

REPORT | DECEMBER 2020

LEGAL TECH HUB VIENNA



D O R D A EISENBERGER+HERZOG **HERBST KINSKY** schönherr  **SCWP SCHINDHELM**



WHAT'S UP, 2020?

Wrapping up an exciting year.



This year has been extraordinary in every (un)thinkable way. However, even with a pandemic breathing down our neck, we can end the year successfully. There have been many good and exciting news throughout the past few months and we'd like to take a moment and share them with you. Please take your time to scroll through the next few pages and read about our accelerator programme, new partners, activities and visions.

Enjoy!

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Welcoming Note

WE ARE LEGAL TECH.

At the Legal Tech Hub Vienna, we constantly strive to improve workflows for the legal professions and thus enable them to achieve more in their everyday business life. We are aware that partnerships with innovative minds in the legal tech field can and will benefit our network, which is why we actively engage with (potential) legal tech partners as a part of our strategy.

In November 2018, the Legal Tech Hub Vienna was launched by some of Austria's biggest law firms. Today, more than 2 years later, we look back to a very successful history including (but not limited to) 3 accelerator batches, a huge network in CEE, more than 10 new partners onboard, an amendment to Austria's cloud regulation. Our key mission is to create

added value for the members of the LTHV network and plan our activities accordingly. After receiving very good feedback over the last two years, it has been and still is clear for us to continue our legal tech journey – which we did, despite the pandemic that has put many projects on hold ever since spring this year. We at the Legal Tech Hub Vienna, however, are determined to innovate, which is why we came up with solutions even in situations as crazy as today.

Of course, these achievements would not be possible without the engagement of our members that not only work intensively with the LTHV Start-ups throughout the accelerator programme, but also dedicate their time and effort to other LTHV projects. The exchange and cooperation within our network as well as with the LTHV Start-ups creates a working environment which promotes collaboration, creativity and entrepreneurial spirit. Our su-

ccess did not go unnoticed and had a positive impact on the number of applications to our accelerator programme as well as our partner network.

Thanks to the high involvement of our network and the high quality of our programme, we were able to build the LTHV brand in the DACH region.

This report provides you with an overview of our accelerator programme as well as our other activities in 2020. At the same time, it outlines our visions for further development of the legal sector in CEE. With our strong footprint in the DACH region, we are the perfect partner for every legal tech start-up or (law) firm wanting to deepen their standing in the legal (tech) sector.

We are well aware of the opportunities that exist in our markets and strive to be the go-to partner for legal techs in CEE. ◀

Innovation is unlimited.

NEW LTHV PARTNERS

It started with the simple vision to bring innovation to the legal world in Austria. With rising numbers of clients focussing on future trends, the race to digitalisation clashed with the tradition of Austria's law firms. The industry was at a crossroads asking the age old question: adapt or perish?

Growth in 2019

For the leading legal minds there was only one answer and this was innovation. The initiators of the LTHV - **DORDA Rechtsanwälte GmbH**, **Eisenberger & Herzog Rechtsanwälts GmbH**, **Herbst Kinsky Rechtsanwälte GmbH**, **SCWP Schindhelm Rechtsanwälte GmbH** and **Schönherr Rechtsanwälte GmbH** - were soon joined by other pioneers who share their views on innovation. Already in 2019, very soon after the foundation of the LTHV, the first new partners were welcomed to the network. In addi-

tion to several cooperation partners, the tax consultancy firm **TPA** joined as a platinum partner, followed by solo attorney **Michael Lanzinger**, who decided on a gold membership: at LTHV the possibilities are limitless.

2020 - LTHV crosses Borders

In 2020, the LTHV grew even more rapidly: the year started with three new companies joining the LTHV network. While **MANZ'sche Verlags- und Universitätsbuchhandlung GmbH** and **XPERT Business Solutions GmbH** were the first companies to join the LTHV lab partnership, the entry of **Deutsche Telekom AG** as second platinum member initiated the LTHV's growth beyond Austria's borders. Later in 2020, the LTHV was joined by the second solo attorney: **Mag Sylvia Unger Rechtsanwälte**.

