

Laura De Boel

PARTNER

Data, Privacy, and
Cybersecurity

Brussels

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FOCUS AREAS

Artificial Intelligence and
Machine Learning

Data, Privacy, and
Cybersecurity

EXPERIENCE

Laura De Boel is a partner in the Brussels office of Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati, where she is a member of the privacy and cybersecurity practice. She assists clients on all matters related to EU data regulations including:

- General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)
- Data Act (DA)
- Artificial Intelligence Act (AI Act)
- Data protection issues related to the Digital Market Act (DMA)
- Digital Service Act (DSA)
- Data Governance Act (DGA)
- E-Privacy Regulation

Laura has extensive experience advising clients on:

- Complying with all requirements of the GDPR
- Creating and implementing global compliance programs
- Defining international data transfers' strategy
- Planning for and managing data breaches and cybersecurity incidents
- Advising on data protection issues in the context of mergers, acquisitions, and other commercial transactions
- Negotiation of data processing agreements
- Multijurisdictional regulatory investigations

Laura is recognized as a key lawyer of Wilson Sonsini's Tier 1 EU Data Regulatory team, as ranked by *Legal 500*, which notes her work on AI data issues and sources highlight she "gives very considered legal advice (very well thought through and directly applicable to the client's business)." Laura has authored many articles relating to privacy and data protection law and regularly speaks on data protection-related topics. She has been quoted in leading industry and legal publications, including *Bloomberg BNA*. She is also a guest lecturer at DPO courses organized by Maastricht University's European Centre on Privacy and Cybersecurity and a member of Wilson Sonsini's artificial intelligence working group.

Prior to joining the firm, Laura was an associate in the Brussels offices of Hunton & Williams and another leading Belgian law firm.

Laura is a native Dutch speaker and is fluent in English and French.

CREDENTIALS

Education

- LL.M., International and European Law, University of Brussels, 2010

Cum Laude

- J.D., International, European and Business Law, University of Antwerp (Belgium) and University René Descartes, Paris (France), 2009

Cum Laude

Associations and Memberships

- Member, Editorial Board, *Tijdschrift Privacy & Persoonsgegevens*
- Member, International Association of Privacy Professionals

Honors

- Recognized in the 2026 edition of *Chambers Europe* for TMT: Data Protection - Belgium
- Recognized as a key lawyer for her work on AI data issues in the 2021-2026 editions of *The Legal 500 Europe, Middle East, and Africa (EMEA)* guide in the Privacy & Data Protection category, where sources note she is “brilliant” and “a true professional”
- Recognized in the 2026 edition of the *Lawdragon 100 Leading AI & Legal Tech Advisors* guide
- Named to the 2024 “Lawdragon 500 X – The Next Generation” list
- Selected for inclusion in the 2024-2026 editions of the *Lawdragon 500 Leading Global Cyber Lawyers* guide
- Selected for inclusion in the 2024 edition of the *Global Data Review 100*, where she is noted to be “key to the firm’s growing AI practice”
- Selected for inclusion in the 2024 edition of *Who’s Who Legal: Data* for data privacy and protection
- Honored as a “Data Protection Law Lawyer of the Year” as part of *Lawyer Monthly’s* Women in Law Awards 2021

