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INSTANTLY CONNECT WITH 123 INDEPENDENT LAW FIRMS IN 63 COUNTRIES INCLUDING ALL U.S. STATES

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IN LOVING MEMORY OF E.L. BUBBA HENRY

February 10, 1936 - April 23, 2025







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US: GEORGIA





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Global Reach with Local Expertise 36 Years of Excellence

SCG Legal has been connecting premier independent law firms since 1989. Our network has grown into a powerful global alliance of trusted legal and public affairs partners.

63 Countries

Comprehensive global coverage

123 Member Firms

Independent, high-quality law firms across the globe

12,000+ Attorneys & Public Relations Professionals







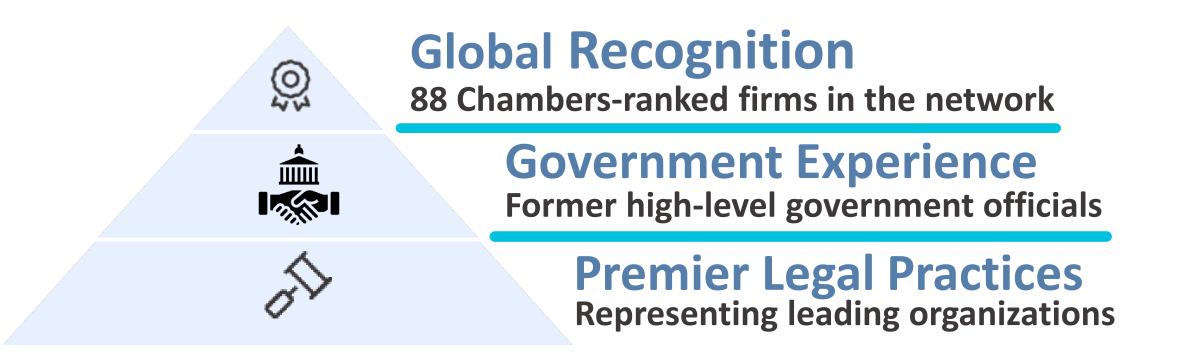
Chambers AND PARTNERS

Global Market Leaders Leading Law Firm Networks: THE ELITE



Elite Legal Talent & Leadership

SCG Legal member firms are recognized leaders in their jurisdictions.



This combination of elite legal talent and government experience creates a uniquely powerful resource for clients navigating complex legal, regulatory, and policy landscapes. The distinguished backgrounds of our members provide invaluable insights and connections that enhance client representation.

SCGLEGAL® A WORLDWIDE NETWORK OF LEADING LAW FIRMS BARCEL®NA

Network Collaboration Benefits

Membership in SCG Legal creates powerful opportunities for collaboration that benefit member firms and their clients. By leveraging the collective expertise, resources, and relationships of the network, firms can expand their capabilities without losing independence.

Knowledge Exchange

Members share best practices, legal updates, and industry insights through regular meetings, conferences, and specialized practice groups, ensuring awareness of global legal developments.

Client Referrals

When clients need representation outside a firm's jurisdiction, members can confidently refer to trusted colleagues within the network, maintaining client relationships while ensuring quality representation.

Cross-Border Teams

For multi-jurisdictional matters, members quickly assemble seamless teams of specialists across relevant practices and regions, providing coordinated solutions to complex international challenges.

This collaborative environment creates a unique advantage for member firms, allowing them to compete effectively with large international firms while maintaining the flexibility and client focus of independent practices.



SCG Member ENGAGE





2025 Regional Meeting Schedule Virtual & In-Person

ASIA & PACIFIC RIM

Jan 21 | Apr 8 | Oct 21

+ Jul @ Regional Mtg (in person)

CANADA

Feb 13 | Apr 10 | Sept 11 | Nov 13

+ Jun @ Regional Mtg (in person)

EUROPE

Mar 11 | Jun 10 | Oct 14 | Dec 9

+ May @ Midyear Mtg (in person)

LATIN AMERICA & CARIBBEAN Feb 18 | Apr 1 | Jun 24 | Oct 29

UNITED STATES

Mar 3 | Jun 3 | Nov 4

+ Sept @ Annual Mtg (in person)

Interested in a Group? Have an idea for a Group? Email CEO Alina Gorokhovsky



Guides & Directories

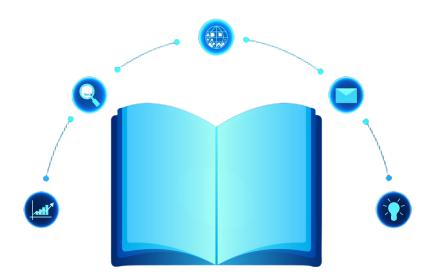


Guides

- Market Entry App for Australia by Hall & Wilcox (Melbourne)
- Doing Business in Asia and Pacific Rim >> Coming Soon
- Doing Business in Canada
- Doing Business in Latin America & Caribbean
- Doing Business in Vietnam by Dilinh Legal

Practice Groups

- Corporate/M&A
- Data Protection, Privacy & Cybersecurity
- Labor & Employment



SCGLEGAL[®]



Doing Business in Latin America & Caribbean

scglegal.com

Table of Contents

Anguilla Argentina Barbados Brazil Cavman Islands Chile Colombia Costa Rica Dominican Republic Grenada Guatemala Honduras Jamaica Mexico Nicaragua Panama Peru Puerto Rico Saint Kitts & Nevis Turks & Caicos Venezuela

About SCG Legal

SCG Legal, a worldwide network of 123 independent law firms, was founded in 1989 and includes firms—80% of which are Chambers ranked with Chambers-ranked attorneys in the balance—that house legal, regulatory, and, in many countries, public policy practices. Members serve clients in major commercial centers and capitals in more than 63 countries, every U.S. state capital city, and the District of Columbia. The 2023 edition of Chambers Global Guide has recognized the network as a Global Elite. Firms in the network are unified by a culture of premier legal practices and industry leadership; an elevated dedication to client service and responsiveness; a commitment to diversity and inclusion; and a devotion to transparent, innovative, and fair billing practices. For more information, please visit scglegal.com.

1 August 2024

SCGLEGAL[®] A WORLDWIDE NETWORK OF LEADING LAW FIRMS

CROSS-SELLING & BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CROSS-BORDER OPPORTUNITIES

PRACTICE GROUP: MERGERS & ACQUISITIONS / CORPORATE



scglegal.com/practices

SCGLEGAL

M&A/CORPORATE CROSS-SELLING/BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

FIRM: Lydian				
SCG LEGAL JURISDICTION (COUNTRY/STATE, ETC.): Belgium				
	Your Name: Maxime Colle			
	Title: Partner			
	Practice/s: Corporate M&A			
10	Email: maxime.colle@lydian.be	Phone: +32 477 87 28 28		
Ludian's Cornerate and MRA team has expertise in corporate law and transactions for domestic and international clients				

Lydian's Corporate and M&A team has expertise in corporate law and transactions for domestic and international clients across diverse sectors. With a keen understanding of clients' businesses, our team offers clear, practical solutions for their daily governance, financing, and M&A activities. Our services include: M&A, Private Equity & Venture Capital, Joint Ventures and Partnerships, Corporate Advisory, Corporate Governance, Business Restructuring and Insolvency, Corporate Housekeeping, Corporate Litigation, Equity Capital Markets, Finance, Tax, Warranty and Indemnity Insurance.

Maxime Colle co-heads Lydian's Corporate and M&A team, together with Peter De Ryck (partner) and Florence Colpaert (partner).

KEY CLIENT SECTORS/INDUSTRIES (Oil and Gas, Tech, etc.) ¹		
1. Tech	3. Life Sciences	5. Insurance
2. Private Equity	4. Logistics & Infrastructure	6. Foods & Beverages

CROSS-SELL OPPORTUNITIES: LIST CLIENTS THE YOU AND/OR THE FIRM IS TARGETING ²		
1. Nestlé / Danone / Unilever / P&G	3. Airbus	5. Generali
2. Siemens	4. Sanofi	6. CVC Capital Partners

CURRENT [NON-CONFIDENTIAL] CLIENTS ³		
1. IBM	3. McDonald's	5. Group IPS
2. Kyndryl	4. IU Group	6. IQGeo Group PLC

CROSS-SELLING/BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT WISH LIST

Q: What cross-selling/business development resource/support from SCG and our members would be of greatest benefit to your success?

A: A strong SCG M&A Practice Group would benefit all SCG members active in Corporate and Mergers & Acquisitions in regards to both cross-selling opportunities and knowledge sharing.

¹ As mentioned in the description Lydian is a full service Belgian independent law firm, our Corporate M&A partners act for various clients active in all sectors. Sectors below are merely a snapshot of Maxime Colle's practice at the date of this note.
² Lydian focuses on servicing on local companies as well as on multinational companies across all sectors, operating in Belgium.

³ As mentioned in the description Lydian is a full service Belgian independent law firm, our Corporate M&A partners act for various clients active in all sectors. Clients below are a sample of Maxime Colle's clients at the date of this note. Draft 15 May 2024

- Limited distribution -

SCGLEGAL[®]

PRACTICE GROUP GUIDE: DATA PROTECTION, PRIVACY & CYBERSECURITY



scglegal.com/practices



DPPC PRACTICE GROUP

US: LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

Mitchell Silberberg & Knupp

<u>Su Ross</u> skr@msk.com | (310) 312-3206

Attorney/s Certified Under Privacy Professionals or Other Related Certification

- <u>Stacey Chuvaieva</u>, CIPP/US and CIPP/E | (310) 312-3749 | <u>stc@msk.com</u>
- Lucy Plovnick, CIPP/US | (202) 355-7918 | <u>hp@msk.com</u>

Areas of Expertise

- Cyber Compliance
- Cyber Insurance (Claims, Negotiations, Policy Drafts, etc.)
- Digital Assets, Cryptocurrencies, AI and Blockchain
- Data Breach Incident Investigations and Response Teams
- Data Protection Compliance: Records Management and Policies
- Data Processing Agreements
- Disputes Related to Cyber/Data Privacy
- GDPR and Global Privacy
- Privacy Regulations (e.g. promotional/marketing campaigns- tele-marking/e-marketing, etc.)
- Relationships with Third Party Forensics/IT Security Partners the Firm Works With
- Transactional Support and Due Diligence

US-Specific DPPC Practice Areas

- California Consumer Privacy Act and Online Privacy Protection Act (CalOppa) and Do-Not-Track laws
- Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA)
- Privacy Law Litigation Experience/Class Actions Capabilities
- State Enforcement Actions
- State Privacy Laws Compliance
- Telephone Consumer Protection Act (TCPA)/Telemarketing

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ARBITRATION

Jan 13 | Next Meeting(s): TBA

BANKRUPTCY & INSOLVENCYFeb 18 | Apr 3 | Jul 9 | Oct 9

CORPORATE/MERGERS & ACQUISITIONS

Feb 25 | Jun 25 | Oct 22

+ May @ Midyear Mtg

& Sept @ Annual Mtg (in person)

DATA PROTECTION, PRIVACY &

CYBERSECURITY

Feb 11 | Jul 17 | Oct 23

+ May @ Midyear Mtg (in person)

2025 Practice Group Meetings

EMPLOYMENT Jan 22 | Next Meeting(s): TBA

ENVIRONMENT/ENERGY > EUROPE Jan 16 | June 5 INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY Feb 26 | June 4

LITIGATION June 4

GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

Jan 9 | Mar 6 | Jun 4 | Oct 16 | Nov 19

+ Sept @ Annual Mtg (in person)

IMMIGRATION

Jan 23 | June 11

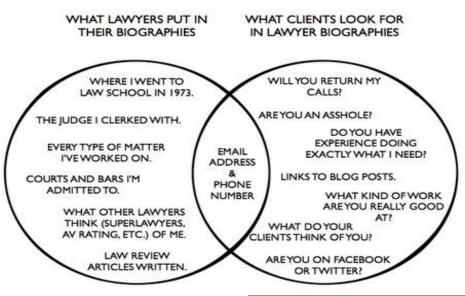
TRUSTS & ESTATES Feb 13 | June 10

WHITE COLLAR Jan 8 | June 5

> Interested in a Group? Have an idea for a Group? Email CEO <u>Alina Gorokhovsky</u>



Member-Only Best Practice Training Programs











SCGLEGAL[®] A WORLDWIDE NETWORK OF LEADING LAW FIRMS

Women in Law Mentorship Program

Together, we are shaping a future where women lawyers are empowered to lead, excel, and inspire.

scglegal.com

Mentors & Mentees

Mentee Candidates:

Junior Partner, Of Counsel, Senior Associate



Key Benefits

Knowledge transfer, network expansion, career guidance



Cross-Firm Connections

Build relationships across member firms



SCGLEGAL®

Building on the success of AI Strategy Exchange 1.0, SCG proudly introduces AI Strategy Exchange 2.0. This initiative is designed to equip member law firms with innovative AI technologies and resources, enabling them to drive productivity, enhance efficiency, optimize operations, and gain a competitive edge.

This program will act as a compass, guiding our members in shaping the future direction of their firms.

In partnership with LegalTech Hub (LTH), AI Strategy Exchange 2.0 will provide members with access to cutting-edge industry resources, collaborative engagements with leading vendors and consultants, and insightful expertise to drive meaningful innovation across firm operations and practice areas.

