

Presseinformation

BINDER GRÖSSWANG von „Chambers Europe“ erneut herausragend gewertet

(Wien, 12.03.2018) Die Anwaltssozietät BINDER GRÖSSWANG wird in der neuen Ausgabe des "Chambers Europe Guide", einem der angesehensten internationalen Referenzwerke für Rechtsanwälte, erneut herausragend bewertet.

BINDER GRÖSSWANG wird in insgesamt 14 Bereichen empfohlen und erreicht in folgenden Bereichen Spitzenplatzierung: Banking & Finance, Corporate/M&A und Dispute Resolution sowie Capital Markets, Competition European Law, Restructuring & Insolvency und Tax.

Insgesamt werden in diesem Referenzwerk 21 BINDER GRÖSSWANG Anwälte namentlich genannt und als führende Anwälte empfohlen.

Aufsteiger und Neueinsteiger

6 Partner konnten ihre Position im Ranking verbessern. Dabei wurden der Bankrechtsexperte Stephan Heckenthaler sowie der Experte für Öffentliches Wirtschaftsrecht Johannes Barbist im Ranking erstmals positioniert.

"Dieses herausragende Ergebnis zeigt einmal mehr, dass unsere Mandanten tiefgreifendes Know-How, volles Engagement, Teamgeist und Loyalität honorieren und unser Full-Service Beratungsangebot zu schätzen wissen. Wir freuen uns vor allem, dass erneut junge Kollegen Spitzenleistungen zeigen konnten“, so Managing Partner Michael Kutschera.

Marktführerschaft in den Bereichen Corporate/M&A, Banking and Finance und Dispute Resolution

Exzellente Ergebnisse bei Corporate/M&A

Exzellente Ergebnisse erreichten wieder die drei top-platzierten Fachbereiche Corporate/M&A, Banking & Finance und Dispute Resolution. Michael Kutschera, Thomas Schirmer und Florian Khol werden als führende Gesellschaftsrechtler gelistet. Sie nehmen als lösungsorientierte Teamplayer mit unglaublicher Geschwindigkeit und einer hands-on Mentalität die Dinge in die Hand, kommentieren Chambers-Quellen die Arbeit der BINDER GRÖSSWANG -Praxisgruppe.

Marktführer Banking and Finance Team

Das marktführende weltweit gut vernetzte Banking and Finance Team berät prestigeträchtige heimische sowie internationale Finanzinstitute und Konzerne. Mandanten schätzen die professionelle Kommunikation und die strukturierte Arbeitsweise innerhalb des Teams. Quellen unterstreichen die aufmerksame Haltung, das schnelle Erfassen der jeweiligen Situationen sowie die hohe Einsatzbereitschaft des Teams.

Partner Stefan Tiefenthaler wird als herausragender Finanzexperte bezeichnet und ist für seine überdurchschnittliche Erfahrung bei Unternehmens- und Projektfinanzierungen bekannt. Ein Mandant beschreibt ihn als exzellenten Anwalt mit tiefgreifendem Fachwissen. Michael Binder steht für seine bedeutende Erfahrung im Bereich Restrukturierung von Finanzinstituten und Banken. Tibor Fabian wird als Anwalt mit hervorragendem Ruf und großen Beratungsspektrum geführt. Klienten schätzen ihn für seine Erfahrungswerte bei großvolumigen Transaktionen. Stephan Heckenthaler wird für seine herausragende Expertise im Bereich Bankaufsichtsrecht geschätzt; Emanuel Welten als bemerkenswerter Banking & Finance Anwalt, der laut Mandanten extrem lösungsorientiert agiert.

Spitzenposition für Dispute Resolution

Ihre Spitzenposition verteidigen konnten auch die Anwälte der Praxisgruppe Dispute Resolution. Als Marktführer stellen sie laut der aktuellen Chambers Ausgabe exzellente Beratung bei Rechtsstreitigkeiten sicher und sind Spezialisten bei anspruchsvollen internationalen Schiedsverfahren.

Christian Klaussegger wird seinem Ruf als hervorragender Anwalt für Rechtsstreitigkeiten und anerkannter Schiedsrichter gerecht. Seine einzigartige Verhandlungsstrategie wird von mehreren Chambers Quellen bewundert. Michael Kutschera darf sich zum wiederholten Male über die Auszeichnung "Most in Demand Arbitrator" freuen. Beim aufstrebenden Partner Stefan Albiez fühlen sich die Mandanten sehr gut aufgehoben.

