

Top advisors at nexus of national security and foreign investment

MAR 10, 2025

Below is our list of top advisors who provide advice and counsel concerning foreign investment and national security in the U.S. and abroad. Rankings are based on myriad criteria including experience, reputation, clients served, first-person interviews, references, reader recommendations, articles published, and – most importantly – one-to-one interactions with Foreign Investment Watch’s Editorial team.

This is an Editorial feature and is not paid. Please remember Foreign Investment Watch does not provide legal guidance or advice, and you should conduct your own due diligence when considering engaging outside counsel.



The Top Advisors 2025

Alexandru, Grigore — Mubadala
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Black, Laura — Akin Gump
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Cook, Randy — Alvarez & Marsal
Davis, Christian — Akin Gump
Daya, Christine — DLA Piper
Edelman, Doreen — Lowenstein Sandler
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Heifetz, Stephen — Wilson Sonsini
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Kabealo, John — Kabealo Law
Kar, Nicole — Paul Weiss
Klein, Nicholas — DLA Piper
Klemencic, Steve — Berkeley Research
Leiter, Michael — Skadden Arps
Ludvigson, J. Philip — King & Spalding
Mendenhall, James — Sidley
Mildorf, Karalyn — Clifford Chance
Mir, Aimen — Freshfields
Moore, Brian — Bot Auto

Mosman, Britt — Willkie Farr
Nunnenkamp, Kenneth — Morgan Lewis
Park, H.K. — Crumpton Global
Plotinsky, David — Morgan Lewis
Reineking, Bridget — Cooley
Reissaus, Brian — Freshfields
Rose, Michael — EisnerAmper
Rosen, Paul — Latham & Watkins
Salladin, Anne — Hogan Lovells
Schultz, Albert — Kaerus
Torres, Olga — Torres Trade Law

Tzinova, Antonia — Holland & Knight

Valenstein, Carl — Morgan Lewis

Van Grack, Brandon — Morrison Foerster

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Grigore Alexandru, Mubadala

One of a handful of inside counsel included in our “Top Advisors” list, Greg is a former Deputy Director at the Office of Foreign Investment Review at the DOD. An expert on the CFIUS national security review process — as well as FOCI, ITAR, EAR, and other regulations — Greg worked at Sidley until moving to Abu Dhabi to join Mubadala, the sovereign wealth fund of the United Arab Emirates. A long-time advisor to Foreign Investment Watch and repeat member of this list, Greg has contributed some of our most widely read articles, including an explanation of the [CFIUS co-lead role](#), and an explanation of a [unclassified CFIUS procedures document](#). While no longer an advisor to corporate clients, we suspect he’s providing good counsel to Mubadala.

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Keith Ausbrook, Guidepost Solutions

Keith is senior managing director at Guidepost, where he leads a national security practice engaged in CFIUS monitorships and advisory work. Previously, Ausbrook had served as the Executive Secretary of the Homeland Security Council at the White House. He served as the special counsel to a House Committee investigating preparation for and response to Hurricane Katrina; was chief oversight counsel for the House Judiciary Committee following the September 11 attacks; and was the top lawyer on the House Government Reform and Oversight Committee that oversaw (among other matters) the theft of classified information by former National Security Advisor Sandy Berger. He is an expert on CFIUS mitigation, and provided a prescient guest column for us back in 2020 on [common mitigation measures](#). Ausbrook can be reached at kausbrook@guidepostsolutions.com.

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Laura Black, Akin Gump

A 15-year veteran of the U.S. Treasury Department and three-time member of this list, Laura Black served as the first Director of Policy and International Relations of CFIUS. In addition to being the “chief drafter” of the regulations implementing FIRRMA, Black played a leading role in the development of several global investment regimes, and spearheaded the Treasury Department’s engagement with dozens of foreign governments. She explained that [foreign engagement strategy](#) to our readers with great precision, and has provided ongoing insights on myriad topics, like the emergence of [state-wide legislative proposals](#) that may conflict with CFIUS’s mandate. Black was also actively involved in the development of proposals for outbound foreign-investment reviews, and regularly provides valuable insights to the Foreign Investment Watch Editorial team. Now a partner at Akin Gump, Black can be reached at blackl@akingump.com.

