



Founder Legal Boot Camp

2026 Southwest Edition

6 AND 7 MARCH 2026
ONSITE AND REMOTE

ONLINE ONLY PRE-EVENTS
3 AND 4 MARCH 2026

NEW
GREENHOUSE
@ORRICK TECH STUDIO
ELITE COACHING
FOR GERMANY'S NEXT
DEEPTECH LEADERS
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LATEST EDITIONS

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WELCOME

Welcome to the tenth edition of the Founder Legal Boot Camp, together with **KIT Karlsruhe Institute of Technology** (including Deep Tech Hub), **University of Stuttgart Transfer Center (TRACES)** (including INSPIRE2Start) and **TUM Venture Labs** (Munich and Heilbronn) and again in cooperation with **RWTH Innovation** and **WHU Entrepreneurship Center**.

In addition to aspiring teams from the universities involved, we also warmly welcome a number of further founding teams from other universities and institutions. Having been guests at the University of Stuttgart last year, this year's FLBC Southwest is taking place at KIT Karlsruhe Institute of Technology.

The event is packed with a lot of really boring legalese... Just kidding, we will make this event as relevant and practical as possible. The goal is to equip aspiring founders with what they need to avoid common legal pitfalls and succeed in their fundraising efforts.

To take into account that you are at different stages of development and to avoid overloading Friday and Saturday, we will have two online-only pre-events:

On the evening of Tuesday, 3 March, we will focus on Founder Team Composition and Founder Equity Split and the next evening, Wednesday, 4 March, our topic will be Getting Incorporated.

If you haven't registered yet, click [here](#) to do so. Participation is free of charge, and you can attend either in person in Karlsruhe or online via Zoom. However, **we highly recommend attending on site** for a more engaging experience, direct exchange with the speakers, valuable networking with fellow founders, and full catering included. To learn more about all upcoming FLBCs, visit orrick.com/flbc.

Finally, if you have questions or ideas ahead of the event or afterwards, please reach out. We'd love to hear your thoughts.



THOMAS NEUMANN
Karlsruhe Institute of Technology



RUBINA ZERN-BREUER
University of Stuttgart TRACES



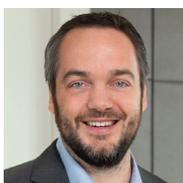
PHILIPP GERBERT
TUM Venture Labs



MAXIMILIAN ECKEL
WHU Entrepreneurship Center



MALTE BRETTEL
RWTH Innovation



SVEN GREULICH
Orrick



JOHANNES RÜBERG
Orrick

AGENDA

TUESDAY 3 MARCH 2026

18.00 - 19.00 **Pre-Event#1 - The First Minutes: Founder Team Composition and Founder Equity Split**
Sven Greulich (Orrick)

ONLINE
ONLY

WEDNESDAY 4 MARCH 2026

18.00 - 19.00 **Pre-Event #2 - The First Minutes: Getting Incorporated**
Johannes Rüberg (Orrick)

ONLINE
ONLY

FRIDAY 6 MARCH 2026

09.15 - 09.30 **Welcome Address**
Rubina Zern-Breuer (University of Stuttgart TRACES),
Thomas Neumann (KIT-Gründerschmiede), Representatives TUM Ventures Labs

09.30 - 11.00 **Start-up Financing - Overview and Convertible Loan Financings**
Sven Greulich (Orrick)

11.00 - 11.15 **BREAK**

11.15 - 12.45 **Start-up Financing - Equity Financings and Term Sheet Deep Dives**
Sven Greulich (Orrick)

12.45 - 13.30 **LUNCH BREAK**

13.30 - 14.30 **Expensive Tax Pitfalls in the Early Stages**
Carsten Engelings (Orrick)

14.30 - 14.45 **BREAK**

14.45 - 15.45 **IP Must-Haves for University Spin-Outs**
Benedikt Migdal (Orrick)

15.45 - 16.00 **BREAK**

FRIDAY 6 MARCH 2026 ctd.

