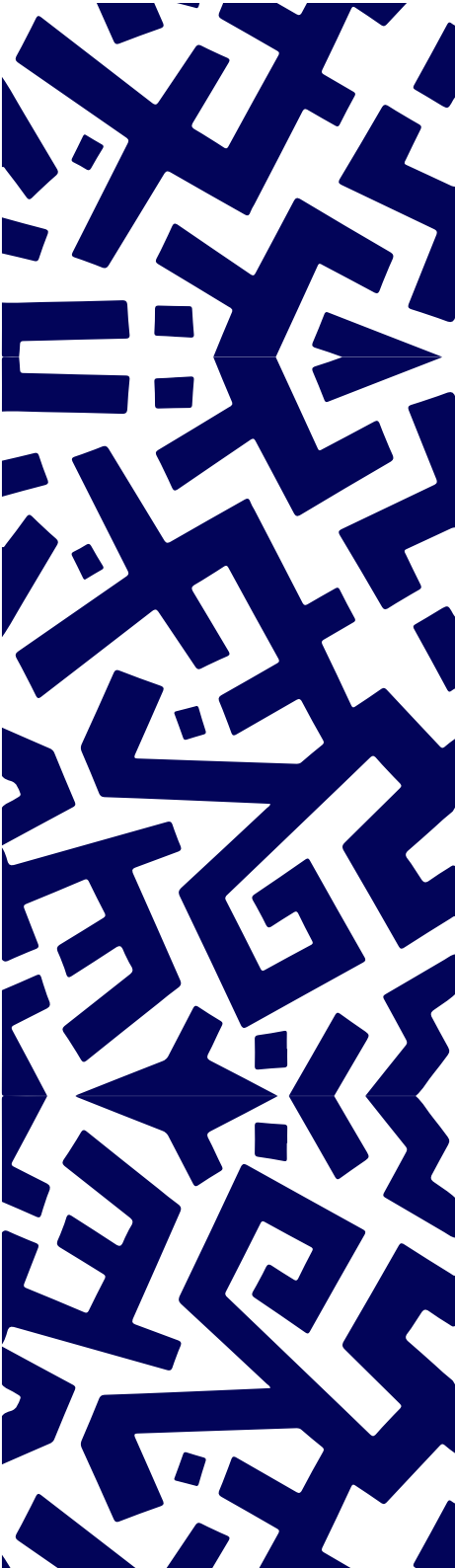


LEGAL LOUNGE

— ♦ ♦ ♦ —
BERLIN

A community event powered by the Foreign Trained Lawyers in Germany (FTLG) Network

**Lawyers
Beyond Borders**



Welcome to the

LEGAL LOUNGE

—◆—
BERLIN

You **BELONG** in this **ROOM!**

We are *EXCITED*  *YOU* could make it to *JOIN US!*

This event was carefully curated with you in mind,
and we truly hope it meets or even exceeds your expectations.

Grab a seat, Flip through, Engage fully....





So... What is **LEGAL LOUNGE**?

Legal Lounge is a signature gathering of internationally trained lawyers who live, work or study in Germany.

The event brings legal professionals from diverse backgrounds into one room to explore shared challenges, new career paths, and opportunities for legal expats in Germany.

Legal Lounge offers a space to connect, reflect, and grow together. Expect insightful conversations, practical exchanges, and meaningful connections in a relaxed, community-driven atmosphere. Whether you're new to Germany, redefining your path, or already established in your career, this is a place to be seen, supported, and inspired.

Under the theme ***"Lawyers Beyond Borders"*** we're creating space to recognize the unique strengths that internationally trained legal professionals bring to Germany's legal and corporate sectors.

MEET THE COMMUNITY BEHIND THE LOUNGE

The Network of Foreign-Trained Lawyers in Germany (FTLG Network) is a growing network of internationally trained legal professionals committed to learning, exchanging, and supporting one another to navigate the legal terrain together with a shared vision of community. Whether you're new to Germany or have been here a while, this community is here for us!



