

# 2023 INTERNATIONAL CORPORATE COUNSEL COLLEGE SPEAKERS



**Sylvie Gallage-Alwis**

*IADC International Corporate Counsel College Director*

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After 10 years practicing in a major international law firm, Sylvie became one of the founding partners of the Paris office of Signature Litigation and heads its product liability, toxic tort, and class action practice.

She is specialised in all cutting-edge complex disputes linked to products, namely product liability, product safety, toxic tort, mass litigation/class action, regulatory compliance, and environment for a variety of globally recognised manufacturers from industries such as automotive, electronic products, cosmetics, new technologies, steel, energy, food, toys, etc. Sylvie is further known in the French market as a leading toxic tort/mass litigation lawyer. She has been involved in most pro-company case law rendered in asbestos-related cases.

Sylvie is both an Avocat à la Cour in France and a Solicitor in England and Wales. She is described by *Who's Who Legal* as a "dynamic and determined litigator" who is "a firm favourite among clients" as "she always goes the extra mile to support her clients, and is proactive in seeking commercial solutions to disputes" and is "analytical, intelligent, and responsive." Sylvie is ranked as Thought Leader by *Who's Who Legal: Product Liability Defence 2022*, which notes she is "a star in the international world" and "well-connected expert." She is one of the three Leading Individuals for France listed by *The Legal 500* in Product Liability. She has also been awarded the "Best in Product Liability" award at the 2019 LMG Euromoney Europe Women in Business Law Awards and the "Lexology Client Choice" award in 2021.

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**Dr. Döne Yalçın**

*IADC International Corporate Counsel College Director-Elect*  
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Dr. Döne Yalçın is a Partner at CMS Austria and the Managing Partner of CMS Türkiye. She is also the Head of Dispute Resolution at CMS Türkiye.

With more than 18 years of professional experience in environmental law, ESG, regulatory law, corporate transactions, commercial matters, and dispute resolution, she is a highly regarded legal expert. Dr. Yalçın holds the esteemed position of Head of ESG, Sustainability, and Climate Change at CMS, and has been consistently ranked in *Chambers Global* for Corporate/M&A in Türkiye. Additionally, Dr. Yalçın is the International Committee Chair of the International Association of Defense Counsel (IADC).

Her expertise extends to guiding clients through complex ESG-related EU regulations, including the Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM), and providing strategic advisory services for businesses seeking transformative shifts aligned with ESG principles. Further, she advises clients regularly on corporate and commercial disputes.

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**Michele Y. Smith**

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Michele is a partner at MehaffyWeber in its Houston and Beaumont, Texas offices. She is Board Certified in Personal Injury Trial Law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization and an Advocate member of the American Board of Trial Advocates. She has represented clients in complex litigation matters, spanning a wide variety of areas including products and premises liability, pharmaceutical, commercial litigation, and construction defect litigation. In addition, she has represented diverse businesses in sophisticated mass tort causes of action involving numerous chemical substances and exposure. She has also been involved in several high-stakes commercial arbitrations. She has served on her Firm's Management, Marketing, Recruiting, and Compensation Committees and currently chairs the firm's DEIB Committee.

In addition to her inclusion in the *Best Lawyers®* in America lawyer referral publication for multiple years, Michele was recognized by *Best Lawyers* as "Lawyer of the Year" in Beaumont, Texas for Product Liability Litigation – Defendants (2015), Personal Injury Litigation – Defendants (2017), Insurance Law (2017,2023), and Mass Tort Litigation/Class Actions-Defendants (2019). She also has been included in the *Thomson Reuters Texas Super Lawyers* list annually for more than a decade (2005-2023).

Michele is married to fellow IADC member, Mitch Smith. They have been active IADC members since Michele joined the IADC in 2005. Michele serves as the IADC's current President. From 2019-2022, she served on the Board of Directors and was liaison to the CLE, Trial Academy, and Construction Law and Litigation Committees. Previously, she served on the General Convention Committee, the Membership Committee, and the Nominating Committee, and was a Chair of the Civil Justice Response, CLE, and In House and Law Firm Management Committees. She is a proud IADC Trial Academy graduate (1997) and faculty member (2013).