16.00 - 17.00 **Data Privacy and Cybersecurity Must-Haves**
Robert Weinhold (Orrick)

17.00 - 17.15 **BREAK**

17.15 - 18.15 **Case Studies for AI Business Models**
Benedikt Migdal (Orrick), Robert Weinhold (Orrick)

Thereafter **FOOD AND DRINKS**

SATURDAY 7 MARCH 2026

09.30 - 11.00 **Employment Law Must-Haves**
Asalia Melanie Scheibner (Orrick)

11.00 - 11.15 **BREAK**

11.15 - 12.45 **ELECTIVE 1 (PARALLEL SESSIONS)**
**U.S. German Holding Structures and the Delaware Flip and Brief Overview
over U.S. Market Entry Projects**
Onur Öztürk (Orrick), Carsten Engelings (Orrick)

ELECTIVE 2 (PARALLEL SESSIONS)
Coffee Chat: Open Q&A Session/Office Hour
Johannes Rüberg (Orrick)

ONSITE
ONLY

12.45 - 13.30 **LUNCH BREAK**

13.30 - 15.00 **Employee Stock Option Plans**
Virtual Programs, Hurdle Shares and Sec. 19a EStG Shares
Sven Greulich (Orrick)

TOPICS

The First Minutes: Founder Team Composition and Founder Equity Split

This session delves into the complexities of composing a founder team and dividing equity among founders and structuring the initial cap table. General considerations include, amongst others, the misconception that an even split is always fair, the importance of focusing on future contributions, and recognizing that ideas alone are not as valuable as execution. Last but not least, we will address aspects that apply in particular to university spin-outs.

The First Minutes: Getting Incorporated

This session covers the essentials of incorporation, starting with the reasons to incorporate, such as mitigating risks associated with the Gesellschaft Bürgerlichen Rechts (GbR) and improving team dynamics. It discusses the optimal timing for incorporation and outlines the process, exploring legal forms, founder holdings, a step-by-step plan, and specifics of the GbR.

Start-up Financing – Overview and Convertible Loan Financings

We provide a comprehensive overview of start-up financing, highlighting its significance and the various funding sources available as well as best practices on how to negotiate with VC and CVC investors. The session then focuses on convertible loans, explaining their structure and key terms. A checklist is provided to help founders navigate the complexities of convertible loan agreements.

Start-up Financing – Equity Financings and Term Sheet Deep Dives

This session offers an in-depth look at term sheets in equity financings. It begins with an overview of the typical financing round process followed by a deep dive into economic terms, such as valuation, liquidation preference, and anti-dilution protection, and control terms, including board composition and protective provisions. Other terms like closing conditions, costs, and exclusivity are also covered. Finally, we put all this in the context of the current economic situation and market trends in the U.S., European and German arenas.

Expensive Tax Pitfalls in the Early Stages

In this session we help start-ups navigate complex tax issues and highlight common tax pitfalls that start-ups face in their early stages. We emphasize the importance of early tax planning and understanding the tax implications for founders. The risks of relocating without proper tax advice are discussed, along with cross-border tax considerations. The session also covers the tax implications of being a global company from the start.

IP Must-Haves for University Spin-Outs

This session focuses on the essential aspects of intellectual property (IP) and know-how, emphasizing on the unique challenges and opportunities of start-ups using university IP. It sheds light on how IP can be managed, dos and don'ts to help start-ups protect their innovations and make their businesses more attractive to investors. Best practice is given to help founders navigate the complexities of transferring university IP and structuring compensation agreements.

Data Privacy and Cybersecurity Must-Haves

As data are key to the vast majority of start-ups, we cover the fundamentals of privacy, including GDPR, what constitutes personal data, and the guiding principles of data protection. The concept of "Privacy by Design" and six important compliance obligations are explained. Practical privacy do's and don'ts are provided, along with an overview of upcoming data and digital laws in the EU. We also outline the current regulatory framework to help start-ups stay compliant.