Our Vision

To build a supportive and inclusive ecosystem where foreign-trained lawyers in Germany can thrive professionally, access diverse career opportunities, contribute meaningfully to the legal sector; and achieve the necessary recognition through re-licensing opportunities.

Want to know more?

Let's **SHAPE** the **FUTURE** of **LEGAL CAREERS** together.

Whether you're here to **NETWORK**, **CONTRIBUTE**, or just find your **PEOPLE**!

you are welcome!





Event Agenda

■ 17:45

DOORS OPEN & REGISTRATION

Check in, settle down, enjoy ambient music, and light networking.

18:10

WELCOME ADDRESS

Moderator | Fega

■ 18:13

OPENING TOPIC: THE IMPORTANCE OF DIVERSITY AND REPRESENTATION WITHIN THE LEGAL FIELD

Speaker | Dr. Hankings-Evans

18:33

PANEL SESSION 1: JOURNEY TO LICENSING IN GERMANY – REALITY OR ILLUSION?

An honest and policy-aware conversation about licensing, integration of foreign-trained lawyers into the German Bar.

Speaker | Dr. Islam and RAK Berlin

Event Agenda

■ 19:03

RECESS

Short break for fresh air, drinks, coffee



19:10

IGNITE TALK: RESILIENCE IN REJECTION: FROM SETBACKS TO A SEAT AT THE TABLE

A powerful personal account of perseverance in Germany's legal job market.

Speaker | Johnson C. Ezeokoye

■ 19:20

PARTNERS SPOTLIGHT

Presentations by | Afro-Deutsche Jurist:innen e.V., Turkish-German Lawyers' Society, Netzwerk Multikultureller Jurist*innen e.V., Initiative Deutsch-Syrischer Jurastudierender.

19:50

FOUNDER SPOTLIGHT: WHY WE BUILT THIS

A heartfelt look into the FTLG vision and how to become part of the journey.

Speaker | MJ

The event will take a 5mins Recess





Event Agenda

■ 19:55

PANEL SESSION 2: BEYOND THE BAR – NAVIGATING NON-TRADITIONAL LEGAL CAREERS

Explore legal-adjacent paths featuring six legal professionals in various legal career paths. Stories and advice

Moderator | Raja

20:55

NETWORKING & BEATS + ASK-ME-ANYTHING CIRCLE

Music and networking.

■ 22:00

EVENT ENDS AT 22:00 SHARP.

....and music.



Meet Our Moderators



MODERATOR

Oghenefega
Ogbe

Fega is a jurist and doctoral candidate in comparative law, whose work bridges legal theory and social impact, with a focus on the Nigerian and German legal systems.

Born and raised in Germany and shaped by her Nigerian heritage, Fega brings a bicultural lens to her legal scholarship and professional ambitions. Her long-term goal is to qualify as a licensed lawyer in Germany, combining academic expertise with practical legal impact.

Alongside her academic work, she is deeply committed to legal advocacy, visibility, and representation. As part of her broader engagement, she serves in leadership roles and contributes to initiatives that empower jurists of African descent and foster a more equitable legal culture in Germany.

Fega is a legal changemaker, driven by a clear vision: to advance equity, excellence, and meaningful representation within the legal field. Through her leadership and advocacy, she continues to shape spaces where diverse legal voices are not only heard, but valued and empowered.



MODERATOR

Raja
Sudhagani

Raja Sudhagani is a qualified lawyer from India with dual LL.M. degrees, one in International Trade and Economic Law from Osmania University, Hyderabad, and another in Intellectual Property Law and Data Protection from TU Dresden, Germany. She developed extensive experience in corporate law, compliance, intellectual property, data protection, and immigration having worked with leading law firms, prominent lawyers and LPOs in India before moving to Germany to further strengthen my specialization.