Admissions

- Brussels Bar

INSIGHTS

Select Publications

- Co-author, “EU Data Act Enters into Force,” Wilson Sonsini Alert, September 15, 2025
- Co-author, “European Commission Publishes DSA Guidelines on the Protection of Minors Online,” Wilson Sonsini Alert, July 23, 2025
- Co-author, “EU Releases Final Code of Practice for General-Purpose AI Models,” Wilson Sonsini Alert, July 21, 2025
- Co-author, “EU AI Office Clarifies Key Obligations for AI Models Becoming Applicable in August,” Wilson Sonsini Alert, April 29, 2025
- Co-author, “EU Data Act Imposes New Data Sharing Obligations,” Wilson Sonsini Alert, March 25, 2025
- Co-author, “EU Commission Issues Guidelines on Prohibited AI Practices Under EU AI Act,” Wilson Sonsini Alert, February 11, 2025
- Co-author, “Upcoming Reporting Obligations Under the EU Digital Services Act,” Wilson Sonsini Alert, February 10, 2025
- Co-author, “Regulators in Europe Signal Increased Scrutiny of Online Platforms,” Wilson Sonsini Alert, October 21, 2024
- Co-author, “EU AI Act to Enter into Force in August,” Wilson Sonsini Alert, July 12, 2024
- Co-author, “NIS2: Preparing for EU’s New Cybersecurity Rules,” Wilson Sonsini Alert, April 19, 2024
- Co-author, “EU Artificial Intelligence (AI) Act Implementation: A Guide to Risks and Timeline,” *Bloomberg Law*, April 2024
- Co-author, “The EU AI Act Passes Another Hurdle Towards Becoming Law,” Wilson Sonsini Alert, March 13, 2024
- Co-author, “10 Privacy Predictions in the EU for 2024,” Wilson Sonsini Alert, January 17, 2024
- Co-author, “EU Lawmakers Reach Political Agreement on the AI Act,” Wilson Sonsini Alert, December 11, 2023
- Contributor, “International Guiding Principles and Cybersecurity Guidelines for AI Actors Adopted by G7 and Other Major Economies,” Wilson Sonsini Alert, December 11, 2023
- Co-author, “Online Safety Act 2023: A Revolution in Regulation,” *PLC Magazine*, November 30, 2023
- Co-author, “European Commission Proposes New Rules for Cross Border Enforcement of the General Data Protection Regulation,” *The Computer & Internet Lawyer*, October 2023
- Co-author, “EU legislators make progress on draft AI Act - A deep dive into the AI legal framework,” OneTrust DataGuidance, May 2023
- Co-author, “Do’s and Don’ts for Developing, Extending, and Using Generative AI Models,” *The Computer & Internet Lawyer*, May 2, 2023

