HENGELER MUELLER



Vera Jungkind

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Vera advises German and international companies on all aspects of public and regulatory law, especially in areas relating to environmental law and product compliance, foreign trade law/trade sanctions, data protection, social security law, public duties and levies, AML compliance, administrative procedural law and litigation, compliance and internal investigations.

Her most recent environmental and product compliance matters include advising an international chemicals company on the remediation of several, large-scale instances of PFAS pollution in soil and groundwater, encompassing aspects of German waste management law as well as administrative and court proceedings (since 2017); advising industrial companies on the legal requirements for demolishing, remediating and decommissioning production facilities (since 2023); advising a hazardous goods warehouse on requirements under hazardous incident law, obtaining immission control approval (2021–2023) and the handling of PFAS-containing extinguishing water (2024); advising an industrial company on an approaching residential development, odor emissions, (2024–2025) the lawfulness of an expropriation for reasons of flood protection and the amount of the expropriation compensation (2025); advising an industrial company on the CE marking obligation for machinery (2024–2025) and advising an industrial company on fine proceedings for violations of the German Electrical and Electronic Equipment Act (since 2024). In many cases, Vera's advisory services also comprise providing assistance with administrative proceedings, including administrative offense proceedings, as well as litigation.

In matters relating to foreign trade law, Vera is advising several entities from different sectors on the Russia sanctions, in particular on the goods- and service-related sanctions and financial sanctions, as well as on reviewing compliance processes and establishing compliance organizations together with reviewing business policies, on examining past deliveries and on administrative, investigation and arbitration proceedings. At present (2025), her advising practice is focused on the applicability of EU sanctions to non-EU companies, the best-efforts obligation with regard to subsidiaries based outside the EU and the avoidance of compliance violations in the case of indirect supplies and sanctions circumventions. In addition, Vera has

Career

Admitted to bar 2006

University of Saarbrücken (Dr. iur.) and Cologne

Université of Paris V (René Descartes)

Law firm in London, 2010-2011

Publications

"Rückerstattung geleisteter Sonderabgaben bei fehlender Gewährleistung fortdauernd gruppennütziger Verwendung ("Bankenabgabe")", BKR 1/2026 (together with Dr. Anouk Ludwig)

"Produktsicherheit – Wachsende Bedeutung in der Compliance", ZCG 5/25, 10/2025 (together with Dr. Anouk Ludwig)

Interne Compliance-Maßnahmen bei Sanktionen – Achtes Sanktionspaket der EU gegen Russland, ZCG Zeitschrift für Corporate Governance 6/2022 (together with Dr. Anouk Ludwig)

The risk-based approach in the GDPR, ZD 12/2022, Jungkind/Koch

Die neue EU-Trinkwasserrichtlinie, UPR 2022, 121 ff., Jungkind/Plötz

Beck’sches M&A-Handbuch, Datenschutz in Unternehmenstransaktionen (together with Dirk Uwer), Compliance Due Diligence (together with Constantin Lauterwein), 2nd ed. 2022

Unternehmensverantwortung in der Lieferkette, Der Konzern 11/2021

advised defense-sector companies on export control law (since 2025) and the German War Weapons Control Act, on the EU Dual-Use Regulation and on customs law (encompassing administrative proceedings) (2023–2024); various companies on sanctions screenings (2021); a middle-market machine manufacturer on exports to Iran as well as on the EU Blocking Regulation and its application on US secondary sanctions imposed on Iran (2020); a financial services provider on the account closure of an Iranian customer as well as on the EU Blocking Regulation (2019) and several other entities on notification requirements under foreign trade law and the voluntary disclosure for violating such requirements.

Vera also has many years of experience in investment review procedures in various industries, including critical infrastructure and high-tech.

As regards data protection law, Vera has considerable expertise in advising international clients on data protection in M&A transactions, merger control procedures and internal investigations, as well as on data protection breaches and regulatory data protection proceedings. Recently, for instance, she has advised on various asset deal data purchases in insolvency situations (2024, 2025), data transfers in connection with an intra-group restructuring (2025), the use of tracking technologies (2024) and administrative proceedings, telephone and video recordings (2025) and information access requests from data subjects (2023, 2025). In corporate transactions, Vera has provided assistance to a bank on the sale and restructuring of a credit card debt portfolio, including the data migration and outsourcing of the processing of services (2022–2024).

Her compliance and internal investigation matters have included, in particular, an internal investigation at an industrial company into violations of its code of business conduct (2025), one at a commercial vehicles manufacturer into potential deliveries to Russia in circumvention of sanctions (2024), one on behalf of a globally operating industrial company relating to the suspected supply of products to the Russian arms industry before the 2022 Russia sanctions entered into force (2022–2024) and advising an insurance group on several internal investigations into the social security status of outside personnel ('false self-employment'), encompassing proceedings conducted by state authorities (2019–2024). In many of the internal investigations performed by Hengeler Mueller, Vera advises on intersecting aspects of data protection law, such as the permissibility of data screenings (including the use of artificial intelligence), information and disclosure duties, the handling of private data and the transferring of data to authorities and parties to disputes outside the EU.

(together with Carolin Raspé und Simone Terbrack)

BeckOK Datenschutzrecht, 38th ed. (1.11.2021), Art. 40, 41 and 48 GDPR

Liebers/Hoefs, Formularbuch Arbeitsrecht, Datenschutz, 7th ed. 2023

Künstliche Intelligenz, Recht und Praxis automatisierter und autonomer Systeme, (§ 4 Medizin/Gesundheit – G. Datenschutz), 2021 (together with Susanne Koch)

Die jüngste Novelle des Investitionsprüfrechts – Europäisierte Verschärfung, M&A Review 2020, pp. 412 et seq. (together with Carsten Bormann)

Die Novelle des Außenwirtschaftsrechts – Europäisierte Verschärfung des Investitionskontrollverfahrens, Der Konzern 2020, pp. 369 et seqq. (together with Carsten Bormann)

Risikoanalyse und zusätzliche Maßnahmen – Konzerninterner US-Datentransfer nach „Schrems II“, NZG 2020, pp. 1056 et seqq. (together with Carolin Raspé and Michael Schramm)

Verschärfung des Außenwirtschaftsrechts vor dem Hintergrund der COVID-19 Pandemie, NZG 2020, pp. 619 et seqq. (together with Carsten Bormann)

Interne Compliance-Programme als Instrument der Exportkontrolle, AW-Prax 03/2020, p. 103 (together with Carsten Bormann)

Beschränktes Boykottverbot nach § 7 Satz 2 AWV neu – Freie Fahrt für die Geltung ausländischen Sanktionsrechts für deutsche Unternehmen?, AW-Prax 09/2019, p. 354 (together with Tobias Winkler)

Datenschutz in der Unternehmenstransaktion, Der Konzern 2019, pp. 429 et seqq. (together with Thomas Ruthemeyer)

Gemeinsame Verantwortlichkeit nach Art. 26 DSGVO zwischen Konzerngesellschaften als Bestandteil der DSGVO-Compliance, Der Konzern 2019, pp. 289 et seqq. (together with Thomas Ruthemeyer and Anna Eickmeier)

The Foreign Investment Regulation Review, Germany, 6th ed. 2018

(together with Jan D. Bonhage)

Boykott-Verbot versus Sanktionslisten-Screening, AW-Prax 12/2016, pp. 417-420 (together with Philipp Cramer)