14 gerankte BINDER GRÖSSWANG Fachgebiete:

Banking & Finance, Capital Markets, Competition/European Law, Corporate M&A, Dispute Resolution, Employment, IP, Public Law General, Public Procurement, Real Estate, Restructuring/Insolvency, Tax, TMT-Information Technology, TMT-Telecommunications.

Renommierter Fachverlag Chambers:

Seit 1999 analysiert der in London ansässige renommierte Fachverlag „Chambers & Partners“ die juristischen Märkte von über 180 Ländern. 100 Redakteure führen jährlich tausende Interviews mit Anwälten und Mandanten durch. Basierend auf sorgfältiger Rechercharbeit und Auswertungen von umfassenden Einreichungen der Anwaltskanzleien werden die führenden Anwälte und Anwaltssozietäten identifiziert.

Die Wertungen aus dem Chambers Europe Guide 2018 für Österreich finden Sie unter

<https://www.chambersandpartners.com/guide/europe/7>

Zitate aus Chambers Europe 2018:

Banking & Finance

What the team is known for Market-leading financing team advising prestigious domestic and international financial institutions as well as corporations. Covers the full range of issues, including banking regulation, syndicated loans, project finance and restructuring matters. Well known for handling large-scale acquisition financings as well as mid-sized deals. Offers strong international capabilities thanks to its solid links with top global firms. Recent client wins include financial services clients, such as Greenbriar Equity, and multinational companies, including Pandora.

Strengths Clients note the team's structured manner of communication, with a source mentioning "very good processing within the team."

Sources highlight the team's friendly attitude and high level of dedication, describing the team as "very friendly with very high commitment, fact orientation and good availability, which allows for timely target achievement."

Work highlights Assisted a consortium of UniCredit Bank Austria, KfW IPEX-Bank and DZ Bank with the financing of a EUR90 million public procurement project for KAV Wien.

Notable practitioners

Michael Binder is a renowned regulatory specialist whose practice covers restructurings of financial institutions and banking M&A. He acts for a number of clients on the restructuring process of the Austrian Volksbanken, and recently advised Verwaltungsgenossenschaft der start:gruppe.Gen on the sale of start:bausparkasse and IMMO-BANK.

Stefan Tiefenthaler is a distinguished financing expert, especially well-known for his experience in corporate financing and project finance transactions. A client describes him as "obliging and reliable as well as having profound knowledge." He recently advised a consortium of EIB and Erste Bank Austria on their EUR70 million financing of the Hof/Seibersdorf wind farm project.

Tibor Fabian is a reputable practitioner advising clients on a broad scope of financing transactions. Clients value him for his high-level of experience in advising on large-scale and challenging transactions.

Stephan Heckenthaler is well respected for his banking regulatory expertise. He regularly handles cross-border M&A transactions involving financial institutions, and acted for Sberbank Europe on the sale of its Slovakian subsidiary to Penta Investments. One client remarks: "In all issues he takes into account the banking sector connections and provides a comprehensive overview of all aspects to be considered."

Emanuel Welten is a notable banking and finance lawyer, active in project and acquisition finance as well as refinancing. A client describes him as "incredibly solution-oriented." He recently advised J.P. Morgan on contributing to the financing of Lone Star's acquisition of Centrice Real Estate from HETA.

Capital Markets

What the team is known for Represents both companies and underwriters in delistings, debt issuance programmes and structured product transactions. Active on large-scale capital increase projects. Expertise also covers ECM matters. Regularly works in co-operation with international firms. Often assists clients with obtaining prospectus approval from the Austrian Financial Market Authority. New client wins include Talanx Asset Management and Bankhaus Krentschker.

Strengths Sources highlight the department's strong market position, hailing it as "an established capital markets practice."

Work highlights Advised Steiermärkische Bank and Sparkassen on the structuring of a EUR500 million bond programme.

Notable practitioners

Florian Khol specialises in ECM matters and is also an M&A lawyer. He recently advised BKS Bank on its EUR60 million capital increase. Clients appreciate his clear advice.

Tibor Fabian is a highly experienced practitioner advising on DCM issues. He assisted Oberbank with its preparation of a bonds programme valued at EUR850 million. "His advice is very comprehensive," a client says, adding that he also "includes answers to important questions we did not even ask, but definitely should have."

Up-and-coming Thomas Patrick Berghammer is an increasingly visible counsel, active on the team's key DCM mandates. A client describes him as a "very efficient and diligent" adviser.

