Dirk Oberbracht

Partner

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Frankfurt

Dirk Oberbracht is the Partner in Charge of the Frankfurt office of Gibson Dunn and a leading Private Equity and M&A lawyer.

Dirk advises private equity investors, management teams, corporate clients and families, and has extensive expertise in complex mid- and large-cap transactions.

Chambers and Partners ranked Dirk in Band 3 for Private Equity and Band 4 in Corporate/M&A: High-end Capability (*Chambers Germany* 2025). *Chambers Global* 2026 also ranked him for the 20th year in Germany for Corporate/M&A: High-end Capability. His clients hold him in high esteem: "[Dirk] is fantastic in leading the discussions and structuring transactions which are super complex" and "goes to great lengths to understand the underlying matter in detail and come up with the most commercial and practical propositions", reflecting that "the depth of experience and number of transactions have honed Dirk Oberbracht's strategic oversight and execution." They further emphasize that "[He] thinks ahead of the commercial issues and not just the legal implications, gives good impulses and goes beyond the purely legal dimension" and "Dirk Oberbracht was wonderful throughout the transaction. […] He was flexible in terms of availability and legal expertise and really went the extra mile to facilitate a difficult deal." Dirk is a member of *The Legal 500* Hall of Fame as a recognition for his continued excellence and praise from clients in Private Equity over several years and he was named as Lawyer of the Year 2022 for Private Equity by *Handelsblatt / The Best Lawyers*™. In 2023, he was recognized by *WirtschaftsWoche* as one of the Top Lawyers in M&A. He is also recommended by *The Legal 500*, *Best Lawyers*™ in Germany, *Who's Who Legal – Germany* and *IFLR1000*. *JUVE Handbook* 2025/2026 lists him as "frequently recommended" for Private Equity and M&A.

Selected private equity deals:

- Astorg on the acquisition of hg medical from Nord Holding
- Blue Earth Capital and Future Energy Ventures in connection with their co-lead investment in reev, a leading software provider for electric vehicle charging stations
- EMK Capital in connection with several acquisitions comprising Freihoff Group, Gleich Group, Schmid-Alarm GmbH, and vi2vi Group as part of a platform in the security technology sector
- EQT in connection with the acquisition of ju:niz Energy GmbH
- KKR on its growth investment in smaXtec, a leading provider of AI-powered agri-tech solutions for the global dairy industry
- MBCC management team on sale of MBCC to Sika and the sale of the Admix business to Cinven

Capabilities

Private Equity
Aerospace and Defense
Energy and Infrastructure
Infrastructure
Life Sciences
Mergers and Acquisitions

Credentials

Education

Goethe University Frankfurt - 1992 Dr. jur.

Goethe University Frankfurt - 1990 Law Degree

Admissions

Germany - Rechtsanwalt

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- Motive Partners on the acquisition of embedded/capital GmbH, a European fintech venture capital platform
- One Equity Partners on its investments in Alltub Group, SGB-SMIT, and various other deals
- PJT Partners on Silver Lake's takeover offer for Software AG
- Platinum Equity Advisors on its $5.25 billion acquisition of Solenis from BASF SE and Clayton, Dubilier & Rice
- Stone Canyon Industries on the $2.3 billion acquisition of Mauser from CD&R and the acquisition of Morton Salt from K+S
- Triton on its acquisition of Lamina Technologies SA as well as on its investment in Meine Radiologie Holding and its sale to EQT Infrastructure
- U.S. private equity investor on several mid and large cap transactions in Europe
- Various management teams in connection with Management Equity Programs
- Veritas Capital on various acquisitions
- Xella International S.A., a holding company of funds advised by Goldman Sachs and PAI Partners, on the sale of Xella to Lone Star.

Selected corporate deals:

- Aicuris Anti?infective Cures shareholders on the €780 million sale to Asahi Kasei, through its subsidiary Veloxis Pharmaceuticals
- Atlas Copco in connection with the €1.1 billion tender offer for ISRA VISION AG (value €1.1 billion)
- CANAL+ on the €1 billion acquisition of M7 Group, a European pay-TV operator, from Astorg, a private equity firm
- Celanese on the acquisition of Nouryon’s Elotex® brand redispersible polymer powders business
- Clariant and Ashland on the €257 million sale of ASK Chemicals, a leading manufacturer of foundry chemicals with facilities in 25 countries, to Rhône Capital
- Edwards Lifesciences, provider of medical innovations for structural heart disease, on its $945 million acquisition of JenaValve Technology, developer of a transcatheter treatment of aortic regurgitation
- Gilead Sciences, Inc. on its acquisition of MYR GmbH (approx. €1.15 billion plus up to €300 million milestone payment, named Deal of the Month by *JUVE*, February 2021)
- Heska Corporation, a manufacturer and supplier of diagnostic and specialty solutions for veterinary practitioners, in its acquisition by Mars, Inc. for $1.5 billion
- HJM Investment GmbH & Co. KG on the sale of a stake in RENOLIT SE and the acquisition of RKW SE
- Muehlhan AG on the sale of its European and U.S. business to One Equity Partners
- PJT Partners in connection with the Porsche IPO
- Sumitomo Electric Industries, Ltd. on the acquisition of a majority shareholding in Südkabel GmbH from Wilms Group

Dirk studied law at the Goethe University Frankfurt, from where he also earned his Dr. jur. degree and is admitted as a German lawyer (*Rechtsanwalt*). Prior to joining Gibson Dunn, Dirk was a corporate partner in the Frankfurt office of a renowned U.S. law firm and headed that office for several years. He speaks German and English.

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