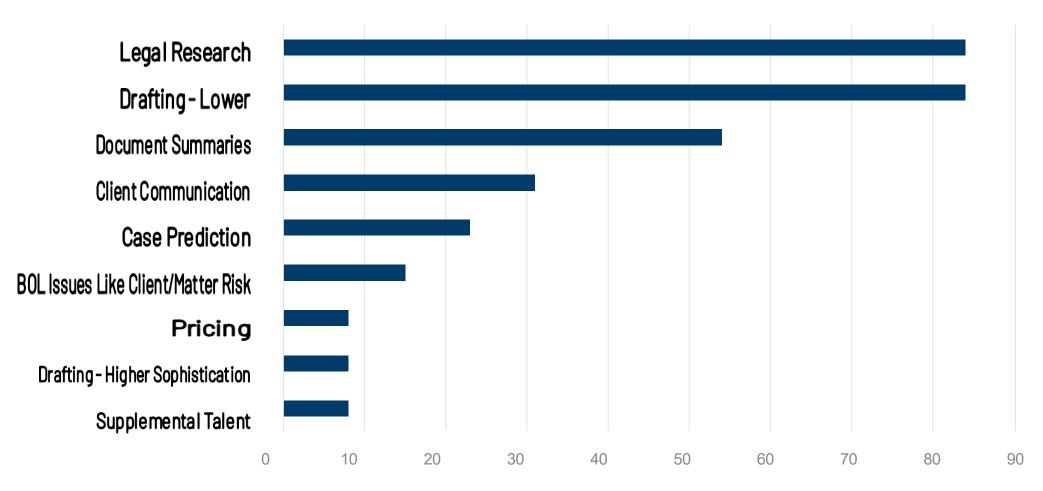
Al Strategy Exchange 2.0

This program is a no-cost, value-add benefit exclusively available to SCG Legal Members

() Legaltech Hub	GenAl / LLM in Legal Tech	Last update: 19 Feb	oruary 2025
Al Legal Assistant	Contracts Litigation Management	Legal Research Documents	Transaction Legal Ops Legal Point
Spelbook Byllo Spelbook EYELEVEL Parton	Spelbook Stantin Stanta Swammer Statistic Al4	MACRO	Mgt Solutions
2ND Sontra	Concession Con-		Kira Poppy BeringLab
Thomson & Uncover CALLIDUS SCISSOR	Costema Vieland	Biomberg Law December Datton	ESimplyAgree brightflag @MANTLE
Contractives Barvam & Arter B	Ironclad Sontra Aracor. Brefpont		Datasite Coheso SmartEsq
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Assess Critical AI Applications





KICKOFF: Current State Market Analysis

- How to develop an AI Strategy
- How to deploy: Build / Partner / Buy
- What's on the Market

MEETING #2: EVALUATION OF RETURN ON INVESTMENT

- Product landscape
- Needs and ROI assessments
- Vendor questionnaires and governance
- Tools to support vendor evaluations

MEETING #3: THE PROFITABILITY OF INNOVATION

- Strategizing for profitability
- Business model changes
- Pricing of legal AI

Al Strategy Exchange 2.0: 2025 Meeting Agendas

MEETING #4: APPLICATIONS AND USE CASES

- Legal use cases
- Benefits of GenAl
- Broad versus Narrow

MEETING #5: EDUCATION AND AWARENESS

- Developing curricula
- Continuous learning
- Lawyer skills training
- Associate development programs

MEETING #6: PROMPTING AND BUILDING

- Best practices for prompting
- App development
- AI agents and workflows
- Adoption and change management

BONUS: Throughout the program, vendors will be invited to provide brief demonstrations during select meetings, tailored to the group's interests and needs. These sessions will offer participants an in-depth look at AI tools designed to deliver value for firms of all sizes.

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Al Resource Portal

AI STRATEGY EXCHANGE WORKING GROUP

Artificial Intelligence (AI) Strategy Exchange 2.0 Launched

In line with the network's ongoing commitment to embracing innovation and remaining at the forefront of advancements in the legal industry, we are excited to announce the launch of the second cohort of our proprietary Artificial Intelligence (AI) Strategy Exchange Working Group in partnership with Legaltech Hub (LTH), the leading insights and analysis platform for legal technology.

- Click <u>HERE</u> for the 2025 press release.
- Click <u>HERE</u> for the 2025 program brochure.
- Looking for AI Strategy Exchange 1.0 (2024) information? Click HERE.

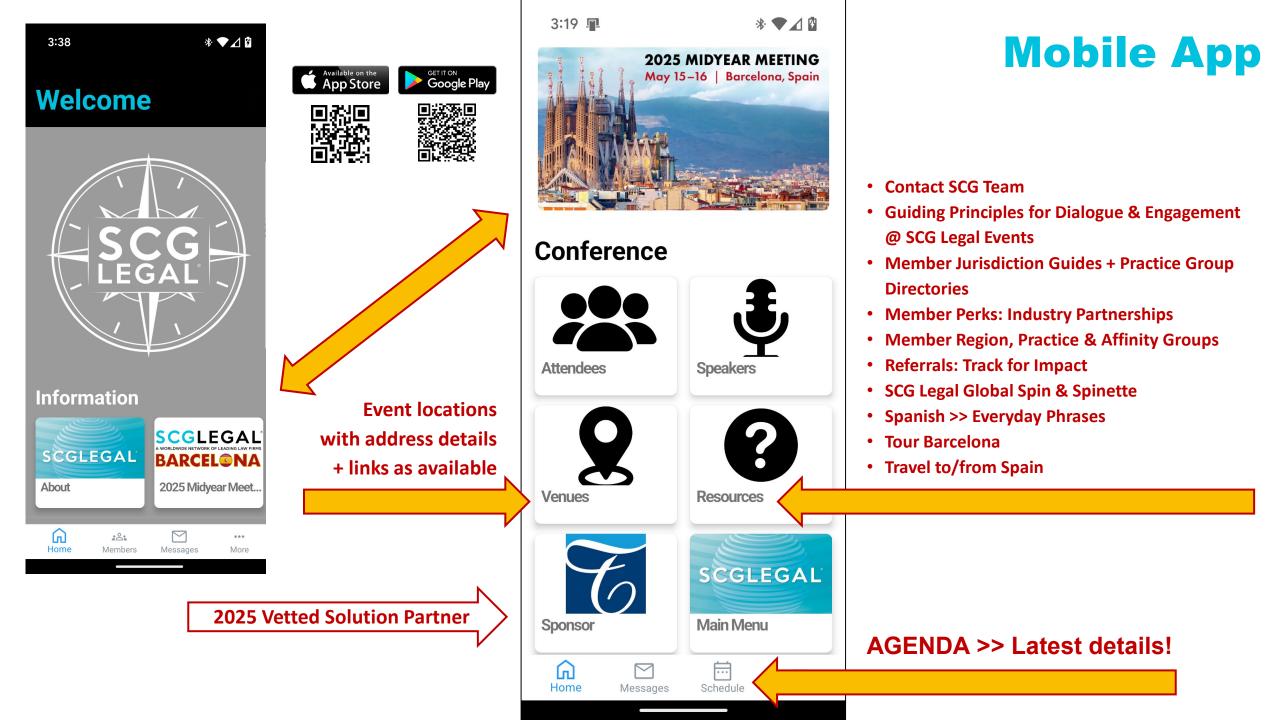
THIS JUST IN >>> LTH GenAl Legal Tech Map*



Click <u>HERE</u> for an interactive snapshot featuring 400+ GenAl products across 17+ different categories. LTH will update the snapshot regularly.

2025 MEETING SCHEDULE

Meeting invitations — including Zoom details — should have been received by all who participated in the 2024 cohort as well as anyone who has since been suggested by their firm Voting Representative and/or expressed interest. Questions? Please email Director, Business Development & Strategic Initiatives Michele Bisceglie at







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Legal Services Washington, D.C.

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SCG Legal, a worldwide network of 122 independent law firms dynamically connected across 62 countries, is pleased to announce its 2024 Officers and Directors, including three new* Directors. ...more

SCG Legal Announces 2024 Board of Directors

scglegal.com

CCE Kim Savon and 28 others

4 comments • 8 reposts





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Mark Medice • 1st Principal at LawVision 6mo • S

I am excited to announce the new initiative between SCG Legal and LawVision, the SCG AI Strategy Exchange. ...more



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In line with our commitment to embracing innovation and staying at the forefront of advancements in the legal industry, SCG Legal is excited to announce a new initiative – SCG AI Strategy Exchange – created in ...more

SCG Legal Partners with LawVision on AI Strategy Program

scglegal.com

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BARCEL

Industry Partnerships









Modern AI tools that enable law firms to win more business

> LSSSOSM LEGAL SALES AND SERVICE ORGANIZATION INC.

TRANSPERFECT

LEGAL

 The 32nd Annual

 Marketing

 Partner Forum







CGLEGAL

iversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Advacate³⁴ Certification Program

ADVOCATE



DIVERSITY, EQUITY and INCLUSION (DEI) ADVOCATE[™]

This program is a no-cost, value-add benefit exclusively available to SCG Legal Members.

Program Overview

Certification for this Program is focused on:

- Diversity Statement & Plan;
- Cultural & DEI Awareness & Training; and
- Commitment to Recruitment & Hiring.

The Program will also support In/External Communication.

Conscient Strategies' team will facilitate the assessment process and work closely with each participating firm to help them promote and/or achieve progress in each one of the evaluation areas.

Program Impact



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Law Firm Leaders 2025 Roundtable

SCGLEGAL LAW FIRM LEADER ROUNDTABLE | February 20 - 21 LEADING THE CHARGE IN A WORLD OF CHANGE Sofitel Washington, DC Lafayette Square 806 15th St NW, Washington, DC 20005 ÷ Thursday, February 20 12:00 pm - 1:30 pm LUNCH | INFORMAL NETWORKING WITH SCG LEGAL'S BOARD CHAIR AND CEO Cancorde Conference Room If you are arriving early, please join us for this pre-event networking lunch. 1:30 pm - 2:00 pm INTRODUCTIONS and MEETING OVERVIEW Celeste Bruce, Rifkin Weiner Livingston (US: Maryland) | Chair, SCG Legal Alina Gorokhovsky, CEO, SCG Legal 2:00 pm - 3:30 pm THE EVOLVING LEGAL LANDSCAPE: KEY TRENDS SHAPING THE INDUSTRY Madelein Conference Room As the legal industry continues to evolve, law firms face increasing pressure to adapt to a rapidly changing environment. From shifting market dynamics and technological innovations to changing client expectations and the evolving needs of talent, firms must rethink their strategies to stay competitive. This session will provide the latest on the legal market, examining key trends reshaping the future of legal services and exploring how law firms can adapt their strategies to stay competitive and relevant in an increasingly dynamic environment. 3:30 pm - 3:45 pm BREAK | NETWORKING Madelein Conference Roon 3:45 pm - 5:00 pm COLLECTIVE WISDOM: A ROUND-ROBIN DISCUSSION Madelein Conference Room A group discussion and collective response to The Evolving Legal Landscape: Key Trends Shaping the Industry presentation, allowing participants to reflect on key takeaways and offer additional insights into what's impacting the legal industry as well as individual firms. The goal is to collaborate on creative solutions and new strategies that address common challenges within firms and across the SCG community. By leveraging the combined experience and expertise of the group, the outcomes of this session will help firm's drive growth, enhance client service, and strengthen internal operations and processes. ADJOURN 5:00 pm COCKTAIL RECEPTION/DINNER 6:30 pm - 9:30 pm @Joe's Seafood, Prime Steak & Stone Crab Friday, February 21 7:45 am - 9:30 am BREAKFAST | NETWORKING

Cancorde Conference Roon

SCGLEGAL

AGENDA

LAW FIRM LEADER ROUNDTABLE | February 20 - 21 LEADING THE CHARGE IN A WORLD OF CHANGE Sofitel Washington, DC Lafayette Square 806 15th St NW, Washington, DC 20005

AGENDA

9:30 am - 11:00 am LATEST INNOVATIONS IN TECHNOLOGY: WHAT LAW FIRM LEADERS NEED TO KNOW Madelein Conference Room

In today's highly competitive legal landscape, where law firms face intense pressure not only to attract clients but also to secure market share and top talent, strategic investments in technology are more critical than ever. For independent law firms, making informed decisions about which platforms to adopt, understanding the return on investment for any improvements, and effectively implementing artificial intelligence (AI) tools is key to staying competitive. This panel will offer a forward-looking discussion on the leading technologies reshaping the industry and how to assess and implement them. There will be a special focus on the transformative role of Generative Al (GenAl) in law firms.

11:00 am - 11:15 am BREAK | NETWORKING

BALANCING GROWTH, PROFITABILITY, AND CULTURE: BUILDING A HIGH-PERFORMANCE 11:15 am - 12:30 pm Madelein Conference Room LAW EIRM

Fostering a cohesive, high-performance culture while driving growth and meeting goals for greater profitability can present significant challenges for law firm leaders. This session will explore how law firm leaders can navigate this delicate balance through proven strategies for aligning culture with business objectives, tackling difficult conversations around performance improvements, and managing compensation systems to incentivize the right behaviors. Additionally, panelists will address the role of profitability modeling and analysis in shaping performance expectations and how law firms can develop and retain their leading talent.

