisors regarding bank support measures undertaken by the Republic of Austria amid financial crises.

CAREER

Member of the WolfTheiss Management Board since 2019; Partner, WolfTheiss, since 2003; admitted in Austria, since 2003; Lawyer, World Bank (Washington D.C., 1998).

LANGUAGES

German, English.

MEMBERSHIPS

Vienna Bar Association, International Bar Association, British Institute of International and Comparative Law.

EDUCATION

University of Innsbruck, (Mag. iur. 1995); London School of Economics, (LL.M. 1997); University of Innsbruck, (Dr. iur. 1999).

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Anna Schwamberger

WORK DEPARTMENT

Employment.

POSITION

Consultant.

LANGUAGES

German, English

EDUCATION

University of Vienna



Sandra Seldte

WORK DEPARTMENT

Real Estate & Construction

POSITION

Senior Associate

CAREER

Prior to joining WolfTheiss, Sandra Seldte gained valuable experience in the real estate teams of other renowned international and Austrian law firms.

LANGUAGES

German, English

EDUCATION

University of Vienna (Mag. iur.), 2014



Christine Siegl

WORK DEPARTMENT

Banking & Finance, Capital Markets, Corporate/Mergers & Acquisitions, Administrative, Public & EU Law.

POSITION

Counsel, specialised in Banking Law, Regulatory Law, Capital Markets Law, Corporate Law and M&A.

CAREER

Consultant, Wolf Theiss, 2014 -2018 ; Senior Associate, Wolf Theiss, 2010 – 2014; Senior Associate, CMS Reich-Rohrwig Hainz, 2010; Associate, Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer, 2007 – 2010; Lawyer, Raiffeisen Zentralbank Österreich AG, 2006 – 2007; Referee/ Consultant, Austrian Financial Market Authority (Finanzmarktaufsichtsbehörde – FMA) – Department Banking Supervision, 2003 – 2006.

LANGUAGES

German, English, French, Italian.

EDUCATION

J.K. University of Linz, studies of law (Mag. iur.; attained in 1998); J.K. University of Linz, studies of economic science (Mag. rer.soc.oec.: attained in 2003); Bar exam (with distinction; attained 2008).



Eva Spiegel

WORK DEPARTMENT

Dispute Resolution.

POSITION

Partner; specialised in insolvency law and commercial litigation. Work includes representation of major creditors in insolvency proceedings as well as protection and enforcement of creditors' rights. Further broad experience in handling commercial litigation cases, acting for national and international clients.

CAREER

Partner, Wolf Theiss, since 1998; admitted in Austria, since 1998.

LANGUAGES

German, English.

MEMBERSHIPS

Vienna Bar Association, Lawyers Association.

EDUCATION

University of Vienna, (Mag. iur. 1992).



Karin Spindler-Simader

WORK DEPARTMENT

Tax.

POSITION

Consultant. Karin specialises in corporate tax law and tax aspects of reorganisations, international tax planning as well as international and European tax law. Karin is admitted as a tax adviser with years of experience as an authorised signatory in leading tax consulting firms and is experienced in providing tax advice on complex international M&A transactions.

LANGUAGES

German, English

MEMBERSHIPS

International Fiscal Association (IFA)

EDUCATION

Vienna University of Economics and Business (Dr.rer.soc.oec.), 2012

Vienna University of Economics and Business (LL.B.), 2010

Vienna University of Economics and Business (Mag.rer.soc.oec.), 2007



Dieter Spranz

WORK DEPARTMENT

Corporate, Commercial, M&A

POSITION

Senior Advisor

CAREER

Dieter played a key role in building up the firm's strong presence in the CEE/SEE region. Prior to joining to the firm, he worked with prestigious law firms in New York and Austria. He has been admitted to the bar since 1998.

LANGUAGES

German, English, French

MEMBERSHIPS

Interlex, IBA, SBL, SLP

EDUCATION

University of Vienna (Dr. iur.), 1995

University of Louvai-la-Neuve, Belgium, 1992-1993



Eva Stadler

WORK DEPARTMENT

Tax

POSITION

Counsel, since 2018, specialising in private clients, international tax law, taxation of financial instruments, tax planning of international groups and mergers & acquisitions.

