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INTERNATIONAL BAR ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE 2026

A conference presented by the IBA Corporate and M&A Law Committee

# 23rd Annual International Mergers and Acquisitions Conference

3–4 June 2026, The Plaza Hotel, New York, USA

## Working programme

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Adam Emmerich *Wachtell Lipton Rosen & Katz, New York; Member, Law Firm Management Committee Advisory Board*

Mark Pflug *Simpson Thacher & Bartlett, New York*

## Wednesday 3 June

All working sessions will take place in the Grand Ballroom

0715 – 1715 **Registration**

*Grand Ballroom foyer*

0845 – 0900 **Welcome by Conference Co-Chairs and IBA**

Daniel Del Río *SMPS, Mexico City; Chair, Legal Practice Division, International Bar Association*

Claudio Visco *Lipani Legal & Tax, Rome; President, International Bar Association*

Adam Emmerich *Wachtell Lipton Rosen & Katz, New York; Member, IBA Law Firm Management Committee Advisory Board*

Mark Pflug *Simpson Thacher & Bartlett, New York*

0900 – 1000 **A business overview of the worldwide M&A marketplace**

A prominent investment banker provides an insider's view of the financial, economic and business factors affecting the M&A market.

*Speaker*

Eduardo Mestre *Chairman, Investment Banking, Evercore, New York*

*Moderator*

Adam Emmerich *Wachtell Lipton Rosen & Katz, New York; Member, IBA Law Firm Management Committee Advisory Board*

*Reporter Commentators*

Maureen Farrell *New York Times, New York*

Sujeet Indap *Financial Times, New York / London*

Cara Lombardo *The Wall Street Journal, New York*

1000 – 1030 **Coffee/tea break**

*Grand Ballroom and Centennial foyers*

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# Wednesday continued

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1030 – 1130 **Global M&A hot topics; public and private companies, evolving rules of the road**

The panellists will discuss recent M&A developments and hot topics arising around the world.

*Moderators*

**Oliver Smith** *Davis Polk & Wardwell, New York*

**Sally Wokes** *Slaughter and May, London; Assistant Webinar and Podcast Officer, IBA Corporate and M&A Law Committee*

*Speakers*

**Jan Balssen** *Gleiss Lutz, Frankfurt*

**Akshay Chudasama** *Shardul Amarchand Mangaldas, Mumbai, Maharashtra*

**Olivier Diaz** *Darros Villey Maillot Brochier, Paris*

**Daniel Hasler** *Homburger, Zurich*

**Amanda Linett** *Stikeman Elliott, Toronto, Ontario*

1130 – 1245 **Private equity today; fund-raising and transacting**

The panel will focus on legal issues and developments in private equity dealmaking.

*Moderators*

**Michael Chao** *Simpson Thacher & Bartlett, New York*

**Gabriella Covino** *Gianni & Origoni, Rome; Senior Vice Chair, IBA Corporate and M&A Law Committee*

*Speakers*

**Anthony Boogert** *Mallesons, Sydney, New South Wales; Conference Coordinator Asia Pacific, IBA Corporate and M&A Law Committee*

**Youssef Djehane** *BDGS, Paris*

**Arne Grimme** *De Brauw Blackstone Westbroek, Amsterdam*

**Andreas Hoger** *Hengeler Mueller, Frankfurt*

**Miguel Tornovsky** *Pinheiro Neto, São Paulo; Webinar and Podcast Officer, IBA Corporate and M&A Law Committee*

1245 – 1345 **Lunch**

*Terrace Room and Foyer / Centennial Room*

1345 – 1430 **Keynote address**

*Grand Ballroom*

*Keynote Speaker*

**Tanguy Catlin** *Senior Partner and Director, McKinsey Global Institute, McKinsey & Company, Boston, Massachusetts*

*Moderator*

**Mark Pflug** *Simpson Thacher & Bartlett, New York*

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# Wednesday continued

## 1430 – 1530 **Technology M&A – and the technology of M&A**

Technology transactions, and technology itself, have been a huge factor in global M&A and corporate law and governance over the last few years. This panel will discuss technology M&A broadly, including the latest deals, complications and lessons learned, the impact of macro trends on tech M&A and the impact of technology in M&A, including cybersecurity, privacy and foreign investment reviews of technology transactions.

