



Dr. Simone Nadelhofer

Partner, MAS ECI

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Attorneys at Law

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Recognitions

- Chambers and Partners Europe: White-Collar Crime since 2017
- Chambers and Partners High Net Worth: Private Wealth Law since 2023
- The Legal 500: Key Lawyer in Dispute Resolution: Litigation, Key Lawyer in Regulatory, Compliance and Investigations since 2025, Key Lawyer in Banking & Finance Zurich since 2025
- Lexology Index: Thought Leader in Asset Recovery since 2023; Thought Leader in Investigations since 2020; Recommended in Business Crime Defence since 2023; Recommended in Private Client since 2023
- Women in Business Law Awards 2025 EMEA: Lawyer of the Year: White-Collar Crime

Languages

French, English, German, Italian

Selected Publications

- Auf dem Weg zur aufgeschobenen Anklageerhebung ?
- Cybersicherheit ist Chefsache – ein Weckruf für Verwaltungsräte
- Verfahrensbeendende Vereinbarungen im Fokus – Teil 2
- Auftaktserie zu verfahrensbeendenden Vereinbarungen im Compliance-Berater

Simone Nadelhofer is a Partner in Schellenberg Wittmer's Dispute Resolution and White Collar Crime Groups in Zurich. Simone is an expert in handling complex domestic and cross-border proceedings and internal and government-led investigations across industries, with a focus on white-collar and financial crime, including corruption, fraud, money laundering, cybercrime, ESG and workplace violations. Her expertise also extends to financial regulations, international sanctions, asset recovery, and international mutual assistance in criminal and tax matters. Additionally, Simone regularly represents clients in commercial disputes before civil courts.

Expertise

- Dispute Resolution
 - Internal Corporate Investigations
 - IT Security and Cybercrime
 - White-Collar Crime and Compliance
 - Blockchain-Technologies & FinTech
 - Financial Services
 - Sports
 - Telecommunication
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Experience

- Advising and representing a Swiss bank in extensive FINMA proceedings concerning complex cross-border client relationships, money laundering, sanctions, and governance issues. Assisting with international and national administrative and legal assistance proceedings and conducting a risk-based internal investigation. Focus on optimal defense, risk minimization, and reputation protection of the bank.
- Counsel to a multinational group in a cross-border investigation (US, Canada, Europe and Switzerland) and related complex mutual legal assistance proceedings in Switzerland regarding terabytes of data seized on servers in Switzerland. Close cooperation and coordination with US, Canadian and EU counsel, including on 271 SCC issues and data protection.
- Advising a Swiss bank on potential money laundering reports following negative media coverage and conducting comprehensive transaction analyses. Conducting several internal investigations, including an in-depth review of a significant client relationship (Russian asset) as part of a periodic review. Analysis of the client structure, transaction history, and suspicious transactions. Supporting the bank in a FINMA investigation and a related investigation against members of the executive board concerning possible violations of money laundering and other regulatory obligations.
- Conducting a comprehensive internal investigation in connection with the planned takeover by a German listed company. Review of governance, compliance, and misconduct issues, as well as forensic analyses and interviews. Discovery of serious breaches of duty by the former CEO and support for the board of directors in terminating his employment without notice (savings of approximately CHF 50 million). Assistance with the expected labor law disputes and protection of the company's reputation.
- Conducted a compliance investigation for a listed Swiss multinational group into all of the group's joint venture partners and consultants worldwide, with a focus on sanctions and bribery risks. Based on the results of the investigation, the group decided to exit 14 relationships. Advising the group on the exit and related criminal liability, sanctions and litigation risks.
- Swiss counsel to the US monitor of a major Swiss bank: Advised the monitor and his US team on all Swiss law issues, including data transfer and 271 SCC (obtention of authorisation in Switzerland), data protection, labour law and interviews.
- Led an investigation for an international health organisation into repeated sexual harassment of employees by a board member, including document review and interviews.

Career

2024	Partner at Schellenberg Wittmer
2014	Partner at a major disputes law firm in Zurich
2009	Counsel at a dispute law firm in Zurich
2003	Associate at a leading Swiss law firm
2002	Foreign Attorney at an international law firm, Delhi, India
2001	Legal Counsel with a major Swiss bank
1999	Trainee Lawyer at a leading Swiss law firm

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Education

2008	PhD, University of Lucerne (summa cum laude), (Awarded Professor Walter Hug prize and the Universitätsverein Lucerne prize)
2007	Master of Advanced Studies in Economic Crime Investigation (summa cum laude)
2001	Bar Admission in Switzerland
1999	Bilingual Bachelor of Law (summa cum laude), University of Fribourg, Switzerland

Additional Professional Activities

- Vice Chair of the IBA Business Crime Committee
- Anti-Corruption Committee Liaison Officer of the IBA's Business Crime Committee
- Member of the advisory board of the Master Economic Crime Investigations studies at the Lucerne University
- Elected to the pool of presidents of the arbitration court of the Swiss Bar Association
- Member of Advisory Board for the project of the Swiss National Scientific Fund "Assessing the nature and impact of transnational corruption through the lens of Swiss Businesses"
- Member of the ACi ISO Subcommittee for the new ISO standard on internal investigations
- Past chair of the Interpacific Bar Association's Anti-Corruption Committee
- Co-editor of a leading Swiss commentary on internal investigations (Handbücher für die Anwaltspraxis, Interne Untersuchungen, Helbing & Lichtenhahn)