



13th Annual Litigation Summit 2026

DKN Networks

APRIL 21 - 22, 2026
WALDORF ASTORIA BERLIN

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Our speakers & panelists

Karl Hennessee

SVP Litigation &
Investigation
Airbus SAS

Dr. Torsten Bartsch

Mediator & Associate
General Counsel
Caterpillar Sarl (retired)

Mahmood Ahmad

Vice President and
General Counsel, EMEA
Johnson Controls

Dr. Sabrina Streicher

Head of Litigation and
Dispute Resolution
BASF SE

Alison Pearsall

Group Head of Litigation,
Dispute Resolution, Risk
Management and Insurance
Atos International

Rocio Bonet

Director & Associate
General Counsel-
Litigation Global Regions
Hewlett Packard Enterprise

Dirk Scheumann

Head of Legal
Central Europe
Eviden

Christian Hinz

Leitung K-ILP-11 -
Produktsicherheit und
Produkthaftung
Volkswagen AG

Matthias Hart

Head of Legal
Surface Solutions
Merck KGaA

Tom Thormeyer

Vice President Legal,
Dispute Resolution
BioNTech SE

Hans-Michael Stracke

Director Legal
**Samsung SDI
Europe GmbH**

Yasmin Mang

Head of Legal &
Compliance Europe
Astemo Europe

Alexandra Rullen

Group General Counsel
Wacker Chemie AG

Dr. Viola Sailer-Coceani

Partner
Hengeler Mueller

Dr. Julia Egyptien

Senior Legal Counsel
ThyssenKrupp Steel Europe AG

Alexander Demuth

Managing Director
Secretariat

Dr. Julia Baedorff

Partner
Clifford Chance

Dr. Alexandra Diehl

Partner
Clifford Chance

Dr. David Quinke

Partner
Gleiss Lutz

Fraser Clark

Director
AlixPartners

Kai Schumacher

Managing Director
AlixPartners

Irina Novikova

Partner
Deloitte GmbH

Michael Molitoris

Partner
**SZA Schilling,
Zutt & Anschutz**

Overview of topics

- Commercial Courts vs. Arbitration: The New Strategic Choice from an In-house Perspective - An inhouse perspective
 - Recent Developments in International Arbitration & Cross-Border Disputes
 - Climate and Greenwashing Litigation – Green Claims, Real Consequences
- Preventive Actions and Early Settlement Strategies – Avoiding Litigation Where Possible
 - The Future of Corporate Litigation – Challenges and Opportunities Ahead
 - Commercial Courts vs. Arbitration – Competitors or Complements?
 - Price Clauses in Long-Term Contracts
 - Software troll litigation
 - Mass and Class Actions – Global Developments and Best Practices
 - Focussing on People and Relationships - how to minimise the negative impact of legal disputes on the business
- From Legal Support to Strategic Partner: Turning Disputes and IP Insights Into Better Products and Smarter Decisions
 - Post-M&A Disputes: The Battle After the Deal
 - When the whole world moves: Causation, counterfactuals and force majeure in a fractured world
 - D&O Insurance and Litigation Against Companies and Directors – Current Risks and Defence Strategies
 - Risk Assessment and Litigation Strategy – How In-House Teams Manage Litigation Risk
 - Soft Skills in Litigation – Why Team Structure, Transparency and Communication Drive Success

Invited audience

VPs/Directors/Heads of:

General Counsels
Heads of Litigation
Heads of Dispute Resolution

Heads of Corporate & Commercial Litigation
Litigation & Arbitration Specialists

Professional Lawyers
In-house Commercial Lawyers
In-house Corporate Lawyers

13TH ANNUAL LITIGATION SUMMIT 2026

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Conference Agenda

DAY 1 - TUESDAY APRIL 21, 2026

<p>9:00 Start of summit registration and document hand out</p> <p>9:45 Opening speech of the chairman Alexander Demuth <i>Managing Director</i> Secretariat</p> <hr/> <p>9:50 Climate and Greenwashing Litigation – Green Claims, Real Consequences Dr. Alexandra Diehl <i>Partner</i> Dr. Julia Baedorff <i>Partner</i> Clifford Chance</p> <hr/> <p>10:25 Recent Developments in International Arbitration & Cross-Border Disputes Michael Molitoris <i>Partner</i> SZA Schilling, Zutt & Anschutz</p> <hr/> <p>11:00 Coffee break with networking possibilities</p> <hr/> <p>11:30 Commercial Courts vs. Arbitration: Introduction Dr. David Quinke <i>Partner</i> Gleiss Lutz</p> <hr/> <p>12:05 Commercial Courts vs. Arbitration: Competitors or Complements? An inhouse perspective Dr. Sabrina Streicher <i>Head of Litigation and Dispute Resolution</i> BASF SE</p> <hr/> <p>12:40 Collective networking lunch</p>	<p>13:40 Panel discussion: The Future of Corporate Litigation – Challenges and Opportunities Ahead Alison Pearsall <i>Atos International</i> Tom Thormeyer <i>BioNTech</i> Mahmood Ahmad <i>Johnson Controls</i> Matthias Hart <i>Merck KGaA</i> Dr. Julia Egyptien <i>ThyssenKrupp Steel Europe</i> Kai Schumacher <i>AlixPartners (Moderator)</i></p> <hr/> <p>14:40 Preventive Actions and Early Settlement Strategies Avoiding Litigation Where Possible Dirk Scheumann <i>Head of Legal Central Europe</i> Eviden</p> <hr/> <p>15:20 Price Clauses in Long-Term Contracts Alexandra Rullen <i>Group General Counsel Wacker Chemie AG</i> Dr. Viola Sailer-Coceani <i>Partner Hengeler Mueller</i></p> <hr/> <p>16:00 Coffee break with networking possibilities</p> <hr/> <p>16:30 Mass and Class Actions – Global Developments and Best Practices Christian Hinz <i>Leitung K-ILP-II - Produktsicherheit und Produkthaftung</i> Volkswagen AG</p> <hr/> <p>17:00 Focussing on People and Relationships - how to minimise the negative impact of legal disputes on the business Dr. Torsten Bartsch <i>Mediator & Associate General Counsel</i> Caterpillar Sarl (retired)</p> <hr/> <p>17:30 Software troll litigation Karl Hennessee <i>SVP Litigation & Investigation</i> Airbus SAS</p> <hr/> <p>18:30 Evening session Collective evening dinner with networking opportunities</p> <hr/> <p>Sponsored by: </p>
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Conference Agenda