In addition to her work in the IADC, Michele is active in her community, having served on numerous charitable boards including the Lamar University Foundation, The Foundation for Southeast Texas, The Symphony of Southeast

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Texas, and the Shorkey Center which serves children with special needs. Previously, Michele served as president of the Texas Association of Defense Counsel, the Jefferson County Bar Association, and the Jefferson County Young Lawyers' Association. Michele is the recipient of the President's Award from the Texas Association of Defense Counsel (2010) and numerous honors from the Jefferson County Bar Association, including the Cris Quinn Award (2014) and the Kenneth Lewis Professionalism Award (2019). She also received the St. Thomas More Society Award in 2017 from the St. Thomas More Society of Southeast Texas.



**David Badurina**

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David Badurina is the General Counsel of Hyundai Auto Canada Corp. and has been at the company since 2011. David is a member of Hyundai Canada's Executive Team and is responsible for all legal matters at the company, including corporate and commercial matters, litigation, risk management, product liability, advertising, insurance, privacy, cyber security, dealer matters, and human resources, among other responsibilities. Prior to joining Hyundai Canada, David practised at Norton Rose Fulbright Canada as an intellectual property litigator, where he focused on representing clients in pharmaceutical patent litigation. David earned his Bachelor of Science and Master of Science degrees from McMaster University, and his Bachelor of Laws from Osgoode Hall Law School.

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**John M. Beckett**

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John Beckett is General Counsel EMEA & Oceania for Hunter Douglas, a window coverings and architectural products business. He has been an in-house counsel specialising in risk, compliance, and governance and advising boards and other senior stakeholders for more than ten years, having begun his career as an M&A / corporate lawyer at Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer in London where he worked for several years. His in-house roles have been mostly in the manufacturing sector and have been for Mitsubishi Heavy Industries and its EMEA group companies, and ESAB (a global welding and cutting business listed on the NYSE). Before becoming a lawyer, he was an academic specialising in modern Japanese literature, lived in Japan for six years, and speaks fluent Japanese. He has two (fairly small) children and enjoys running and opera.

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## **Hakim Boularbah**

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Hakim Boularbah is Partner at Loyens & Loeff where he heads up the Dispute Resolution Practice of the Brussels office.

He is also Professor of Civil Procedure Law at the Université of Liège. He is the author of numerous books and publications on civil procedure, private international law, and arbitration law.

Hakim is recommended as a leading lawyer in the fields of dispute resolution and arbitration (*Chambers, Legal 500, Best Lawyers*). He is ranked among the best litigators (WWL - Thought Leaders Litigation) and experts in arbitration (WWL - Arbitration) and also regarded as an asset recovery specialist (WWL - Asset Recovery).

Hakim is "excellent at handling all the tricks involved in civil procedures – he impresses judges as he knows the law better than they do." Another source describes him as "efficient and clever" and "incredibly knowledgeable and very good litigator." He "handles his cases extremely well." He is regarded by one source as "the absolute number one for transnational litigation, with a name that resonates beyond borders." "Hakim is a renowned litigator with significant experience acting for clients on domestic and international disputes. He represents clients from the technology, retail, and insurance sectors in class actions and administrative proceedings. One client enthuses that Boularbah is "the best lawyer I've ever met," adding: "He is fully reliable - when he gives you an opinion, you can be sure this is a bulletproof opinion." Another source notes that Boularbah is "absolutely excellent at dispute resolution." (*Chambers - Band 1*).

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**Brittany Boykin**

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Originally from South Carolina USA, Brittany is a graduate of the College of Charleston and the Charleston School of Law. Prior to moving to London she focused on insurance litigation at the firm Turner Padgett in Charleston, South Carolina. Brittany joined Brit Insurance, a Managing Agent of Lloyd's of London, in 2016 to work with the Claims and Underwriting departments as in-house counsel. In 2021 she became the head of the Legal - Claims & Underwriting team. She focuses on contentious disputes and emerging regulation of the financial service of underwriting and insuring risk. She is a member of Brit's Leadership Team and serves on the Inclusion & Diversity Committee and the ESG Committee. From a market perspective she serves on the LMA Claims Steering Committee for COVID-19 and Inclusion @Lloyd's D&I Board.