- Co-author with S. Thess, “Meta Receives Record 1.2 Billion EUR Fine and Is Ordered to Suspend Its EU-U.S. Data Transfers,” *Wilson Sonsini Alert*, June 6, 2023
- Co-author with M. Gholiof, N. Theodorakis, and H. Watson, “EU Regulators Adopt Opinion on Draft EU-U.S. Data Privacy Framework,” *Wilson Sonsini Alert*, March 3, 2023
- Co-author with L. Brodahl, “Naar een nieuw kader voor doorgifte van persoonsgegevens naar de VS,” *Tijdschrift Privacy & Persoonsgegevens*, nr. 2022/3
- Co-author, “Council of the EU Proposes Amendments to Draft AI Act,” *The WSGR Data Advisor*, December 22, 2022
- Co-author, “New Draft Guidance on Binding Corporate Rules for Controllers,” *The WSGR Data Advisor*, December 19, 2022
- Co-author, “Political Agreement on a New Framework for EU-U.S. Personal Data Transfers,” *Wilson Sonsini Alert*, March 29, 2022
- Contributor, “Accountability to Data Subjects and Regulators,” *The Guide to Data as a Critical Asset, Global Data Review*, 2022
- Co-author with J. Dhont and R. Fol, “New Model Clauses for Personal Data Transfers Outside the UK,” *Wilson Sonsini Alert*, February 8, 2022
- Co-author, “EU Regulators Define Data Transfers,” *The WSGR Data Advisor*, November 24, 2021
- Co-author with C. Burton, J. Dhont, and R. Fol, “EU Regulators Define Data Transfers,” *Wilson Sonsini Alert*, November 23, 2021
- Co-author, “EU Commission Publishes Template Data Processing Agreement,” *The WSGR Data Advisor*, June 18, 2021
- Co-author, “A New Data Transfer Mechanism Is Available for EU Personal Data,” *The WSGR Data Advisor*, June 4, 2021
- Co-author with L. Brodahl, “Schrems II: biedt de EDPB raad? Toelichting bij de aanbevelingen van de EDPB met betrekking tot internationale gegevensdoorgiften,” *Tijdschrift Privacy & Persoonsgegevens*, nr. 2021/1
- Co-author with A. Lépine, “Massive GDPR Fine Proposed by UK ICO Confirms Trend of Increased Focus on EU Data Breaches,” *The WSGR Data Advisor*, July 8, 2019
- Co-author with C. Burton and S. Cadiot, “EU Commission Publishes Proposal for e-Privacy Regulation: The Top Nine Key Points You Need to Know,” *WSGR Alert*, January 10, 2017
- Co-author with J. Adams, “Update on EU Data Protection Law & U.S. Perspectives on Data-Related Contracts (and Privacy Policies),” *WSGR Technology Transactions Attorney Meeting*, March 10, 2016
- Co-author with C. Burton, “EU Reaches Political Agreement on New Data Protection Regulation,” *The WSGR Data Advisor*, February 4, 2016
- Co-author, “The Final European Union General Data Protection Regulation,” *Bloomberg BNA, Privacy & Security Law Report*, January 2016
- Co-author with S. Cadiot, “Safe Harbor Invalid: What to Expect After the Ruling?” *Privacy Laws & Business*, October 2015
- “EU Data Protection Regulators Issue Guidance on Drones,” *The WSGR Data Advisor*, September 2015
- Co-author with C. Burton and C. Kuner, “Status Update on the EU Data Protection Regulation,” *The WSGR Data Advisor*, July 2015
- Co-author with C. Burton, C. Kuner, and A. Pateraki, “The Proposed EU Data Protection Regulation Three Years Later: The Council Position,” *Bloomberg BNA Privacy & Security Law Report*, June 2015
- Co-author with C. Burton, “EU Data Protection Regulators Issue Guidance on the Internet of Things and Device Fingerprinting,” *Eye on Privacy*, February 2015
- Co-author with W. Nauwelaerts, “Belgium–Data Protection 2014,” *International Comparative Legal Guides*, May 2014
- “Belgian DPA Clarifies Rules on IT Monitoring in the Workplace,” *PL&B*, April 2013
- Co-author with W. Nauwelaerts, “EU Cookie Directive Belatedly Implemented,” *Bloomberg BNA*, September 2012
- “Data Protection Guide: Belgium,” *Thomson Reuters*, August 2012
- “New Protocol Radically Speeds Up the BCR Process in Belgium,” *PL&B*, November 2011
- “New EU Cookie Law Increases Burden on Online Industry,” *ETM Magazine*, November 2011
- Co-author with M. Kuschewsky and T. D’hulst, “Overview of Employment and Employee Privacy Laws and Key Trends in Belgium,” *Nymity*, July 2011
- Co-author with M. Kuschewsky, “Article 29 Working Party Opinion on Smart Metering,” *Privacy and Data Protection Journal*, June 2011
- Co-author with M. Kuschewsky, “RFID–The Current State of Play,” *4 Privacy and Data Protection Journal*, March 2011
- Co-author with M. Kuschewsky, “A New Strategy for Reform–the EU Data Protection Directive,” *Privacy and Data Protection Journal*, March 2011
- Co-author with E. Valgaeren, “Social Networks and Profiling of End Users: Round-Up of Key Jurisdictions,” *Convergence* (online journal of the International Bar Association), August 2010

- "Dan toch zakelijke rechten op het openbare domein?" *Tijdschrift voor Gemeenterecht*, March 2008