The existing LTHV members as well as its founders are very pleased by this development:



“ Having international partners shows that legal tech is a dominant topic across national borders and offers both the accelerator start-ups and LTHV members an important platform to promote the digitisation of the legal industry. Increasing efficiency and customer orientation are among the overriding goals of the LTHV. ”

- the LTHV board members Stefan Artner (DORDA), Philipp Kinsky (HERBST KINSKY) and Gudrun Stangl (SCHOENHERR)



Featured in Juve

DEUTSCHE TELEKOM SCHLIESST SICH LEGAL TECH HUB AN

Der Legal Tech Hub Vienna (LTHV) gewinnt einen Großkonzern als Partner: Die Rechtsabteilung der Deutschen Telekom schließt sich dem Zusammenschluss von fünf österreichischen Kanzleien an, um die Digitalisierung in der Branche mitzugestalten. Wie es zu diesem Schritt kam, erläutern im Gespräch mit JUVE Dr. Peter Schichl, Head of Legal Services Technology & Procurement und Chief Legal Tech Officer, sowie Dr. Axel Lützner, Leiter Legal M&A & Corporate Finance.

JUVE: Warum schließt sich die Rechtsabteilung der Deutschen Telekom dem Legal Tech Hub Vienna als Partnerin an?

Axel Lützner: Wir halten den Legal Tech Hub in Wien für eine Initiative, die für die gesamte europäische Rechtsbranche sehr hilfreich und wichtig ist. Bei dieser Entwicklung wollen wir mit vorne dabei sein und Impulse geben. Wie sich der Hub entwickelt, verfolgen wir seit seiner Gründung. Und das hat uns beeindruckt.

Wie entstand der Kontakt?

Lützner: Die Leiterin der Rechtsabteilung unserer Tochter Magenta Telekom, der früheren T-Mobile Austria, Anja Tretbar-Bustorf stellte den für uns vor Ort her. Das war ein sehr offener Austausch. Für uns ist auch günstig, dass Wien geografisch in der Mitte unserer Europaaktivitäten liegt. So können slowakische oder ungarische Kollegen ebenfalls von dem Engagement profitieren.

Hatten Sie im Vorfeld Erfahrung mit Start-ups?

Peter Schichl: Ja, wir hatten in verschiedenen Konstellationen mit Jungunternehmen zu tun, unter anderem über einen Inkubator in Berlin. Ein Zugang zu Entwicklern in der Legal-Tech-Szene ist uns also wichtig, auch aufgrund unserer eigenen Digitalisierungsstrategie. Eine direkte Beteiligung an einem Start-up dagegen erscheint uns eher riskant, weil wir nur auf eine Idee setzen würden.



Axel Lützner
Deutsche Telekom



Peter Schichl
Deutsche Telekom

“ —

Der LTHV ist eine Initiative, die wir für die gesamte europäische Rechtsbranche für sehr hilfreich und wichtig erachten. Wir verfolgen die Entwicklung des LTHV seit seiner Gründung. Und sie beeindruckt uns. Wir freuen uns daher sehr über unsere LTHV-Partnerschaft.

— ”
- Axel Lützner (Deutsche Telekom)

Was macht für Sie den Legal Tech Hub aus?

Schichl: Dass aktuell fünf Kanzleien und verschiedene weitere Partner zusammenarbeiten, das ist ziemlich einzigartig. Auch die Strahlkraft mit Unternehmen aus der ganzen Welt, die sich um die Plätze im Accelerator bewerben, ist besonders. Außerdem sind das Konzept und die Umsetzung sehr praxis- und kundenorientiert. Das Programm ist deshalb wirklich sehr förderlich – sowohl für Start-ups als auch für Kanzleien, öffentliche Institutionen und Firmen.

Wie sieht das Engagement der Deutschen Telekom als Platin-Partner konkret aus?

Lützner: Wir sind in den Accelerator und die Jury eingebunden und bringen damit unsere Sicht und unsere Ideen ein, auch bei der Auswahl der Start-ups. Wenn die aktuellen Reisebeschränkungen fallen, könnten wir uns auch vorstellen, eine Phase des Accelerator Programms in Bonn zu machen. Eine konkrete Erwartung oder einen bestimmten Zeithorizont gibt es nicht. Wir wollen vor allem mitgestalten.



THE LTHV NETWORK

Founders

D O R D A

EISENBERGER+HERZOG
RECHTSANWALTS GMBH

HERBST KINSKY

schönherr

SCWP
SCHINDHELM

tpa

T . . .

Platinum

Lab

MANZ
Wir digitalisieren Recht.

