

# Frederieke Leeflang

## Special Advisor



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## Overview

Frederieke Leeflang is Special Advisor to Dentons Boekel.

Frederieke was the Chair of the Board of Directors of Boekel from 2011 to 2015. She has been working for the Amsterdam office since 1994, and has been a partner since 1 January 2002. Her practice concentrates on advising and litigating on behalf of companies and associations of undertakings before the Netherlands Authority for Consumers and Markets, the European Commission and the Dutch civil courts. She regularly advises on matters involving infringement, cartel bans, abuse of dominant positions and merger control. She has a great deal of experience in advising organizations on emerging collaborations and strategic alliances, and the evolving legal implications from competition law. Furthermore, she has specific expertise in private enforcement actions and is an expert in the health care sector. She also advises companies on European law, including state aid and public procurement.

## Experience

- **Food company:** Leading the immunity leniency application and procedure at the European Commission.
- **Purchasing organization in the food sector and white goods and electronics sector:** Providing compliance audits, advise and board room counseling on competition matters.
- **Large international airline:** Providing strategic advice and assistance in its defense of cartel damage claims.
- **Several clients in the healthcare sector:** Advising several leading teaching hospitals on their strategic alliances and mergers.
- **Belgian flour company:** Assisting in a cartel investigation and appeal procedure before the Dutch administrative court.
- **CEO of a holding company:** Assisting in a cartel investigation where the CEO was personally involved.
- **Damage actions:** Representing several companies and foundations either from the defense or claimant side

in relation to claims for damages caused by a cartel brought before Dutch civil courts. Advising primarily on the strategic litigation approach and settlements.

- **Various clients:** Advising on competition law aspects in contracts.
- **Various clients:** Providing merger control advice.

## Recognition

- *Chambers* 2018: Frederieke Leeftang is recognised by clients as an "expert on competition law."
- *Chambers* 2017: "Sources praise her "reliable and strategic thinking" as well as her strong networking skills."
- *Legal500* 2017: Frederieke Leeftang "creative and solution-driven"
- Recommended by *Global Competition Review* 2016 and 2015: "Leeftang is one of the top competition lawyers in the Netherlands for healthcare matters, but her practice covers the full remit of competition law. The firm is active in follow-on damages litigation and acts for several Deutsche Bahn entities in claims against 11 companies that participated in the pre-stressed steel cartel. It also represents Vestel Group in its damages claim against members of the cathode ray tube cartel, and defends Japan Airlines and ENI in separate third-party damages proceedings arising out of the respective air cargo and paraffin wax decisions. The firm advised Klaas Puul, the second-largest producer and wholesaler of seafood in northwest Europe, on its immunity application to the European Commission and other national competition authorities to avoid liability for anticompetitive behaviour between wholesalers. It also provides ongoing merger control advice to Turkish multinational Zorlu Holding; and compliance advice to Superunie, a wholesale purchasing cooperative of 14 supermarket companies."
- *Chambers Europe*: Ranked in Band 2 as an individual lawyer.
- *Chambers Europe* 2016: Clients said: "The service provided is always quick, and the lawyers are good at putting very complicated matters in the most simple way so that they are easy to understand."
- *Chambers Europe* 2015: Managing partner Frederieke Leeftang receives excellent market feedback, with sources saying she is "client-oriented and focused on the targets."
- *Chambers Europe* 2014: "She is very experienced and her knowledge of the healthcare industry is outstanding."
- *Legal500* 2014: Frederieke Leeftang has "a detailed understanding of competition law and is able to explain difficult concepts in a clear manner".
- *Chambers Europe* 2013: A client remarks: "We're very impressed by Frederieke - she's very intelligent and able to communicate well with all sides. She helps us see the steps ahead."
- *Legal500* 2013: Practice head Frederieke Leeftang is "knowledgeable, well connected and has an ability to level with board members on issues".
- In 2013 Frederieke was included in the Expert Guide 'Women in Business Law' by *Legal Media Group*.
- *Chambers* 2012: Frederieke Leeftang is a well-regarded competition lawyer with a number of hospitals and healthcare organizations on her client roster. "She's a unique combination of a very competent lawyer who is also capable of handling everyone in the boardroom."
- *Legal500* 2012: "business-oriented and creative" practice head Frederieke Leeftang is highly regarded in the healthcare sector [...].
- *Chambers Europe* 2010: "Frederieke Leeftang is a client favourite and enjoys a growing status among peers, who praise her litigation skills. Her inside knowledge of the competition authority, which she obtained while working for its legal department, lends her practice a particular edge."

- *Legal 500* 2010 praises Frederieke Leeftang for her "accurate support and a good understanding of the market".
- In 2010, Frederieke Leeftang was named 'Competition Legal Adviser of the Year in the Netherlands'.

## Insights

- Co-author, "De richtlijn betreffende schadevorderingen wegens inbreuken op het mededingingsrecht - gevolgen voor de praktijk", *Tijdschrift Mededingingsrecht in de Praktijk*, May 2015
- Co-author, "Onderschat fusie niet - stakeholdermanagement essentieel", *Boardroom Zorg*, March 2014
- "Zorgspecifieke fusietoets leidt tot onnodige vertraging", *Boardroom Zorg*, January 2014
- Co-author, "De onbegrensde mogelijkheden van benadeelden", *Geschriften vanwege de Vereniging Corporate Litigation 2012-2013*, May 2013
- Co-author, "Private Antitrust Litigation in the Netherlands – 2013", *Global Competition Review* 2013
- Co-author, "Private Antitrust Litigation 2012", *Law Business Research Ltd*, 2011
- Co-author, "Private Antitrust Litigation 2011", *Global Competition Review*, October 2010
- Co-author, "Private enforcement of competition law: a Dutch perspective", *The In-House Lawyer*, June 2009
- Co-author, "NMa richtsnoeren voor de zorgsector nader beschouwd", *Markt & Mededinging*, August 2008

## Activities and Affiliations

### Presentations

- Lecturer at various training institutes such as the Women Leadership Program for the development and retention of female talent in the legal profession, as well as a member of the Round Table "Top Women in the Legal Profession"
- Lecturer at the Dutch Bar Association, Elsevier, Kluwer, and OSR
- Guest lecturer at the University of Utrecht and the Radboud University Nijmegen

### Memberships

- Board Member of the Netherlands Association for Competition Law
- Member of the Dutch Bar Association
- Member of the Supervisory Board of ABN AMRO Group N.V. and ABN AMRO Bank N.V.
- Member of the Audit Advisory Committee of Algemene Rekenkamer (Dutch Audit Chamber)
- Member of the Board of De Amsterdamsche Kring (welfare of the city of Amsterdam)
- Member of the Supervisory Board of KWF Kankerbestrijding (Dutch Cancer Foundation)
- Chair of the Advisory Board of CIZ (healthcare sector)
- Vice-Chair of the AmsterdamDiner Foundation (Aids foundation)
- Vice-Chair of the Supervisory Board Onderwijsstichting Zelfstandige Gymnasia (education sector)

# Areas of focus

## Practices

- EU Competition Law
- Litigation and Dispute Resolution
- Competition and Antitrust Litigation

## Industry sectors

- Life Sciences and Health Care
- Financial Institutions
- Government

## Education

- INSEAD, 2015, Advanced Management Program
- Harvard Business School, 2011, Leading Professional Service Firms
- University of Groningen, 1994, Private law and social economic law & corporate law
- University of Barcelona, 1993, Faculty of Law

## Admissions and qualifications

- Dutch Bar Association, 1994

## Languages

- Dutch
- English
- Portuguese