Select Speaking Engagements

- Panelist, "Artificial Intelligence in Banking and Insurance: Aligning Innovation and Data Protection," Wintegrity's Reshaping Banking and Financial Services Conference, October 7, 2025
- Panelist, "EU AI Act Comprehensive," IAPP AI Governance Global Europe 2025, May 13, 2025
- Panelist, "AI Act in Action 5: A(I)ccountability – GDPR Meets AI Act," IAPP Europe Data Protection Congress 2024, November 21, 2024
- Speaker, "Preparing for AI Regulations and the AI Act," The L Suite 2024 AI Conference, June 21, 2024
- Panelist, "Will you ban my AI? A Deep Dive into Recent AI-related Regulatory Action in Europe," IAPP, April 3, 2024
- Speaker, "AI-volution | Complying with New Assessment Obligations under the EU Artificial Intelligence Act," Wilson Sonsini webinar, March 27, 2024
- Panelist, "Breaking Down Barriers: A Deep Dive into Initiatives for Improving Gender Representation at Senior Levels of the Legal Profession," Wilson Sonsini event, March 14, 2024
- Panelist, "AI-volution | The EU AI Act Is Here! An Analysis of Last-Minute, Agreed-Upon Changes and Tips for How to Prepare," Wilson Sonsini webinar, December 19, 2023
- Panelist, "AI-volution: New AI Legal Developments in the U.S., the EU, the UK, and China: Differences and Similarities," Wilson Sonsini webinar, December 5, 2023
- Panelist, "What's New on BCRs? A Deep Dive into the New Guidance for Controller BCRs," IAPP, November 15, 2023
- Panelist, "AI-volution: The New EU AI Act," Wilson Sonsini webinar, November 9, 2023
- Panelist, "The UK Online Safety Bill and the EU Digital Services Act: Similarities, Differences and How to Prepare," Wilson Sonsini webinar, October 19, 2023
- Panelist, "Digital Safety Regulatory Compliance," ProSocial Summit, September 13, 2023
- Panelist, "'Should You Certify? Practical Guidance on the New EU-US Data Privacy Framework,'" Wilson Sonsini webinar, July 18, 2023
- Speaker, "How Will the European Data Regulatory Framework Impact Artificial Intelligence?" Wilson Sonsini webinar, May 10, 2023
- Panelist, "DMA, DSA and Data Act: Implications of New EU Data Regulations on Contracts," IAPP Global Privacy Summit 2023, April 5, 2023
- Speaker, "#EmbraceEquity: International Women's History Month Panel Discussion," Wilson Sonsini webinar, March 22, 2023
- Speaker, "Should you consider getting certified? Practical aspects of the upcoming EU-US Data Privacy Framework," Alpine Privacy Days, March 9, 2023
- Speaker, "The Draft EU AI Act," Wilson Sonsini roundtable, December 8, 2022
- Speaker, "EU Regulation comes to Silicon Valley," Wilson Sonsini event, December 1, 2022
- Panelist, "Keeping it Ethical in AI," AI & Big Data Expo Europe, September 20, 2022
- Speaker, "GDPR and DA: A Discussion Among Privacy Professionals About the Data Act," September 15, 2022
- Speaker, "GDPR and DMA: A Discussion Among Privacy Professionals About the Digital Markets Act," Wilson Sonsini Roundtable, June 23, 2022
- Speaker, "'You've Been Hacked' - Principles and Guidelines," GIR Live: Women in Investigations 2022, London, June 16, 2022
- Speaker, "Helping Clients Prepare for AI Regulation," Wilson Sonsini internal presentation, May 25, 2022
- Speaker, "GDR Connect: Regulation and Digital Strategy 2022," GDR Connect Webcast, May 10, 2022
- Speaker, "Impact of GDPR on Biotech and Lifesciences," Wilson Sonsini internal presentation, May 9, 2022
- Guest Lecturer, "Data Transfers Aftermath of Schrems II: What's New?" University of Maastricht, April 21, 2022
- Speaker, "The Next Data Revolution," Mozilla Festival, March 7, 2022
- Speaker, "Helping Clients Prepare for AI Regulation," Wilson Sonsini internal presentation, February 14, 2022
- Speaker, "Prepare your marketing strategy for 2022: live expert discussion on technology and privacy trends," PiwikPro webinar, December 16, 2021
- Guest Lecturer, "Data Transfers Aftermath of Schrems II: What's New?" University of Maastricht, December 7, 2021
- Panelist, "Beyond the GDPR: The EU's Strategy for Data," IAPP Europe Data Protection Congress 2021, November 18, 2021
- Panelist, "The New SCCs: Receive Expert Guidance On How To Implement Them," IAPP Europe Data Protection Congress 2021, November 18, 2021

