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| Johanna LiljaPartner, HelsinkiCorporate Investigations & Compliance, Data Protection, Digitalization & TMT, Dispute Resolution, Employment, Intellectual Property, Marketing & Consumer

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Johanna Lilja is a Helsinki-based Partner and Head of Roschier’s Data Protection practice. She regularly advises clients on all aspects of data protection and privacy from operational matters to implementation of EU General Data Protection Compliance programs.

Johanna is also specialized in intellectual property with a particular focus on patent litigation. Johanna has first and second chair trial experience of IP litigation before the Market Court, Helsinki District Court, Helsinki Court of Appeals and the Finnish Supreme Court. The matters have involved questions on infringement through equivalence, burden of proof, infringing acts, availability of preliminary injunctions and calculation of damages and reasonable compensation for use.  She also has extensive experience of acting in anti-counterfeiting enforcement cases.

Johanna also regularly advises clients on various employment law related issues, such as employee invention, trade secret and privacy matters.

In addition, Johanna specializes in various industry-specific regulatory and marketing issues, with a focus on the pharmaceutical, medical device and healthcare sectors, and she has advised clients in a number of administrative appeal proceedings. She also has experience from various compliance cases, internal investigations and audits relating to data protection, anti-bribery, FCPA compliance and marketing.

Johanna’s experience includes working for Nokia Corporation and Pfizer Oy as a visiting lawyer. She is President of the Finnish AIPPI Group and a member of international AIPPI’s Standing Committee on Client Attorney Privilege and Standing Committee on Pharma and Biotech. Johanna is a member of the working group assembled by the Central Chamber of Commerce of Finland to draft the Finnish IT2018 standard contract terms and conditions.

Johanna frequently writes and lectures on topics relating to IPR, data protection, marketing and compliance issues. She is a certified CIPP/E (Certified Information Privacy Professional / Europe, IAPP 2015).

Recognitions

Johanna Lilja is the exclusive winner of the International Law Office (ILO) Client Choice Award 2017 for the Internet & IT category in Finland. She is also recognized as a leading expert in Finland in the areas of IP (including patent and design litigation), life sciences and TMT/information technology by international legal directories such as Chambers Europe/Global, The Legal 500, Managing IP (IP Stars) and Lexology Index (formerly Who’s Who Legal).

This is what clients say about Johanna:

“Johanna is fantastic because she is always approachable, on top of the case and hands-on. She knows every detail, and her pleading in court is strong.”

– Chambers Global 2025, Intellectual Property

“Johanna Lilja is a strong performer.”

– Chambers Global 2025, Intellectual Property

“Johanna Lilja is well known as a patent litigator.”

– Chambers Europe 2025, TMT: Data Protection

“Johanna Lilja is fantastic. She is extremely approachable and always on top of things. She offers short reaction times.”

– Chambers Global 2024, Intellectual Property

“Johanna has an excellent knowledge base on all IP-related topics. She knows everybody and is generally appreciated by the industry, courts and colleagues.”

– Chambers Global 2024, Intellectual Property

“Johanna Lilja is very thorough and knowledgeable, and very nice to work with.”

– The Legal 500 2024, Intellectual Property

“Alongside a clear focus on commercial objectives, Johanna Lilja is well versed in relevant legal frameworks. She is skilled in identifying legal solutions that fit the best in each circumstance.”

– IAM Patent 1000 2024

“She is hands-on, responsive and very good to work with.”

– Chambers Global 2023, Intellectual Property

“Johanna Lilja is very thorough in her work and very skilled.”

– The Legal 500 2023, Intellectual Property

“Partner Johanna Lilja stands out as an inspirational leader in the team.”

– The Legal 500 2023, TMT

“Exceptionally service minded with a brilliant grasp of clientele and their relevant industries.”

– IAM Patent 1000 2023

“An outstanding lawyer with sound legal thinking and robust arguments, does mostly litigation assignments that involve telecommunications, pharmaceuticals and industrial design mandates.”

