

Alexander Israel

Partner in Charge – Brussels



aisrael@cooley.com

+32 2 486 7520

Brussels
London

Antitrust and Competition
Antitrust Litigation and Enforcement
Technology
Fintech
Aviation – Manned and Unmanned
Foreign Direct Investment
Global Cartel Defense

Alexander advises national and international companies on German, European and UK competition law and regulatory matters. He guides clients through merger control proceedings, global cartel investigations, abuse of dominance constellations and related litigation at the European Commission, UK CMA and German FCA. Alexander's experience includes, in particular, matters relating to IT, aviation, automotive, financial services and consumer goods.

Alexander regularly handles high-profile cases, including the Air Cargo defense and the CDS defense (both GCR Matters of the Year). He is often asked to speak at conferences and teaches European competition law at the Zurich University of Applied Sciences (ZHAW) in Winterthur, Switzerland. Alexander authored multiple publications and alerts relating to German, EU and UK competition law.

Representative matters:

- Represented numerous national and international companies in global cartel investigations, in particular in the automotive sector
- Secured full immunity for a leading US company in the EC investigation "Car Battery Recycling"
- Represented WABCO, Trane and Ideal Standard before the General Court in the bathroom fittings cartel case, resulting in a historic fine reduction of €205 million
- Represented a Swiss watch maker in the EC investigation "Independent Watch Repairers," resulting in a closure
- Represented a Swiss watch maker in proceedings before the European Court and the European Court of Justice
- Represented the European Commission in the case T-441/14 "Power Cables"
- Represented Lufthansa and Swiss in their appeal of the cartel decision "Air Cargo," achieving the first annulment of an immunity decision (Matter of the Year 2016, Global Competition Review)
- Represented a bearing manufacturer in the European Commission's cartel case "Bearings"
- Represented two European airlines in the EC code share investigation
- Represented a European investment bank in the EC's proceedings into CDS (various allegations) resulting in a rare closure of the file after the Statement of Objections (Behavioural Matter of the Year 2016, Global Competition Review)
- Represented Lufthansa in the EC's transatlantic alliance investigation (Star Alliance)

- Coordinated a global defence against private damage claims for antitrust violations
- Represented Lufthansa in the worldwide merger clearances for the acquisitions of Austrian Airlines, Brussels Airlines and bmi, as well as the sale of bmi to IAG
- Represented Cisco in the worldwide merger control clearance of its acquisition of Tandberg and Coreoptics
- Represented Lufthansa and Austrian Airlines before the General Court in cases T-162/10
- Handled numerous EC complaints alleging abuse of dominance and defending such allegations

Selected publications:

- Leniency, Enforcement Powers and Settlements in: Kamann/Ohlhoff/Völcker, Proceedings in Competition Cases, Co-author G. Miersch, 2017
- Specialization Agreements, Munich Commentary on Competition Law, 2. ed., 2015
- Third party appeals in merger cases (with S. Völcker), in: ZWeR 2011, p. 95
- European Merger Control, in: Cologne Compendium Aviation Law, 2010 (with S. Völcker and R. Schütt), p. 566 (English issue 2012)

Education

Boston University School of Law
LLM, 2005

Georg-August-Universität Göttingen
, 2002

Admissions & Credentials

Düsseldorf, Germany

Brussels, Belgium

Rankings & Accolades

The Legal 500 UK: EU and Competition (2021)

Who's Who Legal: Competition – Future Leaders

JUVE: Recommended in Germany and Brussels

Chambers Global and Chambers Europe: Competition/European Law – Belgium; Foreign Expert – Germany

Best Lawyers: Competition/Antitrust Law

Expert Guides: Competition and Antitrust 2021

Memberships & Affiliations

Trustee, FIW (Research Institute for Economy and Competition)

American Bar Association - Section of Antitrust Law

Studienvereinigung Kartellrecht (German Antitrust Research Association)

European Competition Lawyers Forum

European Aviation Club