

# schönherr

## schoenherr attorneys at law

Schoenherr is a leading full-service law firm in Central and Eastern Europe. About 300 professionals service national and international clients from our offices in Austria, Belgium/EU, and throughout the entire CEE region. Operating in a rapidly evolving environment, we are a dynamic and innovative firm with an effective blend of experienced lawyers and young talent. As one of the first international law firms to move into CEE, we have grown to be one of the largest firms in the region. Our offices and country desks provide comprehensive coverage of CEE, allowing us to offer solutions that perfectly fit the given industry, jurisdiction and company.

## team regulatory

Schoenherr's regulatory expertise and longstanding experience is recognised as the standard-bearer of regulatory-related advice. By providing a wide-ranging and consistently reliable service, the regulatory practice group, consisting of more than 20 lawyers, has successfully advised leading players in the infrastructure, energy (electricity, oil, gas), waste, pulp, paper, mining, steel, automotive, glass, food, utilities, entertainment, pharmacy and research sectors. The team also advises stakeholders and public authorities on current legislation and implementation of EU Directives. The practice group's expertise guarantees comprehensive first-rate legal advice in all matters of constitutional and administrative law, particularly regarding environmental, energy, life sciences, privacy and telecommunications law, as well as privatisations, public private partnerships and public procurement.

## environment

The regulatory practice group is highly specialised in the field of environmental and infrastructure law and advises clients on all license-related matters. It has expertise in respect of energy and infrastructure projects (hydropower, biomass, wind parks, natural gas, landfill gas and biogas, motorways, railways, airports) and the licensing of large industrial and commercial infrastructure. It also provides advice on special industries, including steel, mining, automotive, waste, wastewater, pulp, paper, food, glass, utilities, entertainment, energy, and utilities. The team further specialises in emissions trading issues, clean-up proceedings, public environmental liability, environmental criminal law, compliance, and comprehensive due diligence.

## energy

Another core area of business is providing clients with a full range of services in energy regulatory matters, covering electricity utilities (power generation, transmission, distribution including legal unbundling, third-party access and interconnection issues), and oil & gas (exploration and production, transmission and distribution). In the field of renewable energy, the regulatory team specialises in a multitude of legal issues that arise in the rapidly growing renewable energy field, from projects involving hydropower plants to wind turbines and biomass. This includes ongoing legal advice on renewable energy projects ranging from the preparation of administrative procedures (including EIA-procedures) and support mechanisms (eg grants and feed-in tariff and subsidies), to all the legal aspects of operating the respective plants.

## life sciences

Regulation of hospitals and pharmacies is crucial for the stability and efficiency of any public health care system. Schoenherr's regulatory lawyers are specialised in hospital infrastructure and related social security law, as well as market regulation of pharmacies, thus providing the full range of services in the public health sector.

## privacy

The regulatory team assists its clients in the booming area of privacy law by advising them on all aspects of data protection, including international data transfers, setting up global databases, implementing whistleblowing



This large international firm has an excellent reputation for its environmental practice. The team offers a full service in environmental and energy regulatory matters.

Chambers Europe

## services

- environmental law (including environmental impact assessments, construction, plant licensing and clean-ups)
- infrastructure
- energy (including renewables and emissions trading)
- telecoms
- e-commerce and data protection
- health institutions and pharmacies
- privatisations
- public procurement and public private partnerships
- state aid
- due diligence

## awards

**2020** chambers europe awards  
austrian law firm of the year

**2019** mergermarket european  
m&a awards  
austrian legal adviser of the  
year

**2019** chambers europe awards  
austrian m&a firm of the year

**2018** cee legal matters  
deal of the year in austria,  
bulgaria and montenegro

**2018** mergermarket european  
m&a awards  
austrian legal adviser of the  
year

**2017** mergermarket european  
m&a awards  
austrian legal adviser of the  
year

**2017** iflr european awards  
austrian law firm of the year

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systems, safeguarding adequate data security standards, and providing immediate legal assistance in case of data loss or misuse. Our regulatory lawyers also frequently represent clients in matters before the Austrian data protection regulator. To address the demands of the new European data protection regulation in particular, Schönherr has established the *Schoenherr Privacy Academy* which gives first-rate guidance in this new area of privacy law.

## public procurement

Public procurement law is an increasingly important regulatory field both domestically and throughout Europe, and provides for an increasingly complex and legally challenging environment for awarding public contracts created by a series of EU directives (most recently the Directives 2014/23/EU, 2014/24/EU and 2014/25/EU), national implementing regulations, and European and national case law. Failure to comply with public procurement rules can have serious consequences, including the invalidation of contracts, actions for damages, and considerable penalties being incurred. Expert advice is vital. Schönherr's public procurement team is renowned for its profound knowledge and solutions-oriented approach when advising contracting authorities in all stages of procurement procedures, from the initial commercial assessment to the final award and performance of the contract, including structuring and designing the procurement procedures, preparing suitable strategies for dealing with the rules, providing clear and structured advice, and anticipating and addressing potential issues. By providing insightful legal, commercial and strategic guidance, we navigate private clients through cross-border tender procedures with success, and help them to enforce public procurement rules and challenge infringements of procurement law before the national courts and review authorities, if necessary.

## telecommunications

Another core area is supporting clients in a variety of telecommunications regulatory matters, such as frequency allocation, the set-up of telecommunications infrastructure, network interconnection, etc. We represent clients in all types of proceedings before the Austrian telecommunications regulator. We also advise clients on the implementation of web-based telecommunications services.

## contacts



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