Currently, she serves as a Junior Legal Expert at a leading IT company in Leipzig that provides a platform for energy capacity trading, where she applies her expertise in compliance, technology law, and data protection. Prior to this role, she gained valuable industry experience as a working student in a SaaS company in Berlin, which gave her a strong understanding of the intersection between law and digital business operations. She is now focusing on the evolving fields of AI laws and data protection and preparing for the CIPP/E and AIGP certifications to further enhance my expertise.

Beyond her corporate career, she is actively engaged in community service. She volunteers to advise international students and residents in Germany on immigration and personal legal issues and also runs a non-profit initiative in her hometown dedicated to supporting underprivileged children.



SPEAKER

Dr. Oliver Islam

Dr. Oliver Islam is a practicing attorney and Board Member (Vorstand) of the German Bar Association (Deutscher Anwaltverein), he is the first board member with an immigration background to hold this position. He is a Founding Partner at Frontwing Litigation, a law firm focused on high-stakes litigation and mass claims.

He previously worked at Noerr LLP, where he was part of the Arbitration and Class & Mass Action Defense teams. Dr. Islam has advised on complex cross-border disputes and represented major clients such as Audi AG and Deutsche Bank in large-scale litigation and antitrust investigations.

He holds a doctorate in law (Dr. jur.) with magna cum laude honors, and his academic journey includes studies in Germany and India through a DAAD scholarship. Beyond legal practice, Dr. Islam is an active voice in legal reform and education having co-founded the Refugee Law Clinic Hannover, served as a mentor with Deutschlandstiftung Integration, and regularly lectures on professional ethics for new attorneys.

He has published widely on legal tech, professional ethics, and diversity in legal education and governance.



SPEAKER

**Dr. Anna
Hankings-Evans**

Dr. Anna Hankings-Evans is a German-Ghanaian corporate attorney and lecturer in international law. She advises on venture capital and M&A transactions across the technology, telecommunications, internet, e-commerce, and media sectors.

Prior to entering legal practice, she served as a research assistant at the Chair for Public Law and Public International Law at the Free University of Berlin.

Her academic path took her to South Africa, where she was a visiting scholar at the Centre for Chinese Studies at Stellenbosch University from 2016 to 2017.

She has served as an independent legal expert for the African Union since 2018 and as a board member of Corporate and Institutional Integrity Africa since 2023.



SPEAKER

**Arepaade
Empere**

Arepaade Empere was born in Berlin and has been admitted to the bar since 2008. As a lawyer and specialist in administrative law and tenancy and condominium law, he runs his own law firm in a shared office in Charlottenburg-Wilmersdorf, representing clients primarily in the areas of public construction law, housing subsidy law, and residential and commercial tenancy law.

In March 2025, Attorney Empere was elected to the Board of the Berlin Bar Association for the first time.

As part of his board work, Attorney Empere aims to adequately represent the interests of the legal profession in a professional world increasingly shaped by digitalization and artificial intelligence, through a productive exchange of views with his fellow board members within the Berlin Bar Association. Furthermore, he aims to advocate for a free, competitive, and future-oriented legal profession.



SPEAKER

**Georg
Schäfer**

Georg Schäfer is originally from Westphalia and studied at the Free University of Berlin. He has been a lawyer since 1997, specializing in criminal law (2001) and labor law (2002). As a member of the Vocational Training Committee of the Berlin Bar Association, he was elected Vice chair.

Previously, he was chairman of the works council, a member of the collective bargaining committee, a lay judge at the 18th Grand Criminal Division of the Berlin Regional Court, and a notary public administrator.

He works primarily in criminal law, as a defense attorney, but also as a representative of injured parties and as a defense attorney in correctional facilities at a law firm in Berlin-Steglitz specializing in criminal law.



SPEAKER

Amadou Reibel

Amadou Reibel is Trained in the Netherlands, with experience at international institutions such as the ICC (The Hague), UNODC (Vienna), the Foreign Ministry of The Gambia, as well as in the fintech and construction industries, Amadou brings deep insights and a global perspective on navigating legal careers across borders, shaped by a distinctive blend of legal, corporate, and entrepreneurial expertise.



