



Rudolf Hennecke is a founding partner of Borriss Hennecke Kneisel. He acts as counsel and arbitrator in complex disputes in all areas of national and international commercial law.

Focus areas of his practice include:

- Corporate disputes, in particular post-M&A disputes, shareholder disputes (including under the DIS-ERGeS) and joint venture disputes,
- Disputes arising from international trade agreements (including UN sales law, financing and export credit agreements), as well as agreements relating to long-term supply relationships and energy supply and storage contracts,
- Disputes arising from infrastructure and plant construction projects.

As arbitrator and counsel, he has been involved in approximately 100 national and international arbitration proceedings (e.g. under the rules of the ICC, DIS, SIAC, FAI, HKHH, UNCITRAL).

Rudolf Hennecke is the editor of (together with James Menz) and a contributor to the Commentary on the Arbitration Rules of the German Arbitration Institute (DIS-SchO), C.H. Beck (2025). He is also a contributor to the Commentary on the New York Convention on the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards (editor: Reinmar Wolff), C.H. Beck 2019 (2nd ed.).

His working languages are German and English.

Experience

Arbitrator

Arbitrator: 65 national and international arbitration proceedings (DIS, ICC, FAI, HKHH, ad hoc)

thereof as President: 30

thereof as Sole Arbitrator: 4

thereof as Co-Arbitrator: 31

Counsel

Arbitration: More than 35 international and domestic arbitration proceedings (ICC, DIS, SIAC, ICSID, UNCITRAL, ad hoc)

Litigation: Numerous general commercial and arbitration-related state court proceedings

Selected Matters

Corporate law

Post-M&A Disputes:

- Numerous earn-out disputes (as president and as party-appointed arbitrator) across a variety of industry sectors (inter alia: e-mobility, pharma, services, leisure)
- Numerous disputes relating to warranties and indemnities, including tax indemnities across a variety of industry sectors (inter alia: automotive, chemical industries, software and e-commerce, services)
- Disputes relating to asserted violations of non-compete clauses in M&A contracts (in arbitration proceedings – as arbitrator and as counsel – and before German courts)

Shareholder Disputes:

- President and party-appointed arbitrator in several shareholder disputes (including under the DIS Supplementary Rules for Corporate Disputes)
- Representing a group of clients in a series of shareholder disputes (three arbitration proceedings under DIS-ERGeS, numerous interim relief proceedings before German courts)

- Joint Venture Disputes:

- Representing clients in joint venture disputes (mostly construction, infrastructure, real estate, energy) in arbitration proceedings (including under ICC and SIAC arbitration rules), as well as in out-of court negotiations and prior to litigation before German courts
- Obtaining interim relief orders from emergency arbitrators under SIAC and ICC arbitration rules
- Obtaining a declaration of enforceability of a foreign emergency arbitration order from a German court in an international joint venture dispute

International Trade, Finance and Licensing Agreements

- Several arbitration proceedings as party-appointed arbitrator in international disputes arising out of finance agreements (ICC and DIS)
- President in four consolidated arbitration proceedings concerning long-term lease agreements for commercial real estate in Eastern Europe (DIS)
- President in an international pharma licensing and royalties dispute (ICC)
- President in international arbitration proceedings arising from letter of intent signed prior to the conclusion of pharma licensing agreement (DIS)
- Representing client in cross-border dispute arising from a contract for the long-term supply of complex airplane parts (ICC)
- Representing client in arbitration proceedings arising from contract for the long-term delivery of combustion engines (DIS)
- President in international ad-hoc arbitration proceedings between an airline and an event company concerning premium corporate events
- Sole arbitrator appointed by FIA in Scandinavian cross-border dispute (food service industry)
- Party-appointed arbitrator in dispute arising from contract for the long-term supply of dairy products (HKHH)
- President in arbitration proceedings arising from the delivery of spare parts for mobile devices (ICC)

Infrastructure, Construction, Energy

- President in arbitration proceedings concerning an international plant construction dispute (ICC)
- Representing a German client in an emergency arbitration as well as in arbitration proceedings on the merits (both under SIAC Rules) against a joint venture partner in relation to an international plant construction project in India (liquefied natural gas)
- Counsel in numerous arbitration proceedings concerning the adjustment of long-term gas supply contracts (DIS, ICC, ad-hoc)
- Counsel in ICC arbitration proceedings against a joint-venture partner relating to a contract for the construction of a sewage treatment facility
- Out-of-court and pre-litigation advice to a client in relation to a complex infrastructure project in Germany
- Out-of-court settlements in relation to two complex plant construction projects in Southern and in Western Europe (both: liquefied natural gas)
- Party-appointed arbitrator in a dispute concerning a long-term gas storage contract (DIS)
- Party-appointed arbitrator in a dispute concerning a long-term contract for the supply of coal to a power plant (DIS)
- President in arbitration proceedings arising from a contract for the delivery of solar panels (DIS)
- Party-appointed arbitrator in international arbitration proceedings arising from a contract for the construction of a chemical plant in Eastern Europe (DIS)

