

# About us

## Best-in-class legal services, made in Switzerland

With offices in Zurich and Geneva and specialists with expertise in all areas of business law, we are able to form customized teams to meet the needs of a vast range of international and domestic clients. Drawing on our wide-ranging experience and the total commitment of our people, we help our clients to achieve their goals quickly and efficiently. Our firm is known for diversity, integrity, outstanding quality standards and proven effectiveness.

## Our expertise

As our client, you benefit from the know-how of over 150 partners, attorneys and support staff. With practice groups and expertise in all areas of business law, we are able to form customized teams to meet any challenge.

Our contacts with our international top-tier network of law firms and lawyers and our membership in Lex Mundi ( [www.lexmundi.com](http://www.lexmundi.com)) give you access to top-quality legal services in jurisdictions worldwide.

## A LexMundi Member

## Our vision

As one of Switzerland's most respected law firms, we have a single overarching ambition: to help our clients achieve their goals. In our quest for client satisfaction, we take guidance from three clearly defined values:

- caring for our clients and giving them effective, realizable and result-oriented solutions;
- professionalism and integrity, as expressed through responsible action and excellent quality; and
- our commitment to attracting and retaining skilled and dedicated people.

## Our clients

We work primarily with large domestic and foreign corporations but also assist medium-sized companies in the following sectors and industries, among others:

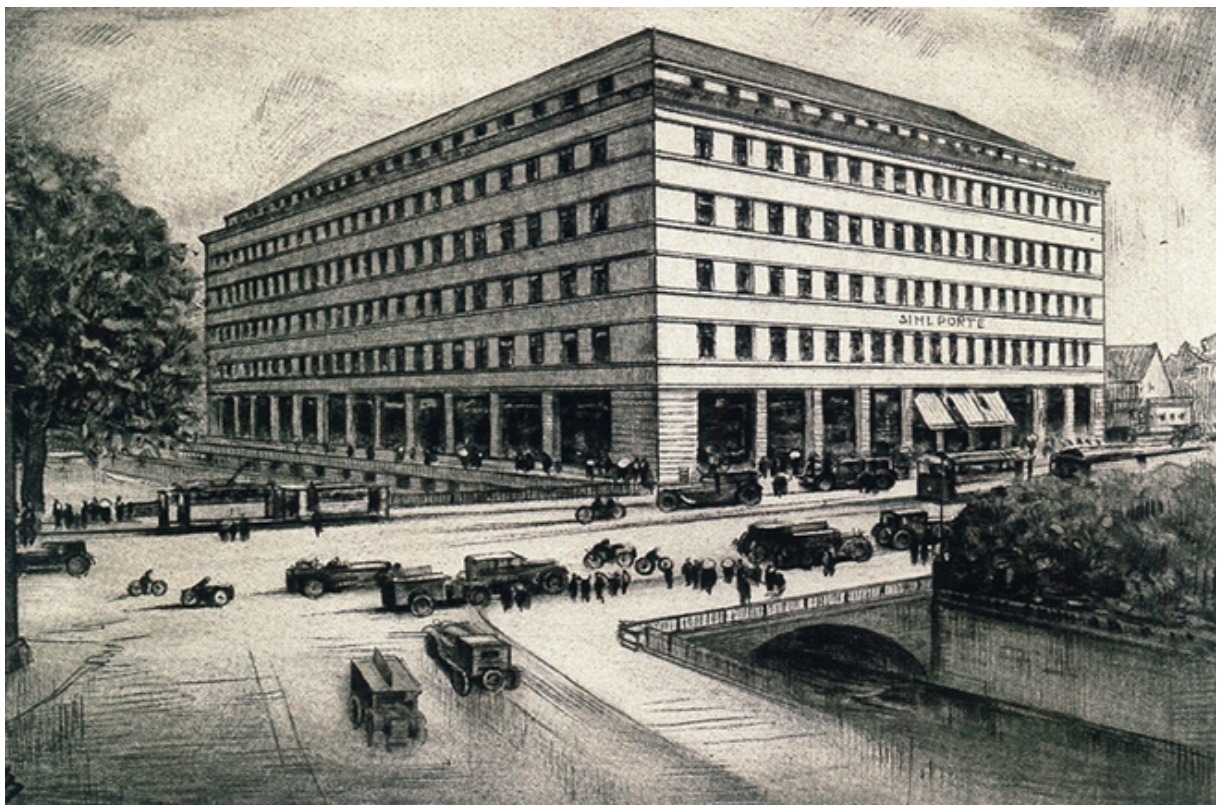
- Automotive
- Aviation
- Banking
- Biotechnology
- Chemicals
- Commodities
- Electronics
- Financial services
- Fintech
- Food and beverage
- Government & public sector
- Industrial manufacturing
- Information technology and software
- Insurance
- Life sciences
- Luxury goods
- Mechanical engineering
- Media
- Medical devices
- Pharmaceuticals
- Power & utilities
- Private equity
- Real estate
- Shipping and logistics
- Telecommunications
- Textiles
- Trading and retail
- Travel and entertainment

