



# 2024 NEW YORK



跨国投资并购国际研究协会

International Institute for the Study of Cross-Border Investment and M&A



光华管理学院  
Guanghua School of Management



UNIVERSITY OF  
CAMBRIDGE  
Judge Business School



## JILLIAN ALSHEIMER

PARTNER

PERELLA WEINBERG PARTNERS

**Jillian Alsheimer** is a Partner in Perella Weinberg's Advisory business. Based in New York, Ms. Alsheimer leads our business focused on strategic defense, shareholder engagement and activism, and focuses on anti-raid and corporate governance across all sectors globally.

Prior to joining Perella Weinberg, Ms. Alsheimer was Managing Director in the Mergers and Acquisitions group at Goldman Sachs focused on activism, shareholder advisory, and takeover defense. Previously, she was a corporate lawyer at Wachtell, Lipton, Rosen & Katz, where she specialized in general M&A, shareholder activism, takeover defense, and corporate governance.

Ms. Alsheimer earned a JD from Columbia University Law School and a BBA from the George Washington University.



## ANTONIA APPS

DIRECTOR, NEW YORK REGIONAL OFFICE

US SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE  
COMMISSION

**Antonia Apps** is the Regional Director of the New York Office of the United States Securities and Exchange Commission. Prior to joining the SEC, she was a litigation partner at Milbank LLP, practicing in the areas of white-collar defense, securities enforcement, and commercial litigation. Earlier in her career, Antonia served as an Assistant United States Attorney in the Southern District of New York U.S. Attorney's Office for over seven years, where she led many of the government's high-profile securities fraud and insider trading cases, including the prosecution of the hedge fund S.A.C. Capital Advisors. Antonia received the Executive Office of U.S. Attorneys' Director's Award for Superior Performance.

Antonia has tried 18 criminal and civil cases, argued numerous appeals and evidentiary motions, and is a fellow of the American College of Trial lawyers. Among other industry recognitions, Ms. Apps is ranked in Chambers USA, where clients called her an "incredibly bright and detail-oriented lawyer" and praised her "excellent judgment and analytical skills in white-collar litigation". Lawdragon has named Ms. Apps in its list of 500 Leading Lawyers in America each year since 2014. Ms. Apps was named a 2020 Litigation Trailblazer by The National Law Journal, which recognizes lawyers who have made significant impact on legal practice, policy or technological advancements. In 2019, Ms. Apps was named in Crain's New York Business' "Notable Women in Law" list in recognition of her distinguished career and exceptional civic and philanthropic activities.

Earlier in her career, Antonia was a partner at the Washington, DC, law firm Kellogg, Hansen, Todd, Figel & Frederick. She received her undergraduate degree in law from the University of Sydney and went on to earn a Bachelor of Civil Law at Oxford University and an LLM from Harvard Law School. She served as a law clerk for the Hon. Fred I. Parker in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit, and previously as a law clerk to the Hon. Tom W. Waddell, Chief Judge of the Equity Division in the New South Wales Supreme Court.



## JANENE ASGEIRSSON

CHIEF LEGAL OFFICER, CHIEF RISK OFFICER  
AND CORPORATE SECRETARY

ANALOG DEVICES, INC.

As Chief Legal Officer and Corporate Secretary of Analog Devices (ADI), **Janene Asgeirsson** leads our worldwide legal, governance, trade, regulatory, government affairs, risk, and compliance functions, including mergers and acquisitions (M&A), litigation, intellectual property, and corporate matters, as well as internal audit, enterprise risk and the governance aspect of our ESG programs. Janene also acts as a strategic advisor to ADI's executive leadership team and board of directors.

Janene has over two decades of combined experience in private practice at American Lawyer-ranked international law firms and in senior and executive level roles at publicly traded technology companies. Prior to joining ADI in August 2021, Janene served as the chief legal officer, chief compliance officer and secretary at Acacia Communications, leading global teams with diverse responsibilities. During her tenure at Acacia, she accomplished several significant strategic projects and transactions, including Acacia's initial public offering (IPO) – the best-performing U.S. IPO of 2016 – and its multi-billion-dollar sale to Cisco Systems. While in private practice, Janene provided strategic and legal counsel to several companies across multiple industries, ranging in size from start-ups to multi-billion-dollar, complex global organizations, and successfully executed multiple IPO and complex, cross-border M&A transactions.

Janene holds a Juris Doctor from Northeastern University School of Law and a Bachelor of Arts in accountancy from the University of San Diego, where she graduated *summa cum laude*. Janene is a member of the State Bars of Massachusetts, New York and California. She serves as the Secretary of ADI's Board of Directors and as a director of several of ADI's global subsidiaries. From 2015 to 2021, she served as a director on the Franklin Performance Arts Company.

Janene is an avid reader and performing arts enthusiast. She is committed to continual learning and growth, is a certified yoga instructor, and enjoys international travel, being outdoors and spending time with her family.



## SUSAN ATHEY

CHIEF ECONOMIST, ANTITRUST DIVISION

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

**Susan Athey** is Chief Economist of the Antitrust Division. She is on partial leave from Stanford University Graduate School of Business, where she is the Economics of Technology Professor. She received her bachelor's degree from Duke University and her PhD from Stanford, and she holds honorary doctorates from Duke University and London Business School. She previously taught at the economics departments at MIT, Stanford, and Harvard. She is an elected member of the National Academy of Science and is the recipient of the John Bates Clark Medal, awarded by the American Economics Association to the economist under 40 who has made the greatest contributions to thought and knowledge. She is president-elect (for 2023) of the American Economics Association, where she previously served as Vice President and as a member of the Executive Committee. Her research focuses on the economics of digitization, marketplace design, technology for social impact, and the intersection of econometrics and machine learning. She has served as consulting chief economist and on the boards of directors of multiple private and public technology firms. She was a founding associate director of the Stanford Institute for Human-Centered Artificial Intelligence, and she is the founding faculty director of the Golub Capital Social Impact Lab at Stanford GSB.



## JAAP BARNEVELD

PARTNER

DE BRAUW BLACKSTONE WESTBROEK

**Jaap Barneveld** is a corporate partner and specialises in M&A, venture capital, capital markets and corporate governance. He has advised on numerous (friendly and hostile) public offers and strategic M&A deals and has been involved in most of the largest Dutch venture capital funding rounds. He has also assisted various issuers in Dutch IPOs and regularly advises clients on a wide range of corporate matters (including board structures, fiduciary duties, disclosure obligations and activist shareholders).

Jaap holds the position of Professor of Legal Aspects of Corporate Transactions at the University of Groningen, has authored numerous publications on corporate law and M&A, and is a regular speaker at conferences.



## HONGBIN CAI

DEAN OF THE HKU BUSINESS SCHOOL, CHAIR  
OF ECONOMICS

UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

**Professor Hongbin Cai** is the Dean of the HKU Business School and Chair of Economics. He received his B.A. in Mathematics from Wuhan University in 1988, his M.A. in Economics from Peking University in 1991, and his Ph.D. in Economics from Stanford University in 1997.

From 1997 to 2005, he taught at the University of California, Los Angeles. From December 2010 to January 2017, he served as Dean of Guanghua School of Management, Peking University. He joined the HKU Business School in June 2017 and serves as the Dean since July 2017. He is a National Chang Jiang Scholar (awarded by Ministry of Education of China) and a National Outstanding Young Researcher (awarded by National Science Foundation of China). Professor Cai has published many academic papers in top international journals in economics and finance, in a wide range of areas including game theory, Chinese economy, industrial organization and corporate finance.

Professor Cai was elected as a Fellow of the Econometric Society. He was a member of the National People's Congress, and a member of the Central Committee of China Democratic League and Vice Chairman of its Committee of Economic Affairs. He was the founding president of The Chinese Finance Association (TCFA, overseas). He serves as an Independent Director on the boards of CCB International (Holdings) Limited and China Petroleum & Chemical Corporation.



## JOSHUA CAMMAKER

PARTNER

WACHTELL, LIPTON, ROSEN & KATZ

**Joshua Cammaker** is a corporate partner at Wachtell, Lipton, Rosen & Katz, concentrating on mergers and acquisitions, shareholder and stakeholder activism, corporate governance and securities laws matters. Mr. Cammaker has been involved in many major domestic and cross-border merger and acquisition transactions, takeover defenses, joint ventures and private equity transactions.

Josh was named an M&A MVP by *Law360* in 2019 and Dealmaker of the Year by *The American Lawyer* in 2017. He is also recognized as one of the [500 leading dealmakers](#) in America by *Lawdragon*. He frequently speaks and writes on shareholder activism, mergers and acquisitions and corporate governance.

Josh is the former co-chair of the M&A and Joint Venture Committee of the International Section of the American Bar Association and a Member of the American Law Institute. He earned a B.A. *magna cum laude* from Tufts University, where he was a member of Phi Beta Kappa, and a J.D. from New York University School of Law, where he was an editor of the *Law Review* and a member of the Order of the Coif.



## KARESSA CAIN

PARTNER

WACHTELL, LIPTON, ROSEN & KATZ

**Karesa Cain** is a partner in Wachtell, Lipton, Rosen & Katz's Corporate Department, where she focuses on mergers and acquisitions, corporate governance, and corporate and securities matters. She has worked on a wide range of transactions, including domestic and cross-border acquisitions, private equity transactions, spin-offs, takeover defense, shareholder activism and proxy contests, joint ventures and capital markets transactions.

Karesa was selected Dealmaker of the Year by *The American Lawyer* (2020), and was recognized as one of *The Deal's* Top Women in Dealmaking 2022 and as a leading Corporate/M&A Lawyer by Chambers, among other legal and M&A honors.



## JORDI CANALS

PROFESSOR OF ECONOMICS AND  
STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT

IESE BUSINESS SCHOOL

**Jordi Canals** is professor of strategic management and the holder of Fundación IESE Chair in Corporate Governance. He was Dean of IESE from 2001 through 2016. Prof. Canals is a recognized scholar in the areas of corporate strategy, corporate governance and globalization. He is the author of numerous books and articles, including *Boards of Directors in Disruptive Times* (Cambridge University Press, 2023), *The Future of Management in an AI World* (Palgrave MacMillan, 2019), *Shaping Entrepreneurial Mindsets* (Palgrave MacMillan, 2015), *Leadership Development in a Global world* (Palgrave MacMillan 2012), *Building Respected Companies* (Cambridge University Press, 2010), *Managing Corporate Growth* (Oxford University Press, 2000), *Universal Banking: Theoretical Perspectives and International Comparisons* (Oxford University Press, 1997), and *Competitive Strategies in European Banking* (Oxford University Press, 1993).

Prof. Canals has served as guest scholar at the International Monetary Fund, visiting scholar at the World Bank, post-doctoral research fellow at the Harvard Business School and guest scholar at the Brookings Institution.

He was a board member of GMAC, the European Corporate Governance Institute, the European Institute for Advanced Studies in Management, and the European Foundation for Management Development. Jordi Canals is also a founding member of the European Shadow Financial Regulatory Committee, Europe's independent oversight group on European banking and financial affairs. In addition, he was a member of the Corporate Governance Commission set up by the Spanish Government in July 2002.



## **BERTRAND CARDI**

PARTNER

DARROIS VILLEY MAILLOT BROCHIER

**Bertrand Cardi** is a partner at Darrois Villey Maillot Brochier. He joined the firm early 2010, after having been a partner at Linklaters since 2004.

He has more than 25 years of experience and is one of the leading experts in mergers and acquisitions, securities as well as capital market laws (and also has experience in related litigation, arbitration and regulatory investigations). He has acted for industrial clients or investment funds in numerous major French or cross-border transactions.

Finally, Bertrand Cardi advises a number of listed companies on their governance and their strategic developments abroad.

Bertrand Cardi, in addition to his Assas University law diploma, is a graduate of Ecole des Hautes Etudes Commerciales ("HEC"), the French leading business school. He is a Director of the Board of the HEC Foundation/Trust, and advised on the improvement of the corporate form and governance of HEC from 2010 until today. He is ranked in the top tier in various legal guides (including Chambers and Legal 500). He is an Officer of the M&A Committee of the International Bar Association (IBA) and regularly speaks at legal conferences on governance as well as M&A and Capital Market issues. The French Stock Exchange Authority (AMF) has invited him to join its consultative Commission on Disclosures and Corporate Finance as one of the few securities law experts.

## SANTIAGO CARREGAL

HEAD OF THE BANKING AND FINANCE  
DEPARTMENT AND CHAIRMAN OF THE FIRM

MARVAL, O'FARRELL & MAIRAL



**Santiago Carregal** is the Head of the Banking and Finance Department and Chairman of the firm. He specializes in corporate finance and has represented companies and investment banks in public offerings, private placements and tender and exchange offers, structured and project financings and mortgage securitization involving a variety of equity, debt and hybrid instruments.

Santiago is also very active in M&As handling a number of notable transactions, including the sale of GE Money Argentina to Banco Supervielle, the sale of GE Money's branches to Banco Columbia, and GE's acquisition of 25% of YPF Luz. He also handled the acquisition by Dufry of the leading airport retailer in Argentina Interbaires, as well as airport retail operations in Uruguay, Ecuador and Armenia, and the sale of the controlling stake in chemical company Indupa by Belgian giant Solvay.

In addition, Santiago has extensive experience in restructuring and workouts, which includes representing the Telecom Argentina group in its USD 4 billion debt restructuring, the largest cross-border insolvency case in Argentina's history (2002/2006).

From 2012 to 2014 Santiago led the team of lawyers that represented Repsol in all matters relating to the expropriation of Repsol's participation in YPF, including representation in arbitral and judicial proceedings, and in the expropriation agreement signed with the Argentine Government, which constitutes Argentina's first-ever expropriation deal.

Chambers Latin America describes Santiago as "a brilliant lawyer and among the best in the country." He is also recognized as a leading specialist in banking and finance, corporate/M&A and project finance in several other legal publications including Who's Who Legal, The Legal 500, Which Lawyer and IFLR 1000.

He worked as a foreign attorney for Shearman & Sterling in New York, is a former Vice-President and Assistant General Counsel of JP Morgan's Buenos Aires Branch, and was a partner of law firm Carregal & Funes de Rioja. Santiago graduated as a lawyer at the University of Buenos Aires in 1984 and went on to earn a Master's in Law from the University of Illinois in 1987.

Santiago is currently a member of the Board of the Argentine Bank's Lawyers Committee (Comité de Abogados de Bancos de la República Argentina) and a professor of post-graduate studies in banking and finance at the Universidad de Buenos Aires, Universidad Austral and Universidad Católica Argentina.



## VALENTINA CASSATA

SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT, GENERAL COUNSEL  
M&A AND CORPORATE

STANDARD INDUSTRIES INC.

As the Lead Counsel of M&A and Corporate at Standard Industries and the General Counsel at Standard Investments, **Valentina Cassata** is responsible for legal advice in all stages of corporate and financial transactions in both the domestic and international markets, including through traditional M&A, public and private investments and strategic alliances across Standard, its global operating company, and Standard Investments. Ms. Cassata joined Standard Industries in 2019 after serving as Senior M&A and Ventures Counsel at American Express. Prior to this, Ms. Cassata spent over a decade progressing through top-tier corporate law firms, Wachtell, Lipton, Rosen & Katz, and Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton. Ms. Cassata earned dual legal degrees with a Master of Laws from Stanford Law School and a Doctor of Law from the University of Milan, Italy, and is admitted to the bar both in Italy and in New York.



# ELIANA CATALANO

MANAGING PARTNER

BONELLIEREDE

## Expertise

- M&A (domestic and cross border)
- Private equity
- Joint ventures and commercial agreements
- Particular expertise in the following sectors:
  - fashion, luxury and design goods
  - manufacturing
  - business services
  - sports and leisure
  - consumer goods
  - real estate
- Foreign languages: English

## Background

- Managing Partner of the firm
- Board member since 2021
- Team Leader of the Private Equity Focus Team
- Member of the Digital Innovation (strategic support)
- Member of the Board of Directors of beLab S.p.A. (a public limited company wholly owned by BonelliErede) since July 2020
- Made partner in 2009
- Joined in 2001
- Foreign lawyer at Cravath New York office in 2004 and at its London office in 2005

## Ranking and Awards

The Chambers & Partners and The Legal 500 EMEA international legal directories list **Eliana Catalano** as an expert in corporate law, mergers and acquisitions and private equity in Italy.



## CHE CHANG

GENERAL COUNSEL

OPENAI, INC.

As General Counsel at OpenAI, **Che Chang** leads the team that manages legal issues arising from developing and offering large machine learning models, including GPT, Dall-E, and ChatGPT.

Prior to joining OpenAI, Chang was a Senior Corporate Counsel at Amazon Web Services. There, he led the legal teams for AWS's Artificial Intelligence/Machine Learning and Marketplace businesses. He advised senior executives on developing and selling AI and ML products, established Amazon positions on AI policy and legislation, and met with AI policymakers and regulators worldwide. He managed a team of lawyers overseeing product counseling, data privacy (including GDPR, CCPA, HIPAA), licensing, intellectual property, strategic agreements, open source, regulatory compliance, and international expansion.