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Scott Boylan, StoneTurn

It's rare that we find experts who've sat on literally every side of the CFIUS table. But that's Scott Boylan. Formerly the CFIUS and Team Telecom representative at the Department of Homeland Security, Boylan has also served at Treasury and Justice. But he's also served as Chief Legal Officer for large CFIUS-mitigated companies, which means he's participated in the negotiation of mitigation agreements from both sides. On top of that, he now regularly conducts CFIUS audits as an independent third-party. So, he's structured CFIUS strategy, negotiated transactions before CFIUS, overseen compliance with CFIUS and FOCI mitigation agreements, and audited them from the outside. Boylan has always carved out time to answer questions from Foreign Investment Watch editors, and has offered [practical guidance](#) for readers. He can be reached at sboylan@stoneturn.com.

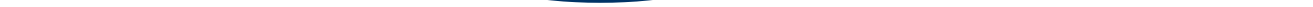
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Caroline Brown, Crowell & Moring

Since the moment we reported that Caroline Brown was leaving the Treasury Department's Financial Crimes Enforcement Network to join Crowell & Moring, she has been a critical resource to the Foreign Investment Watch Editorial team. From commenting on [Executive Orders](#) to providing observations from [CFIUS events](#), Brown is seemingly always available, always online, and always insightful. In addition to FinCEN, Brown also served in the DoJ's National Security Division, and at Treasury's Office of General Counsel, Enforcement and Intelligence. A member of Crowell's National Security Practice steering committee, she can be reached at cbrown@crowell.com.

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Charles Capito, Morrison Foerster

Charles makes our Top Advisors list for the second year in a row. A seasoned national security expert with deep CFIUS experience, Capito has been involved in securing clearances for some of the largest and most sensitive cases reviewed by CFIUS. Capito has been involved in all steps of the CFIUS process, from assessing risk and presenting cases before the Committee, to negotiating mitigation measures and implementing agreements. He has been a critical resource to the Foreign Investment Watch Editorial team for several years, providing perspective, context and insights both on-background and on-the-record, on topics ranging from [legislative proposals](#) to [CFIUS deliberations](#). Charles Capito is a partner at Morrison Forester, and he can be reached at ccapito@mofo.com.

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Randy Cook, Alvarez & Marsal

Randy made our Top Advisors last year when he was with Ankura, and he joins again from his new perch as Managing Director at Alvarez & Marsal. The former senior counsel at two Fortune 50 global technology companies, Cook has significant hands-on experience with CFIUS monitorships, having supervised the design and implementation of monitoring programs at several well-known companies with connections to both Russia and China. A former Assistant U.S. Attorney, Cook has also led the design and implementation of compliance risk assessments, sanctions compliance programs, and entire compliance program offices. A regular behind-the-scenes advisor to the Foreign Investment Watch Editorial team, Cook has provided insights on [BIS rules](#), long-term [trends](#), and other developments.

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Christian Davis, Akin Gump

Christian is a partner at Akin Gump, where leads the firm's CFIUS practice. A well-known topical expert with a particular focus on international trade and national security law and policy, Christian has been involved in CFIUS-matter across sectors, from aerospace and defense to energy and infrastructure. In addition to his work negotiating and implementing CFIUS mitigation agreements, Christian has hands-on experience in Information and Communications Technology and Services or "ICTS" supply chain issues, including responding to subpoenas, Commerce determinations and other U.S. government outreach. Christian can be reached at chdavis@akingump.com.

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Christine Daya, DLA Piper

Christine Daya is a partner at DLA Piper, where she cochairs the firm's National Security and Global Trade practice, and serves as global cochair of the CFIUS and Global FDI practices. She has been involved in hundreds of cross-border transactions, advising on CFIUS filing and risk-allocation matters, and negotiating multiple national security agreements. She also regularly handles multi-jurisdictional transactions that require an assessment under the FDI regimes of non-U.S. countries, and provides ongoing CFIUS counsel to the venture capital arms of several major conglomerates, including those of Toyota, Samsung, LG and others. Christine has also taken on a leadership role in the sector, hosting the first of two "Women in CFIUS" lunch events in D.C., and moderating discussions with CFIUS officials. She can be reached at Christine.Daya@us.dlapiper.com.

