



HUGO KEULERS

Partner

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Hugo Keulers

Practice

Hugo Keulers heads our *Commercial* and *Dispute Resolution* practice as well as our *Insurance and Reinsurance* industry department. Since 1 January 2019 he is Managing Partner of Lydian. He is commercial litigator with more than 25 years experience.

He is one of the few Belgian lawyers with considerable experience in handling complex reinsurance disputes and he also has extensive experience in ad hoc and institutional arbitration (ICC, Cepani), both as Counsel and Arbitrator and sometimes even as Sole Arbitrator. His arbitration work is not limited to insurance work, but includes all types of commercial litigation.

Hugo is recommended as leading individual by *Legal 500*, *Chambers Global and Europe* and *Who's Who Legal* in Insurance and Reinsurance and in Dispute Resolution. He is also mentioned in the *Guide to the World's Leading Insurance and Reinsurance Lawyers* and in *Euromoney's Expert Guide 2016* as one of the most outstanding practitioners in this field in Belgium.

He is a member of the insurance committee of the *International Bar Association* (IBA), of the *Belgian Risk Management Association* (BELRIM) and of the *Belgian Association of Insurance Lawyers* (AJA).

Hugo regularly speaks at internal and external seminars on all aspects of insurance and reinsurance. Hugo also teaches at the *Katholieke Hogeschool Leuven*.

Hugo was admitted to the Brussels bar in 1991 and is now a member of both the Brussels Bar and the Hasselt Bar, admitted to plead cases before all Belgian courts. He is fluent in Dutch, French, English and German.

Recent arbitration work highlights

- Appointment as arbitrator in an ICC arbitration between a Belgian renewable energy company and an industrial supply company;



- Assisting a Belgian company active in the production of materials in ICC Arbitration against a Germany company that has supplied a defective machine. Lydian is cooperating on this file with a Spanish law firm, as Spanish law is applicable.
- Assisting a Belgian company, part of an international commodities trading company, in ICC Arbitration against the Swiss seller of an electricity generator, which turned out to be defective and caused a total loss of at least 3,5 million EUR;
- Acting as Counsel to a UK Insurance Group in an ad hoc arbitration arising from a retrocession contract with a Luxembourg insurance company;
- Acting as Chairman of a Cepina arbitration Panel in a dispute between various Belgian companies on the performance of a loan agreement;
- Acting as Sole Arbitrator in Cepina arbitration proceedings between various Belgian companies on the termination of a management agreement and the validity and enforceability of a management agreement;
- Acting a counsel to a renewable energy company in ad hoc arbitration proceedings against its insurance company in relation to a property damage and business interruption coverage dispute;
- Acting as arbitrator in Cepina arbitration proceedings between a Dutch insurance company and a Belgian insurance company over a dispute arising from the transfer of an insurance portfolio.
- Acting as Counsel to a listed Canadian company against a series of Belgian companies in Cepina arbitration proceedings in relation to breach of reps and warranties claim post M&A Litigation.

Career

- 2001: Partner at Lydian
 1999: Senior Associate at Allen & Overy
 1991: Associate at Allen & Overy

Education

- 2002: Katholieke Universiteit Leuven (Leuven, Belgium) – Postgraduate course in financial management
 1995: IPO Management School Universiteit Antwerpen (Antwerp, Belgium) – Degree in insurance science
 1991: Katholieke Universiteit Leuven (Leuven, Belgium) – Law degree

Languages

- Mother tongue: Dutch

Self-assessment European level (*)	Understanding		Speaking				Writing	
	Listening		Reading		Spoken interaction		Spoken production	
English	(C1)	Independent user	(C1)	Independent user	(C1)	Independent user	(C1)	Independent user
French	(C1)	Independent	(C1)	Independent	(C1)	Independent	(C1)	Independent

		user								
German	(C1)	Independent user								
(*) Common European Framework of Reference (CEF) level										

Most important publications

- KEULERS, H., and MAES, T. “The (r)evolution of salvage costs since the 25 June 1992 Statute on non-marine insurance contracts?”, *T. Verz.*, 2014/1, afl. 386, 23-31 (originally in Dutch).
- KEULERS, H., “The opposability of court expertise versus the protection of trade secrets and know-how: can we mix water and fire?”, in X., *Permanent handbook for expertise*, Kluwer, Mechelen, 2012 (originally in Dutch).
- KEULERS, H., “Insurance law”, in X., *Serie Law & Interpretation*, Serie Economic law, nr. 3, Larcier, Ghent, 2012 (originally in Dutch).
- KEULERS, H., LODEWIJCKX, S., and VANDENBERGEN, A., “Does any crisis represent an opportunity?”, *De verzekeringswereld*, 2011, nr. 2011.10, 14-15 (originally in Dutch and in French).
- KEULERS, H., MOTTET HAUGAARD, A., CATTEAU, A., DEKONINCK, C., DIERCKX, L., and SANTANTONIO, O., *Insurance and market practices*, Kluwer, Mechelen/Waterloo, 2011 (originally in Dutch and in French).
- KEULERS, H., CATTEAU, A., and FOSTIER, H., “Product liability insurance”, in VERDURE, C., *Corporate liability insurances. Various questions*, Anthemis, Louvain-la-Neuve, 2010, 101-128 (originally in French).
- KEULERS, H., and LODEWIJCKX, S., “Restructuring and take-overs of insurance portfolio from insurance companies”, in STERCKX, A., *De verzekeringswereld*, 2010, nr. 2010.03, 21-24 (originally in Dutch).
- KEULERS, H., MOTTET HAUGAARD, A., CATTEAU, A., DEKONINCK, C., DIERCKX, L., and SANTANTONIO, O., *Insurance and commercial practices*, Kluwer, Mechelen/Waterloo, 2009 (originally in Dutch and in French).
- KEULERS, H., LODEWIJCKX, S., and CATTEAU, A., “Industrial risks. The pitfalls in insurance policies”, *Le monde de l’assurance*, 2008, 36-39 (originally in French).
- KEULERS, H., LODEWIJCKX, S., and DECONINCK, C., “New Act on market practices. What does the insurer expect?”, *De verzekeringswereld*, 2007, 30-32 (originally in Dutch).
- KEULERS, H., and LODEWIJCKX, S., “The new Royal Decree on life insurance: What’s new?”, *De verzekeringswereld*, 2004, 29-31 (originally in Dutch).
- KEULERS, H., and LODEWIJCKX, S., “Ten year Non-marine insurance Statute. An uncomplete piece of work”, *De verzekeringswereld*, 2003, 29-32 (originally in Dutch).

- KEULERS, H., "The impact of corporate deals on the company's insurance portfolio", *V & F* 1998, 31-35 (originally in Dutch).
- KEULERS H., WILLEMS J. and VAN MIERLO P.-J., "Directors' Liability and Indemnification", *Globe Law and Business*, Third edition, Belgian Chapter, 2016.

What Hugo's clients say about him...

"He has an excellent manner with clients and is able to provide clear strategy recommendations."

(Chambers Global 2016)

"Hugo Keulers is recognised for his 'mammoth reputation' and 'ability to find a solution to any problem'."

(Who's Who Legal 2016)