– IAM Patent 1000 2023

Work highlights

Johanna Lilja’s experience includes advising:

As the Finnish counsel to Nokia in the patent litigation project resulting in the settlement with Apple;

Several innovative pharmaceutical companies in patent litigations before the civil courts in Finland. The matters have involved questions on infringement through equivalence, burden of proof, infringing acts, preliminary injunctions and calculation of damages;

Clients in all aspects of data privacy matters, including GDPR compliance projects, cross-border outsourcing of personal data and employee privacy questions in a variety of contexts. Advising consumer businesses with privacy issues linked with marketing campaigns, loyalty programs and profiling. Advising pharmaceutical and healthcare companies in relation to processing of sensitive personal data. Acting as lead counsel for Nordic clients, and as a local counsel for global companies in roll-out of global privacy policies and their enforcement;

A number of brand owners with enforcement of their well known trademarks. Regularly assisting various brand owners in customs seizures and anti-counterfeiting cases;

Various pharmaceutical companies before the Supreme Administrative Court relating to appeals over regulatory authorities’ administrative decisions;

A global pharmaceutical company in their M&A and restructuring activities in Finland.

Career

Roschier (2004-), Partner since 2013

Pfizer Oy, Visiting Lawyer (2010-2011)

Nokia Multimedia, Visiting lawyer (2007)

Memberships

Member of the Finnish Bar Association

Member of AIPPI

President of the Finnish AIPPI Group

Member of the Finnish Anti-Counterfeiting Group

Member of the Finnish Association for Industrial Property Rights (STY)

Member of the International Trademark Association (INTA)

Member of the International Association of Privacy Professionals (IAPP)

Professional appointments

AIPPI Client Attorney Privilege Committee, Member

AIPPI Pharma and Biotechnology Committee, Member

AIPPI Finland, Secretary (2006-2011), Board member (2012-), Vice Chairman (2017-)

Member of the working group assembled by the Central Chamber of Commerce of Finland to draft the Finnish IT2018 standard contract terms and conditions (2017-)

Representative of the Finnish Bar Association in a working group appointed by the Finnish Ministry of Justice relating to the enforcement of the Council of Europe Convention on counterfeiting of medical products and similar crimes involving threats to public health (2013-2014)

Finnish Anti-Counterfeiting Group, Board member (2006-2008; 2010-2014), Vice Chairman (2010-2014)

EPLAW Patent Blog, Member of the Editorial Board

Kluwer Patent Cases Database, Reporter for Finland

Publications

Chapter**“Henkilötietojen käsittely (EHK)”**in IT2018 – Käytännön käsikirja, Kauppakamari 2018

**“Sivullisen tiedonantovelvollisuus verotusmenettelyssä ja henkilötietojen suoja”**(“Disclosure obligation of a third party in taxation procedure and protection of personal data”), in Defensor Legis 3/2018

**Finnish chapterin The International Comparative Legal Guide to: Pharmaceutical Advertising**, co-author Mikael Segercrantz, Global Legal Group 2008-2009, 2011, 2013-2015

**Finnish chapter in The Life Sciences Law Review**, Law Business Research 2013

**“Kuluttajien profilointi markkinointitarkoituksiin”**(“Profiling of Consumers for Marketing Purposes”) in Defensor Legis 2/2013

**“Data Protection in Finland: Overview”**in Practical Law Global Guide to Data Protection, Thomson Reuters 2013, 2014-2015, 2015-2016 (latest edition co-authors Jori Jokinen and Suvi Laes)

**“Due Diligence -toimeksianto ja asianajajayhtiön korvausvastuu”**(“A Due Diligence assignment and the liability of a law firm”) in Oikeustiede-Jurisprudentia 2004: XXXVII, p. 45

**Finnish chapter in Enforcement of Intellectual Property Rights through Border Measures**, Oxford University Press, second edition 2012

**Finnish chapter in Trade Mark Litigation – Jurisdictional comparisons**, editors Thierry Calame and Massimo Sterpi, The European Lawyer 2008

Education

University of Helsinki, LL.M. (2004)

Languages

English, Finnish, Swedish