CAREER

Senior Associate, WolfTheiss, 2015 – 2018; Associate, Wolf Theiss, 2014.

LANGUAGES

English, French, German.

EDUCATION

University of Vienna (Mag.iur., 2009; Dr.iur., 2012), University of Economics and Business, Vienna, (Mag.rer.soc.oec., with specialisation in tax, 2007).

Natascha Stanke

WORK DEPARTMENT

Construction law.

POSITION

Consultant

CAREER

Before joining Wolf Theiss, she worked in the areas of litigation, construction and real estate law in two other Austrian law firms. Most recently, she focused on real estate development projects. Natascha researched and taught as a university assistant at the Universities of Vienna and Geneva, at their Institutes for Civil Law. She is the author of publications in legal journals with a focus on building contract law

LANGUAGES

German, English, French

EDUCATION

University of Vienna (Mag. iur., 2007; Dr. iur., 2011)

University of Geneva (Certificat de Droit Transnational)



Erik Steger

WORK DEPARTMENT

Real Estate, Corporate / Mergers & Acquisitions.

POSITION

Partner; specialised in Central and Eastern Europe, Real Estate Law, Mergers & Acquisitions, Project Finance. Erik specializes in real estate matters across the CEE/SEE region and he has significant expertise in the areas of financing, mergers and acquisitions, and restructuring. His practice focuses in particular on the hotel and leisure industry, the investment and divestment of commercial property with cross-border elements and opportunities for joint ventures.

CAREER

Partner, Wolf Theiss, since 1998; admitted in Austria since 1998; also admitted as Registered European Lawyer in the Slovak Republic and in the Czech Republic.

LANGUAGES

German, English, French, Czech.

MEMBERSHIPS

Vienna Bar Association, Slovak Bar Association, International Bar Association, Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors (MRICS).

EDUCATION

College of Europe, Bruges, (LL.M. 1994); University of Graz, (Dr. iur. 1994).



Harald Strahberger

WORK DEPARTMENT

Regulatory

POSITION

Senior Associate

CAREER

Senior Associate at Wolf Theiss since 2020. Prior to joining Wolf Theiss, Harald gained valuable experience at several other Austrian law firms.

LANGUAGES

German, English

EDUCATION

University of Vienna (Mag. iur.), 2009

Judith Szabo

WORK DEPARTMENT

Banking & Finance

POSITION

Of Counsel and a member of the Banking and Finance practice group. Judith specialises in finance transactions and work-out banking transactions (including white collar crime cases).

CAREER

After her university studies Judith spent a year working at the European Commission (cabinet of the Austrian commissioner Franz Fischler), the European Parliament and the OSCE. Judith was admitted to the bar in Vienna in 2007.

EDUCATION

In addition to her Austrian law degree, Judith holds an LL.M. degree in Banking & Finance from King's College, London.



Philipp Szelinger

WORK DEPARTMENT

Construction law.

POSITION

Senior Associate.

CAREER

Admitted to the bar in Austria, 2021

LANGUAGES

German, English

EDUCATION

University of Vienna (Mag. iur.), 2016

Vienna University of Economics and Business

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Markus Taufner

WORK DEPARTMENT

Dispute Resolution, Corporate/M&A. Markus' main practice area is corporate litigation with a focus on shareholder disputes and directors' liability.

POSITION

Counsel

LANGUAGES

German, English

EDUCATION

In addition to his Austrian law degrees, Markus holds a master's degree in International Business Law from King's College London. He is admitted to the bar in Austria.



Andreas Theiss

WORK DEPARTMENT

Dispute Resolution. Andreas specializes in banking, insurance and corporate litigation matters and is known as a highly-experienced courtroom litigator, handling a number of high-profile cases.

POSITION

Senior Advisor and founding member of Wolf Theiss.

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W: legal500.com/faqs



Petra Trauntschnig

WORK DEPARTMENT

Dispute Resolution.

