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Methodology

Welcome to the 2013 edition of the Best of the Best, the international legal market's leading guide to the top legal practitioners.

When first published in 1994, the Expert Guides were the first-ever guides dedicated to leading individuals in the legal industry. Since then we have continued to focus on individuals considered by clients and peers to be the best in their field. The Best of the Best compiles the top 30 practitioners in 20 areas of law. All the other practice areas we cover are included in the 2012 edition and will be updated in 2014. In the event of a tie on the number of nominations both practitioners are included.

The guides for each practice area are updated every two years. Our research process involves sending over 4,000 questionnaires to senior practitioners or in-house counsel involved in each practice area in over 40 jurisdictions, asking them to nominate leading practitioners based on their work and reputation. The results are analysed and screened for firm, network and alliance bias. The list of experts is then discussed and refined with advisers in legal centres worldwide.

These specialists have been independently offered the opportunity to enhance their listing with a professional biography. The biographies give readers valuable, detailed information regarding each lawyer's practice and, if appropriate, their work and clients.

We owe the success of this guide to all the in-house counsel and firms that completed questionnaires and met our researchers. Thank you. We hope you find the guide to be a useful tool. All information was believed to be correct at the time of going to press.

EXPERT GUIDES RESEARCH

Expert Guides has been researching the world's legal markets for over 18 years, and has become one of the most trusted resources for international buyers of legal services.

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Our guides are distributed to and regularly used by the world's most prominent decision-makers and frequent buyers of legal services. Each guide has an extensive distribution list plus additional tailoring to its area of focus.

Each guide is also reprinted in full at www.expertguides.com

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Mr Raeschke-Kessler has been a member of the IBA working groups on the 1999 IBA Rules of Evidence in International Arbitration, their 2010 review and on Conflicts of Interest in International Arbitration. He is vice president of the German branch of the International Law Association, board member of the German Arbitration Institution – DIS – and a member of the ICC Commission on International Arbitration. He has been observer for the new Chapters of UNIDROIT Principles on Commercial Contracts and is a member of Panels of Arbitrators (Austria, Hong Kong, Singapore, Malaysia).

Some of his recent publications in English include: *The Arbitrability of Intra-corporate Disputes in a German GmbH – A Comment on OLG Frankfurt am Main*, 2010, in *The Practice of Arbitration, Essays in Honour of Hans van Houtte*, Hart Publishing Ltd. 2012, pp. 195-202; *The International Arbitration Review*, 3rd ed. 2012, Chapter 16, Germany, pp. 203 et seq.; *Discovery in International Commercial Arbitration?* in Böckstiegel/ Berger/ Bredow (Hrsg.); *The Taking of Evidence in International Commercial Arbitration*, Carl Heymanns Verlag 2010, pp. 45 et seq.; *Witness Conferencing*, in: Newman/Hill, *The Leading Arbitrators' Guide to International Arbitration*, Second Edition, 2008, pp. 415-428; 14. *Corruption in Foreign Investment – Contracts and Dispute Settlement between Investors, States, and Agents*, *The Journal of World Investment & Trade*, Vol. 9, No. 1, February 2008, pp. 5-33.

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