



BEATE SCHMIDT, President, Federal Patent Court and former Director at OHIM, DE

After completing her Law studies at the Maximilian University Würzburg, Beate Schmidt worked from 1982 to 1986 as a judge in civil and criminal matters at a District Court in Bavaria. From 1986 to 1990 she was seconded to the Federal Ministry of Justice, initially as desk officer for copyright matters; later she worked in the Human Resources Department of the ministry, before she became the personal assistant of the State Secretary in 1991. From 1994 to 1997 she was a Judge at the Federal Patent Court, dealing with trade mark cases. In 1997 she took a position as head of the staff department of the German Patent and Trade Mark Office, and in 2000 was appointed as head of the Main Department for Trade Marks, Utility Models and Designs. During this time she was also deputy representative of Germany in the Administrative Board of the Office of Harmonization in the Internal Market (OHIM, Alicante). In 2006 she became director of a Trade Mark Department in OHIM, later she took over the position of director of the Cancellation and Litigation Department and represented the OHIM as agent in proceedings before the European Court. In May 2011 she was appointed President of the Federal Patent Court, where at the time being she is the chairperson of a nullity board for patents.