LUNCH I NAVIGATING CHANGE: FORECASTING THE TRUMP ADMINISTRATION'S IMPACT 12:30 pm - 2:30 pm Cancorde Conference Roam ON THE GLOBAL LEGAL LANDSCAPE | STEVE TUGEND, KEGLER BROWN

COLLABORATIVE INSIGHTS: A ROUNDTABLE OF IDEAS 2:30 pm - 4:00 pm Madelein Conference Room

This session, facilitated by faculty from Zeughauser Group, is designed to foster open dialogue and the exchange of innovative ideas regarding topics chosen by the group (financial and strategic planning, growth and merger trends, best practices to drive profitability, building and maintaining a strong firm culture, profitable lateral growth). In a structured round-robin format, participants will have the opportunity to briefly share insights, challenges, and best practices from their respective leadership roles. The goal is to generate collaborative discussions, spark creative solutions, and uncover new strategies for addressing common challenges within our firms. By leveraging the collective experience and expertise of the group, the session will provide valuable takeaways that can be applied across firms to drive growth, enhance client service, and strengthen internal processes

- ADJOURN 4:30 nm
- COCKTAILS/DINNER FOR PARTICIPANTS WHO ARE STAYING IN TOWN 5:00 pm

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LAW FIRM LEADER ROUNDTABLE | February 20 - 21 LEADING THE CHARGE IN A WORLD OF CHANGE Sofitel Washington, DC Lafayette Square 806 15th St NW, Washington, DC 20005

MEETING FACILITATORS

Mary K Young, Zeughauser Group: With more than 18 years of experience at Zeughauser Group, Mary K has been instrumental in helping law firm clients develop strategic plans, create impactful growth initiatives, launch branding campaigns, and build high-performing operational teams. Known for her insightful analysis and ability to produce tangible results, Mary K excels in driving success through innovation and collaboration. Prior to joining Zeughauser Group, she served as Chief Marketing Officer at a Global 50 law firm, where she led marketing and business development efforts on a global scale. Mary K's deep expertise in law firm strategy and operations has made her a trusted advisor to firms seeking sustainable growth and competitive advantage.

Paul S. Pearlman, Zeughauser Group: A highly regarded industry leader. Paul led New York-based Kramer Levin Naftais & Frankel to two decades of impressive financial growth. Drawing on his extensive experience, Paul now applies his deep understanding of building and maintaining successful, creative, and collaborative partnerships to his consulting practice. He specializes in advising law firms on a range of management and governance issues, including strengthening financial performance, strategic planning, compensation systems, practice management, talent development, and high-value lateral partner recruitment. Known for his ability to drive growth and innovation, Paul's expertise helps law firms enhance operational effectiveness and achieve long-term strategic objectives.

Nikki Shaver, CEO, Legaltech Hub: With 20 years in law, Nikki has practiced at major firms in Australia, led knowledge and innovation teams at Stikeman Elliott and Paul Hastings, and advised on Legaltech procurement. In 2019, frustrated by the lack of searchable Legaltech resources, she saw a need for better tracking of solutions-an insight that inspired the founding of Legaltech Hub.

> 2025 In-Person Meetings: Save the Details May 15 - 16: Midyear Meeting in Barcelona (Spain) September 18 - 19: Annual Meeting in Austin, TX (U.S.)







Adler Pollock & **Eckert Seamans** Barnes & Clark Wilson Hall & Wilcox Fennemore Cherin & Mellott Sheehan Thornburg Mitchell Kegler Brown Hill **McGinnis** Larkin Hoffman **McGuireWoods** Mills & Reeve Silberberg & + Ritter Lochridge Knupp **Rifkin Weiner** Nyemaster Parsons Behle & Robinson + Cole WeirFoulds Goode Latimer Livingston



PEER REVIEW



Professional Development Programs On Demand

- Efficiency: Process Improvement, Project Management and the P+Ecosystem
- Well-Being: A six-part webinar series featuring How to Foster and Keep a Sense of Control, A Stress- Resilience Workspace, Virtual Team Building Activities, Habits for Continued Professional and Personal Growth, Healthy Work Engagement vs. Burning Out and The Six Human Needs and Seven Habits of Highly Effective People
- Diversity, Equity and Inclusion: A three-part webinar series featuring Bias-Reducing and Diversity-Promoting Decision-Making for Legal Professionals, Identifying and Confronting Subtle Forms of Bias in the Law Firm and a Fireside Chat with Law Firm Diversity Professionals
- Strategic Communication as Law Firms Re-Open Their Doors
- Developing Business in a Virtual Landscape
- Post-pandemic Future: How to Orient Your Business for the Changes We've Seen and the Changes to Come
- Drive Client Loyalty and Build Business by Understanding the Voice of Your Client

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Business Development Webinars

Business Development Webinar Series

Please join SCG Legal for two 45-minute webinars focused on client relationship development, building your personal brand, and managing your professional career. The series is complimentary, but registration is required.

Your Invisible Network: How to Build and Enrich Relationships With Clients and Within SCG February 27 at 10:30 am (EST)

Relationships are a must-have...not a nice-to-have...when it comes to achieving your leadership and business potential. Internationally renowned executive coach, leadership expert, and lawyer Michael Urtuzuástegui Melcher, author of the book *Your Invisible Network: How to Create, Maintain, and Leverage the Relationships That Will Transform Your Career* (2023), will share insights and practical tips for how to get the most out of your current and future connections based on his years coaching senior leaders across multiple industries.

Through this webinar you will better understand:

- · How relationships are a form of wealth that is under your control
- · What it means to build and manage a relationship portfolio
- How relationship 'bids' work and how we can offer and be more receptive to – more bids with clients and colleagues
- · 'Minute 32' and the unpredictable ways that conversations unfold
- The limits of pre-qualifying aka why you can't predict who will be most valuable
- · The power of research-based principles like 'strength of weak ties'
- Why your discomfort is part of the process...and how to deal with it
- · How to do all the above amid a busy career and life

SCGLEGAL[®] A WORLDWIDE NETWORK OF LEADING LAW FIRMS

Edelman's 2025 Trust Barometer: Navigating the Evolving Confidence Crisis in Law April 8 @ 10:00 - 11:00 AM EST

This webinar is a complimentary value-added program for SCG Legal members. If the date/time does not work for your schedule, please register so you can receive the recording.

Trust is the cornerstone of the legal profession, yet the 2025 Edelman Trust Barometer highlights growing skepticism toward institutions, including the judiciary and legal system.

This webinar examines the evolving trust landscape in law—spanning judicial integrity, corporate ethics, Al in legal decision-making, and crisis management and equips lawyers with actionable strategies to reinforce confidence, accountability, and ethical leadership.

Through expert insights and real-world applications, the discussion will explore how trust is shaping the future of law and the profession's critical role in addressing societal concerns amid declining institutional confidence.

Key Takeaways

- How to lead through this crisis
- How to navigate expectations
- How to deliver results that benefit everyone
- How to prioritize and rebuild trust across your organization and local communities

REGISTER NOW

Building Your Personal Brand March 14 at 10:30 am (EST)

Individual lawyers represent their firm's brand only as well as how they present themselves. Building your personal brand will strengthen your reputation within your firm, with current and prospective clients, and across business-building resources such as SCG Legal.

Sought after Executive coach Kimberly Togman, founder of Scalable Leader and a principal with Next Step Partners®, and Michael Urtuzuástegui Melcher will help you understand your existing brand and ways to optimize it.

Through this webinar you will better understand how to:

- Define, refine, or re-invent your brand
- · Communicate your brand
- Explore strategies for aligning your existing network with your brand
- Keep brand at the forefront of your career management strategy

REGISTER TODAY

REGISTER TODAY



Executive Coaching Sessions

Group sessions + online training modules (video tutorials). Run-time average of six-minutes or less ensures minimal impact on billable time. Immediately actionable with clear step-by-step instructions on how to apply each strategy.

- How to Expand Your Professional Network Virtually
- Prospecting for New Clients in a Virtual Environment
- How to Succeed in a Virtual Pitch
- How to Differentiate from the Competition
- How to Enhance Your Professional Reputation with Social Media and Thought Leadership

New Partners Institute (NPI)

148 Alumni Organizing Annual Alumni Meeting



2025: 3 Classes (55 Participants)



NPI 2025 Program

MODULE ONE - OCT 30, 2024 VIRTUAL WORKSHOP - TWO HOUR PROGRAM

INTRODUCTIONS & BUILDING A STRONG FOUNDATION

PROGRAM WELCOME. SALES V. MARKETING. & EFFECTIVE INTRODUCTIONS

PURPOSE: To discover the roadmap to follow and the specific steps to achieve business development goals. To develop, practice and refine a unique 'elevator speech' and facilitate connections among the participants.

Participants are introduced to each other as well as the marketing cycle and sales process. This module includes addressing the reluctance some lawyers have in 'selling' by defining exactly what it is in the context of selling professional services. By laying out the specific phases of the sales process and detailing what activities should be undertaken at each juncture from planning to retaining and growing clients, lawyers have a clear roadmap to follow and an in-depth understanding of what can and should be done to advance to the next step.

Creating and delivering an elevator speech is essential for effective relationship development and networking. First impressions can make or break a relationship. In this program, participants learn what it is (a 10 second 'tagline' that is succinct and memorable, focused on benefits and delivered effortlessly) and then practice and revise it as appropriate to the situation.

The FIRM Guidance 'Elevator Speech Worksheet' will be provided for the small amount of advance work required in this kickoff.

MODULE TWO - NOV 20, 2024 AND JAN 15, 2025 TWO VIRTUAL WORKSHOPS - ONE HOUR EACH

LEADERSHIP

PURPOSE: To guide you to develop important leadership skills for your career, including identifying and leveraging your own style for the benefit of your practice, team, and firm.

AGENDA FOR THIS MODULE:

These workshops are designed to help you develop your personal leadership, team leadership, and project management skills specifically in the legal context. Participants will also develop a personal leadership plan to put their learnings into action and transform as a leader. In this module, you will:

- · Identify your personal leadership style and the emotional intelligence components that support effective leadership.
- Understand how legal training impacts emotional intelligence and leadership.
- Understand the components necessary to build and lead an effective high-functioning team.
- Learn how to incorporate personal leadership and team leadership to successfully manage a process improvement project. Identify opportunities for the development of personal leadership,
- team leadership, and/or project management skills and develop a plan to expand those skills.

MODULE THREE - FEB 19 AND MAR 19, 2025 TWO VIRTUAL WORKSHOPS - ONE HOUR EACH

PRACTICE MANAGEMENT & PROCESS IMPROVEMENT

PURPOSE: To gain knowledge of key process improvement and project management concepts and tools for a more efficient practice that delivers greater value to your clients and your firm.

AGENDA FOR THIS MODULE:

Process improvement, project management, and Design Thinking are being used by the legal profession to produce efficiency, predictability, excellence in work product and service delivery, while enhancing employee and client experience and improving the chances of successful outcomes. No trade-offs are needed by either the firm or the client when employing these approaches, because everyone wins.

The program includes a brief introduction to key process improvement terms and methodologies, an explanation of project management, and how PI and PM work together. In this module, you will:

- Learn about process improvement, project management, and how they work together.
- Understand what Design Thinking is and how is it used in the legal industry.
- Find out how to get started on a PI/PM/DT program.
- Practice using PI, PM, and DT for competitive advantages: case studies of what others in the legal profession are doing.
- Learn how combining PI, PM and DT produces a winning equation for everyone.

MODULE FOUR - APR 23 AND JUN 18, 2025 TWO VIRTUAL WORKSHOPS - ONE HOUR EACH

PLANNING FOR SUCCESS

PURPOSE: To understand benefits of networks available in and through your firm. We'll discuss the value of relationships and defining the scope and roles of those involved when it comes to referrals and collaborative cross-selling efforts. You'll gain insights on bridging cultural differences of firms from different countries and ways to establish productive multicultural collaboration in the interest of the client, your firm and SCG Legal.

AGENDA FOR THIS MODULE:

- Set SMART goals.
- · Develop your individual business plan that leverages your strengths.
- Focus on actionable plans to build long-term business development habits and solidify your relationships.
- Develop a long-term business development strategy and execute your short-term business development plan.
- · Building referral sources and clients for life.

FIRM Guidance

FIRM GUIDANCE/MACDONAGH CONSULTING

Catherine Alman MacDonagh, JD is an award-winning lawyer entrepreneur, consultant, professor, author, and speaker. With FIRM Guidance, she offers planning, organizational services with a particular focus on the legal profession.

LLSI is the first and only organization that offers a full range of consulting services and certifications in process improvement and project management as well as and law firms / offices

THE LEGAL LEAN SIGMA INSTITUTE

development, marketing, and business development consulting certificate programs and workshops for legal departments





NPI Alumni Certificate







BARCEL





Virtual Networking

- Firm-to-Firm Meetups
- Wine Tastings
- Happy Hours
- Global Connections Calls





Networking @ Industry Events

2025 In-Person Upcoming Legal Industry Meetup Opportunities

International Trademark Assoc (INTA) Annual Meeting San Diego, CA

Member Meetup: Sun, May 18 > 4:00 – 6:30 pm @ Wild Hare Bar Garden (a five-minute walk from the Convention Center)

International Bar Association (IBA) Annual Conference

Toronto, ON

November 2–7 > Cocktail Reception/s + Other Events





ILT&CUN

SCGLEGAL®

Weekly Global Roundup

Vol 2025 Issue Feb 17

The Members of SCG Legal's global community are consistently offering critical opportunities – thought leadership, industry guides, in-person events, podcasts, webinars, and more – with direct impact on attorney, firm, and client success. If you'r firm would like to contribute to this weekly e-communication, please send details to sharealerts@scglegal.com.