Brittany has a keen interest in emerging issues impacting the financial services sector, specifically the impact of environmental, social, and governance issues facing specialist property casualty insurers. Brittany has been an IADC member since 2018 and currently serves on the International Committee. She is also active in the American Bar Association and a member of CHIEF.

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**Jean-Daniel Bretzner**

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Jean-Daniel Bretzner, Partner at Bredin Prat, is a member of the firm’s litigation team. He represents companies and their senior executives in civil, commercial, and criminal proceedings.

Jean-Daniel Bretzner has written numerous articles for legal journals on subjects such as contract law, evidence law, procedural law, and economic law. He has created an annual column on evidence law which appears in the *Recueil Dalloz*. He has recently contributed to several books (“Réforme du droit des contrats et pratique des affaires”, published in 2015 by Dalloz; “L’émergence d’un droit des plateformes,” published in 2021 by Dalloz Editions). He was a member of the Commission set up by Mrs. Arens, President of the Cour de cassation, which wrote a report entitled “La réforme du droit français de la responsabilité civile et les relations économiques.” He was also a member of the “Commission de réforme du droit des contrats spéciaux,” set up the Ministère de la Justice and headed by Mr. Professor Stoffel-Munck.



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**Megan F. Cesare**

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Megan Cesare is the Associate General Counsel for Airbnb where she leads an international team responsible for all company litigation in Europe, the Middle East, and Africa. Prior to this role she managed Airbnb's litigation function for North America.

Meg started her career at K&L Gates LLP in San Francisco litigating complex matters for Fortune 500 and other clients, including as trial counsel through verdict. She then spent several years as a prosecutor for the City of San Francisco, focusing on consumer protection violations. Meg received her undergraduate degree from the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) and her law degree from University of California College of Law, San Francisco where she earned a specialization in criminal law and was elected President of her graduating class. Meg served on the UC Law Board of Governors from 2011-2015. She lives in London with her partner, two children, and sheepadoodle puppy.

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**Olivier Chaduteau**

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Olivier is a partner and the Global lead for the “Legal Department Consulting” practice which deals with legal, compliance, and tax transformation at PwC.

Before joining PwC in 2022, Olivier created 20 years ago Day One, an independent and international consulting firm specializing in organization, transformation, and digitalization of corporate functions, (compliance, legal, IP, tax...) and professional service firms (audit, consulting, law).

Before creating Day One, Olivier worked with Arthur Andersen as a Director of Marketing and Development, and he developed the marketing and business development function at Ernst & Young. He is currently a Member of the Board at Camus Holding and has been auditioned by Haeri Commission (2017), Darrois Commission (2008), and Attali Commission (2007).

Olivier is an Associated Professor at University of Paris II-Panthéon-Assas on Legal transformation and digital economy. He is also a Lecturer at SciencesPo Law School on Legal Project Management and Legal Digital Transformation, at the “General Counsel” Executive Master. Among his various published works are the books “The Legal department of the Future” for Lextenso editions (March 2014).

Olivier received a PhD in Economics at Paris II-Panthéon-Assas on “The impact of digital innovation on the transformation of the legal market and corporate legal function” in 2020. Olivier holds a Master of Arts from the University of Paris La Sorbonne and a Master of Arts from California State University at San Jose, and he has completed an Executive Program on Leading Professional Service Firms at Harvard Business School.

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**Pierre Chalançon**

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Pierre Chalançon is vice president regulatory affairs for Vorwerk SE & Co KG, a leading home appliance manufacturer. He leads the regulatory affairs organization, as well as the Vorwerk government affairs & public policy team in Brussels, where he represents the Group towards the EU institutions and stakeholders. Pierre has been in European home appliance regulatory affairs for 20 years. His areas of expertise include product safety and liability, sustainability, and consumer protection.

