

# Our International Trust Advisory Services in Switzerland

Through our offices in Zurich and Geneva, we advise individuals, their trustees and other advisers on the establishment and administration of international trust and other asset holding structures.

Our team is well versed in providing trust and tax advice on international wealth holding structures. As the matters we work on are cross-border and multi-jurisdictional, we are acutely aware of the increasingly complex cross border tax and reporting requirements that affect our international clients.

Our experience covers the spectrum of legal and tax issues that may occur during the lifecycle of a trust structure, including the initial legal and tax advice, as well as advising on trust establishment, termination and restructuring issues.

We are increasingly asked to advise on the protection of our clients' personal, business and family wealth, ranging from the impact of matrimonial breakdown through to succession disputes and the appropriation of assets by foreign governments. Trusts and other similar asset-holding vehicles are often considered as a starting point. This is the intersection of private wealth and international structuring, where the choice not only of vehicle but also jurisdiction is vital, as is a deep understanding of structural requirements from a substance and governance perspective.

## Local expertise, international solutions

Our expert team in Switzerland are able to provide in-house advice covering a number of key private wealth hubs (the UK, Switzerland, the BVI and New Zealand) as well as the jurisdictions served by our international offices located worldwide.

In addition to our multi-jurisdictional trust advisory practice, our team in Switzerland has extensive experience of handling contentious trust matters and, where necessary, international trust litigation. We regularly coordinate cross-border disputes with our other offices and partner with other lawyers throughout the world.

## Our core litigation services include:

- Advising on international trust law and corresponding regulatory requirements linked to trust structures and/or trust assets located worldwide.
- The preparation of trust deeds as well as trust related documentation and trust accounts.
- The structuring of trusts including jurisdictional comparisons.
- The structuring of entities and assets connected to a trust structures such as companies, operating businesses and real estate.
- Assessing whether trust assets are appropriately structured from both an asset protection and succession perspective.
- Carrying out a trust "audit" to assess integrity from a structure or governance perspective.
- Advising on tax related issues for trustees and beneficiaries.
- UK, EU and Swiss regulatory requirements for trustees, settlors and/or beneficiaries.

Charles Russell Speechlys has a strong team of private client lawyers in its Zürich and Geneva offices, qualified in the UK and Switzerland, as well as other jurisdictions. "Being a dual-qualified team with insight into a broad range of businesses and individuals offers real commercial insight," explains a source, adding: **"CRS Switzerland is one of few firms able to provide seamless advice on UK and Swiss law, as well as regulatory and tax matters."** This source continues: "The team has a tremendous reputation and broad range of expertise."

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## Your Key Contacts



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