## Our history

Founded in 1911 by Dr. Josef Henggeler, our firm is the longest established of all of Switzerland's major law firms. It subsequently grew and flourished under the management of Dr. Anton Pestalozzi and Dr. Paul Gmür, providing top-flight legal advice and services to a wide range of national and international clients.

In 1992, we extended our geographical reach and opened offices in Geneva.

Since 2008 the firm has operated under the name Pestalozzi Attorneys at Law Ltd.



# Expertise and Industries

## Blockchain & Crypto Assets

We offer legal and regulatory advice to clients developing, implementing and operating new technologies.

## Capital Markets

The Pestalozzi Capital Markets practice group provides domestic and international clients with a full suite of Swiss capital markets legal advisory services.

## Competition & Trade

The Competition & Trade practice group provides Swiss and international clients in all industries with a full range of legal advice related to Swiss and European competition law as well as trade regulation-related issues (WTO, customs, registrations).

## Compliance

In an increasingly regulated business environment, compliance – and, in particular, compliance management – is assuming greater importance for companies at both national and international level. Clients who work with us can count on professional legal support on all corporate, financial service and tax compliance matters, risk management issues and investigations, especially when these involve white-collar irregularities.

## Corporate / M&A

The Corporate/M&A practice group provides domestic and foreign clients with a full range of Swiss corporate and commercial legal advisory services (contract law, corporate law, corporate services, M&A as well as capital market law).

## Employment & Pensions

The Pestalozzi Employment practice group assists Swiss employers and senior executives in every aspect of Swiss employment, labor, immigration and pension law.

## Energy

The Energy Law practice group provides a full range of Swiss contractual, corporate, financing and regulatory advisory services to Swiss and international clients in the energy sector. Our experts are experienced in representing clients in administrative procedures with the regulatory authorities as well as in national and international litigation or arbitration proceedings.

## **Environment, Social, Governance (ESG)**

Environmental, social and governance (ESG) matters have become a strategic priority for companies, while at the same time regulation has become increasingly complex. We help clients successfully navigating the multidimensional and complex ESG landscape.

## **Financial Services**

We offer a full range of transactional, regulatory and investigative services to the financial industry in Switzerland and abroad.

## **Insurance**

The Insurance practice group provides a full range of regulatory, transactional, commercial and dispute resolution services to Swiss and international clients in the insurance sector.

## **IP & TMT**

Our IP & TMT practice group provides results-oriented, effective and feasible solutions for all aspects of intellectual property (IP), unfair competition and data protection law, as well as IT, telecommunications and media and technology (TMT) law.

## **Life Sciences**

The Life Sciences practice group provides industry-specific legal and tax advice to companies operating in the field of life sciences technologies. Our practice areas range from biotechnology and medical technology to the pharmaceutical industry, covering diagnostics, personalised medicine, dietary supplements, cosmetics, food processing, biochemistry and medical devices and equipment, as well as other regulated products and services. In addition, the experts of our Life Sciences Practice Group support organisations and institutions in research and development projects, processing and use of digital data, technology transfers, commercialisation of intellectual property rights as well as the establishment of distribution structures.

## **Litigation & Arbitration**

The Litigation & Arbitration practice group has a long-standing reputation for offering superior advisory services to domestic and international clients across a broad range of commercial, corporate, and financial issues. We represent states and state-owned entities, businesses from large international corporations to small and medium-size enterprises, together with private clients, in complex civil, criminal, and regulatory disputes at national and international level before state courts, authorities, and arbitral tribunals.

## **Private Clients**

Our Private Clients practice group addresses the needs of Swiss and non-Swiss individuals and families, foundations and trusts, private banks, family offices and other wealth management service providers. We offer sophisticated, tailor-made as well as administrative solutions designed to cover the legal, regulatory and tax aspects of global planning, coordination and structuring of private wealth and business assets.