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

SCG Legal 2025 Midyear Meeting | May 15-16 | Barcelona, Spain

The legal landscape is shifting rapidly, influenced by technological advancements, geopolitical uncertainty, economic fluctuations, and evolving regulations. Navigating this ever-changing landscape requires more than just expertise—it demands collaboration, foresight, and strategic innovation.

This Midyear Meeting is designed to equip lawyers with the tools, insights, and connections needed to not only manage but lead through challenges and changes

THIS WEEK February 18

- The Tax Reform of Trapped Profits User Guide presented by Amit, Pollak, Matalon & Co. (Israel)
- How To ... Assert Employer's Rights With Your EPLI Insurer presen by Barnes & Thornburg (US: Indiana)

February 19

- Artificial Intelligence and Ethics presented by Mitchell Silberberg & Knupp (US: Los Angeles, CA)
- Understanding the New Administrative False Claims Act presented by Wiley (US: Washington, D.C.)

February 20

- Immigration Insights: Weekly Fireside Chats presented by Barnes & Thornburg (US: Indiana)
- 2025 Employment Law "Year in Review" presented by Mitchell Silberberg & Knupp (US: Los Angeles, CA)
- SBA's New Size Recertification Rules for Multiple-Award Contracts presented by Wiley (US: Washington, D.C.)

Member Meetups @ Industry Events

SCG Legal monitors Member attendance at global events to help facilitate meetups and/or potentially sponsor networking opportunities. Below are some of the events we are tracking for 2025. If you/r firm colleagues are planning to attend these events – or would like to suggest other events be added to this list – please email Membership Coordinator Erin Kane (<u>ekane@scglegal.com</u>).

- Annual Hybrid Qui Tam Conference
- February 20–21 | Washington, D.C. • National White Collar Crime Institute

March 4-7 | Miami, FL | Ralph Caccia from Wiley (US: Washington, DC) is on the Steering Committee for this meeting. Please reach out to SCG CEO Alina Gorokhovsky (<u>agorokhovsky@scglegal.com</u>) if you will be attending or would like to be involved in this meeting.

- INSOL Hong Kong 2025 March 17-19
- INSOL International April 20-22 | London
- International Association of Privacy Professionals (IAPP) Global Privacy Summit 2025

April 23-24 | Washington, DC

- Legal Marketing Association (LMA) Annual Conference April 23-25 | Washington, DC
- RSA Conference 2025
 April 28-May 1 | San Francisco, CA
- American Bar Association (ABA)-IPL Section Annual Meeting April 30-May 2 | Arlington, VA

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Want to be Featured in the Next Newsletter?

Have news you want to share with the SCG community? Please send emails to

sharealerts@scglegal.com.



News from the Network

In the Spotlight

AGM Abogados (Spain) announced the launch of their new ESG – Regulatory Compliance and Sustainability practice area. The new practice is is led by Marta Salvador Mateo, lawyer in the Immigration area, and Héctor Déniz Guedes, Head of the Penal and Compliance area.

Fraser Trebilcock (US: Michigan) The firm's growth continues with Grand Rapids office relocation. New office address: 300 Ottawa NW Suite 810.



April 2025 NEWSLETTER

A WORLDWIDE NETWORK OF LEADING LAW FIRMS

We're just three weeks away from SCG's 2025 Midyear Meeting in Barcelona on May 15–16! If you plan to attend but haven't registered yet, please click HERE to register.

We're also excited to announce that registration is now open for our **Annual Meeting**, taking place **September 18–19 in Austin, TX**. Click **HERE** for additional information. The first round of invitations for this event will go out to our network tomorrow.

Given the current global political, regulatory, economic, and legal uncertainties, we are hoping for strong member participation in Austin—ideally with two to three attorneys from each member firm. All SCG meetings are valuable opportunities to connect across firms and practice areas, and now more than ever, it's essential that we come together. These meetings not only highlight business development opportunities but also foster deeper collaboration to support clients in today's unprecedented environment.

In addition to Barcelona and Austin, we want to highlight two important **regional meetings** happening this year. We will have participation from all regional firms, ideally with two to three attendees per firm across different practice areas. If you or members of your firm are interested in attending and/or speaking, would like to promote your firm and practice, or have clients in Canada or the Asia-Pacific region and want to expand relationships there, please let me know.

Canada Regional Meeting – Calgary, June 19–20, 2025: This meeting will bring together our Canadian firms from across Alberta, British Columbia, Manitoba, New Brunswick, Northwest Territories, Nova Scotia, Nunavut, Ontario, Quebec, Saskatchewan, and Yukon. Discussions will include a wide range of topics—from M&A to litigation—and offer a strong focus on business development and cross-selling among firms.



Member-to-Member Pod/Webcast

Welcome to SCG Global Spin

Home to SCG Legal's attorney-to-attorney webcast series that focuses on the issues and conversations that matter to you.





SCG Cyber Series: A Primer on U.S. + EU/EEA.

In this high-level overview, learn from SCG cyber experts why privacy is so important, who the laws are in different geopolitical areas...



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SCG Global Spinette: Pennsylvania's Perspective.

Bob DeSousa, Counsel with SCG Legal Member Eckert Seamans, shares his thoughts on how the recent U.S. federal and state elections might...





Thought Leadership

Showcase expertise to global legal community and clients.



Network Building

Forge connections with peers in specialized practice areas.



Full production assistance included at no additional cost.





2025 & 2026 Meetings

– Calgary, Canada

Canada Regional Meeting: June 19-20, 2025

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Asia & Pacific Rim Regional Meeting: July 10-11, 2025

Austin, TX

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Annual Meeting: September 18-19, 2025

2026 Locations

Melbourne (March) and Washington, DC (September)



Registration Open

****Ideas for Sessions & Speakers Welcome****



2025 ASIA & PACIFIC RIM REGIONAL MEETING 10-11 July | Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia



FOR MORE DETAILS, VISIT: **SCGLEGAL.COM/EVENTS**



Client Referral Network

<u>کم</u> Identify Need

Determine when your client requires assistance in another jurisdiction

Find Resources

Visit www.scglegal.com/firms or contact CEO Alina Gorokhovsky

Make Connection

Connect with the listed representative in the needed jurisdiction

Track Referral

CC your voting rep and SCG's CEO on all referral communications





GLOBAL LITIGATION: EMERGING TRENDS, CHALLENGES & CLIENT STRATEGIES

Moderator

- Sergio López > AGM Abogados (Spain)
 Panelists
- Thomas Amico > Veil Jourde (France)
- Chad Shandler > Richards, Layton & Finger (US: Delaware)
- Katherine Silverman > Berman Fink Van Horn (US: Georgia)







KEYNOTE 15:00 – 16:00

A NEW DECADE OF SUPERCOMPUTING

Josep Maria Martorell

Associate Director Barcelona Supercomputing Center

Q&A MODERATOR Guillermo Bayas Fernández AGM Abogados (Spain)





NAVIGATING CHANGE: FORECASTING THE TRUMP ADMINISTRATION'S IMPACT ON THE U.S. & THE GLOBAL LEGAL LANDSCAPE

Moderator

- Don Bolia > Peachtree Government Relations (US: Georgia)
 Panelists
- Chad Causey > Rose Law Firm (US: Arkansas)
- Heather Harris > Barnes & Thornburg (US: Indiana)
- Robert Rieger > Adams & Reese (US: Louisiana)



NAVIGATING CHANGE: The Trump Administration, Congress and the States

C. Chad Causey, Attorney and Consultant

ROSE GROUP ADVISORS

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Overview

Trump Administration : Executive Orders, Tariffs and the "Big, Beautiful Bill"

Congress

States Still Play a Significant Role

Theme: States are Central to Balance of Power

The Executive Order Presidency

DJT II - 152 Executive Orders in 114 days.

Biden – 162

DJT I – 220

Obama – 276

GWB - 291



Executive Actions



- President Donald Trump issued more than 200 presidential actions in the first 100 days of his second term
 - About 40% of executive orders have been challenged in court
- Fewer bills have been sent to Trump's desk compared with other recent presidents (5)
 - Change in Focus: Republicans focusing on sweeping reconciliation bill to enact top priorities while bypassing Democratic support

Actions during the early months.

- Trump is using various existing authorities to issue tariffs, executive orders and other actions
- Courts are questioning the reach of some of these executive orders
- DOGE curtailing federal workforce, grant funding, programs, etc., working to shrink government and create more efficiencies.
- Working to secure priorities in first 24 months.

Trump Ramps Up Tariffs

China	 Set <u>125% tariff</u> on Chinese goods under national emergency declaration related to US trade deficits
	Set <u>20% tariff</u> on Chinese goods under national emergency declaration regarding flow of drugs into US
	Closed " <u>de minimis</u> " loophole for low-value merchandise from China, Hong Kong effective May 2
Global Tariffs	 Set <u>10% tariff</u> on majority of world under national emergency declaration related to US trade deficits
	 Trump initially imposed additional duties of as high as 50% on certain countries; he <u>suspended</u> additional duties to July 9 while keeping in place 10% universal tariff on most foreign imports
Canada and Mexico	 Set 25% tariff on most products from <u>Mexico</u>, <u>Canada</u> under national emergency declarations regarding flow of drugs into US
	 Later orders exempted goods covered by United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement, and set lower 10% rate on energy products from Canada, potash from <u>both countries</u>
Targeted Sectors	 Set 25% tariffs on foreign-manufactured <u>steel</u>, <u>aluminum</u>, <u>automobiles</u> under national security authorities, with tariff on auto parts beginning May 3
	 Two subsequent orders <u>exempted</u> automakers from separate levies on steel, aluminum to prevent stacking; <u>provided</u> automakers rebates of up to 3.75% of retail value of US-made vehicles through April 30, 2026
Potential for	 Authorized State Department to impose <u>25% tariffs</u> on countries that purchase oil from Venezuela
Future Tariffs	 Ordered Commerce investigations into potential tariffs on <u>critical minerals</u> — including "derivative products" that could include semiconductor parts and smartphones — <u>copper</u>, <u>lumber and timber</u>
Read more: "Tracking Every Trump	Tariff and Its Economic Effect," Bloomberg News Bloomberg Government

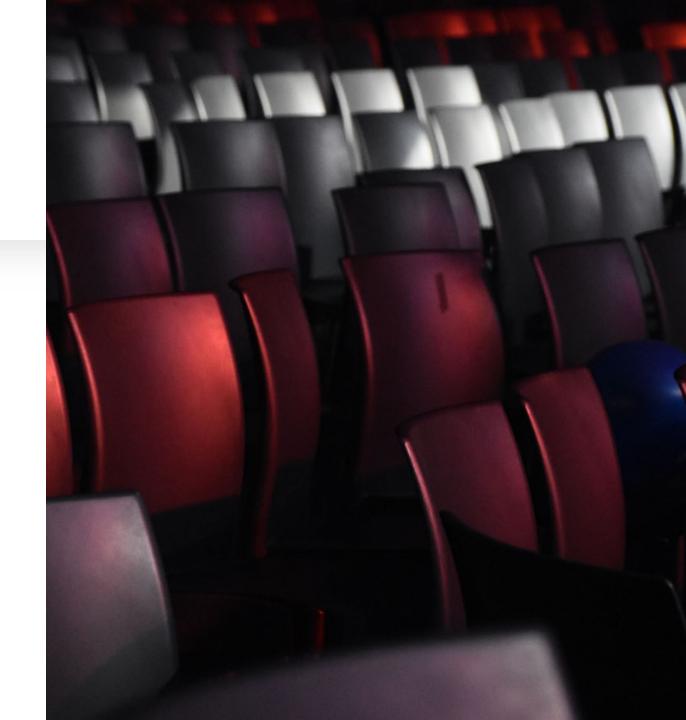
Read more: "Tracking Every Trump Tariff and Its Economic Effect," Bloomberg News

"Big, Beautiful Bill."

- Makes permanent 2017 tax cuts.
- Eliminates taxes on tips, overtime pay through 2028.
- Expands SALT exemption.
- Border and Immigration funding and reforms.
- BUT, can Congress pass the bill?

Control of the U.S. Congress

- House 435 Members.
- Senate 100 Seats.
- Number of seats in House apportioned by population.
- Every state has 2 senators.
- Control of Congress is razor thin.



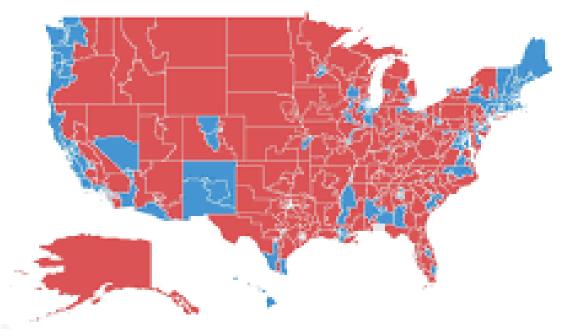
House Balance of Power for the 119th Congress

- Speaker Mike Johnson has a very narrow majority for Republicans in the House.
- He can only lose 2 or 3 votes when all Democrats oppose
- So far, he has kept his caucus together.
- Big tests are coming on reconciliation and tax cut bills moving through Congress.