XPERT
kompetenz ist programm

Gold

ML

SYLVIA UNGER
Rechtsanwältin

Cooperation

 **universität
wien**
Department of Innovation
and Digitalisation in Law

 **universität
innsbruck**
Rechtswissenschaftliche
Fakultät

TU
WIEN
TECHNISCHE
UNIVERSITÄT
WIEN

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RECHTSANWÄLTE**

I.E.C.T.
HERMANN HAUSER

**DIE WIENER
RECHTSANWÄLTE** 

*Implemented
by* **FUTURE-LAW**



Who is who? MEET THE FACES BEHIND LTHV

Board



Stefan Artner
DORDA



Philipp Kinsky
Herbst Kinsky



Gudrun Stangl
schoenherr

Jury



Bernhard Heinzl
DORDA



Clemens Lanschützer
Eisenberger Herzog



Phillip Dubsky
Herbst Kinsky



Peter Schichl
Deutsche Telekom



Thomas Kulnigg
schoenherr



Philipp Reinisch
SCWP Schindhelm



Veronika Seitweger
tpa

Team



Sophie Martinetz
Future-Law



Margarita Schuster
Future-Law



Dora Bertrandt
Future-Law



Julian Melbinger
Future-Law

*Mentors
and more*



Axel Lützner
Deutsche Telekom



Alric Ofenheimer
Eisenberger Herzog



David Pachernegg
Herbst Kinsky



Thomas Ruhm
SCWP Schindhelm



Andrei Salajan
schoenherr



Andreas Lenzenweger
SCWP Schindhelm



Helmut Beer
tpa



Wolfgang Pichler
MANZ Verlag



Vladan Katanic
jurXPERT



Sylvia Unger
Unger Rechtsanwälte



Michael Lanzinger
Rechtsanwalt Lanzinger



Mathias Knafl
Eisenberger Herzog



Harald Matzinger
schoenherr



Andreas Pichler
tpa



Thomas Strayhammer
schoenherr



Marie-Luise Pugl
DORDA



Markus Buchleitner
DORDA



Constantin Benes
schoenherr



Michael Holzmannhofer
schoenherr

Thank you!

WOLFGANG PICHLER | MANZ VERLAG*Why the Future is ours to mold*

The Business Development and Digitalisation Director at MANZ, Austria's oldest legal publishing house and LTHV Lab Partner talks about the future of the legal industry and the challenges ahead.

How do you see the future?

I have a positive view of the future for our industry, even if nobody can say exactly what it will look like. Adaptability will be required, as well as courage and competence to maintain innovative strength in changing situations. But the general conditions for the legal industry are not bad, since the pandemic and the social changes that followed it have given rise to numerous new legal issues.

What does innovation mean to you?

Innovation means "renewal". In this sense, it means first listening to the customers and constantly adapting and developing products and services. This naturally includes internal processes. But there is a second component of innovation, and that is "thinking beyond the borders." Both must be reflected in the company.

How is innovation lived at MANZ?

Multiplex. The impetus for innovation comes from management, product management, from our software company Manz Solutions, from sales and hotline, and - we are particularly pleased about this - increasingly from employee groups. As we are very broadly based, from content products such as the RDB to infrastructure such as the lawyer-safe Manz Cloud, there is no uniform process. And there's also no fixed meeting after the moth "Let's be creative for the next 90 minutes."

What does MANZ bring to the LTHV?

First and foremost, we can contribute our market experience. Most of the younger companies lack the connection to the reality of direct sales. Currently, we actively support the participants of the LTHV by opening our customer magazine "Recht Aktuell" for them and thus

**MANZ** 

- Sophie Martinetz (Future-Law)

making them known to a broad legal public. And then our broad portfolio offers various starting points for common projects.

What challenges are there in the cooperation with start-ups?

Many believe that the innovator's dilemma, in which every grown organization is caught, can be avoided or overcome by working with start-ups. But that's a bit of a short thought; not every employee responsible for a legacy product is spontaneously excited about new ideas or approaches that are brought in from outside. Sometimes, that's my impression, expectations are also somewhat unspecified: Brand values and the associated quality standards, existing customer relationships and copyright barriers can be serious hurdles. However, the resource issue is crucial: from the perspective of the established company, cooperation can only work if the appropriate resources are made available in the organization.

"Innovation means 'renewal'. It means first listening to the customers and constantly adapting and developing products and services. The second component of innovation is 'thinking beyond the borders.' Both must be reflected in the company."