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Doreen Edelman, Lowenstein Sandler

A perennial entry in our “Top Advisors” feature, Doreen Edelman is the founder of Lowenstein’s Global Trade & Policy practice, where she has a particular expertise in cross-border M&A, export controls, supply chain matters, and more. Not only does she have deep knowledge of CFIUS, but she advises companies on the Bureau of Industry and Security and the Directorate of Defense Controls export control regulations, preparing compliance programs and assisting with deal diligence. She’s known for her practical guidance, and has provided our readers insights on topics such as [CFIUS scrutiny of LPs](#) and [Biden’s approach to China](#). Seemingly always available for clarifications and comments, Edelman has been a valuable resource to Foreign Investment Watch editors. She can be reached at dedelman@lowenstein.com.

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Thomas Feddo, The Rubicon Advisors

For the fourth year in a row, Tom Feddo makes our Top Advisors list. The founder of The Rubicon Advisors, Thomas Feddo is perhaps best known as “the OG” Assistant Secretary for Investment Security at the U.S. Treasury Department, a presidentially-appointed, Senate-confirmed position responsible for overseeing all operations and activities of CFIUS. Since his departure from Treasury, he’s hosted a regular video series with Foreign Investment Watch called “[Ten with Tom](#),” has [testified](#) several times before Congressional committees on outbound screening, and has been an invaluable resource to our Editorial team for insights that only a few people on the planet can provide. Feddo can be reached at tfeddo@therubiconadvisors.com.

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Robert Friedman, Holland & Knight

Robert is the co-head of Holland & Knight's International Trade Practice and a leader of the firm's National Security & Defense Industry Group. A former official with the U.S. Department of State, Robbie has significant experience with complex cross-border transactions and matters before CFIUS and the Defense Counterintelligence and Security Agency. His detailed CFIUS work has included performing national security-related risk assessments, developing tailored strategies for engaging CFIUS and its member agencies, negotiating and implementing mitigation agreements, and more. Before entering private practice, he was a legal adviser at the State Department, where he was involved in high-stakes negotiations in more than 20 countries across five continents; he served as a key legal adviser on several international arms control and nonproliferation treaties, including developing the legal architecture to address the threats posed by chemical weapons in Syria. He was also a senior policy advisor to the U.S. Permanent Representative to the United Nations, managing participation in the White House-led interagency policymaking process on issues related to China, Russia, North Korea, Europe, cybersecurity, nonproliferation and arms control. He can be reached at robert.a.friedman@hklaw.com.

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Josh Gruenspecht, Wilson Sonsini

If there's one person who should have been included in this list ages ago, it's Josh Gruenspecht. A partner in the Washington, D.C., office of Wilson Sonsini, Gruenspecht has been involved in some of the most high profile cases before CFIUS, including transactions involving Broadcom, Sprint, and the Nokia-Alcatel-Lucent deal. Described by more than one person at "the most detail-oriented national security lawyer practicing today," Josh has negotiated security agreements, information sharing agreements, and network and physical security plans and policies with CFIUS, DCSA, the FCC, and others. He also serves as CFIUS counsel to the National Venture Capital Association, and authored the model CFIUS language for risk allocation in venture capital investing. The rare lawyer with a hardcore engineering background — earlier in his career, he worked on network security R&D focused on device and network exploitation — Gruenspecht previously served as a Cybersecurity Fellow with the Center for Democracy and Technology. He has provided myriad insights to Foreign Investment Watch's Editorial team, and has provided readers context on topics related to [venture capital](#), [mitigation agreements](#), [Team Telecom](#), and more. He can be reached at jgruenspecht@wsgr.com.