## **Private Equity & Venture Capital**

Our Private Equity and Venture Capital practice group advises clients on the full spectrum of private equity and venture capital transactions – from initial investment through to exit.

## **Real Estate & Environment**

We offer clients a comprehensive portfolio of services for all kinds of building projects, from industrial plant to offices, hotels and restaurants through to residential housing. Apart from construction, our interdisciplinary expertise covers a vast range of real estate-related services from portfolio transactions and due diligence reviews to commercial and residential rent, acquisition, financing, sale, sale and lease-back agreements, together with many related areas listed below. Further, we regularly advise public authorities and bidders on public procurement matters.

## **Tax**

The Pestalozzi Tax practice group advises clients on a complete range of Swiss tax matters and international tax issues.

## **Our professionals**

We pride ourselves on our team of eminently qualified professionals, both women and men, that enables us to handle a vast spectrum of Swiss legal issues.

We consider diversity to be an important factor in our success and were delighted to take the title of “Best law firm in Switzerland” for the third time at the European Women in Business Law Awards held in London on June 17, 2016.

## Partners and Counsels

### **Ludivine Boisard**

Partner, Geneva  
Attorney at law

Ludivine Boisard is a partner and member of the Financial Services, the Real Estate & Environment and the Corporate/M&A Groups in Geneva. Her practice covers all types of domestic and cross-border banking transactions, with an emphasis on financing transactions. She also advises clients on financial services regulations, including regulatory and contractual issues relating to the establishment and the business of banks, securities dealers, asset managers and exchanges.



### **Michèle Burnier**

Partner, Geneva  
Attorney at law

Michèle Burnier is a partner of Pestalozzi's IP&TMT group in Geneva. Her fields of expertise include intellectual property, including geographical indications, TRIPS Agreement, unfair competition, data protection, advertising and e-commerce law, IT and telecommunication as well as administrative and contract law. She regularly represents clients before Swiss civil, or criminal courts in relation to her IP&TMT practice.



### **Lara Dorigo**

Partner, Zurich  
Attorney at law, LL.M. in Trade Regulation  
Head IP & TMT

Lara Dorigo is partner and heads the Intellectual Property group at Pestalozzi. She has profound experience in every field of intellectual property law with a particular affinity for technology-related issues. Her practice focuses on IP enforcement and defence, technology transfer agreements and branding strategies.



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## Sarah Drukarch

Partner, Zurich  
Attorney at Law

Sarah Drukarch is a partner and member of Pestalozzi's IP & TMT, Life Sciences, as well as Corporate/M&A practice groups in Zurich. She specializes in intellectual property, with a particular focus on life sciences, and also frequently advises clients on matters of unfair competition, data protection, food and healthcare as well as IT and media law. Sarah's expertise has been recognized by her continued inclusion as Rising Star for Switzerland by IP Stars since 2020.



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## Christophe Emonet

Partner, Geneva  
Attorney at law  
Head Litigation & Arbitration

Christophe Emonet heads the Geneva Litigation & Arbitration Group and the White-collar crime practice. He specializes in (inter)national banking/commercial disputes & investigations, regulatory & white-collar crime matters (corporate/financial fraud & corruption). He has broad experience in asset recovery and cross-border bankruptcies. He represents financial institutions, corporations, states, state companies and HNWIs that request his assistance for strategic matters and complex negotiations.



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## Petra Hanselmann

Partner, Zurich  
Attorney at law, LL.M.

Petra Hanselmann is a partner and member of the Corporate / M&A group in Zurich. She advises clients in mergers and acquisitions, private equity transactions and corporate reorganisations, including pre-transaction restructurings and post-acquisition integrations. Petra Hanselmann has broad experience in cross-border M&A, carve-outs and joint venture transactions in particular. She also routinely advises on general corporate and corporate governance matters.



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## Nils Harbeke

Partner, Zurich  
Swiss Certified Tax Expert, Attorney at law  
Head of Tax Practice Group



Nils Harbeke is head of Pestalozzi's Tax Practice Group. Nils Harbeke has a particular strength in cross-border tax work and tax work for international clients, both inbound and outbound. Prior to becoming a partner with Pestalozzi, Nils Harbeke led a team of tax advisors at PwC.