- Wolfgang Pichler (MANZ)

Do you believe that Europe will be fragmented in terms of technology?

What is the future: pan-European or regional solutions? As far as infrastructure issues are concerned, I think Europe missed the boat. At the application level, I believe that regional, language area-specific solutions have a chance, because the language areas correlate with the legal systems in some way.

What does the "MANZ-Red" of the future look like?

MANZ will continue to wear its traditional color, the legally protected Manz Red, with pride. The color will continue to uphold our values such as quality, respect and sustainability. But at the same time the color will also document the change, as the products and services behind it will be digital to an even greater extent.

Simultaneously we assume that a relevant basic stock of printed specialist information will very likely remain. Ultimately, the color will also be the anchor for employees who will no longer meet their team members and managers regularly in persona if a relevant part of their working time is spent in the home office.

What are the demands on lawyers in the 21st century?

The most important requirement is to continue being an excellent lawyer. This is often forgotten in the discussion about "coding". At the same time, lawyers need a functional understanding of technology and will be required to follow developments so that they can estimate how they might influence their clients' processes. Ultimately - and this is perhaps the biggest change - they will have to be prepared to constantly adapt their own business to the changes that their clients are making; this may be a focus of activity or fee models or the industrialisation of legal services provided. But they will not have to master any programming language.

- Sophie Martinetz (Future-Law)



MICHAEL MEIXNER | XPERT BUSINESS SOLUTIONS

Was bringt die Zukunft?

Michael Meixner, Geschäftsführer von XPERT Business Solutions, Legal Tech Big Player und LTHV Lab Partner, erzählt über Veränderung, Herausforderungen und die Zukunft.

Welche Strategie verfolgen Sie als etablierter Big Player in Hinblick auf eine erfolgreiche Zusammenarbeit mit Start-Ups?

Bei unseren Entscheidungen richten wir das Hauptaugenmerk stets auf die Zufriedenheit unserer KundInnen. Sofern ihnen Start-Up Produkte/Services einen Vorteil bieten und eine Anbindung/Integration an unsere Lösungen einen zusätzlichen Mehrwert ergeben, vereinbaren wir gerne eine Kooperation. Das ist eine klassische Win-Win Situation. Die Start-Ups erhalten über unsere 5.000 XPERT und medix KundInnen im juristischen Sektor sowohl in Österreich als auch in 20 weiteren Ländern Zugang zum besagten Markt. Im Gegenzug können wir dadurch die Erwartung unserer KundInnen erfüllen und im besten Fall sogar übertreffen. Aktuell unterstützen wir bereits Start-Ups – wie beispielsweise im Rahmen des Legal Tech Hub Vienna – mit Beratungsgesprächen und Tipps, die auf unserer jahrelangen Expertise basieren. Aus unserer Sicht ist ein kooperativer Ansatz, der das Spektrum von kundInnenseitigen Anforderungen möglichst großflächig abdeckt, die beste Strategie für die Zukunft – sowohl für unsere KundInnen als auch für uns als Softwarehersteller.

Was bringt die Zukunft?

„Legal Tech“ ist für die meisten JuristInnen mittlerweile zu einem sehr bekannten Begriff geworden. Da dies bis vor einigen Jahren noch nicht der Fall noch nicht der Fall war, begrüßen wir diese Entwicklung sehr. Unserem Eindruck nach sind in kurzer Zeit viele neue Produkte auf dem Markt erschienen, wobei die KundInnen nicht ausreichend Zeit hatten, sich mit dem schnell wachsenden Angebot auch auseinanderzusetzen. Wir sehen uns als Softwarehersteller daher unseren KundInnen gegenüber in der Pflicht, bei der Auswahl weiterer unterstützender Produkte beratend zur Seite zu stehen und haben bei entsprechenden Anfragen bereits den

Kontakt zwischen unseren KundInnen und Start-Ups hergestellt sowie Integrationen und Schnittstellen zu einigen dieser Produkte ermöglicht. Zusätzlich unterstützen wir unsere KundInnen bei Themen wie der Investitionsprämie und Digitalisierung.

Welche Systeme benötigen AnwältInnen in der Zukunft?

