

Bernd Ehle

Partner, Geneva



Bernd specialises in international arbitration, with extensive experience as both counsel and arbitrator in over 100 high-stakes disputes conducted under various arbitration rules and governed by civil and common law. His experience includes serving on dispute adjudication boards.

Bernd advises and represents clients in complex disputes, with a focus on large-scale construction and infrastructure projects, intricate joint venture agreements, M&A transactions and sales and distribution contracts. He is committed to dispute resolution and related capacity building, in particular in Africa, to which a significant portion of his work is related.

Recognised as a “leading light in the next generation of international arbitration practitioners in Switzerland”, *Who’s Who Legal Global Leaders, Arbitration, 2022*, Bernd also assists and represents clients in the enforcement of arbitral awards and other arbitration-related proceedings before state courts.

Current professional memberships

- ✚ Member of the Board of Directors of AfricArb
- ✚ Member of the Board of Directors of Kigali International Arbitration Centre (KIAC)
- ✚ Member of the Arbitration Court of the Swiss Arbitration Centre
- ✚ Member of the Advisory Board of Africa Construction Law (ACL)
- ✚ Member of the Executive Committee of the Foundation for International Arbitration Advocacy (FIAA)
- ✚ Co-chair of the Construction Group of the German Arbitration Institute (DIS)
- ✚ Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (CIarb)

Career history

- ✚ Partner, LALIVE, 2009 – present
- ✚ Associate, LALIVE, 2003 – 2008
- ✚ Associate, Graf von Westphalen, Freiburg, Germany, 2000 – 2003

Academic qualifications

- ✚ PhD in Law, University of Heidelberg, 2001
- ✚ LLM, Northwestern University Pritzker School of Law, Chicago, 1999 – 2000
- ✚ Studies in International Law, University of Geneva, 1993 – 1994

Contact

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[+41 58 105 2000](tel:+41581052000)

behle@lalive.law

[LinkedIn](#)

Practices

- ✚ Arbitration - International Commercial
- ✚ Arbitration - Investment Treaty
- ✚ Commercial Litigation

Sectors

- ✚ Construction & Infrastructure
- ✚ Energy
- ✚ Mining
- ✚ Technology

Languages

- ✚ English
- ✚ French
- ✚ German
- ✚ Spanish

Nationality

- ✚ German
- ✚ Swiss

Admission

- ✚ Switzerland, 2004
- ✚ Germany, 1998

“An outstanding practitioner”

Who’s Who Legal Global Leaders, Arbitration, 2021

Recognition

“Bernd Ehle is very responsive and he takes action very quickly. He gathers the team very quickly, reviews the case in detail and responds to all of our questions very properly.”

Chambers Europe, Arbitration Counsel, 2025

Ranked Band 2 Arbitration Counsel and Band 4 Arbitrator

Chambers Global, Switzerland, 2025

“Bernd is held in high esteem by peers who say he is ‘particularly skilled and experienced in construction arbitration’.

Who's Who Legal National Leaders, Arbitration, 2023

Recent publications

Revision des Schweizer Kauf- und Werkvertragsrechts ab 2026 –

Auswirkungen auf den Anlagenbau

BERND EHLE, BERND HAUCK

In: Law Journal on Industrial and Infrastructure Projects, 6/2025, December 2025, pp. 364-368

Arbitration in East Africa’s Renewable Energy Projects: Resolving

Disputes in a Rapidly Evolving Sector

BERND EHLE, BENJAMIN NG’ENO

*In: Victoria Nalule, Damilola S. Olawuyi (eds), *The Palgrave Handbook of Arbitration in the African Energy and Mining Sectors. Palgrave Studies in Energy Transitions*, November 2025*

Chapter 17: FIDIC Contracts and Swiss Law

BERND EHLE, SAM MOSS, LAURA AZARIA

*In: Friedrich Jakob Rosenfeld and Franco Ferrari (eds), *The FIDIC Conditions of Contract and Domestic Construction Law: A Guide for Global Dispute Resolution*, 2025, pp. 377-394*

Recent conferences

Africa Construction Law/Society of Construction Law - Introduction au

Droit de la Construction

BERND EHLE, Role: Speaker

Webinar, 6 November 2025

Eastern Africa Association (EAA) - Capital Compliance, ESG, and Dispute

Resolution Mechanisms

BERND EHLE, Role: Speaker

London, 13 October 2025

DIS Construction Group - Methods of Delay Analysis and Legal

Requirements for Substantiation

BERND EHLE, Role: Co-Moderator

Berlin, 8 September 2025