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Stephenie Gosnell Handler, Gibson Dunn

The former Director of Cybersecurity Strategy and Digital Acceleration at McKinsey, Stephenie Gosnell Handler is one of our top experts at the nexus of international trade, cybersecurity and technology. A former officer in the U.S. Marine Corps, Handler has deep expertise in matters related to CFIUS, export controls, and sanctions, as well as cybersecurity matters across the risk management and incident lifecycle. While at McKinsey, she advised senior leadership on public policy and geopolitical trends, and led the firm's in-house cybersecurity legal team on everything from data localization and regulatory compliance to preparedness and response. Handler has been an invaluable advisor to the Foreign Investment Watch team, seemingly available 24×7, and her insights and webcasts on topics ranging from CFIUS trends to the pending outbound review have been timely and insightful, as have her cybersecurity and data privacy “[review and outlooks](#).” Stephenie Handler can be reached at shandler@gibsondunn.com.

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Stephen Heifetz, Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati

No one has made CFIUS-watching more fun and entertaining than Stephen Heifetz. A partner in the National Security practice of Wilson Sonsini, Heifetz previously served in the U.S. government as a CFIUS official, and in other national security positions at the CIA, Department of Homeland Security, and Department of Justice. He has been involved in more than 1,000 CFIUS matters, and serves as CFIUS counsel for the National Venture Capital Association. [His contribution](#) to our “Startup’s Guide to CFIUS” was the most widely read column in that special section, and he’s been an ongoing resource to the editors of Foreign Investment Watch for insights – and humor; perhaps a remnant from his days as an adjunct professor at Georgetown University Law Center. He’s been quite [outspoken](#) on deficiencies at CFIUS, and [isn’t afraid to speak his mind](#); when Foreign Investment Watch wants a brilliant, insightful, contrarious view, it’s usually Heifetz who can offer it up. He can be reached at sheifetz@wsgr.com.

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Rod Hunter, Baker McKenzie

A partner in the Washington, DC office of Baker McKenzie, Rod Hunter previously served as Special Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs and senior director for international economics at the National Security Council, which is the White House office that coordinates trade policy and supervises CFIUS. In that role, he managed CFIUS cases, including negotiating resolution of some of the most sensitive cases. He also served as senior counsel at the US Trade Representative's office, where he litigated cases before the World Trade Organization. A recognized expert in the field of national security, he has testified before Congress and the United States-China Economic and Security Review Commission on matters related to CFIUS and national security. He has provided [ongoing insights and expertise](#) on FIRREA and CFIUS to Foreign Investment Watch readers, and can be reached at rod.hunter@bakermckenzie.com.

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John Kabealo, Kabealo Law

John has been described as one of the only CFIUS lawyers with both the national security expertise and entrepreneurial chops to have created a thriving solo CFIUS practice. The founder of eponymous Kabealo Law, John launched the firm in 2018 to leverage his deep transactional and national security experience. A former M&A attorney at Skadden in New York, John transferred to Skadden's Washington office to join its nascent national security practice. Over the next seven years, John would focus almost exclusively on national security regulatory reviews, and build a reputation as a pragmatic, deal-oriented advocate on very complex global transactions. "He was a defensive back for Princeton football," said one individual who nominated John to this list, "and literally nothing gets passed him." He has provided insights on Congressional [legislation](#) and [activities](#), and has been a valuable sounding board for the Foreign Investment Watch Editorial team. Kabealo can be reached at john@kabealo.law.

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Nicole Kar, Paul Weiss

A partner and global co-chair of the Antitrust Practice at Paul Weiss in London, Nicole Kar has been our go-to expert on the UK's relatively new National Security and Investment Act. Quoted by Foreign Investment Watch more times than we care to count, Kar's extraordinary understanding of the complex and constantly-changing European and UK foreign-investment review regimes has made her our resident expert on the NSIA; we're apparently in good company, as Kar advised the UK Parliament's Foreign Affairs Committee on the passage of the bill. She provided a [primer](#) for our readers back in April 2022, and few months later [broke down](#) the first UK report on their new regime. Kar can be reached at nkar@paulweiss.com

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Nicholas Klein, DLA Piper

Nicholas Klein is a partner at DLA Piper, where he advises clients on international trade and national security matters, including national security reviews before CFIUS. In fact, Klein has quietly played a critical role in numerous high-profile CFIUS matters, including Softbank's acquisition of Fortress Investment, as well as Softbank's investment in GM Cruise. His plain English explanations of CFIUS processes, including topics like, "Why file if it's not mandatory?" have touched on the insightful and seldom-discussed ancillary benefits, and he's provided insights for readers on [critical technology assessments](#) and other matters in the past year. Klein can be reached at nicholas.klein@dlapiper.com.