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## Nicolas C. Herren

Partner, Geneva  
Attorney at law, LL.M.



Nicolas C. Herren is a partner and a member of the Litigation & Arbitration group in Geneva. He specializes in national and cross-border banking/commercial disputes, in particular stemming out of contractual and regulatory issues. His activity covers also enforcement proceedings such as complex cross-border bankruptcies or recognition of foreign judgments. In addition, he has a broad experience in white collar crime and international mutual assistance in criminal and administrative matters.

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## Andrea Huber

Partner, Zurich  
Attorney at law, LL.M.



Andrea Huber is a Partner and member of Pestalozzi's Financial Services Group specialising in banking and regulatory matters, asset management/investment funds, fintech, insurance, internal and regulatory investigations, enforcement proceedings and white-collar crime. She regularly represents clients in proceedings before the Swiss Financial Market Supervisory Authority FINMA, the SIX Swiss Exchange and the CDB Supervisory Board (VSB Aufsichtskommission).

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## Alexandra C. Johnson

Partner, Geneva  
Attorney at law, LL.M.

Alexandra Johnson is a partner and member of Pestalozzi's Litigation & Arbitration team in Geneva. She focuses on representing clients in international arbitrations and complex commercial disputes. She also frequently advises clients on Swiss contract law and represents parties in challenge proceedings against arbitral awards and in enforcement proceedings before Swiss courts. Besides her work as party counsel, Alexandra Johnson regularly sits as arbitrator under various arbitration rules.



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## Franz J. Kessler

Partner, Zurich  
Attorney at law, Dr. iur., LL.M.  
Head Energy Law

Franz J. Kessler is a partner and member of Pestalozzi's Corporate / M&A Group as well as head of Pestalozzi's Energy Law practice. He advises clients in corporate governance issues, private and public M&A transactions, energy law (including hydropower concessions and regulatory issues), public procedural law and real estate law. He is an authorized issuer's representative at the SIX Swiss Exchange. Franz J. Kessler is listed in Chambers Europe, Switzerland Energy section.



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## Laurent Killias

Partner, Zurich  
Dr., LL.M.

Laurent Killias is a partner in Pestalozzi's dispute resolution team and head of the arbitration group in Zurich. He concentrates on international arbitrational and commercial litigation in complex disputes. In addition to representing parties, Laurent Killias is frequently chosen as party-appointed arbitrator and chairman in international arbitrations.



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## Urs Kloeti

Partner, Zurich  
Attorney at law

Urs Kloeti is a partner and a member of Pestalozzi's Financial Services Group. His practice is focused on regulatory matters, anti-money laundering, compliance, finance and all sorts of questions related to the banking and financial industry. Urs Kloeti is recommended in his fields of expertise by various leading legal directories, including Chambers & Partners, The Legal 500, IFLR1000 and Who's Who Legal.



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## Michael Kramer

Partner, Zurich  
LL.M.

Michael Kramer is a partner and member of Pestalozzi's Litigation and Arbitration group in Zurich. He specializes in commercial litigation and arbitration as well as in cases of international judicial assistance in cross-border disputes and white collar crimes. Michael Kramer also serves as an arbitrator in institutional arbitrations under various rules (such as ICC Rules and Swiss Rules) and ad hoc arbitrations. He is listed as a leading individual in Legal 500 for litigation.



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## Christoph Lang

Partner, Zurich  
Attorney at law  
Chair of Pestalozzi, Head Corporate / M&A

Christoph G. Lang is chair of Pestalozzi and heads Pestalozzi's Corporate / M&A Group in Zurich. His preferred practice areas are corporate law with a particular focus on corporate governance, M&A, Swiss and European antitrust law and insurance law. He represents major Swiss and multinational corporations in domestic and cross-border M&A transactions and joint ventures, and frequently advises clients on policy and governance issues.



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## Thomas Legler

Partner, Geneva  
Attorney at law, Dr. iur., FCI Arb  
Head Arbitration Geneva

Thomas Legler is a partner and Head of Arbitration in Geneva. His practice focuses on representing clients in (inter)national arbitration and acting as arbitrator. In addition, he advises clients in the field of intellectual property (trademarks, patents, copyright), IT and data protection. Swiss Parliament elected him as deputy judge of the Federal Patent Court.



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## Christian Leuenberger

Partner, Zurich  
Attorney at law, Dr. iur.