### *Moderators*

**Geoff Moore** *Arthur Cox, Dublin*

**Krishna Veeraraghavan** *Paul Weiss Rifkind Wharton & Garrison, New York*

### *Speakers*

**Ting Chen** *Cravath Swaine & Moore, New York*

**Rajat Mukherjee** *Khaitan, Delhi*

**Tim Redman** *Macfarlanes, London*

**Adina Shapiro** *Meitar, Tel Aviv; Communications Officer, IBA Corporate and M&A Law Committee*

**Nobuhiko Suzuki** *Mori Hamada & Matsumoto, New York*

## 1530 – 1600 **Coffee/tea break**

*Grand Ballroom & Centennial foyers*

## 1600 – 1715 **Governance, stewardship and activism**

Panellists will discuss trends including the role and perspectives of institutional investors, shareholder activism, ESG and stakeholderism, and the headwinds and tailwinds for sustainability and long-term investment, both in the US and globally.

### *Moderators*

**Sergio González Galán** *Garrigues, Madrid; Conference Coordinator South America, IBA Corporate and M&A Law Committee*

**Nanette Heide** *Troutman Pepper Locke, New York; Scholarship Officer, IBA Corporate and M&A Law Committee*

### *Speakers*

**Arthur Crozier** *Executive Chair, Innisfree M&A, New York*

**Scott Grinsell** *Global Co-Head of Engagement, Elliott Management, New York*

**Franziska Ruf** *Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg, Montréal, Quebec*

**Lieke van der Velden** *NautaDutilh, Amsterdam*

**Akihisa Yamamoto** *Nishimura & Asahi, Tokyo*

### *Commentator*

**Avi Mehrotra** *Global Head of the Activism and Shareholder Advisory & Takeover Practice, Goldman Sachs, New York*

## 1800 **Drinks reception**

*Central Park Boat House, Central Park, East 72nd Street, New York*

All delegates and speakers are welcome to attend. Return coach shuttles will commence at 1745 from the Plaza Hotel to the Boat House. The last coach will depart from the Boathouse at 2015.

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### Conference refreshment break sponsor

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All working sessions will take place in the Grand Ballroom

