

EMTA SEMINAR: Russia: Recent Geopolitical and Sanctions Developments

June 4, 2025

~~~~~

### **SAMUEL CHANG (MODERATOR)** **Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton LLC**

Sam Chang is a trade sanctions and foreign investment partner based in the Washington, DC office of Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton LLP. Sam's practice focuses on cross-border regulatory compliance and enforcement matters, including those relating to economic sanctions, export controls, CFIUS, and global foreign direct investment.

He has represented leading companies, sovereign and state-owned entities, and individuals in high-stakes transactions and complex regulatory and enforcement matters before OFAC, CFIUS, the Bureau of Industry and Security, the U.S. Departments of Justice and State, and other regulators, as well as sensitive internal investigations. His practice spans various industries in all stages of the corporate life cycle, including matters with strategic advisory, compliance, transactional, enforcement, and remediation considerations.

Sam previously clerked for Judge Hisashi Owada at the International Court of Justice and Judge Harris L Hartz at the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit, and has earned recognitions from Chambers Global, Chambers USA, and The Legal 500 for International Trade.

### **KEN RIVLIN** **A&O Shearman**

Ken is Global Co-Head of the Environment, Climate, and Regulatory Law Group and Global Co-Head of the International Trade Group at A&O Shearman in New York. He is also an elected member of the Firm's Board. Ken advises corporates, financial institutions, funds, governments, and NGOs on a wide range of regulatory and risk issues in transactions, stand-alone compliance matters, and disputes, including sustainability and ESG, climate risk, emissions trading and decarbonization, corporate reporting and disclosure, governance and risk management, the Equator Principles and similar voluntary standards, supply chain sustainability, toxic tort risk, and human rights. Ken and his team also advise on U.S. and international economic sanctions, foreign direct investment rules (CFIUS), anti-corruption and anti-bribery compliance, and similar matters.

Ken is a Lecturer-in-Law at Columbia University School of Law, where he co-teaches a seminar called "Environmental and ESG Concerns in Business Transactions and Corporate Decision-making." He is the former Chair of the Advisory Council for the Institute at Brown (University) for Environment and Society, Member (and former President) of the Board of Trustees for the Human Needs Food Pantry, Former Chair of the New York City Bar Committee on International Environmental Law, a member of the Leadership Council for the Environmental Law Institute, and has served on numerous additional boards.

**CLIFF KUPCHAN**  
**Eurasia Group**

Cliff Kupchan is Eurasia Group's chairman and a leader of the firm's global macro coverage. Cliff has held high-level positions in the US government and regularly meets top foreign leaders. He provides cutting-edge insights on political risk. Cliff has been a leading expert on international relations for more than two decades—in academia, as a US official, and in the private sector—and he speaks frequently to private and public sector audiences. He regularly briefs clients on macro developments and is co-author of Eurasia Group's annual Top Risks publication.

Cliff currently focuses on the war in Ukraine, US-China relations, and leading trends in international relations. Throughout his career, he has specialized in Russian affairs and US foreign policy, and Cliff remains very involved in those topics. He often appears on major TV networks and is frequently quoted in the world's leading newspapers. He has published extensively in academic journals and frequently authors op-eds.

Before joining Eurasia Group, Cliff held a senior position at the US State Department during the Clinton administration. He previously worked for the House International Relations Committee of the US Congress, where he served as the top foreign policy adviser on Russia, global foreign assistance, and North Africa. He was also staff director of the Subcommittee on Africa. More recently, Cliff was vice president at The Center for the National Interest. He spent two years in Moscow, where he ran a large foundation.

Cliff, who is fluent in Russian, received a master's degree from Stanford University and a bachelor's degree from Brown University. An avid swimmer, he has gone for long swims in the North Sea, the Baltic Sea, and many Russian lakes.

**NICHOLAS CARTIER**  
**OFAC Office of Chief Counsel**

Nicholas Cartier has worked as an Attorney Advisor at the Department of Treasury's Office of Chief Counsel at the Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) since March 2021.

Prior to that, he worked for many years as a litigator at the Federal Programs Branch in the Civil Division at the Department of Justice defending against challenges to numerous agency regulations and programs.

Earlier in his career, he clerked for Rosemary Barkett of the United States Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit and worked for several years at Covington & Burling on internal investigations and litigation. During his time at Treasury, Mr. Cartier has advised on sanctions related to Russia and Ukraine, Counterterrorism and Transnational Criminal Organizations, and terrorism-related litigation.

**DAVID SALIE**  
**U.S. Department of State, Office of the Legal Adviser**

David received his undergraduate and graduate degrees from Georgetown University in international relations and economics and worked as an educator and consultant during most of the tumultuous 1990s in eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union as they strove to move away from centrally planned economies.

Having witnessed firsthand the obstacles to societal change faced by countries attempting to liberalize without the benefit of a culture and history of respect for the rule of law, David was inspired to

pursue a career in international law. David attended Stanford Law School in Silicon Valley in the late 1990s—during the boom-boom years of the dotcom era—and began work for the Department of State's Office of Legal Adviser in 2000.

Since then, David has worked in the fields of sanctions law, international arbitration, national security, intelligence, cyber security, immigration, government contract negotiation and oversight, and privacy, civil liberties, and transparency. David also took time off from government service to work as a Director on a leading presidential campaign, devising groundbreaking, internet-based, political, social networking and fundraising strategies that are used to this day by corporations, political campaigns, and advocacy organizations.

David lives with his husband and two children in Washington, DC, where he designs and bakes over-the-top birthday cakes for his family when he's not training for his next half-marathon.