

Christian Exner Counsel, Zurich



Christian's practice concentrates on domestic and international litigation, with a particular focus on complex commercial and banking disputes, recognition and enforcement of foreign judgments and awards, domestic and cross-border insolvency proceedings, as well as asset protection and recovery.

Christian is an author of articles and commentaries with a special focus on insolvency law and enforcement proceedings.

Current professional memberships

- + Member of the Zurich Bar Association (ZAV)
- + Member of the Swiss Bar Association (SAV)
- + Member of the International Bar Association (IBA)
- + Member of INSOL Europe

Career history

- + Counsel, LALIVE, Zurich, 2021 – present
- + Foreign Transaction Adviser, Barnes & Thornburg LLP, Chicago, 2020 – 2021
- + Associate, Wenger Plattner, Zurich, 2012 – 2018
- + Court Clerk, District Court of Meilen, 2008 – 2012
- + Trainee, District Court of Horgen, 2007 – 2008
- + Research Assistant, Law Faculty, Zurich University, 2004 – 2007

Academic qualifications

- + LL.M., Northwestern University Pritzker School of Law, 2020
- + *iur.*, Zurich University, 2004

Contact

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Practices

- + Asset Recovery & Insolvency
- + Corporate Commercial Advisory
- + Commercial Litigation

Languages

- + English
- + German

Nationality

- + German
- + Swiss

Admission

- + Illinois, USA, 2021 (not practising)
- + Switzerland, 2011

Recognition

Ranked as Key Lawyer

Legal 500 EMEA, Banking and Finance, 2025

Recent publications

You Won! Now What? How to Enforce Awards Against States in Switzerland

LAURA AZARIA, CHRISTIAN EXNER, ANTON VALLÉLIAN

In: ASA – Swiss Arbitration Association Bulletin 2/2025, published by Wolters Kluwer: International Arbitration & Mediation, June 2025

Request for Provisional Setting Aside of the Objection to the Payment Order (Gesuch um provisorische Rechtsöffnung)

CHRISTIAN EXNER, KARIN GRAF

In: Willi Fischer, Fabiana Theus-Simoni, and Dieter Gessler (Eds.), Commented lawsuit templates for debt enforcement and legal remedies (volume V), 2nd ed., Schulthess Legal Media Ltd, p 33 – 46, 2022

Commentary on Articles 294, 299, 300, 303, and 304 of the Swiss Debt Enforcement and Bankruptcy Act (SchKG)

CHRISTIAN EXNER, BRIGITTE UMBACH-SPAHN, STEPHAN KESSELBACH

In: Jolanta Kren Kostkiewicz and Dominik Vock (Eds.), Commentary on the Swiss Debt Enforcement and Bankruptcy Law, SchKG, 4th ed., based on the 3rd ed. by Carl Jaeger published in 1911, Schulthess Legal Media Ltd, 2017