Christian is a partner of Pestalozzi's Corporate/M&A Group in Zurich and heads the Listed Companies Focus Group. He specializes in domestic and international M&A transactions, with a focus on public takeovers, as well as in Equity Capital Markets. He advises Swiss and foreign companies, investors and executives on stock exchange and capital market regulation, as well as on general corporate law and issues of corporate governance. Christian is also a leading expert on insider trading regulation.



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## Andreas Lienhard

Partner, Zurich  
Attorney at Law, Dr. iur., CAS in Arbitration

Andreas Lienhard is a partner and member of Pestalozzi's Litigation & Arbitration Group as well as of the Employment & Pensions Group in Zurich. He specializes in national and international commercial law litigations, debt enforcement proceedings and arbitration.



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## Michael Lips

Partner, Zurich

Attorney at Law, Dr. iur., LL.M., Certified Specialist SBA

Construction & Real Estate Law

Head Real Estate & Environment



Michael Lips, Certified Specialist SBA Construction and Real Estate Law, is partner and head of Pestalozzi's Real Estate and Environment practice. He has long-standing experience in real estate, environmental and public procurement law. For years, he worked exclusively in this field, handling numerous transactions, contracts, public procurement and regulatory matters. He frequently publishes in his fields of expertise and he is recognized by Chambers, Legal 500, Best Lawyers and others.

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## Fabian Martens

Partner, Zurich

Attorney at law, LL.M., LL.M., MA



Fabian Martens is partner and a member of the Competition & Trade group at Pestalozzi. He has profound experience in Swiss and European competition law/antitrust with a strong background in the economic underpinnings. In addition, he has extensive expertise in public procurement law and represents bidders and contracting authorities at both the federal and the cantonal level. In 2021, Fabian was awarded the Lexology Client Choice Award in Competition Law for Switzerland.

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## Florian Mohs

Partner, Zurich

Attorney at law, Dr. iur., LL.M.



Florian Mohs is a partner of Pestalozzi's Litigation & Arbitration Group in Zurich. He acts as counsel in international commercial arbitrations and in court proceedings in Switzerland. Florian handles a wide range of commercial and corporate disputes, having broad experience in advising trading companies in commodities disputes, industrial companies in engineering and construction disputes, and pharmaceutical companies in licensing matters.

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## Martin L. Mueller

Partner, Zurich

Attorney at law, Dr.iur., LL.M., Fachanwalt SAV Arbeitsrecht  
Head Employment, Executive Compensation & Pensions

Martin L. Mueller heads the Employment, Executive Compensation & Pension Group of Pestalozzi. His practice focuses on transactional employment and pensions issues, as well as hiring, incentivizing and exiting senior executives.



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## Tanja Planinic

Partner, Zurich

Attorney at law, LL.M. (Cantab)

Tanja Planinic's practice includes all aspects of domestic and international commercial litigation, arbitration and mediation. She has acted as counsel and arbitrator in numerous ad hoc and institutional arbitrations under various procedural and substantive laws. She has particular experience with disputes relating to the international sale of goods, commodity sales and trading, joint ventures and distributorships as well as disputes in the energy, construction and pharma sectors.



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## Pascal Richard

Partner, Zurich

Attorney at law, LL.M., Solicitor of England & Wales (n.p.)

Pascal Richard is a partner and member of the Corporate / M&A group in Zurich. He has broad experience in corporate transactions including acquisitions, mergers, divestitures, joint ventures and reorganisations in various industries with a particular focus on the financial services, fintech and technology sectors.



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## Severin Roelli

Partner, Zurich  
Attorney at law, LL.M.

Severin Roelli is a partner and member of Pestalozzi's Corporate/M&A Group in Zurich. He has advised both foreign and domestic clients on private and public M&A transactions, acquisition finance, capital market, securities and stock exchange law, corporate reorganizations, joint venture and general corporate law. He is an authorized issuer's representative at the SIX Swiss Exchange.



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## Thomas Rohner

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

Thomas Rohner is a partner and represents clients in litigation before Swiss courts and in international arbitration proceedings. His practice focuses on all aspects of commercial and M&A disputes, judicial assistance, and asset tracing, often in a cross-border context and involving various industries (including banking, commodity trading, life sciences, pharmaceuticals, construction, and energy). He also acts as an arbitrator. Further, he specializes in estate and insolvency disputes.