Die Situation rund um COVID-19 hat uns alle dazu gezwungen das Thema Arbeitserbringung zu überdenken. Wie soll, kann & muss diese in Zukunft aussehen? Viele Themen, die in der Theorie besprochen wurden, aber nicht als essentiell eingestuft wurden, sind es von heute auf morgen schlagartig geworden. Datenräume für MandantInnen, sicherer dezentraler Datenzugriff, Konferenzsysteme und Videotelefonie sind nur einige Beispiele. Im Prinzip lautet die Frage, welches technische Hilfsmittel kann bzw. welche Kombination von technischen Hilfsmitteln können mich am besten unterstützen, möglichst effizient und somit auch effektiv alle notwendigen Tätigkeiten eventuell sogar dezentral – somit räumlich und zeitlich unabhängig – zu erbringen und dabei preislich wettbewerbsfähig zu bleiben?

Was sind die Herausforderung in dieser spannenden Zeit?

Viele Unternehmen ermöglichen ihren Mitarbeitern bedingt durch COVID-19 eine dezentrale Arbeitsform, die bis vor wenigen Monaten für die meisten noch nicht vorstellbar war. Damit einhergehend muss neben den technischen Notwendigkeiten, wie einer entsprechenden Infrastruktur, auch die Unternehmenskultur an die neue Art des Arbeitens angepasst werden. Die Herausforderungen sind daher entsprechend vielfältig. Unser erklärtes Ziel ist es, mit unseren Lösungen dabei so zu unterstützen, dass sie ohne Qualitätseinbußen räumlich und zeitlich unabhängig arbeiten können.

Verändert Corona den Gebrauch von jurXPERT? Welche Challenge sehen Sie?

Wir verzeichnen eine erhöhte Anfrage jurXPERT außerhalb der Kanzlei / des Büros optimal nutzen zu können. Damit einher geht auch ein Anstieg der User, die sich unsere jurXPERT Mobilapplikationen für iOS und Android (Handy u. Tablet) als auch unsere Weblösung für das mobile Arbeiten wünschen. Da sich der Fokus unserer KundInnen verändert, verlagern dementsprechend auch wir unsere Schwerpunkte, um die Bedürfnisse unserer KundInnen bestmöglich bedienen zu können. Generell wird mehr Wert auf die dezentrale Arbeitsverrichtung gelegt. Die Herausforderungen sind zumeist technischer Natur, da man für externe Zugriffe auf die eigenen Server gewisse Voraussetzungen erfüllen muss ohne die eigene Sicherheit zu gefährden.

In kurzer Zeit erscheinen viele neue Produkte auf dem Markt, oft fehlt die Zeit, sich mit allen auseinanderzusetzen. Als Software-hersteller sehen wir uns KundInnen gegen-über in der Pflicht, bei der Auswahl weiterer unterstützender Produkte beratend zur Seite zu stehen.

- Michael Meixner (XPRT BUSINESS SOLUTIONS)

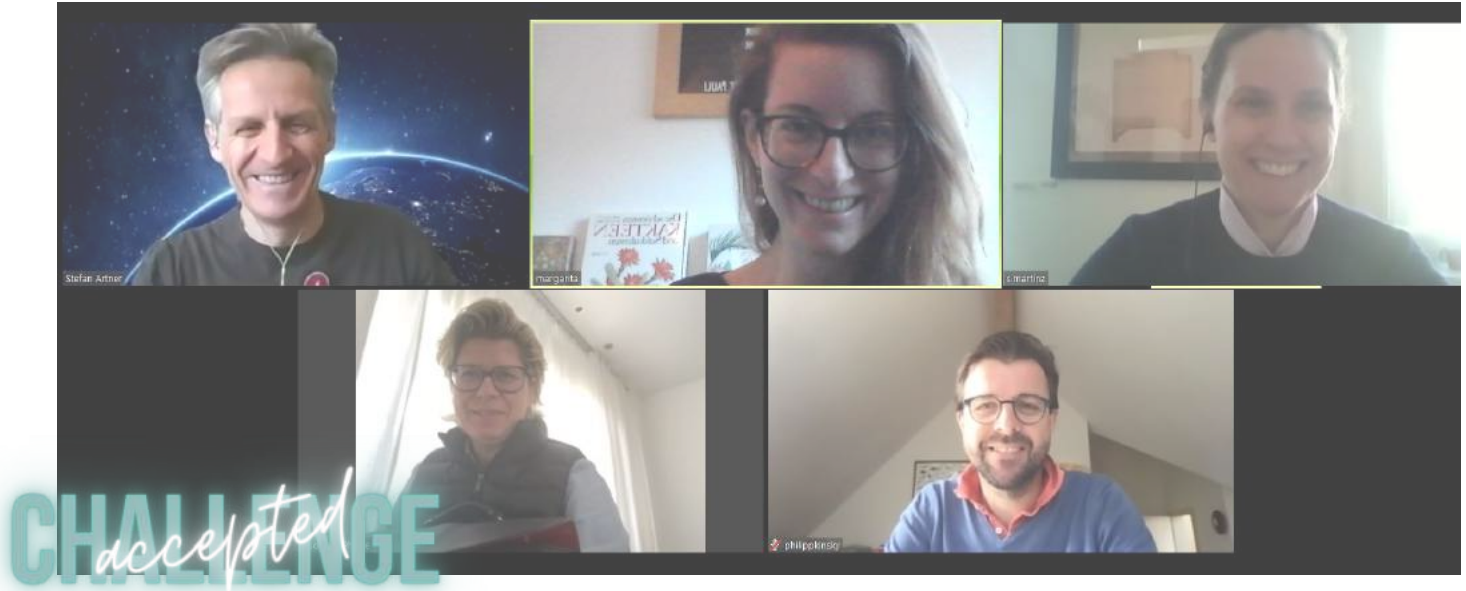
Warum LTHV - was stellen Sie den Start-Ups zur Verfügung?