- Speaker, “PRV 201: Update on California Privacy Law & GDPR,” Wilson Sonsini Webinar, November 15, 2021
- Moderator, “Beyond the EU GDPR: The EU’s strategy for data,” IAPP Webinar, June 29, 2021
- Moderator, “GDR Connect 2021,” GDR Connect Webcast, June 21, 2021
- Speaker, “2021 Privacy Challenges: Women Leading Privacy Have their Say,” IAPP Program, March 11, 2021
- Speaker, “Navigating the Fast-Moving GDPR Data Transfers Landscape – Session 3: The New Standard Contractual Clauses for Data Transfers,” Wilson Sonsini Privacy & Data Protection Webcast, February 9, 2021
- Speaker, “IAPP’s Ask the Expert: EU-U.S. Data Transfers After ‘Schrems II,’” IAPP Webinar, December 14, 2020
- Moderator, “AI and Biometrics: Strategies for GDPR Compliance,” CPDP Conference, Brussels, Belgium, January 23, 2020
- Speaker, “Cookies, Targeting Advertising and Email Marketing: Where Do We Stand?” IAPP Europe Data Protection Congress 2019, Brussels, Belgium, November 19, 2019
- Guest Lecturer, “International Data Transfers of Personal Data under the GDPR,” University of Maastricht, Netherlands, September 5, 2019
- Guest Lecturer, “International Data Transfers under the GDPR and the Use of Standard Contractual Clauses,” University of Maastricht, Netherlands, March 14, 2019
- Moderator, “Tips for dealing with personal Data Breaches under the GDPR,” CPDP Conference, Brussels, Belgium, January 31, 2019
- Speaker, “Understanding GDPR Enforcement,” IAPP Europe Data Protection Congress 2018, Brussels, Belgium, November 28-29, 2018
- Presenter, “International Transfers of Personal Data,” Data Protection Officer (DPO) Certification Course, Vilnius University, November 8, 2018
- Presenter, “Strategies for Dealing with Global Data Breaches,” San Francisco, California, October 18, 2018
- Presenter, “General Data Protection Regulation—Selected GDPR Myths,” Association of Corporate Counsel, Austin, Texas, June 28, 2018
- Moderator, “The Future of Privacy Protection Enforcement: What to Expect and How to Prepare,” CPDP Conference, Brussels, Belgium, January 25, 2018
- Presenter, “International Transfers of Personal Data Post-GDPR,” Maastricht European Centre on Privacy and Cybersecurity, Maastricht University, January 18, 2018
- Presenter, “Understanding GDPR Core Notions and Principles,” GDPR Workshop: Preparing for Compliance, Geneva, Switzerland, November 13, 2017
- Presenter, “GDPR: Interactive Overview of the Key Elements with special focus on the employment context in the shipping sector,” GDPR Workshop: Implementing the General Data Protection Regulation in the Shipping Industry, Brussels, Belgium, September 29, 2017
- Speaker, “Doorgifte van persoonsgegevens naar derde landen,” Documentatie Conferentie - Voorbereiding op de Inwerkingtreding van de GDPR, CREO Business Information & Seminars, September 7, 2017
- Presenter, “Data inventories under the GDPR,” Data Protection & GDPR, Antwerp, Belgium, March 7, 2017
- Presenter, “Data Transfer Between the United States and Europe in the Light of the New Regulation,” The New EU Data Protection Regulation, Brussels, Belgium, January 27, 2017
- Moderator, “Do We Need E-Privacy Legislation?” CPDP Conference, Brussels, Belgium, January 26, 2017
- Presenter, “WSGR Getting Ready for the GDPR Series - Session 5: Regulatory Aspects of the GDPR,” WSGR Privacy & Data Protection Webcast, November 17, 2016
- Presenter, “Safe Harbor/Privacy Shield Agreements and Rules in the new General Data Protection Regulation,” How to Prepare for the General Data Protection Regulation and the Privacy Shield?, Cologne, Germany, September 6, 2016
- Presenter, “WSGR Getting Ready for the GDPR Series - Session 3: The GDPR for Service Providers,” WSGR Privacy & Data Protection Webcast, July 12, 2016
- Presenter, “WSGR Getting Ready for the GDPR Series - Session 2: Enhanced Individuals Rights,” WSGR Privacy & Data Protection Webcast, June 8, 2016
- Presenter, “Getting Ready for the GDPR,” WSGR Privacy & Data Protection Webcast, May 2016
- Presenter, “EU-U.S. Privacy Shield,” 6th European Data Protection Days, Berlin, Germany, April 26, 2016
- Panelist, “Risks Related to International Data Transfers,” Data Protection & Privacy Conference, Brussels, Belgium, April 14, 2016
- Panelist, “Trans-Atlantic Data Flows: In Search of a Long-Term Solution,” CPDP Conference, Brussels, Belgium, January 2016
- “Belgium: CPP Legal Action Against Facebook Commences,” Interview with *DataGuidance*, September 22, 2015

- Speaker, "Exploration of the Adequacy of Privacy Protection Law of States with Federations: Could the State of California Qualify for Adequacy Status?" CPDP Conference, Brussels, Belgium, January 2015
- Guest Lecturer, EU Data Protection Law, University of Brussels, 2011-2012