Competition

What the team is known for Highly regarded firm offering a comprehensive range of competition-related advice including on abuse of dominance, merger controls and state aid laws. Covers contentious and non-contentious competition and antitrust inquiries, with notable knowledge of distribution issues and supply chain co-operations. Specific industry knowledge in the pharmaceutical, automotive and technology industries, additionally providing competition compliance assistance.

Strengths Clients describe the work as "very good, extremely precise and conscientious."

One client adds that they particularly "appreciate their good knowledge of competition law and how they apply it in practice, with a sensitive and client-friendly approach."

Further clients say the firm "provides excellent service and gets things done."

Work highlights Advised Lenzing on various competition law-related matters, including supply agreements, co-operations, marketing initiatives and merger control procedures.

Assisted Volksbank Wien with merger control and state aid law matters concerning the restructuring of the Volksbank sector.

Notable practitioners

Raoul Hoffer is described as a "very solid and strategic competition lawyer." He is an expert practitioner in a range of competition law matters including merger control,

abuse of dominance and private enforcement proceedings. He recently advised a number of significant real estate companies in Austria and the City of Vienna on the first private enforcement suit related to the escalator and elevator cartel before the Austrian Commercial Court.

Christine Dietz is well respected for her compliance and state aid work, as well as her significant activity in merger control proceedings. She recently advised Puratos on competition law matters related to its acquisition of Diamant.

Corporate M&A

What the team is known for Widely praised for its strength in both domestic and cross-border M&A transactions. Also offers comprehensive pre- and post-transactional corporate support. Assists noteworthy Austrian and international clients with local and multi-jurisdictional restructurings, reorganisations and day-to-day corporate issues. Experienced in the heavy industry, financial services, energy, TMT and real estate sectors. Active in private equity-led deals. Notable cross-border work involving CEE countries.

Strengths Sources note the team's credible delivery of advice. A client remarks that "the speed was simply unbelievable," while another praises the team's ability "to get things done within pre-defined timeframes."

A commentator describes the group as "practical and solution-oriented team players."

Work highlights Advised Snam in a consortium with Allianz SE on the acquisition of a 49% stake in Gas Connect Austria from OMV for EUR601 million.

Assisted Bilfinger with its sale of Bilfinger MCE Group to Habau.

Notable practitioners

Michael Kutschera is a highly established figure in the Austrian market and is recognised as a senior M&A practitioner with solid experience in cross-border transactions. His extensive practical knowledge extends to such sectors as energy and

consumer goods. "He is very reasonable, trying to find solutions," a source says, also praising his hands-on approach. Kutschera is also a widely respected arbitrator.

Thomas Schirmer is a well-recognised M&A lawyer experienced in advising on cross-border transactions, such as his recent assistance to Greenbriar Equity Group with its acquisition of Frauscher Sensortechnik. He often handles transactions in such industries as financial services, life sciences and IT. A peer describes him as somebody who is "good to work with."

Florian Khol focuses on public M&A transactions, with experience extending across a broad selection of industry sectors. He recently advised Insight Venture Partners on acquiring a stake in Tricentis. Sources note his pragmatic approach.

Dispute Resolution

What the team is known for Market-leading dispute resolution team providing excellent litigation advice. Also instructed on high-stakes international arbitration cases. Highly regarded for representing financial services providers, including insurance companies, as well as multinationals and regional authorities. Regularly defends against class actions. Active in real estate conflicts and competition law disputes.

Strengths Clients note the team's pre-emptive approach to disputes. "They manage, again and again, to minimise or altogether avoid risks we face, through a correct strategy," a source reports, adding that when disputes go to court, the team offers effective guidance, enabling the client "to bring all proceedings throughout the past years to a satisfying close."

Sources praise the group's "around-the-clock availability."

Work highlights Represented the Russian state in Austrian aspects of an international trade mark dispute relating to the 'Stolichnaya' and 'Moskovskaya' vodka brands, which is a part of a global dispute and included representation before the Supreme Court.

Notable practitioners

Christian Klausegger is an impressive disputes lawyer, with a particularly strong reputation in litigation and also active in arbitration. He handles high-profile cases related to financial services, construction and IT conflicts. He recently represented a global IT company in the Austrian Supreme Court in relation to multi-jurisdictional litigation relating to a customer complaint. A source praises his negotiation skills and strategy, saying that he "played through various scenarios in building a chain of argumentation." Another source adds: "I am impressed by the kind of strategy he proposes." He has also been appointed the president of the Austrian Arbitration Association.