- Party-appointed arbitrator in dispute concerning a long-term agreement for the supply of electricity (DIS)
- Representing a client in expert determination proceedings concerning the long-term exchange of industrial process gases (ICC)

**Distinctions
(Selection)**

JUVE | Commercial Law Firms 2024/2025

„Top-Litigator, Top-Arbitrator“ (Competitor)

Ranked by JUVE among the 30 most in demand arbitrators in Germany

Chambers Europe Guide 2024

"Rudolf Hennecke handles complex disputes of all types."

"Working with him on matters is a real pleasure."

Who's Who Legal: Thought Leader Germany 2024 - Arbitration

Who's Who Legal: Thought Leader Germany 2023 - Arbitration

Who's Who Legal | Germany 2022 | Arbitration

Rudolf Hennecke has "a leading reputation in the market", with interviewees lauding his "careful, renowned and diligent approach" which makes him "a first-choice arbitrator".

JUVE | German Commercial Law Firms 2022

Rudolf Hennecke ("very precise, analytical, assertive, responsive", competitor)

The Legal 500 | Germany 2022

"Mr Hennecke hits exactly the golden mean between arbitral accuracy and the practical interests of the client."

"As an arbitrator, Mr Hennecke is always on top of things and has very good judgment. With unagitated authority the born arbitrator."

JUVE | German Commercial Law Firms 2021/2022

"very precise, analytical, assertive, responsive"

JUVE | German Commercial Law Firms 2020/2021

"very precise, analytical and responsive", "extremely competent and thorough"

Who's Who Legal | Germany 2020 | Arbitration

Rudolf Hennecke is "a very impressive and smart lawyer" who stands out for his "dedicated" approach to domestic and international arbitration proceedings.

Education | Career

Borris Hennecke Kneisel PartmbB | Cologne, Germany
Founding Partner

Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer LLP | Cologne, Germany
Principal Associate

**Law Centre for European and International Cooperation (R.I.Z.)
| Köln**
Research Assistant

**Second State Exam (qualification to hold the office of a judge
in the German state courts) | North Rhine-Westphalia, Germany**

First State Exam | North Rhine-Westphalia, Germany

**Law studies | Universities of Muenster, Liverpool (UK) and
Cologne**

Memberships

German Arbitration Institute (DIS)

International Bar Association (IBA)

German Lawyers' Association (Deutscher Anwaltverein, DAV)

Nationality

German

Working Languages

German

English

Publications (Selection)

Editor (together with James Menz) and contributor:
Schiedsgerichtsordnung der Deutschen Institution für
Schiedsgerichtsbarkeit – DIS-SchO – Commentary (first edition),
2025

Article V New York Convention: General Remarks as well as
commentary on Article V1(c) and Article V1(d) (with Christian
Borris), in: Wolff (ed.), New York Convention, Commentary, (second
edition), Baden-Baden, 2019

From New Zealand Mussels to New Zealand Trucks - The (Not So)
"Ordinary Use" in Article 35 (2) (with Stefan Kröll), in: Growing the
CISG, Schwenger, Spagnolo (ed.), 2016

Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards in Russia - The More Things Change...? (with Kristina Machulskaya), in: OGEL 5, 2015

Compliance with Domestic Law (with Katharina Diel-Gligor), in: International Investment Law, Bungenberg, Griebel, Hobe, Reinisch (ed.), Baden-Baden, 2015

Article V New York Convention: General Remarks as well as commentary on Article V1(c) and Article V1(d) (with Christian Borris), in: Wolff (ed.), New York Convention, Commentary, Baden-Baden, 2012

Das Kriterium der Einhaltung von Vorschriften nationalen Rechts in ICSID-Schiedsverfahren – Anmerkungen zum Schiedsspruch in der Sache Fraport v. Philippines (with Christian Borris), in: SchiedsVZ 2008, p. 49 et seq.

Fraport AG Frankfurt Airport Services Worldwide v. Republic of the Philippines - Compliance With National Laws: A Jurisdictional Requirement Under BITs? (with Christian Borris), in: Case Comments & Awards TDM 5, 2007

Gefahrtragung beim Rücktransport mangelhafter Ware, IHR 2003, pp. 268-275

Kaufmännische Bestätigungsschreiben beim internationalen Warenkauf (with Stefan Kröll), in: RabelsZ, 2003, pp. 448-493

Kollidierende Allgemeine Geschäftsbedingungen in internationalen Kaufverträgen (with Stefan Kröll), in: RIW, 2001, pp. 736-743
