



Boris Catzefflis

Associate

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Languages

English, French, German

Profile

Boris Catzefflis is part of the Technology, Intellectual Property and Corporate/M&A teams. He regularly advises Swiss and foreign clients active in particular in the Life Sciences, TMT/ICT and Space industries on Technology and IP transactions, R&D collaborations, Private Equity and Venture Capital deals, Telecommunications laws, Data Protection, Corporate Governance, M&A, and Business matters and disputes.

Technology

Intellectual Property

Life Sciences

Corporate / M&A

Career

- 2023 Associate, Niederer Kraft Frey, Geneva/Zurich
- 2023 IP, Wine and Spirits Visiting Lawyer, CASALONGA, Paris, France
- 2022 Junior Associate, Niederer Kraft Frey, Geneva
- 2021 In-house Counsel, Proton AG, Geneva
- 2019 In-house Counsel, FONGIT, Geneva
- 2019 Trainee, High Court of Valais, Sion
- 2017 International Arbitration Paralegal, Swiss law firm, Geneva

Education

- 2023 Admitted to the Swiss and Geneva Bar, first rank
- 2022 PhD in Law, magna cum laude, University of Geneva
- 2017 Certificate of Advanced Studies in Legal Professions, University of Geneva
- 2017 Master of Law in International and European Law, University of Geneva
- 2015 Bachelor of Law, University of Geneva

Professional Memberships

Geneva Bar Association (OdA)

International Association for the Protection of Intellectual Property (AIPPI)

International Bar Association (IBA)

International Wine Law Association (AIDV/IWLA)

Swiss Bar Association (SAV/FSA)

Publications

- Jacques Bonvin, Clara-Ann Gordon, Boris Catzefflis, Amendment to the Swiss Telecommunications Surveillance Laws Application Scope: Opening of Public Consultation, in: NKF Client News, 18 February 2025
- Boris Catzefflis, Le refus de la marque de l'Union européenne «Pablo Escobar» et son intérêt pour l'application du droit suisse, in: sic! 11/2024
- Jacques Bonvin, Boris Catzefflis, FAQ – Annual General Meetings in Start-Ups and SMEs under the New Swiss Corporate Law, in: NKF Client News, 5 February 2024
- Jacques de Werra, Boris Catzefflis, To Whom Belong the Copyrights on a Software Developed by a University Researcher?, in: www.swisscontract.law, 30 January 2024
- Boris Catzefflis, Verwendung eines ähnlichen Firmennamens, in: ius.focus 6/2023
- Frank Spoorenberg, Boris Catzefflis, The 2023 Supplemental Swiss Rules for Corporate Law Disputes, in: ASA Bulletin 2/2023
- Phidias Ferrari, Boris Catzefflis, Investing: Switzerland, in: Stephen L. Ritchie (edit.), The Private Equity Review, 12th ed., London 2023
- Phidias Ferrari, Boris Catzefflis, Fundraising: Switzerland, in: Stephen L. Ritchie (edit.), The Private Equity Review, 12th ed., London 2023
- Boris Catzefflis, Trademarks Contrary to Public Policy or Morality – A Study of the Public Policy and Morality Absolute Grounds for Exclusion in Swiss Trademark Law, in: sic! 2/2023
- Boris Catzefflis, Les marques contraires à l'ordre public ou aux bonnes mœurs – Étude du droit des marques suisse dans une perspective de droit comparé, Zurich 2022
- Marc Wullschleger, Manuel Bigler, Boris Catzefflis, Marco Handle, Raphael Nusser, Registrability of Trade Marks Against Public Order or Morality, Report of the Swiss Group, in: sic! 10/2021
- Boris Catzefflis, Dorothee Schramm, Statutory Arbitration Clauses of Swiss Companies, in: ASA Bulletin 4/2021
- Boris Catzefflis, Dorothee Schramm, Les clauses d'arbitrage statutaires des sociétés suisses, in: Plaidoyer 4/2021
- Boris Catzefflis, De la compétence judiciaire internationale en matière d'infractions aux droits de propriété intellectuelle au sein de l'Union européenne, Geneva 2016

Experience

Dr. Boris Catzeflis is a Swiss qualified attorney-at-law driven by a passion for innovation bringing a specialized legal and business expertise in the life sciences, TMT/ICT and space industries.

He regularly advises Swiss and international clients on technology and IP transactions, R&D collaborations, PE and VC deals, regulatory matters (telecommunications, data protection, etc.), corporate governance, M&A and business matters and disputes, with a particular focus on drafting, reviewing and negotiating complex technology and commercial contracts.

Recent matters in which Boris acted include:

- drafting IP licensing agreements (patents, software, trademarks, know-how, likeness, etc.) for pharmaceutical, biotech, medtech, satellite, robotics, SaaS, cloud and AI companies, and advising in connection with the use of open-source licenses;
- drafting R&D, supply, manufacturing and distribution agreements for the development/production/marketing of drugs, medical devices, consumer products and satellite components;
- drafting sponsored research, clinical trial, material and data transfer agreements for life sciences companies, and advising in connection with the processing of health data and the secondary use of health data for research purposes;
- advising telecommunications companies in connection with the use of the radio frequency spectrum, compliance with surveillance laws (including retention of meta data) and export of dual-use goods;
- drafting sponsorship agreements for sport and leisure events, and advising B2C companies regarding out-of-home and Internet advertising, as well as mail and email marketing;
- drafting various IT contracts, including EULA, ToS, privacy policies and software development, SEO and penetration test services agreements;
- drafting and implementing convertible loans as part of VC transactions, incentive plans (options, voting/non-voting shares, SARs) and shareholders' agreements; and
- representing clients before Swiss courts in connection with breaches of joint ventures, license and R&D agreements, personality rights, etc., as well as before the Court of Arbitration for Sport.

Prior to joining Niederer Kraft Frey, Boris graduated with a PhD in IP law and worked as a legal counsel for FONGIT, Switzerland's premier innovation incubator supporting tech startups, and for Proton, an IT company offering privacy-focused online services, including email, cloud and VPN services. He further gained experience working at the High Court of Valais and in the wine, spirits and terroirs team of CASALONGA, a leading French IP law firm.

Boris is a case editor for the Swiss Journal for Intellectual Property, Information and Competition Law (sic!) and a member of the International Association for the Protection of Intellectual Property (AIPPI), the International Wine Law Association (AIDV/IWLA) and the International, Swiss and Geneva Bar Associations (IBA, SAV/FSA and OdA).