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## Christian Roos

Partner, Zurich  
Attorney at law, lic. iur.  
Co-head Life Sciences

Christian Roos co-heads Pestalozzi's Life Sciences Group and is member of the Employment & Pensions Group. His fields of expertise include international trade law, contracts and life sciences, with a focus on pharmaceuticals and medical devices. He supports clients in M&A transactions and in corporate restructurings and has indepth experience in employment matters namely mass dismissals, social plan negotiations, contract negotiations, restrictive covenants etc.



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## Sébastien Roy

Partner, Geneva  
Attorney at law

Sébastien Roy advises financial institutions, corporations and individuals on their transactions, contracts and regulatory matters. His practice focuses in particular on financing transactions, mergers and acquisitions and private equity. He also advises corporations on setting up operations in Switzerland and on their corporate and commercial matters.



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## Lukas Rusch

Partner, Zurich  
Attorney at law, LL.M.

Lukas Rusch specializes in commercial disputes and investigations. He represents clients in arbitration proceedings and in state court litigation. His practice further covers setting aside proceedings against arbitral awards, enforcement of foreign judgments and arbitral awards, and contentious aspects of insolvency proceedings. He also acts as an arbitrator.



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## Franz Schubiger

Partner, Zurich  
Attorney at law, LL.M.  
Co-Head Life Sciences

Franz Schubiger co-heads Pestalozzi's Life Sciences Group and is a member of the Corporate / M&A Group in Zurich. His practice focuses on corporate law, M&A, corporate finance, private equity and venture capital, complex restructurings as well as general contract and commercial law. He regularly advises in the fields of life sciences, including pharma, consumer healthcare and medtech, as well as in the consumer goods and retailing industries and on ICT, e-commerce and online business.



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## Beat Schwarz

Partner, Zurich  
Attorney at law

Beat Schwarz focuses on corporate and commercial law as well as on corporate and finance transactions, in particular M&A, private equity, venture capital, joint ventures, restructurings and debt capital markets. As part of his domestic and cross-border transaction advisory practice involving listed and non-listed companies, he is regularly involved in insurance and other financial services corporate, contract and regulatory work.



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## Jonas Sigrist

Partner, Zurich  
Attorney at law, Swiss Certified Tax Expert

Jonas Sigrist is a partner and member of Pestalozzi's Tax department in Zurich. His area of practice involves a wide range of international and domestic tax matters. He has a particular focus on tax planning and structuring of international M&A transactions and corporate restructurings.



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## Oliver Widmer

Partner, Zurich  
Attorney at law  
Head Financial Services

Oliver Widmer is a partner and head of Pestalozzi's Financial Services Group and a member of the Private Clients Group. He primarily advises domestic and international banks, financial institutions, wealth management service providers and high net worth individuals on banking, finance and capital markets matters.



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## Christophe Berclaz

Counsel, Geneva  
Attorney at law, MSc

Christophe Berclaz is counsel and a member of Pestalozzi's Litigation & Arbitration group in Geneva. He has developed a strong practice in complex litigation that involves an international component and multi-jurisdictional aspects. He specialises in white-collar matters, including asset-tracing, recovery and international mutual assistance in criminal matters.



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## Christine Moehler

Counsel, Zurich  
Attorney at law, Dr. iur.

Christine Moehler is a counsel and member of Pestalozzi's Litigation and Arbitration group. Her main areas of practice are disputes relating to energy and commodities, construction, life sciences and financial services. Christine represents parties in state court litigations, acts as counsel in arbitration proceedings (institutional and ad hoc) and serves as arbitrator.



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## Markus Winkler

Counsel, Zurich  
Attorney at law, Dr. iur.

Markus Winkler is Counsel and member of the Financial Services Practice Group in Zurich. His practice focuses on regulatory compliance of products and processes in financial services, especially in combination with technology-related applications. Through various prior in-house roles, he gained profound practical experience in asset management and the investment funds business.



## Paola Wullschleger

Counsel, Zurich

Attorney at law

Paola Wullschleger, Certified Specialist SBA Construction and Real Estate Law, is Counsel in Pestalozzi's Real Estate & Environment and Litigation & Arbitration Groups in Zurich. She advises companies, private clients as well as public authorities in real estate issues, including lease, building rights, easements, sales of real property as well as building and other work contracts and public procurement issues. Moreover, she has long-standing experience in real estate and commercial litigation and arbitration as well as public law proceedings.

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