

Liedekerke
wolters
waelbroeck
kirkpatrick



CONTACT

boulevard de l'Empereur 3 Keizerslaan
B-1000 Brussels - Belgium
T: +32 2 551 15 15
F: +32 2 551 14 14
Brussels

info@liedekerke.com
www.liedekerke.com

33 Sun Street
London EC2M 2PY - England
T: +44 207 151 0360
F: +44 207 151 0370
London



Inspiring **trust**

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LIEDEKERKE IS A STANDOUT AMONG BELGIAN LAW FIRMS. WE ARE THE LARGEST HOME-GROWN INDEPENDENT FIRM TODAY, WITH OVER ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY LAWYERS IN BRUSSELS. AND WE ARE THE ONLY BELGIAN LAWYERS IN LONDON.

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What do

we

stand for ?

Tested solutions.

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WE OFFER A FULL-SERVICE CAPABILITY FOR TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY BUSINESS.

Our reputation for first-class client service is forty years old and counting. In our advisory practice, we excel in minimising conflict. But when litigation is unavoidable, we have a record of prevailing in court.



IN 1965, THE NAMES OF OUR FOUNDING PRACTITIONERS STOOD FOR LEADERSHIP IN THEIR AREAS OF LAW.

This tradition continues.

Our lawyers teach in Belgium and abroad. Sit as arbitrators and judges. Publish frequently. And are regularly called upon to draft legislation.



"Excellence comes from the intelligent use of progress." (Elbert Hubbard)



Word into action.

Our goal: making your decisions easier.

SOLUTIONS NEED TO BE MORE THAN LEGALLY ROBUST. THEY NEED TO BE COMMERCIALY ATTUNED AND TAILORED TO THEIR CONTEXT. ABOVE ALL, THE BEST LAWYERS UNDERSTAND THE BUSINESS DRIVERS BEHIND THE LEGAL ISSUES.

Among our number we count:

- Several lawyers with qualifications in our clients' fields, or deep industry sector knowledge.
- Many members of specialist professional associations.
- Corporate board members.

The bottom line: sound and pragmatic advice that enables better business decisions.



"We do not claim to change the wind. But we are masters at adjusting the sails." (William Arthur Ward)



Custom-made solutions. No more, no less



**OUR CLIENTS WILL RATE LEGAL ADVICE FOR WHAT VALUE IT ADDS.
THEY SHOULD EXPECT A SUBSTANTIAL RETURN ON INVESTMENT.**

We adhere to the following principles to create lean, tailor-made solutions:

- **Each client is unique.** Our bespoke service is adapted to each client's needs, and trimmed of unnecessary extras.
- **Our first task is to listen.** It is only by appreciating the context of our clients' needs that can we truly optimise our advice.
- **We are in it for the long term.** Lasting relationships help us to anticipate issues affecting our clients. We aim to nip legal complications in the bud, because pre-emptive advice is the fastest and most cost-effective there is.



"Bien écouter, c'est presque répondre" (Marivaux)

The optimal **blend**:
quality and capability

Big-firm capability.

LIEDEKERKE IS ACTIVE IN EVERY BUSINESS SECTOR. WITH OVER 130 LAWYERS, WE ARE THE LARGEST HOME-GROWN INDEPENDENT FIRM IN BELGIUM, WITH CRITICAL MASS IN EVERY KEY BUSINESS AND PRIVATE CLIENT PRACTICE AREA.

Size is a winner when combined with strict quality standards.

- It gives us the capacity to respond to our clients' needs when urgent action is required. We can rapidly deploy teams of specialists in all relevant disciplines.
- It attracts the best talent and guarantees the capability to train and develop our professionals.
- Our teams have the support of the best in communication, IT and management tools.

"Size counts." (Anonymous)



“

Independence

is not a state of affairs.
It is a **duty.**

”

Vaclav Havel

*“The first thing we do, let's kill all the lawyers”
(William Shakespeare, Henry VI Part 2)*



Shakespeare understood that independence is the essence of an impartial lawyer.

Thinking independently means not following the herd. Thinking outside the box. And being clear that a client's best interests will not always be served with popular or welcome advice.

Our independence is our client's best guarantee that we will unswervingly serve their best interests.

We speak our mind.



”

The whole is greater than

the sum
of its parts.

The power of teamwork.

