The Future of Pharmaceutical Law: Regulation, Innovation and Digital Health

16 October 2025 | Brussels, Belgium

EPLA
European Pharmaceutical Law Association

Meet the Speakers

Dr Christian Tillmanns

Founding Partner at Meisterernst Rechtsanwälte & EPLA President

Dr Christian Tillmanns is a leading expert in pharmaceutical, medical device, and healthcare law. With extensive experience gained in pharmaceutical companies and specialised law firms, he advises on regulatory, compliance, advertising, and litigation matters, including market access, digital health, and reimbursement under state health insurance (AMNOG, EU-HTA). A lecturer at Philipps-University of Marburg and EPLA President, Dr Tillmanns is widely published and recognised by Best Lawyers®, JUVE Handbook, Chambers Europe Guide, and Legal 500 as a top healthcare lawyer.

Dr Barbara Bos

Head of Legal Affairs & Compliance at PHARMIG

In her role as Head of Legal Affairs & Compliance at PHARMIG, Barbara, among other things, analyses national and EU-wide legislative initiatives and regulations regarding their impact on pharmaceutical companies - particularly with regard to the security of supply with medicines. Additionally, she supports member companies with legal matters. Barbara Bos oversees the topics of pharmaceutical advertising, compliance and drug supply within the PHARMIG Leadership Team and represents the association in various national and international committees. She also serves as the Vice-Chair of IFPMA - The International Federation of Pharmaceutical Manufacturers and Associations's Ethics & Business Integrity Committee.

Rainer Becker

Director for Medical Products and Innovation at DG SANTE, European Commission

His Directorate is responsible for legislation and policies on human and veterinary medicines, medical devices and innovation. With his team, he, amongst others, leads the Commission's work on the revision of the EU pharmaceutical legislation and the Critical Medicines Act. Prior to his current position, one of Rainer's tasks in the European Commission included leading EU antitrust enforcement in the area of pharmaceuticals and health.

Charlotte Roffiaen

European Patient Advocate

Charlotte Roffiaen is a trained lawyer specialised in EU law, who has been involved in European health advocacy since 2001. She successively managed Active Citizenship Network and the Lymphoma Coalition Europe. Charlotte now works as a consultant and advises organisations representing patients and health care users – such as France Assos Santé and ELLyE (Ensemble Leucémie Lymphomes Espoir) – on their advocacy strategies, with a focus on access to medicines. Between 2022 and 2024, she represented patients and consumers at the EMA in the framework of the Executive Steering Group on Shortages and Safety of Medicinal Products (MSSG).

Henrik Reimer

Head of Brussels Office at Pharma Deutschland

In his current position, Henrik is responsible for overseeing Pharma Deutschland's EU-level policy monitoring, advocacy, and communication. He works to ensure that the association's roughly 400 member companies are informed of and engaged in emerging legislative initiatives, regulatory developments, and institutional debates in Brussels. He also drives the organization's outreach efforts, including planning and delivering events with European health policy relevance. Prior to joining Pharma Deutschland, he served as Head of the Brussels Office for the CDU-Wirtschaftsrat, bringing to the role experience in political coordination, advocacy, and EU policy engagement.

Alexandros Kortesis

Partner at PotamitisVekris

Alexandros Kortesis is a Partner at POTAMITIS VEKRIS, where he leads Life Sciences & Healthcare and Public Procurement practice areas. Alexandros is an attorney with more than 25 years of experience specializing in pharmaceutical law and business. With extensive experience advising clients on a wide range of regulatory, compliance, market access, corporate and commercial law matters, he also supports pharmaceutical companies in navigating complex legal frameworks or disputes while aligning with their business objectives. Alexandros is recognized for combining deep industry knowledge with practical legal insight to help clients mitigate risks. Alexandros holds an LL.B. from Aristotle University of Thessaloniki and an LL.M. in International Economic Law, International Arbitration and Commercial Law from the University of Edinburgh. He has been admitted to the Athens Bar since 1999 and works fluently in both Greek and English.

Georgios Symeonidis

Associate at King & Spalding

Georgios Symeonidis is an associate in King & Spalding's life sciences practice and focuses on EU regulatory matters for companies in the pharmaceutical, medical devices, cosmetic and food sectors. In particular, he advises clients on clinical research, compliance, product classification, marketing authorization, patient/compassionate use programs, labelling and packaging requirements and advertising and promotion in the EU. Georgios regularly deals with the national competent authorities in the EU and the European Commission.

Julia Pournara

Partner at the Platis – Anastassiadis & Associates Law Partnership, associated with EY Greece

Julia Pournara holds an LL.B. from the University of Athens and an LL.M. from the University of Bristol Law School in the UK. With over 25 years of experience, Julia specializes in Business Law, Mergers & Acquisitions, and Healthcare Law. She brings a unique combination of deep regulatory insight and strategic business acumen, particularly in the life sciences sector. Julia has advised numerous multinational pharmaceutical and healthcare companies on a wide range of legal matters, including regulatory compliance, commercial agreements, pricing and reimbursement, as well as on and corporate restructuring. Her expertise also extends to competition law and corporate compliance. She has supported clients before the Hellenic Competition Commission, as well as during internal audits and external investigations, including dawn raids by the Hellenic Competition Commission and other regulatory authorities. Julia regularly advises and trains clients on compliance frameworks and policies, ensuring alignment with evolving legal and regulatory standards and focusing on solutions.

