



Swiss legal expertise in compliance with economic sanctions and terrorism financing regulations

Our team of experienced practitioners offers recognised expertise in compliance with economic sanctions and terrorism financing regulations. We regularly assist corporates and financial institutions in managing sanctions-related risks, providing practical and bespoke solutions.

Ongoing advisory work and litigation for financial institutions:

- **Advice** on sanctions compliance, including the review of internal policies and procedures, and monitoring of regulatory developments.
- **Support** in handling specific, sanctions-related issues.
- **Assistance** in disputes with clients and counterparties involving restrictive measures or asset freezes.

Ongoing advisory work for clients outside the financial industry:

- **Support** on sanctions-related matters for clients active in trading and shipping, as well as for industrial companies, luxury brands and NGOs.
- **Advice** on the impact of sanctions for buyers or sellers in the context of M&A transactions.
- **Development** of risk management strategies for companies exposed to sensitive counterparties or markets.

Coordination of legal advice and engagement with authorities:

- **On Swiss sanctions:** Interacting on a regular basis with the State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO) to obtain opinions, exemptions or specific authorisations.
- **On foreign sanctions** (in particular for the United States, European Union, United Kingdom): through long-standing collaboration with our established network of partner law firms abroad.

Advice on enforcement proceedings and litigation in relation to:

- **Sanctions enforcement** by SECO and/or FINMA.
- **Criminal prosecution** by SECO, the Swiss Attorney General's Office and/or local Swiss prosecutors arising in the context of sanctions violations or from sanctions-related money laundering.
- **Debt collection proceedings** against assets subject to sanctions.

Internal sanctions compliance review

To ensure robust compliance not only with sanctions regulations but also with the expectations of regulators in Switzerland and other countries, we have experience in conducting, along with partner law firms abroad to the extent necessary:

- **Internal audits and reviews:** helping clients to establish, strengthen and maintain their sanctions compliance programmes. This includes periodic audits, root cause analyses of any compliance breaches and prompt remediation of identified weaknesses.
- **Documentation and transparency:** supporting clients to document their compliance efforts and internal reviews, with a view to enabling readiness for regulatory enquiries.

We favour a proactive, practical and solution-oriented approach, so as to allow our clients to operate confidently in this ever-evolving regulatory environment.

Get in touch: sanctions@lenzstaehelin.com

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