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Steve Klemencic, Berkeley Research Group

A managing director at Berkeley Research Group, Steve Klemencic is one of the few experts with significant experience auditing and monitoring foreign transactions for their impact on national security. He's served as the compliance auditor on several transactions, has served on a number of CFIUS third-party monitorship teams, and has shared his experiences and insights with Foreign Investment Watch readers on topics like [building trust with CFIUS](#) and preparing for [compliance and mitigation expenditures](#). A former senior analyst at the National Intelligence Council, Klemencic actually developed and implemented the assessment process for the U.S. intelligence community review of foreign acquirers entering into a CFIUS transaction; the effort encompassed all sixteen U.S. intelligence organizations and provided a structured process for identifying potential threats to U.S. national security. Klemencic can be reached at sklemencic@thinkbrg.com.

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Michael Leiter, Skadden Arps

Michael Leiter, who heads the CFIUS and National Security practices at Skadden, returns to our “Top Advisors” list for the fourth time. The former director of the National Counterterrorism Center under Presidents Bush and Obama, Leiter previously helped establish the Office of the Director of National Intelligence, serving as its deputy chief of staff responsible for oversight of the U.S. intelligence community, including the CFIUS process and all legislative affairs. Importantly, Leiter has hand-on experience as a senior executive at defense contractors and technology companies, which provide him a unique perspective on both operational and legal matters. He’s also a go-to advisor to Silicon Valley’s top-tier venture-capital firms, which are now under increasing scrutiny from the Select Committee and others. Leiter can be reached at michael.leiter@skadden.com.

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J. Philip Ludvigson, King & Spalding

A CFIUS veteran and repeat member of this list, Phil Ludvigson previously served as Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for Investment Security at the U.S. Department of the Treasury. He also served as Treasury's first Director for Monitoring & Enforcement, and built the office that pursues CFIUS non-notified transactions and oversees all CFIUS mitigation measures, including compliance monitoring and enforcement actions. Before joining Treasury, Ludvigson held various roles at the Department of Homeland Security, including serving as the Acting Director of Foreign Investment Risk Management, where he led all aspects of the agency's participation in CFIUS and Team Telecom. He has been an invaluable advisor to Foreign Investment Watch, and his behind-the-scenes [insights](#) and late-night [explanations](#) of complex regulatory matters and legislative proposals have been absolutely priceless. Now a partner at King & Spalding, Ludvigson can be reached at pludvigson@kslaw.com.

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James Mendenhall, Sidley

A partner in Sidley's Global Arbitration, Trade and Advocacy group, James Mendenhall leads the firm's CFIUS practice, and has been a seemingly constant source of intelligence for the editors of Foreign Investment Watch. Previously the General Counsel of the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative, where he handled complex trade negotiations and served as the USTR representative on CFIUS, Mendenhall has deep experience with the Committee, and has [shared his insights](#) regularly with our readers. He has written extensively on CFIUS and the interplay with other regulations and legislation (think the Commerce Department's ICTS rules), and has been deeply involved in several high-profile cases, including the recent ICON-PTSDI clearance by CFIUS, which he explained to our readers in a "[Ten Minutes On](#)" video session. He can be reached at jmendenhall@sidley.com.

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Karalyn Mildorf, Clifford Chance

With nearly two decades of specialized experience focusing on CFIUS, few have seen as many cases as Karalyn Mildorf. A partner at Clifford Chance, Mildorf is relentlessly focused on issues related to national security, foreign direct investment and CFIUS. She has advised clients on CFIUS issues in myriad transactions across sector and region, and has extensive experience with national security requirements in connection with complex transactions. Whether it's assessing potential national security issues, navigating the CFIUS process, addressing inquiries by the Committee (including non-notified transactions), negotiating CFIUS-related deal terms, or addressing implementation of (and compliance with) CFIUS mitigation agreements, Mildorf has literally seen it all. She can be reached at karalyn.mildorf@cliffordchance.com.