Case Studies for AI Business Models

In this session, we address the unique legal challenges faced by AI start-ups. It covers the legal framework for AI regarding data privacy and cybersecurity, focusing on the GDPR and the AI Act. Key principles, legal obligations, and compliance strategies are discussed. We also highlight data-related liability risks and what to consider when developing or using AI. IP issues related to input training data and output data are covered, including sources, protection methods, and infringement risks.

Employment Law Must-Haves

We provide essential knowledge on employment law for start-ups. It covers the legal status of founders and the different types of team members, including employees, contractors, interns, and working students. We deal with drafting employment contracts, enforcing non-competes, and creating contractor agreements. The session also covers best practices for recruiting, onboarding, terminating employment, and offboarding, including the five most common mistakes made by start-ups.

U.S. German Holding Structures and the Delaware Flip and Brief Overview over U.S. Market Entry Projects

We explain the benefits and drawbacks of U.S.-German holding structures including the Delaware Flip. The session covers the pros and cons of a two-tier structure and the process of flipping an existing structure. Tax considerations for each option are discussed. We also provide insights into operating in a two-tier structure, highlighting operational differences and the process of raising funds through SAFE financing

Employee Stock Option Plans

In this session, we provide an overview of employee stock option plans and compare the situation in the U.S. and Europe, highlighting the growing convergence. We cover virtual programs, hurdle shares and equity-based programs, including sec. 19a EStG shares and profit participation rights. Their concepts, legal documentation, tax considerations and key terms such as vesting, leaver events, and exit payments are explained to help start-ups design and implement effective ESOPs (in Germany and internationally).

Bonus Content: Orrick Founder Equity Study 2025

We will present the findings of our Orrick Founder Equity Study 2025. In this one of its kind studies, we analyzed the initial founding team composition and equity split for more than 2,000 German startups from 10+ sectors that were established from 2019 to 2024.

NEW: GREENHOUSE @ORRICK TECH STUDIO

Introducing GREENHOUSE @Orrick FLBC: Elite Coaching for Germany's Next DeepTech Leaders

We're excited to announce the expansion of Orrick's acclaimed Greenhouse program – previously available only to Orrick's U.S. clients – as a new, integral component of the Founder Legal Boot Camp. This unique offering is designed specifically for ambitious German deeptech founders, addressing the real-world challenges of developing, explaining, and executing an equity story that resonates with top-tier international investors.

Greenhouse is not your average "how to pitch" workshop. The content and coaching are purpose-built for the German deeptech ecosystem, drawing on our extensive experience with local founders and investors. Led by Patrick Barry – former tech lawyer, serial operator, and trusted advisor to over 300 Orrick startup clients – this program delivers honest, actionable feedback. Patrick spent two decades leading product and go-to-market teams at companies like Yahoo!, Intuit, and Zenoti, and was fortunate to count the legendary Bill Campbell – the "Trillion Dollar Coach" – as a friend and role model. Inspired by Bill's founder-first approach, Patrick brings a rare blend of candor, empathy, and practical insight to every session.

GREENHOUSE @ORRICK TECH STUDIO

As part of the new GREENHOUSE @FLBC, a select group of fundraising deeptech teams will receive behind-closed-doors coaching tailored to the German market. The focus: crafting an equity story that stands up to the scrutiny of international VCs. Sessions are strictly confidential, ensuring founders can speak openly about their challenges. You'll have the rare opportunity to trial-pitch in front of real U.S. venture capital investors – who will provide candid, practical feedback, not just polite encouragement.

We provide free coaching to help seed stage clients decide where to focus based on your business model, ensuring you establish the right root system for the company to thrive.

Participation in Greenhouse is free of charge and exclusive to FLBC attendees who are at the right stage for this level of coaching. **We'll reach out directly to FLBC participants with details on how to apply.**

If you're ready to take your story – and your company – to the next level, Greenhouse @FLBC is your launchpad.

