



# Philipp Thumfart

Legal Solutions Architect  
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## Selected Professional Experience

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### Legal Solution Architect • Freshfields

April 2026 - Present

*Berlin, Germany · Remote*

As Legal Solutions Architect, I drive the technical direction of our AI solutions and make strategic decisions about technology stack and architecture. I'm deeply involved in new and upcoming AI-technologies and constantly explore new ways to integrate them into our legal tech offerings, making sure that we remain a market leader. I continue to lead the development of our main AI offering from a strategic and technical perspective.

### Lead Legal Solutions Engineer • Freshfields

Nov. 2024 - March 2026

*Berlin, Germany · Remote*

As Lead Legal Solutions Engineer, I heavily influences the technical direction of our department and made strategic decisions about technology stack and architecture. I successfully introduced Django alongside our existing tech stack and lead multiple cross-functional teams across different projects. Additionally, I continued to evaluate emerging AI technologies for strategic integration into our product suite. As Product Owner and Lead Developer, I developed and then lead a team of developers and designers maintaining our most successful in-house AI solution. I was able to scale this solution from proof-of-concept to 1.5k daily active users in about half a year, becoming a cornerstone of our legal technology offerings. This demonstrates my ability to scale AI solutions from concept to production while building and managing high-performing technical teams. As part of my commitment to advancing the field of Legal Tech, I regularly lectured at the Vienna University of Economics and presented at Legal Tech conferences throughout Europe, sharing practical insights and experiences from the industry.

### Senior Legal Solutions Engineer • Freshfields

May 2023 - Oct. 2024

*Berlin, Germany · Remote*

As Senior Legal Solutions Engineer, I took on leadership responsibilities for smaller development teams and established coding standards and best practices across our projects. I architected and implemented several critical features for our mass claims litigation solutions, focusing on scalability and maintainability across both our Python-based applications and Mendix platforms. I served as the technical lead for our multi-jurisdictional collaboration platform, where I introduced modern development practices and comprehensive testing strategies and improved on our automated deployment pipelines. My unique combination of legal expertise and technical skills allowed me to effectively bridge the gap between business requirements and technical implementation. Within our AI integration focus group, I conducted extensive research and development work on transformer models and embeddings, successfully implementing several proof-of-concept applications that demonstrated the potential of AI in legal document processing and analysis. As part of my commitment to advancing the field of Legal Tech, I regularly lectured at the Vienna University of Economics and presented at Legal Tech conferences throughout Europe, sharing practical insights and experiences from the industry.

### Legal Solutions Engineer • Freshfields

Oct. 2021 - May 2023

*Berlin, Germany · Remote*

As a Legal Solutions Engineer, I developed custom IT solutions for mass claims litigation using both Python and the low-code platform Mendix, working closely with legal teams to understand their requirements and translate them into efficient technical solutions. I specialized in building FastAPI-based api backends and Mendix applications that automated complex legal workflows and improved processing efficiency. I contributed significantly to our multi-jurisdictional collaboration platform, implementing key features and maintaining the codebase. My background in both law and technology proved invaluable in understanding the nuanced requirements of our legal users and implementing appropriate technical solutions. I participated actively in our AI integration initiatives, where I helped evaluate various AI technologies and contributed to the development of our first machine learning models for document classification and information extraction.

### Associate • Cerha Hempel

Jan. 2021 - Sept. 2021

*Vienna, Austria*

At Cerha Hempel, I further specialized in technology-focused legal areas including IT law, data protection, intellectual property and competition law. Working with international clients, I handled complex cross-border matters that required both legal expertise and technical understanding to navigate evolving regulatory landscapes. As a key member of the Legal Tech team, I led innovative IT

projects and developed Python automation solutions to streamline legal workflows and improve efficiency. As a highlight, I independently managed a large-scale data aggregation project, implementing systems to collect and analyze public domain data while ensuring regulatory compliance.

### **Judicial Clerk • Austrian Courts**

July 2020 - Jan. 2021

*Vienna & St. Pölten, Austria*

I completed the mandatory judicial training program at various Austrian courts, gaining practical experience in civil law at the District Court Hietzing and specializing in labor and social law cases at the Regional Court of St. Pölten. During my time at the Public Prosecutor's Office in Vienna, I supported criminal investigations, prepared cases for trial, and regularly conducted my own court hearings as a prosecutor.

### **Associate • Höhne, In der Maur & Partner**

Aug. 2018 - June 2020

*Vienna, Austria*

During my time at Höhne, In der Maur & Partner, I gained extensive experience in IT law, data protection law, and intellectual property law while assisting in handling international client matters and ensuring regulatory compliance. Working with a diverse portfolio of clients helped me develop a deep understanding of complex legal requirements across multiple jurisdictions. I also had the opportunity to contribute to the firm's digital transformation initiatives by helping develop legal tech solutions and process improvements. This experience sparked my interest in the intersection of law and technology, and showed me the potential for innovation in legal service delivery.

### **Legal Staff • Eversheds Sutherland**

Oct. 2014 - Jan. 2017

*Vienna, Austria*

As a legal staff member at Eversheds Sutherland, I supported the legal team in various areas including competition law, trademark law, copyright law, and labour law. I assisted with legal research, document preparation, and case management while gaining valuable exposure to international client work.

## **Selected Education Milestones**

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### **Doctor of Laws (Dr.iur.) • University of Vienna**

2018 - 2026

*Vienna, Austria*

My doctoral research explores the intersection of computational law, linguistics, and artificial intelligence, focusing on how hybrid systems can bridge the gap between natural language and computable legal representations. The thesis combines insights from philosophical works of Wittgenstein and Gadamer with modern computational approaches using Large Language Models. The research proposes a novel framework for transforming legal reasoning into a computable form while preserving the nuanced understanding of legal interpretation. This work contributes to improving access to justice by addressing the challenges of legal language ambiguity through a combination of deductive and inductive reasoning systems. Expected completion in 2026.

### **Bachelor's Degree, Business Informatics • University of Technology**

2018 - 2020

*Vienna, Austria*

After successfully passing the entrance examination, I was admitted to the University of Technology Vienna where I completed selected courses and exams in software engineering, business informatics and data science. This program, which I pursued alongside starting my PhD, provided me with essential technical foundations that proved invaluable for my research in legal technology. While I gained valuable technical knowledge and practical skills during my studies, I ultimately did not complete the full degree program as I focused on my doctoral research.

### **European and International Law • London School of Economics**

2015

*London, UK*

As part of the LSE Summer School program, I had the opportunity to study European Union law and international law at one of the world's leading institutions. The experience provided invaluable insights into global legal frameworks and cross-border regulations while learning from renowned international law scholars.

### **Master of Laws (Mag.iur.) • University of Vienna**

2013 - 2018

*Vienna, Austria*

During my law studies at the University of Vienna, I completed a comprehensive legal education covering all major areas of Austrian law. While the program primarily focused on traditional legal subjects, I developed a growing interest in technology law and digital transformation.

I took the opportunity to attend several elective courses in IT law and data protection, which provided my first insights into the intersection of law and technology. These courses laid the foundation for my later specialization in legal technology.