POSITION

Consultant; specialised in Insurance, Litigation.

CAREER

Consultant, Wolf Theiss, since 2005; admitted in Austria, since 2005.

LANGUAGES

German, English.

EDUCATION

University of Vienna, (Mag. iur. 1996).



Clemens Trauttenberg

WORK DEPARTMENT

Dispute Resolution.

POSITION

Partner; specialised in commercial litigation, white collar criminal defence and investigations, crisis management, financial markets litigation, stakeholder disputes, investor protection, private clients – high net worth individuals, inheritance law and restitution, distribution law.

CAREER

Partner, Wolf Theiss, since 2010; Senior Associate, Wolf Theiss, 2007 – 2010; admitted in Austria, since 2007.

LANGUAGES

German, English, Spanish.

MEMBERSHIPS

Vienna Bar Association, Executive M.B.L.-HSG Alumni-Vereinigung.

EDUCATION

University of Salzburg, (Mag. iur. 2001), (Dr. iur. 2002); University of St. Gallen, (M.B.L.-HSG 2004).



Matthias Unterrieder

WORK DEPARTMENT

Corporate / Mergers & Acquisition, Employment Law.

POSITION

Partner; specialised in Employment Law in Austria and CEE/SEE, cross-border staff assignments, reorganisations, management contracting.

CAREER

Partner, Wolf Theiss, since 2002; Admitted in Austria, since 2002.

LANGUAGES

German, English, Croatian, Serbian, French.

MEMBERSHIPS

Vienna Bar Association.

EDUCATION

University of Vienna, (Mag. iur. 1992); University of Paris II, 1991; University of Rostock, (Dr. iur. 1998).

Lothar Wachter

WORK DEPARTMENT

Real Estate.

POSITION

Partner; specialised in Real Estate, Construction and Building Law, Leasing, Contracts, Development Projects, Real Estate Investment Trusts.

CAREER

Partner, Wolf Theiss, since 1994; Admitted in Austria, since 1993.

LANGUAGES

German, English.

MEMBERSHIPS

Vienna Bar Association; International Bar Association, SLP; Europaeische Anwaltsvereinigung, DACH.

EDUCATION

University of Vienna, (Dr. iur. 1985).



Robert Wagner

WORK DEPARTMENT

Competition & Antitrust

POSITION

Partner specialising in EU and Austrian competition law, in particular cartel investigations, abuse cases, vertical agreements and licensing agreements, as well as state aid and general EU law.

CAREER

Counsel, Wolf Theiss 2018-2020; Senior Associate, Wolf Theiss, 2013 – 2018; Associate, Wolf Theiss, 2010 – 2013; Legal Trainee, Wolf Theiss, 2009 – 2010; Law Clerk, 2006 and 2009 – 2010; Academic Assistant, College of Europe, Bruges, 2007 – 2009.

LANGUAGES

German, English, French, Spanish.

EDUCATION

College of Europe, Bruges, (LL.M.), 2006 – 2007; University of Vienna, (Mag. iur.), 2001 – 2005; Université Panthéon-Assas Paris II, 2004 – 2005.



Sarah Wared

WORK DEPARTMENT

Corporate/M&A

POSITION

Partner, specialising in cross-border transactions in the field of M&A, corporate, and private foundation law. Sarah has expertise in a wide range of industry sectors including private equity and venture capital, financial institutions and TMT.

CAREER

Before joining Wolf Theiss, Sarah worked for other major law firms in Vienna and also gained international experience in the USA and Singapore. Sarah is admitted to the bar in both Austria and in Germany.

LANGUAGES

German, English.

EDUCATION

University of Vienna (Dr.iur), 2016; Düsseldorf Law School (LL.M.), 2009; University of Bonn (Dipl.iur.), 2007.



Stefan Wartinger

WORK DEPARTMENT

Competition & Antitrust.

POSITION

Counsel. Stefan's practice includes complex cartel and abuse of dominance cases before the European Commission and the Austrian courts as well as the coordination of leniency applications at a national and EU level. Stefan also has many years of experience in advising on merger control proceedings at a national and EU level.

