

EU Pharmaceutical Law in Flux: dissecting the new framework from proposal to practice

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Meet the Speakers



Francisco Javier García Pérez

Partner at Uría Menéndez

Francisco Javier García Pérez joined Uría Menéndez's Barcelona office in 2011 and was appointed Partner in 2025. He advises Spanish and international companies across a range of regulated industries, including pharmaceuticals, food, tobacco, artificial intelligence, e-commerce, IoT, software, cosmetics and fashion. His practice covers intellectual and industrial property, technology-related commercial transactions, unfair competition and consumer disputes, as well as privacy and data protection matters. Francisco Javier heads the firm's pharmaceutical law practice, where he regularly advises clients on drug advertising, healthtech, regulatory matters, contractual negotiations and compliance, and represents clients in life sciences-related litigation. He also co-heads the firm's food law practice, advising on M&A transactions, litigation and complex regulatory matters. He is the immediate past-President of the Fashion Law Commission of the International Association of Lawyers.



Kaili Semm

Policy Officer at DG SANTE, European Commission

Kaili Semm is a Policy Officer in the pharmaceuticals team at the European Commission's DG SANTE, where she works on EU pharmaceutical legislation, including the ongoing reform of the EU pharmaceutical legislation and its future implementation. A lawyer by training, she has over 20 years of experience in EU and pharmaceutical law. Before joining the European Commission in 2022 as a Seconded National Expert from the Estonian State Agency of Medicines, she was Head of the Legal Department and a long-term Legal Adviser there. She also served as a Legal Officer at the EMA, providing legal support on regulatory matters for human and veterinary medicinal products.



Julie Bonhomme

Director, Legal Affairs & Compliance at EFPIA

Julie Bonhomme joined the European Federation of Pharmaceutical Industries and Associations in December 2014. In her position of Legal & Compliance Director, she is in charge of heading EFPIA's Codes and Ethics & Compliance activities and especially contributing to enhancing ethical behaviour within a strong and credible self-regulation framework. She also acts as Legal Adviser by providing legal support and assistance in EFPIA's priority matters. Before joining the EFPIA, Julie worked as Legal and Compliance Manager at the French Association for Pharmaceutical Companies in France. Prior to her experience with the industry, Julie was a member of the Paris Bar.





Henrik Saugmandsgaard Øe

Former Advocate General and Partner at Gorrissen Federspiel

Henrik Saugmandsgaard Øe is a Partner at Gorrissen Federspiel and a former Advocate General at the Court of Justice of the European Union. During his tenure as Danish Advocate General, he contributed to the resolution of numerous significant cases, including many before the Grand Chamber, gaining extensive expertise in EU law and EU procedural law. Before his appointment, he held several senior legal positions, including Head of Department for Property and Obligations Law at the Danish Ministry of Justice, Acting Judge at the High Court of Eastern Denmark and Consumer Ombudsman, where he handled complex cases involving the financial sector. He has also lectured at Aarhus University and the University of Copenhagen, served as a guest lecturer at Aalborg University, and published widely and spoken at international conferences on EU law, property law, obligations law and marketing law. He is fluent in English, French and German.



Andreas Natterer

Partner at Schönherr Rechtsanwälte & EPLA Vice-President

Andreas Natterer has been a partner at Schönherr since 2008, where he specialises in litigation, food and pharmaceutical law. He is one of Austria's leading experts in food and pharma law and has extensive experience in a broad range of litigation matters, including, inter alia, claims arising out of product liability, compensation for damages, unfair competition in the healthcare and life sciences sector and distribution agreements, representing Austrian and international corporates out of and before court.



Tine Carmeliet

Policy Advisor to the Belgian Minister of Health

Tine is a seasoned professional in the life sciences and healthcare sector. She is currently a policy advisor to the Belgian minister of Health, focusing on medicines policy and European and international healthcare matters. She focuses amongst others on public health issues, medicines shortages, competitiveness issues and drug pricing policy. She has previous experience working at A&O Shearman on a host of healthcare topics, both with a private and public sector focus. She's also a regular speaker and publisher on healthcare topics and has been praised for her deep sector expertise.



Mila Pohl

Deputy Secretary General of PHAGO

Mila is Deputy Secretary General of PHAGO, the Association of Austrian Pharmaceutical Full-Line Wholesalers. She is responsible for public affairs, regulatory affairs and stakeholder engagement, with a focus on medicine shortages, security of supply and pharmaceutical distribution. Before joining PHAGO, she served as Chief of Cabinet to Austria's Federal Minister of Health and previously practiced law in Vienna.



Kasper Ernest
Director General at GIRP

Kasper Ernest is the Director General of GIRP, the European Healthcare Distribution Association, a role he assumed in October 2024. Prior to this, he served as Secretary-General of Affordable Medicines Europe from 2018 to 2024. With over 15 years of experience in European affairs in Brussels, Kasper has held leadership positions such as President of the European Medicines Verification Organisation (EMVO) and Director of the EU & International Department at the Confederation of Danish Enterprise from 2015 to 2018. He has also served as a Board Member of several EU-level business organizations, Healthcare Denmark, and as a member of the Danish Government's Implementation Council, overseeing the adoption of EU laws in Denmark. Kasper holds a master's degree in International Business and Politics from Copenhagen Business School and Singapore Management University, and he is a guest lecturer at Copenhagen Business School.



