

The Josefs-Gesellschaft on course for expansion: Luther advises on the acquisition of the Evangelisches Krankenhaus Kalk

Cologne, May 26, 2025 – The Josefs-Gesellschaft (JG Group), a Catholic social and healthcare company, has relied on Luther's industry expertise in the acquisition of a majority stake in the Evangelisches Krankenhaus Kalk (EVKK). Once again, Luther made a valuable contribution to stable healthcare provision in the right bank of Cologne.

With this transaction, the JG Group is expanding its presence in the Cologne metropolitan area with a second hospital location, thereby strengthening its strategic position in the field of inpatient healthcare. In future, the EVKK will be developed under the umbrella of the Josefs-Gesellschaft together with the Eduardus Hospital, which is already under its sponsorship. The aim is to create a medical network concept that provides for the sustainable specialization of both facilities and opens up new perspectives for both patients and employees.

A team of Luther experts led by Dr. Oliver Kairies and Dr. Hendrik Sehy provided legal advice to the JG Group throughout the transaction. The team, which is well known in the healthcare market, impressed with its expertise in planning and implementing the acquisition.

“Luther's support was crucial to the success of this strategically important acquisition,” said JG CEO Dr. Theodor-Michael Lucas and board member Stephan Prinz. “The firm impressed us not only with its high level of professional expertise, but also with its deep understanding of the challenges facing the healthcare sector. With this support, we were able to get our vision of a strong medical network in Cologne off the ground.”

The Evangelical Church Association of Cologne and Region will retain a minority stake in the EVKK. The name Evangelisches Krankenhaus Kalk will remain, underscoring the hospital's ties to the region and its long history.

The acquisition is taking place against the backdrop of North Rhine-Westphalia's state hospital planning, which aims to increase specialization and efficiency in the hospital landscape.

About the JG Group

As a Catholic social and healthcare company, Josefs-Gesellschaft gAG employs more than 10,000 people in 38 affiliated companies within the group. JG is active at more than 80 locations in six federal states. It runs facilities for people with disabilities, hospitals, and senior centers. In addition to the Eduardus Hospital, the group also includes the Elisabeth Clinic Bigge in Olsberg, the St. Augustinus Hospital, the St. Marien Hospital in Düren, and the St. Joseph Hospital in Prüm.

For Luther:

Lead: *Dr. Oliver Kairies (Partner), Dr. Hendrik Bernd Sehy (Counsel)*

Corporate/M&A: *Dr. Daniel Schubmann (Counsel), Dr. Karina Wojtowicz (Senior Associate)*

Hospital law: *Frances Wolf (Senior Associate), Martina Steude, LL.M. (Senior Associate), Charlotte Riese (Senior Associate)*

Commercial: *Dr. Kuuya Chibanguza, LL.B. (Partner), Maike Böttcher (Associate)*

Employment law: *Dr. Eva Maria K. Rütz, LL.M. (Partner), Dr. Lisa Kraayvanger (Senior Associate)*

IT law: *Dr. Kay Oelschlägel (Partner), Dr. Christian Rabe (Senior Associate)*

Mergers and acquisitions/antitrust law: *Dr. Helmut Janssen, LL.M. (Partner), Dr. Daniela Salm (Counsel)*

Luther Rechtsanwaltsgesellschaft mbH

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