



Resume

Name

R. Simons

First name

Rob

Mr Title: LLM

Nationality

Dutch

E-mail

r.simons@dvdw.nl



Rob Simons

Attorney-at-Law, Partner

Employment Law

Current professional activities and positions

- Equity Partner at DVDW Advocaten, a top 50 law firm in the Netherlands (offices in Rotterdam and The Hague)
- Position: Attorney at Law
- Expertise: Employment and Sports Law
- Activities: As an Equity Partner I lead the Employment law (incl. sports law) department of DVDW Advocaten. I advise top tier corporates and individuals (incl. representation of sports clubs and athletes) in the full spectrum of employment- and sports law. Ranked by Chambers and Partners Europe 2026:
 - *“Rob Simons possesses outstanding expertise, responsiveness and strategic insight”;*
 - *“Rob Simons combines all the required qualities in terms of knowledge, precision, clarity and responsiveness”;*
 - *“Rob has specialist knowledge of our industry and genuinely enjoys being involved with it”.*

Bar Admission

16 July 2010 (admission to the bar in the Netherlands)

Academic Degrees / Qualifications

2014

Grotius Academy, Employment Law

Postgraduate specialization program

Passed: Cum Laude

2009 - 2010

University of Tilburg, the Netherlands

Master degree Dutch Law

Thesis: Trafficking in football, protection of minors

Grade: 9 (scale 1–10). Thesis nominated for faculty thesis award

2006 - 2008

University of Tilburg, the Netherlands

Master degree International and European Labour Law

Thesis: Is national pride priceless? A legal analyses of FIFA's lack to compensate clubs releasing their players.

Grade: 8.5 (scale 1–10)



Experts in the
laws of business

Experience in cases relating to sport (examples)

- Attorney at law: representative of athlete (football player active in Champions League regarding unlawful conduct by a third party);
- Attorney at law: representative of an athlete (football player active in Greek premier league) in case initiated by former (Dutch) intermediary claiming damages due to alleged unlawful termination of the intermediary contract.
- Legal advisor (in role of attorney at law) for football club active in Dutch premier league where a player intended to unilaterally terminate the contract invoking the Diarra-case in order to enforce a transfer;
- Legal advisor (in role of attorney at law) for football club active in Dutch premier league during transfer windows (in- and outgoing transfers);
- Legal advisor (in role of attorney at law): representative of a head coach of a Dutch premier league club (active in Champions League) when dismissed by club;
- Legal advisor (in role of attorney at law); representative of professional water polo club active in Dutch premier league regarding an unilateral termination by a player without cause;
- Legal advisor (in role of attorney at law): representative of professional football club terminating contract of head coach due to underperformance.

Publications relating to arbitration and/or sports Law

- R. Simons & I. van Toer, 'Zelfbeschikkingsrecht van voetballers: voetbalagenten buitenspel gezet?', Voetbal- & Sportjuridische Zaken 2024 nr. 3, p. 89-94.
- R. Simons, 'Third Party Ownership in voetbal; een nadere analyse', Tijdschrift voor Sport & Recht 2013-2, p. 33–36.
- R. Simons, 'Sportbonden vrij spel in voordracht atleten Olympische Spelen', Tijdschrift voor Sport & Recht 2012-3, p. 82–87.
- R. Simons, 'FIFA Transfer Matching System wel effectief?', Tijdschrift voor Sport & Recht 2011-3, p. 100–102.
- R. Simons, 'Protection of Minors vs. European Law', European Sports Law and Policy Bulletin – the Bernard Case: sports and training compensation I/2010, Rome: Sports Law and Policy Centre 2010 p. 121–139.

Sports performances at international level

- At national level: football player youth academy (current), second division club in the Netherlands.

Other information

- Regular lecturer for the Erasmus University, Rotterdam.