United States House of Representatives

119th Congress

Hover over each congressional district to see the representative.



The 119th Congress convened on January 3, 2025, and will conclude on January 3, 2027.

Current consecutive term shows.

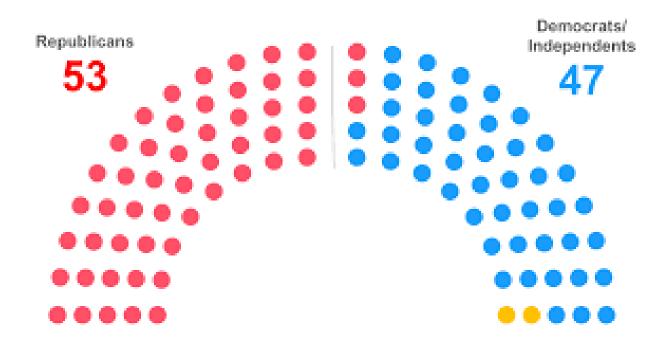


C Review Association Devicements,

Senate Balance of Power for the 119th Congress

Note: Yellow dots are independents who are aligned with Democrats.

- Republicans regained the majority in the Senate during the 2024 election.
- By flipping 4 seats, Republicans now have a 3 seat vote with the VP as the tie-breaker.
- Senate is using a process called reconciliation to avoid a 60 vote threshold to advance legislation.



A Federalist System - State Governments

- 50 States
- 50 Governors
- 50 Legislatures
- 50 opportunities to impact policy

- State Government tends to be less divided
- Policy items can move more quickly at the State level

Where policy change at the federal level can take years, state level changes can occur in months and sometimes days.

- States have been the pilots or incubators for several national policy initiatives
- Examples include Cannabis, Artificial Intelligence, social media restrictions

Conclusion

- Administration is more aggressive this term, using executive orders to pursue policy. Fighting courts as opposed to fighting in Congress.
- Republicans control Congress, for now. After two years, elections could change this. They will achieve much of Trumps' agenda if they pass the reconciliation package.
- States have and will continue to serve as laboratories for new laws and policies. This importance will be even greater in light of national politics..







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MITTON







PREPARING FOR AI: PRACTICAL CONSIDERATIONS FOR LAW FIRMS & CLIENTS

Panelists

- Vanesa Alarcón > AGM Abogados (Spain)
- Brian McGinnis > Barnes & Thornburg (US: Indiana)
- Jason Vitullo > Patterson Belknap Webb & Tyler (US: New York, NY)



Al Vendors for Law Firms & Legal Departments

🌐 Legaltech Hub	G	enAl / LLM in Legal Tech	Last update: 19 Februar	Last update: 19 February 2025		
Al Legal Assistant	Contracts	Litigation Management Legal Research	Documents Trans	saction Legal Ops Legal Point		
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Godfather of AI Geoffrey Hinton warns AI could take control from humans: "People haven't understood what's coming."

"The best way to understand it emotionally is we are like somebody who has this really cute tiger cub.

"Unless you can be very very sure that it's not gonna want to kill you when it's grown up, you should worry."







SESSION 9:45 - 10:15



Judith Jacob Client Lead Forward Risk





Navigating Uncertainty: Geopolitics in 2025

Mid-Year Strategic Risk Outlook





US Economic Policy Uncertainty

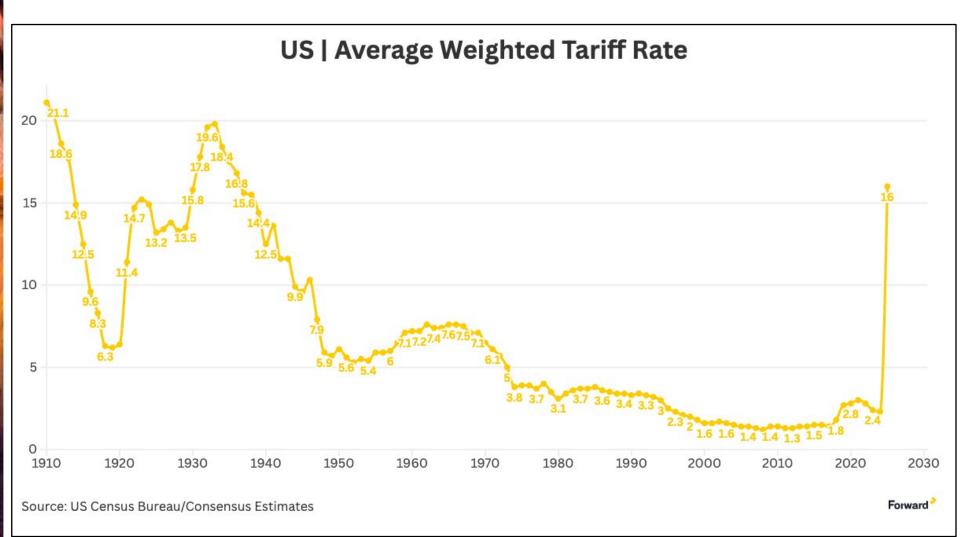
Limited Conflict Resolution

Broken Humanitarian Assistance Highest US tariff rate since **1936**

IMF predicts global economy will lose USD 500 billion in potential growth

10% tariff will persist in long term

US Economic Policy Uncertainty



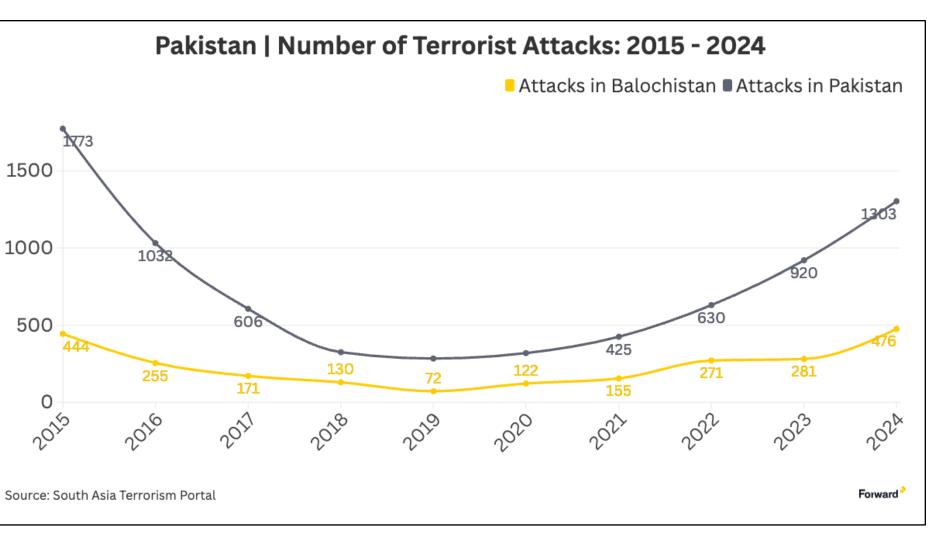


66 countries recorded at least one terrorist attack in 2024

Terrorist attacks increased by

63% in the West from 2023 to 2024

Limited Conflict Resolution



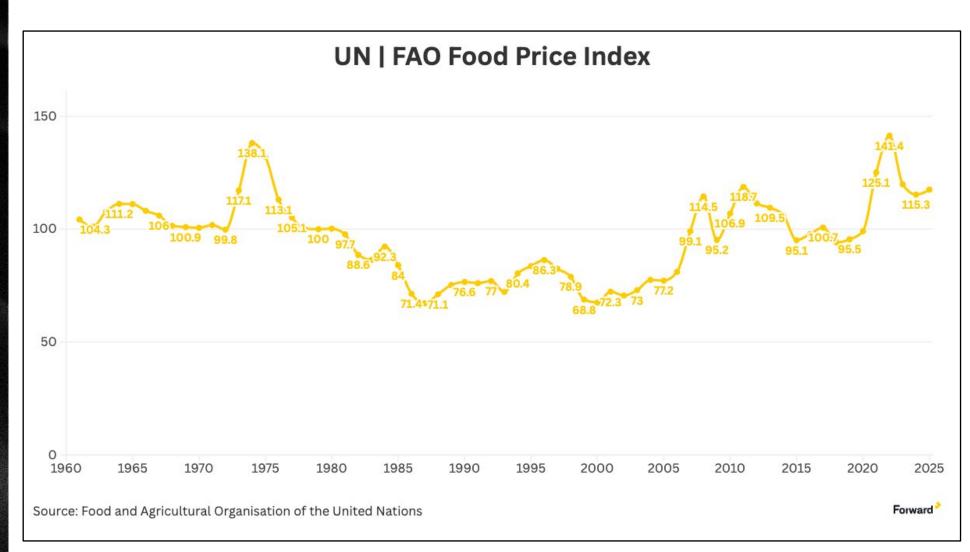
Global food prices remain

27% above pre-pandemic levels

16% of

critical mineral mines are in water-stressed locations

Broken Humanitarian Assistance



Mitigating Risk

Building Resilience and reducing uncertainty

- Forecasting
- Scenario Planning
- Flexibility



Dr. Judith Jacob Director – Geopolitical Risk, Forward Global E-mail : Judith.Jacob@forwardglobal.com





#RAPIDINSIGHT THE GLOBAL REACH OF U.S. TECH POLICY

Duane Pozza Wiley (US: Washington, DC)





THE GLOBAL REACH OF U.S. TECH POLICY

Duane Pozza, Wiley (Washington, DC)

SCG Global Barcelona 16 May 2025

AI: Trump Administration Policy

- Trump Administration issued Executive Order <u>Removing Barriers to American</u> <u>Leadership in Artificial Intelligence</u> on Jan. 23, after repealing Biden AI EO
 - Declares that U.S. policy will "sustain and enhance America's global AI dominance in order to promote human flourishing, economic competitiveness, and national security."
 - Orders review and revision of agency actions under the Biden AI EO
 - Orders revision of OMB guidance on federal agency use and procurement now issued
 - Orders development of "action plan" by July 22
- Released Request for Information on Feb. 6 on "highest priority policy actions" that should be included in the AI Action Plan – including on procurement, privacy, security, regulation, and national security and defense

AI: Key Federal Approaches

- Al-specific approaches have been developing in addition to generally-applicable laws
- Examples include:
 - AI Voluntary Risk Management Framework began development under first Trump Administration.
 - The <u>NIST AI Risk Management Framework (AI RMF)</u> a voluntary framework to organizations manage risks to individuals, organizations, and society associated with AI
 - AI Executive Orders directing federal agency action, in different sectors
 - Biden AI EO (10/30/2023) The EO directed dozens of agencies to take action related to AI policy and procedure.
 - <u>Trump Recission EO (1/20/2025)</u> President Trump revoked the Biden AI EO.
 - <u>Trump AI EO (1/23/2025)</u> The Trump Administration announced new guidance.
 - The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) has <u>taken enforcement actions</u> against companies using AI unfairly or deceptively.
 - Chairman Andrew Ferguson is likely to focus on deceptive conduct, and may look at competition questions.
 - Sector-Specific Approaches: For example, Treasury issued <u>RFI</u> re AI in financial sector.

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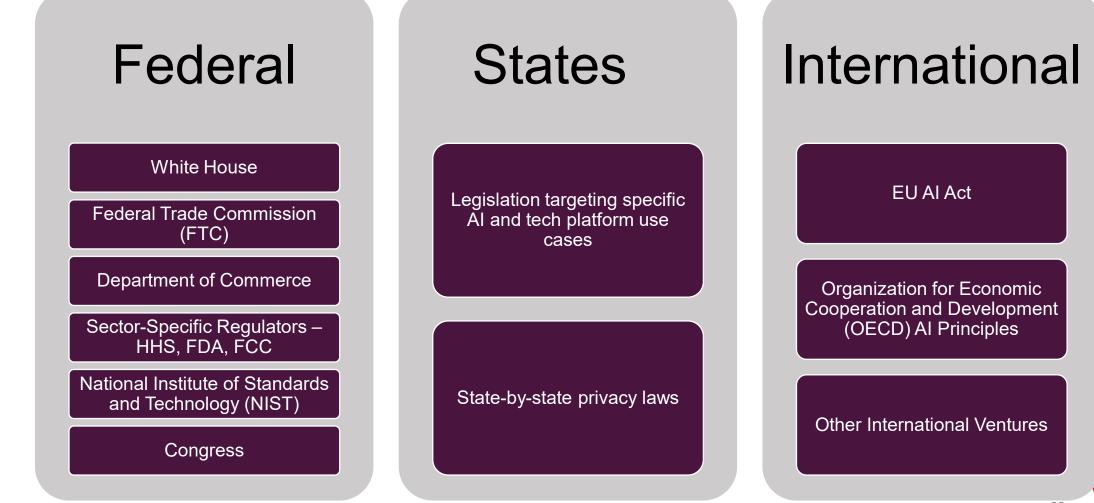
AI: How Will States Affect U.S. AI Policy?