CAREER

Admitted to the bar in Austria, 2018

LANGUAGES

German, English

EDUCATION

Brussels School of Competition (LL.M.), 2014

University of Graz (Mag. iur.), 2013



Richard Wolf

WORK DEPARTMENT

Banking & Finance, Corporate / Mergers & Acquisitions.

POSITION

Partner; specialised in Equity Capital Markets, Financial Regulatory, Mergers & Acquisitions, Banking & Finance.

CAREER

Partner, Wolf Theiss, since 1994; admitted in Austria, since 1991.

LANGUAGES

German, English, French.

MEMBERSHIPS

Vienna Bar Association, International Bar Association.

EDUCATION

University of Vienna, (Dr. iur. 1985); Harvard Law School, (LL.M. 1986).



Venus Valentina Wong

WORK DEPARTMENT

Dispute Resolution

POSITION

Counsel, since 2016, specialising in international arbitration. Valentina has acted as counsel, arbitrator (sole arbitrator, co-arbitrator and chairperson) and administrative secretary in more than 65 arbitration and other ADR cases under the major arbitration rules, including ICC, LCIA, VIAC, DIS, Swiss Rules, CCIR, CAS and UNCITRAL. She has experience with parties from the CEE/SEE region, Turkey as well as from PR China and Hong Kong.

CAREER

After having served as assistant professor at the Vienna University of Economics, Valentina worked for two boutique law firms and interned at the ICC International Court of Arbitration in Paris and at CIETAC in Beijing.

EDUCATION

Valentina studied in Vienna, Amsterdam and Taipei and obtained degrees in law (Mag. iur., Dr. iur.) and sinology (Bakk.phil.). Valentina is admitted to the Vienna Bar.



Adolf Zemann

WORK DEPARTMENT

Intellectual Property. Adolf has extensive experience in contentious and non-continuous trademark, design, patent, copyright, know-how protection and advertising law matters. Before joining Wolf Theiss, he worked as an in-house attorney with responsibility for IP law and unfair competition, and in the IP and Life Science team of another leading regional law firm.

POSITION

Consultant

CAREER

Admitted to the bar in Austria, 2015

LANGUAGES

German, English

MEMBERSHIPS

Österreichische Vereinigung für Gewerblichen Rechtsschutz und Urheberrecht (ÖV)
Deutsche Vereinigung für gewerblichen Rechtsschutz und Urheberrecht (GRUR)

EDUCATION

University of Vienna (Dr.rer.nat.), 2010
University of Vienna (Mag.iur.), 2010



Carolin Ziegler

WORK DEPARTMENT

Corporate / M&A, Dispute Resolution, Private Clients, Tax

POSITION

Consultant, Wolf Theiss, since 2016. Carolin Isabel Ziegler is an experienced lawyer with several years of expertise in private client work (Stiftungen, wills, corporate law in the context of family offices etc.).

EDUCATION

Carolin graduated from the University of Freiburg and received a diploma in legal studies from the University of Aberdeen.



Magdalena Ziembicka

WORK DEPARTMENT

Employment.

POSITION

Consultant, specialising in employment law matters related to contract design, restructurings, corporate M&As, cross-border employment, as well as employee data protection.

CAREER

Admitted to the bar in Austria, 2018

LANGUAGES

German, English, Polish

EDUCATION

Vienna University of Economics and Business (Master degree in Business Law)



Alexander Zollner

WORK DEPARTMENT

Dispute Resolution. Alexander focuses on commercial disputes and is particularly experienced in advising clients in corporate, post M&A and banking disputes. Alexander has handled disputes under the ICC, VIAC, DIS and Swiss Rules, and represented clients before ad hoc tribunals. He also assists in disputes regarding arbitration related matters before Austrian courts.

POSITION

Counsel.

LANGUAGES

German, English

MEMBERSHIPS

Young Austrian Arbitration Practitioners, CEPANI40, DIS40, ICC YAF

EDUCATION

University of Vienna (Mag. iur.), 2013