Prior to that, Chang was a technology transactions attorney at Goodwin Procter LLP, specializing in licensing, product counseling, data privacy/security, and drafting and negotiating commercial and strategic agreements, including software/SaaS, vendor, and partnership agreements.

Che Chang earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from UCLA and a JD from Northwestern University Pritzker School of Law.



## NICOLA CHARLSTON

PARTNER, M&A

KING & WOOD MALLESONS

**Nicola Charlston** is a transactional M&A Partner with King & Wood Malleasons, based in Melbourne, Australia. Nicola has over 2 decades' experience as an M&A lawyer and advises on complex M&A transactions across a broad range of sectors, including financial services, infrastructure, health, resources and technology. Much of her practice involves cross border transactions, primarily acting for North American and European clients (including acting for Block Inc on the Afterpay acquisition, Campbell Soup Company on the disposal of various Australian and international assets, and various de-SPAC transactions involving Australian targets). As well as transactional M&A, Nicola provides strategic advice to clients on issues across the corporate spectrum, including capital raisings, continuous disclosure, cyber issues, governance matters, restructures and joint ventures. Nicola sits on the firm's health sector leadership team and is also Co-chair of the International Bar Association's M&A Law Committee.



## AUDREY CHEN

PARTNER

JUNHE LLP

**Audrey Chen** joined the firm in 1993 and practices in our Beijing office.

Ms. Chen has extensive experience in industries such as energy and natural resources, manufacturing, education, media, retails, pharmaceutical, food/agriculture, hi-tech, etc. She has advised clients to adopt creative structures, and negotiated complicated legal documents in connection with such projects. Ms. Chen's clients include major international investment/ pension funds, universities, Chinese domestic corporations and Fortune 500 companies.

Audrey has also worked with many domestic and international clients from different industries in their cross border M&A transactions, and provided strategic planning and advice for cartel investigations, leniency applications and related litigations.

Ms. Chen previously worked in New York office of Jones Day Reavis & Pogue, where she advised clients on investment projects in China.



## RON CHEN

PARTNER

WACHTELL, LIPTON, ROSEN & KATZ

**Ronald Chen** is a partner at Wachtell, Lipton, Rosen & Katz in the Corporate Department, focusing on mergers and acquisitions, takeover defense, shareholder activism, corporate governance and securities law matters. Ron has represented numerous public and private entities in a variety of industries, jurisdictions and transactions, including domestic and cross-border merger and acquisition transactions, private equity transactions, joint ventures, divestitures and spin-offs.

Ron received his A.B. *summa cum laude* from Harvard University, where he received the John Williams Prize as the top graduate in economics. Following graduation from Harvard, Ron served as a staff economist on the President's Council of Economic Advisers and was the recipient of a Marshall Scholarship to study at the University of Oxford, where he received an M.Sc. in Economic and Social History and an M.B.A. While at Oxford, Ron was also a lecturer in economics at Keble College, Oxford. After completing his M.B.A., Ron was a management consultant at McKinsey & Company.

Ron received his J.D. *magna cum laude* from Harvard Law School where he was the recipient of a Paul & Daisy Soros Fellowship for New Americans. After law school, he was a Charles Hamilton Houston Fellow at Harvard Law School and a law clerk to the Honorable Robert D. Sack of the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit.

Ron had been named a Dealmaker of the Year by *The American Lawyer*, and a Technology MVP by *Law360*. Ron teaches a course on Mergers & Acquisitions in the Technology Sector and Beyond at Stanford Law School, and has previously taught courses on Mergers & Acquisitions and Other Complex Transactions at Stanford Law School, and Mergers & Acquisitions in the Technology Sector at Harvard Law School. He has also been a Visiting Attorney at Hengeler Mueller in Frankfurt, Germany, and on the M&A Legal Team of Google. Ron also serves as Co-Chair of the International Bar Association's annual conference on Mergers & Acquisitions in the Technology Sector.



## CHRISTIAN CHIN

PARTNER, CO-HEAD OF M&A

ALLEN & GLEDHILL

**Christian Chin** co-heads one of the largest M&A practices in Southeast Asia at Allen & Gledhill, where he also leads its top-ranked private equity and venture capital practice.

He has been identified as a “Leading Individual” for Corporate and M&A and Start-Up and Venture Capital work by The Legal 500, is ranked as a Band 1 lawyer for Startups & Emerging Companies by Chambers and Partners, and rated as a Notable Practitioner for M&A by IFLR1000.

In addition to being a leading M&A and private equity/venture capital lawyer, Christian has also been a Legal Case Studies Instructor at the NUS Law School and a lecturer and instructor for the Corporate & Commercial Practice module for the Singapore Bar Examinations.

Christian is also a key contributor to the Venture Capital Investment Model Agreements sponsored by the Singapore Academy of Law (SAL) and the Singapore Venture Capital Association, and served on SAL’s Commercial Precedents Committee where he developed template documents for use by the legal community.

Christian also sits on the Practice Advisory Panel of the Singapore Management University’s School of Law and is a regular speaker at international conferences organised by the International Bar Association, the Inter-Pacific Bar Association, the Practising Law Institute and the International Institute for the Study of Cross-Border Investment and M&A.

Christian has been a contributing author to the Singapore chapters on Joint Venture Structures published by Practical Law, Contract Execution published by Practical Law Global, the International Comparative Legal Guide to Private Equity, and the IBA Treasury Shares Guide.

Christian graduated from the National University of Singapore with an LL.B. (1999) and holds an MBA from the F.W. Olin Graduate School of Business, Babson College (2004) where he was a Babson Fellow.

He has been a partner at Allen & Gledhill since 2006.



## HARRY COGHILL

PARTNER

MACFARLANES

**Harry Coghill** has broad transactional experience in public and private M&A, equity capital markets and other corporate transactions. He also advises listed clients on a wide range of corporate governance matters, including activism situations.

Harry has authored several publications, and regularly speaks at international conferences, on subjects relevant to his practice. He is also an officer of the IBA's Corporate and M&A Law Committee.

Harry sits on the legal panel of the Investor Forum, having advised on its establishment.

Harry heads our international practice, as part of which he has oversight of our relationships with international law firms. He also heads our public M&A team.



## **COSTAS CONDOLEON**

PARTNER

GILBERT + TOBIN

**Costas Condoleon** is head of Gilbert + Tobin's Corporate/M&A group.

Costas has significant experience in M&A, takeovers (contested and friendly), corporate and securities law, capital markets, directors duties and corporate governance and the Listing Rules. He is widely recognised as one of Australia's leading strategic M&A and securities lawyers, and is known for his experience in advising on some of Australia's most prominent, novel and complex deals.

Costas is an adjunct member of the Faculty of Law at the University of Sydney where he lectures in the Masters of Laws course of Takeovers and Reconstructions.

Costas is also a member of Gilbert + Tobin's Board of partners.



## **PETER COOK**

PARTNER

GILBERT + TOBIN

**Peter Cook** is a partner in Gilbert + Tobin's Corporate Advisory group.

Peter has more than 25 years' experience in the industry and is regularly ranked as one of Australia's leading capital markets, mergers & acquisitions and private equity lawyers in national and international surveys such as Chambers Global, Best Lawyers, Who's Who, Asia Pacific 500, IFLR and Euromoney's Guides.



## ROBRECHT COPPENS

PARTNER

LOYENS & LOEFF N.V.

**Robrecht Coppens** is a partner and heads the Corporate and M&A Practice Group in our Brussels office. He co-heads the firm's multidisciplinary and cross-office Venture Capital Team.

His practice involves international and domestic M&A transactions with a particular focus on private equity and venture capital led transactions and investments. He works across several sectors such as technology and software, life sciences and manufacturing.

In addition, he also advises corporate clients and private equity funds on matters of general corporate law and corporate reorganisation. Over the past few years, he has also built-up significant experience in high profile pre-insolvency or distressed restructuring cases.

Robrecht regularly speaks at national and international conferences and seminars and actively coaches young entrepreneurs and start-ups.

He is recognised, and has been recognised consistently since many years, in his field of expertise by Chambers & Partners (Global & Europe) and The Legal 500.



## CARLOS CORDERO

PARTNER

ALEMAN, CORDERO, GALINDO & LEE

**Carlos Cordero** joined Aleman, Cordero, Galindo & Lee in 1985 as a founding partner. His professional practice is concentrated on Mergers & Acquisitions, Corporate, Telecommunications, Energy and Banking Law.

Mr. Cordero has served on Special Missions for the Defense of the International Services from 1999 to 2012; as vice minister of Foreign Affairs from 1993 to 1994; and on the National Council of Foreign Affairs in the periods from 1993 to 1994 and from 1999 to 2014. He is also on the board of directors of Cable & Wireless Panama, S.A., Elektra Noreste, S.A. and he is a member of the Panama Bar Association.

Mr. Cordero has a Bachelor of Law and Political Science from Universidad de Panama. He has been recognised as Senior Statesman in the areas of M&A, Banking and Finance, Corporate and Projects by the prestigious publication Chambers & Partners. He has also been recognised as a leading lawyer in the areas of corporate M&A and corporate governance by Who's Who Legal.



## **JEAN-MICHEL DARROIS**

PARTNER

DARROIS VILLEY MAILLOT BROCHIER

**Jean-Michel Darrois** founded the firm in 1987.

Considered one of the most influential attorneys in France, Jean-Michel advises businesses, boards of directors and senior management, as well as high net worth individuals, in major transactions and disputes.

He was a member of the Conseil de l'Ordre.

He chaired and remains a member of the Company Law Committee of the Council of Bars and Law Societies of Europe (CCBE).

At the request of the French president, he presided over the Darrois Commission on the Reform of Professions in 2008, and was a member of the Attali Commission on Growth.

He is a Commander of the Légion d'Honneur.



## EZRA DAVIDS

CHAIRMAN & SENIOR PARTNER

BOWMANS

**Ezra Davids** is Bowmans Chairman and Senior Partner. He specialises in both domestic and cross border mergers and acquisitions, capital markets and securities law, and is the relationship partner for a number of our major clients.

He has advised on some of the largest and most complex transactions on the African continent. He is the chair of the Private Equity Sub-committee of the Corporate and M&A Committee of the International Bar Association.

Ezra is a member of the Council of the University of Cape Town. He is also a board member of the Legal Resources Centre, Freedom Under Law and Social Justice Initiative.

Ezra has BA LLB degrees from UCT, HDip Tax from Wits University and Certificate in Leadership in Law Firms from Harvard Law School.



## **R. EDDIE DIXON, JR.**

FORMER CHIEF LEGAL OFFICER, SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT, AND SECRETARY

NI (NATIONAL INSTRUMENTS)

As former Chief Legal Officer, Senior Vice President, and Secretary at NI, **R. Eddie Dixon, Jr.** was responsible for all legal affairs, corporate governance, risk management, ethics and compliance, and government affairs. Prior to his current role, Mr. Dixon held the position of Vice President, Deputy General Counsel, responsible for managing legal support for all activities in the Americas, Asia-Pacific, and Europe, the Middle East, India, and Africa regions. Mr. Dixon joined NI in February 2011 and retired from NI upon the sale of NI to Emerson Electric in October 2023.

Before joining NI, Mr. Dixon held the position of Vice President, Legal—Global Public BU, for Dell Computer Corporation. In this role, he oversaw legal support for Dell's public business focused on government, education, and healthcare customers on a worldwide basis. Prior to that, Mr. Dixon was Dell's Vice President, Legal—Americas and Global Services, leading legal support for the Americas region sales unit as well as its global services organization. Mr. Dixon also held the position of Vice President, Legal—Product Group, managing the legal support team for Dell's global product development organization. Throughout his tenure at Dell, Mr. Dixon held a variety of other legal support positions within the company.

Prior to joining Dell, Mr. Dixon was an attorney for the law firm Winstead PC, where his practice focused on general business, commercial, and technology law. Mr. Dixon's background also includes a position as an institutional account executive for the investment banking firm formerly known as Merrill Lynch Capital Markets.

Mr. Dixon holds JD and MBA degrees from The University of Texas at Austin, as well as a BS in Industrial Engineering from the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville.



## YI DUAN

PARTNER

DE BRAUW BLACKSTONE WESTBROEK

**Yi Duan** is a partner at De Brauw's Corporate M&A practice. He is experienced in general corporate and M&A matters, specialising in private M&As, joint ventures, and carve-out transactions. Prior to joining De Brauw, Yi practised law at both US and Chinese law firms in China.

Drawing on his diverse practice, Yi is highly valued for his experience in complex M&As and cross-border transactions. His Chinese background adds legal and cultural depth to transactions involving Chinese companies. In addition to his legal expertise, clients also prize Yi's financial skills, which help bridge the gaps across different M&A workstreams.

Yi received his LLM degrees from New York University and National University of Singapore.



## ADAM EMMERICH

PARTNER

WACHTELL, LIPTON, ROSEN & KATZ

**Adam Emmerich** practices in Wachtell Lipton's corporate department, of which he is co-chair. Adam's practice has included a broad and varied representation of public and private companies in a wide range of industries throughout the United States and around the world, in mergers and acquisitions, divestitures, spin-offs, joint ventures, financing transactions and securities law matters. Adam also has extensive experience and expertise in corporate governance, shareholder activism, and takeover defense and contested acquisition matters.

Adam was named a Dealmaker of the Year by *The American Lawyer* for his work with T-Mobile USA and Deutsche Telekom in the \$146 billion all-stock combination of T-Mobile and Sprint. Adam also led the Wachtell Lipton teams for Covidien plc in its \$49.9 billion acquisition by Medtronic and Tim Hortons in its \$12.2 billion combination with Burger King Worldwide, which were named by *The American Lawyer* as Global M&A Deal of the Year: Ireland and Global M&A Deal of the Year: Canada.

Adam is recognized as one of the 500 leading lawyers in America by Lawdragon (including as a Lawdragon Legend of the 500, the truly select lawyers who have made *Lawdragon's* elite annual guide 10 times, and as one of the 500 leading dealmakers in America in the 2024 Lawdragon Leading Dealmakers). Adam has also been named one of the world's leading lawyers in both Mergers and Acquisitions and REITs by Chambers and Partners. Who's Who Legal has named Adam a Global Elite Thought Leader in M&A, as lawyer of the year in M&A in 2019, and as an expert in Corporate Governance and M&A in the real estate field. Adam has also been recognized as among the Best of the Best USA by Euromoney Institutional Investor's Expert Guides including as an expert in M&A, in Corporate Governance, and in Banking, Finance and Transactional and a highly regarded leading lawyer by IFLR 1000.

Adam has been recognized as one of the top 10 M&A Lawyers in North America for 2023 and 2022 by MergerLinks. Adam was also named one of Hollywood's Top Dealmakers by *The Hollywood Reporter* in both 2022 and 2017. Together with Robin Panovka, he has been profiled by Lawdragon for their work with REITs and real estate M&A, and selected as a Real Estate MVP by Law360. Wachtell Lipton's REIT M&A practice, which Adam co-chairs, was named group of the year by Law360 for 2022. And Wachtell Lipton has been named Mergers & Acquisitions Group of the Year for 2023 by Law360.

After serving as a law clerk to Judge Abner J. Mikva, of the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit, Adam joined the firm in 1986 and was named partner in 1991. He attended Swarthmore College and The University of Chicago Law School, from which he received his J.D. with honors. While at the University of Chicago, Adam served as topics and comments editor of *The University of Chicago Law Review*, was elected to the Order of the Coif, and was the recipient of an Olin Fellowship in law and economics. He is a frequent author and speaker on topics relating to mergers and acquisitions and corporate governance, including at MIT's Sloan Convocation and on India's CNBC-TV18.



## STEPHAN FELDGOISE

MANAGING DIRECTOR & CO-HEAD OF  
GLOBAL MERGERS & ACQUISITIONS

GOLDMAN SACHS

**Stephan Feldgoise** is co-head of Global Mergers & Acquisitions (M&A). Previously, he was global head of the Consumer and Retail Group. Earlier in his career, Stephan was a senior member of the Consumer Retail Group and held leadership roles in Global Natural Resources and Financial Sponsors, where he was head of the Financial Sponsors Execution Group. He joined Goldman Sachs as an associate in the M&A Department in 1997. Stephan became a vice president in 2001, was named managing director in 2005 and partner in 2008.

Prior to joining the firm, Stephan worked for the General Electric Company and McKinsey & Company.

Stephan is chair of the Board of the New York Soccer Club.

Stephan earned a BS in 1992 and an MS in 1993 from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He earned an MBA from the Harvard University Graduate School of Business Administration in 1997.



## JOHN FINGLETON

FOUNDER AND CHAIRMAN

FINGLETON ASSOCIATES

**John Fingleton** combines innovative thought with deep expertise across business, regulation and government, to help clients successfully address novel and complex regulatory issues. He holds trusted advisor relationships with business leaders across all sectors of the economy in various jurisdictions. At Fingleton, he has built a talented team who advise on diverse matters with great outcomes for clients.