Michael Kutschera is a senior, highly esteemed arbitrator with an impressive track record of handling arbitration cases relating to energy issues. His expertise includes cases under the Vienna Rules and before the ICC, and includes acting as chair and co-arbitrator in high-profile cases.

Stefan Albiez advances in the rankings as a result of positive feedback and his visibility on the firm's key cases. He recently led the team representing the City of Vienna and a number of other large real estate owners before the Austrian Supreme Court in private enforcement proceedings, claiming large damages as a result of the elevator and escalator cartel. Interviewees praise his preparation, court style and strong people skills. "You just feel well cared for," a source reports.

Employment

What the team is known for Established employment team notable for its strong client base across a range of sectors. Acts on restructuring and transactional matters, which are effectively supported by its prominent M&A team. In-depth experience advising on dismissals and pension schemes, as well as employment agreements and works council topics. Well versed in cross-border matters and high-profile litigation cases. Expertise in working time flexibility, the relocation of workforce resources, personnel lease and outsourcing.

Strengths Clients describe the team as "very co-operative and efficient" and appreciate that the lawyers "are very short and precise in their answers." Clients also report that the lawyers are "very knowledgeable" in employment law and social security law.

Another client highlights the firm's collaborative approach, saying that "they give us the impression of being really interested in our business and have developed a good understanding of our needs." The same client also "really appreciates that they proactively inform us about new developments."

Work highlights Assisted Vivienne Westwood with the adaptation of UK employment contracts for store managers in Austria.

Advised Brocade Communications on a range of employment matters as it re-entered the market, including collective bargaining agreements, minimum salary agreements and terminations.

Notable practitioners

Horst Lukanec is known for his expertise in international restructuring, complex collective employment law matters, and executive contracts and compensation. Recently, he advised MAN Truck & Bus on the drafting of new managing director employment agreements in both Austria and Germany. Clients describe him as "very responsive, efficient and knowledgeable."

Angelika Pallwein-Prettner specialises in employment litigation, working time schemes, and data protection matters. She provides ongoing employment advice on collective bargaining agreements and employee terminations to several notable clients, including Asics Austria and Starbucks. Clients report that "she is very good in explaining difficult legal topics to non-lawyers."

IP

What the team is known for Well-respected IP team with notable expertise in trade mark issues, including prosecution and particular strength in international portfolio management. Advice also covers protection against product piracy and counterfeiting, broadcasting rights, licensing agreements and unfair competition. Assists clients from a wide range of industries such as the automotive, financial services, life sciences, games and media sectors. Instructed as local counsel in cross-border cases.

Strengths A client praises the service received, stating: "The whole team is very practical on every issue. The solution-oriented attitude makes it easy to work with them and it becomes obvious that they are always concerned to provide the best service to clients."

Work highlights Assisted THQ Nordic with the management of its international trade mark portfolio.

Advised a number of owners of luxury goods brands on defence against product piracy and the seizure of counterfeits.

Notable practitioners

Ivo Rungg is a well-regarded IP lawyer, who advises on a variety of IP issues, including trade mark portfolio management, licensing and protection from infringement, including anti-counterfeiting matters. A client praises his "solution-oriented attitude," as well as being "reasonable and very practical."

Hellmut Buchroithner focuses on trade mark issues and R&D licensing agreements. "He has a sound understanding of the client's needs and is committed, friendly and easy-going," a client reports.

Public Law General

What the team is known for Notable team that frequently advises bidders on public procurement matters, and also assists with administrative and regulatory issues. Has experience in court cases, including administrative and review proceedings concerning issuances of fines. Clients include energy, transportation, healthcare and pharmaceutical companies, as well as financial and public entities.

Strengths Clients highlight the lawyers' responsiveness, as one notes: "Response times have always been fast, and enquiries at short notice are always answered."

Work highlights Advised the European Investment Bank on an infrastructure and organisational development programme for the regional hospital in St Poelten in the Federal State of Lower Austria.

Notable practitioners

Johannes Barbist advises clients on public law and regulations in the energy and financial services sector. He has experience representing clients before the administrative courts, and also provides legal opinions for legislative processes. Further expertise lies in European and state aid law.

Real Estate

What the team is known for Notable deal-focused team assisting with real estate-related joint ventures, purchases and disposals. Regularly acts for international companies increasing their property interests in Austria. Increasingly visible in disputes, representing clients in both civil and criminal proceedings. Acts for a variety of clients, including foreign and domestic real estate investors and developers, blue-chip companies and high net worth individuals. Also offers representation in contract negotiations for the construction of factories, residential buildings, office buildings, and flagship stores.