**Heather C. Devine**

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As Chief Legal Officer, Heather is a trusted advisor to the principals, directors, and shareholders of TRAFFIX and its group of companies which provide all aspects of transportation services including leading transportation management solutions and technology. Recently, Heather restructured the TRAFFIX Group to capitalize on various international tax and economic advantages, and she is an action-oriented executive who drives meaningful initiatives that create success. Prior to becoming the company's CLO, Heather created and led the Bay Street office for an international law firm, and she commenced her career as equity partner with one of the top seven international law firms in Canada gaining recognition in both *L'Expert* and *Best Lawyers*.

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**Arnaud Douville**

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After studying international business law in France, the UK, and USA, Arnaud began his career in the aerospace and defence sector for a bit less than a decade, before joining a world leader in environmental services. In the wake of a leveraged buyout, he was then asked to take over the legal, compliance, risks and insurance management of a group of companies providing services to the oil and gas industry before joining an equipment manufacturer in the energy sector. He now works for Bureau Veritas as Group Deputy General Counsel in charge of legal affairs, compliance, risks, and internal audit. He is responsible for the group's compliance programme.

Arnaud is co-head of Legal Managers commission of AFJE, the French in-house counsel society.



**Gaëlle Filhol**

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Gaëlle advises and represents clients in international commercial disputes, in particular in pre-arbitration and arbitration proceedings, negotiations, and dispute adjudication. She also has experience of international disputes relating to post-M&A transactions and information and high technologies. Gaëlle acts regularly as an arbitrator.

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**Bruno Fontaine**

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Bruno Fontaine was appointed General Counsel of Crédit Agricole CIB in June 2009.

In April 2004 he became the Group's General Counsel for Asia Pacific and Head of the Hong Kong legal department.

In July 1999, he was appointed Head of the Legal department Crédit Lyonnais International Business department and then in 2001 General Counsel and Compliance Officer for Asia Pacific based in Hong Kong.

From 1991 to 1999, he was at Credit Lyonnais Head Office in Paris and then in the UK where he was a Legal Adviser for five years.

From 1988 to 1990, he was a legal adviser at several law firms in France before joining Caisse des Dépôts et Consignations.

Bruno Fontaine has a DESS/DJCE degree from the Montpellier law school and a Master of Law (LLM) from the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE) from the University of London.

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**Heidi B. Friedman**

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Heidi B. (Goldstein) Friedman is a partner in Thompson Hine’s Environmental and Product Liability Litigation practice groups and co-chair of the firm’s ESG Collaborative. She focuses her practice on environmental, health, and safety counseling in business, regulatory, and legislative matters; environmental and toxic tort litigation; environmental enforcement actions; site remediation; product stewardship; and compliance with environmental regulations. Friedman serves as national environmental counsel for many large corporations, including Fortune 500 companies, often providing legal support utilizing flexible staffing and value-based pricing.

Friedman is co-chair of the ESG Collaborative, Thompson Hine’s multidisciplinary team that was created to assist clients as ESG factors have become increasingly important priorities for their investors, customers, employees, and other stakeholders. In this role, she partners with clients to meet their evolving ESG needs and objectives and provides guidance on developing or expanding sustainability, diversity, and social stewardship strategies. Friedman believes that counsel can play a valuable role in serving as strategic, trusted advisors who holistically evaluate the risks and opportunities presented by all categories of the “E,” “S,” and “G.”

Friedman has been interviewed by and published in multiple outlets on ESG topics, including *Law360*, *Bloomberg Law*, *Of Counsel*, *Corporate Counsel*, and *The AmLaw Litigation Daily*.

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**Sabrina Gilman**

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As General Counsel, Europe at Emerson--a global leader in technology and automation--Sabrina leads a large team of legal professionals across Europe, providing strategic guidance and support on all legal matters affecting Emerson's operations and growth in the region. Sabrina brings to her role diverse and expansive in-house legal experience, with a strong focus on commercial contracts, corporate governance, M&A, regulatory compliance, and employment law.

