



Bulletin

Marcus M. Schmitt

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Dear Daniela ,

A new five years of Europe awaits us! The agenda and vision for 2024-2029 touches many of the necessary points that Europe must address and, at the very least, shows that policymakers on a supranational level understand what is keeping Europe from reaching its full potential. However, it is a completely different question whether Member States and politicians themselves have the courage to undertake tough policy decision in the upcoming years.

Part of the proposal package by Ms. von der Leyen includes initiatives to cut down on regulation, in particular concerning start-ups and SMEs, in addition to increased liquidity and access for capital markets. Whatever makes it easier for businesses to work cross-border, regardless of company size or the size of legal departments, Europe will prosper. We should be excited to see what the future holds for us but simultaneously understand that we need to change our way of thinking ourselves as well.



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AI BREAKFAST SERIES



AI BREAKFAST SERIES - 4 SEPTEMBER - ESSENTIAL INSIGHTS AND LEGAL PERSPECTIVES

Artificial Intelligence (AI) has permeated almost every aspect of our lives, with most of us interacting with this technology already, either knowingly or unknowingly on a day-to-day basis. Two thirds of companies are reported as seeing AI as a growing consideration for the future and a large number of companies are already actively using AI or are planning to use it. Few companies are fully prepared however. This raises a number of legal questions. The AI Act and the AI Liability Directive, are just two sets of regulations at EU level that will raise a number of questions due to the diverse, cross-industry application.

To prepare for this transformation, we are launching the ECLA AI breakfast series in collaboration with CMS. This monthly series will give participants the opportunity to receive updates on the AI regulations and ask questions of experts in this area. Questions can be submitted in advance to ensure that the relevant specialists are available to cover the areas which are of most interest. These sessions are relevant and applicable to attendees from all jurisdictions and sectors given the broad scope of the AI legislation coming into force.

[Read more and register by clicking here.](#)

GENERAL COUNSEL FORUM EUROPE: Berlin 07-08 October 2024

Our 2024 1.5-day annual conference will take place in Berlin, Germany! The conference will include a variety of discussions most intriguing and relevant for corporate lawyers.

The goal of the Forum is simple - to bring together European corporate lawyers from all four corners of Europe to share some laughs and ideas over a variety of discussion topics. The semi-professional setting is ideal to gain new insights from peers in same or different industries and to understand the overarching challenges that European corporate lawyers are facing. As our last year's conference was considered a major success, we are excited to repeat the atmosphere.

[The event website is accessible here.](#) Join us today and see, how Europe tackles its latest legal challenges!

EUROPEAN COMPANY LAWYERS REVIEW 2024/25 - RELEASED!

ECLA is proud to announce the European Company Lawyers Review 2024/25 - a comprehensive overview of the legal status of corporate lawyers in European countries and beyond, giving an in-depth look into the legal developments affecting company lawyers and enabling the readers the opportunity to compare jurisdictions and their impact. It provides for a regulatory overview of the status of corporate counsel and for jurisdictional insights on case law, legal developments, and other developments concerning the in-house counsel profession, serving as a milestone for in-house counsel advocacy across Europe.

To fully leverage the insights offered by the European Company Lawyers Review 2024/25, all in-house counsel should actively engage with the content and participate in the broader dialogue it fosters.

To purchase the publication, either a digital or a physical copy, please [click here](#). Please note that a sample version is also available for free, which will give a better understanding of what information is presented and how. As this is a major milestone in corporate legal publications, all feedback is welcome!

[→ Learn more](#)

General Counsel Roundtable

We have already organised several highly impactful roundtable series in 2024. Currently, we have two very exciting sessions scheduled:

- General Counsel Roundtable - **Milan**
 - **Topic:** From Trends to Tech: Comprehensive Strategies for M&A Success
 - **Location:** Magna Pars - L'Hotel a Parfum
 - **Date:** 26-27 September
 - [Register here](#)
- General Counsel Roundtable - **Rome**
 - **Topic:** Antitrust and Competition Law
 - **Location:** Rome Cavalieri Hotel
 - **Date:** 21-22 November
 - [Register here](#)

Please note that the event series is exclusively reserved for General Counsel/Heads of Legal/corporate lawyers in similar positions.



Corporate Counsel Academy 2024: Gain expert training online - made for in-house counsel.

We have a diverse and exciting schedule set up for Fall/Winter 2024. Suitable for corporate lawyers of all levels, the online courses enable you and your legal team to gain valuable knowledge and expertise in a convenient manner. From practical legal skills such as negotiation or drafting contracts to more advanced forms, we are

certain that there are workshops suitable for lawyers of all types from all across Europe.

We have also created a .pdf file to consolidate information and schedule about our upcoming sessions - to view it, [please click here](#).

For more information and to register, please click the link below.

[→ Learn more](#)

Europe's Choice – Will We Start to Properly Compete?

On 18 July, the now-re-elected President of the European Commission, Ursula von der Leyen, unveiled comprehensive proposal and vision for her 2024-2029 tenure, titled Europe's Choice. Part of this proposal includes a section to make Europe competitive and prosperous on an international stage, while retaining its sustainability initiatives and doing so amidst global market volatility. The proposal identifies several structural challenges, including unfair competition, high energy costs, labour shortages, and difficulties in accessing capital.

Her plan emphasises the importance of completing the Single Market, the greatest success story of the European Union, in critical sectors, including services, energy, defence, finance, and the digital realm. The goal is to provide SMEs with easier access to broader markets, fostering growth and innovation. The proposal also includes a revised competition policy to better support companies scaling up globally, prioritising innovation and resilience in merger assessments, to prevent market concentration and its negative impacts on consumers.

[→ Read more](#)

Let us know your thoughts!

A network is only as strong as the enthusiasm of its members. For that purpose, we would like to strongly encourage company lawyers to utilise our platform fully. Whether it is about a recent (inter)national legal/regulatory development, or about the evolving role of the profession, or about other challenges that lawyers must tackle, from ESG to AI - get it touch with us and share our thoughts with your peers!

[→ Get in touch!](#)

I would like to personally thank everyone who has supported our network. We hope to continue the fascinating dialogue that we have had on the evolving profession and the challenges that await. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to get in touch with us!

Kind regards



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Managing Director



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