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## Multinational Aspects of SEC Investigations

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The SEC's enforcement agenda has increasingly involved multinational actors. These include foreign companies and their agents who are suspected of having engaged in securities law violations within the United States, along with domestic companies and their officers who are believed to have engaged in securities law violations outside the United States, but which nonetheless implicate U.S. jurisdiction. The SEC's investigation of these matters often involves complex issues of jurisdiction, privilege, privacy, and reliance on corporate actors, international securities regulators, and law enforcement agencies to conduct fact-gathering beyond the territorial reach of the United States.

This chapter provides an overview of multinational investigations and answers questions regarding the ways in which the SEC is able to obtain documents and to investigate across borders. In addition, it addresses some of the major pitfalls

individuals and businesses face when responding to an SEC enforcement inquiry or performing an internal investigation that spans the globe.

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## Methods of Conducting Multinational Investigations

### Q 11.1 What is the SEC’s subpoena power in multinational investigations, at home and abroad?

By virtue of section 21(a) of the Exchange Act,<sup>1</sup> the SEC has broad and general power to “make such investigations as it deems necessary to determine whether any person has violated, is violating, or is about to violate” the federal securities laws. In domestic investigations, the SEC is given broad subpoena powers to command the “attendance of witnesses and the production of any such records . . . from any place in the United States or any State at any designated place of hearing.”<sup>2</sup>

Outside the United States, however, the SEC’s direct ability to compel production of evidence by subpoena is severely limited. The SEC does not have power to compel the production of documents or other evidence from persons who do not reside in and have no jurisdictional ties to the United States.<sup>3</sup> In addition, unlike the DOJ, the SEC is unable to issue *Bank of Nova Scotia* or PATRIOT Act subpoenas

to obtain information or testimony of individuals located outside of the United States.<sup>4</sup>

### **Q 11.2 How do regulatory agencies typically gather evidence when conducting multinational investigations?**

There are a number of tools available to the SEC when seeking to gather evidence abroad. Today, the most popular such vehicle is a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). An MOU is a mutually beneficial agreement entered by two or more jurisdictions establishing a commitment to assist each other in the collection of evidence in jurisdictions beyond each party's regulatory reach. An MOU sets forth the terms pursuant to which evidence may be shared between its signatories, thereby facilitating multinational cooperation with compliance and enforcement efforts. Because MOUs are typically executed between regulatory agencies (as opposed to diplomatic entities), they can often be used to gather evidence for civil, as well as criminal, investigations. The SEC is party to over thirty MOUs with its foreign counterparts.<sup>5</sup>

In 2002, the International Organization of Securities Commissions (IOSCO) issued the "IOSCO MOU," which established guidelines for multinational information gathering.<sup>6</sup> The IOSCO MOU allows its signatories to (1) obtain materials relating to transactions in both brokerage and bank accounts, as well as information pertaining to the corresponding account holders and beneficial owners; (2) compel testimony and/or official statements from individuals; and (3) share regulatory agency files across borders.<sup>7</sup> The IOSCO MOU further provides that the parties that collect such information may use it directly in both administrative and civil venues, as well as provide it to criminal authorities, such as the DOJ.<sup>8</sup> The IOSCO MOU has over 100 signatories, making it a significant and useful document in facilitating and expediting international investigations.<sup>9</sup>

Notably, the terms of MOUs often restrict a regulatory agency from withholding requested information on grounds of bank secrecy or other privacy laws. As such, caution should be exercised when relying on an MOU, as its terms may reflect or incorporate the policy concerns and regulatory schemes of a foreign jurisdiction—such as

data privacy laws—that contradict or are incompatible with U.S. law and practices.

### **Q 11.3 What other types of international agreements assist regulatory agencies in gathering evidence in multinational investigations?**

Mutual Legal Assistance Treaties (MLATs) are also commonly used to obtain evidence located in foreign countries. MLATs permit the DOJ and its foreign counterparts to request each other’s assistance in gathering evidence in criminal investigations.

