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Dr Christoph Carstens

Christoph has many years' experience in the fields of corporate law and mergers and acquisitions (M&A). He advises clients inter alia on the formation, restructuring and liquidation of companies and groups of companies and on the purchase and sale of companies and shareholdings, regularly on a cross-border basis. Another key practice area is advising on compliance and corporate governance issues. His clients includes larger companies and groups based in Germany and abroad as well as medium-sized entrepreneurs and companies and their board members, primarily from the industrial, service and real estate sectors.

Christoph is Co-Head of the Commercial and Corporate Law practice group and Head of the Corporate Transactions (M&A) competence team. He speaks German and English.

What others say

„ highly skilled approach, a competitor “

JUVE Handbuch 2025/26

„ Frequently recommended for M&A and corporate law; "precise and forward-looking", "a good negotiator, always keeps a cool head", a competitor “

JUVE Handbook 2023/24

„ Cited as "Frequently recommended" - "solution-orientated and creative, excellent M&A knowledge", a competitor “

JUVE Handbook 2022/23

„ Leading lawyer for corporate law 2020 “

WirtschaftsWoche Top-Kanzleien 2020

„ One of the most frequently recommended lawyers for Corporate Governance & Compliance Practice as well as Mergers & Acquisitions (M&A) and real estate business law “

Handelsblatt/Best Lawyers® 'Germany's Best Lawyers 2025'

Recent work

- Advising a group of companies in the construction sector on a dispute with the heirs of a shareholder
- Advising a hotel operator on the sale of several hotels
- Advising a chemical park operator on the auditing and reorganisation of the group-wide compliance management system
- Advising a project developer in the shopping centre sector on a cross-border shareholder dispute
- Advising a nursing home operator on the sale of an operating company
- Advising a leading retail chain in the textile sector on the purchase of several branches belonging to a competitor
- Advising a listed company in the railway technology sector on a strategic acquisition in the Netherlands
- Advising the management of a company on the acquisition (MBO) of an international communications agency
- Advising a fine art printing company from the UK on its acquisitions and restructuring in Germany
- Advising a global real estate service provider from the US on restructuring and corporate governance issues
- Advising various project developers on the purchase and sale of real estate projects and portfolio properties (share deals) in the residential, commercial and hotel sectors
- Advising a fintech company on the sale of its core business
- Advising a medical device manufacturer from the US on company acquisitions and restructuring in Germany
- Advising an SDAX-listed group on the revision of its group-wide compliance management system
- Advising an investment fund from the US on the sale of biomass power plants in Germany
- Advising a German animal feed manufacturer on an acquisition in Canada
- Advising an MDAX-listed group on strategic joint ventures in Asia and Africa

Curriculum vitae

- Studied law at the University of Hamburg, 1999 to 2003
- Legal clerkship in Hamburg, Düsseldorf and London, 2005 to 2008
- PhD at the Free University of Berlin, 2009
- Lawyer at Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer LLP, 2008 to 2011
- Lawyer at Kapellmann since 2011
- Lecturer in M&A at the Aachen University of Applied Sciences, 2018 to 2022

Further qualifications and membership

- Regularly lectures and provides training, in particular in the areas of M&A, directors' liability and compliance
- Contributor to JURIS AnwaltZertifikatOnline
- Member of the International Bar Association (IBA)
- Member of the Academic Association for Corporate and Business Law (Wissenschaftliche Vereinigung für Unternehmens- und Gesellschaftsrecht (VGR))
- Member of the German Association of Small and Medium-sized Businesses (Deutsche Mittelstands-Bund (DMB) e.V.)

PRACTICE GROUPS

- **Corporate and commercial law**

SECTOR GROUPS

- **Corporate compliance**
- **Corporate transactions (M&A)**
- **Start-up and digital transformation**
- **ESG**

EXPERTISE

- Corporate law/M&A
- Corporate compliance