"You definitely gave us food for thought in several areas, especially how to think about framing a white label offering for the tool. Your input was very much appreciated by us all."

COO
Agile Labs

"Hey Patrick, I wanted to send a quick note and say thanks for reviewing our pitch last week, the feedback was immensely valuable."

CEO
Proxima Health

"Thank you one more time for the keen insight and time taken this past week. It really helped us triangulate what we needed to do quickly, and it worked."

Wild Capture team

"I want to have a frank discussion about how to really engage and benefit. I now fully realize you've got the mojo we need."

CEO
XP News

Check out the videos on our [GREENHOUSE website](#)

Meet the Director



What is your coaching style?



What is our top advice for startups?



FEEDBACK FROM PREVIOUS FLBCS

Zora May 2025 ...
Founder

Knowledge-packed and also empowering. Thanks to the Orrick Team for this workshop, important for all founders!

Stefanie May 2025 ...
Founder

Thanks for this amazing and most useful Boot Camp! Honestly this should be a Must for anyone thinking of starting a company, couldn't recommend this more highly.

Martin May 2025 ...
Founder

These bootcamps are real gamechangers!

Philipp Gerbert May 2024 ...
CEO TUM Venture Labs

The Founder Legal Boot Camp covers the must-knows for any founder in Germany, presented in an entertaining way – backed up by lots of open-source information. Any (prospective) founder ignores this content at her own risk!

Gaby May 2025 ...
Founder

The content is absolutely excellent! Especially the between-the-lines content. You don't just teach the theory but you explain how it actually works in real life, what to focus on, what to disregard, etc. I have worked with quite a few lawyers over the past 25 years and [this is] very rare amongst lawyers who tend to get lost in "it depends" and fineprint, missing the big picture.

Philipp Feb 2025 ...
Founder

Thanks a lot - awesome input!

Dorothea Feb 2025 ...
Private Lecturer and future Founder

This was a wild ride today—now my head is spinning! Thank you so much for educating me about what to do and, more importantly, what not to do...

Lukas Nov 2023 ...
Founder

I attended last year - extremely high ROI for any (aspiring) founder.

Jasper Feb 2025 ...
Founder

Some of the best startup lessons I've learned came at zero cost. When I attended the Founder Legal Bootcamp back in 2023, I expected complicated jargon and dense legalese. Instead, I walked away with practical, easy-to-understand insights that saved me countless headaches (and expenses) in the long run. Plus Sven Greulich and his colleagues are far from boring, they'll get you excited for the topic. I can't recommend it enough if you're looking to avoid common legal pitfalls; navigate fundraising confidently; walk away with a clearer strategy (and more peace of mind).

Marijan Nov 2023 ...
Founder

One of the most relevant events I have attended this year.

Nicole Nov 2024 ...
Founder

Thank you so much for sharing your knowledge and best practices! I was able to take away a few key insights that I need to address right away. Thanks to you, this will help me stay on track and continue delivering value to our customers in the long run. As an early stage startup founder it was a lot of information to digest. I will definitely come back a second time. Additionally, thanks for the great atmosphere and opportunity to get to know interesting entrepreneurs.

Florian Nov 2024 ...
Director at Founders Association

The Founder Legal Boot Camp is truly an outstanding initiative – I highly recommend it to everyone!

Jonas Feb 2025 ...
Founder

Ein großes Dankeschön an das Orrick-Team für den direkten Austausch – besonders beim wichtigen Thema IP im AI-Bereich. Das hat uns sehr geholfen!

Nils Nov 2023 ...
Founder

We really got a huge amount of valuable insights for our startup by extremely knowledgeable speakers. For a deeper dive into these topics, check out Orrick's great "Legal Ninja Series" with very valuable deep dives in all the topics mentioned.

Hojjat
Founder

Feb 2025 ...