Traditionally, MLATs included a dual criminality requirement, which required the conduct under investigation to constitute criminal activity under the laws of both the country requesting assistance and the country providing it.<sup>10</sup> In a recent trend, however, MLATs have been read to permit criminal authorities to obtain and share information obtained pursuant to an MLAT request with other regulatory enforcement authorities—including the SEC—irrespective of whether the “dual criminality” requirement is satisfied, so long as a criminal prosecution or referral is contemplated by the investigation.<sup>11</sup>

In addition to MLATs, the United States is a signatory to the Hague Convention on the Taking of Evidence Abroad (the “Hague Evidence Convention”).<sup>12</sup> The Hague Evidence Convention is designed to facilitate cooperation between judicial authorities of different jurisdictions to enable cross-border evidence collection by bypassing traditional consular and diplomatic channels. For securities investigations, the Hague Evidence Convention is likely to play a marginal role because (1) it applies only to “civil or commercial matters,” not to administrative investigations;<sup>13</sup> and (2) evidence requests must be issued by a court, implying the need for judicial proceedings to have been initiated.<sup>14</sup>

### **Q 11.4 How can a regulatory agency obtain evidence in the absence of a treaty?**

In the absence of an MOU or a treaty, the primary means for obtaining evidence in a foreign country is a letter rogatory, or a formal request by a domestic court to a foreign court, which requests that the foreign court compel a person within its jurisdiction to provide

testimony or produce documents.<sup>15</sup> U.S. statutes and case law permit U.S. federal courts to issue letters rogatory.<sup>16</sup>

Once a letter rogatory is issued, it is often transmitted directly by the requesting court to the receiving court.<sup>17</sup> Some governments, however, require that the letter rogatory pass through a diplomatic channel, such as the ministry of foreign affairs of the country where the evidence resides.<sup>18</sup> Other foreign governments permit a letter rogatory to be transmitted by counsel admitted in the foreign court.<sup>19</sup>

Foreign courts are under no obligation to execute letters rogatory,<sup>20</sup> and those that do may place restrictions on the scope of the evidence requested.<sup>21</sup> Furthermore, obtaining discovery pursuant to a letter rogatory will normally involve following the procedures of the foreign court, which may diminish the usefulness of the evidence obtained.<sup>22</sup>

Obtaining evidence through letters rogatory may pose other issues specific to regulators. First, letters rogatory can generally only be used for gathering evidence in the course of litigation and likely will not have much utility in the investigative stage of a case.<sup>23</sup> For example, a letter rogatory may only be issued in connection with a judicial proceeding, and may not be available to assist a regulator where only an agency investigation or internal administrative proceeding is pending.<sup>24</sup> In addition, a letter rogatory generally cannot supersede foreign bank secrecy laws, and bank information is often essential to regulatory investigations.<sup>25</sup> It is also important to consider that the issuance of a letter rogatory is often a time-consuming process that can take up to a year or more to complete.<sup>26</sup>

## **Privilege Considerations When Conducting Cross-Border Investigations**

### **Q 11.5 What protection do privileged communications receive in cross-border investigations?**

While the concept of attorney-client privilege is embedded in U.S. common law, many civil law jurisdictions across the world do not recognize this privilege. For example, in China, attorney-client communications are within the scope of a lawyer's duty to maintain

client information confidentiality, but lawyers could be compelled to disclose information that is required by law or a court order. In South Korea, the law does not recognize the attorney-client privilege, but relies on lawyers' ethical obligations of confidentiality. There may be "testimonial immunity" that may protect attorneys from being compelled to reveal client secrets, but clients cannot invoke this immunity.

The "joint defense" or "common interest" privilege—which "serves to protect the confidentiality of communications passing from one party to the attorney for another party where a joint defense effort or strategy has been decided upon and undertaken by the parties and their respective counsel"<sup>27</sup>—may be asserted in cross-border investigations that commonly focus on similarly situated employees or entities. Other common law countries, like the U.K., broadly interpret the common interest privilege, as well as the attorney-client privilege. Countries outside the Anglo-American legal tradition, however, including countries with civil law traditions, often take a narrower view of these ancillary or derivative privilege claims. For example, some civil law jurisdictions within the EU would refuse to extend the privilege to communications between a corporate employee and in-house counsel—a significant issue for corporations that face investigation in those countries.<sup>28</sup>

In light of the varied treatment that attorney-client communications receive globally, attorneys should familiarize themselves with the privilege rules of any relevant foreign jurisdiction. Practitioners should also consult with and, if necessary, retain local lawyers in the foreign jurisdiction to navigate privilege issues safely.