- 0830 – 1245 **Registration**  
*Grand Ballroom Foyer*
- 0855 – 0900 **IBA Corporate and M&A Law Committee address**  
Dovile Burgiene *WALLESS, Vilnius; Co-Chair, IBA Corporate and M&A Law Committee*  
Bertrand Cardi *Darros Villey Maillot Brochier, Paris; Co-Chair, IBA Corporate and M&A Law Committee*
- 0900 – 1015 **Dispute resolution; litigation, arbitration and contractual frameworks**  
A discussion of the evolving landscape of contractual dispute resolution and recent developments globally.  
*Moderator*  
Leo Strine *Michael L Wachter Distinguished Fellow in Law and Policy at the University of Pennsylvania Carey Law School; Formerly Chief Justice, Delaware Supreme Court and Chancellor, Delaware Court of Chancery, Wilmington, Delaware*  
*Speakers*  
Luis Felipe Ferrari Bedendi *Judge, State Court of São Paulo (1st Business Chamber), São Paulo*  
Willem Visser *Court Registrar and Senior Law Clerk, Netherlands Commercial Court, Amsterdam*  
Hon Lori Will *Vice Chancellor, Delaware Court of Chancery, Wilmington, Delaware*  
*Practitioner Commentator*  
Ezra Davids *Bowmans, Johannesburg; Co-Vice Chair, Corporate Membership Subcommittee, IBA Corporate and M&A Law Committee*
- 1015 – 1045 **Coffee/tea break**  
*Grand Ballroom and Centennial foyers*
- 1045 – 1145 **Geopolitics, competition policy and M&A**  
The panellists will discuss significant antitrust/competition enforcement actions in the M&A context, developments in enforcement policy, and foreign direct investment and national security regimes around the world.  
*Moderators*  
Ilene K Gotts *Wachtell Lipton Rosen & Katz, New York; Member, IBA Antitrust Section Advisory Board*  
Alejandra Palacios *Cuatrecasas, Mexico City*  
*Speakers*  
Omeed Assefi *Acting Assistant Attorney General, Antitrust Division, Department of Justice, Washington, DC*  
John Fingleton *Former Chief Executive Officer, Office of Fair Trading, London*  
Michael Hertzberg *Deputy Director, Policy and International Relations, Office of Investment Security, US Department of the Treasury, Washington, DC*  
Andrea Marván Saltiel *Chair Commissioner, Mexico's National Antitrust Commission (CNA), Mexico City*
- 1145 – 1245 **The in-house perspective**  
In-house counsel from important firms and institutions share their perspective on the most pressing issues they face, how they partner with outside counsel to resolve them and how they future-proof themselves.  
*Moderators*  
Valentina Cassata *General Counsel, Standard Industries, New York*  
Susan Meisel *Executive Vice President, Corporate Deputy General Counsel, Head of Global M&A and Strategic Investments, Sony Music Entertainment, New York; Secretary, Private Equity Subcommittee, IBA Corporate and M&A Law Committee*  
*Speakers*  
Alan Cardenas *General Counsel, Coursera, Mountain View, California*  
Yuto Matsumara *Chief Legal Officer, Hitachi, Tokyo*  
Kaori Terauchi *Senior Vice President, General Counsel, Chief Compliance Officer, General Manager, Legal & Compliance Division, ITOCHU International, New York*  
*Commentator*  
Gisèle Rosselle *Strelia, Brussels; Member, IBA Corporate and M&A Law Committee*

The IBA, its officers and staff accept no responsibility for any views expressed, presentations or materials produced by delegates or speakers at the Conference.

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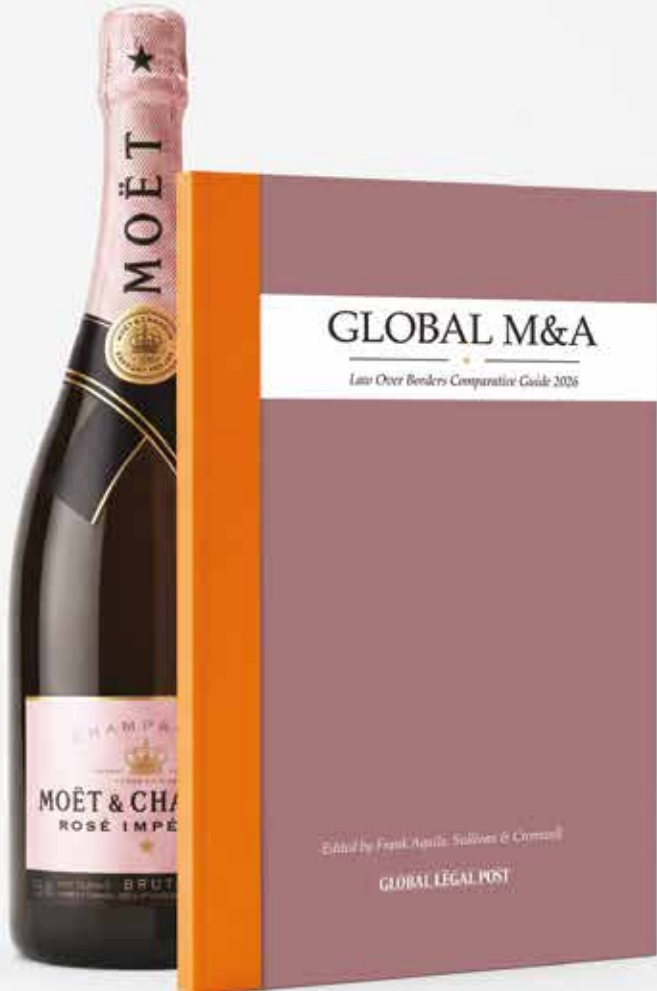
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