Comprehensive state AI laws

- The <u>Colorado Anti-Discrimination in Al Law (ADAI)</u> focuses largely on high-risk Al systems and interactive AI; imposes obligations for both developers and deployers.
- Privacy laws and regulations
 - Several <u>state comprehensive privacy laws</u> create: (1) opt-out rights for certain automated processing/profiling; and (2) data protection assessment requirements for certain automated processing/profiling.
- Laws that establish disclosure/transparency requirements
 - The California Bot Law creates chatbot disclosure requirements.
 - The <u>Utah Artificial Intelligence Policy Act</u> creates generative AI disclosure requirements.
 - New laws adopted in California in 2024 (<u>AB 2013</u> and <u>SB 942</u>) establish transparency requirements for certain generative AI systems.

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Al and U.S. Tech Policy: Key Government Actors and Workstreams



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Restrictions on U.S. Data: Department of Justice Rule on Preventing Access to U.S. Sensitive Personal Data and Government-Related Data

- The Rule prohibits or restricts U.S. individuals or entities from engaging in transactions involving **bulk U.S.** sensitive personal data or government-related data with countries of concern or covered persons (including entities that are related to countries of concern, for example, foreign entities that are 50% or more owned by a country of concern).
- Effective: April 8, 2025
- Certain due diligence, reporting and audit procedures delayed until October 6, 2025
- Enforced: July 8, 2025 (provided making good faith effort to comply or come into compliance)



Some Key Tech Policy Questions

- How will Administration approach competition issues involving technology platforms, including in emerging tech areas?
- How will Administration approach EU and other efforts to regulate U.S.based tech platforms?
- How will Administration use trade regulations to try to shape non-U.S. tech development (e.g., in China)?
- What will be the impact on EU-U.S. Data Privacy Framework?

wiley.law

Questions?



Duane Pozza dpozza@wiley.law





FIRESIDE CHAT PARTNERING FOR SUCCESS WITH CLIENTS: CROSS-BORDER COLLABORATIONS & MATTER MANAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Host Tatiana Sainati, Wiley (US: Washington, DC)

Guest

Ana Morales Ramos > Senior Counsel | Aramco Overseas Company

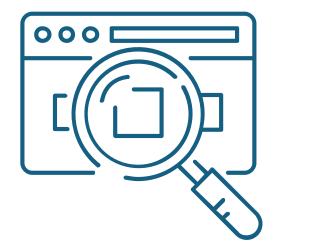






#RAPIDINSIGHT LEVEL THE LEGAL PLAYING FIELD: AI, AGILITY & ACTUAL VALUE

Al-Karim Makhani VP, EMEA & APAC TRANSPERFECT





About TransPerfect Legal

The global leader in legal technology and advisory services

Founded in 1992, TransPerfect operates in 140+ cities worldwide, serving Am Law 200 and Global 100 law firms as well as corporate legal departments. Through our proprietary Reef Technology platform, AI tools, and domain-specific language engines, we empower legal professionals to streamline their cross-border matters.

Our legal solutions help teams defensibly collect data, quickly locate critical information, significantly reduce processing costs, and seamlessly manage multilingual search and review.

Our global team stands ready to support your next litigation, arbitration, investigation, or dispute resolution project

TransPerfect Legal is a proud Network Partner of SCG Legal.





Forensic Technology & Consulting

eDiscovery & Early Data Assessment



& Translation Services



Managed Services & Litigation Support





Technology Assisted Review

Managed Review & Legal Staffing



Paper Discovery & Production



Trial Support







FIRESIDE CHAT LEGAL FINANCE LITIGATION FUNDING: UNLOCKING FINANCIAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR LAW FIRMS

Host

Frederik Kromann Jespersen, Skau Reipurth (Denmark)

Guest

Stefan Kirsten > Founder | KRD Kirsten. Risk & Disputes (Germany)





M&A PANEL: NAVIGATING OPPORTUNITIES IN A SHIFTING MARKET

Moderator

• Maxime Colle, Lydian (Belgium)

Panelists

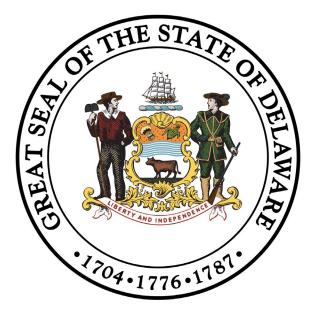
- Alex Carbonell, AGM Abogados (Spain)
- Massimo Di Terlizzi, Pirola Pennuto Zei & Associati (Italy)
- Kate Newman, Mills & Reeve (UK)
- Michael Wirvin, Robinson+Cole (US: Massachusetts)





#RAPIDINSIGHTS UNDERSTANDING SB21: DELAWARE'S IMPACT ON GLOBAL BUSINESS

Mark Kurtz Richards, Layton & Finger (US: Delaware)





Understanding Delaware's Senate Bill 21: Delaware's Impact on Global Business

SCG Legal Midyear Meeting

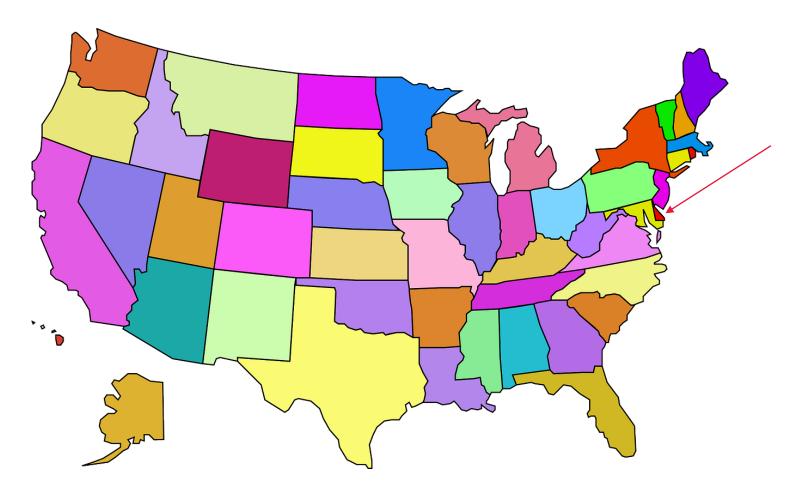
May 16, 2025



Mark A. Kurtz, Director Email: Kurtz@RLF.com Phone: 302.651.7596



Dela-where?





Reason for Delaware Attention

- In 2024, 81% of all US Initial Public Offerings were with a Delaware corporation
- 68% (338) of Fortune 500 companies are incorporated in Delaware
- In 2024, Tesla, and a limited number of other Delaware corporations, reincorporated from Delaware to Texas or Nevada, or announced they were considering reincorporating from Delaware to another jurisdiction
 - Many of these departures resulted in some media coverage and "X" tweets

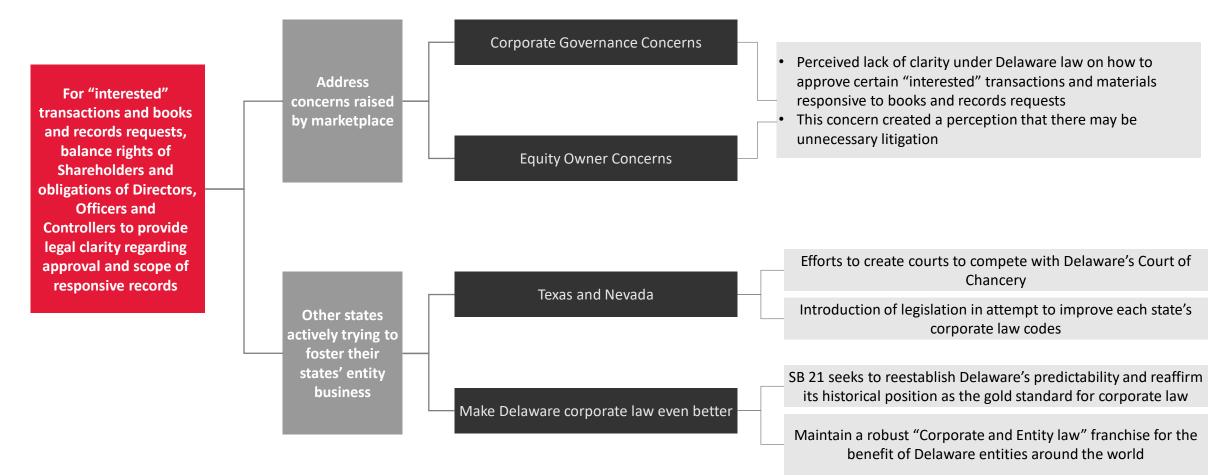


Overview

- Reasons for Delaware's Senate Bill 21 ("SB 21") and its Expedited Enactment
- Delaware General Corporation Law ("DGCL") Landscape Prior to SB 21 for "Interested" Transactions and Stockholder books and records requests ("Section 220 Demands")
- DGCL Amendments provided for by SB 21
- Effect of the DGCL Amendments



Reasons for SB 21 and its Expedited Enactment





DGCL Landscape Prior to SB 21 for "Interested" Transactions

- Delaware has been known as the gold standard in corporate law
- Interested Transactions
 - Over thirty years ago, the Delaware Supreme Court clarified the entire fairness review standard in Kahn v. Lynch Communication Systems, Inc., 638 A.2d 1110 (Del. 1994) ("Lynch")
 - In Lynch, the Court held "that the exclusive standard of judicial review in examining the propriety of an interested cash-out merger transaction by a controlling or dominating shareholder is entire fairness." *Id.* at 1117. The Court clarified that using an independent committee or a disinterested stockholder vote shifted which party had the burden of proof as to the entire fairness standard for cash-out mergers with controlling stockholders.
 - In 2014, the Delaware Supreme Court, in Kahn v. M&F Worldwide Corporation, 88 A.3d 635 (Del. 2014) ("MFW"), offered controlling stockholders a process to approve certain "interested" transactions without being subject to entire fairness review for cash-out mergers.
 - However, in recent opinions including *In re Match Group, Inc. Derivative Litigation*, 315 A.3d 446 (Del. 2024), *Salladay v. Lev*, 2020 WL 954032 (Del. Ch. Feb. 27, 2020), and *In re Sears Hometown & Outlet Stores, Inc. Stockholder Litigation*, 309 A.3d 474 (Del. Ch. 2024), the Delaware courts appeared to expand the applicability of the *Lynch* and *MFW* standards, and controlling stockholders' duties, which created uncertainty as to how to properly approve certain "interested" transactions under Delaware law.



DGCL Landscape Prior to SB 21 for Books and Records Requests

- Stockholder Books and Records Requests
 - The Court of Chancery's docket has been increasingly filled with a high volume of Section 220 Demands
 - As a result, Delaware corporations have recently expressed concern about how to respond to a stockholder's Section 220 Demands



DGCL Landscape Prior to SB 21: Recent Case Law

- In re Match Group, Inc. Derivative Litigation, 315 A.3d 446 (Del. 2024)
 - The Delaware Supreme Court held that entire fairness is the presumptive standard of review for any transaction in which a controller stands on both sides and receives a "non-ratable" benefit.
 - The Court's decision highlighted the importance of a fully independent committee to meet the MFW requirements to avoid entire fairness review.
- Salladay v. Lev, 2020 WL 954032 (Del. Ch. Feb. 27, 2020)
 - The Court of Chancery applied the *MFW ab initio* requirement to a majority-conflicted board transaction despite no controller.
- In re Sears Hometown & Outlet Stores, Inc. Stockholder Litigation, 309 A.3d 474 (Del. Ch. 2024)
 - Controllers owe certain fiduciary duties, and need to act in good faith when exercising certain stockholder-level voting power.
- NVIDIA Corp. v. City of Westland Pol. & Fire Ret. Sys., 282 A.3d 1 (Del. 2022)
 - The Supreme Court ordered production under a books and records request to include certain emails.



DGCL Amendments Provided for by SB 21: Section 144

- The SB 21 amended Section 144 of the DGCL to provide safe harbor approvals for transactions in which a director or officer, or a controlling stockholder or control group, may have a conflict of interest.
 - "Controlling stockholder transactions" (other than a going private transaction) may be approved by a majority of disinterested directors on a board committee delegated with authority to negotiate and reject such transactions, or a majority of the disinterested stockholders.
 - "Controlling stockholder transactions" that are going private transactions may be approved by a majority of disinterested directors on a board committee delegated with authority to negotiate and reject such transaction, and a majority of the disinterested stockholders.
 - Revised Section 144 provides statutory definitions of "controlling stockholder," "controlling stockholder transaction," "disinterested director," "disinterested stockholder" and other terms necessary to implement and apply the statute.
 - "Controlling stockholder" definition includes a person that has at least 1/3 of the voting power to elect directors.
 - "Disinterested director" means a director who is not a party to the act or transaction and does not have a material
 interest in the act or transaction or a material relationship with a person that has a material interest in the act or
 transaction.



DGCL Amendments Provided for by SB 21: Section 220

- SB 21 amended Section 220 of the DGCL to specify the core corporate documents that a corporation is required to produce in response to a Section 220 Demand that a stockholder makes with a "proper purpose."
- SB 21 amended Section 220 of the DGCL to expressly permit corporations to impose reasonable restrictions on the confidentiality, and use or distribution of books and records, and to redact information not specifically related to the stockholder's purpose.
- Stockholders seeking records beyond those listed in the statute (such as emails or text messages) must show a compelling need and demonstrate that such records are necessary and essential to further the stockholder's purpose.