### **Q 11.6 When does U.S. privilege law apply to a foreign communication involving an attorney admitted or located in a foreign jurisdiction?**

To determine whether to apply U.S. privilege law to a communication with an attorney admitted or located in a foreign jurisdiction, many U.S. federal courts have adopted the "touch base" approach. Under this conflict-of-law "contacts" analysis, a court applies the law of the foreign jurisdiction if the foreign jurisdiction "has the most compelling

or predominant interest in whether the communications should remain confidential,” unless the court finds the law of the foreign jurisdiction contrary to public policy.<sup>29</sup> As articulated by courts in the Second Circuit, “[t]he jurisdiction with the predominant interest is either the place where the allegedly privileged relationship was entered into or the place in which that relationship was centered at the time the communication was sent.”<sup>30</sup> As a rule, “[c]ommunications concerning legal proceedings in the United States or advice regarding United States law are typically governed by United States privilege law, while communications relating to foreign legal proceedings or foreign law are generally governed by foreign privilege law.”<sup>31</sup>

Many EU Member States refuse to extend the attorney-client privilege to communications with in-house counsel, a conflict with the law in the United States. Therefore, whether a U.S. court would recognize a privilege claim for communications with foreign in-house counsel depends on the identity of the participants, where the communications occurred, and whether they were directed to the merits of a U.S. legal proceeding.



**CASE STUDY: *Claims of Privilege over Communications with Foreign In-House Counsel***

In the *AstraZeneca LP v. Breath Ltd.* case, a court in the District of New Jersey ordered a Swedish company to produce correspondence between the company’s in-house attorneys and employees, all of whom worked in Sweden.<sup>32</sup> The court reached this decision after it found the communications did not “touch” the United States, because the documents at issue neither involved U.S. proceedings nor communications with U.S. attorneys.<sup>33</sup> The court noted that, under Swedish law, the legal bar does not include in-house counsel; therefore, the communications with in-house counsel in Sweden were not privileged under Swedish law and could not be withheld.<sup>34</sup>

In *Veleron Holding, B.V. v. BNP Paribas SA*, the Southern District of New York was confronted with an argument by the parties that the privilege law of four different countries applied—Russian, Dutch, British, and Canadian.<sup>35</sup> The court found that “the touch base analysis” favored application of Russian or Dutch attorney-privilege law as the communications at issue occurred in those countries.<sup>36</sup> The parties did not dispute that “Russian law does not recognize attorney-client privilege or work product immunity for communications between or work product by 1) in-house counsel; or 2) ‘outside’ counsel who are not licensed ‘advocates’ registered with the Russian Ministry of Justice.”<sup>37</sup> The Netherlands does not recognize any privilege between a client and an unlicensed lawyer.<sup>38</sup> Because the plaintiff did not provide information establishing that the Russian attorneys were registered with the Ministry of Justice nor any information that the Dutch attorneys were licensed, the court held that the plaintiff had not met its burden of demonstrating that the communications were protected under either nation’s privilege law.<sup>39</sup>

A court in the District of Delaware reached a different result in *Renfield Corp. v. E. Remy Martin & Co.*<sup>40</sup> There, it was U.S. employees who sought legal advice from in-house counsel located in France, which, under its law, does not recognize communications with in-house counsel as privileged.<sup>41</sup> Because the employees seeking legal advice were based in the United States, the court found the United States had “the most significant relationship with the communication.”<sup>42</sup> Therefore, the court applied U.S. law and refused to compel production of the communications with in-house counsel.<sup>43</sup>

**Q 11.7 Would courts in the EU apply the attorney-client privilege to communications between a U.S. attorney and a client in the EU?**

With respect to communications between a U.S. attorney and a client in the EU, the scope of the privilege from the perspective of a court within the EU would depend on the nature of the action. For an action brought in the national court of a Member State or an enforcement action initiated by the authorities of a Member State, the privilege rules of the relevant Member State would apply. On the other hand, if the European Commission initiated the enforcement action, then the privilege law of the EU applies. To understand the distinction, one can think of the EU privilege law as akin to the federal common law on privileges, which applies to federal actions. Compared to courts in the United States, courts in the EU take a narrow view of the attorney-client privilege, and a U.S. attorney who seeks to offer legal advice to a client in the EU must guard against inadvertent disclosure or waiver of the privilege.