John is a frequent speaker on competition, consumer protection and regulation as well as contributing to significant policy developments. He is on the Board of UK Research and Innovation, the Senior Independent Member of the Council of Innovate UK, and a Trustee of the Centre for Economic Policy Research. In 2022, John received a CBE for his services to the economy and innovation.

Prior to founding Fingleton, John was Chief Executive of the Office of Fair Trading, having previously run the Irish Competition Authority. He has also chaired the International Competition Network and sat on the Competition Committee of the OECD.



## VICTOR GOLDFELD

PARTNER

WACHTELL, LIPTON, ROSEN & KATZ

**Victor Goldfeld** is a corporate partner at Wachtell, Lipton, Rosen & Katz, focusing on domestic and cross-border mergers and acquisitions, divestitures, spin-offs, joint ventures, private equity transactions and other complex corporate and securities law matters. He has represented a broad range of clients in a variety of industries. Victor was named a “Dealmaker of the Year” by *The American Lawyer* in 2021. He also is recognized as one of the 500 Leading Dealmakers in America by Lawdragon.

Mr. Goldfeld received his B.A. *cum laude* in Philosophy with a minor concentration in Physics from Colgate University in 1999. He received his J.D. *magna cum laude* from New York University School of Law in 2003, where he was an articles editor of the *New York University Law Review* and a member of the Order of the Coif. Following graduation from law school, he served as a law clerk to the Honorable Leo E. Strine, Jr. of the Delaware Court of Chancery and to the Honorable J. Clifford Wallace of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.

Mr. Goldfeld speaks Russian, is Co-Chair of the International Private Equity & Venture Capital Committee of the American Bar Association’s International Law Section and is a Fellow of the American Bar Foundation.



## MARK GORDON

PARTNER

WACHTELL, LIPTON, ROSEN & KATZ

**Mark Gordon** is a partner and 28-year veteran of Wachtell, Lipton, Rosen & Katz's Corporate Department, where he focuses on advising public companies and major leveraged buyout firms in domestic and cross-border mergers and acquisitions, shareholder activism, takeover defense, restructurings, corporate governance and securities law matters. Mark is recognized as one of the 500 leading dealmakers in America by *Lawdragon* and was selected by *The American Lawyer* as a Dealmaker of the Year for 2016.

Mr. Gordon is also the Robert B. and Candice J. Haas Lecturer in Corporate Finance Law at Harvard Law School, where he has taught a winter-term advanced Mergers & Acquisitions course annually since 2009.

Mr. Gordon joined Wachtell Lipton in 1994 and was elected partner in 2001. He received his B.A. *magna cum laude* from Yale University, and his J.D. *magna cum laude* from Harvard University. While at Harvard, he was executive editor of the *Harvard Civil Rights-Civil Liberties Law Review* and was a member of the winning team in the Ames Moot Court Competition.



## ILENE KNABLE GOTTS

PARTNER

WACHTELL, LIPTON, ROSEN & KATZ

Ilene Knable Gotts is a partner in the New York City law firm of Wachtell, Lipton, Rosen & Katz, where she focuses on antitrust matters, particularly relating to mergers and acquisitions. Transactions in which Mrs. Gotts advised include FIS/GTCR, Arconic/Apollo/Irenic Management, Meritor/Cummins, Creative Artists Agency/ICM Partners, II-VI/Coherent, Zendesk/Permira and Hellman & Friedman, Thoma Brava/RealPage, Mondelēz/Kitchen Hu, Wesco/Anixter, Simon Property/Taubman, Wex/eNett, Mondelēz/Give &Go, Siris Capital/Travelport, UnitedHealth Group/Davita Medical Group, Publicis Groupe/Epsilon, XO Group/WeddingWire, Siris Capital Group/Travelport Worldwide, IFF/Frutarom, Salesforce/Mulesoft, Prysmian/General Cable, Mondelēz/Tate's Bake Shop, CenturyLink/Level 3, Danone/WhiteWave Foods, Gaming and Leisure Properties/Pinnacle Entertainment, Faiveley/Wabtec, Charter/Time Warner Cable/Bright House, J.M. Smucker's/Big Heart Pet Brands, Publicis/Sapient, Essilor/PPG Industries, Deutsche Telekom/MetroPCS, ConAgra/Ralcorp, PPG Industries/Georgia Gulf, Aetna/Coventry, and International Paper/Temple-Inland. Mrs. Gotts is regularly recognized as one of the world's top antitrust lawyers, including being recognized by **Best Lawyers** as Lawyer of the Year in 2024; *The Deal* as a Top Woman in Dealmaking in 2023; *Euromoney's Women in Business Law* with a Lifetime Achievement Award in 2019, in the 2006-2023 Editions of *The International Who's Who of Business Lawyers* as one of the top global competition lawyers, in the first tier ranking of Chambers Guide for over two decades, the "leading individuals" ranking of PLC *Which Lawyer Yearbook*, the Antitrust Lawyer of the Year for 2016 by Best Lawyers, Top Lawyer of the Year for 2017 by Cablefax, and Number one North America Thought Leader in the 2018 Edition of *Who's Who Legal*.



## DAVID FRIEDLANDER

CHAIR, AUSTRALIA

KING & WOOD MALLESONS

**David Friedlander** is King & Wood Mallesons' Chair in Australia and a partner in our Melbourne and Sydney offices.

He is recognised as a market leading practitioner in M&A by global legal directories, including Chambers Global and The Australian Financial Review. He is consistently ranked Band 1 in Chambers and Partners (Corporate/M&A and Capital Markets) and is also in the Legal500 Hall of Fame for both Corporate M&A and Capital Markets.

David regularly acts for both bidders and targets in takeovers and issuers and underwriters in securities offerings. He has also worked on the defence side of several high-profile shareholder activist campaigns. He is a member of several key corporate law bodies and a former member of the Australian Takeovers Panel.

David is integral to the firm's growth in Asia Pacific spending time working closely with our Hong Kong, Singapore and China teams and is a member of the International Management Committee of the firm.

David is also Chairman of the Public Education Foundation, a director of Sydney Dance Company and a panel member of Adara Partners.



## MANUEL GALICIA

CHAIRMAN OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE,  
FOUNDER

GALICIA ABOGADOS, S.C.

**Manuel Galicia** is founding partner of the firm. He chairs Galicia’s Executive Committee and is a member of the Firm’s Compensation, Business Development, Sustainability and New Collaboration Model Committees. He studied the Master of Comparative and International Law at the Southern Methodist University School of Law (Dallas, Texas, United States) and the Bachelor of Laws at the Universidad Iberoamericana in Mexico City. He has international experience as a foreign associate at Baker & Botts. Manuel is the only Mexican practitioner recognized by the Chambers Latin American Guide as “Eminent Practitioner” in the Banking & Finance and Corporate/M&A practices; and by The Legal 500 Latin America Guide as “Hall of Fame” in the Corporate/M&A practice. The French publication Leaders League has also recognized his extensive experience and has listed him as leader in the Banking & Finance and M&A practices. Manuel received the Latin Lawyer Latin America Leader of the Year Award in 2021. He is also recognized by Latin Lawyer and IFLR1000 as one of the leading practitioners in Mexico.



## ADAM GREEN

PARTNER

MANNHEIMER SWARTLING

**Adam Green** is a partner at Mannheimer Swartling in Sweden. In addition to M&A, where he frequently represents foreign clients in Swedish matters as well as Swedish clients in transactions with an international element, Adam works regularly with some of Sweden's most prominent emerging technology companies, often representing Swedish founders and startups in their growth and exit phases. Adam is actively engaged in training the firm's M&A lawyers and is a regular lecturer at Stockholm University, the Stockholm Center for Commercial Law, Handelshögskolan (the Stockholm School of Economics) and Domstolsakademin (Academy of Swedish judges). Adam has long been recognized as a leading Swedish corporate lawyer in Chambers, IFLR 1000, Legal 500, and Who's Who Legal.



## LEO GROOTHUIS

GENERAL COUNSEL

HAL INVESTMENTS B.V.

**Leo Groothuis** currently serves as General Counsel of HAL Investments, the Dutch investment subsidiary of HAL Holding N.V., a public international investment company listed on the Amsterdam stock exchange, which is focused on increasing shareholder value. Prior to his role at HAL Investments, he served as a partner at NautaDutilh, an international law firm.

Mr. Groothuis' qualifications to serve on the Viatris Board include, among others, his experience regarding corporate governance, global business, legal and regulatory oversight, risk oversight and compliance, and strategy and M&A acquired during his legal career, where he was a trusted C-suite and board advisor to some of the largest companies in both Europe and the U.S. which resulted in him being recognized as a top lawyer and thought leader in corporate governance, capital markets and M&A for the guidance he gave to numerous multi-national private and public companies as they undertook significant complex strategic transactions. In addition, he has corporate social responsibility experience obtained through his active involvement in the development and execution of HAL Investments' ESG strategy.



## GREGORY HAYES

CHAIRMAN AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER  
RTX CORPORATION

**Gregory Hayes** is the chairman and chief executive officer of RTX, responsible for leading an aerospace and defense company with 185,000 employees and \$68.9 billion in annual sales.

Elected chairman of the board in 2021, Mr. Hayes had a nearly 21-year career at United Technologies Corporation, holding several senior leadership roles across finance, corporate strategy and business development, culminating with his appointment to chief executive officer in 2014 and chairman in 2016. As CEO, Hayes led the reshaping of UTC from industrial conglomerate to focused aerospace company. Beginning with the divestiture of Sikorsky Aircraft in 2015 and the acquisition of Rockwell Collins in 2018, Hayes continued to focus the business with the spinoffs of Otis Elevator Company and Carrier Corporation in 2020. Mr. Hayes then led the 2020 merger of UTC's remaining aerospace businesses, Pratt & Whitney and Collins Aerospace, with Raytheon Company, to form what is today RTX.

Mr. Hayes, who joined UTC in 1999 through its merger with the Sundstrand Corporation, also served as UTC's chief financial officer from 2008-2014.

Mr. Hayes holds a bachelor's degree in economics from Purdue University and is a Certified Public Accountant.



## FANG HE

PARTNER

JUNHE LLP

**Fang He** is a partner of JunHe LLP and currently practices at the Beijing office. With more than 20 years practice experience, Ms. He has assisted with many merger and acquisition transactions (inbound and outbound). Ms. He is a visiting professor at the Lawyer College of Renmin University of China and National Lawyers' Institute, teaching M&A courses. She received L.L.M. degree from the University of Virginia School of Law in 2008.

Ms. He was awarded "Outstanding Woman Lawyer" of Beijing for 2009-2011 by Beijing Lawyers Association. She was selected as a Global Outstanding Lawyer (Corporate and M&A) in 2016, 2017 and 2018 and the highest-ranking lawyers for M&A and Governance in 2020, 2022 and 2023 by Who's Who Legal, and was selected in The A-List (China's Elite 100 Lawyers) 2021 and The Visionaries 2023 by China Business Law Journal. The deal of ChemChina's acquisition of Italian listed company (Pirelli) where Ms. He was the main responsible PRC lawyer was awarded the Outstanding Transaction 2016 (Outbound Investment) by China Law & Practice Awards. The transaction of participation by investors into the acquisition of the Peruvian largest power distribution company by Yangtze Power for USD 3.6 Billion (base price) assisted by Ms. He was awarded "Deals of the Year 2020" by China Business Law Journal, "Best Deal of the Year" by 2021 IFLR 1000 and "Impact Deal/Case of the Year" by Asialaw Awards 2021.



# CHRISTIAN HERBST

PARTNER

SCHOENHERR

**Christian Herbst** has been a partner at Schoenherr since 1990.

Christian's main areas of practice are M&A, public takeovers, private equity and corporate finance transactions. Christian enjoys an excellent reputation in representing international and Austrian blue chip corporations in (cross-border) transactional work. In over 30 years of transactional experience, Christian has covered a wide range of economic sectors and industries, including financial services, medtech/pharma, real estate and telecoms.

Recent public M&A headline transactions included Rhone Capital (US)/RHI (2023), America Movil (MEX)/Telekom Austria/European Telesites AG (2023), Starwood Capital (US)/CA Immo (2021) and on private M&A e+(UAE)/PPF Telecoms (2023), HARPS Global (SING)/Semperit (2022), Cerba HealthCare/EQT/Lifebrain (2021).

Christian is regularly ranked in the top tier of Austria's leading m&a practitioners by Chambers Global/Europe, Legal 500 and IFLR.

Before joining Schoenherr Vienna, he practised with a New York City firm as a foreign associate.

Christian is a lecturer on international business transactions at the University for Economics and Business in Vienna and has published on issues relating to m&a, takeovers and merger control.

## *Admitted to the bar*

1988, Austria

## *Practice areas*

Corporate/M&A, Takeovers, Corporate Finance

## *Education*

Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts/USA (LL.M. 1984)

Johns Hopkins University, Bologna/Italy (Diploma 1983)

University of Salzburg, Salzburg/Austria (Dr. iur. 1982)

## *Memberships*

IBA (Co-Chair of the Corporate & M&A Law Committee of the International Bar Association 2015-2016), UIA

## *Publications*

Author of articles on international transactions, m&a, takeovers and corporate law



# SASCHA HÖDL

PARTNER

SCHOENHERR

**Sascha Hödl** is a partner in Schoenherr's corporate / m&a practice in Vienna, Austria. He focuses on mergers and acquisitions, public takeovers, private equity transactions and corporate restructurings. He frequently advises Austrian managing and supervisory boards on a broad range of corporate matters.

He has been, and is involved in high profile m&a transactions in Austria and Central Eastern Europe, in particular in regulated areas (e.g. financial services, health care, energy), and continues to play a prominent advisory role in restructuring transactions of financial institutions. During the COVID-19 crises, he advised the financial aid state agency of the Republic of Austria in designing and implementing the various financial aid measures to the Austrian economy.

Recent M&A transactions Sascha advised on include the representation of

- ÖBAG (Austria's state participation holding) on the exit of the Abo Dhabi state owned investment funds Mubadala Investment Company and the entry of its national oil company ADNOC in OMV, Austria's oil, gas and petrochemical corporation listed at the VSE (2023/24)
- Fresenius SE / VAMED AG on various sales processes in Austria and abroad (2023/24)
- ARZ (IT centre for two Austrian banking groups) in the sale of all IT assets to Accenture (2022/23)
- Deutsche Telekom in the sale of 51% of its radio tower business in Germany and Austria to Brookfield Asset Management (Canada) and DigitalBridge (USA) (2022; Austrian part)
- IMMOFINANZ AG (supervisory board) in the competing public takeover offers launched by (i) S-IMMO AG and CPI to acquire all shares in IMMOFINANZ AG, listed at the VSE (2022)

Sascha has studied law in Austria (JD 1993; doctorate 1995), worked at the legal service of the European Commission (1995/96) and was associate at a large now UK based international law firm (1997-1999). He joined Schoenherr in 2002 and became partner in 2004.

He has a degree from Harvard Law School (LLM. 2000) and is a lecturer for international mergers and acquisitions at the Vienna Business School.



## KLAUS ILMONEN

PARTNER, DOCTOR OF LAWS

HANNES SNELLMAN

**Klaus Ilmonen** heads Hannes Snellman's Capital Markets practice in Helsinki. His practice includes equity capital markets and other corporate transactions involving public corporations. He has considerable experience from public takeovers, as well as from cross-border transactions. He also works with governance of public corporations.

Klaus has been appointed professor of practice at the Hanken School of Economics in Helsinki, and teaches corporate and securities law. He has also served on a consultative group for developing EU corporate finance regulation and has participated in drafting Finnish takeover regulation.

Klaus has qualified as an attorney in the State of New York, and practised U.S. securities law in the London office of the law firm Cleary, Gottlieb, Steen & Hamilton, where he represented European issuers and underwriters in international securities offerings. He also worked on international M&A transactions.

He has been deployed with Finnish forces in Afghanistan, Kosovo and Lebanon, and serves as the managing director of the Mannerheim-Foundation in Finland.

Klaus has been a visiting researcher at Harvard Law School, he holds a LL.M. degree from Columbia Law School in New York and a doctorate in law from the University of Helsinki.



## FULVIO ITALIANI

PARTNER

D'EMPAIRE

**Fulvio Italiani** specializes in corporate, mergers and acquisitions, energy, and finance law. He has participated in most of the significant acquisition, financing and oil and gas transactions taking place in Venezuela in the last years.

Before becoming a partner at D'Empaire in 1997, Fulvio worked as an associate at the New York offices of Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom from 1993 to 1996. He received a J.D. *summa cum laude* from Universidad Catolica Andres Bello in 1990.

