

Sébastien Zulian Partner, Geneva



Sébastien Zulian specialises in private client, inheritance and commercial law. He advises and represents individuals, families and fiduciaries in domestic and cross-border matters, with a particular focus on inheritance disputes, estate planning and family business issues.

His practice includes acting in (pre-)contentious estates and trust-related disputes, succession planning (including pre-nuptial arrangements and cross-border structuring), and mandates involving executorship or protector roles. He regularly advises on Swiss-based and international estate matters involving complex holding structures and multi-jurisdictional family interests.

Sébastien also undertakes related commercial and criminal matters affecting private clients, including financial disputes and asset recovery proceedings.

He is a SBA Certified Specialist in inheritance law (*Avocat spécialiste FSA droit des successions*).

Current professional memberships

- + Member of the Geneva Bar Association and the Swiss Bar Association
- + STEP Affiliate Member
- + Member of the Geneva Bar Association's Forum on Inheritance Law
- + Member of the Geneva Business Law Association
- + Member of the *Société romande des avocats spécialistes en successions* (SASS)

Career history

- + Partner, LALIVE, Geneva, 2026 – present
- + Counsel, LALIVE, Geneva, 2024 – 2025
- + Associate, LALIVE, Geneva, 2017 – 2023
- + Associate, Lenz & Staehelin, Geneva, 2016
- + Trainee, Lenz & Staehelin, Geneva, 2014 – 2016
- + Research Assistant, Faculty of Law, University of Geneva, 2013 – 2014

Academic qualifications

- + LLM, Columbia Law School, 2017
- + Certificate of Advanced Studies in Legal Professions, University of Geneva, 2014
- + Bilingual Master of Laws, University of Basel and University of Geneva, 2014
- + Certificate in Transnational Law, University of Geneva, 2013

Contact

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[LinkedIn](#)

Practices

- + Corporate Commercial Advisory
- + Commercial Litigation
- + Private Client

Languages

- + English
- + French

Nationality

- + Italian
- + Swiss

Admission

- + Switzerland, 2016

Recognition

“Sébastien Zulian [is] truly outstanding.”

Legal 500 EMEA, Private Client, 2025

Recent publications

Contrat de gestion d'hotel: Modèles en français et en anglais commentés selon le droit suisse

SÉBASTIEN ZULIAN

In: Recueil de contrats commerciaux, 2e édition, Sylvain Marchand, Christine Chappuis, Laurent Hirsch (Editeurs)

Recent conferences

LALIVE - Inheritance at Risk: Defending Art and Reputation Across Borders

SÉBASTIEN ZULIAN, Role: Speaker, Inheritance at Risk: Defending Art and Reputation Across Borders

London, 8 November 2024

STEP - Supervisory Jurisdiction and Arbitration in Trusts: Support for Administration and Dispute Resolution

SÉBASTIEN ZULIAN, Role: Speaker, Trust and Estate Arbitration in Switzerland: Update and Recent Experiences

Lugano, 17 October 2024

Private Client NextGen - English Trusts, Liechtenstein Foundations and Trusts & Swiss Disputes

SÉBASTIEN ZULIAN, Role: Moderator, English Trusts, Liechtenstein Foundations and Trusts & Swiss Disputes

Zurich, 18 April 2024