

## GHR RECHTSANWÄLTE AG

### Value beyond legal advice

#### FIRM OVERVIEW

Incorporated in 1992, with offices in Zurich and Bern, Switzerland, GHR Rechtsanwälte AG is widely regarded as a leading Swiss business law firm. Its competence and experience is the result of its deliberate choice to focus on selected key sectors of business law. The firm has a proven track record in banking and finance, capital markets, competition and antitrust, corporate/M&A, dispute resolution, energy and natural resources, employment, intellectual property and technology, private clients, real estate, restructuring and insolvency, and tax. GHR Rechtsanwälte AG advises local and global clients, small, medium and large business enterprises, privately owned and listed companies, public sector organizations and private individuals.

#### MAIN AREAS OF PRACTICE

##### Banking and Finance

GHR Rechtsanwälte advises banks, custodians, fund managers, securities dealers, independent asset managers and other financial institutions on legal, regulatory, commercial, contractual and compliance matters, including licensing and registration procedures. The firm represents lenders and borrowers in debt financing, asset securitization, securities offerings, syndicated, structured and collateralized lending transactions as well as in OTC and private equity transactions. It represents clients in litigation and administrative proceedings before courts and the Swiss Financial Market Supervisory Authority FINMA. The firm also acts as an independent investigator for FINMA.

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##### Capital Markets

The firm represents domestic and foreign issuers and underwriters in securities offerings, IPOs, rights offerings, convertibles, bond and notes issues, share buybacks and public tender offers. It advises listed companies on regulatory and compliance matters. It is an authorized representative for the listing of securities on the SIX Swiss Exchange.

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##### Commercial/Trade

The firm advises on all matters relating to the sale, distribution and export of products and services, including transfer restrictions and customs requirements, obtaining permits for the import, export, commercial transit and brokerage of dual use goods.

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## Corporate/M&A

Corporate services and mergers and acquisitions are core practices of GHR Rechtsanwälte. The firm provides a full range of corporate legal services and advises on corporate governance, compliance and shareholder relations. The firm is among the market leaders in domestic and cross-border, private and public M&A transactions, acquisitions, divestments, auctions, corporate takeovers, mergers, spin-offs, restructurings, management buyouts/buyins, joint ventures, private equity and venture capital transactions, and transaction finance.

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## Dispute Resolution and International Arbitration

GHR Rechtsanwälte has a long history and a wealth of experience in representing clients in administrative, civil and criminal proceedings. The firm's practice covers all aspects of corporate and commercial litigation as well as antitrust and unfair competition, regulated industries, banking and finance, bankruptcy and debt collection, employment, intellectual property, real estate and construction disputes, disputes relating to trusts and estates, white-collar crime, attachment proceedings, the enforcement of foreign judgments and awards, and expert advice and testimony on Swiss law. It provides assistance to clients involved in proceedings before courts, agencies, regulators and prosecutors, as well as in matters regarding internal investigations and in judicial and administrative assistance proceedings. The firm's members act as party counsel or as arbitrators in domestic and international arbitration proceedings, including ICC, ICSID, UNCITRAL, Swiss Rules and Ad hoc.

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## Energy and Natural Resources

GHR Rechtsanwälte is a market leader in the energy and natural resources sector. The firm's expertise covers the whole value chain in the electricity, oil and gas markets including exploration, exploitation, generation, transmission, supply, distribution, infrastructure, regulatory, trading, privatization and structural reform. Within the scope of its advisory activity for clients in the energy and resources sectors, the firm offers specialist advice across the full spectrum of relevant disciplines, including energy regulation and regulatory proceedings, regulatory reform and market design, power, infrastructure and renewable energy projects, supply contracts, connection and use of system arrangements, shipping and storage, emissions trading and renewables obligation certificate trading, competition, public procurement, and mergers and acquisitions. As the Swiss member of the Energy Law Group, the firm has access to the largest worldwide network of independent energy law firms ([www.energylawgroup.eu](http://www.energylawgroup.eu)).

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## Employment and Social Security

GHR Rechtsanwälte offers a full-service employment law practice and represents employers as well as senior employees. The firm advises on employment agreements, termination agreements, non-compete agreements, policy regulations, compensation and severance packages, employee bonus and stock option plans, social security and pension plan benefits, transfer of businesses and mass layoffs. It represents clients in litigation and administrative proceedings including foreign nationals wishing to obtain Swiss work permits.

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## Data Protection

The firm's team of data protection specialists provides advice and assistance in connection with all aspects of internet law, data processing and protection (including international data transfer), licensing, outsourcing, contracting and carve-out, convergence, third-party access, compliance and regulatory issues.

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## Private Clients

GHR Rechtsanwälte has a long-standing practice of providing corporate and individual clients with expert advice on wealth planning and succession issues. The firm's services include obtaining residence permits for foreign nationals, negotiating lump sum tax arrangements and the taxation of structured assets, real property acquisition transactions, executorships, and representing clients in court proceedings.

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## Real Estate

GHR Rechtsanwälte boasts one of the most highly regarded real estate practices specializing in particular in matters relating to the planning, development and construction of hotel and resort complexes. The firm advises institutional investors, joint ventures, investment funds, financial institutions, commercial users and individuals in connection with the sale and acquisition of real estate and real estate companies, sale and leaseback transactions, financing, commercial lease transactions, the realization of complex development projects as well as on matters relating to the acquisition of real estate by persons abroad and the implementation of the federal law and ordinance on secondary residences.

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## Restructuring and Insolvency

The firm's restructuring and insolvency practice comprises the complete range of services in connection with domestic and cross-border restructurings and insolvency matters. The firm advises and represents creditors, banks and other financial institutions, liquidators, receivers and bankruptcy trustees as well as corporate debtors and directors in debt collection and insolvency proceedings as well as financial reorganizations. Members of the firm's restructuring and insolvency practice also serve as court or FINMA appointed liquidators and receivers.

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## Tax

GHR Rechtsanwälte's tax practice has been a hallmark of the firm's services since its inception. Advice is provided to corporate and individual clients in all matters relating to direct and indirect taxes, stamp duties, customs duties and

other levies as well as in matters relating to cross-border taxation, transfer pricing and treaty interpretation. Services include tax planning, negotiating lump sum tax regimes, obtaining tax rulings and representing clients in dealings with tax authorities and tax litigation. Specific tax advice is provided in connection with corporate restructurings, mergers and acquisitions, spin-offs, management and leveraged buyouts, joint ventures and cross-border business structuring projects.

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## RANKINGS



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