Fulvio has been consistently ranked as a “Star Individual” and “Band 1” by *Chambers & Partners* (2019 Venezuela Corporate/M&A and Banking and Finance Rankings, respectively) and as a “Leading Lawyer” by *The Legal 500* (2018 Venezuela Corporate/M&A and Banking and Finance Rankings).

He was honored with an award for “Outstanding Contribution to the Legal Profession” at the 2013 *Chambers Latin America Awards for Excellence*, in recognition of “his business skills and legal expertise which have been of great benefit to national and multinational companies investing in the challenging economic climate of Venezuela.” He has also been named one of “Latin America’s Top 50 Legal Stars” by *Latin Business Chronicle*.

Fulvio has been continuously recognized as one of the best corporate/M&A and finance lawyers in Venezuela by *Chambers Global*, *Chambers Latin America*, *The Legal 500* and *Latin Lawyer 250*, and was included in the list of top Venezuelan lawyers under 40 by *Latin Lawyer* (2003). He has also been ranked as a Venezuelan leading lawyer by *PLC Which Lawyer?* and *IFLR 1000*.

Fulvio is fluent in Spanish, English and Italian.



# MASAKAZU IWAKURA

SENIOR PARTNER

TMI ASSOCIATES

**Masakazu Iwakura** is a Professor of Law at Hitotsubashi University, Graduate School of Law (Department of Business Law) and a Senior Partner at TMI Associates. He obtained a LL.B. from the University of Tokyo in 1985 and a LL.M. from Harvard Law School in 1993, and is qualified to practice in Japan and the State of New York.

Mr. Iwakura has lectured on corporate law, mergers and acquisitions law and the other laws at various law schools and universities for more than 30 years. He was a visiting professor of law at Harvard Law School in 2007 and 2013 academic years and has been a Professor of Law (Corporate Law and M&A Law) at Hitotsubashi University, Graduate School of Law (Department of Business Law) since 2006.

Mr. Iwakura has handled a variety of large-scale and unprecedented (domestic and cross-border) M&As, inter alia, the acquisition of Toshiba Corporation by Japan Industry Partners in 2023, JAPAN POST's acquisition of Toll Holdings, the integration of UFJ Bank Group and Mitsubishi Tokyo Financial Group (MUFG), the acquisitions of AIG Edison Life Insurance and AIG Star Life Insurance by Prudential Financial, the demutualization, GPO of the Dai-ichi Mutual Life Insurance Company and Nidec Corporation's acquisition of TAKISAWA in 2023 (which is the first unsolicited buyout in Japan in line with METI's Corporate Takeovers Guide lines), etc.

He has authored various textbooks and articles including "Casebook Mergers & Acquisitions" together with Professor J. Mark Ramseyer of Harvard Law School in 2015, "Japan Chapter-The Real Estate M&A and Private Equity Review" published by Law Reviews since 2017, "Japan Chapter-International Mergers & Acquisitions Review" published by Euromoney Trading in, "Japan Chapter – The PLC The Mergers and Acquisitions multi-jurisdictional guide" published since 2016, "The Leading Edge of M&A Legal Work" published in 2010, "Practical Consultation of the New Corporate Law" published in 2016, etc.

## *Experience*

TMI Associates (Senior Partner, 2017-Present)

Professor of Law (Corporate Law and M&A Law), Hitotsubashi University, Graduate School of Law, Department of Business Law (2006-present)

Nishimura & Asahi (Formerly known as Nishimura & Sanada) (1987-2016)

Visiting Professor, Harvard Law School(2007-2008) (2013-2014)

Arnold & Porter, Washington, D.C. (1994–1995)

Debevoise & Plimpton, New York (1993–1994)

Independent Director, NIDEC Corporation (2010-12)

Independent Statutory Auditor, Imperial Hotel (2011-2019)

Dean's Leadership Council, Harvard Law School (2018-Present)

Board Member and Councilor, Kyoto University of Advanced Science (2018-Present)



## BRAD JACOBS

MANAGING PARTNER

JACOBS PRIVATE EQUITY LLC

**Brad Jacobs** is a career CEO and serial entrepreneur with a unique track record as a Wall Street moneymaker. To date, he has founded and led seven billion-dollar or multibillion-dollar companies, creating tens of billions of dollars of value for shareholders.

Mr. Jacobs is managing partner of Jacobs Private Equity, LLC. He serves as chairman of the board of XPO, Inc. (NYSE: XPO), which he founded in 2011, and of XPO spin-offs GXO Logistics, Inc. (NYSE: GXO) and RXO, Inc. (NYSE: RXO). He is the author of *How to Make a Few Billion Dollars*.

On December 11, 2023, after a comprehensive year-long search, Mr. Jacobs announced his intention to create his eighth company. QXO, Inc. will be a market leader in building products distribution—an industry with approximately \$800 billion in annual revenue between North America and Europe, according to industry estimates.

QXO's strategy is to create a tech-forward leader in the building products distribution industry through accretive M&A and organic growth, including greenfield openings, with the goal of generating outsized stockholder value.

Mr. Jacobs will become chairman and chief executive officer of QXO upon closing a previously announced \$1 billion cash investment into SilverSun Technologies, Inc. After spinning off the existing SilverSun business, the remaining company, QXO, will be a standalone platform for significant acquisitions.



## **GENE-OH (GENE) KIM**

PARTNER

KIM & CHANG

**Gene-Oh (Gene) Kim** is a partner at Kim & Chang's Mergers & Acquisitions Practice. Gene is recognized as one of the pre-eminent M&A lawyers in Korea and has represented leading Korean and foreign corporations in cross-border and domestic transactions. Who's Who Legal has named Global Leader in M&A. Gene received his law degree from Seoul National University, College of Law in 1995 and his LL.M from Harvard Law School in 2006.



## JOON KIM

PARTNER

KIM & CHANG

**Joon Kim** is a partner at Kim & Chang's Corporate Practice Group. While his practice is diverse spanning inbound, outbound, private equity, strategic, private and public, he chairs the firm's cross-border International Practice and has been involved in a vast majority of major deals by Korean conglomerates. Joon also has extensive experience in the shareholder activism sphere, having been involved in substantially all shareholder activism campaigns in Korea during the past two decades. His keen legal / business acumen and practical problem solving approach have fostered significant business in the practice group.

Joon has co-authored multiple "Getting the Deal Through" and "Practical Law" articles on foreign investments and mergers & acquisitions. Most recently he published "The Shareholder Rights and Activism Review (Edition 4-5): Korea Chapter" (2019-2020) in Law Business Research,

"The Legal 500 - Corporate Governance Country Comparative Guide: Korea Chapter (Edition 1,2)" (2019-2020) in Legalease and "Getting the Deal Through – Foreign Investment Review: Korea chapter" (2016) in Law Business Research.



## SCOTT KLEINMAN

CO-PRESIDENT

APOLLO GLOBAL MANAGEMENT, INC.

**Scott Kleinman** is Co-President of Apollo Asset Management, sharing responsibility for all of Apollo's revenue-generating and investing business across its integrated alternative investment platform, focusing on its equity businesses. Scott is also a member of the Firm's Leadership Team. Scott joined Apollo in 1996, and in 2009 he was named Lead Partner for Private Equity.

Prior to joining Apollo, Scott was a member of the Investment Banking division at Smith Barney Inc. He received a BA and BS from the University of Pennsylvania and the Wharton School of Business, respectively. Scott currently serves on the board of directors of Apollo Global Management and Apollo Asset Management and is a member of the Board of Overseers at the University of Pennsylvania Stuart Weitzman School of Design. In 2014, Scott founded the Kleinman Center for Energy Policy at the University of Pennsylvania.



## REINIER KLEIPOOL

PARTNER

DE BRAUW BLACKSTONE WESTBROEK

**Reinier Kleipool** is a corporate partner at De Brauw Blackstone Westbroek, specializing in corporate law, corporate governance and mergers and acquisitions. He regularly advises on public offers, stakeholder activism, reorganizations, redomiciliations and other strategic issues. Reinier is trusted adviser to many listed and private companies.

Reinier is a member of the corporate law advisory committee of the Dutch Bar Association and the Royal Association of Dutch Civil Law Notaries and he is also an editor for the Dutch Journal for Corporate Law practice .



## HANDEL LEE

INTERNATIONAL PARTNER

KING & WOOD MALLESONS

**Handel Lee** specializes in mergers and acquisition and energy projects.

Mr. Lee represents U.S., European, and PRC clients on mergers and acquisition, financing, and private equity transactions in such industries as energy/resources, infrastructure, real estate, and manufacturing. A practice area focus of Mr. Lee's is representing international clients investing in China's renewable energy industries.

As for the professional acknowledgements, Mr. Lee has frequently received recognition by prestigious legal publications such as *Who's Who Legal* 2015, 2013, 2012, 2011, and 2010; *Asian Legal Business* 2008, 2007 and 2006 awards; and *Euromoney's* 2003, 2001 and 1999 *Expert's Guide to the World's Leading Energy and Natural Resources*, as the leading expert in China in three categories: Project Finance; Power; and Oil and Gas. In 2015, Mr. Lee has been named as one of the highly recommended lawyers in the field of projects and energy in China by *Legal 500* in its 2016 Asia Pacific rankings.

Mr. Lee is a member of King & Wood Mallesons' International Management Committee. Prior to joining King & Wood Mallesons, Mr. Lee was the Managing Partner of a leading US law firm's China Practice and Chief Representative of one of the earliest US law firms to establish a Beijing office.

Mr. Lee obtained his BA (with distinction) from the University of Virginia and his JD from Georgetown University Law Center, where he was the founding Editor-in-Chief of the *Georgetown International Environmental Law Review*. He is admitted to the New York State Bar.

Mr. Lee is a member of Board of Visitors of Georgetown University Law Center, Vice Chairman of the Smithsonian Asian and Pacific American Center. Mr. Lee is also a member of the Committee of 100 and was granted the 2006 Montblanc de la Culture Arts Patronage Award by the Mont Blanc Foundation.



## JAKUB LERNER

PARTNER

WARDYŃSKI & PARTNERS

**Jakub Lerner** is a partner at Wardyński & Partners Law Firm. With a broad-based transactional practice, he advises public and private companies, private equity funds, corporations, and Polish entrepreneurs in structuring and negotiating mergers, acquisitions, investments, divestitures, joint ventures, and other corporate transactions. Jakub has extensive experience in various types of transactions, including share deals, asset deals, leveraged and management buyouts, and corporate restructuring.

He is admitted as a solicitor of England and Wales, an attorney-at-law in the State of New York, USA, and an attorney-at-law in Poland. Prior to joining Wardyński & Partners, Jakub worked with international law firms in New York and Warsaw. He is a graduate of Jagiellonian University and Cornell Law School, and he also attended Katholieke Universiteit Leuven.

In his free time, Jakub enjoys rock and ice climbing, as well as ski touring. He has climbed in the Alps, Alaska, Andes, Tien Shan, and Himalayas.



## DAMIEN LEVIE

HEAD OF “TECH & SECURITY, FDI SCREENING”  
UNIT AT DG TRADE

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

**Damien Levie** currently heads the unit Technology & Security, FDI Screening in the Directorate-General for Trade in the European Commission. In that capacity, he oversees the work of the screeners’ team on all FDI cases and chairs the EU Investment Screening Expert Group of Member States and the Commission internal FDI Screening network. He also oversees the other teams in charge of the dual-use export control regime – including the new EU Regulation adopted on 19 May 2021 – and in charge of high tech sectors and trade. He joined the European Commission in 2001, working on issues including merger control policy, advised two Commissioners on internal economic files while in their Cabinets. Damien was a senior EU trade diplomat (Minister Counsellor) in Washington DC from 2014 to 2018, and helped manage the economic relations with the USA under Presidents Obama and Trump. He was also the EU deputy-chief negotiator for the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership between the EU and the USA.



## ADAM LI

PARTNER

JUNHE LLP

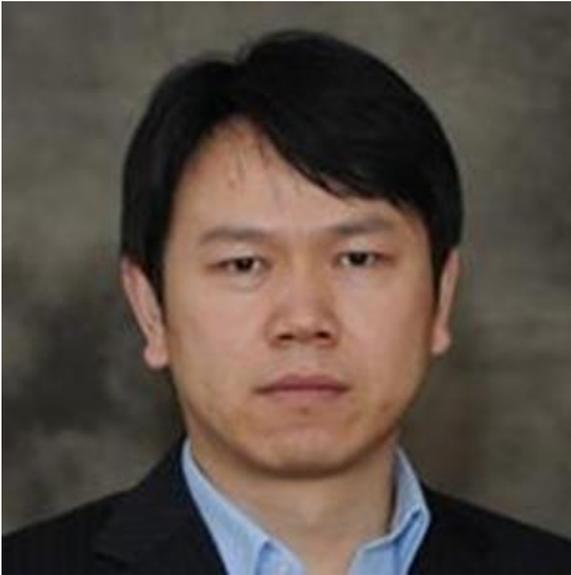
**Adam Li** is a partner at JunHe LLP. Admitted to practice in China, New York, and Washington State, he spends significant time in both China and the US, and currently serves as the head of the JunHe's Seattle office.

As a transactional lawyer having worked and lived in both the East Coast and West Coast of the US, as well as in China, Adam has accumulated rich experience representing various companies, banks, funds, non-profit organizations, and international institutions from different countries and regions. Adam specializes Sino-US cross-border M&A, investment, corporate, commercial and compliance matters. He shares extensive experience and local resources, facilitating intricate transactions among parties with diverse cultural backgrounds.

In more than 30 years of his practice, Adam has consistently been recognized as a leading lawyer in corporate and mergers and acquisitions. In recent consecutive years, he has been honored as an "Eminent Practitioner " by Chambers & Partners, recognized as a "Highly Regarded Lawyer" by International Financial Law Review, included in the "Hall of Fame" by Legal 500 Asia Pacific, and featured in the Who's Who Legal'.

Mr. Li is active both in local and international legal and charitable communities. He is currently a director of Seattle Chinese Bar Association, a former Vice-Chair of China Committee, American Bar Association, Section of International Law, a current member and former director of Shanghai Bar Association, a current member and former executive of Chinese American Lawyers of the Bay Area. He teaches in Shanghai University of Finance and Economy, and is an arbitrator with Shanghai Arbitration Commission.

Adam graduates with LL.B. and LL.M. from Fudan University in Shanghai and J.D. and LL.M. from Columbia University in the City of New York.



## QIAO LIU

DEAN AND PROFESSOR OF FINANCE

PEKING UNIVERSITY GUANGHUA SCHOOL OF  
MANAGEMENT

**Qiao Liu** currently serves as Professor of Finance and Dean in the Guanghua School of Management, Peking University. Before he joined Guanghua, Qiao Liu taught in the Faculty of Business and Economics, University of Hong Kong, and was tenured at HKU. Qiao Liu also worked at McKinsey & Company's Asia-Pacific Corporate Finance and Strategy Practice from December 2001 to July 2003, where he advised various MNCs and leading Asian companies on issues related to corporate finance and strategies. Qiao Liu holds a Ph.D. in Financial Economics from UCLA (2000), an M.A. in International Finance from the Graduate School of People's Bank of China (1994), and a B.S. in Economics and Mathematics from the Renmin University of China (1991). Qiao Liu's primary academic research interests are in corporate finance, empirical asset pricing models, financial markets, and Chinese economy. He has published dozens of articles at leading academic journals including Journal of Financial Economics, Journal of Financial and Quantitative Analysis, Journal of Accounting Research, Management Science, Economic Journal, Journal of Corporate Finance, Journal of Accounting, Auditing, and Finance, Financial Analysts Journal, etc. He has co-edited two books on the Asian finance --- "Asia's debt capital markets: prospects and strategies for development" (Springer, 2006); and "Finance in Asia: A Critical Concept" (Routledge, 2013). His new book "Corporate China 2.0: The Great Shakeup" was published by Palgrave Macmillan in January 2017. Qiao also writes in Chinese. His articles have been published in a variety of major Chinese journals. He has been interviewed by CCTV, CNBC, BBC on issues related to Chinese economy and banking. His book "Big to Brilliant" explores why China has so many Fortune 500 companies but very few great companies. Qiao provides very detailed analysis in this bestselling book.



## PATRIK MARCELIUS

PARTNER

MANNHEIMER SWARTLING

**Patrik Marcelius** heads the firm's public M&A and equity capital markets practice. His practice includes public M&A, equity capital markets, corporate governance and disclosure matters. Patrik advises a broad range of clients in various industries. Patrik is a member of the Swedish Securities Council, the Disciplinary Committee of Nasdaq Stockholm and the expert group that is responsible for proposing amendments to the Swedish Takeover Rules. He is actively engaged in training the firm's lawyers and is a regular lecturer at Stockholm and Uppsala University. Patrik is ranked as a leading Swedish public M&A and ECM lawyer in Chambers, Legal500, IFLR1000 and Who's Who Legal.



## OENE MARSEILLE

PARTNER

ALLEN & GLEDHILL

**Oene Marseille's** main practice areas are mergers and acquisitions and corporate and commercial transactions.

Oene is based in Jakarta at AGI Legal, the alliance firm of Allen & Gledhill.

