

A Closer Look: DACH

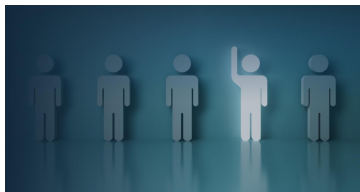


Spring 2021

StoneTurn

New Whistleblower Protection Draft Includes Restrictions on Anonymous Reports

Now that the BMJV has started to draft a first-of-its-kind whistleblower protection law in Germany, companies are taking a fresh look at their internal reporting and investigations procedures, as well as the protocols in place to protect both anonymous and named whistleblowers.



In *Compliance Management Magazine*, [Julia Arbery](#) provides an overview of the new Directive and offers best practices for companies and compliance professionals to consider as they implement these new standards amidst shifting COVID-19 lockdown orders, GDPR constraints and local employment laws. [Read Article »](#)

More Rigorous IT Standards and Reporting Requirements on the Horizon in Germany



As cyber breaches and ransomware attacks continue to disrupt business of all sizes, German regulators are working to amend the IT Security Act (ITSA) and expand the authority of the German

Federal Office for Information Security (GFOIS). Most notably, the government aims to implement higher IT security standards and reporting obligations for companies operating in Germany.

This move to strengthen IT oversight comes as many organizations are accelerating plans for digital transformation in order to drive growth following the economic downturn caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. [Yven Heine](#) discusses shifting risk appetites in Germany, and explains how the quest for growth via digital transformation could come with a hefty compliance price tag. [Read Article »](#)

Compliance Culture and Management Perspective

In partnership with the BCM, StoneTurn, EQS Group and Quadriga Hochschule, hundreds of C-level executives in Germany shared their most pressing compliance challenges and business imperatives. Review the findings of this survey and learn how companies and their compliance officers can more effectively prevent and remediate misconduct.



[Download the Report »](#)

Upcoming Compliance Events

[Adapting Your Compliance Program for the Next New Normal](#)

[A Compliance Week webinar in partnership with Skillsoft](#)
4 February 2021 | 5:00 p.m. CET | 1 CPE credit

Many companies in EMEA are learning to adjust to new ways of remote working while others are developing plans to bring employees back to the workplace. [Julia Arbery](#) and [Annabel Kerley](#) join a panel of experts to discuss the compliance challenges created by changes in the work environment. [Register Today »](#)

[9th Annual European Compliance & Ethics Institute](#)

[Save the Date:](#) 15-17 March 2021

Attendees will earn Compliance Certification Board (CCB)® Continuing Education Units (CEUs)

This year's ECEI [agenda](#) covers topics to support the growth and development of compliance and ethics programs. On Day 2 of this virtual conference, [Julia Arbery](#) will lead a discussion on navigating conflicts between the new whistleblower directive and GDPR:

16 March, 1:00 p.m. CET. [Register Today »](#)

Meet Our Team



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[Congratulations to Julia Arbery who was named Partner in January.](#)

[Read the Press Release »](#)



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Recommended Reading



[Germany Implements New Insolvency Laws & Restructuring Tools »](#)

Squire Patton Boggs

[New Antitrust Rules for the Digital Economy: German "Digitalization Act" Nears the Finish Line »](#)

Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr LLP

Regulatory Roundup

Review recent regulatory actions, letters, bills, and proposed regulations in Germany and the EU:

[Act on the Strengthening of the Financial Market Integrity](#)

New rules designed to bolster both the internal (in particular, via the supervisory board) and external (e.g., by strengthening the independence of external auditors and their supervision) corporate governance of companies of public interest, including listed companies. [Learn More »](#)

[Administrative Principles 2020](#)

Updated guidelines on audits and reviews of transfer prices between related parties and the responsibility of taxpayers to cooperate in accordance General Tax Code (GTC). [Learn More »](#)

[Regulation 2019/452 of the European Parliament](#)

Prohibits the indirect acquisition of a German company with specific expertise in satellite/radar communications and 5G millimeter wave technology by a Chinese state-owned defense group. [Learn More »](#)

[Second Management Positions Act – FÜPoG II](#)

Proposal that requires (i) listed companies, (ii) which are subject to the 50% employee co-determination under the Co-Determination Act and (ii) whose management board consists of more than three members, must appoint at least one female management board member whenever a position becomes vacant. [Learn More »](#)

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