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Aimen Mir, Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer

Another long-time, repeat entry in our Top Advisors list, Aimen Mir was the former Deputy Assistant Secretary for Investment Security at Treasury, where he served as the senior-most career CFIUS official. Mir managed CFIUS review and resolution of over 1,000 transactions, and played leading roles in shaping both FIRRMA and the Export Control Reform Act of 2018. Previously counsel in the National Security Division of the Department of Justice, Mir has been involved in numerous cross-border CFIUS matters, including Volkswagen's proposed \$2.6 billion co-investment with Ford Motor Co. in autonomous vehicle technology company Argo AI. Our [insightful conversation with him](#) — one of many — shed light on the non-notified transaction process, mitigation agreements, and more. He can be reached at aimen.mir@freshfields.com.

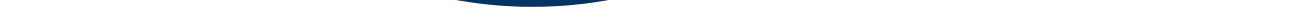
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Brian Moore, Bot Auto

One of only a few inside counsel to be included in our “Top Advisors” list, Moore received more nominations this year than any other advisor. Currently the Vice President of Policy at Bot Auto, Moore has significant experience addressing CFIUS national security concerns across multiple entities. Moore previously served as CFIUS Security Officer at Treasure Data, where he oversaw the implementation and compliance with another complex CFIUS agreement; Brian [discussed his experiences with us](#) back in 2022. He then joined Tusimple, where he also played an “instrumental” role in helping the company become CFIUS compliant. In addition to his work at Bot Auto, Moore has played an important role at the Autonomous Vehicle Industry Association, where his “sophisticated grasp of policy implications” have had a material impact on the U.S. autonomous driving industry.

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Britt Mosman, Willkie Farr

A partner and co-chair of the Global Trade & Investment practice group at Willkie Farr, Britt Mosman previously served as an Attorney-Advisor in the Office of the Chief Counsel, advising the Treasury Department's Office of Foreign Assets Control. While at OFAC, Mosman focused on economic sanctions and national security issues, including as a lead attorney on the Iran, Ukraine/Russia, Cuba, Syria, Election Interference, and cyber-related sanctions programs. An expert on compliance and enforcement matters related to CFIUS, the Bank Secrecy Act, anti-money laundering, export controls and more, Mosman has provided context for Foreign Investment Watch readers on topics like [non-notified transactions from Russia](#), the [outbound regime](#), and more. She has deep crypto expertise, and has been involved in several high-profile, high-stakes enforcement proceedings. She can be reached at bmosman@willkie.com.

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Kenneth Nunnenkamp, Morgan Lewis

A partner at Morgan Lewis, Kenneth Nunnenkamp chairs the firm's CFIUS Working Group and is an expert on all things CFIUS. A strategic and outside-the-box thinker, Nunnenkamp coauthored a high-profile and [intriguing proposal](#): One that stated national security reviews of foreign investments merit a full-on Commission, not an ad-hoc Committee. He later shared his insights with our readers during a "[Ten Minutes On](#)" video session, and has provided regular insights and behind-the-scenes tips to the Foreign Investment Watch Editorial team. He regularly represents clients in international trade and national security matters before U.S. federal courts and government agencies, including the U.S. Departments of State, Commerce, Homeland Security, Defense, and Treasury. He can be reached at kenneth.nunnenkamp@morganlewis.com.

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H.K. Park, Crumpton Global

We've said it before: H.K. Park should be on our payroll. The head of the National Security practice at Crumpton Global, Park has provided Foreign Investment Watch with more scoops and "heads-up" stories than any other reader. A former Assistant to the Secretary of Defense on homeland security matters, Park spent nearly two decades at the advisory firm launched by former Secretary of Defense and Member of Congress William S. Cohen, where he led the firm's Korea and Southeast Asia practices. An expert on helping companies think about expansion into foreign markets, particularly Asia, Park is one of the few experts on outbound foreign-investment regimes, and was the first to explain to our readers how [national security audits](#) could be a direct result of any outbound legislation or Executive Order. He can be reached at hpark@crumptonglobal.com.