Prior to joining Allen & Gledhill, Oene was a foreign legal counsel with a leading law firm in Indonesia. He has been based in Jakarta, Indonesia since 2000 and has extensive experience in working with international agencies as well as private investors in the region. He is native Dutch; and is proficient in Dutch, Bahasa Indonesia, English, French and German.

Oene graduated with a Juris Doctorate from the University of Amsterdam in 1994 and obtained an LL.M. in 1995 from Duke University.



## CHARLES MARTIN

PARTNER/SENIOR ADVISOR

CDZM ASSOCIATES LLP/ ROTHSCHILD +CO.

**Charles Martin** is an M+A lawyer formerly with Macfarlanes in London where he was also Senior Partner (Chairman) for 12 years before moving on to become a Senior Advisor to Rothschild +Co. He holds a number of other positions in private equity related and not-for-profit organisations.



## PAVLOS MASOUIROS

MANAGING PARTNER

MASOUIROS & PARTNERS ATTORNEYS AT LAW

**Pavlos Masouros** is Managing Partner of Masouros & Partners, a top-ranked law firm based in Athens, Greece. The firm focuses on corporate/M&A, employment law and complex disputes and serves clients primarily in the hospitality, energy and payments industries. The firm is consistently featured among the top Greek house names for Corporate, Employment and Energy in Chambers, Legal500 and IFLR1000 and is featured in the top 10 Greek law firms in Mergermarket by deal value in the past five years. Pavlos himself is named continuously as a 'Leading Individual' in Corporate/M&A by The Legal500 and as 'Highly Regarded' by the IFLR1000. He has been involved in some of the most high profile Greek M&A transactions and also acts as expert witness on matters of Greek corporate law before arbitral tribunals and foreign Courts.

Outside his professional role, Pavlos is a tenured Assistant Professor of Corporate Law at Leiden University. He holds an LL.B. from Athens Law School (1st in class), an LL.M. in Corporate Law and Governance from Harvard Law School (Fulbright Scholar) and a PhD in Corporate Law & Economics from Leiden University.



## CHUCK MATTERA

CHAIR & CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

COHERENT, INC.

**Dr. Mattera's** long association with Coherent Corp. began when he initially served as a member of the Board of Directors of II-VI Incorporated from 2000 until 2002. He joined the company as Vice President in 2004 and served as Executive Vice President from 2010 to 2013, when he became Chief Operating Officer. He was re-appointed to the Board in 2012. In 2014, Dr. Mattera became the President and Chief Operating Officer. In 2016, Dr. Mattera became the company's third President and Chief Executive Officer in 45 years and continued as Chief Executive Officer when the roles of President and CEO were separated in 2019. He was named Chair and CEO in November 2021.

During his career at Coherent, Dr. Mattera has assumed successively broader management roles, including overseeing the company's diversification and growth strategy. His vision, energy, and execution have driven the acquisition-related integration activities in the U.S., Europe, and Asia, thereby establishing additional growth engines that provide agility and sustainability to the company's operations. His leadership has positioned the company into large and transformative global growth markets while continually increasing its worldwide reach, deepening its technology and IP portfolio, broadening its product roadmap and customer base, and building its brand as a market leader. In recognition of this excellence, Dr. Mattera was honored with an Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year Award in 2020 for the East Central U.S. region.

Dr. Mattera has nearly 40 years of leadership experience in the compound semiconductor materials and device technology, operations, and markets that are core to Coherent's business and strategy. Prior to joining Coherent, Dr. Mattera enjoyed a 20-year career in the Optoelectronic Device Division of AT&T Bell Laboratories, Lucent Technologies, and Agere Systems, during which he led the development and manufacturing of semiconductor laser-based materials and devices for optical and data communications networks.

Dr. Mattera holds a B.S. degree in chemistry from the University of Rhode Island and a Ph.D. in chemistry from Brown University, and he is a graduate of the Stanford University Executive Program. He is a member of The Business Roundtable, the World Economic Forum, CEO Action for Diversity and Inclusion, the National Committee on US and China Relations, and serves on the board of the U.S.-Japan Business Council and of the Cleveland Clinic Florida Regional Board of Directors.



## CHRIS MCGAFFIN

PARTNER

SLAUGHTER AND MAY

**Chris McGaffin** advises clients on their corporate matters and M&A globally.

Representative transactions include advising:

- FWD on its US\$3bn life insurance acquisition and bancassurance agreement with Siam Commercial Bank in 2019, the largest insurance M&A deal ever in Southeast Asia
- ARM Holdings on the US\$34bn takeover bid from SoftBank in 2016
- Cadbury on the hostile US\$19.5bn takeover by Kraft Foods in 2009

For his work in Asia and the UK, Chris has been recognised in the legal directories of Chambers, Legal 500 and IFLR, and was listed in The Lawyer's Hot 100 in 2017.

Chris is relocating to our Hong Kong office in H1 2024 for a second term, during which he will focus on the firm's pan-Asian corporate and M&A practice.



## PETER MENDELL

PARTNER

DAVIES WARD PHILLIPS & VINEBERG LLP

Clients call on **Peter Mendell** particularly to lead their multijurisdictional and complex mandates, benefitting from his peerless international experience and his strategic mindset. During his entire career, Peter has been a key adviser to clients around the world. His work focuses on major transactions for large international public and private companies, operating in a wide variety of sectors. As a result of his dynamism, responsiveness and good judgment, Peter has developed strong business relationships in Europe, Asia and North and South America. Having worked on transactions in more than 90 countries, Peter is exceptionally skilled at dealing with people from diverse cultures.

From 1991 to 2000, Peter was Managing Partner in the Davies Montréal office and Co-Managing Partner of the firm's international offices. Clients for whom Peter has led international transactions include: Tata Chemicals Limited, Industrial and Commercial Bank of China Limited (ICBC), Baosteel Resources International Co., Ltd., Amcor Limited, Abitibi Consolidated Inc., The Aldo Group Inc., Central National-Gottesman Inc., China Machinery Engineering Corporation, CGI Group Inc., Six Flags, Inc., PPG Industries, CryoCath Technologies Inc., r2p GmbH, Tryg A/S, Seikagaku Corporation, Teneo, BGH Capital, RELX Group plc, Resolute Forest Products Inc., PJT Partners LP, Export-Import Bank of China, Royal Greenland Seafood A/S, The MANN+HUMMEL Group, TransMontaigne Inc. and HRT Participacoes em Petróleo S.A. EDUCATION: Université de Montréal, LLB; McGill University, BA.; COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT ConCuerda, a Canadian nonprofit organization devoted to helping disadvantaged youth orchestras in developing countries. PROCURE, a Canadian nonprofit devoted to research regarding prostate cancer. THÉÂTRE LAC-BROME, a regional theater producing approximately 100 events during the year and ST-LAWRENCE CHOIR, comprising the largest portion of The Montreal Symphony Orchestra Chorus, which was the winner of numerous awards including a GRAMMY.



## VINCENT A. MERCIER

PARTNER

DAVIES WARD PHILLIPS & VINEBERG LLP

**Vincent Mercier's** deep understanding of the M&A market – Canadian and global – is the reason why public and private sector clients trust him for their most critical transactions, and why boards turn to him when approached by activist investors.

His broad view, practical advice and methodical approach achieve significant success for clients in transactions of all sizes, domestic and international. He advises clients in industries as varied as financial services, communications and media, technology, mining and energy.

Vincent is a former member of our Management Committee. He is the chair of the board for Pathways to Education, a member of the President's Council of St. Michael's Hospital in Toronto, a former director of Covenant House Toronto and a former chair of Camp Oochigeas.



## ZIA MODY

MANAGING PARTNER

AZB & PARTNERS

**Zia Mody**, Co-Founder and Managing Partner of AZB & Partners, is one of India's foremost corporate attorneys. She began her career as a corporate associate in the New York office of Baker & McKenzie, where she worked for 5 years before moving to India to establish the Chambers of Zia Mody, which became AZB & Partners in 2004.

It has been said that few of Zia's peers can match her skills when it comes to acquisitions, joint ventures, company restructuring, foreign inward investment related practice and corporate law. Her abilities are recognized globally, as reflected in her appointment as Deputy Chairman and Non-Executive Director of the HSBC Asia Pacific Board, independent director of Ascendas Property Fund Trustee Pte. Ltd., Singapore and independent non-executive director of China Light and Power Holdings Limited. In addition, she is currently a member of the Governing Board of the International Council for Commercial Arbitration and was previously a member of the Maharashtra's Economic Advisory Council and the CII National Council.

Previously, Zia has, amongst others, served as (i) a special invitee of the Ministry of Corporate Affairs to the Competition Law Review Committee, constituted to review the need for amendments to the Competition Act (2018); (ii) a member of the Committee on Corporate Governance, formed by the Securities and Exchange Board of India ("SEBI") under the chairmanship of Uday Kotak (2017); (iii) a panellist on the expert committee set up by the Law Commission of India on 'Amendment to the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996,' to review the provisions of the Act in view of the several inadequacies observed in its functioning (2014); (iv) a member on the Reserve Bank of India ("RBI") Committee on Comprehensive Financial Services for Small Businesses and Low-Income Households, chaired by Dr. Nachiket Mor (2013); (v) Vice President and Member of the London Court of International Arbitration (2010 – 2013); (vi) a member of the World Bank Administrative Tribunal, Washington D.C. (2008 – 2013); (vii) a member of the Godrej Committee on Corporate Governance, set up by the Ministry of Corporate Affairs (2012); and (viii) a member of the Raghuram Rajan Committee on Financial Sector Reforms (2007).

Zia is widely acknowledged for her expertise, ranking No. 1 in Fortune India's 'India's 50 Most Powerful Women in Business' list in 2018 & 2019, on which she has consistently ranked since 2011. She has been ranked an (i) 'Eminent Practitioner' (2023 – 2024) and 'Star Individual' (2012 – 2022) for Corporate / M&A by Chambers Global; (ii) 'Eminent Practitioner' (2023 – 2024), 'Star Individual' (2018 – 2022) for Corporate / M&A by Chambers Asia-Pacific; and (iii) 'Eminent Practitioner' for Private Equity by Chambers Asia-Pacific (2018 – 2024). According to the 2019 RSG India Report, clients praise Zia as "a trusted advisor" and the 'best legal mind in the country.'" She has a B.A. (Law) from Cambridge, an LL.M. from Harvard and is dually qualified to practice law in India and New York, being a member of the New York State Bar.



## **GORDON MOODIE**

CHIEF PRODUCT OFFICER

HARVEY AL

**Gordon Moodie** is a Chief Product Officer at Harvey based in San Francisco, California.

Previously, Gordon was a Partner at Wachtell , Lipton , Rosen & Katz and also held positions at McKinsey & Company.

Gordon received a Bachelor of Commerce degree from Queen's University and a Doctor of Jurisprudence from Harvard Law School.



## GEOFF MOORE

MANAGING PARTNER

ARTHUR COX

**Geoff Moore** has served as Managing Partner since 2019. Prior to his current role, he served as Co-Head of Corporate/M&A Group specialising in mergers and acquisitions and strategic advisory work for leading corporates.

He has transactional experience across a broad range of industries, with a particular focus in recent years on the healthcare / pharma and financial services sectors. He has advised on many of the largest and most high profile M&A deals in Irish corporate history and is repeatedly recognised as one of the country's leading corporate lawyers by leading independent publications, including Chambers Global/Europe, The Legal 500, IFLR and Who's Who Legal. Previously, Geoff practised in the Corporate Finance Group of a leading New York firm.

Key highlights include advising:

- on many of the largest/ most significant takeovers of Irish quoted companies including AbbVie/ Allergan, IAG/ Aer Lingus, Medtronic/ Covidien, Chiquita/ Fyffes and Actavis/ Warner Chilcott
- a wide range of participants in distressed M&A matters, most particularly market-leading work on NPL portfolios for both selling financial institutions and private equity purchasers
- leading Irish corporates and their boards on complex corporate governance and strategic shareholder issues, particularly takeover defence and activist shareholder issues



## RAAJ NARAYAN

PARTNER

WACHTELL, LIPTON, ROSEN & KATZ

**Raaj Narayan** is a Partner at Wachtell Lipton in the Corporate Department. He focuses on mergers and acquisitions, capital markets transactions, takeover and shareholder activism defense, and corporate governance matters. He represents public and private companies and private equity funds on a wide range of domestic and cross-border mergers, acquisitions, divestitures, spin-offs, investments, joint ventures, initial public offerings and other securities offerings. Based in Silicon Valley, he represents companies and investors across industries, with a substantial portion of his practice involving technology, fintech and financial services companies.

Mr. Narayan has been named a 2022 Dealmaker of the Year by *The American Lawyer* and a Rising Star by *Law360*, *Expert Guides* and *Euromoney*.

Mr. Narayan received a B.A. *cum laude* from Yale University and a J.D. from Stanford Law School, where he was a member of the *Stanford Law Review* and the *Stanford Law & Policy Review*. He is a member of the Stanford Law School Board of Visitors.

Mr. Narayan is a member of the New York State Bar Association and the State Bar of California.



## NG WAI KING

MANAGING PARTNER

WONGPARTNERSHIP LLP

**Ng Wai King** is the Chairman and Managing Partner of WongPartnership, a preeminent Singapore law firm.

Wai King has been involved in many of the largest M&A and private equity transactions in Singapore and the region over the years including the contested bid for Fraser & Neave, the acquisition of Flipkart by Walmart, the purchase of Bank Danamon by MUFG, the acquisition of WFS by SATS from Cerberus Capital, the privatisation of Capitaland and relisting of Capitaland Investment, and the merger of the offshore marine businesses of Keppel Offshore Marine and Sembcorp Marine.

His expertise in corporate law has seen him consistently recognised as a leading lawyer in renowned legal publications including Chambers Asia-Pacific and Global, The Legal 500 Asia-Pacific, IFLR1000, the FT Innovative Legal Awards and Who's Who Legal where he is regarded as a Global Elite Thought Leader, amongst others.

Wai King serves on the board of directors of various private and public institutions in Singapore including the Board of Directors of the Monetary Authority of Singapore (Singapore's central bank), the Board of Trustees of the National University of Singapore, the Senate of the Singapore Academy of Law and the Governing Council of Singapore Institute of Directors.

Wai King graduated from the National University of Singapore where he was awarded the AV Winslow Prize, and obtained a LL.M. from Columbia University School of Law where he graduated as a Harlan Fiske Stone Scholar.



## SABASTIAN NILES

PRESIDENT AND CHIEF LEGAL OFFICER

SALESFORCE.COM, INC.

**Sabastian Niles** is President and Chief Legal Officer. In this role, he oversees Salesforce's global legal and government affairs organizations. He is a member of the executive leadership team reporting to Salesforce and CEO, Chair, and Co-Founder Marc Benioff and a strategic advisor to Salesforce and its board of directors.

Prior to joining Salesforce, Sabastian was a partner at Wachtell, Lipton, Rosen & Katz, where he worked with U.S. and international companies navigating corporate transformations, creating value through innovation, and sustaining stakeholder trust. His wide-ranging client work included developing and leading teams advising CEOs, boards of directors, and senior executives on corporate governance, enterprise risk oversight, strategic and financial investments, alliances, and mergers and acquisitions. He also worked with teams to advance sustainability priorities, strengthen stakeholder and shareholder relationships, and deepen corporate purpose to create value and fortify culture.

Sabastian is a member of the Aspen Institute's Business & Society board of advisors, an elected fellow of the American College of Governance Counsel, and a member of the John L. Weinberg Center for Corporate Governance at the University of Delaware. He is also a director of the nonprofit organization Literacy Partners, which focuses on empowering families, adult learners, caregivers, and children through the power of literacy, education, and language skills.

Sabastian earned a law degree from Harvard Law School, where he co-founded the Harvard Association of Law and Business. He received degrees in finance, economics, and decision and information sciences from the University of Maryland.



## ANDY NUSSBAUM

PARTNER

WACHTELL, LIPTON, ROSEN & KATZ

**Andy Nussbaum** is the Co-Chair of the firm's Executive Committee and a member of the Corporate Department, joining the firm in 1993 and becoming partner in 1999. His practice involves a wide range of merger and acquisition-related matters, including cross-border transactions, spin-offs, divestitures, carve-out IPOs, private equity transactions and joint ventures, as well as governance advice and activism defense across a wide range of industries. Mr. Nussbaum also handles related work in public offerings, and debt and equity financings. He has completed a number of the largest cross-border transactions involving mergers between U.S. and European companies, acquisitions in Latin America, investments in China, a public company transaction in Russia and a major transaction involving one of Australia's largest listed companies. He divides his work between corporate clients and the representation of major private equity firms, both in the United States and internationally.

