

Global Pro Bono Guide 2026

Pro Bono Practices and Opportunities in Liechtenstein

Introduction

With a population of around 40,000, Liechtenstein is the fourth smallest country in Europe and the sixth smallest country in the world.¹ Liechtenstein currently does not have a formally regulated culture of providing pro bono legal services and lacks any specific platforms to do so. This may be due to the remarkable wealth that Liechtenstein and most of its inhabitants enjoy. Liechtenstein currently boasts one of the highest gross domestic products per capita adjusted on a purchasing power parity basis.² Furthermore, its sophisticated system of state-funded legal aid arguably minimizes the need for individual lawyers to provide pro bono legal services.

At a glance

| Minimum pro bono hours requirement for lawyers? | Specific pro bono licence required? | May foreign lawyers practice pro bono? | Insurance required for law firm pro bono? | Insurance required for in-house pro bono? | Rules to limit advertising pro bono work? | Does pro bono work count to CLE credit? | Limitations for in-house lawyers to do pro bono? |
|---|-------------------------------------|--|---|---|---|---|--|
| No | No | Yes | Yes | No | Yes | No | No |

The landscape

| Professional regulation | |
|---|---|
| <p>1. Describe the laws or rules that regulate the provision of legal services, including any licensing required to provide legal services. Please highlight any differences for lawyers working as in-house counsel.</p> | <p>Lawyers in Liechtenstein have to abide by the Code on Lawyers (<i>Rechtsanwaltsgesetz</i>)³, the Professional Guidelines of the Liechtenstein Chamber of Lawyers (<i>Standesrichtlinien der Liechtensteinischen Rechtsanwaltskammer</i>), and the Code of Conduct for Lawyers in the EU (<i>Berufsregeln der Rechtsanwälte der Europäischen Union</i>).⁴</p> <p>In-house counsel are usually not admitted as individual lawyers and therefore are not members of the Bar Association and not subject to the above mentioned rules.</p> |

¹ See <https://www.statistikportal.li/de/themen/bevoelkerung> (last visited on 15 January 2025).

² See <https://www.cia.gov/the-world-factbook/countries/liechtenstein/factsheets/> (last visited on 15 January 2025).

³ See <https://www.gesetze.li/konso/pdf/2013415000?version=6> (last visited on 15 January 2025).

⁴ See <https://www.rak.li/en-us/kammer/derrechtsanwalt/berufundstandesrecht.aspx> (last visited on 15 January 2025).

Regulatory landscape for pro bono

| | |
|---|--|
| <p>2. Describe the laws or rules that regulate the provision of pro bono legal services.</p> | <p>There are no rules that specifically regulate the provision of pro bono legal services in Liechtenstein.</p> <p>Generally, a lawyer's fees are freely negotiable within the limits set by the fee regulations of the Liechtenstein Bar Association. A lawyer may provide their services for free, if he or she chooses to do so. However, the provision of free legal services is not common practice in Liechtenstein and, in most cases, lawyers will only agree to provide services without charge if the client is personally known to them.</p> |
| <p>3. Do lawyers need a license to provide pro bono legal services (beyond usual local qualification to practice law)?</p> | <p>No, there is no requirement for a specific license to provide pro bono legal services.</p> |
| <p>4. Do foreign-qualified lawyers need any additional license to provide pro bono services (beyond their foreign qualification to practice law)?</p> | <p>No, there is no requirement for any such additional licences.</p> <p>Generally, lawyers who temporarily want to practice their profession in Liechtenstein across the national border must inform the Liechtenstein Chamber of Lawyers of this intention and provide proof that they are admitted in their country of origin, which must be an EEA member state, to practice the profession of lawyer.</p> <p>The Chamber of Lawyers will confirm receipt of the notification, and this confirmation must be produced on request to courts of law and administrative authorities.⁵</p> |
| <p>5. Are lawyers required by such rules to work a minimum number of pro bono hours? If so, how many?</p> | <p>No, there is no requirement to work a minimum number of pro bono hours in Liechtenstein.</p> |
| <p>6. Are aspiring lawyers required to complete a minimum number of hours of pro bono legal services to become licensed lawyers?</p> | <p>No, there is no requirement to complete a minimum number of pro bono hours in order to become licensed as a lawyer.</p> |

⁵ See <https://www.rak.li/en-us/kammer/zulassungen/lawyers-cross-border-activity> (last visited on 15 January 2025).