Commercial

- commercial contracts and litigation
- international and complex litigation
- intellectual property
- new technologies
- trade practices
- transport
- insurance

Corporate & Finance

- corporate law
- mergers and acquisitions
- capital markets
- banking and insolvency

Labour & Employment

- work relations
- pensions and benefits
- social security

Regulatory & Real Estate

- European and competition law
- public international law
- public and administrative law
- environmental law
- energy
- real estate

Tax

- company tax
- taxation of transfers, mergers and acquisitions
- taxation of real estate financing and real estate transactions
- taxation of insurance and financial products
- taxation of intellectual property, artists and professional athletes
- European and international tax law
- VAT
- asset and estate planning
- tax litigation



TODAY'S LEGAL ENVIRONMENT IS TOO COMPLEX FOR ANY ONE INDIVIDUAL TO TACKLE ALONE. INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS ARISE WHEN SPECIALIST KNOWLEDGE IS FUSED WITH THE CREATIVE TENSION OF A TEAM.

This makes expert interaction crucial to our success. Our specialists constantly seek open and creative dialogue with each other, and with clients.

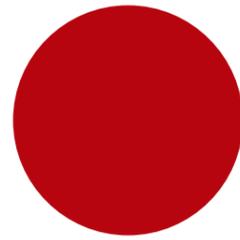
Our skills cover more than twenty specialist areas, whether the need is for advice, contract execution, or dispute resolution.

“膝とも談合”

“None of us is as smart as of all of us.”

(Japanese proverb)

Beyond the border.



WE BELIEVE THAT GLOBALISATION STARTS AT HOME, WITH STRONG FOUNDATIONS.

In cross-border cases we turn to partner firms and international networks that share the same high standards and vision that we do.

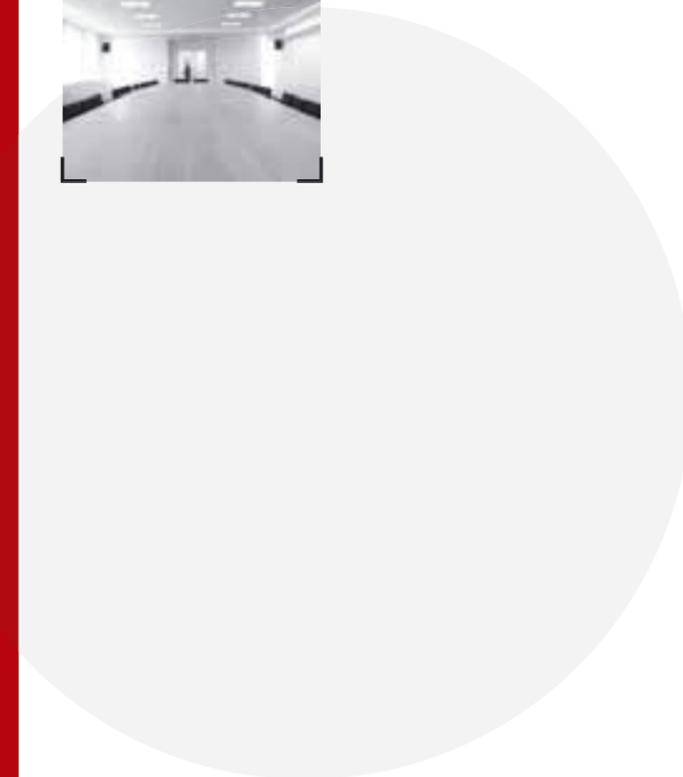
Our relationships with firms abroad are privileged, but non-exclusive. Where the client looks to us to help in selecting foreign counsel, we insist on the flexibility that allows us to choose the best for the client. From Brussels and from London we guarantee our clients collaboration with the best local experts abroad.

But we can equally readily oblige when clients have their own preferences. Our independence and local focus ensure seamless teamwork without complications or conflicts abroad.

Local expertise. Global partners.



“A man’s feet should be planted in his country, but his eyes should survey the world.” (George Santayana)



Tomorrow's work today



Legal foundations for a robust future.

IN A NETWORKED AND VIRTUAL WORLD, THE LAW IS STRUGGLING TO KEEP PACE WITH THE COMPLEXITY OF HUMAN INTERACTION. THE EXPONENTIAL GROWTH IN NEW LAWS AND REGULATIONS PARADOXICALLY MULTIPLIES THE NUMBER OF LOOPHOLES.

Conscious of the social and economic stakes, we strive for lasting solutions that integrate business strategy, and make it compatible with statutory and regulatory instruments going forward.

Our advice is often marked by a bold and entrepreneurial intellect. But our role is to provide clients with reassurance, not risk and adventure. So that our clients can plan ahead, safe in the knowledge of solid legal foundations.



*"Pour ce qui est de l'avenir, il ne s'agit pas de le prévoir, mais de le rendre possible."
(Antoine de Saint-Exupéry)*