Sabrina aims to be a trusted business advisor and a diversity and inclusion leader, leveraging legal expertise, business acumen, and communication skills to mitigate risk, deliver value, and create impact. She has a proven track record of advising senior leadership around the world on complex and cross-border transactions, disputes, compliance, and governance issues, as well as negotiating and drafting contracts with key customers, suppliers, and partners. Having served in legal leadership roles across multiple world areas and business groups, Sabrina champions Emerson's culture of innovation, collaboration, and inclusion, fostering a positive and engaging work environment for her team and the broader organization.

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**Zabrina Jenkins**

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Zabrina Jenkins is an executive advisor to the office of the Chief Executive Officer for Starbucks Coffee Company and the former acting general counsel and executive vice president. Additionally, Zabrina is an executive champion of the Starbucks Black Partner Network and an advisor to the diversity committee for the Law & Corporate Affairs department. A Starbucks partner since 2005, Zabrina previously held roles as the general counsel to the COO, interim chief ethics and compliance officer, lead legal advisor for Teavana, and was a core member of the Starbucks 2018 Philadelphia incident crisis management response team.

Prior to joining Starbucks, Zabrina was an associate at the law firm of Garvey Schubert Barer in Seattle. During her tenure with the firm, Zabrina focused her practice on commercial litigation matters, including labor and employment law.

Zabrina is an independent board director for Retail Opportunity Investments Corp. (NASDAQ: ROIC). Appointed by Washington State Governor Jay Inslee in 2019, she is a Trustee for Central Washington University. She also serves on the advisory boards of the Washington Leadership Institute and the Loren Miller Bar Foundation. Zabrina previously served on the Board of Directors for Artist Trust and CWU Foundation, and on the advisory board of the Central Washington University College of Business.

Zabrina received her Bachelor of Science degree in business administration from CWU, Master of Science degree from Syracuse University School of Education and Juris Doctor *cum laude* from Syracuse University. She is a member of the International Women's Forum 2019-2020 Fellows Program.



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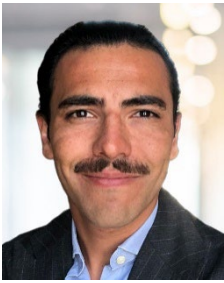
**Alexandra Kerjean**

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Alexandra Kerjean is Lead Counsel at Airbnb, focusing on EMEA litigation. She has been working in Airbnb's legal team since 2019, where her scope evolved from French regulatory/litigation matters to EMEA litigation. Previously, she specialised in international arbitration at Quinn Emanuel in Paris. She is a graduate of Sciences po, Sorbonne and Harvard Law School.



**Kevin L'Heveder**

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Kevin L'Heveder, currently serving as Associate General Counsel, EMEA at Vertiv, began his professional journey in the pharmaceutical sector at Pierre Fabre. Over the years, he has embarked on a diverse career path, holding positions in companies such as Segula Technologies in engineering and Uniper in the energy sector. Kevin's multi-industry sector has been instrumental in shaping his holistic approach to legal practice. With a background that includes dual degrees in law and business administration, he combines legal acumen with a deep understanding of industry intricacies. Kevin is focused on enhancing legal operations and delivering practical solutions.

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**Timothy J. LaTulippe**

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Tim LaTulippe is a London based data forensic expert and a Director with iDiscovery Solutions' European arm. He has assisted in complex investigations in both the public and private sectors in the U.S. and Europe, working with government agencies, Fortune 100 corporations, and AM Law 100 firms to provide complete collection, correct analysis of incidents and issues, and specialises in complex investigations, data privacy, risk identification, and information security. He also provides expert evidence in a variety of venues and jurisdictions in the areas of electronic evidence.

Tim has worked very closely for many years with corporate counsel and external lawyers supporting investigative matters and identifying risk in electronic data and assisting clients create bespoke workflows to hit investigative milestones.

Tim is a consortium member of several forensics organisations and continually speaks and writes on matters relating to electronic investigations.

He is also a Board Member of the Digital Forensics Certification Board (DFCB) and is their Chair of the International Liaison Committee. Tim relies on thirteen years' experience in data investigations to assist clients worldwide.

