

## Dr. Christian Knütel

Partner  
Hamburg

### Biography

Dr. Christian Knütel advises on national and international energy and infrastructure projects, particularly in the field of offshore wind; his advice covers all project phases - from project development and the relevant contracts for works, supply and services to project financing. He works closely with the Regulatory, Banking, Litigation/Arbitration and M&A practice groups and coordinates international projects with foreign colleagues.

A particular focus of his work, which has been growing for years, is on project-related claims management and advice on project-related litigation, including representation in DAB, mediation, arbitration and court proceedings in Germany and abroad, again with a special focus on offshore wind. Clients appreciate, among other things, Christian Knütel's technical expertise, his reliable assessment of the prospects of success of legal disputes as well as his negotiating skills and assertiveness.

In addition to various other publications on project and energy/infrastructure topics, Christian Knütel is co-editor and author of the "Legal Handbook Project Financing and PPP" (2nd edition 2008) and author of the chapter on project contracts for offshore wind farms in the standard text book on legal issues relating to plant construction "Legal Handbook Plant



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### Languages

English  
Italian  
French  
German  
Spanish

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### Practices

Infrastructure, Energy, Resources,  
and Projects

Litigation Services

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Construction", 2nd edition Munich 2020.

Christian Knütel is honorary General Counsel of the World Forum Offshore Wind ([www.wfo-global.org](http://www.wfo-global.org)).

## Representative experience

Representation of an employer in a dispute with a contractor on the failed installation of offshore wind foundations incl. enforcement of claims against insurances and certification agencies

Representation of OEM in DAB and mediation proceedings reg. several claims and counterclaims on delays, interferences and approx. 10,000 alleged faults of turbines of a major offshore windfarm

Representation of several sea cable manufacturers in the defence against claims based on alleged serial defects in certain cables and accessories

Representation of a sea cable manufacturer in an ICC arbitration regarding alleged serial defects

Representation of an employer in construction disputes with a WTG manufacturer and a BoP contractor in relation to a major offshore wind farm in Taiwan

Representation of a turbine manufacturer in a DAB proceeding relating to the conditions for an extension of a service agreement

Representation of an OEM in connection with several serial defects of wind turbines relating to several offshore windfarms in Germany

Representation of an international BoP contractor on claims management in connection with an EPCI agreement for over 100 offshore wind foundations in the UK

Advising Northland Power on the development of a 1,000 MW Hai Long offshore wind farm in Taiwan incl. drafting and negotiation of turbine supply, BoPI, off-

## Industries

Energy and Natural Resources

Diversified Industrials

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## Areas of focus

Automotive Regulatory

Engineering, Procurement, Construction, and Supply Chain

Hogan Lovells Taiwan Desk

PPPs (including P3 and PFI) and Government Contracts

Project Finance, DFI and ECA Finance

Rail

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## Education and admissions

### Education

Second State Exam in Law, Berlin, 2001

Dr. iur., University of Hamburg, 1999

First State Exam in Law, University of Hamburg, 1997

University of Rome, 1995

University of Freiburg, 1994

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and onshore substation supply agreements

Advising Merkur Offshore on the development of the 400 MW Merkur offshore wind farm in Germany, including project financing and drafting and negotiation project agreements

Advising an international developer on the tender of EPCI contracts for offshore and onshore installations for an offshore wind farm in Poland

## Awards and rankings

- Public Sector: PPP, *Legal 500 EMEA*, 2018-2019
- Real Estate and Construction: Construction (including construction litigation), *Legal 500 EMEA*, 2018-2019
- Banking and Finance: Project Finance, *Legal 500 EMEA*, 2018-2019
- One source describes Christian Knütel as purposeful and pragmatic. He acts on both domestic and cross-border projects, with a particular focus on offshore wind farms, offering expertise in project financing and regulatory issues, as well as representation in disputes., *Chambers Europe*, 2019
- Recommended lawyer for the energy sector: Transactions/Financing, *JUVE Handbook*, 2018/2019
- Extremely savvy lawyer who thinks along with his client and has a great problem-solving attitude, according to one impressed interviewee. Market commentators also note his expertise in technical contracts, equity agreements and financing issues., *Chambers Europe*, 2018
- Christian Knütel gives the right advice., *Legal 500*, 2018
- Christian Knütel has a broad knowledge and plenty of project expertise., *Legal 500*, 2017
- Clients say: He performed an absolutely outstanding job of getting people on board. He is excellent at keeping calm under intense pressure, especially

## Memberships

DIS Deutsche Institution für Schiedsgerichtsbarkeit

WFO - World Economic Forum Offshore Wind Energy e.V.

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## Accolades

Recommended lawyer for Project Finance and Development Practice

*Best Lawyers Germany, 2013–2015*

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Recommended lawyer for the energy sector: Transactions/Financing.

*JUVE Handbook, 2018/2019*

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during negotiations, where he did a really great job.,  
*Chambers Europe*, 2015

- The US publisher Best Lawyers ranks Christian Knütel among the best lawyers in the field of project financing and development., *Best Lawyers*, 2014 – 2020
- Clients praise his ability to understand the business we do and also to drive things forward and give correct advice., *Chambers*, 2014
- Banking and Finance: Project Finance, Germany, Recommended, *Legal 500 EMEA*, 2019-2020

## Latest thinking and events

- Hogan Lovells Publications
  - Contract and claim dispute management in the infrastructure and energy sector
- Press Releases
  - Hogan Lovells advises EIB and LBBW on the financing of four wind farms in Poland
- Hogan Lovells Publications
  - A Comparative Guide: Impact of COVID-19 on the Infrastructure and Energy Sector
- News
  - FIDIC COVID-19 Guidance Memorandum
- Webinar
  - Global Construction and Engineering Industry Forum: An open exchange on how we deal with COVID-19
- Press Releases
  - Hogan Lovells advises InfraVia European Fund II and Egis Investment Partners on the sale of shares in German A8 Motorway PPP Project