DGCL Amendments Provided for by SB 21: Section 220, continued

- "Books and records" means all of the following:
 - The certificate of incorporation and bylaws, and any agreement or other instrument incorporated by reference in the certificate of incorporation or bylaws.
 - Stockholder meeting minutes and signed stockholder consents, and written communications and electronic transmissions to stockholders for the 3 years prior to a Section 220 Demand.
 - Board and committee meeting minutes and related records, including board materials, for actions taken by the Board or committee.
 - Annual financial statements of the corporation for the 3 years prior to the Section 2020 Demand.
 - Any stockholder agreement entered into under § 122(18) of the DGCL.
 - Director and officer independence questionnaires.



Effect of Amendments on the Marketplace

- Companies that were considering leaving Delaware, such as Meta, have not left.
- In late 2024 and in very early 2025, before SB 21 was proposed, there was a lot of discussion of reincorporation. Since SB 21, this chatter has been more limited.
- Companies that were considering including an item in their 2025 proxy statements addressing whether the corporation should consider reincorporating out of Delaware determined not to include such item.
- Since SB 21, Delaware corporations and their lawyers have been spending less time responding to Section 220 Demands.



Delaware's Edge

- Delaware has over 100 years of corporate case law.
- Delaware's judiciary
 - Delaware judges' expertise is best in class and the Delaware courts are efficient and can provide expedited decisions.
- Delaware's Secretary of State is efficient and responsive, with the ability to process filings within 24 hours or as fast as 1 hour.
- The corporate franchise is important to Delaware's legislators.
 - Delaware legislators benefit from Delaware's Corporate Law Council and its amendment drafting process.
 - SB 21 was proposed on February 17, 2025, and adopted on March 25, 2025.
 - Delaware's General Assembly approved SB 21 by unanimous Senate vote (20 to 0 margin) and with a decisive House of Representatives vote (32 to 7 margin).
- No other state in the US can compete with these unique Delaware benefits.



This presentation and the material contained herein are provided as general information and should not be construed as legal advice on any specific matter or as creating an attorney-client relationship. Before relying on general legal information or deciding on legal action, request a consultation or information from a Richards, Layton & Finger attorney on specific legal needs.





EMPLOYMENT LAW IN A CHANGING WORLD: ADAPTING TO NEW REALITIES & EMERGING RISKS

Moderator

• Lea Dearing, Berman Fink Van Horn (US: Georgia)

Panelists

- Minu Dwivedi, JSA Advocates & Solicitors (India)
- Christof Kleinmann, GvW Graf von Westphalen (Germany)
- Aaron Makovka, Dunton Rainville (Canada: Quebec)
- David Mills, Mills & Reeve (UK)
- María Royo, AGM Abogados (Spain)







#RAPIDINSIGHTS CYBER THREAT & CYBER RESILIENCE IN THE LEGAL SECTOR: A STEP-BY-STEP PRESENTATION ON HOW TO NOT GET HACKED

Marek Laskowski Domański Zakrzewski Palinka (Poland)



Barcelona, 15-16.05.2025

Cyber threat and cyber resilience in the legal sector – step by step how not to get hacked

Marek Laskowski IT Director DZP marek.laskowski@dzp.pl



DZP's mission

In a complex market environment, comprehensive, effective solutions are needed. Access to information and knowhow brings real benefits only if the decisions you make are based on various business aspects and nuances.

This is what "more than law" means to us. Our clients place their trust in us because we take into account the ecosystem of the sector and market in which they operate. Our Law Firm offers highly effective legal solutions developed jointly during project performance.

Krzysztof Zakrzewski, Managing Partner

We are the largest of the Polish law firms. Since 1993 our experts have advised both Polish and foreign clients from almost all business sectors. We currently have 180 experts in various specialisations.

11 practices and 40 specialisations | Offices in Warsaw, Poznań & Wrocław

Numerous recommendations and high positions in international rankings

Over 90 countries in business relation network



Today's agenda

Cybersecurity is vital to business stability and success in the professional legal services sector.

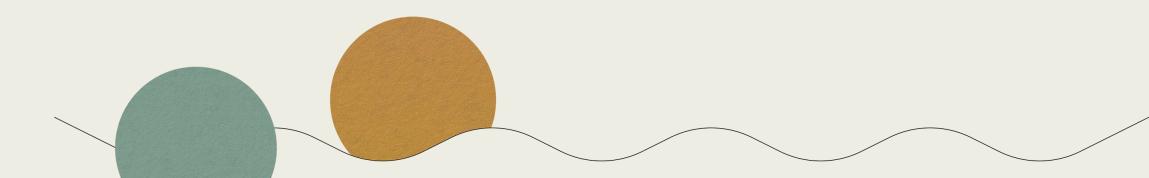
- As a market leader and trusted custodian of confidential client data, DZP has implemented a unique cybersecurity ecosystem beyond legal industry standards.
- Our ecosystem is supported by state-of-the-art solutions based on cybersecurity artificial intelligence, focusing on generative AI.
- I will give you an overview of the practical aspects of creating a strategy and building an Albased technical approach to cybersecurity.
- You will see how our innovative approach safeguards sensitive client data and supports day-today legal operations, ensuring the highest protection and efficiency.



Why is...

Is cybersecurity an essential concern for law firms?

All sensitive client data has been consolidated. Law firms play a crucial role in the essential infrastructure.	Cybersecurity threats often view law firms as a straightforward target for attacks.	Critical cybersecurity debt in legal firms.	Reputation is a crucial factor that impacts the business of a law firm.	Insufficient understanding of cyber risks within the legal community.	The legal industry is currently undergoing digital transformation.
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Cyberattack Statistics for the Legal Industry in 2025

- In 2024, law firms experienced an average data breach cost of \$5.08 million, representing a 10% increase from the prior year. (<u>Clio</u>)
- Cybersecurity is becoming increasingly important, with 37% of legal clients in 2025 willing to pay a premium for firms that offer enhanced security measures. (Integris)
- A recent survey indicated that 56% of law firms that encountered a data breach last year lost sensitive information belonging to clients. (<u>Arctic Wolf</u>)
- As of 2023, 80% of law firms had obtained at least one technology insurance policy; however, only 34% implemented an incident response plan. (<u>ABA</u>)

- Phishing continues to be a significant cyber threat for law firms, with 80% of firms relying on spam filters as their primary cybersecurity strategy in 2023. (<u>Tech Advisors</u>)
- The year 2023 experienced a rise in ransomware attacks targeting law firms, resulting in over 45 incidents that compromised more than 1.5 million records. (<u>Cyber Security Tribe</u>)
- In 2024, 42% of data breaches were identified internally, while 34% were discovered by external sources, and 24% were disclosed by the attackers themselves. (IBM)

- Per the American Bar Association's Model Rule 1.6(c), attorneys are required to implement reasonable safeguards to protect client information from unauthorized access. (ABA)
- Merely 43% of law firms conduct online data backups. (<u>ABA</u>)
- For small law firms and solo practitioners, the average cost of a data breach is notably lower than that of larger firms, estimated at \$36,000. (<u>Tech Advisors</u>)
- Typical <u>cyberattacks targeting law firms</u> encompass <u>phishing</u>, ransomware, <u>DDoS</u>, and insider threats.

More than 100 law firms have reported data breaches; 2 **BigLaw firms affected**

BY DEBRA CASSENS WEISS

OCTOBER 18, 2019, 9:48 AM CDT

SECURITY

BREACH

🗙 Post 🛛 in Share 🥳 🛧 🔶

GozNym Malware Attack Hits Two Law Firms for **Over \$117K in Losses**

in LinkedIn fFacebook X X (🖂 Send) (Embed)

Two law firms were among the latest victims of the GozNym malware attack that caused a combined loss of more than \$117,000. Law enforcement authorities recently announced the dismantling of a cybercrime network that used this GozNym malware to attempt to steal an estimated \$100 million from victin United States and around the world. GozNym malware al personal and financial information from victims, was d with phishing emails to the affected companies.

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Cyber Attacks

ately 184,000 files total, the person told us

where to look, and contained private and privileged

financial deals and files relating to high-profile

verhouse Proskauer exposed clients ial M&A data

5 PM GMT+2 - April 6, 2023

Corr

Image from Shutterstock.com

More than 100 law firms h analysis by Law.com.

B I U - | III - III - AI

Two of the largest law firms The publication obtained inf

Many of the breaches were at

Ransomwar From Celebr

Demands \$42 Millio Law Firm

REvil Gang Ups Ransom Ante After Releasing Data on Lady Gaga kshava Asokan (🛩 asokan akshava) • May 16, 2020 🛛 🛑



The operators of the REvil ransomware strain are attempting to ratchet up the pressure on a high-profile New York law firm to pay a \$42 million ransom, threatening to release more data on the firm's roster of celebrity clients, according to multiple reports and security experts.

Biggest Legal Industry Cyber Attacks | Arctic Wolf

Proskauer Rose, Law.com reports. records requests.

acking and vendor security lapses.

Impact.

2014, according to an



Proskauer >

cresulted in hacking of 4TB of data including IDs, reports, accounting data, client documents and credit card

Follow our Australia news live blog for the latest updates Get our morning and afternoon news emails, free app or daily news podcast

■ The ALPHV/Blackcat ransomware group, one of the top three groups targeting Australia, posted late last week that they had hacked law firm HWL Ebsworth. Photograph: Thomas Trutschel/Photothek/Getty Images

The Top 3 Legal Industry Cyber Attacks

April 30, 2024 by Arctic Wolf

- Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe:
 - Unknown data exfiltration.
 - 637,000 previous breach victims
- Proskauer Rose:
 - Attack type: Data breach
 - Data accessed: 184,000+ files
- Jenner & Block and Proskauer Rose
 - Attack type: <u>Phishing</u>
 - People affected: 2,359

Why Law Firms are at Risk of a Cyber Attack

- Only <u>26% of law firms</u> believe their firm is "very prepared" to respond to cyber incidents
- 60% of firms identified the sophistication level of threats and attacks as the biggest challenge they face in reducing cyber risk
- The average ransom for legal organisations was

\$1 million USD in 2023

Experts On Campbell Conroy & O'Neil, P.C. Discloses Data Breach

Expert(s): ISBuzz Staff | July 19, 2021

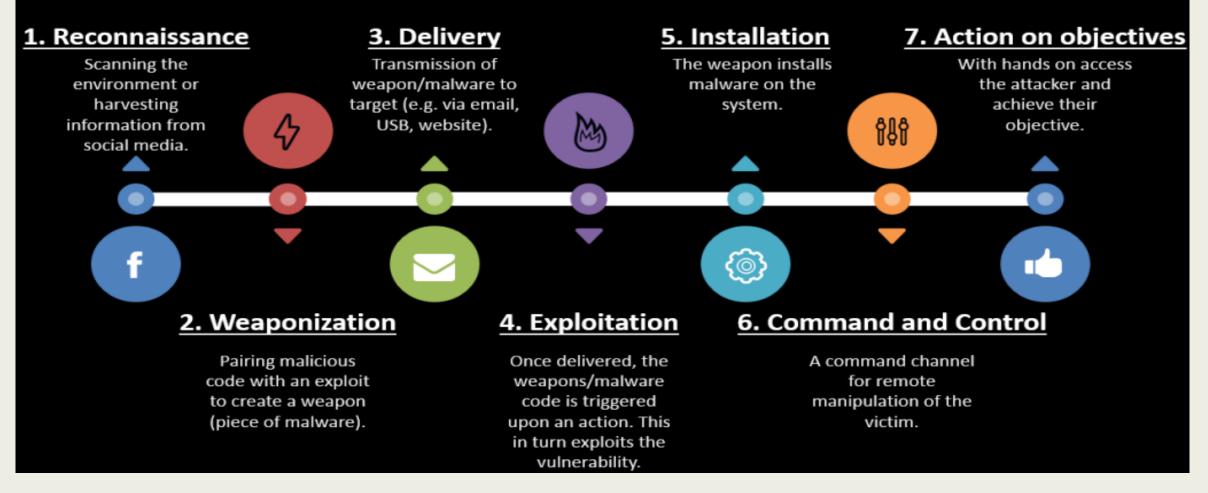
Campbell Conroy & O'Neil, P.C. (Campbell), a US law firm counseling dozens of Fortune 500 and Global 500 companies, has disclosed a data breach following a February 2021 ransomware attack. Campbell's client list includes high-profile companies from various industry sectors and some of its current and past clients include Exxon, Apple, Mercedes Benz, Boeing, Home Depot, British Airways, Dow Chemical, Allianz Insurance, Universal Health Services, Marriott International, Johnson & Johnson, Pfizer, Time Warner, and many others. The most valuable data at a law firm is certainly not PII as disclosed by the law firm in question. Smart cybercriminals are chasing for sensitive dossiers of wealthy or politically exposed customers, looking for attorney-client privileged information or other sensitive litigation-related data. Modern cyber gangs are well aware of it, moreover, in the Dark Web, there are dedicated channels to buy and sell data from compromised law firms.