I just wrapped up an intense 16-hour legal boot camp, and wow!—my brain is still processing! As someone with zero legal background, diving into tax strategies, founder pitfalls, and legal fundamentals was both challenging and incredibly valuable. The instructors didn't just teach, they translated complex legal concepts into actionable insights. Definitely one of those investments that will pay for itself many times over. Grateful for the knowledge and the network!

Lorenz
Founder

Feb 2025 ...

Great event, so much valuable input.

Malte Brettel

Tenured Professor at RWTH Aachen

May 2024 ...

I am excited to see that the Founder Legal Boot Camp has become an institution and has helped literally hundreds of founders already.

Anja

Master of Entrepreneurship Student

Nov 2024 ...

Ein herzliches Dankeschön für das inspirierende Founder Legal Boot Camp! Die Veranstaltung war vollgepackt mit wertvollem Wissen zu rechtlichen Themen, die Start-ups voranbringen. Auch begeistert hat mich der offene Austausch unter den Teilnehmern und die Energie, die den Raum gefüllt hat. Genau solche Events stärken das Gründernetzwerk und schaffen wertvolle Verbindungen.

Jan

Founder

Nov 2023 ...

This has been a great event so far with tons of valuable hands-on advice for founders, many thanks.

Shreya

Doctoral Researcher

Feb 2025 ...

15 hours of rigorous albeit incredible learning experience on navigating through regulatory and legal aspects. Appreciate all the sessions and the entire team for pulling off this bootcamp and sharing your intangible knowledge.

Maximilian

Founder

Nov 2024 ...

Building a successful startup takes more than a great idea—it requires a solid legal foundation. That's exactly what the Founders Legal Bootcamp offered, providing invaluable guidance on the legal essentials of launching and scaling a startup. Thanks to Orrick for organizing such a comprehensive and their incredible dedication and expertise. Orrick's support in empowering the next generation of founders is truly unmatched.

Ying

Founder

Feb 2025 ...

Last week, I had the incredible opportunity to join a Founder Legal Boot Camp, diving deep into the legal essentials that every entrepreneur should know. These sessions provided invaluable insights that will shape how I approach startup growth and risk management. Huge thanks to the organizers.

Andrew

MBA Student

Nov 2024 ...

A foundational legal understanding for startup founders taught in 2 days? It sounds like a challenge, but the FLBC is an event that Orrick Germany executed exceptionally well. They covered every important topic for startup founders to consider even in the earliest stages. As an aspiring founder, I found the content highly engaging and it has left me with a clear direction on which critical items to consider as I pursue my own entrepreneurial journey.

Enzo

Founder

Feb 2025 ...

Can highly recommend!

Olena

PhD student

Nov 2024 ...

It was incredibly insightful for an early-stage founder like me. As a scientist and not a lawyer, I highly recommend this course—having this foundation is crucial. After all, it's us who will be negotiating with investors and shaping the future of our ventures!

Jan Büchsenschütz

Co-founder/COO RIICO

May 2024 ...

The Orrick Legal Boot Camp is a must-have for all founders. Nowhere else can you find such good and compact knowledge for founders at a glance. We still benefit from this knowledge today.

Christian

Professor and Founder

Nov 2024 ...

Ein intensives und lehrreiches Wochenende! 19 Stunden voller Vorlesungen, spannender Diskussionen, exzellenter Gespräche, Fallbeispiele und Networking. Von rechtlichen Fallstricken bis hin zu Best Practices habe ich viele wertvolle Insights mitgenommen. Das Boot Camp möchte ich gerne nicht nur allen Gründern, sondern auch (Corporate) Investoren und allen, die sich für das Thema Gründen interessieren, absolut empfehlen. Diese umfassende Veranstaltung hat erneut gezeigt, wie wichtig es ist, rechtlich fundiert und strategisch gut vorbereitet zu sein – vor allem in den dynamischen Umfeldern von Startups und Innovationen. Ein riesiges Dankeschön für die professionelle Organisation und die erstklassigen Referenten und Inhalte.