Wir stehen Start-Ups gerne mit unserem Wissen zum österreichischen Markt zur Verfügung und vereinbaren auch Kooperationen, sofern deren Lösungen in Kombination mit jurXPERT einen Mehrwert für unsere KundInnen bieten. Wir wollen die Start-Up-Szene fördern und zugleich unseren KundInnen helfen, den Überblick über die große Auswahl und Vielfalt an neuen Lösungen zu behalten. Wir sehen die Zusammenarbeit mit Start-Ups als Bereicherung für alle Beteiligten an.

Mag. Dr. Martinetz (Future-Law)

An Accelerator in Times of a Pandemic

LTHV GOES VIRTUAL



The spread of the corona virus has changed many aspects of daily life. Law firms had to change their corporate headquarters for the comfort of a home office, Legal Tech went from interesting to necessary, and the LTHV Accelerator program was confronted with a question:

To be or not to be (digital)?

For us the answer was clear - the new Batch #3 was going to be digital. Despite the corona crisis, we at the Legal Tech Hub Vienna thus have been very active and continued our activities without any interruption. Our third round of the accelerator programme for legal tech start-ups started in May 2020. In view of the situation, the entire programme was transformed into a dynamic digital programme within a few weeks and then carried out fully digital throughout this year.

The interest of legal tech start-ups in joining the LTHV accelerator programme was also undiminished: we received 45 applications from 23 different countries. In a first digital "Challenge", the expert jury selected 6 instead of 5 start-ups that show the way for digital innovation.

An unforgettable experience

Even though Batch#3 was expected to provide a digital LTHV experience, it was important to maintain personal contact. Therefore the participants were welcomed with a

personal video message by the LTHV board and team members. In addition, the participants received a "welcome package" containing the most important components for an unforgettable LTHV experience - including a VR set, LTHV cubes and a Viennese gin, all of which to be used in the following months.

The programme contained a mixture of weekly video conferences with different experts, team building tasks using inter-

"The biggest challenge was to capture the essence of the programme's various formats. Judging by the feedback we received, I dare say we were successful."

- Sophie Martinetz (Future-Law)

interactive platforms, personalised coaching through serious gaming and an element of networking through entertaining virtual reality events with lawyers and participants.

Just what we were looking for

At the beginning it proved to be a challenge to find a balance between the different formats. But over time, a group dynamic developed and a simple communication flow established itself.

What was feared to be just another digital meeting eventually became an entertaining part of the week.

All in all, the transition was a great success, and now, at the end of the programme, participants said that LTHV was not only "just what we were looking for", but also "entertaining", "exciting" and "excellent". With positive feedback and new motivation LTHV is already working towards Batch #4.



An Overview in Numbers

LTHV ACCELERATOR BATCH#1: 24 APPLICATIONS

In a period of 4 weeks, 25 Start-ups from 10 Countries applied to be part of the LTHV Accelerator Programme. All development stages are represented - starting from scratch to revenues.

The services offered can be divided in more than 15 categories, including data processing, monitoring or contract management.