Worse, in some jurisdictions, stolen data, especially related to serious tax fraud, can be admitted in court proceedings both in civil and criminal cases. If such data was compromised, the criminals will almost certainly try to extort the law firm and its clients in parallel. Payment of a ransom will not, however, eliminate the risk of subsequent data disclosure: we witnessed hundreds of high-profile cases when racketeers leaked or sold stolen data after being paid the full amount they had asked. Victims of the disclosed data breach may have a wide spectrum of legal claims against the breached law firm with damages ranging from a couple of thousands to tens of millions per victim.

Currently, law firms enjoy a very modest data protection regulation regime compared to such industries as banks or healthcare institutions, while processing data of the same or even higher sensitivity. We should expect a steady growth of sophisticated attacks against law firms in the near future.



Kill Chain: The 7 Stages of a Cyber Attack





Not sending

We are not defenceless! Modern best practices

Revising passwords or using biometrics (biometric template stored on the device), multi- factor authentication (MFA)	sensitive data via public email boxes. Encryption of IT equipment, especially mobile equipment (BitLocker solutions, etc.).	Advanced account protection through, e.g. USB keys, shared authentication, segregation of duties, etc.	Performing periodic (at least once a year) "penetration tests", including socio-technical ones.	Use of external monitoring and response services for cyber incidents	Backup and test recovery, use of snapshots, among other functions, cloud backup, and replication.
Periodic user training at least once a year.	Setting up additional audit mechanisms for privileged accounts, including email inboxes	Avoidance of deviations from the IT infrastructure standard.	Conduct the Supplier's cybersecurity evaluation and carry out regular cybersecurity audits for them (even based on a statement).	Regarding file (document) protection, RMS solutions and modern privileges management systems,	Manage data leaks originating from the tools of AI agents. Advanced analytics of users involved the utilisation of AI agents.



Real case, step by step, how they tried to

hack us

stoe

Target goals have been chosen! – One of the most significant M&A transactions in the Polish market!

- Open-source intelligence (OSINT technicques).
- Fake business contact and relations (min. three months bef
- Pre-vector checking attack.
- Finally, make corrections and prepare for final action
- Final strike!

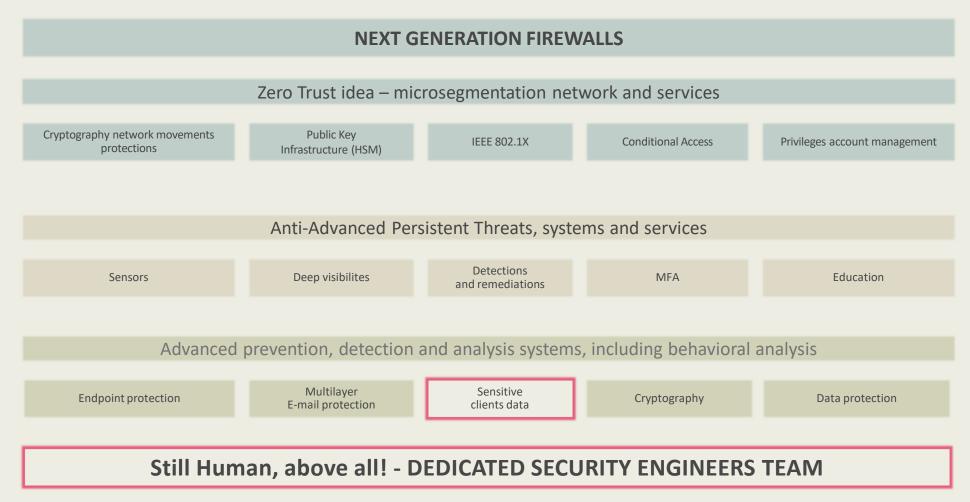
What Happened After!

- Our security systems (endpoints one of ma
- User furious at us! "I will lose a million doll os be the of you." and strong languages :-)
- We scrutinised issues and found what happen where user still calls us, using "uncensored words" ;-)
- Investigations are ongoing. We add a "Manual" so utinising based on OSINT techniques, too.
- We are explaining issues, and the ser tries unsuccessfully to lock eyes with the potential client.
- Many thanks to the security team, and "I beg your pardon.";-)



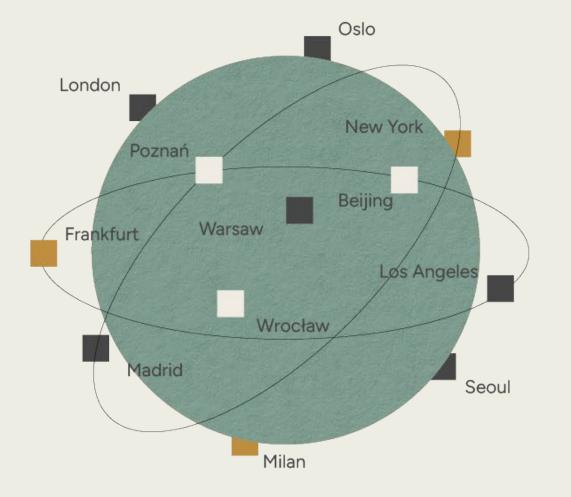
DZP cybersecurity architecture

Infrastructure and data center geografical colocated





Thank you for your attention!





Marek Laskowski IT Director at DZP

marek.laskowski@dzp.pl







FIRESIDE CHAT SHIGTING ESG PRIORITIES: REGULATORY COMPLIANCE & SUSTAINABILITY IN A CHANGING LANDSCAPE

Panelists

- Marta Salvador, AGM Abogados (Spain)
- Diana Shaw, Wiley (US: Washington, DC)



BARCEL

FIRESIDE CHAT SHIGTING ESG PRIORITIES: REGULATORY COMPLIANCE **& SUSTAINABILITY IN A CHANGING LANDSCAPE**



Diana Shaw Governance, Risk & Compliance Wiley (US: Washington, DC)

Marta Salvador Mateo Head of ESG & Regulatory Compliance AGM Abogados (Spain)



Environmental, Social & Governance Today's Topics

- Provide overview of evolution of ESG principles in business context
- Discuss most significant shifts in ESG space in US and EU
- Explore **risks, challenges, and opportunities** arising from these shifts
- Consider implications for cross-border deals and transactions
- Share considerations for <u>preparing for/mitigating related risks</u> and tips for <u>identifying and seizing emerging opportunities</u>



ESG: What It Is and Why It Matters

- Evolution progressed over several decades
- Reflects incorporation of additional factors into assessment of long-term business sustainability (not just about financial performance)
- In recent years, ESG has become central to investment and corporate strategies, driven by consumer awareness, regulatory pressures, and evidence linking strong ESG performance to long-term profitability



ESG Overview



Shifts in ESG Space: U.S.



- This year, <u>significant</u> changes in U.S. affecting each element of ESG
- Changes reflect a material divergence from direction ESG has taken in E.U.

Environmental

- Administration formally reconsidering GHG emission endangerment finding
- SEC no longer defending climate disclosure rule
- Rise in "greenwashing" cases

Social

- Executive Orders seek to eliminate DEI programs in both government and the private sector
- Equal employment opportunity apparatus dismantled, requiring unwinding of corporate programs

Governance

- "Pause" on FCPA enforcement and a shift in focus to bribery facilitating drug cartels and transnational criminal organizations
- Refusal to enforce Corporate Transparency Act against US businesses



Shifts in ESG Space: EU

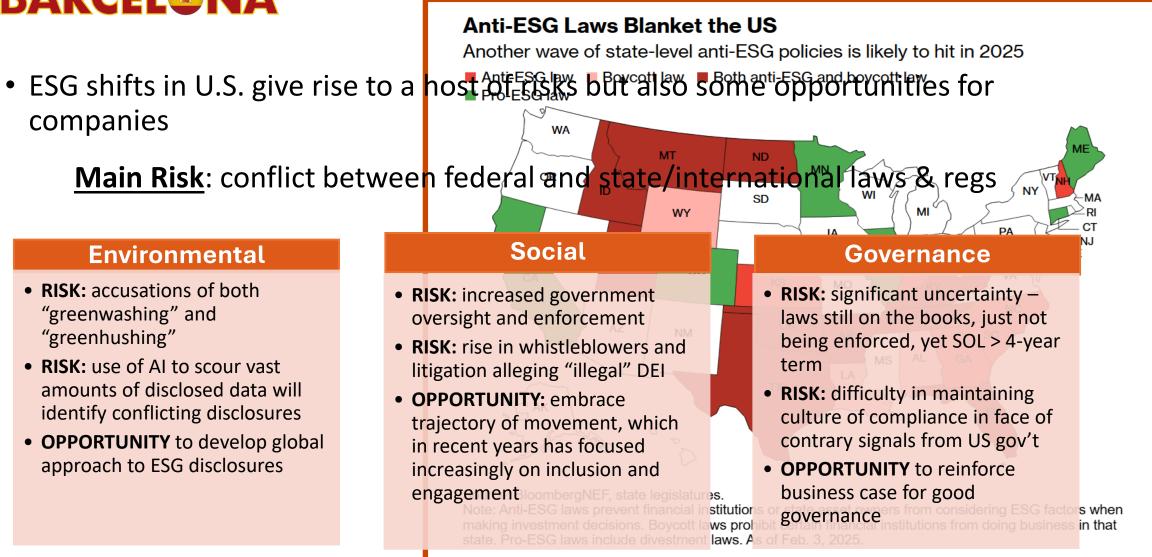
- Recently, we have seen major ESG Shifts in the EU Regulatory and Strategic Environment.
- European Commission's Omnibus Package adopted on February 26, 2025, introduces significant changes to the EU's ESG regulatory framework, aiming to simplify compliance and enhance competitiveness.



- **CSRD Implementation (2024+)**: Expansion from NFRD; impacts 50,000+ companies with granular reporting requirements.
- EU Taxonomy Rollout: Defining "green" economic activities; focus on climate, biodiversity, circular economy.
- **Double Materiality Principle**: Emphasis on both financial and impact materiality (EU differentiator).
- Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence Directive (CSDDD): Human rights and environmental due diligence along value chains.
- Greenwashing Directive (Adopted Early 2024): Amends EU consumer protection laws to ban misleading environmental claims; prohibits vague labels like "climate neutral" unless substantiated. Sets clear penalties for greenwashing.
- ESG Enforcement & Litigation Risk Rising: NGOs, investors, regulators increasingly active.



Risks, Challenges & Opportunities





Risks, Challenges & Opportunities

Europe's Expanding ESG Rules: A Growing Compliance Burden—and a Strategic Advantage
 Main Risk: Regulatory uncertainty and divergent timelines challenge preparedness and alignment

Risks and Challenges	Opportunities
 Fragmented and rapidly evolving EU ESG rules (CSRD, SFDR, Taxonomy, CSDDD). Compliance fatigue & reporting burden for mid-sized firms. Data quality, supply chain complexity, and reporting alignment. Risk of litigation, greenwashing, and reputational damage. Talent & knowledge gaps in sustainability teams 	 Access to sustainable finance and investor capital. Competitive differentiation through credible ESG action. Innovation in clean tech, circularity, supply chain resilience. Enhanced stakeholder trust and license to operate.



Implications for Cross-Border Deals

- Navigating conflicting or inconsistent policies, regulations & laws
 - Conduct risk assessment at deal initiation to determine degree to which ESG issues/risks are likely to arise in deal
 - Carefully review contract to identify provisions that may create risk/liability due to conflicting federal, state, and international laws
- Corporate acquisitions may trigger reporting obligations under climate disclosure laws (e.g., CSRD and California laws)
- E.U. Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence Directive (CSDDD) requires companies to (a) perform due diligence in supply chains to prevent human rights and environmental violations and (b) take appropriate measures to address due diligence objectives in supply chain
 - Could influence cross-border deals as more is required to be known about suppliers and may bring to light problematic conduct thereby limiting pool



Advising Clients on ESG Issues

Some best practices/practice tips we're sharing with clients include:

• ESG Disclosures

- Consider performing audit of existing public ESG disclosures to ensure compliance and assess potential risks (incl. risk of inconsistent disclosures)
- Centralize ESG data globally (where feasible) to ensure consistency in public disclosures
- Create a small internal cross-functional ESG advisory team (e.g., legal, comms, finance, procurement, sustainability, etc.) to inform public disclosures

• Recruiting/Hiring

- Continue to recruit broadly to obtain best job candidates and continue with programs meant to create an inclusive environment and fair pay
- Governance/Compliance
 - Good governance is good business; assess opportunities to make compliance program more efficient, but
 remember that maintaining strong culture of compliance and ethical business conduct (both domestically and
 abroad) remains one of the best ways to mitigate various legal, political, and reputational risks a company may face



Advising Clients on ESG Issues

Some best practices/practice tips we're sharing with clients include:

- Integrate ESG into Governance: Embed sustainability considerations into corporate governance structures for cohesive decision-making.
- Map regulatory exposure across jurisdictions (especially CSRD/CSDDD readiness).
- Stay Informed: Regularly monitor regulatory updates to ensure compliance with current requirements.
- Enhance Transparency: Maintain clear communication with stakeholders about ESG goals and progress, reinforcing trust and accountability.
- Build ESG governance and internal control systems.
- Ensure third-party and supply chain due diligence systems are in place.





FIRESIDE CHAT SHIGTING ESG PRIORITIES: REGULATORY COMPLIANCE & SUSTAINABILITY IN A CHANGING LANDSCAPE

Questions?





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