

Erik P.M. Vermeulen is Professor of Business and Financial Law at Tilburg University and Tilburg Law and Economics Center (TILEC) in the Netherlands. Much of his current research focuses on the life cycle of a company - from idea to fully mature company, the sources of capital available at each stage of a company's development, and the role of corporate governance in encouraging innovation and maintaining an entrepreneurial spirit across a company's life cycle. Furthermore, his research focuses on private equity, financial markets, innovation policies and start-up ecosystems. He is a frequent speaker on these topics and has published extensively in top journals and books.

He is also Senior Counsel Corporate of Philips (a technology company) in the Netherlands. He serves as a Vice President at the legal department where he advises on corporate governance, corporate venturing activities, international joint ventures and mergers and acquisitions. He has worked on numerous corporate venture capital and spin-out transactions. Philips' anchor investment in a transatlantic venture capital fund through which it complements its long-term open innovation strategy in the healthcare sector is an illustrative example.

He teaches courses on corporate governance, venture capital, entrepreneurship, joint ventures and company law. He frequently lectures on these and other topics at universities around the world. In addition, he has served as an expert advisor to various organizations, such as the European Commission, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), the World Bank, the International Finance Corporation, the Dutch Development Finance Institution, the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) and several national and local governments, concerning innovation, financial and venture capital markets, corporate law, and corporate governance of listed and non-listed companies.