The application phase ended on 31st January 2019 at midnight. After a short-listing done by Future-Law, the top applicants were forwarded to the LTHV Jury.

6
Development
Stages

15+
Categories

10
Countries

5
Germany

5
Other

3
Romania

2
United
Kingdom

2
Denmark

8
Austria

Austria is the country where most applications were submitted from, followed by Germany, Romania, the United Kingdom and Denmark.

Brazil, Italy, Singapore, Switzerland and the USA submitted one application each.

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JAA\$PER DS
document services

Taxy.io

miso

Contractbook



An Overview in Numbers

LTHV ACCELERATOR BATCH#2: 25 APPLICATIONS

In a period of 5 weeks, 27 Start-ups from 18 Countries applied to be part of the LTHV Accelerator Programme. All development stages are represented - starting from scratch to revenues.

The services offered can be divided in more than 15 categories, including collaboration and virtualization tools, KYC and legal transaction platforms.

The application phase ended on 31st August 2019 at midnight. After a short-listing done by Future-Law, the top applicants were forwarded to the LTHV Jury.



The most applications were submitted by Start-ups having their seat in Austria. Germany or France, followed by Switzerland, the United Kingdom and Romania. Azerbaijan, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, Ireland, Israel, Ukraine, Luxembourg, Poland, Slovenia, Spain and the USA submitted one application each.





An Overview in Numbers

LTHV ACCELERATOR BATCH#3: 45 APPLICATIONS

In a period of 6 weeks, 45 Start-ups from 23 Countries applied to be part of the LTHV Accelerator Programme. All development stages are represented - starting from scratch to revenues.

The services offered can be divided in more than 9 categories, ranging from simple collaboration platforms to AI Assistants.

The application phase ended on 31st March at midnight. After a short-listing done by Future-Law, the top applicants will be forwarded to the LTHV Jury.

9+
Categories

6
Development
Stages



Germany is the country where most applications were submitted from, followed by Spain, Estonia, England, Austria, Russia, the Czech Republic and the Netherlands. The Number in each field relates to the number of applications submitted. Australia, Bulgaria, China, Croatia, Hungary, Ireland, Japan/USA, Kazakhstan, Malta, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Sweden, Ukraine and the USA submitted one application each.