The attorney-client privilege under EU law, called the legal professional privilege, has some significant distinctions from U.S. privilege law<sup>44</sup> and stems, in large part, from two key decisions of the European Court of Justice. In the first decision, *AM & S Europe Limited v. Commission of the European Communities*, the court established legal professional privilege under EU law.<sup>45</sup> As defined by the court, the privilege applies to communications that satisfy two elements: (1) the communication must be “made for the purposes . . . of the client’s rights of defen[s]e”; and (2) the communication must “emanate from independent lawyers, that is to say, lawyers who are not bound to the client by a relationship of employment.”<sup>46</sup> The second element excludes in-house lawyers from the privilege.

In addition to the exclusion for in-house counsel, the court found that the privilege applied only to communications between a client and a “lawyer entitled to practi[c]e his profession in one of the Member States” and would not extend beyond those limits.<sup>47</sup>

In the second key decision, *Akzo Nobel Chemicals Ltd. & Akros Chemicals Ltd. v. European Commission*, the European Court of Justice affirmed the holding in *AM & S* and confirmed that communications

between in-house counsel and their corporate clients fall outside the scope of the attorney-client privilege.<sup>48</sup> Specifically, the court found that emails between corporate executives and their in-house counsel would not receive the benefit of the attorney-client privilege.<sup>49</sup> The European Commission had seized the emails during a “dawn raid,” which permits the European Commission to enter a business or residential premises to seize documents located on-site and to question the occupants.<sup>50</sup>

In *Akzo Nobel*, the court did not revisit whether the privilege would extend to communications with attorneys not admitted in the EU. Based on the foregoing authority; however, a U.S. attorney should assume that, by virtue of his/her status as a foreign lawyer, an EU court would find that his or her communications with a client in the EU fall outside EU privilege law. This is true even if the U.S. attorney offers the client advice on U.S. law. Therefore, a U.S. attorney should confer with and channel all legal advice through the client’s external counsel in the EU.

**Q 11.8 Would a U.S. court consider the privilege waived for documents produced in response to a request from the European Commission or from some other foreign enforcement agency?**

Under U.S. law, “involuntary or compelled disclosure does not give rise to a waiver” of the attorney-client privilege.<sup>51</sup> Therefore, the question of whether a U.S. court would consider the privilege waived for documents disclosed to the European Commission or to some other foreign enforcement agency depends on whether the court finds the disclosure voluntary or involuntary. This again raises the issue of whether a privilege is even recognized under local law. In the absence of a subpoena or judicially compelled disclosure, it becomes less clear whether a court would find a disclosure to a foreign enforcement agency voluntary or involuntary.<sup>52</sup>

In the EU and many of its Member States, a dawn raid does not require a warrant or any other form of judicial intervention. Because a dawn raid results in the disclosure of potentially privileged documents that was not judicially compelled, a court would likely look at the

steps taken to contest the disclosure, as well as the consequences for a failure to comply, in order to determine whether the disclosure was voluntary.<sup>53</sup> For that reason, a party should, before it provides documents to the European Commission, document its attempts to contest the disclosure and produce the documents only upon receipt of a clear indication that the European Commission would impose penalties or sanctions for a failure to comply.

Where the disclosing party did not have an opportunity to contest the disclosure, a court would likely find the disclosure involuntary. For example, in *In re Parmalat*, the plaintiff argued that a bank waived the attorney-client privilege with respect to documents the Italian authorities seized during a dawn raid and later disseminated to private plaintiffs.<sup>54</sup> The bank argued that the authorities seized the documents without the bank's consent and, therefore, the seizure could not operate as a waiver of the attorney-client privilege.<sup>55</sup> The court agreed and found that the bank was never provided with an opportunity to challenge seizure of the documents.<sup>56</sup> After the court found the disclosure to the Italian authorities involuntary, and the privilege preserved, the court next examined whether the bank took reasonable steps to preserve the confidentiality of the documents at issue, after the seizure by the authorities.<sup>57</sup> The court found the bank took steps "reasonably designed" to preserve the privilege when it asserted its privilege claim promptly after it learned the plaintiff planned to use the documents in depositions.<sup>58</sup>

