



Dr. Alesch Staehelin

Partner

Attorney at Law
LL.M. (UCLA)

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Expertise

Alesch Staehelin is a counsel, dealmaker, negotiator and mediator specializing in **IT/IP, data & media law**. His focus is on drafting all types of IT contracts (IT & BPO outsourcing, cloud, hosting, licensing, telecoms, etc.), negotiating & closing complex and time-sensitive (cross-border) tech deals (incl. regulated industries), new laws affecting digital transformation (GDPR, Swiss Data Protection Act, Privacy Shields, EU Copyright Directive, etc.), legal aspects of emerging technologies (AI, IoT, big data, medtech, legaltech, fintech, blockchain, etc.), handling cybersecurity incidents and on mediating troubled projects and conducting legal proceedings. Alesch's further fields of expertise are **unfair competition, antitrust** and **compliance**.

As a **former senior in-house counsel (11 years at IBM in various international lead positions)**, Alesch speaks his clients' language and understands their exact needs – drafting, negotiating & closing, rendering general legal advice, developing business & compliance strategies, etc. Clients making deals with large tech companies benefit from Alesch's deep knowledge of the specific standards and internal decision-making processes of such companies and from his extensive personal network.

For some of his clients (e.g., for startups), Alesch Staehelin acts not only as an external counsel in selected areas but also as their **Digital Lawyer & Counsel (DLC)[®]: External legal department**, covering the entire spectrum of legal issues affecting a company, **legaltech advisor, external data protection officer (DPO)** and/or **external compliance officer (incl. competition law matters)**.

Selected Publications

- Responsible AI: A Global Policy Framework (co-author), 2019
- Licensing, Litigation, and Negotiation Strategies in the (Information) Technology Industry, in: ZEILER/ZOJER (eds.): Resolving IP Disputes, 2018, 69 ff.
- Und jetzt? Massnahmen bei Cyberangriffen, Computerworld, November 2018, 35
- Commentary on arts. 41-50 and 62 TRIPS, in: COTTIER/VÉRON (eds.), Concise International and European IP Law, 3rd ed. 2015 (Kluwer Law International)
- Rechtliche Aspekte der Musikindustrie, in: ARTER/JÖRG (eds.), Entertainment Law, 2006, 29 ff. (Stämpfli)
- Suche nach billigen Aids-Medikamenten, NZZ Nr. 178,

4./5.8.2001, 21 (= Jusletter, 19.11.2001); winner of the „WIPOUT“ award (international IP contest)

- Technologietransfer an den schweizerischen Hochschulen, GRUR Int. 1999, 219 ff. (co-authored with MARTIN J. LUTZ)
- Das TRIPs-Abkommen. Immaterialgüterrechte im Licht der globalisierten Handelspolitik, 2nd ed. 1999 (Stämpfli)
- Auf dem Weg zu neuen Ufern im Immaterialgüterrecht, NZZ Nr. 99, 30.4.1997, 23

Practice Areas

- **IT law** (dealmaking, drafting, negotiating, closing, mediating, rendering tech related legal advice, etc.)
- **Data & information** (privacy, security, governance, commercialization): Swiss & EU data protection law
- **IP** (copyright, marks, etc.) and **unfair competition law**
- **eHealth law** (medtech, digital/smart health, etc.)
- **Media & entertainment** (music, film, TV, sports, etc.)
- **Antitrust/cartel law; compliance**

Education

2002	LL.M. (Entertainment Law)	University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA)
2000	Admission to the Zurich bar	Admitted to all Swiss courts
1996	Dr. iur. (IP Law)	University of Zurich
1994	lic. iur.	University of Zurich
1991	Political Science & Music	City University of New York

Other Positions

2008-2018	Lead Counsel, IBM, Zurich
2004-2007	Senior Associate, Froriep, Zurich
2002-2003	Senior Associate, Bär & Karrer, Zurich
1997-2001	Associate, Lenz & Staehelin, Zurich
1997	Junior Editor (Foreign Affairs), NZZ, Zurich
1995	Scientific Assistant, University of Zurich
1994-1997	Junior Editor, Handelszeitung, Zurich/Brussels