



Wim Nauwelaerts

Partner

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Related Services

Privacy, Cyber & Data Strategy ■ Technology ■ Alston & Bird Global Privacy and Security Network (ABPSN) ■ HIPAA/Health Information Privacy, Security & Breach Response ■ EU General Data Protection Regulation ■ International ■ Artificial Intelligence

Wim Nauwelaerts is the partner-in-charge of Alston & Bird's Brussels office, leading the firm's European Privacy, Cyber & Data Strategy Team.

A true veteran in his field, Wim Nauwelaerts has been advising multinational companies on privacy, data protection, and cybersecurity matters for almost 25 years. His practice spans a variety of industries, with a particular emphasis on life sciences, media, and technology.

Wim has developed internationally recognized experience in assisting clients with General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) compliance projects, including implementing cross-border data transfer strategies and preparing transfer impact assessments. He frequently counsels clients on data subject access requests, and is also well-versed in drafting and negotiating GDPR-related contract terms.

In his cyber practice, clients who have suffered a cyber breach incident usually bring Wim in at an early stage to help assess their legal obligations and develop a strategy on notifications to regulators and affected individuals.

Wim has written and spoken widely on privacy and cyber-related topics, such as data transfers out of Europe, cross-border breach notifications, and data protection enforcement.

Representative Experience

- Represented a global company offering products and manufacturing/logistics services in numerous privacy and data protection projects. Providing advice on global data protection compliance issues impacting the company's business, including the creation and implementation of global data protection standards and advising on compliance with the GDPR. Advised on the implementation of alternative data transfer mechanisms and the impact of the proposed ePrivacy Regulation.
- Represented a U.S.-based aerospace and defense technology company on all aspects of EU data protection law, including the company's GDPR compliance project. Assisted with the implementation of SaaS-based critical communications and enterprise safety solutions.
- Counseled a global media company on its pan-EU GDPR compliance efforts and managed a two-year GDPR compliance project.

- Advised a Swiss-based biopharmaceutical company on a variety of pan-EU data protection questions, including the launch of medical apps, the collection and use of patient data, the processing of personal data in the context of clinical trials, and general compliance with the GDPR.
- Advised a U.S.-based manufacturer of cosmetics, fragrance, and hair care products on EU data protection and privacy matters. Assisted with GDPR compliance and advised on the offering of free Wi-Fi in its stores.
- Advised a multinational conglomerate corporation on cross-border employee monitoring questions.
- Represented a multinational manufacturer of sports apparel and footwear in various matters, including innovative marketing initiatives, privacy in the context of wearables, and compliance with the GDPR.
- Advised a private bank and investment services provider on EU data protection compliance matters, including the provisions of anti-money laundering services and the cross-border transfer of personal data.
- Counseled a multinational human resources consulting firm on the implementation of GDPR compliance measures and the launch of a new talent management system.
- Represented a global provider of business intelligence, mobile software, and cloud-based services on all aspects of EU data protection law.

Publications & Presentations

Publications

- “Major EU AI Banking Ruling Will Reverberate Across Sectors,” *Law360*, January 12, 2024.
- “What You Should Know About the EU Data Governance Act,” *The Global Regulatory Developments Journal*, January 2024.
- “EU Privacy Framework Bodes Well for U.S. Life Sciences Companies,” *Law360*, September 13, 2023.
- “The EU-U.S. Data Privacy Framework: Did Transferring Personal Data from the EU to the U.S. Just Get Easier?” *Cybersecurity Law & Strategy*, September 1, 2023.
- “EU: EDPB's Finalized Guidelines on International Data Transfers Under the GDPR Explained,” *Data Guidance*, May 2023.
- “Cybersecurity 2022: Belgium,” *Chambers and Partners*, March 17, 2022.
- “10 Key Takeaways from the European Commission’s New SCCs,” *The Computer & Internet Lawyer*, November/December 2021.
- “5 Key Differences In EU And US Breach Notification Regime,” *Law360*, December 18, 2020.
- “Early EDPB Guidance in the Wake of Schrems II Signals Where E.U.-U.S. Data Transfers Are Headed,” *Cybersecurity Law Report*, August 5, 2020.
- “Early EDPB Guidance in the Wake of Schrems II Signals Where E.U.-U.S. Data Transfers Are Headed,” *Cybersecurity Law Report*, August 5, 2020.
- “European Union: The Court of Justice’s Decision in Schrems II: Transferring Data Outside of Europe Just Got More Complicated,” *Mondaq*, July 22, 2020.
- “Comparative Guides: Cybersecurity,” *Mondaq*, July 16, 2020.
- “EU: EDPB Guidelines on the Territorial Scope of the GDPR,” *Data Guidance*, January 2020.

- “Belgium,” in *Data Protection & Cyber Security 2019*, Chambers and Partners, 2019.
- “GDPR – The Perfect Privacy Storm: You Can Run from the Regulator, but You Cannot Hide from the Consumer,” *European Data Protection Law Review*, Vol. 3, No. 2, 2017.
- “Belgium,” in *The International Comparative Legal Guide to: Data Protection*, 1st – 4th eds., Global Legal Group, 2014–2017.
- “Introduction,” “EU Overview,” and “Belgium,” in *Getting the Deal Through: Data Protection & Privacy 2017*, Law Business Research, 2016.
- “Belgium,” *Data Protection & Privacy Laws Annual Review*, Financier Worldwide, 2015.
- “Belgium,” in *Getting the Deal Through: Data Protection & Privacy 2016*, Law Business Research, 2015.
- “The Belgian Coalition Stresses the Importance of eHealth,” *eHealth Law and Policy*, March 2015.
- “Cybersecurity and Data Breach,” *Bloomberg BNA Privacy & Data Security Portfolio Series*, February 2015.
- “The EU Article 29 Working Party’s New DPA Cooperation Procedure for Assessing the Compliance of Data Transfer Clauses,” *Bloomberg BNA World Data Protection Report*, Vol. 15, No. 2, February 2015.

Presentations

- Privacy + Security Forum 2023, Fall Academy, Privacy + Security Academy, Washington, D.C., November 8–11, 2023 .
- “Cyberattacks on the Supply Chain: Incident Response Strategies,” Incident Response Forum Europe 2021, webinar, September 23, 2021.

Professional & Community Engagement

- Brussels Bar
- Antwerp Bar
- International Association of Privacy Professionals (IAPP)

Education

- University of Georgia (LL.M., 1994)
- Vrije Universiteit Brussel (J.D., 1992)

Languages

- Dutch
- English
- French

Admitted to Practice

- Antwerp and Brussels, Belgium