



31 JANUARY
2025

A collection of blue line-art icons representing business and technology, including a laptop with a bar chart, a smartphone, a briefcase with a gear, a globe, a question mark, and a city skyline. These icons are set against a background of a wireframe cityscape and a blue wavy graphic.

FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT

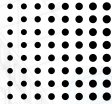
The **EUFDI Association** is proud to present the official program for our first Conference

Hosted at **Fondation Universitaire**  11 rue d'Egmont, 1000, Brussels

More Information at  www.eufdi.org

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Conference

Outline of sessions

Thursday Program – Evening

07:00pm

Opening dinner

Friday Program – Morning

09:00am

Opening Remarks and welcome

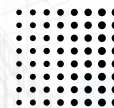
- | | |
|-------------------------|--|
| Christine Graham | Cooley, London |
| Oliver Bretz | Euclid Law, Brussels |
| Henri Savoie | Darrois Villey Maillot Brochier, Paris |
| Pedro Callol | Callol, Coca & Asociados, Madrid |

Conference

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Friday Program – Morning

09:15am

Overview of current geopolitical landscape and implications for EU FDI regimes

The current geopolitical tensions and challenging economic circumstances have led to increased scrutiny of foreign investments by national FDI authorities seeking to protect their national interests. This has resulted in a proliferation of FDI regimes. In this session, we explore what is driving these tensions and the immediate impact on FDI regimes globally and across the EU.

Moderator: **Oliver Bretz**

Euclid Law, Brussels

Panelists: **Alan Mak MP**

UK Shadow Secretary of State for Science, Innovation and Technology, formerly UK Parliamentary Under Secretary of State, based across the Department for Business and Trade and Cabinet Office, with responsibility for economic security, industry and the Investment Security Unit"

Prof Alan Riley

Senior Fellow, Atlantic Council, Professor, College of Europe, Natolin, lecturing on EU Economic Security

Andrea Zulli

Euclid Law, Brussels

Olena Tergub

Executive Director and Secretary General at the Ukrainian Independent Anti-Corruption Committee (NAKO)

10:15am

Fireside chat with Damien Levie, Head of Unit Technology and Security, FDI Screening, DG Trade at European Commission

Interviewed by: **Nicole Kar**

Paul Weiss, London

Pedro Callol

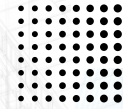
Callol, Coca & Asociados, Madrid

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Friday Program – Morning

11:00am

Coffee Break

11:15am

Overview of the process across EU countries: old regimes, newly implemented regimes, perspectives

There is a trend towards the introduction of FDI screening schemes in all Member States. To date, 23 out of 27 Member States have adopted an FDI screening regime, with new regimes having recently entered into force, while the remaining Member States are in the process of adopting such a regime. The next step within the EU will involve revising the European cooperation mechanism, as recently proposed by the European Commission. This session shall be the opportunity to receive first feedback regarding newly implemented regimes and to discuss about the practical aspects of the recent EU proposal.

Moderator: **Austria**

Guenter Bauer

Wolf Theiss,
Vienna

Panelists: **Sweden**

Anders Leissner

Vinge,
Göteborg

France

Julie Catala Marty

BCLP,
Paris

UK

Mark Gardner

Kirkland & Ellis,
London

Germany

Paul Drössler

Rocan,
Frankfurt

The Netherlands

Tim Raats

Karen Brants,
Amsterdam

12:30pm

Networking lunch

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Friday Program – Afternoon

01:45pm

Emerging sectors, sectors in scope, trends across the EU

Gone are the days when national security concerns were focused solely on defence and critical infrastructure. Nations across the world are responding to the new challenges to their national security emanating from critical technologies such as AI and advanced materials, as well as critical inputs such as access to personal data. Some countries even tend to apply a broad definition of sensitive sectors that goes beyond the scope of public security. Indeed, some transactions are called into the scope of the FDI regime for “political” reasons arising from sovereignty issues (i.e. the Carrefour/Couche-Tard blocked in France transaction; Servier/Biogarant aborted transaction; Sanofi/CD&R successful transaction; the approach adopted by certain countries such as Hungary). What are the emerging technologies under review across the EU? What can we expect in the year ahead?

Moderator: **Sven de Knop**

Sidley, Austin, Brussels

Panelists: **Josh Buckland**

Simpson Thatcher, Brussels

Creve Bart

Kromann Reumert, Copenhagen

Henri Savoie

Darrois Villey Maillot Brochier, Paris

Robert Neruda

Havel Partners, Prague

02:45pm

Commitments requested: various type of commitments, different practices

Clearance decisions under FDI procedures are increasingly being granted subject to commitments to ensure public order and security. However, in some jurisdictions a growing trend has emerged towards side commitments that can be negotiated in parallel with the formal FDI procedure (for example, through the use of golden shares). During this session, we will compare and discuss the different types of commitments and the conditions under which they are negotiated in each country.

Moderator: **James Marshall**

Covington, London

Panelists: **Marc Wiggers**

Loyens Loeff, Amsterdam

Sebastian Janka

Luther, Munich

Vito Auricchio

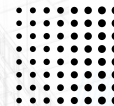
Legance, Rome

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Friday Program – Afternoon

03:45pm

Coffee Break

04:00pm

Outbound investment control – what to expect?

An emerging trend is the focus on outbound investments in order to ensure that sensitive technology is not in the hands of hostile actors. Similar projects are in the pipeline in the US and the EU, both of which are considering the possibility of controlling outbound investments. EU governments, for example, are expected to review transactions in four key technology areas – semiconductors, artificial intelligence, quantum and biotechnologies – that have been completed since Jan. 1, 2019. The United States is also considering various options to regulate outbound investments and issued draft regulations that would prohibit certain outbound investments into China that involve semiconductors and microelectronics, quantum computing, and artificial intelligence. What will be the impact of these new regimes on companies and investors in these areas? Is a new control mechanism required or can we simply expand the current export control rules?

Moderator: **Vincent Power**

A&L Goodbody, Dublin

Panelists: **Alastair Mordaunt**

Freshfields, London

Bruno Lebrun

Janson, Brussels

Dillon Martinson

Cooley, Washington D.C.

05:00pm

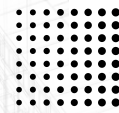
Wrap up – closing remarks followed by drinks and walking dinner in the Salon



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EUFDI

The European Foreign Direct Investment Association (EUFDI) is a non-profit organisation dedicated to connecting FDI lawyers throughout Europe on matters related to FDI and national security. Through our annual event, FDI practitioners will have the opportunity to share experiences and discuss the latest developments in an open and relaxed forum, as well as meet old friends and make new connections

Follow us on [LinkedIn](#) and find all our information on future events on our [website](#).

Note:

Please be advised that video and photo recordings may be taken during this event. These recordings may be used by the EUFDI for illustration and promotional purposes related to the EUFDI.