THE PARTICIPATING INSTITUTIONS AND THEIR VENTURE ACTIVITIES



Karlsruhe Institute of Technology's (KIT) KIT-Gründerschmiede bundles all activities on the topics of founding and entrepreneurship to achieve more impact for their founding teams. The KIT-Gründerschmiede serves as an initial contact point for technology-based start-ups and sees itself as a breeding ground and accelerator for innovative business ideas around the central future topics of our time such as digitalization, artificial intelligence, biotechnology, mobility, and energy. The goal of KIT-Gründerschmiede is to support start-ups with their services at every stage of development and to actively help them build powerful technology companies.

KIT is the leading institution of Deep Tech Hub, the regional hub of InspireBW that also encompasses Heidelberg University, University of Mannheim, Mannheim University of Applied Sciences, Karlsruhe University of Applied Sciences, Pforzheim University, and Heilbronn University of Applied Sciences. The six InspireBW hubs across Baden-Württemberg are designed to provide even more targeted support to founders of research-based startups.



The University of Stuttgart Transfer Center (TRACES) is the central contact point for transfer at the university and provides students and employees with comprehensive support for their transfer projects. Besides initiating and supporting partnerships and cooperation with external stakeholders, TRACES promotes the anchoring of entrepreneurship at the University of Stuttgart. It is a network partner for founding parties at university level, in business, society and politics/administration. A particular focus is on cooperation with the Institute for Entrepreneurship and Innovation Science (ENI) and the Technologie-Transfer-Initiative GmbH (TTI).

University of Stuttgart is the leading institution of INSPIRE2START, the regional hub of InspireBW that also encompasses University of Hohenheim, Stuttgart University of Applied Sciences (HFT), Esslingen University of Applied Sciences and Nürtingen-Geislingen University of Applied Sciences. The six InspireBW hubs across Baden-Württemberg are designed to provide even more targeted support to founders of research-based startups.



TUM Venture Labs is a joint initiative of top-ranked Technical University of Munich and leading entrepreneurship center UnternehmerTUM with partner institutions and companies, aiming to increase the quality and quantity of scalable technology spin-offs and ventures in the region by a factor of ten. The TUM Venture Labs offering is based on the four key pillars Education, Venturing, Events & Network and Spaces & Infrastructure. TUM Venture Labs consists of 12 venture labs Aerospace, ChemSPACE, Built Environment, Robotics/AI, Food/Agro/Biotech, Software/AI (Munich & Heilbronn), Healthcare, Quantum/ Semicon, Additive Manufacturing, Sustainability/Circular, Mobility and Legal Tech.



WHU - Otto Beisheim School of Management with campuses in Vallendar and Düsseldorf is Germany's leading business school, consistently ranked among Europe's finest. The WHU Entrepreneurship Center coordinates WHU's entrepreneurship community. It encourages WHU members to become entrepreneurs by mapping and activating the WHU entrepreneurship community and celebrating its successes. By actively engaging in partnerships with other universities and organisations, it helps them exploit the best opportunities. Furthermore, it fast-tracks entrepreneurial journeys by connecting aspiring WHU entrepreneurs with world-class mentors and investors from WHU's exclusive alumni network.



The vision of RWTH Innovation and the RWTH Entrepreneurship Center is to build the leading integrated tech-incubator in Europe to empower talented and motivated people to build impactful technology companies. It provides comprehensive support for founders in all stages. With or without an innovative business idea - people interested in founding a startup will be provided with goal-orientated support by our team. RWTH Innovation offers entrepreneurs, depending on the development stage of their company, custom-made support, e.g., individual coaching, events, workshops or networking.

REPRESENTATIVES



THOMAS NEUMANN
KIT-Gründerschmiede

Thomas Neumann is the head of KIT-Gründerschmiede, where he leads efforts to foster innovation and entrepreneurship at the Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT). The KIT-Gründerschmiede serves as a dynamic hub for ambitious start-ups, offering comprehensive support ranging from mentoring to access to a strong network of investors and industry partners. With 10+ years of experience in the ecosystem, Thomas is passionate about transforming innovative ideas into impactful ventures.



