

Legal and Business Ethics

Date

Legal and Business Ethics

Frankfurt am Main
November 19, 2019
5.00 p.m.

GvW
Graf von Westphalen
Ulmenstraße 23-25
60325 Frankfurt am Main

The FASPE approach to Legal and Business Ethics differs from the traditional university classroom experience or law-firm or corporate training effort. We utilize profiles and case studies of professionals in Nazi Germany to frame and introduce conversations of contemporary importance. This historical lens illustrates that the ethical and moral codes governing how professionals approach their tasks can break down or be distorted with devastating consequences. FASPE uses this experience of the perpetrators to surface fundamental questions regarding "business as usual" thinking. We invite participants to examine their own conceptions of what it means to be a responsible professional.

FASPE emphasizes the distinction between ethical behavior in the legal or business context and rules based approaches, such as those that relate to conflicts of interests or regulatory compliance. We do not intend to minimize the importance of rules-based compliance. Instead, we propose that law and business professionals have an even deeper set of responsibilities; that it is incumbent on us to create space and time to explore them; and that the history of professionals in Nazi Germany can provide a helpful and instructive backdrop to ensure that we are asking the right questions and that we are sufficiently diligent and deliberate in pursuit of thoughtful answers.

FASPE invites participants to engage in historical analysis and thoughtful discussion so that we might be better equipped to identify potential ethical issues before rushing to conclusions and to seek more effective means of considering these issues in light of our personal ambitions and competing agendas.

We are looking forward to exciting discussions. Ethics and law is of great interest to you as a General Counsel.

Best regards,



Christof Kleinmann
Managing Partner

Program

- **Introduction**

A brief overview of FASPE, our program, curriculum and faculty, our emphasis on the role and responsibility of the professional, and our experience working with young professionals and organizations over the past ten years.

- **Nazi Ethics**

A discussion and analysis of Heinrich Himmler's (head of the SS) October 1943 speech at Posen – his worldview and the ethical arguments he makes – and relevant insights for contemporary business and legal professionals.

- **Who Wrote the Nuremberg Laws**

A profile and the story of one young German lawyer, his role in the crafting of the Nuremberg laws, an analysis of the decisions he made and their implications – and an open discussion of the kind of individuals we want in our organizations today.

- **Application of Law in Nazi Germany**

Historical analysis of the distorted use and interpretation of law in the Nazi state – and consideration of the implications of how we think about (and are taught) problem solving on how we might build ethical professionals and ethical organizations.

- **Closing Discussion**

Invitation

BY INVITE ONLY -

Please confirm your participation by November 11, 2019, by sending an e-mail to m.brombach@gvw.com or calling [+49 69 7079701-41](tel:+4969707970141) attendance is limited and will be guaranteed on a first come, first served basis.
