

Dr. Olaf Fiss

Counsel

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OVERVIEW

Dr. Olaf Fiss advises national and international companies on all aspects of IP law, including copyright, media, patent, trademark, employee invention and competition law.

Olaf has many years of experience in enforcing his clients' claims in court. He advises on the development and implementation of new business models and serves as a strategic point of contact for all questions related to the protection and distribution of IP content.

A key focus of his work is complex litigation, particularly in the areas of copyright and patent law, as well as general civil proceedings involving technology. His practice includes rights clearance for broadcasters and online platforms, as well as legal issues related to collecting societies. He regularly advises companies on drafting and negotiating license and research and development agreements, as well as on the protection of trade secrets. He also has extensive experience in the civil and criminal prosecution of internet piracy.

Olaf has represented cases before the European Court of Justice and is admitted as a representative before the Unified Patent Court. He is recognized as a Recommended Lawyer in renowned legal rankings such as JUVE and *The Legal 500 EMEA*.

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

Olaf is a qualified lawyer since 2010. Before joining the firm, he worked in the legal department of a US software company in London. In 2014 he obtained his accreditation as a Specialist Lawyer for Copyright and Media Law (*Fachanwalt für Urheber- und Medienrecht*). Olaf holds a doctorate in software law. In addition, he completed a master's degree (DESS) in International Business Law in Paris, as well as the Patent Litigation in Europe programme at the CEIPI Institute in Strasbourg.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Recognised by *The Legal 500 EMEA* as a Recommended Lawyer for Entertainment in Germany, 2024-2026
- Recognised by *JUVE* for Media Law in Germany, 2025

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

Olaf regularly speaks on issues concerning his practice, more recently:

- Presentation on EU legal issues as part of a client's legal workshop, London, 23 September 2025
- Presentation on “Regulating Creativity – High-Risk AI, Secondary Legislation under the AI Act, and the Role of Copyright” as part of the legal workshop of an international media company, 18 September 2025
- Presentation on the subject of collecting societies as part of the VAUNET workshop GEMA-GVL, 15/16 December 2021
- Lecture on "Media Law" as part of his teaching activities at a university focused in media professions, 11/12 June 2021
- Presentation on “Recent Challenges to IP-driven Media Distribution in the EU” as part of the “ERA/EMR Annual Conference on European Media Law,” 28 May 2020

ADDITIONAL BACKGROUND

EDUCATION

- Specialist Lawyer for Copyright and Media Law (*Fachanwalt für Urheber- und Medienrecht*), 2014

EDUCATION

- Second Legal State Exam, Higher Regional Court of Berlin, 2009
- D.E.S.S., University of Paris X - Nanterre, 2005 *(International Business Law)*
- First Legal State Exam, Humboldt University of Berlin, 2004
- Dr. iur., Humboldt University of Berlin, 2014
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• LANGUAGES

- English
- French
- German
- Portuguese

• THOUGHT LEADERSHIP *POWERED BY HUB*

- 10 March 2025, Unified Patent Court Publishes First Annual Report
- 5 March, 7 March, and 12 March 2024, EU and UK Regulatory Webinar Series
- 20 April 2023, Punch and File the License Agreement? The New Duty Under German Law to Proactively Inform When Using Copyrights

• OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- On the reclaim of remuneration deposited under Sec. 37 VGG, comment on the KG decision of April 24, 2025, ZUM 2025, p. 868
- Heine/Holzmüller: Commentary on the Act on Collecting Societies (VGG), 2nd ed. 2025; sections 41 - 43 and 128 - 131 (with von Albrecht)
- On the obligation of broadcasters to contract in IPTV settings, comment on OLG Munich decision of February 2, 2024, ZUM 2024, p. 632 (with von Albrecht)
- Schwarz, Handbook Film Law, 6th ed., 2021, chapters 269 - 273 on collecting societies (with von Albrecht)
- Implementation of the Online-SatCab-Directive - Over-Regulation of the Direct Injection?, ZUM 2020, p. 750 (with von Albrecht)
- Murphy Reloaded: The Admissibility of Geoblocking for Audiovisual Content in the Light of Current Developments, ZUM 2020, p. 18 (with von Albrecht)
- Remuneration for Cable Retransmission in Condominium, comment on the Higher Regional Court Braunschweig ruling of April 17, 2019, ZUM 2019, p. 785 et seq. (with von Albrecht)
- Haftung für fehlerhafte Software (Liability for Defective Software), doctoral thesis, 2014
- Telecom, Media and Technology Alert: European Court of Justice Holds Google Responsible for the Processing of Personal Data from Third-Party Websites, 2014
- Telecom, Media and Technology Alert: European Council adopts directive on the collective management of copyright and multi-territorial licensing of online music, 2014
- GEMA Fee Reform and Fair Remuneration for Clubs, K&R 12, 2012, p. 777 f. (with von Albrecht and Sepperer)

• NEWS & EVENTS

- 2 December 2025, K&L Gates Advises Rock Rail Holdings Limited and Infracapital on Regional Passenger Rail Transport Project Elektronetz Nord Magdeburg (ENORM) in Germany

- 2 September 2025, K&L Gates Advises Rock Rail Holdings Limited and Infracapital on Next Major Regional Passenger Rail Project in Germany

AREAS OF FOCUS

- IP Litigation
- Commercial Disputes

INDUSTRIES

- Consumer Goods and Services
- Manufacturing
- Media and Entertainment
- Technology

EMERGING ISSUES

- Artificial Intelligence (AI)

REPRESENTATIVE EXPERIENCE

- Advised an English automotive supplier on the acquisition of a patent portfolio.
- Represented a German automotive supplier in litigation against an OEM before the Regional Court Munich.
- Represented a US manufacturer of protective clothing for motorsport in a trademark dispute before the Higher Regional Court Düsseldorf and the EUIPO.
- Represented a globally active private foundation before the Administrative Court of Cologne in FOIA proceedings.
- Advised a technology company in connection with an anti-anti-suit injunction.
- Represented an auction house in an art law dispute before the Regional Court Frankfurt.
- Represented Corint Media in a landmark case before the European Court of Justice regarding broadcasters' participation in private copying remuneration.
- Represented a manufacturer of child car seats in an employee invention law dispute before the Regional Court Munich.
- Represented VAUNET e.V. in framework agreement proceedings before the arbitration board regarding an online tariff of GEMA.

- Advised German broadcasting association VAUNET on complex copyright questions and negotiation of framework agreements with the collecting societies GEMA and GVL.
- Advised Microsoft on the acquisition of 6Wunderkinder GmbH from, among others, Sequoia Capital, Earlybird, and Atomico.
- Represented DFL in criminal and civil proceedings against Russian-language online pirate platform.
- Represented German collecting society VG Media in proceedings against ZPÜ regarding the non-participation of private broadcasters in the private copying levy.
- Advised a US company on the licensing of music rights for a music-on-demand service and on regulatory issues.
- Advised multinational online sales platform on sponsoring and influencer agreements.
- Advised Ipsos on the acquisition of GfK's Custom Research Business including the management of legal issues relating to IT and data protection in 25 countries.
- Advised UK-based sports property rights company on the media and copyright licensing of an over-the-top offering.
- Comprehensive advice on media, copyright, and data protection law for US broadcasting company and film producer, including questions of content distribution in Germany and the protection of minors.
- Advised Verivox on various strategic acquisitions and transactions.
- Advised multinational dubbing studio on dubbing agreements.