RUBINA ZERN-BREUER
University of Stuttgart TRACES

Dr. Rubina Zern-Breuer is head of the Transfer Centre at the University of Stuttgart and an expert in innovation research. In this position she is responsible for the strategic transfer of knowledge and technology between science and practice. Her responsibilities include the management of the Career Service, business relations, start-up financing and knowledge transfer. One focus is the promotion of innovation, especially in the start-up sector.



PHILIPP GERBERT
TUM Venture Labs

Dr. Philipp Gerbert is CEO of TUM Venture Labs which he founded over 5 years ago. Previously he was Senior Partner at the Boston Consulting Group, focussing on AI in Business, Quantum Computing and Climate Action. He has spent his professional life on both sides of the Atlantic, including many years in Silicon Valley. By background Philipp is a physicist and holds a PhD from MIT.



MAXIMILIAN ECKEL
WHU Entrepreneurship Center

Maximilian Eckel is the Managing Director of the WHU Entrepreneurship Center. After graduating from WHU himself, he co-founded his own startup in Berlin and later became Head of Startup Coaching at RWTH Aachen University. He has mentored dozens of ventures, ranging from D2C brands to quantum computing spinoffs, and helped raise millions of euros in private and public funding.



MALTE BRETTEL
RWTH Innovation

Prof. Dr. Malte Brettel is professor of entrepreneurship at RWTH Aachen, adjunct professor at WHU in Vallendar and heads the RWTH Innovation Entrepreneurship Center. After working in consultancy for some years he started his first company in 1999, where he also served as managing director. Since then he co-founded several other companies, works as a business angel and venture capital investor.

ORRICK SPEAKERS



SVEN GREULICH

Dr. Sven Greulich LL.M., EMBA is a partner, heads our Technology Companies Group in Germany and focuses on advising high-growth technology companies and their investors. He is a WHU alumnus and his work for technology companies in cross-border engagements has won several awards (FT, Legal 500, BestLawyers). The leading international law firm directory Chambers lists Sven as one of the Top 3 venture capital lawyers in Germany.



BENEDIKT MIGDAL

Benedikt Migdal is a partner and advises on IP aspects of complex technology transactions, including M&A, divestments, venture investments and other commercial transactions where intellectual property and know-how are key assets. He is also an experienced patent and trade secret litigator and has represented clients from a range of industries in complex disputes. Amongst others, Benedikt is recognized by Handelsblatt.



JOHANNES RÜBERG

Dr. Johannes Rüberg, EMBA is a partner and passionate about advising entrepreneurs and startups on their growth trajectory. His practice further focuses on advising (corporate) venture capital investors in growth investments as well as strategic and financial investors on M&A. Johannes is a WHU alumnus and recognized by Legal 500 and Handelsblatt.



CARSTEN ENGELINGS

Carsten Engelings is a counsel and qualified in Germany both as an attorney and tax advisor. He advises on German tax and accounting issues arising for industry clients as well as for startups, their founders and investors. He also advises and represents clients with respect to tax field audits and in tax litigation against the fiscal administration and before German fiscal and civil courts.



ONUR ÖZTÜRK

Onur Öztürk is a counsel and advises on all aspects of corporate law. His focus lies on domestic and cross-border mergers and acquisitions and venture capital transactions. Onur has particular expertise in flipping German startups into a U.S./German holding structure and in 2022 spent three months working out of our Bay Area offices.



ASALIA MELANIE SCHEIBNER

Asalia Melanie Scheibner advises national and international companies on individual and collective employment law matters, as well as on employment law issues related to transactions and internal investigations.



ROBERT WEINHOLD

Robert Weinhold is a counsel and advises on transactions of technology, data law, IT contracts and intellectual property related agreements, often in an international context. Always being fascinated by new technologies and digitalization, before joining Orrick he founded a company that provided a software-as-a-platform solution and worked for a German venture capital investor.