SPEAKER

Beril Kaptan

Beril Kaptan is a Turkish-qualified lawyer, admitted to the Istanbul Bar (2018). She worked for several years in Turkish and German law firms and advised and represented international clients in corporate and commercial law, dispute resolution, compliance, and sustainability matters.

In 2022, she completed a master's degree (LL.M.) in International Dispute Resolution (IDR) at Humboldt University Berlin.

Since 2025, she is working at AUTODOC SE as Sustainability Manager. Beril Kaptan specializes in compliance, internal investigations and sustainability (ESG).



SPEAKER

Camilla Fröhlich

Camilla Fröhlich is a Senior Associate at Hogan Lovells, based in Frankfurt and one of two full-time pro bono lawyers in the Responsible Business Team for Continental Europe.

Prior to joining the Pro Bono team, Camilla spent 8 years in Hogan Lovells' Infrastructure, Energy, Resources and Projects team in Frankfurt with a strong focus on advising clients on projects and market entry across Africa and remains a member of the HL Africa Practice core team.

Within the Hogan Lovells Pro Bono practice, Camilla focusses on supporting social enterprises and start-ups in both Continental Europe and Africa as well as on the HL BASE Training Programme which saw 100 lawyers from 6 jurisdictions advising 21 social enterprises in 2024.

Camilla is admitted to the High Court of South Africa and registered as a Foreign Lawyer with the Rechtsanwaltskammer Frankfurt am Main.



SPEAKER

Guido Monti

Guido Monti studied law degree in Buenos Aires (UBA-University of Buenos Aires). Fully qualified in Argentina and worked in a big law firm as well as in private practice in Argentina.

In 2013 pursued an LLM at the Humboldt University in German and European Law.

Guido did an internship in the IT/IP department at Taylor Wessing and joined Deutsche Bank in 2015, first in Data Privacy, then moved to work in the Global Markets-Investment Banking Division and recently moved to Corporate Banking to cover Security Services, specifically Custody of Assets-Global Network Management.



SPEAKER

Özgün Öztürk

Özgün Öztürk is a legal counsel with 6 years of experience. After practicing law in Turkey for three years, he moved to Germany for his master's in IP law at TU Dresden.

He worked for a digital design company for 2 years, where he focused on legal tasks related to license agreements and copyrights, alongside project management tasks in digital projects.

For the past year, he has been working as an IP Legal Engineer at Sentryc GmbH, a legal tech company focused on online brand protection.

He develops strategies to improve service efficiency, combining a process engineer's mindset with legal expertise.



SPEAKER

Johnson
C. Ezeokoye

Johnson C. Ezeokoye is a Legal Counsel, admitted to the Nigerian Bar in 2016. After practicing law in Nigeria for 5 years, he moved to Germany for his masters in IP/IT Law at Technical University, Dresden.

He worked with a notable German insurance company and a law firm where he focused on data protection law, IP law and contracts law.

Currently, he works as a Legal Compliance Manager at Cognitec Systems GmbH, a tech company offering facial recognition software and products.

He develops strategies and advises on the GDPR compliance, implementation of Information Security Management System (ISMS) and contracts.

Founders' Corner

Welcome to

LEGAL LOUNGE – Berlin! 🥳

This space was curated with **care, curiosity, and courage**, the same qualities that many of us have relied on as we navigate life and legal careers across borders.

We hope today affirms your journey, ignites **new possibilities**, and connects you with others walking a similar path.

With gratitude,

Majekodunmi Abayomi

Founder, FTLG.

Nigerian-trained lawyer





Connect with us

Follow us for updates, inspiration, and future events:

Instagram: [community_ftlg.de](https://www.instagram.com/community_ftlg.de)

LinkedIn: FTLG - Foreign-Trained Lawyers in Germany

Website: www.ftlg.de

Email: community@ftlg.de