



## Bertrand Schott

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

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Languages

German, English

## Expertise

Bertrand Schott specializes in financial services and financial markets regulations.

His clients include domestic and foreign banks, securities houses, fund houses, asset managers, insurance providers, financial market infrastructures (trading venues, payment systems, CSDs and CCPs), pension schemes and investors. He advises them on regulatory, contractual and corporate matters, often also in cross-border projects and in proceedings before the Swiss Financial Market Supervisory Authority FINMA (licensing, organization and capital requirements, enforcement proceedings). He also serves as member of the board of directors of financial institutions.

He is a co-author of the industry legal opinion on the repo and securities lending master agreements (GMRA/GMSLA) of the International Capital Market Association (ICMA) and the International Securities Lending Association (ISLA).

Bertrand Schott is a member of the NKF Executive Committee and responsible for Infrastructure, Technology and ICT.

Banking, Finance & Regulatory

Corporate / M&A

Investigations & White Collar

Derivatives and Structured Products

## **Career**

2016	Partner, Niederer Kraft Frey (since 2021 member of the NKF Executive Committee)
2014	Senior Associate, Niederer Kraft Frey
2012	Foreign Associate, Wuersch & Gering LLP, New York
2008	Associate, Niederer Kraft Frey
2005	Law Faculty of the University of Zurich, Research and Teaching Assistant to Prof. Forstmoser
2003	Junior Associate with major Swiss business law firm
2002	Assistant Clerk, District Court of Zurich

## **Education**

2012	Columbia University School of Law (New York), LL.M.
2009	University of Zurich, Ph.D. (summa cum laude; Issekutz Award and Prof. Walther Hug Award)
2005	Admitted to the Swiss and Zurich Bar
2002	University of Fribourg, Licentiate (lic. iur.)
2000	University of Durham (UK), Foreign Student Degree

## **Experience (selection)**

- Ongoing advice to various domestic and foreign financial institutions on all regulatory matters as well as drafting and updating of all internal and client-facing documents; issuance of legal opinions; representation before the Swiss regulator FINMA
- Ongoing advice and issuance of legal opinions regarding authorization and validity/enforceability of contractual documentation to a foreign systemically important payment settlement system, foreign systemically important CCPs and a foreign systemically important CSD regarding their business offerings in Switzerland
- Ongoing advice to various financial institutions on AML/CTF regulations and sanctions
- Ongoing advice to regulated and unregulated service providers in the areas of ESG, FinTech, innovative asset securitizations and derivative trading regulations
- Representation of financial institutions (including just recently two Swiss banks) in major enforcement proceedings before the Swiss regulator FINMA
- Co-author of the Swiss industry opinions on the ICMA/ISLA repo and securities lending master agreements (GMRA/GMSLA); advice and legal opinions for various counterparties in the area of enforceability of set-off and (close-out-)netting arrangements
- Ongoing advice to a Swiss bank in complex collaborations with insurance companies in the area of banking products for institutional clients
- Analysis of a major Swiss bank's entire wealth management product shelf and associated processes and structures
- Advice to several foreign banks in reorganizations and divestiture of their Swiss businesses; representation before FINMA

## Market Perception

"Dr. Bertrand Schott, in particular, brings exceptional insight and leadership to every matter. (Legal 500 2025)

"Bertrand Schott is very experienced and competent in his financial regulatory / derivatives / structured finance fields, and he is dependable. Bertrand has been a reliable reference point within NKF and I entrust him with referrals from within my firm and other firms and institutions, and receive consistent positive feedback about his and NKF's work." (Legal 500 2025)

"Bertrand Schott is responsive and highly competent. He is also a pleasure to work with." (Legal 500 2024)

"Bertrand Schott has expertise across a wide range of banking and insolvency-related issues. I have needed Bertrand's attention on a number of urgent matters through the years, and he has always made himself available to address the issue and meet quick deadlines, and always at a reasonable cost. He also has a helpful and friendly disposition." (Legal 500 2024)

"Bertrand Schott is very smart and knowledgeable. Extraordinary strategic thinking, great communicator, balanced, thoughtful. An outstanding attorney". (Legal 500 2022)

"Excellent knowledge, thoughtful, calm, level headed, very thorough". (IFLR1000 2021)

"Bertrand Schott is smart, friendly, and easy to work with". (Legal 500 2020)

"Bertrand has been an excellent partner in connection with the work we have done together. He is calm and deliberate, but his experience has clearly helped us achieve the results we were seeking". (IFLR1000 2020)

