
WIPO LIST OF NEUTRALS

BIOGRAPHICAL DATA

Willem J.H. LEPPINK
Ploum | Rotterdam Law Firm
Rotterdam
Kingdom of the Netherlands



Nationality: Dutch

EDUCATIONAL AND PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

Professional Education Netherlands Bar Association, 1995;
Master of Laws, School of Law, University of Groningen, 1994;
Several courses, School of Business, Western Carolina University, Cullowhee, North Carolina, 1988.

Admitted to Dutch Bar, 1994.

LANGUAGES

Dutch, English, working proficiency German, elementary comprehension of French and of West Frisian

PRESENT POSITION

Attorney at law (*advocaat*), Partner and Co-head of the Intellectual Property Practice Group, Ploum, Rotterdam, 2009.

Lecturer Trademark and Trade Name Law, Leiden Law School, Leiden, 2023

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE BEFORE PRESENT POSITION

Attorney at law (*advocaat*), Partner and Head, Intellectual Property/IT Practice Group, Simmons & Simmons, Rotterdam, 2004-2009;

Partner and acting head Intellectual Property Department Rotterdam, NautaDutilh N.V., Rotterdam, 2002-2004;

May 9, 2025

Attorney at law (*advocaat*), NautaDutilh, Rotterdam 1994-2004.

MEMBERSHIP IN PROFESSIONAL BODIES

MARQUES, member of the Executive Committee of the Council, chair of the Venue Team and chair of the Anti-Fraud Task Force, chair of the Programming Team (past);
 International Trademark Association (INTA);
 European Community Trade Mark Association (ECTA);
 Benelux Association of Trade Marks and Designs (BMM), chair of the editorial board (past);
 Benelux Foundation for the Professional Education of Trade Mark and Design Attorneys (BBMM), chair;
 Netherlands Advertising Law Associates (VvRr), co-founder and honorary member;
 Netherlands Association for Media and Communications Law (VMC);
 Netherlands Copyright Law Association (VVA);
 Dutch Group of the International Association for the Protection of Intellectual Property (AIPPI);
 European Copyright and Design Reports (Sweet and Maxwell), member of the editorial board;
 Journal of Intellectual Property & Practice (Oxford University Press) member of the editorial board;
 Reclameboek.nl, member of editorial board;
 Various universities and S.K. Martens Academy, guest lecturer on IP and marketing law topics as well as on domain names;
 Ministry of Economic Affairs (Netherlands), member of the Committee of Eight (trademarks and designs)
 Municipality of Lansingerland, chair of the Committee on Geographical Names.

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

Intellectual property: trademark law, trade name law, copyright law, design law, domain names, anti-counterfeiting, unfair competition, including marketing and advertising law, unfair commercial practices, licensing.

EXPERIENCE IN INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

More than twenty-five years of experience in litigation and advice in intellectual property and advertising law matters as attorney at law (*advocaat*) before the courts and self-regulatory bodies.

EXPERIENCE WITH RESPECT TO DOMAIN NAMES

Has regularly advised and litigated in relation to domain names, including alternative domain name dispute resolution. Has acted on behalf of both right owners and defendants.

Has been a panelist in more than 400 domain name related disputes at the WIPO Arbitration and Mediation Center and the Czech Arbitration Court, including procedures under the UDRP, the Dispute Resolution Regulations for .nl Domain Names, Legal Rights Objections (LRO) and .eu disputes. Panelist for Trademark Post-Delegation Dispute Resolution Procedure (Trademark PDDRP).

MAJOR PUBLICATIONS

Several articles on intellectual property law and litigation in intellectual property law matters.

PROFESSIONAL TRAINING IN ARBITRATION

Attended the Advanced Workshop on Domain Name Dispute Resolution, as well as Domain Name Panelist Meetings organized by the WIPO Arbitration and Mediation Center.

EXPERIENCE IN ARBITRATION

Has prior experience as counsel in several non-IP related arbitration matters, in addition to experience in other alternative dispute resolution procedures.