DAY 2 - WEDNESDAY APRIL 22, 2026

8:40

Coffee reception

9:00

Opening speech of the chairman

Alexander Demuth *Managing Director* Secretariat

9:05

**From Legal Support to Strategic Partner:
Turning Disputes and IP Insights Into Better
Products and Smarter Decisions**

Yasmin Mang
Head of Legal & Compliance Europe
Astemo Europe

09:40

Post-M&A Disputes: The Battle After the Deal

Irina Novikova
Partner
Deloitte GmbH

10:20

**When the whole world moves:
Causation, counterfactuals and force majeure in
a fractured world**

Fraser Clark
Director
AlixPartners

11:00

Coffee break with networking possibilities

11:30

**D&O Insurance and Litigation Against
Companies and Directors –
Current Risks and Defence Strategies**

12:00

**Risk Assessment and Litigation Strategy –
How In-House Teams Manage Litigation Risk**

Rocio Bonet
Director & Associate General Counsel- Litigation Global Regions
Hewlett Packard Enterprise

12:30

**Soft Skills in Litigation –
Why Team Structure, Transparency and
Communication Drive Success**

Hans-Michael Stracke
Director Legal
Samsung SDI Europe

13:00

Collective networking lunch

14:00

**Collective ending of the summit
and perfect afterwards
possibilities of discovery at Berlin**

We look forward to your participation



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Mentioned below is a partial list of organizations whose Senior Officers have participated in previous years:

3M	Elanco	Panasonic
ABB	Electrolux	Pfizer
ADIDAS GROUP	Eli Lilly	Philip Morris International
Airbus	EnBW	Philips International
Air Liquide	Ericsson	Porsche
Allianz	Evonik	Procter & Gamble
ArcelorMittal	F. Hoffmann La Roche	ProSiebenSat.1 Media
Archer Daniels Midland	Faurecia	Puma
Atlas Copco	Ferrero International	Red Bull
Atos	Ford	Rexel
Audi	Franz Haniel & Cie.	Robert Bosch
Aurubis	Fraport	Roche Diagnostics
Avaya	Fresenius	Rolls Royce Power Systems
Axel Springer	Fresenius Medical Care	Royal KPN
B.Braun SE	Fujitsu	RWE
BASF	Gategroup	Saint Gobain
Baxter Healthcare	Gea Group	Salzgitter
Bayer	General Electric	Samsung Electronics
BayWa	Generali	Sandvik
Beiersdorf	GlaxoSmithKline	Sanofi
Benteler Gruppe	Heineken	SAP
Bertelsmann	Hella	Schaeffler Gruppe
Bilfinger	Henkel	Schindler Management
BMW Group	Heraeus Holding	Schneider Electric
BNP PARIBAS	Hewlett Packard	SGS Société Générale
Boehringer Ingelheim	Hilti	Siemens
Borealis	Hochtief	Siemens Energy
Brenntag	Holcim Group	Siemens Healthineers
Bühler	Honeywell	Sixt
Capgemini	Huawei Technologies	Sodexo
Cargill International	HypoVereinsbank	STADA
Carl Zeiss	Infineon Technologies	STMicroelectronics
Carlsberg	Jaguar Land Rover	Stock Spirits Group
Caterpillar	Johnson Controls	StoraEnso
Celanese	Johnson & Johnson	Strabag
Cisco Systems	J.P. Morgan	SUEZ
Clariant International	JT International	Swisscom
Commerzbank	KION Group	Swiss Life
Continental	Knorr Bremse	Symantec
Covestro	Körber	Syngenta International
Credit Suisse	Kühne + Nagel International	Talanx
Daimler Truck	LANXESS	Tata Steel Europe
Daiichi Sankyo Europe	LBBW	Tech Data Europe
DekaBank	Linde	Telia Company
DEKRA	Lonza Group	Thales
Deutsche Bahn	Magna	Thomas Cook Group
Deutsche Bank	MAN SE	thyssenkrupp
Deutsche Börse	MAN Truck & Bus Group	Total
Deutsche Lufthansa	Marquard & Bahls	TUI
Deutsche Post	Mercedes Benz Group	UBS
Deutsche Shell	Merck	UniCredit
Deutsche Telekom	Metro	Union Investment
DIAGEO	Microsoft Corporation	Uniper
Diehl	Mondi Group	Unilever
DKSH	Munich Re	Vattenfall
DMG Mori Seiki	Nationale Suisse	Vodafone
DNV GL Group	Nestle	Voith
Dow Jones International	Nokia	Volkswagen
Drägerwerk	Novartis	Vonovia
DSM Nutritional Products	Nutreco Holding	Wärtsilä
Du Pont de Nemours	NXP Semiconductors	Wipro Technologies
Dufry International	ÖBB Holding	Xella International
E.ON	OC Oerlikon Corporation	ZF Friedrichshafen
Elanco	Oracle Corporation	Zurich Insurance
Electrolux	Otis Elevator	
	Otto Group	