Strengths Clients highlight the team's highly effective business manner, and say: "They are reliable, goal-oriented, and demonstrate extensive legal experience," before adding: "The team acted quickly on our behalf and the input was extremely valuable."

Work highlights Assisted Corestate Capital with the establishment of a joint venture with the Soravia Group for the development of four high-rise buildings in Vienna.

Advised Leasinvest Real Estate on the purchase of Frun Park in Asten for EUR38 million.

Restructuring/Insolvency

What the team is known for Reputable team with broad expertise that includes corporate and financial restructuring. Highly recommended for distressed M&A transactions and pre-insolvency reorganisations. Widely known for representing local and international creditors, both banks and corporations, where the firm makes use of its outstanding banking and finance practice. Additionally active in insolvency-

related disputes. Houses extensive expertise in the financial services, construction, IT and automotive sectors.

Strengths Clients highly value the team's cohesion. One in particular is left impressed by the lawyers' "excellent response times and high-quality expertise."

Another interviewee reports that the team's work is "very good and detailed," and adds: "The lawyers are very mindful of our position and very practical."

Work highlights Represented MTX Group as a creditor in the insolvency proceedings of Aluminium Lend and the subsequent acquisition of its insolvent operations.

Represented Tele2 as creditor in insolvency proceedings against T-2.

Significant Clients Heitkamp, Hypo Vorarlberg, Lenzing, Volksbanken.

Notable practitioners

Gottfried Gassner is praised for his strategic approach, as one particular client says: "He is a good person to talk to about implications and can find out-of-court solutions." He focuses on financial restructurings, insolvency disputes and mergers and acquisitions of distressed companies, and represented Heitkamp as creditor in insolvency proceedings against an Austrian construction company.

Emanuel Welten is experienced in financial restructuring matters and insolvency proceedings. Clients appreciate his commercial awareness, saying that he has a "profound understanding of the business side of things." He advised Wietersdorfer on its restructuring and subsequent effort to terminate the existing restructuring agreements with its creditors.

Tax

What the team is known for Expert team providing a wide range of tax advice on corporate transactions, reorganisations, refinancing and joint ventures as well as tax litigation and audits. Also covers compliance and corporate income tax inquiries. Frequently advises financial institutions and large-scale organisations on international tax queries. Assists private clients.

Strengths Clients appreciate that the lawyers "provided quick and comprehensive advice and communicated easily with non-legal people."

Work highlights Advised Bilfinger on the tax aspects of a number of M&A transactions.

Acted for Ventrex on general tax matters relating to mergers and real estate transfers following the conclusion of its restructuring.

Notable practitioners

Christian Wimpissinger has an outstanding reputation for his tax expertise, especially in international tax and the tax aspects of corporate financing and transactional matters, and has advised on a number of restructuring matters. A client says: "He is able to summarise and concisely present complicated Austrian tax problems and provide clear instructions to clients with a full evaluation of the risks involved with them."

Andreas Hable is a respected practitioner who handles the tax aspects of M&A transactions and corporate law questions. He is particularly active on cross-border tax matters. A client describes him as "a very experienced tax lawyer with an international background." Clients also underline his reliability.

TMT

What the team is known for Highly integrated offering drawing on the firm's strong IP and dispute resolution practices. Active in both IT and telecoms law in various contentious and non-contentious capacities, covering data protection, data transfer and software distribution. Notably active in IT outsourcing and e-commerce. Assists mobile and internet providers with tenders and regulatory matters. Also advises on licensing agreements and cloud computing matters.

Work Highlights Advised Evonik Industries on the implementation and use of encryption technologies.

Assisted Falck Danmark with the legal requirements for the retention and deletion of personal data.

Über uns:

BINDER GRÖSSWANG berät seit mehr als 50 Jahren als eine der führenden österreichischen Wirtschaftskanzleien mit stark internationaler Ausrichtung in allen juristischen Fachgebieten, von Kapitalmarktrecht über Transaktionsrecht (M&A), zu Bankrecht und Finanzierungen, Immobilienrecht, Gesellschaftsrecht, Kartell- und Vergaberecht, Wettbewerbsrecht, Steuerrecht, Dispute Resolution sowie Arbeitsrecht. Die Kanzlei betreut namhafte nationale wie auch internationale Unternehmen aller Branchen und Größen. BINDER GRÖSSWANG beschäftigt an den Standorten in Wien und Innsbruck über 170 Mitarbeiter.

Rückfragen:

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