Mr. Nussbaum graduated, *summa cum laude*, from Amherst College (1985) and has a master's degree from Oxford University, where he was a Rhodes Scholar. He attended the University of Chicago Law School, where he received his J.D. with high honors (1991), was a member of Order of the Coif and served as editor-in-chief of *The University of Chicago Law Review*. Prior to joining the firm, Mr. Nussbaum served as a law clerk to the Honorable Ruth Bader Ginsburg, then of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit, and thereafter to Justice Antonin Scalia, United States Supreme Court.

Mr. Nussbaum speaks Spanish and Russian, and he is a member of the New York State and American Bar Associations. Mr. Nussbaum is active in various nonprofit organizations and serves as Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Amherst College, Member of the Executive Committee of the Partnership for New York City, and Member (previously Chairman) of the Board of Directors of Asphalt Green, a sports and fitness organization promoting wellness, water safety and health for New Yorkers. Mr. Nussbaum was previously on the Board of Governors of the Folger Shakespeare Library in Washington, D.C.



## **BRIAN O'GORMAN**

SENIOR PARTNER

ARTHUR COX

**Brian O'Gorman** is a senior partner in the firm's Corporate and M&A Department. Brian is widely regarded as one of the leading corporate lawyers in Ireland and is an 'Eminent Practitioner' in Chambers & Partners. He has advised on many of the largest and most high profile Irish M&A transactions over the past 20 years.

Brian is a former Managing Partner of the firm. Prior to joining Arthur Cox, Brian spent a number of years in London and Hong Kong with a leading London law firm and a leading investment bank.



## ROBIN PANOVKA

PARTNER

WACHTELL, LIPTON, ROSEN & KATZ

**Robin Panovka** co-chairs Wachtell Lipton's Real Estate and REIT M&A practices, which are consistently at the forefront of M&A and other major transactions in the REIT, private equity, real estate, hospitality and gaming industries. He also advises on activism defense, strategy, cross-border transactions, and large scale development projects, including the redevelopment of the World Trade Center and Little Island in Manhattan.

Representative matters can be found at [Real Estate M&A Practice](#).

Robin has long been named one of the *Lawdragon* 500 Leading Lawyers in the U.S., and is ranked as one of the leading M&A and REIT lawyers by *Chambers*, *Legal 500*, *Who's Who Legal* and similar publications. He has been featured in a number of publications, including [Lawdragon Magazine](#) and *American Lawyer*, and is a recipient of New York University's Urban Leadership Award. Together with [Adam Emmerich](#), he has been profiled by [Lawdragon](#) for work with REITs and real estate M&A, and selected as a [Real Estate MVP](#) by *Law360*. Wachtell Lipton's REIT M&A practice, which Robin co-chairs, was named [group of the year](#) by *Law360* for 2022. Robin was also recently named one of the top 10 most influential REIT lawyers shaping U.S. real estate landscape by [Business Today](#), which noted that he "dominates the scene with his in-depth knowledge in bulge-bracket M&A and REIT corporate law."

He writes and lectures widely, including co-authoring "REITs: Mergers and Acquisitions," a leading treatise published by *Law Journal Press*. He is co-chair of the NYU REIT Center and has served as an adjunct professor at Columbia Business and Law Schools and in NYU's Masters in Real Estate Program. He is a founding director of the International Institute for the Study of Cross-Border M&A (XBMA), a joint venture among Peking University, Cambridge and NYU. He regularly chairs annual conferences for the NYU REIT Center, Practising Law Institute and XBMA. He is also active on a number of educational and non-profit boards, including the boards of Duke Law School and NYU's Real Estate Institute; is a fellow of the American Bar Foundation and the American College of Real Estate Lawyers; and is a member of the Economic Club of New York.

Robin was heavily involved in the redevelopment of the World Trade Center for more than a decade following its destruction on September 11, 2001 and played a hand in negotiating the master plan and "footprint swap" which paved the way to rebuilding, as chronicled in the [Cornell Real Estate Review](#), *American Lawyer Magazine* and other publications.



## JOSÉ ANTONIO PAYET

PARTNER

PAYET, REY, CAUVI, PÉREZ ABOGADOS

**José Payet** is a founding Partner of Payet, Rey, Cauvi, Pérez Abogados, one of Peru's leading corporate law firms. He has extensive experience in the areas of mergers and acquisitions, corporate governance and capital markets. He has participated in several of the most important corporate finance transactions as well as significant corporate litigation matters in Peru.

Mr. Payet received his law degree from the Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú in 1989 and an LLM degree from Harvard Law School in 1991, where he attended as a Fulbright Scholar. He is a professor at the Universidad Católica in Lima and has written extensively on matters of civil law, mergers and acquisitions and corporate law. He is a member of the Board of the Lima Chamber of Commerce and other institutions and companies in Perú.



## TIM PAYNE

SENIOR ADVISOR

BRUNSWICK GROUP LLP

A strategic advisor with over 30 years of experience, focusing on issues of critical reputation, risk, geopolitical complexity, M&A, crisis, and governance. Tim had a background in politics and a career spanning the UK and US, before founding and building, over 20 years, a market leading consulting practice in Asia. He is now Principal at Kellaways, his own management consulting firm focused on areas of reputation and trust. Formerly Head of Asia and part of the global leadership team, Tim remains a Senior Advisor at Brunswick Group, the leading critical issues advisory firm.

Tim has worked on transactions and crises for many of Asia's most significant companies, and on their highest profile issues around the world, as well as supporting leading global MNCs as they engage Asian markets. His appreciation for geopolitical, financial, cultural, and personal complexities enables him to formulate strategies framed by context. His roots as a political campaigner, and his deep understanding of the micro and macro challenges facing the business world of Asia, strengthen his role as a transformative advisor.

As a director of The Women's Foundation in Hong Kong and as Vice Chair and former Chair of the 30% Club, Tim is a committed advocate for inclusion, diversity, and gender parity. He sits on the International Advisory Board of the Renmin University of China, School of Business in Beijing.



## PEK SIOK LAN

MANAGING DIRECTOR, STRATEGY OFFICE

INVESTMENT STEWARDSHIP

**Siok Lan** is Managing Director in the Temasek Strategy Office that supports the strategic initiatives of the firm, reporting to the CEO. Her current remit is to establish a new centralized Investor Stewardship function to anchor and drive Temasek's stewardship and shareholder engagement across its investment portfolio.

Prior to this, Siok Lan was General Counsel of Temasek for 10 years leading the legal, regulatory and compliance function across Temasek's global business, portfolio and operations. She was also a member of Temasek's Global Executive Council, serving on Temasek's investment and management committees with accountability for strategic and business decisions.

Before joining Temasek, Siok Lan served as General Counsel of the Singapore Technologies group parent company for 10 years and at its subsidiary ST Telemedia for 12 years. In addition to leading their legal and regulatory affairs, she was a part of the senior management group charged with formulating strategy and execution.

She holds an LLB from National University of Singapore.



## DOM PERELLA

GENERAL COUNSEL

CHARACTER.AI

**Dom Perella** is General Counsel at Character.AI, one of the world's most innovative AI platforms. Dom previously was GC at Branch Metrics Inc., a Palo-Alto-based SaaS platform, and before that he spent seven years as an executive at Snap Inc. At Snap, Dom served as Vice President, Deputy General Counsel & Chief Compliance Officer. He served as a key partner on Snap's IPO preparation and built Snap's litigation and compliance functions from scratch pre-IPO; the compliance function was named U.S. Compliance Program of the Year in 2022. He successfully resolved complex post-IPO investigations by the DOJ and SEC, as well as related multibillion-dollar securities actions, and he interfaced with regulators globally on issues ranging from antitrust to digital platform regulation. Prior to his in-house career, Dom was a partner in the Supreme Court & Appellate Litigation practice at Hogan Lovells in Washington, D.C. In that capacity Dom argued successfully before the U.S. Supreme Court and the federal courts of appeals and wrote the winning briefs in dozens of major appeals and Supreme Court cases. Prior to that role, Dom graduated summa cum laude from NYU School of Law and clerked for the Hon. Sandra L. Lynch of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit.



## JUAN MARTÍN PERROTTO

PARNTER

URÍA MENÉNDEZ

**Juan Martín** is a partner based in the Madrid office of Uría Menéndez. He heads the firm's Asian practice and is also part of the Latin American practice group. He has spent his career in Argentina, Spain and China. His practice focuses on M&A and infrastructure projects.

Professional highlights of his infrastructure practice include advising on the statutory and contractual framework for PFI/PPP projects in Argentina and Mexico; the financing of correctional and court facilities, energy and water projects, road, rail and port projects (in China, Argentina and Spain); and his contribution as a member of the group of experts which advises the United Nations on good governance in PFI/PPP projects. In the context of M&A, Juan Martín advises on joint ventures, tender offers, transnational mergers, private equity transactions and acquisitions, with a particular focus on cross-border investments involving China, Europe and Latin America.

Juan Martín also serves as an arbitrator at CIETAC (China International Economic and Trade Arbitration Commission), the main permanent arbitration institution in China, SIAC (Shenzhen International Arbitration Center), KLRCA (Kuala Lumpur Regional Centre for Arbitration) and CAM (Madrid Arbitration Court). He has lectured at major universities in Latin America (Universidad Católica Argentina, Buenos Aires), Europe (Instituto de Empresa, Madrid) and China (China EU School of Law, Beijing). He is a regular speaker at seminars and conferences related to his areas of expertise and has authored or co-authored over 20 contributions to a number of law reviews and a book on public infrastructures (2010).



## REBECCA PINTO - NOOME

PARNTER

NAUTADUTILH

**Rebecca Runa Pinto-Noome** is partner at the Corporate and M&A practice of NautaDutilh's Amsterdam office and member of both the Private Equity and Life Sciences & Technology sector teams. She focuses on M&A work, advising on a wide variety of Dutch corporate transactions, with a specific emphasis on minority investments.

Rebecca spent 6 years in our New York office. Rebecca has in-depth experience with advising on Dutch law aspects in US originated transactions, and in-depth knowledge of the US M&A market. She has the expertise to make US deals with Dutch entities go smoothly and to represent US clients without the disconnects that easily occur when bridging continents and legal systems.





## EMMANUEL PRESSMAN

NATIONAL CO-CHAIR

OSLER, HOSKIN & HARCOURT LLP

**Emmanuel (Manny) Pressman** is Co-Chair of Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt and a member of the Partnership Board. He represents public and private companies, private equity sponsors, special committees, boards of directors, and investment banks involved in take-over bids, proxy contests, joint ventures, negotiated and contested mergers and acquisitions, and a range of corporate transactions and restructurings. Mr. Pressman is widely and repeatedly recognized as a leading M&A practitioner including by Who's Who Legal (Global Leader); Chambers Global: The World's Leading Lawyers for Business (Band 1); The Lexpert/AmLaw Guide to the Leading 500 Lawyers in Canada; The Legal 500; The Best Lawyers in Canada; and The Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory (Most Frequently Recommended). In 2022, Mr. Pressman was recognized by Best Lawyers as its "Lawyer of the Year" in Corporate Law. In 2021, he was recognized by Lexpert as one of "Toronto's Top 20 Best M&A Lawyers". In 2020, he was recognized by IFLR 1000 as the inaugural recipient of its "M&A Lawyer of the Year Award" for Canada. In 2019, he was recognized as one of Canada's "Top 25 Most Influential Lawyers" by Canadian Lawyer in its annual peer survey. Mr. Pressman is an elected Fellow of the American College of Governance Counsel. He is also a frequent speaker at conferences relating to mergers and acquisitions, and has guest lectured at the McGill University Faculty of Law, the University of Toronto Faculty of Law, and the IBA Mergers & Acquisitions Conference in New York; and was the co-author of the Canada chapter of the International Mergers & Acquisitions Review for 10 years. Among his community involvement, Mr. Pressman currently serves on the Board of the Holland Bloorview Kids Rehabilitation Hospital Foundation.



## **PEDRO RAVINA**

PARTNER

URÍA MENÉNDEZ ABOGADOS, S.L.P.

I joined Uría Menéndez in 2004 and I am a partner of the firm since 2015. Throughout this period, I have been based in the Uría Menéndez London office between 2010 and 2012, and I have been seconded to the prestigious New York law firm Wachtell, Lipton, Rosen & Katz and to Iberdrola, where I worked in the M&A legal team.

I have more than 10 years of experience advising Spanish and foreign funds, financial institutions and industrial groups in M&A projects, joint ventures and corporate restructuring transactions, as well as in banking law and in all type of financial transactions, with a special focus in structured finance transactions and securitizations.

I advise in transactions for a wide variety of sectors: inter alia, banking and securities markets, energy, industrial, and real estate.



## DAVID REDFERN

PRESIDENT CORPORATE DEVELOPMENT

GLAXOSMITHKLINE

**David Redfern** was appointed President Corporate Development of GSK in May 2008 and is responsible for corporate development and the leadership of the execution of all GSK's business development activities. He is a member of the GSK Leadership Team and reports to the CEO.

In addition to his current role, David is Chairman of ViiV Healthcare Ltd. ViiV was created in 2010 and is a joint venture between GSK, Pfizer and Shionogi and focuses specifically on the research, development and commercialisation of medicines to treat HIV and has global sales of £6billion. He was previously on the Board of GSK Consumer Healthcare, now Haleon Plc, and led the separation of Haleon from GSK through a demerger onto the London Stock Exchange in mid-2022.

On February 1 2015 David was appointed a non-executive director of Aspen Pharmacare, a South African based and listed healthcare group.

David has a Bachelor of Science degree from Bristol University in the UK and is a Chartered Accountant.



## JOHN ROBINSON

PARTNER

WACHTELL, LIPTON, ROSEN & KATZ

**John Robinson** is a partner at Wachtell, Lipton, Rosen & Katz. He focuses on mergers and acquisitions, corporate governance and general corporate and securities matters. John's practice includes cross-border and domestic mergers, acquisitions and divestitures, joint ventures, carve-outs and private equity transactions. He also advises companies on takeover defense and in responding to shareholder activism and proxy contests.

John received his A.B. in economics, *summa cum laude*, from Dartmouth College, where he was a Rufus Choate Scholar. He received his J.D. with distinction from Stanford Law School, where he was a senior editor of the *Stanford Law Review*.

Prior to law school, John worked as an associate consultant at the business strategy consulting firm L.E.K. Consulting, in its Boston and Paris offices.



## JAIME ROBLEDO

PARTNER

BRIGARD URRUTIA

Lawyer from the Universidad de los Andes with a Master of Laws (LL.M) from Columbia University. **Jaime Robledo** is the co-head of the Corporate/M&A team at BU and has more than 25 years of experience advising clients on a wide range of areas including but not limited to share purchases, asset purchases, mergers, joint ventures, share subscriptions, among others. He is also recognized as a strategic advisor to boards of directors and C-suites of private, public and state-owned entities in respect of D&O duties and liability. He has worked with a wide array of industry areas, including but not limited to infrastructure/energy M&A, projects M&A, financial entities M&A, industrial companies M&A, oil & gas M&A, public and listed companies M&A and he has specialized in complex transactions as well as in strategic advisories including dealing with activist shareholders and successfully defending listed companies from hostile takeovers. He has extensive experience in advising different types of clients including strategic investors, private equity funds, family offices, institutional investors and sovereign funds in all types of transactions. He has advised governmental entities and buyers in privatization processes under Law 226 of 1995. He is qualified both in Colombia and NY.



## JEFFREY ROSEN

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN

LAZARD

**Jeffrey Rosen** is a Deputy Chairman and Managing Director of Lazard.

Mr. Rosen has been engaged in international investment banking for over 40 years. He advises leading corporations in the United States, Europe, the Middle East and Asia on mergers and acquisitions and related corporate finance issues.

Prior to joining Lazard in 2002, Mr. Rosen was a Managing Director (and founder) of Wasserstein Perella and Chairman of Wasserstein Perella International since its founding in 1988. Previously, he was with The First Boston Corporation and its European affiliate, Credit Suisse First Boston, in London.

Mr. Rosen is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations and The Economic Club of New York. He is the President of the Board of Trustees of the International Center of Photography. He is also a Trustee of the Stephen A. Schwarzman Educational Foundation and of the American Academy in Berlin. He was a non-executive Director of WPP plc from 2005 to 2015.

Mr. Rosen is a graduate of Yale College (B.A. 1969) and Harvard Business School with distinction (M.B.A. 1972). He is married and lives in New York City.



## JONATHAN ROUNER

VICE CHAIRMAN OF INVESTMENT BANKING,  
AMERICAS AND HEAD OF INTERNATIONAL  
M&A

NOMURA SECURITIES INTERNATIONAL, INC.

**Jonathan Rouner** is an Investment Banking Vice Chairman at NOMURA based in New York City, New York.

Previously, Jonathan was a Managing Director at Absa and also held positions at Barclays Capital, Neuberger Berman, Credit Suisse.

Jonathan received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Yale University and a Master of Business Administration from Harvard Business School.



