

## **Olivier DUGARDYN (Founding Partner)**

Olivier Dugardyn's practice focuses on national and international corporate law, mergers and acquisitions, antitrust matters, unfair competition, distribution law, e-commerce, financial law and commercial litigation. Olivier is also considered a leading expert in the travel and tourism industry and counsels both small and international travel groups, national and international associations, hotel and resort chains, airlines, cruise companies, on-line agencies, and governments. He is regularly appointed as arbitrator or mediator in this field, and is President of the Ministry of Economic Affairs Disputes Committee for the Travel Industry.

Olivier has published several articles on selected legal topics and has been a speaker at various universities and numerous seminars and conventions both in Europe and around the world.

He has been a member of the Brussels Bar since 1988.

His clients include both national and international corporations and organizations. He also serves as counsel to several European trade associations, in various industries, in their dealings with the European Commission.

He is very active on the Chinese legal market and is a member of several related associations.

Mr Dugardyn speaks Dutch, French and English and has a working knowledge of German.

### **PERSONAL DATA**

Born in Bruges, Belgium, on June 23, 1965

Nationality: Belgian

Married, father to four children

### **EDUCATION**

- HEC St. Louis, Brussels, financial management, 1989.
- Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, law degree, 1988.

### **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

- March 2005: DUGARDYN & Partners (founding partner)
- 1995 – 2005: DELPORTE DUGARDYN de THIER & LEFEVBRE, (founding partner)
- 2003 – 2004: THOMPSON HINE LLP (USA)(Of Counsel)
- 1989 – 1995 CRUYPLANTS ELOY HUPIN (senior associate)
- 1991: Associate with PRESTON (San Francisco & Oakland, USA) and DONOVAN LAW OFFICES (Los Angeles, USA)
- 1989: – 1990: Legal advisor to the CPND (a liaison office between NATO and the Belgian Prime Minister)
- 1989: Advisor to Minister Jos CHABERT (Government Brussels Capital Region)
- 1988 – 1989: VAN WAEG VANDERLEENEN WECKX (associate)

### **BAR ADMISSION**

Brussels Bar (1988)

#### **OTHER POSITIONS**

- President, Belgian Disputes Committee for the Travel Industry
- President, International Juris Consult Alliance (JCA), Cologne (2001-2003)
- Expert designated by the Ministry of Economic Affairs for the task force Unfair Terms in the Travel Industry (2004)

### **MEMBERSHIPS**

- European Aviation Club
- American Chamber of Commerce
- Executive Club

- Belgian-Chinese Chamber of Commerce
- VLIES (Shanghai)

#### **PUBLICATIONS**

- “De Reisovereenkomst”, Kluwer, 1996
- “Wanneer handelt de reisbemiddelaar als reisorganisator”, D.C.C.R., 2001
- Bijvoorbeeld, Kluwer (regular contributions)
- Numerous articles in trade publications of the European travel industry

#### **PRESENTATIONS**

- Duke University School of Law, summer program
- Facultés Universitaires Catholiques de Mons
- Katholieke Universiteit Leuven (KUL)
- Co-organizer of a seminar in Guangzhou, China about business practices in Europe (in the framework of the Belgian Economic Mission, November 2004)
- Co-organizer of a seminar in Brussels in April 2004, “Business & Investment in China: Legal & Practical Aspect
- Numerous seminars and presentations regarding the travel and hotel business in Europe and worldwide
- Numerous presentations with regard to business practices and M&A in China, and with regard to the double taxation treaty between Hong Kong and Belgium
- Co-organizer of two seminars on the Chinese/European travel and airline industry, Beijing, Shanghai June 2007 (on the occasion of the Prince Mission to China).