Hans Graux is an IT lawyer at the Brussels based law firm time.lex (www.timelex.eu), a firm that specialises in telecommunications, IT/IP, media and e-business. The firm offers strategic and operational legal support in the creation, management and exploitation of information and technology, in all of its diverse forms.

Hans graduated in Law in 2002, and obtained a complementary degree in IT in 2003. He worked as a research assistant at the Catholic University of Louvain (KU Leuven), where he did fundamental research on a number of IT law related issues. In May 2005 he became a lawyer at the bar of Brussels, and in July 2007, he co-founded the IT law firm time.lex.

He has participated in a large number of international ICT policy studies, primarily for the European Commission and various European Agencies. His expertise lies in the collection of legal and administrative information in cross border studies, in the analysis of legal frameworks and policy choices, and in formulating policy recommendations to eliminate barriers to the correct functioning of the internal market.

Recent work for the European Commission has included projects focused on data protection, eSignatures, electronic identity management, cybercrime, universal services and cloud computing. Furthermore, he is a member of the ICT Committee of the Council of Bars and Law Societies of Europe (CCBE), and Member of the ICT Committee of the Order of Flemish Bars.

From that perspective, it is not surprising that SLAs and SLA standardisation become increasingly important. If we want a competitive cloud market, customers have to be able to compare competing services. And to make sure that they are not comparing apples to oranges, cloud contracts – including the ever important SLAs – must use the same terms in the same way. SLA standardisation initiatives are underway, both in the EU and internationally. The potential for a dynamic cloud computing market is huge, and it is encouraging to see at this time that so many stakeholders are aligning their efforts.