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Svenia Roggenkamp is the Group General Counsel for Hilti AG, a global provider of tools, services, and software for the construction industry, headquartered in Liechtenstein. She leads the global legal, compliance, and HSE function. Prior to joining Hilti AG, Svenia was Vice President and General Counsel for EMEA and India as well as global legal entity management at Honeywell. At Honeywell, Svenia was part of the global Diversity and Inclusion Steering Committee, representing the EMEA region, leading the EMEA Diversity and Inclusion Council. Svenia is a German qualified lawyer with a French Law degree and lived in the UK, France, Germany, the Netherlands, and now Liechtenstein.



**Steven Rosenhek**

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Steven is a senior litigation partner at Fasken in Toronto. He is a seasoned trial lawyer who has an excellent reputation for handling complex commercial litigation and defending multi-jurisdictional class actions and regulatory matters. His clients consider him a trusted legal advisor who is a strategic thinker as well as a first-class, results-oriented advocate. He has experience before all levels of Court in Canada, and a wide range of regulatory and administrative tribunals. His litigation skills are recognized by *Lexpert Canada*, *Benchmark Canada*, *Who's Who Legal*, and the *Legal 500*. In 2010, he received the OBA Award for Distinguished Service, recognizing exceptional career contributions and achievements by an OBA member to the legal profession, jurisprudence, and the residents of Ontario.

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**James C. Sinclair**

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James is Director of Human Rights within the Sustainable Procurement and Human Rights team at Verisk Maplecroft.

He is an English lawyer and commercial advisor with more than 20 years of experience, 15 of which have been in relation to sustainable business practices and international human rights law.

James began his career as a barrister in London and then developed an international litigation practice in Jersey. In 2006 he co-founded a UN award winning organization that has led the development of the 'fair labour' method in South Asia, the Middle East, and East Africa. He has been at the forefront of the responsible business agenda since 2007 and has worked with and advised governments, companies, NGOs, and industry groups on evolving BHR laws, norms, and practices.

In addition to his legal qualifications and experience, James holds degrees in philosophy, politics, economics, international relations, and a PhD in international human rights law and political economy from King's College London. He has published research and thought leadership on responsible business practices in several peer reviewed journals and books.

James specializes in creating clarity from complexity and has a keen understanding of the way in which corporate accountability and human rights laws and practices are developing around the world.

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**Edward Turtle**

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Ed Turtle is a products lawyer with deep experience of product liability, consumer law, and compliance matters in the technology, life sciences, and consumer product sectors. Ed helps clients develop, launch, and market innovative products. He's sought out for his detailed knowledge of product safety, compliance, and liability issues, his technical acumen, and his practical approach. Ed has a particular interest in new technologies, including AI, AR/VR, wearables, health technology, and digital platforms. He is deeply involved in policy and standards development, and supports clients with understanding how future regulation will affect their businesses.

Ed is experienced at dealing with regulatory authorities and handling product crises, including investigations and global recalls. As a litigator, he has more than a decade of experience of class actions and product liability mass claims. He acted on one of the key European product liability class actions in recent years, and has advised on multi-jurisdictional claims in Europe, North America, Asia, Africa, and Australasia. Ed is a well-known thought leader in the product liability and class actions space and has been featured by publications including the *Wall Street Journal*, the *Financial Times*, and *Bloomberg*. Ed joined Cooley in early 2018, after six years at Freshfields. He has spent time on secondment in Germany, and at a major US technology company.

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**Gregory Williams**

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Greg Williams is a highly regarded lawyer who specialises in class actions, product liability litigation, and products regulatory advice, particularly in the life sciences sector. His impressive track record of success in some of the most high-profile cases across diverse industries including automotive, pharmaceutical, medical device, and banking sectors has earned him a reputation as a skilled and accomplished practitioner. He is known for his considered strategic litigation advice and his ability to align litigation strategy with his clients' commercial objectives. He is also known for his professionalism, integrity, and dedication to his clients' interests. Greg is also the current National Practice Group Leader of the Clayton Utz Commercial Litigation practice group.