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David Plotinsky, Morgan Lewis

The former acting chief of the Foreign Investment Review Section at the DoJ's National Security Division, David Plotinsky has extraordinarily deep understanding of complex compliance and enforcement matters arising from CFIUS and Team Telecom cases. In addition to his extensive work on White House and interagency matters, Plotinsky served as the chief of the FCC's Cybersecurity and Communications Reliability Division, and several senior roles in the Office of the Director of National Intelligence's Office of General Counsel (to name a few). His "[ten minutes on](#)" session with Foreign Investment Watch was one of our most widely-viewed videos, and his Q&A with us on [lessons for dealing with CFIUS](#) was considered "priceless" by readers. Plotinsky has provided constant guidance and insight to the editors of Foreign Investment Watch on topics related to global trade, information communications technology, critical and emerging technology, and more. Now a partner at Morgan Lewis, Plotinsky can be reached at david.plotinsky@morganlewis.com.

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Bridget Reineking, Cooley

Previously senior counsel and co-lead CFIUS counsel at the Office of the General Counsel at Treasury, Bridget Reineking has deep experience with the Committee, having supervised the legal analyses and resolution of more than 600 transactions reviewed by CFIUS. While at Treasury, she provided counsel in connection with CFIUS' review of both notified and non-notified transactions, and negotiated national security agreements with U.S. businesses and foreign investors on behalf of the government. A go-to advisor for the Foreign Investment Watch Editorial team, Reineking was gracious enough to play a game of [true/false](#) with us, and is a constant source of clear, straight-forward insights. She can be reached at breineking@cooley.com.

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Brian Reissaus, Freshfields

It's rare we get non-lawyers on the Top Advisors list, but Brian belongs in a category all his own. Currently a Senior Advisor on the National Security team at Freshfields, Reissaus most recently served as Deputy Assistant Secretary for Investment Security Operations at the Treasury Department, and – for the first 16 months of the Biden Administration –served as Acting Assistant Secretary for Investment Security. Experts say Reissaus played a “key role” in negotiating FIRRMA and then promulgating the implementing regulations, and was involved in managing the processing of more than 1,500 notices and declarations filed with CFIUS, with a combined transaction value of more than \$1 trillion. Since he left the Committee, he's been a source of “highly insightful, reliable, and actionable advice,” as our readers can attest from his “[Ten Minutes On](#)” segment regarding legal challenges to CFIUS. Reissaus can be reached at brian.reissaus@freshfields.com.

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Michael Rose, EisnerAmper

As CFIUS has [elevated](#) the role of third-party auditors and monitors, experts like Michael Rose have been absolutely invaluable to the Foreign Investment Watch Editorial team. An experienced consultant in the worlds of audit and internal controls, Rose is a partner in the Risk and Compliance Services group at EisnerAmper, where he also serves as national practice leader of the firm's CFIUS Advisory Services group. An expert on topics related to National Security Agreement compliance oversight, he has conducted readiness and third-party audits for numerous CFIUS-imposed NSAs. His experience has enabled him to inform our readers about the ways that CFIUS [risk assessments and audits](#) are conducted, and has provided a unique perspective on topics ranging from [filing trends](#) to [national security risks](#). Rose can be reached at michael.rose@eisneramper.com.

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Paul Rosen, Latham & Watkins

Paul hasn't even been on the job for a month, but we still include him as one of our Top Advisors for 2025. That's due to the obvious: He was appointed by President Biden and served as the second-ever Assistant Secretary for Investment Security at Treasury, where he oversaw CFIUS and led the U.S. government's investment security screening, regulatory reviews, and enforcement activities. In addition to knowing the ins-and-outs of the Committee, many of the current senior CFIUS staffers were his hires, which means he knows who to call when necessary. And having ramped up the Committee's compliance and enforcement function, he certainly knows how decisions are made and compliance is monitored. Foreign Investment Watch editors had the pleasure of [speaking with Rosen](#) on several occasions, and the Boston-based Editorial team found him thoughtful, responsive, strategic, and wicked smaht. He can be reached at paul.rosen@lw.com.