PATRICK BARRY

Patrick Barry started his career as a technology companies lawyer, but soon joined the startup world and began a 20+ year journey as a business leader running go-to-market, product development and business operations for a series of companies including Yahoo!, Intuit, Logikcull and Zenoti. During that time he led teams through good times and bad, raised money, bought and sold companies. Recently he returned to Orrick to lead our Greenhouse business coaching program for our seed stage clients.

ABOUT ORRICK

Global Leader in Venture/Tech

- Globally integrated law firm serving clients at all stages of growth, working as one team with 1,100+ lawyers from over 25 offices worldwide.
- We help our clients, startups and investors develop novel strategies to push boundaries – thus (corporate) venture is at the heart of our firm.
- Our extensive client portfolio, deal volume, and relationships in the tech ecosystem allows us to provide unique commercial and legal insight.

Our Düsseldorf and Munich offices are a Venture Powerhouse:

- Several DAX and MDAX companies on venture investments.
- Some of the world's leading venture investors such as Coatue, GIC, EIP and Headline.
- Advised on financings of numerous (potential) German unicorns, e.g., Contentful, Deposit Solutions and Proxima Fusion.
- Working with our international colleagues on venture transactions day in day out.
- We've done it all: Series Seed through H (lead, non-lead), SAFEs, venture debt, venture funds, IPOs, M&A, U.S. flips etc.

Advising on more venture transactions in Europe than any other law firm – for 9 consecutive years



Second most active venture capital law firm in DACH for 4 consecutive years (PitchBook FY 2024)

Chambers
AND PARTNERS

Band 1 Ranking for
Venture Capital in Germany
(2026)

JUVE

Band 1 Ranking for
Venture Capital in Germany
(2025/2026)



European Startup Health Check

Is your start-up ready to take the next step on the entrepreneurial journey? Orrick's European Startup Health Check gauges your company's readiness for the next phase of growth. The tool identifies vulnerabilities and offers solutions to help your startup reach the next milestone.

For more go to orrick.com/eu-healthcheck.

ORRICK LEGAL NINJA SERIES

The Orrick Legal Ninja Series (OLNS) is Orrick's flagship content platform for the German entrepreneurship ecosystem. As a global law firm with deep roots in the world's leading technology markets, we are passionate about supporting German founders and investors – not just with legal advice, but with holistic, actionable insights that help shape the long-term success of their ventures.

- **OLNS#1** on Venture Debt, a potentially attractive complement to equity financings for business start-ups that already have strong investors on board.
- **OLNS#2** on Convertible Loans, an important part of the financing portfolio of start-ups.
- **OLNS#3** on Employment Law for Tech Companies and what is particularly relevant for German start-ups and their investors.
- **OLNS#4** on Corporate Venture Capital and shares best practices, motives, success factors, incentive schemes and tips for agreements in the CVC ecosystem.
- **OLNS#5** on Venture Financings in Uncertain Times, with practical guidance for fundraising in uncertain times and likely changes in deal terms and structural elements of financings.
- **OLNS#6** on Leading Tech Companies through a Downturn incl. obligations, liability risks, reducing costs, IT/IP, data privacy, renegotiating contracts, disputes and restructuring loans.
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YOUR CONTACTS

Dr. Sven Greulich, LL.M. (Cantuar) EMBA

T +49 211 3678 7261
sgreulich@orrick.com

Dr. Johannes Rüberg, EMBA

T +49 89 3839 80208
jrueberg@orrick.com

DÜSSELDORF

Orrick-Haus
Heinrich-Heine-Allee 12
40213 Düsseldorf
T +49 211 36 7870

MÜNCHEN

Lenbachplatz 6
80333 München
T +49 89 3839 800

orrick.de

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Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP | 51 West 52nd Street | New York, NY 10019-6142 | United States | tel +1 212 506 5000
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