## **Document Production/Data Privacy Considerations**

### **Q 11.9 What is data privacy and why is it important when undertaking cross-border investigations?**

In recent years, many countries have passed data privacy laws to protect their citizens' personal data and to regulate how individuals and businesses collect, process, use, store, disseminate and disclose personal data. These countries include, but are not limited to, members of the European Union,<sup>59</sup> Japan,<sup>60</sup> Russia,<sup>61</sup> India,<sup>62</sup> Canada,<sup>63</sup> the United Arab Emirates,<sup>64</sup> Mexico<sup>65</sup> and Taiwan.<sup>66</sup>

Accordingly, before document collection efforts begin during a cross-border investigation, it is vital to understand the applicable data privacy rules and regulations of each country involved, as well as any potential differences or conflicts between those laws. This is particularly important as many countries have instituted civil and sometimes even criminal liability for violation of their data privacy laws.

### **Q 11.10 Does the United States have a data privacy law?**

Notably, the United States does not have a universal data privacy law similar to the laws enacted by many of the countries cited above. Instead, the United States has a variety of laws and regulations, at the state and federal level, as well as non-binding guidelines from government agencies that were developed over a number of years. For purposes of cross-border investigations, one important U.S. regulation to consider is SEC Regulation S-P.

In 2000, the SEC adopted and implemented Regulation S-P, 17 C.F.R. § 248, which is comprised of privacy rules promulgated under section 504 of the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act.<sup>67</sup> As discussed in the release of the SEC's final rule, section 504 of the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act required the SEC and other federal agencies "to adopt rules implementing notice requirements and restrictions on a financial institution's ability to disclose nonpublic personal information about consumers."<sup>68</sup> Furthermore, the Act required financial institutions to provide their customers with notice of their privacy policies and practices, and prevented them from disclosing non-public personal information about a consumer to third parties without notification to the consumer.<sup>69</sup>

### **Q 11.11 What kind of liability can an individual face for violating Regulation S-P?**

The SEC has charged and assessed penalties against firms for violation of Regulation S-P. For example, in 2008, the SEC fined NEXT Financial Group, Inc. \$125,000 for encouraging brokers it recruited to transfer, from the brokers' former employers, customer account information, including Social Security numbers, net worth and account

numbers.<sup>70</sup> The SEC found that the brokers who left their firms and joined NEXT should have provided notice to their customers and obtained permission from them before transferring their private information to NEXT.<sup>71</sup> Likewise, in 2009, the SEC fined Woodbury Financial Services, Inc. for violating Regulation S-P by allowing its recruits to bring personal customer information to Woodbury, and also allowing employees, who were leaving Woodbury, to take private customer information to other firms.<sup>72</sup> In 2016, Morgan Stanley agreed to pay a \$1 million settlement for failing “to adopt written policies and procedures reasonably designed to protect customer data.”<sup>73</sup> As a result of that failure, between 2011 and 2014, “a then-employee impermissibly accessed and transferred the data regarding approximately 730,000 accounts to his personal server, which was ultimately hacked by third parties.”<sup>74</sup>

The SEC also continues to charge individuals directly with violations of Regulation S-P. For example, in 2011, the SEC fined three executives from GunnAllen Financial Inc., including its chief compliance officer, a total of \$55,000 for transferring personal information of more than 16,000 of their customers to another firm without providing notification to the customers.<sup>75</sup> This was the first time the SEC ever charged and assessed penalties against individuals solely for violating Regulation S-P.<sup>76</sup> More recently, in 2016, the SEC settled with a brokerage firm and two of its principals for alleged violations of Rule 30(a) of Regulation S-P for using non-firm email addresses to receive over 4,000 faxes from customers and third parties that routinely included sensitive customer information.<sup>77</sup> The broker-dealer was fined \$100,000 and the two principals were fined \$25,000 each.<sup>78</sup>

### **Q 11.12 What liability do parties face in connection with violations of data privacy regulations of foreign jurisdictions?**

Cross-border discovery is a component of many U.S. investigations, and foreign entities with U.S. affiliates or subsidiaries often face significant pressure to produce documents or other information to U.S. regulators. U.S. regulators, as well as private litigants, must consider the data privacy laws and regulations of the foreign countries in which the requested information is located, and must weigh the penalties

associated with failing to comply with these laws against the penalties for failing to comply with U.S. discovery requests, should a conflict between the two arise.