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Anne Salladin, Hogan Lovells

Anne Salladin served for nearly two decades in the Office of the Assistant General Counsel for International Affairs of the Treasury Department, which provides legal advice to the Secretary of the Treasury, who of course chairs CFIUS. As senior counsel, she was responsible for providing legal advice on CFIUS matters, working closely with other CFIUS agencies, and played a role in developing laws and regulations related to CFIUS. Salladin has been involved in myriad transactions filed with CFIUS, and has represented companies before CFIUS in the pharma, defense, semiconductor, and other industries. Her Q&A with Foreign Investment Watch is still one of the [most-widely read interviews](#) we have ever published. Salladin can be reached at anne.salladin@hoganlovells.com.

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Albert Schultz, Kaerus

Albert is president of Kaerus Consulting, which provides the full range of mitigation services for companies under agreements with CFIUS, DCSA, and Team Telecom. He has personally served as Outside Director, Third-Party Monitor, Trustee, Security Director, and Proxy Holder. Schultz, previously spent nearly three decades at the Central Intelligence Agency as an Economic Analyst, Operations Officer (Case Officer), and Contractor. During the same period, he also served as an infantry enlisted member and officer in the National Guard and Army Reserve. He has been a regular source of insights for the Foreign Investment Watch Editorial team, and has offered intelligence to readers on topics ranging from CFIUS [contracts](#) and [correspondence](#) to [key takeaways](#) from industry events. Schultz can be reached at albert@kaerusllc.com.

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Olga Torres, Torres Trade Law

Olga is the founder of the eponymous Torres Trade Law and a related advisory firm, Torres Trade Advisory. An expert on all things CFIUS, Olga has significant experience developing strategies and conducting negotiations with U.S. regulatory agencies; in addition to CFIUS, she has represented clients before on matters related to FOCI, FCPA and more. A frequent speaker on export controls, sanctions, and international trade, Torres has authored key chapters of industry handbooks, and has been an appointed member of the Defense Trade Advisory Group, advising the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Political-Military Affairs, since 2012. She's also been a valuable source of intel on industry developments, and has provided readers with insights on [outbound](#), industry [regulations](#), [CFIUS jurisdiction](#), specific [transactions](#), and more. Torres can be reached at olga@torrestradelaw.com.

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Antonia Tzinova, Holland & Knight

Fluent in Russian (not to mention Bulgarian and French) Antonia Tzinova has been Foreign Investment Watch's go-to resource for insights related to international trade, embargoes, sanctions and industrial security. A partner at Holland & Knight, Tzinova has significant experience representing clients before CFIUS, and advises on measures to mitigate Foreign Ownership, Control, or Influence in cross-border mergers and acquisitions, particularly in the defense sector. She has helped our readers understand ongoing FIRIMA developments like [excepted foreign states](#), and has significant experience with ITAR, OFAC and other regulations and global trade matters. Tzinova can be reached at antonia.tzinova@hklaw.com.

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Carl Valenstein, Morgan Lewis

Valenstein is a member of the CFIUS working group at Morgan Lewis, where he focuses his practice on complex global transactions and international risk management, including compliance with the foreign investment review process, export control and sanctions, and anti-money laundering, antiboycott, and anticorruption laws and regulations. Fluent in Spanish and Portuguese, Valenstein has worked broadly in Latin America, the Caribbean, Europe, Africa, Asia, and the Middle East (he's also conversant in French and Italian). He has served as lead counsel on some of the more complex and thorny CFIUS cases, and has done so across heavily regulated industries, including global defense and energy. He can be reached at carl.valenstein@morganlewis.com.

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Brandon Van Grack, Morrison Foerster

The cochair of Morrison Foerster's National Security and Global Risk + Crisis Management groups, Brandon Van Grack spent more than a decade at the DoJ, holding several positions including Chief of the Foreign Agents Registration Act Unit. He provided an outstanding [primer on the FARA Unit](#) for our readers, and has provided myriad insights to the Foreign Investment Watch Editorial team. The lead prosecutor for Special Counsel Robert S. Mueller III's investigation of the Russian government's efforts to interfere in the 2016 presidential election, Van Grack has been involved in some of the nation's most high-profile national security matters; for example, as Counsel to the Assistant Attorney General, Van Graack led the DoJ's response to the Obama Administration's rollback of sanctions targeting Iran (the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action). He has handled the entire range of national security matters – from espionage to cybersecurity – and has deep expertise and perspective across the entire national security landscape. He can be reached at bvangrack@mofo.com.

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