Steptoe’s integrated team of lawyers, scientists, and advisors guide clients through the ever-changing regulatory landscape that requires mastery of not just the law but of the underlying science. We have a particular focus on the US, European Union, and China markets but with regulators increasingly coordinating efforts across national borders, we are able to provide advice that informs global compliance and business strategies.

Steptoe’s constructive engagement with regulators and legislators helps us obtain the best possible results and shape our clients’ regulatory environment. When necessary, we litigate matters involving chemical regulation, including hazardous substances and waste, and air and water quality and land use. We have an especially active litigation practice in the EU, including before ECHA and European Courts. We also prosecute and defend claims under US federal and state environmental statutory schemes. In China, we have successfully assisted clients in obtaining market access and having input in evolving Chinese regimes.

Our clients are companies, trade associations, and public institutions that consult us in five principal areas:

- Building and executing strategies for compliance with cross-sector regulatory schemes, including pre-market authorizations, classification, and labeling
- Legal advocacy before decision makers on legislative, administrative, and policy proposals in order to help shape the general regulatory environment and product-specific regulation
- Representation before courts, administrative authorities, and enforcement bodies
- Assessment and management of environmental risks accompanying corporate acquisitions and divestitures
- Regulatory monitoring and analysis to keep abreast of the latest legal developments

Noteworthy

- *Chambers Europe*, Band 1, Regulatory: Agro/Food, Europe-wide (2017-2020)
- *Legal 500 EMEA*, Tier 1, EU Regulatory: Environment, Belgium (2013-2016)
EPA Narrows Focus in Final Transparency Rule
January 8, 2021
By: Seth Goldberg, Sara Beth Watson, Erik Janus

Portugal's Council Presidency: Mapping the Priorities and Some Thoughts on the Outlook
January 7, 2021
By: David O'Sullivan, Guy Soussan, Charlotte Brett (Legal Assistant)

Steptoe Announces Promotions
January 4, 2021

Draft Compliance Guidance for Imported Articles Containing PFAS Surface Coatings Released for Comment
December 17, 2020
By: Seth Goldberg, Sara Beth Watson

Steptoe Expands Chemical & Life Sciences Practice with Jessica Cooper in Washington
December 16, 2020

Food-contact in Europe: Establishing Food-contact Compliance for Bioplastics in the EU
Bioplastics Magazine
November 30, 2020
By: Joseph Dages

How Can Biocidal Product Suppliers Ensure Market Access When the Brexit Transition Period Ends?
Chemical Watch
November 4, 2020
By: Darren Abrahams, Zanda Romata, Hannah Widemann

Steptoe Receives 67 Rankings in 2021 US News - Best Lawyers’ 'Best Law Firms'
November 5, 2020

Chemicals Strategy for Sustainability: Towards a Toxic-Free Environment
October 14, 2020
By: Ruxandra Cana, Darren Abrahams, Dr. Anna Gergely

FDA Authorized? Establishing a Suitable Food-Contact Legal Status for Bioplastics in the USA
Bioplastics Magazine
October 6, 2020
By: Joseph Dages
Events

ON DEMAND

On Demand Videos: Weekly EU Regulatory Round-Up

November 2, 2020
Speakers: Darren Abrahams, Ruxandra Cana, David O'Sullivan, Deborah C. Attwood, Erik Janus, Éléonore Mullier, Algirdas Semeta

WEBINARS

Innovative Defenses to Prop 65 Webinar Series: Part I

Does Wheat Growers v. Becerra Resurrect Constitutional Challenges to California’s Proposition 65?
August 13, 2020
Speakers: Carol R. Brophy, Seth Goldberg, Dennis E. Raglin

SEMINARS & EVENTS

Brexit and the Chemical Sector

March 3, 2020
Speakers: Ruxandra Cana, Darren Abrahams, Yongqing Bao, Hannah Widemann
Sheraton Frankfurt Airport Hotel and Conference Center
Hugo-Eckner-Ring 15
Frankfurt, Germany

SEMINARS & EVENTS

Biocides: What Does the Future Hold?

November 13, 2019
Speakers: Darren Abrahams, Dr. Anna Gergely, Éléonore Mullier, Hannah Widemann
InterContinental Frankfurt
Wilhelm-Leuschner-Straße 43
Frankfurt/Main, Germany

SEMINARS & EVENTS

Annual Biocides Seminar

September 12, 2019
Steptoe’s Brussels Office
Avenue Louise 489
B-1050, Brussels

SEMINARS & EVENTS

Brexit and the Chemical Sector

March 19, 2019
Speakers: Ruxandra Cana, Darren Abrahams, Hannah Widemann
Fleming’s Selection Hotel Frankfurt-City
Eschenheimer Tor 2, 60318
Frankfurt/Main, Germany

WEBINARS

Plant Protection Products and the Precautionary Principle

December 12, 2018
Speakers: Darren Abrahams, Éléonore Mullier
SEMINARS & EVENTS

**Biocides and Antimicrobials 101**
An Overview of BPR and FIFRA Approval Requirements
November 5, 2018
Speakers: Seth Goldberg, Éléonore Mullier
Steptoe’s San Francisco Office
1 Market Street
Steuart Tower
Suite 1800
San Francisco, CA 94105

SEMINARS & EVENTS

**Annual EU Biocides Seminar**
New Rules, Challenges and Opportunities
October 30, 2018
Speakers: Darren Abrahams, Éléonore Mullier, Hannah Widemann
Steptoe’s Brussels Office
Avenue Louise 489
B-1050, Brussels

WEBINARS

**A Closer Look at Prop 65 Compliance in the Electronics Industry**
co-sponsored by Chemical Watch
October 10, 2018
Speaker: Carol R. Brophy

Resources

**RESOURCES**

**California’s Proposition 65 (Brochure)**
July 19, 2017
By: Seth Goldberg, Jason Levin, Sara Beth Watson

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Areas of Focus

Chemicals
Consumer Products Regulations
Environmental Impacts & Permitting
Environmental Regulation
Nanotechnology

Practices

Chemicals