Schellenberg Wittmer

Dr. Stéphanie Chuffart-Finsterwald, LL.M.

Partner

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Recognitions
- Chambers and Partners Europe: Intellectual Property since 2025
- The Legal 500: Next Generation Partner TMT since 2025; Key Lawyer in Data Privacy & Data Protection since 2025; Key Lawyer Healthcare and Life Sciences since 2025; Key Lawyer in Competition since 2026
- Lexology Index: Recommended in Intellectual Property since 2025
- WTR1000 ranked

Languages
French, English

Selected Publications
- Profession d'avocate: l'épreuve du statu quo

Stéphanie Chuffart-Finsterwald heads our Intellectual Property, Information and Communication Technology as well as Life Sciences practices in Geneva. She advises on a range of R&D, compliance and venture projects, IP strategy, Data Protection as well as dispute resolution matters.
Stéphanie offers an out-of-the-box and result-oriented approach, tailored to the needs of natural and legal persons, with corporate clients ranging from start-up and SMEs to international organizations and multinational companies. Her practice is distinguished by a deep understanding of new technologies, as well as a responsive, pragmatic, and innovative approach, rooted in current technological and economic challenges.
She represents clients in litigation before Swiss courts and frequently assists clients in drafting and negotiating IP and data-sensitive contracts. She also advises on IP and LS (including regulatory) aspects of transactions.

Expertise
- Intellectual Property
- Life Sciences
- Data
- Competition and Antitrust
- Information and Communication Technology
- IT Security and Cybercrime
- Art and Entertainment
- Dispute Resolution

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Experience

- Numerous judicial proceedings (administrative and civil) related to the defense of intellectual property rights.
- Advised and supported several private clinics on projects involving medical data (data protection and medical secrecy).
- Provides full data protection advice to a leading Swiss industrial group.
- Data protection advice to several Swiss pension funds (including federal organs under the applicable laws).
- Assisted a UN agency in the context of international clinical trials.
- Negotiated and drafted sensitive R&D contracts and CRO agreements.
- Developed strategies for the protection of digital assets for several leading companies in the luxury industry.
- Defended individuals and companies in cases of online violations of personal rights.
- Provided legal opinions on intellectual property issues related to new technologies.
- Provided legal support in the creation of the COVAX No-Fault Compensation Program (https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0264410X21013803?via%3Dihub).
- Assisted several leading companies in the luxury industry with NFT issuance projects and defense against NFTs infringing intellectual property rights.

Career

2024	Partner at Schellenberg Wittmer
2019	Partner at sigma legal
2016	Managing Associate at a business law firm in Geneva
2014	Trainee Lawyer at Schellenberg Wittmer
2012	Visiting Fellow at Columbia Law School (Center for Climate Change Law)
2010	Teaching and Research Assistant at IHEID

Education

2016	Bar Admission in Switzerland
2014	Ph.D. IHEID
2013	LL.M., Columbia Law School
2010	Master of Law, IHEID
2008	Bachelor of Law, University of Fribourg

Additional Professional Activities

- Elected member of the Geneva Bar Association Council, President of the Commission for innovations and modernization of the bar
- Member of Licensing Executives Society Switzerland
- Member of Association romande de propriété intellectuelle
- Regular publications and speaking engagements in the field of intellectual property, LS and health law, as well as data protection law