| | |
|---|---|
| <p>7. Aside from mandatory targets (if any), are there aspirational pro bono hours targets for lawyers set by the local bar association, regulatory body or other body?</p> | <p>No, there are no standardised aspirational pro bono hours target for lawyers in Liechtenstein other than those which may be set by individual law firms at their discretion.</p> |
| <p>8. Do lawyers receive any “Continuing Legal Education” (CLE) or equivalent credit for pro bono hours worked?</p> | <p>No, lawyers in Liechtenstein do not receive any “Continuing Legal Education” or equivalent credit for pro bono hours worked.</p> |
| Insurance and advertising | |
| <p>9. Do lawyers need professional indemnity legal insurance cover for pro bono legal services they provide? Does the requirement differ for in-house lawyers?</p> <p>If insurance is required, can lawyers meet the requirement by working under the cover of another pro bono provider, e.g. in partnership with a private law firm or organization working on the same pro bono project?</p> | <p>Every licensed lawyer being a member of the Bar Association does require professional indemnity insurance coverage for any legal services they provide, also for pro bono work. No such regulation exists for in-house lawyers.</p> <p>If formally registered as an associate of a licensed law firm, lawyers will be covered by the insurance of such firm.</p> |
| <p>10. Are there any rules that limit or prohibit advertising of pro bono successes or soliciting new pro bono clients?</p> | <p>Regular forms of advertisement for legal services are strongly restricted in Liechtenstein. According to the Professional Guidelines of the Liechtenstein Chamber of Lawyers, lawyers may only “inform” potential clients about the services they offer. The information provided must be correct, objective, and within the interest of the potential client.⁶</p> |
| Pro bono practice and culture | |
| <p>11. What are the main areas of law which require or present opportunities for pro bono? What are the major unmet legal needs?</p> | <p>There is no documented pro bono legal work being undertaken in Liechtenstein at the moment, and Liechtenstein generally lacks a culture of providing formally regulated pro bono legal services, though lawyers provide pro bono work on a voluntary basis. As noted above, this is likely due to the country’s significant wealth, coupled with readily available and fairly significant legal aid services (detailed below).</p> |
| <p>12. Who are the main providers of pro bono</p> | <p>There are currently no significant providers of pro</p> |

⁶ See §35 of the Professional Guidelines of the Liechtenstein Chamber of Lawyers at https://www.ccbe.eu/fileadmin/speciality_distribution/public/documents/National_Regulations/DEON_National_CoC/EN_Liechtenstein_Professional_Guidelines_of_the_Liechtenstein_Chamber_of_Lawyers.pdf (last visited on 15 January 2025).

| | |
|--|--|
| legal services? | <p>bono legal services in Liechtenstein.</p> <p>In specific fields of law there are partially professional organizations and NGOs providing such services, for example, the Chamber of Commerce for its members in matters of employment land contract law or NGOs advising and assisting in matters of matrimonial law or domestic violence. Also, free legal advice may be obtained directly at the court, provided by interns at the court.</p> |
| <p>13. Are there any noteworthy examples of how innovative technology or artificial intelligence is being used to enable access to pro bono or otherwise as part of pro bono cases or matters?</p> | <p>There are currently no such noteworthy examples given there is no formally regulated culture of providing pro bono legal services in Liechtenstein.</p> |

Sources of Pro Bono Opportunities and Key Contacts

| | |
|--|---|
| <p>14. Describe notable sources of pro bono matters or resources in your jurisdiction.</p> | <p>Different NGOs providing free assistance in matrimonial and domestic violence matters can be found on www.familienportal.li. Employees of Liechtenstein business enterprises may get free advice and assistance from the Labor Union of Liechtenstein, further information to be found at www.lanv.li. Members of the Liechtenstein Chamber of Commerce may contact this organization and its legal advisors at www.wirtschaftskammer.li.</p> <p>Access to legal services by those unable to afford them is ensured by a well-established system of state-subsidized legal aid (<i>Verfahrenshilfe</i>)⁷ that is available to both natural and legal persons. Legal aid is available for both criminal and civil cases, in the form of legal advice and representation in court. In respect of litigation matters, legal aid is always granted by the court of first instance, even if it does not become necessary until the case reaches a higher court.</p> <p>An applicant must prove their indigence, i.e. the applicant must disclose their income and assets to determine whether full or partial aid or a deferral of fees or payment in instalments may be granted (<i>Teilverfahrenshilfe</i>). In civil cases, it is possible for a court to refuse legal aid for lack of merit. Therefore the claim or defence upheld</p> |
|--|---|

⁷ See Code of Civil Procedure (*Zivilprozessordnung*) §§ 63 et seq. available at <https://www.gesetze.li/konso/1912.009.001> (last visited on 15 January 2025).

| | |
|--|---|
| | <p>must not be obviously wilful or hopeless; the standard applied being the reasonableness test (i.e. whether a reasonable person would actually enforce the claim or defence at hand).</p> <p>When legal aid is granted by the court, the Board of the Liechtenstein Bar Association appoints a lawyer to represent the applicant, taking care to ensure an equal allocation of mandates. Lawyers are obliged to take on legal aid cases which are delegated to them by the Liechtenstein Bar Association. However, the delegation may be refused on certain grounds, such as a conflict of interest. If legal aid is granted for all legal costs, the state will waive the court fees and pay the scheduled statutory fees, which are however in most cases substantially lower than regular fees billed on an hourly basis, to the attorney.</p> |
| <p>15. Is there any public or private organization with which a local or foreign lawyer can register to be made aware of pro bono opportunities?</p> | <p>No, besides the Liechtenstein Bar Association and the Organizations and NGOs mentioned above, there are no referral organizations, NGOs or clearing houses that are sources for pro bono opportunities in Liechtenstein. Further information on legal practice in Liechtenstein may be provided by the Liechtenstein Bar Association.⁸</p> |
| <p>16. Are there any awards, lists or rankings related to pro bono work?</p> | <p>No, there are no such awards, lists or rankings for provision of pro bono services in Liechtenstein.</p> |

Acknowledgements

Name of Local Counsel: Lampert & Partner Attorneys at Law Ltd.

Name of Individual at Local Counsel: Siegbert Lampert

Learn more

[Navigate the full Global Pro Bono Guide](#) to explore the global landscape and pro bono practices and opportunities across 100+ jurisdictions.

⁸ See <https://www.rak.li/> (last visited on 15 January 2025).