Florian Mohs

Partner
Attorney at law, Dr. iur., LL.M.
Head Arbitration

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Florian Mohs is Partner of Pestalozzi's Litigation & Arbitration Group and co-heads the Litigation & Arbitration Group. He is specialized in representing corporate clients as counsel in international arbitration proceedings and in litigation proceedings in Switzerland.

His arbitration practice includes advocating for clients in complex negotiations and mediations as well as acting as arbitrator and Swiss law expert. His court practice includes setting aside proceedings against Swiss arbitral awards, the enforcement of judgments and arbitral awards, including asset attachments, as well as the contentious aspects of bankruptcy and composition proceedings. This comprehensive skill set is often sought after in complex, cross-border disputes that require a strategic dispute management approach.

Florian handles a wide range of commercial and corporate disputes, having broad experience in advising industrial companies in engineering and construction cases, ranging from machinery installation to infrastructure projects, trading companies in commodities' trading disputes, particularly in minerals, metals and energy sources, supported by valuable business insight gained during his secondment to a major international commodities trader, and pharmaceutical companies in licensing related matters. Florian also advises on disputes in banking and finance, with particular experience in trade finance.

His experience includes

Counsel for a global transportation company in a price-adjustment arbitration before SAC

Counsel for a joint venture of several construction companies in an ICC arbitration dispute relating to the design and construction of an infrastructure project in the Middle East (transportation)

Counsel to leading construction company in SAC arbitration regarding post M&A price adjustment and warranty claims

Counsel to European industrial company in ICC arbitration against Middle Eastern company regarding the supply and maintenance of a wind farm

Counsel to leading construction company in ICC arbitration against Middle Eastern company regarding their failed partnership in an infrastructure project (transportation)

Counsel to US company in SAC arbitration against a European company regarding a technology licensing agreement and related patents in the food services industry

Florian is an expert on the United Nations Convention for the International Sale of Goods (CISG). He contributes to the leading commentary in this area and regularly speaks and publishes on the CISG, as well as topics relating to litigation and arbitration. Before joining Pestalozzi, he worked as a research and teaching assistant to Professor Dr. I. Schwenzer, LL.M., at the University of Basel. He remained connected to the University of Basel as a lecturer for several years.

Trained in both civil and common law jurisdictions, Florian holds law degrees from Switzerland (Doctor of Law (Dr. iur.), summa cum laude, University of Basel, 2005), New Zealand (LL.M., with distinction, Victoria University of Wellington, 2006), and Germany (First State Exam, Baden-Württemberg, 2002, concluding his legal studies at the Albert-Ludwigs-University of Freiburg). He was admitted to the Swiss Bar in 2008.

Market Perception

Florian Mohs is hands-on, with a good eye for the commercial perspective of a client. (The Legal 500, 2026)

Florian Mohs was extremely helpful and user-friendly. (The Legal 500, 2026)

He is very strong in applying legal concepts to the position he must take in advocating for his client, as well as arguing why his position is also commercially sound. (Chambers Global & Europe, 2026)

Florian is certainly one of the strongest arbitration lawyers in the market. He has a deep understanding of his clients' businesses and the commercial aspects of a case. (Chambers Global & Europe, 2026)

Florian Mohs is a top name in dispute resolution, recognised for his "excellent practice in cross-border matters" and "strong advocacy for the interests of his clients". (Lexology Index Arbitration, 2026)

A brilliant lawyer. (Who's Who Legal, 2023)

Florian is certainly among the best when it comes to large projects covering multiple jurisdictions. (Who's Who Legal, 2023)

Florian Mohs comes highly recommended for his "organised, precise, punctual and accurate preparation of documents" in complex dispute resolution proceedings. His "noteworthy ability to dive into the pertinent details of multinational claims" is further praised. (Who's Who Legal, 2022)

Florian Mohs in an excellent arbitration counsel highly dedicated to defend the rights of his clients. (The Legal 500, 2021)

Florian Mohs is simply an excellent lawyer, both at understanding the detailed legal position and at understanding how to place this in a strategic business context. (The Legal 500, 2020)

Florian Mohs – very commercial, strategic good advice, responsive. (The Legal 500, 2021)

Career

2016	Partner at Pestalozzi
2009	University of Basel: Lecturer
2008	Associate at Pestalozzi Major international commodities trader: secondment as litigation counsel Bar admission: Switzerland
2006	Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand: LL.M. (with distinction) Junior Associate at Pestalozzi
2005	University of Basel, Switzerland: Dr. iur. (summa cum laude) Swiss National Science Foundation scholar, visiting scholar at ANU Canberra and University of Melbourne, Australia
2002	University of Basel, Switzerland: Research and teaching assistant to Prof. Dr. I. Schwenzer, LL.M. University of Freiburg, Germany: First State Exam (Baden-Württemberg) University of Freiburg, Germany: Junior research assistant to Prof. em. Dr. Dres. h.c. Peter Schlechtriem, M.C.L.

Languages

- German
- English

Practice Areas

- Litigation & Arbitration
- Infrastructure
- Energy
- Life Sciences
- Restructuring & Insolvency

Membership

- Swiss Bar Association (SAV)
- Zurich Bar Association (ZAV)
- Deutsche Institution für Schiedsgerichtsbarkeit (DIS)
- London Court of International Arbitration (LCIA)
- Union Internationale des Avocats (UIA)