Georgia Gavriilidou
Head of the Legal Department at European Medicines Agency

Georgia Gavriilidou, 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, commercial 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 and cross-regional 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 and she is a qualified lawyer in multiple jurisdictions.



Cyril Durou
Senior Environmental & Water regulation expert at CEHTRA

Cyril Durou is a Senior Consultant at CEHTRA, with over 20 years of experience in environmental sciences and regulatory affairs. He supports pharmaceutical and chemical companies in addressing environmental compliance challenges and sustainability requirements. Over the years, Cyril has developed consulting services focused on Environmental Risk Assessment (ERA), urban wastewater legislation, water protection directives, and drinking water regulations. His expertise helps companies anticipate regulatory changes and address the growing challenges related to pharmaceuticals in the environment.



Alexandros Kortesis

Partner at Potamitis Vekris

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.



Helena Lago Aldaz

Senior Legal Counsel at ESTEVE

Helena advises European (Ex-Iberia) and US affiliates of the pharma business on commercial, regulatory and advertising matters. She also acts as a legal partner for ESG related initiatives, focusing on how sustainability related commitments and claims are communicated externally and governed in practice.



Claudio Cannizzaro

Legal Affairs Manager at EFPIA

Claudio Cannizzaro is part of the Legal Affairs team at the European Federation of Pharmaceutical Industries and Associations (EFPIA), where he works at the intersection of EU sustainability policy, pharmaceutical regulation and healthcare. His work covers, among other topics, ESG and corporate sustainability issues, including sustainability reporting, the EU Taxonomy, and environmental regulation affecting the pharmaceutical sector.



Marie Sanchez

Lawyer & Founder at NOOA Avocats

Marie Sanchez is a regulatory lawyer, member of the Paris and Quebec Bars and founder of NOOA Avocats, a boutique law firm dedicated to the life sciences sector. With 15+ years of experience, she advises and represents clients throughout the life sciences industry – pharmaceuticals, medical devices, nutraceuticals, cosmetics, food supplements and veterinary medicines – on regulatory, litigation and contractual matters. She has also developed in-depth expertise on regulatory and legal issues related to the emerging cannabis and psychedelic industries. Her clients include companies of all sizes, both French and international. She regularly speaks at training sessions as well as at conferences, both in France and abroad. She is a member of the International Bar Association (IBA), the Genotype Network, and is co-chair of the International Committee of the International Cannabis Bar Association (INCBA).

**Libby Amos-Stone**

Partner at Arnold & Porter

Libby Amos-Stone is a Partner at Arnold & Porter and an experienced litigator specialising in regulatory and product liability matters within the firm's Life Sciences practice group. She advises pharmaceutical, medical technology, food and cosmetics companies on regulatory and compliance matters throughout the product lifecycle, including clinical trials, product classification, regulatory data protection, paediatric and orphan incentives, market access and investigations. She also advises on the promotion of medicinal products and medical devices under applicable legislation and codes of practice, and represents clients in complaints before the Prescription Medicines Code of Practice Authority (PMCPA). Her practice includes English and EU public and administrative litigation, cross-border disputes, product liability claims, inquests and public inquiries. She also advises life sciences and technology companies on mHealth, digital technology classification, artificial intelligence and the regulatory frameworks for medical devices and in vitro diagnostic devices.

**Rim Ghedira**

Director IP Policy at Johnson & Johnson

Rim Ghedira is Director of Intellectual Property Policy at Johnson & Johnson Innovative Medicine and a European Patent Attorney. She leads policy engagement on intellectual property and pharmaceutical innovation, with a focus on the legal and regulatory frameworks that support biomedical research, investment, and the development of new medicines. Working with policymakers, industry associations, and stakeholders across jurisdictions, she helps advance policies that promote innovation, strengthen competitiveness, and create the conditions necessary for scientific progress and improved patient outcomes.

**Lluís Alcover**

Partner at Faus Moliner

Lluís Alcover regularly advises national and international companies on pharmaceutical and healthcare regulation, market access and drug financing and corporate transactions. He is a regular speaker in forums dedicated to these matters and author of numerous publications related to the pharmaceutical sector.

**Martin Dræbye Gantzhorn**

Partner at Gorrissen Federspiel

Martin Dræbye Gantzhorn co-heads Gorrissen Federspiel's leading Life Sciences practice group, which advises national and international life sciences companies on regulatory matters, market access, transactions, capital markets and private equity, and product liability, including litigation. With decades of experience supporting companies throughout the product lifecycle, he is an internationally recognised expert in life sciences regulation, product liability and intellectual property and trade secrets litigation. He has been recognised as a Global Elite Thought Leader in Life Sciences Regulatory by Lexology since 2022 and is also ranked by Legal 500, IAM Patent 1000 and Chambers Global and Europe.



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.



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