## FRANZISKA RUF

PARTNER

DAVIES WARD PHILLIPS & VINEBERG

**Franziska Ruf** brings her business-minded advice to her client's critical domestic and cross-border deals.

For more than 30 years, global clients have trusted Franziska's advice on their Canadian and international public and private acquisitions, divestitures, securities issuances, investments and joint ventures. She frequently advises international clients on their investments in Canada. Public and private sector clients of all sizes, across diverse industries, turn to Franziska for her responsive manner and dedication.

Known for her expertise in corporate governance, Franziska regularly advises boards of directors, special committees, senior management and shareholders on a wide range of transactions, public disclosure issues and corporate governance matters.

Franziska is a former member of our Management Committee and current member of the Montréal Talent Management and Evaluation Committee. She is the former Chair of the International M&A Subcommittee of the American Bar Association and is a member of the Corporate and M&A Law Committee of the International Bar Association. Franziska also sits on the board of the Québec Chapter of The Institute of Corporate Directors.



## ALBERTO SARAVALLE

SENIOR PARTNER

BONELLIEREDE

**Alberto Saravalle** is a senior partner at BonelliErede, a firm he co-founded in 1999. He served as Managing Partner for two terms (2007–2013). Alberto has also practised law in New York and Paris. His main areas of expertise are corporate law, M&A and capital markets.

He is a professor of European Union law at the University of Padua, where he also teaches a course on the European Economic and Monetary Union. He recently served as legal counsel to the Undersecretary of State for European Affairs; in the past he has advised the Italian government on international and financial legal matters on various occasions.

Alberto graduated in law from the University of Padua and went on to obtain an LLB from Cambridge University and an LLM from Yale Law School (Fulbright Scholar).

He is the author of *An introduction to the law of economic and monetary union*, Edward Elgar, 2021, and co-author with Carlo Stagnaro of *Contro il sovranismo economico* (The case against economic nationalism), Rizzoli, 2020, and *Molte riforme per nulla* (Much reform about nothing), Marsilio, 2022. He contributes op-eds to various newspapers, including *Il Corriere della Sera*, *Repubblica – Affari & Finanza*, *Il Foglio*, *Il Sole 24 Ore* and *The Wall Street Journal*.



## BILL SAVITT

PARTNER

WACHTELL, LIPTON, ROSEN & KATZ

**Bill Savitt** is Co-Chair of the Executive Committee and Co-Chair of the Litigation Department of Wachtell, Lipton, Rosen & Katz. His practice focuses on complex commercial litigation and the representation of corporations and directors in litigation involving mergers and acquisitions, proxy contests, corporate governance disputes, class actions involving allegations of breach of fiduciary duty and regulatory enforcement actions relating to corporate transactions. Mr. Savitt writes and speaks extensively on corporate and securities law topics and is an adjunct law professor at Columbia Law School in the field of transactional litigation.

Mr. Savitt graduated *magna cum laude* from Brown University and received a M.Phil. from Columbia University in European legal history. He graduated from Columbia Law School in 1997, where he was editor-in-chief of the *Columbia Law Review*. Upon graduation from law school, Mr. Savitt served as a law clerk to the Honorable Pierre N. Leval of the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit for the 1997 term and to the Honorable Ruth Bader Ginsburg of the Supreme Court of the United States for the October 1998 term. Among other professional recognitions, Mr. Savitt has been named by *Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business* as a "Band One" leading securities litigator, by *Lawdragon* as one of the 500 leading lawyers in the United States and as one of the 500 leading global litigators, by *Benchmark Litigation* as a "litigation star" (including recent induction into *Benchmark Litigation's* Hall of Fame), and as a leading authority in the *International Who's Who of Corporate Governance*. He is a member of the American Law Institute, the Board of Directors of the New York Legal Aid Society and the Board of Trustees of the *Columbia Law Review, Inc.*, and is a past executive director of Interfaith Hunger Appeal, a New York-based international hunger relief organization.



## MAX SCHIESSL

PARTNER

HENGELER MUELLER

**Max Schiessl** has been a corporate/M&A partner since 1991. His practice focuses on cross-border M&A, public takeovers and private equity.

Major public M&A transactions on which he advised include Vonovia/Deutsche Wohnen, Daimler/Chrysler, Deutsche Telekom/Voicestream, Bayer/Schering, Linde/The BOC Group, e.on/Endesa, Bosch/Buderus, Vodafone/Kabel Deutschland, McKesson/Celesio, Deutsche Wohnen/GSW, PPR/Puma and Blackstone/Celanese.

In private M&A for strategics, Max advised Siemens on the sale of VDO, e.on on the sale of VEBA Electronics, Henkel on the sale of Cognis, Tchibo on the sale of Reemtsma, Vodafone on the acquisition of Unity Media and Elanco on the acquisition of Bayer Animal Health. His work for financial sponsors includes advising Advent (Takko), Blackstone (Gerresheimer Glas, Sulo), EQT (Kabel Baden-Württemberg, Springer Science, Symrise) and KKR (Airbus Defence Electronics, Tenovis, Versatel, Wincor, GfK, WMF).

In addition to his M&A practice, Max is the permanent advisor to the board of major German companies. In connection with his corporate practice, he advised on equity capital markets transactions such as the IPOs and listings of Deutsche Post, Deutsche Telekom, Celanese, Merck, Hannover Re, United Internet and Talanx.

Max served as Chair of the Committee “Corporate and M&A” of the International Bar Association from 1996-2002 and as Chair of the Capital Markets Forum of the IBA from 2002-2004. He teaches corporate law at Düsseldorf Law School and is the author of books and law review articles on mergers & acquisitions and corporate law.

In the Chambers Global Guide 2022 he is ranked as a “Star Individual” in “Corporate/M&A: High-end Capability”.



## ROBERTO SILVA

PRESIDENT

COMISIÓN NACIONAL DE VALORES

**Roberto Silva** is a lawyer graduated from the University of Buenos Aires (1998) and has obtained an LL.M from the University of Illinois at Urbana – Champaign (1991). He has been consistently recognized in his areas of practice by specialized legal publications such as Chambers and Legal 500, among others.

In the past, he has had academic participation in the Law Schools of both the University of Buenos Aires (UBA) and the Argentine Catholic University (UCA), and in postgraduate master's programs at Austral University, among others.

He has been a partner at Marval O'Farrell Mairal, and a member of its Board of Directors, having joined the firm in 1993. Prior to joining Marval, he worked in other legal firms in Argentina. He also worked as a foreign associate for Shearman & Sterling in New York for part of 1991-1992.

He has been Secretary of the Chamber of Trusts and Funds of Direct Investment in Productive Activities (CAFIDAP) since 2016. Also, he has been president of the Banking Law Committee of the International Bar Association (IBA), the association which gathers the international bar associations.

He specializes in capital markets, project finance, trusts, banking law, and foreign exchange control; has been the author of numerous publications in his areas of specialization; and is a frequent speaker at various forums in his areas of expertise.



## **DIANA SILVA**

HEAD LEGAL OF MERGERS & ACQUISITIONS

PROMIGAS



## **SVEIN GERHARD SIMONNAES**

PARTNER

BAHR

**Svein Gerhard Simonnaes** has been a part of BAHR's corporate governance and private and public M&A practises since he joined the firm as an associate in 1995. Most of the transactions on which he works are multinational or cross-border transactions.



## RICHARD SMITH

PARTNER

SLAUGHTER AND MAY

**Richard Smith** is co-head of our Corporate and M&A Group. His principal areas of work are in public and private M&A, joint ventures and equity capital markets work. Highlights include advising:

- Reckitt on the sale of its Infant Formula and Child Nutrition business in China to Primavera Capital Group for \$2.2 billion and the sale of its Scholl footcare products business to Yellow Wood Partners
- Aviva on the sale of its businesses in Poland for €2.5 billion, France for €3.2 billion, Vietnam, Indonesia and Hong Kong and its sale of a majority shareholder in Aviva Singapore to a consortium including Singlife and TPG for cash consideration of SGD 2 billion and a retained 25% shareholding in the new combined group
- Fortress and its investment group on its c.£7bn takeover offer for Morrisons
- OSISOFT and its principal shareholders on its disposal to AVEVA for \$5 billion
- Fastball on its disposal of FanDuel to Flutter for \$4.2 billion
- Marsh & McLennan Companies Inc. on its recommended cash takeover of Jardine Lloyd Thompson Group plc for £4.9 billion
- The Walt Disney Company in relation to its acquisition of 21st Century Fox, Inc. and the involvement of Disney and Fox in the takeover battle for Sky plc
- OVO on its acquisition of SSEs UK retail electricity and gas supply business in the UK
- GlaxoSmithKline on its major three-part transaction with Novartis involving the combination of their consumer healthcare businesses to form a new world-leading consumer healthcare business, the acquisition by GSK of Novartis' global vaccines business for \$5.25 billion plus milestone and royalty payments, and the sale by GSK to Novartis of its marketed oncology portfolio for \$16 billion, and also on GSK's divestments of certain pharmaceutical and consumer healthcare product brands in several transactions in the US, Europe and Rest of World
- Countrywide, Stock Spirits, Brit, Arrow Global, Watches of Switzerland, certain shareholders of Zoopla and the manager shareholders of Pepco on the IPOs of those companies
- Equinix on its takeover of Telecity for £2.6 billion and the related competition-mandated divestments of certain data centre businesses in London, Amsterdam and Frankfurt to Digital Realty.



## KLAUS SØEGAARD

PARTNER

GORRISSEN FEDERSPIEL

**Klaus Søgaard** is a partner of the Danish Law firm Gorrissen Federspiel and is based in Copenhagen. He has a long-term experience in a wide spectrum of corporate and commercial matters, including major acquisitions, take-overs, mergers and is heavily involved in corporate governance issues. Klaus has for several years been chairing the general meetings in major listed companies, such as Novo Nordisk, Vestas, Danske Bank, Tryg, Great Nordic and FLS. Klaus is a member of the board of directors of the Alliance of Democracies Foundation managed by the former Danish Prime Minister and General Secretary of NATO Anders Fogh Rasmussen. He is chairman of the boards of several charitable foundations.



## **BRAD STAPLES**

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

APCO WORLDWIDE

**Brad Staples** is chief executive officer of APCO Worldwide. He leads the firm's business and more than 1200 employees who are based in more than 30 markets around the world. Mr. Staples has spent decades building APCO's business and developing client service teams around the world, having previously served as president international and chair of global development. He first joined APCO in 1996, where he helped lead the firm's European business in Brussels before going on to head the EMEA region.

Throughout his career at APCO, Mr. Staples has devised and conducted reputation and communication programs for multinational companies and interest groups across a broad range of industries and policy areas. He has developed public affairs campaigns and led investment promotion, information and reputation assignments for numerous corporations, governments, and political leaders.

Mr. Staples also built APCO's global antitrust and competition practice. Working in close collaboration with leading law firms and investment banks, he has managed global client M&A and antitrust communication campaigns and has assisted multinational companies from many industry and service sectors in achieving their communication objectives around major cases.

Prior to joining APCO, Mr. Staples worked in a consultancy in London and was managing director of an EU affairs consultancy in Brussels. He holds a Bachelor of Arts in politics and government. A British-Italian national, he speaks Italian and French.



## ERIC STARKLOFF

FORMER CEO AND DIRECTOR  
NI (NATIONAL INSTRUMENTS)

**Eric Starkloff** is the former President and CEO of National Instruments Corporation (NI).

As NI's President and CEO, Eric Starkloff led NI through transformational growth, achieving \$1.7B in annual revenue in 2022. During his tenure at NI, he led the marketing and rebranding of the company, spearheaded key technology developments - including leading NI's successful move into modular instruments and data analytics - and completed approximately 20 acquisitions. In 2023, Starkloff led NI through the sale of NI to Emerson for an emprise value of \$8.6B.

An avid technologist, Starkloff has been a thought leader on topics such as the Internet of Things, 5G communications, data analytics, and autonomous vehicles. He serves on the boards of the University of Virginia School of Engineering and Applied Science and Huston-Tillotson University and has previously served on advisory boards for the Bradley Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering at Virginia Tech and the Wireless Networking and Communication Group at The University of Texas at Austin. He stays involved in the Austin community and was a founding board member of Urban Roots, an Austin-based sustainable agriculture program that transforms the lives of young people.

Starkloff holds a bachelor's degree with high distinction in electrical engineering from the University of Virginia.



## EMANUEL STREHLE

PARTNER

HENGELER MUELLER

**Emanuel Strehle** advises companies and investors on public and private mergers & acquisitions, including post-M&A corporate and capital market areas, with a focus on private equity/venture capital and cross-border transactions. In addition, his practice covers family business matters and succession planning.

He has recently advised: Ericsson on the acquisition of Kathrein SE's global antenna and filters business, Linde on the merger with Praxair as well as on the sale of divestiture assets in the Americas, Omnicare on the sale of majority stake in Omnicare Group, Tencent on investments in Liliun and N26, CVC on the acquisition and sale of ista, KKR on the sale of WMF as well as on growth capital investments in GetYourGuide and arago, Deutsche Telekom on the sale of a majority participation in Scout24 Group, Informatica in the public takeover of Heiler Software and its integration, TKH Group in the public takeover of Augusta, Cinven on the acquisition of SLV Group and Brambles in the public takeover of IFCO Systems.

Emanuel has co-authored several books on corporate law and M&A topics.

Universities of Munich and Jena (Dr. iur.)

Admitted to bar 1997

Law firm, Munich 1997-1999

Hengeler Mueller since 2000

Wachtell, Lipton, Rosen & Katz, New York, 2002

Partner since 2006



## RAGHU SUNDARAM

DEAN OF THE LEONARD N. STERN SCHOOL  
OF BUSINESS

NEW YORK UNIVERSITY STERN SCHOOL OF  
BUSINESS

**Raghu Sundaram** is Dean and the Edward I. Altman Professor of Credit and Debt Markets at New York University's Leonard N. Stern School of Business. He was appointed Dean on January 1, 2018, having previously served as Vice Dean for MBA Programs and Online Learning from January 1, 2016, to December 31, 2017.

As Dean, and previously Vice Dean, Dean Sundaram has led Stern to historic annual fundraising levels and increases in financial aid; record incoming class metrics and job placement statistics; the launch of many new degree programs and the expansion of Stern's global footprint; Stern's entry into online education; and the establishment of several new, high-profile initiatives, particularly at the intersection of business, entrepreneurship, and technology. He also established the School's first Office of Diversity and Inclusion.

Dean Sundaram's academic work in finance spans a number of areas including agency problems, executive compensation, corporate finance, derivatives pricing, and credit risk and credit derivatives. He has also published extensively in mathematical economics, decision theory, and game theory. His research has appeared in leading academic journals in finance and economics, as well as in several practitioner-oriented journals. He is the author of two books: *A First Course in Optimization Theory* (Cambridge University Press, 1996) and *Derivatives: Principles and Practice* (McGraw-Hill, 2010).

Dean Sundaram has taught courses across Stern's Undergraduate, MBA, PhD, and Executive Education programs. Of all the awards he has received over the years, he is most proud of being the inaugural recipient of Stern's Distinguished Teaching Award in 2007. He has a long record of service to the School and the University, including as chair of the Tenured and Tenure-track Faculty Senators Council and as a member of NYU's Presidential Search Committee in both 2014 and 2023. Dean Sundaram currently serves as a member of the Academic Council of Krea University and Advisory Council of Shiv Nadar University Delhi-NCR, both in India, and the Advisory Board of the Antai College of Economics and Management, Shanghai Jiao Tong University in Beijing, China.

Prior to joining NYU Stern in 1996, Dean Sundaram was on the faculty of the University of Rochester from 1988-96. He received a bachelor of arts degree in economics from the University of Madras, India, an MBA from the Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad, and a PhD in economics from Cornell University.



## NOBUHIKO SUZUKI

PARTNER

MORI HAMADA & MATSUMOTO NY LLP

**Nobu Suzuki** is a partner of Mori Hamada & Matsumoto's New York office with a particular focus on US-Japan and other Japan-related cross-border M&A, joint venture, and venture finance transactions. He has represented Japanese and international private equity and venture capital firms as well as strategic investors from various sectors. He also regularly advises international clients on general corporate matters involving its Japanese subsidiaries. He was admitted to the Japanese Bar in 2012 and to the New York Bar in 2018. He received his LLM in 2017 from Stanford Law School and his JD in 2011 from Keio Law School.



## DAVID TADMOR

MANAGING PARTNER

ARNON TADMOR LEVY

**David E. Tadmor** is the founding partner of Tadmor & Co., established in 2005, later to become Tadmor, Levy & Co (2015), then Arnon, Tadmor-Levy (2022) – one of Israel's largest and leading law firms with more than 450 lawyers and trainees.

David's represents multinational clients in a variety of industries, as well as many of Israel's largest industrial companies, holding companies and financial institutions.

David regularly appears before the Supreme Court of Israel and other judicial and administrative fora, focusing on constitutional and administrative law as well as civil law. He is a leading government regulation lawyer, representing major clients before governmental bodies and legislative committees and has been involved in many of Israel's major regulatory and legislative reforms.