Tomáš Čihula

Partner at Kinstellar

Tomáš Čihula is a Partner at Kinstellar, where he heads the Life Sciences and Healthcare sector. He advises leading pharmaceutical and healthcare companies on legal and regulatory strategy, market access, competition and state aid law, and EU law. His extensive experience includes merger control, antitrust investigations, and the regulation and distribution of medicinal products, medical devices, and food supplements across Emerging Europe. Tomáš previously worked in Brussels at Van Bael & Bellis and at the European Commission's Directorate-General for Competition.

Georgia Gavriilidou

Head of the Legal Department at European Medicines Agency

Georgia Gavriilidou, LLM, is the Head of the Legal Department at the European Medicines Agency (EMA), a role she assumed in 2024 after previously serving there as Legal Administrator from 2011 to 2018. She brings over 17 years of legal and regulatory experience in the EU and international pharmaceutical sectors, with expertise spanning advanced therapies, pharmacovigilance, orphan and paediatric medicinal products, market access, medical devices, combination products, and litigation. Before rejoining the EMA, she was Associate General Counsel and Executive Director at Amgen, where she led European legal strategy on regulatory and market access matters, and earlier in her career she worked at Sidley Austin (Counsel) and Bristows LLP within their global Life Sciences practice respectively. Georgia has represented clients before the EU and national authorities, as well as the UK and EU courts, and has been instrumental in the implementation of major pharmaceutical legislation. She holds a Bachelor of Laws (LLB) from the University of Athens and a Master of Laws (LLM) in Medical Law and Ethics from the University of Kent.

Dr Günther Leissler
Partner at Schönherr Rechtsanwälte

Dr Günther Leissler is a partner at Schoenherr. Günther has joined the firm in 2006 and he is the head of the firm's data protection & privacy group. His practice focuses on regulatory issues, where he specialises in digitalization topics with a predominant focus on privacy law and artificial intelligence matters. He frequently advises Schoenherr's clients on regulatory and compliance matters such as the implementation of global databases, AI solutions or data analysis projects, and he represents them in regulatory investigation and administrative oversight n proceedings. Günther regularly reviews draft legislation in the areas of privacy law on behalf of the Austrian Bar Association and he is author and lecturer with a focus on data protection and AI law. Günther graduated from the University of Vienna (Dr. iur., 2006, LL.M., 2002, Mag. iur., 1997).

Dr Oliver M. Brupbacher
Partner at Bär & Karrer

Dr Oliver M. Brupbacher is a dispute resolution and investigations partner with extensive expertise in the Life Sciences and Healthcare sectors, specializing in cross-border litigation, investigations, regulatory counseling, and risk management. A former senior litigation counsel and global product lawyer at Novartis, he brings deep industry insight to complex disputes and investigations, including crisis management and compliance. Recognized by Legal 500 2024 for his work in top-tier practice areas, Oliver is known for his strategic and innovative approach to high-stakes challenges.

Fulvia Raffaelli
Head of Unit for Digital Health at DG SANTE, European Commission

Fulvia Raffaelli joined the Commission in 2002. Since September 2022 she is working at the Director-General for Health and Food Safety (DG SANTE) where she is Head of the Digital Health unit.

Vincent Wellens
Partner at NautaDutilh

Vincent Wellens is a partner at NautaDutilh, leading the BeLux Technology & Data practice group. With a strong background in pharmaceutical and life sciences, he advises clients through complex legal frameworks in the field of technology and data. His expertise includes digital transformation initiatives, data sharing projects, and the deployment of AI.

Aneta Tyszkiewicz

Associate Director, Digital & Data for the Science Policy and Regulatory Affairs at EFPIA - European Federation of Pharmaceutical Industries and Associations

Aneta is Director Data and Digital at European Federation of Pharmaceutical Industries and Associations (EFPIA), representing the R&D-based pharmaceutical industry in Europe. She leads EFPIA's policy and advocacy activities in relation to data, RWE and new technologies. Her main goal is to support the digital transformation of European healthcare systems to enhance the discovery and development of innovative and trusted healthcare solutions that can bring tangible and meaningful benefits to patients. She has previously worked for the Council of European Dentists, International Diabetes Federation and a consulting agency.

Dr Markus Fuderer

Partner at Meisterernst Rechtsanwälte

A partner at the law firm Meisterernst Rechtsanwälte in Munich, he advises national and international companies and associations on issues relating to pharmaceutical, medical device and biotech law and related contracts (including R&D and licensing and distribution agreements), regulatory matters, E-Health including secondary use of health data, AI and market access and pricing law for products in the statutory health insurance system. Member of the *Digital Health* committee of Pharma Deutschland, the largest association of pharmaceutical and biotech enterprises in Germany.

Dr Fuderer studied law at the University of Mannheim and the University of Kingston, UK. He completed his legal training at a law firm for national and international commercial law in Stuttgart, at the Federal Cartel Office in Bonn and at courts in Rhineland-Palatinate, among others. Previously, he was deputy managing director at the Institute for Medical Law, Health Law and Bioethics (IMGB) at the Universities of Mannheim and Heidelberg. He received his doctorate on the possibilities of industry-sponsored investigator-initiated trials at university hospitals.

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Transparency Register Number : 697023893816-22

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