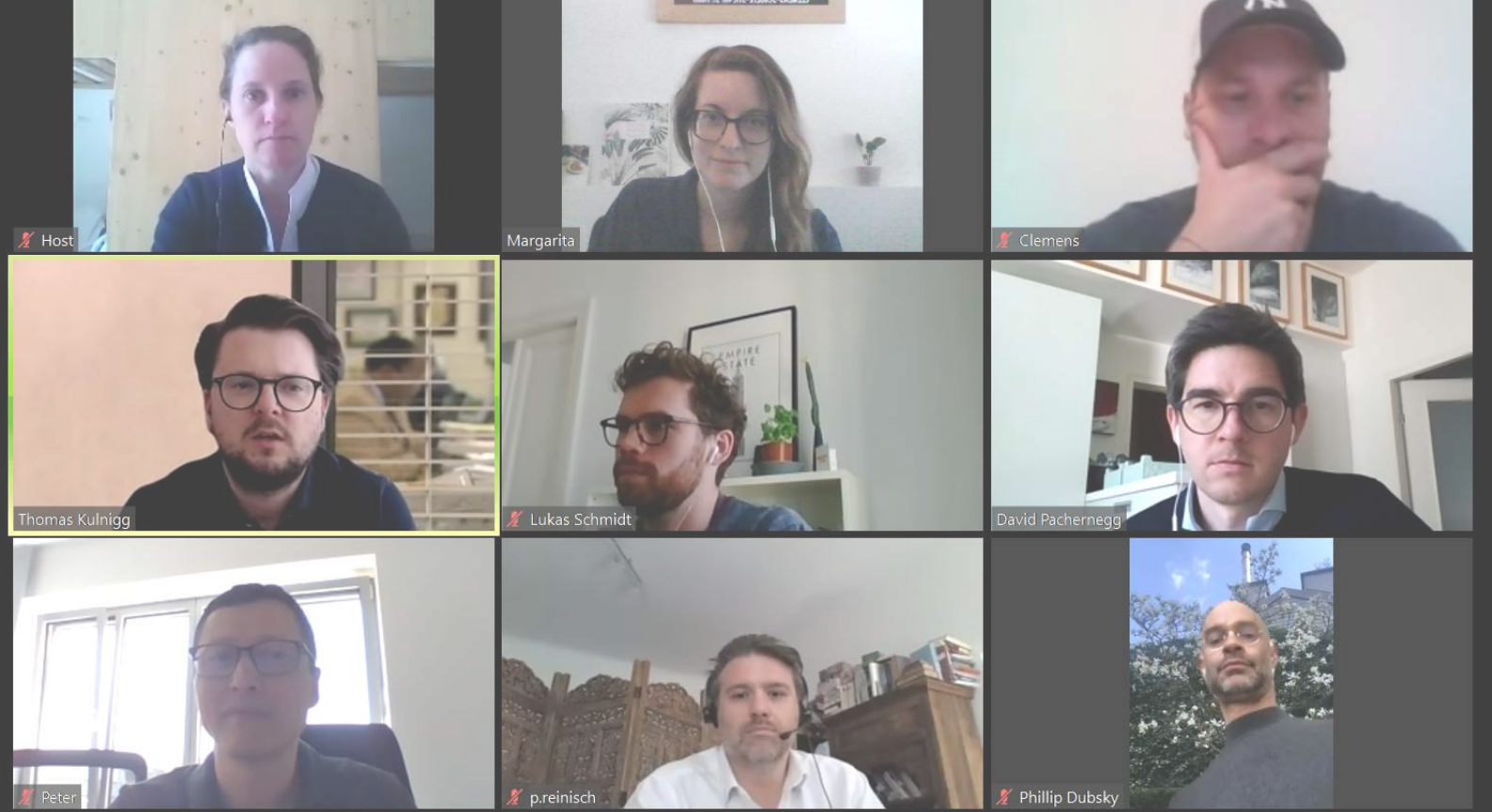


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Use of Cloud Technologies for the Legal Profession

ANOTHER LTHV SUCCESS STORY

For lawyers, the use of modern technologies such as cloud computing or video conferencing is now of strategic importance. However, until recently there were no concrete professional rules on this issue and thus a corresponding legal uncertainty.

In spring 2019, the LTHV Cloud Working Group was established, whose members were nominated by the founding law firms and are all experts in the field of cloud computing and data protection. Together, a White Paper was developed, in which the current legal situation

regarding the use of technical service providers by Austrian lawyers was examined and a technology-neutral proposal was presented. In mid-2019, the working group engaged in a cooperation with the Austrian Bar Association to work together towards the shared goal. On the initiative of the Legal Tech Hub Vienna and the ÖRAK, a technology-neutral provision has been formulated - based on the LTHV white paper - which enables the use of cloud technologies for the entire legal profession in a legally secure manner.

“ —

It has been a pleasure to cooperate with the LTHV. It was obvious that §40.3 RL-BA 2015 was no longer up to date and unclear in its effects. Thus it was very important for the whole legal sector to update it.

— ”
- Alma Steger (Chairperson of the Working Group IT and Digitisation)

This new provision creates legal certainty in connection with the use of various applications such as applications for collaboration, communication, word processing etc., which lawyers can now integrate into their workflow. Up to now this has been unclear or impossible. This is an important step as it allows lawyers not only to meet the requirements of clients, but also to proactively offer simplifications and innovations for them. These amendments to § 40 RL-BA were adopted on 25.9.2020 at the ÖRAK meeting of representatives and published on 28.9.2020. ◀



Who is who?

CLOUD WORKING GROUP



Sonja Hebenstreit
Herbst Kinsky



Alexander Höller
former Herbst Kinsky



Helmut Liebel
Eisenberger Herzog



Dominik Schelling
DORDA



Martin Tauber
former Wolf Theiss



Wolfgang Tichy
schoenherr



Nino Tlapak
DORDA



Gudrun Waniek
schoenherr



Veronika Wolfbauer
schoenherr



Andreas Zellhofer
Eisenberger Herzog



After the working group had been set up, these people examined their ideas from many angles from a legal point of view and summarised a proposal in a white paper. Afterwards we approached the ÖRAK and immediately received positive feedback. A joint working group was set up to finalise the proposal. In this way, a successful change of the professional law could finally be brought about together. A special thank you to the dedicated members of the working group.



LOOKING FORWARD TO SHARING 2021 WITH YOU

WWW.LTHV.EU

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LEGAL TECH HUB **LET'S INNOVATE
TOGETHER.**