He is recognized as a leading expert in competition law. David served as the General Director of the Israel Competition Authority (ICA) between 1997 and 2001. During his time in office the ICA trebled in size, legislative amendments were introduced and much of the foundation for Israel's competition law and enforcement policies was laid. As Director General, David also introduced the ICA to the competition committee of the OECD and was the driving force behind the antitrust cooperation agreement between the United States and Israel.

He also has more than 20 years of experience in mergers and acquisitions – public companies, private equity, privatizations and cross-border transactions. He was a senior partner at Caspi & Co., a leading mergers and acquisition firm in Tel Aviv, and for five years an associate with the New York law firm of Wachtell, Lipton, Rosen & Katz.

He was an adjunct professor at the Tel Aviv University School of Law (Masters Degree Seminar, Telecommunications Law, Antitrust Law and Corporate Law), the Hebrew University of Jerusalem School of Law (The Law and Practice of Privatizations) and the Interdisciplinary Center (Antitrust Law). He was a member of various governmental and other committees and is also an accomplished and exhibited photographer.

David obtained an LLB from the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, and an LLM and an SJD from New York University School of Law. He clerked for the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Israel, Honorable Justice Meir Shamgar. He is a member of the Israel Bar, the New York Bar and the American Bar Association.



## EDWARD TAIBI

SENIOR ADVISOR

RIGOR VENTURES

**Edward Taibi** is a results-driven, versatile executive with a unique combination of business acumen, operating experience, and a track record of executing dozens of sophisticated transactions and financings representing total values in excess of \$30 Billion, generating significant returns for family office and major investors.

Most recently, Ed served as Executive Vice President – Strategic Initiatives & Government Affairs and General Counsel of Archaea Energy, the largest producer of renewable energy from landfill gas. Ed helped lead the auction process resulting in the sale of Archaea to BP for over \$4 Billion in December 2022.

Ed served as Executive Vice President of MacAndrews & Forbes, the family office of investor Ronald Perelman, with interests in a diversified portfolio of large-scale businesses, until 2020 after having joined the firm in 2004. In this role, Ed had senior oversight responsibilities for numerous portfolio companies owned by MacAndrews & Forbes, including multi-billion dollar companies in a wide variety of industry sectors. Ed served as the leader in large and complex acquisition, sale and partnership transactions, as well as capital markets and financing transactions.

Prior to joining MacAndrews & Forbes, Ed was a mergers & acquisitions attorney at the law firm Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP, including working for a few years in Milan, Italy, helping to build the firm's European presence.

Ed is currently advising private companies in acquisitions and divestitures across a number of different industries, including technology, specialty packaging, defense, spirits and marketing solutions.

Ed graduated summa cum laude, Phi Beta Kappa, from Rutgers College, and later received his juris doctor degree from New York University School of Law.



## TAKASHI TOICHI

PARTNER

TMI ASSOCIATES

**Takashi Toichi** is a Partner at TMI Associates. He obtained a LL.B. from Keio University in 1998, a LL.M. from Columbia Law School as a Harlan Fiske Stone Scholar in 2005 and a MSc. in Finance (Master's in Finance) from London Business School in 2006, and he is qualified to practice both in Japan and the State of New York. Mr. Toichi specializes in Mergers and Acquisitions and Private Equity, and he has represented a wide range of clients, both business entities and private equity funds in their public and private transactions, including advising international clients on their inbound investments into Japan. In December 2020, Mr. Toichi ranked No. 6 in the M&A section of "Attorneys to Be Selected by Japanese Business Entities", in research conducted by Nikkei New Paper, and he has been highly ranked in Chambers and Partners and other international lawyers' media publications for many years. In addition, Mr. Toichi has served as an officer of the Corporate and M&A Law Committee of the International Bar Association (the "IBA") since 2013 and as the Co-Chair and a Vice-Chair of the International M&A Joint Venture Committee of the American Bar Association's ("ABA") International Law Section since 2016.



## HIDEAKI ROY UMETSU

MANAGING PARTNER OF MORI HAMADA &  
MATSUMOTO NEW YORK OFFICE

MORI HAMADA & MATSUMOTO

**Hideaki Roy Umetsu** is a managing partner of the New York office of Mori Hamada & Matsumoto, Japanese law firm. He focuses on cross-border M&A transactions or other commercial transactions, global compliance (including anti-corruption), business and human rights as well as international trades (export/import controls and economic sanctions). He was admitted to the Bar in 2004 in Japan and to the New York Bar in 2010. Umetsu was educated at the University of Tokyo (LL.B., 2003) and the University of Chicago Law School (LL.M., 2009). From 2006 to 2007, he worked as an associate director at the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan, where he was in charge of M&A-related laws and regulations with a particular focus on management buy-outs. He also worked as a foreign temporary associate at Davis Polk & Wardwell from 2009 to 2010. He served as a lecturer at Seikei University Faculty of Law from 2011 to 2015, and he has been serving as a member of Working Group on Bribery of Foreign Public Officials of the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry since 2022 as well as a member of the Expert Committee on Security Clearance Systems in the Economic Safety Field of the Cabinet Secretariat since 2023. He is an active member at the International Bar Association, where he served as a Co-Chair of the Asia Pacific Regional Forum from 2021 to 2022 and he is currently serving as a vice chair of the Future of Legal Services Commission.



## LAURENT VALLÉE

GENERAL SECRETARY, CHIEF EXECUTIVE  
OFFICER NORTHERN EUROPE

CARREFOUR GROUP

**Laurent Vallée** is a graduate of ESSEC Business School, of the Paris Institute of Political Studies and of the ENA, France's national school of administration.

He began his career at the Conseil d'État, France's administrative Supreme Court, where he served in particular as Government Commissioner and Constitutional Advisor to the Government's Secretary General. From 2008 to 2010, Laurent Vallée was a lawyer with the Clifford Chance law firm, before being appointed Director of Civil Affairs at the Ministry of Justice in April 2010. He was then General Corporate Secretary of the Canal+ Group from 2013 to 2015. Since March 2015, he has served as Secretary General of the Conseil Constitutionnel, France's constitutional council.

On August 30, 2017, Laurent Vallée joined the Executive Management team as General Secretary of the Carrefour group.

On July 4th, 2022, he was appointed Executive Director of the Northern Europe Zone retaining his duties as General Secretary with responsibility for the Legal Department, the Public Affairs Department, the Audit Department, the Territorial Strategy, Security Department and Carrefour Partenariats International



## MARJOLEIN VAN DER LINDEN

CHIEF OPERATIONS OFFICER, RTL NEDERLAND

RTL GROUP SA

**Marjolein van der Linden** is Chief Operations Officer (COO) of RTL Nederland since 1 May 2023. Van der Linden started her career as a lawyer at Nauta Dutilh, then gained extensive experience as Head of Legal at Endemol en Avantium Technologies, among others, and joined RTL in 2004. Here, Marjolein van der Linden started as General Counsel. In 2018, she was appointed Director Legal & HR and further expanded her responsibilities. She also holds several additional positions including Board Member of NLZiet, Stichting Persuitgeversrecht and Deputy Chairman of NDP Nieuwsmedia. In her position as COO, Marjolein van der Linden is responsible for the areas of focus: Human Resources, Legal, Public Affairs, Distribution en Facility Management.



## CHARLES-EDUARD VAN ROSSUM

PRESIDENT

RAVEL & CO.

**Charles-Eduard van Rossum** is President of Ravel & Co., an independent investment banking firm based in Paris, providing advice to large corporations and financial institutions, family-owned/controlled companies or investment holding groups and the leading global private equity sponsors and sovereign wealth funds.

Prior to founding Ravel & Co. in 2017, Charles-Eduard spent twenty years at Goldman Sachs within the firm's M&A/strategic advisory practice in London, New York and Paris. He became a Managing Director in 2008 and while a member of the senior leadership team of Goldman Sachs' Paris office, he co-managed the firm's Energy & Natural Resources group in EMEA from 2011 until his retirement from the firm.

Charles-Eduard is a Non-Executive Director and Chairman of the Audit & Risk Committee of MET Holding AG, a Switzerland-based integrated energy company. He also recently acted as Chairman of the Board of Directors of Pegasus Entrepreneurs Acquisition Company Europe NV, a SPAC which was listed on Euronext Amsterdam in December 2021 (with Groupe Arnault/Financière Agache and Tikehau Capital as its main sponsors) and combined with FL Entertainment NV, the leading European media content producer (Banijay) and online gaming business (Betclix) in July 2022, in the largest de-SPACing transaction in Europe.

Charles-Eduard was born in Amsterdam, holds dual French and Dutch citizenship and graduated magna cum laude from the Solvay Business School in Brussels with a M.Sc. in business and finance in 1997. He actively supports the Philharmonie de Paris as a donateur and the Association des Amis du Festival de Salzbourg of which he is a member of the Board of Directors and Treasurer. He and his wife Séverine have four sons and live in Paris.



## ARTEM VOLYNETS

FOUNDER & CEO

ACG ACQUISITION COMPANY LTD

**Artem Volynets** is founder and CEO of ACG - LSE listed mining SPAC that is focused on consolidating critical metals industry through a roll-up M&A strategy.

25+ years experience in mergers and acquisitions, capital markets and senior corporate management roles.

Led private and public transactions worth more than \$30 billion and managed leading businesses in the metals and mining industry.



## YU WAKAE

PARTNER, CHIEF REPRESENTATIVE OF  
SHANGHAI OFFICE

NAGASHIMA OHNO & TSUNEMATSU

**Mr. Yu Wakae** is a partner of Nagashima Ohno & Tsunematsu and heads its Shanghai office as chief representative since 2014. He focuses on China-related transactions ranging from M&As, finance to general corporate matters. In 2023, he ranked the fourth in the Nikkei ranking of best performing lawyers in the area of China Practice. He is fluent in English and Mandarin Chinese.



## TOMASZ WARDYŃSKI

FOUNDING AND PRESIDING PARTNER

WARDYŃSKI & PARTNERS

**Tomasz Wardyński** CBE is the founding and presiding partner of Wardyński & Partners. He handles arbitration proceedings involving foreign and domestic entities. He also practises civil, commercial and competition law and has experience in negotiations on large public projects. He was one of the first lawyers in Poland to develop a practice in EU law and competition law.

He has been in private law practice since 1979. In 1991–1996 he was a member of the Advisory Council on Privatisation to the Prime Minister of Poland. In 2001 he was appointed Honorary Commander of the British Empire by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

He is a member of the Commission on Arbitration and ADR at the International Chamber of Commerce. From 2006 to 2009 he served as a member of the Arbitral Council of the Court of Arbitration at the Polish Chamber of Commerce.

He is a listed arbitrator at the Lewiatan Court of Arbitration, at the International Arbitral Centre of the Austrian Federal Economic Chamber in Vienna, and at the Hungarian Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

He is a member of the Warsaw Bar and for many years has been an active member of the International Bar Association.



## PETER WILLIAMSON

HONORARY PROFESSOR OF INTERNATIONAL  
MANAGEMENT

CAMBRIDGE JUDGE BUSINESS SCHOOL

**Peter Williamson** is Professor of International Management at the University of Cambridge, Judge Business School and Fellow of Jesus College.

Peter divides his time between research and consulting on internationalisation, M&A, and business ecosystem innovation, and serving as a non-executive director or chairman.

With a first degree in Economics, he began his business career with Merrill Lynch in London. After completing his PhD in Business Economics at Harvard University in 1984, he joined the Boston Consulting Group.

During his subsequent academic career, he has held professorships at London Business School, Harvard Business School and INSEAD (in Fontainebleau and Singapore).

In parallel, Peter has served as a non-executive director of both listed and private companies across a wide variety of industries, including: textiles; whisky; green energy; hedge funds; software; and sales training. He is currently Chairman of the fast-growing, digital process automation cloud services company Bizagi Group Inc.

Peter has also been visiting China regularly since 1983, assisting numerous multinationals, joint ventures, and Chinese companies venturing.

He is the author of ten books, his latest being: *Ecosystem Edge: Sustaining Competitiveness in the Face of Disruption*. Other books include: *The Competitive Advantage of Emerging Market Multinationals*; *Dragons at Your Door*; *Winning in Asia*; and *From Global to Metanational*. His more than 60 other articles span *Academy of Management Journal*, *Strategic Management Journal*, and *Journal of Industrial Economics*, and managerial pieces such as "Ecosystem Advantage: How to successfully harness the power of partners"; "The New Mission for Multinationals", "Accelerated Innovation", "Strategies for Competing in a Changed China" and "Is Your Innovation Process Global?" (all in the MIT-Sloan Management Review) and "How China Re-Set Its Global Acquisition Agenda" and "China's Hidden Dragons" (in Harvard Business Review).



## STEFAN WISSING

PARTNER

NAUTADUTILH

**Stefan Wissing** is a partner in NautaDutilh's Corporate / M&A group. His practice focuses on public M&A deals and complex international transactions. He also advises on private acquisitions and sales, joint ventures, restructurings, IPOs, anti-takeover measures and shareholder activism, and general corporate governance issues.

Transactions on which Stefan advised include the public offer of HAL for Boskalis, the take-privates of Accell Group and Altice Europe, ALD's acquisition of LeasePlan, Banijay Group's acquisition of Endemol Shine Group, the privatisation of Eneco, Unibail Rodamco's acquisition of Westfield (including the creation of stapled shares) and Thermo Fisher Scientific's tender offers for Qiagen and Patheon.

In 2016-2017, Stefan gained U.S. work experience as a visiting attorney at Wachtell, Lipton, Rosen & Katz in New York. He was ranked No. 1 in MergerLinks' 2020 list of Top M&A Lawyers in the Netherlands.

Stefan received a BSc from Delft University of Technology, an LLB from Leiden University and an LLM from VU Amsterdam, each with highest honors.



## SHUJI YANASE

ATTORNEY-AT-LAW

YANASE

**Shuji Yanase** is a retired partner of Nagashima Ohno & Tsunematsu, in Tokyo. He is practicing law in his own law office in Tokyo, principally in dispute resolution, M&A and corporate matters.



## FRANNY YAO

RETIRED

**Franny Yao**, now retired, was former partner at Ernst & Young, where she was responsible for key accounts and government relations in China. Franny has been a driving force in bringing E&Y services to major Chinese companies. She played a key role in serving top Chinese financial institutions as lead relationship partner for Industrial and Commercial Bank of China, Bank of China (ICBC), China Life, PingAn Insurance, CNOOC and global client service partner for China Investment Corporation (CIC). She worked on several cross-border M&A transactions and strategic initiatives by major Chinese companies and helped multinational firms seeking growth in China. Her knowledge and decades-long practice of doing business in China enabled her to advise Western business executives to better understand the Chinese market and formulate strategies. After 15 years at EY China working with key Chinese financial institutions at HQs and the local regulators/key stakeholders, Franny returned to EY New York office in 2015. Where she led Chinese Financial Institutions inbound services for EY America Financial Services.

Eighteen years ago, Franny became the first Mainland born partner at E&Y, a leading global professional services firm with 250,000 people and 728 offices in 150 countries around world. She was the first woman partner at EY Beijing office and the inaugural leader of Diversity & Inclusiveness for EY Asia Pacific in 2011. Prior to joining EY, Franny had a diverse working background including at a European bank, with Chinese SOE and a Chinese government agency. Her education is equally broad, including studies at Xi'an Foreign Language University and The Wharton School.

Franny currently serves as senior advisor to Shaanxi Provincial Government, an International Advisory Board Member of the School of Management Xi'an JiaoTong University and a founding director of the International Institute for the Study of Cross-Border Investment and M&A (a joint study institute among Guanghua School of Management of Peking University, the Pollack Center for Law and Business of NYU and Judge Business School of the University of Cambridge).



## DAVID YERMACK

ALBERT FINGERHUT PROFESSOR OF FINANCE  
AND BUSINESS TRANSFORMATION AND  
CHAIR, FINANCE DEPARTMENT

NEW YORK UNIVERSITY STERN SCHOOL OF  
BUSINESS

**David L. Yermack** is the Albert Fingerhut Professor of Finance and Business Transformation at New York University Stern School of Business. He serves as Director of the NYU Pollack Center for Law and Business. Professor Yermack teaches joint MBA - Law School courses in Restructuring Firms & Industries and Bitcoin & Cryptocurrencies, as well as PhD research courses in corporate governance, executive compensation, and distress and restructuring.

Professor Yermack has been with NYU Stern since 1994. His primary research areas include boards of directors, executive compensation, and corporate finance. Professor Yermack has published more than 25 articles in leading academic journals in Finance, Accounting, Economics, and Law. He is a Faculty Research Associate of the National Bureau of Economic Research and has been a Visiting Scholar at the U.S. Federal Reserve Bank.

Professor Yermack received his Bachelor of Arts in Economics (1985), Master of Business Administration (1991), Juris Doctor (1991), Master of Arts in Business Economics (1993), and Doctor of Philosophy in Business Economics (1994) from Harvard University.