The following sections provide guidance on the data privacy laws of the European Union, the United Kingdom and Russia.

**Q 11.13 In securities enforcement actions, will European Union privacy law apply to production of documents that are located in the EU?**

The production of documents, records, and/or ESI located in the EU will involve the processing of personal data and result in the application of EU privacy law. As of May 25, 2018, the EU's General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) sets forth a uniform statutory basis of privacy law throughout the EU.<sup>79</sup> The GDPR fully repeals and replaces the EU Data Protection Directive that existed prior to May 2018.<sup>80</sup> Together with local statutes passed by the EU Member States implementing certain GDPR provisions, the GDPR sets forth the privacy law with which organizations must comply when producing records from the EU.

One of the more notable differences between the GDPR and pre-GDPR EU privacy law is the level of fines that European privacy supervisory authorities can impose upon companies that commit privacy violations. The GDPR permits companies to be fined up to €20 million or 4% of annual worldwide revenue, whichever is greater, for privacy violations.<sup>81</sup> Additionally, the GDPR permits individuals who have been affected by a privacy violation to bring suits to recover "non-material damages."<sup>82</sup> Thus, one effect of the GDPR is to increase the risk profile associated with privacy violations, including privacy violations that occur in the course of responding to U.S. legal proceedings.

This section briefly (A) outlines why the GDPR generally will apply to document discovery activities affecting EU data, then (B) points out resulting legal issues that arise from EU privacy law in the context of document discovery.

### **Q 11.13.1 How does the GDPR apply to document production in securities enforcement actions?**

The GDPR will apply to document production activities conducted within the EU because the typical stages of document discovery will qualify as GDPR-regulated processing of personal data. The GDPR governs the “processing” of “personal data” that relates to EU citizens. Both of these terms are defined broadly, such that the activities involved in conducting document discovery—preservation, collection, review, redaction, transfer to the United States, and production—will likely implicate the GDPR.

- “Personal data” is defined as any information that relates to an identified or identifiable natural person.<sup>83</sup> Personal data is not limited to information that would be considered “personally identifiable information” in the United States—such as name or social security number—but also includes any further information that can be reasonably associated with or linked to an EU individual. Furthermore, the definition of “personal data” does not distinguish between “public” versus “private” data, or “private” versus “business” data; if information can be associated with an individual, it is GDPR-regulated personal data. Examples of personal data potentially relevant to document discovery include work email address, job title, performance appraisals, document metadata, Internet protocol address (IP address), online browsing data, and company IT usage logs. Records containing such information will either constitute or contain personal data.
- “Processing” is defined broadly as “any operation or set of operations which is performed on personal data,” irrespective of whether performed “by automated means.”<sup>84</sup> Relevant to document production, the GDPR expressly provides that processing includes “storage,” “retrieval,” “disclosure by transmission, dissemination, or otherwise making available,” as well as “destruction.”<sup>85</sup> Thus, each phase of production in response to a U.S. investigation is likely to involve “processing” as defined in the GDPR, including preservation, collection, review, and production.

As a result, counsel should presume that the ordinary course of document discovery will trigger application of the GDPR.

**Q 11.13.2 What are key privacy issues associated with document discovery involving EU documents and records?**

Given the risk of GDPR violations, companies should begin working with privacy counsel as soon as it becomes apparent that responses to U.S. government requests may require document production from the EU. The progressive globalization of the EU economy over the past decades has meant that ever more EU companies and regulators have experience with U.S. discovery. Often though, the local expectation will be that document production is not conducted as it is in the United States. It can be important to structure carefully the major aspects of how EU records will be collected, reviewed, transferred, and produced, often in conjunction with local EU stakeholders, prior to beginning the process.

The following represent some of the key legal issues that can be considered at the outset of any document production effort in response to U.S. government requests:

1. Purpose Limitation

The GDPR continues to codify a rule known in Europe as the “purpose limitation principle”: Companies may only process personal data for specific, defined purposes that have been disclosed to individuals at or prior to the time that data is collected.<sup>86</sup> To use data for other purposes, either (a) the new uses must be deemed “compatible” under EU law with the purposes that were initially disclosed to individuals,<sup>87</sup> or (b) the company must notify individuals of the new uses and obtain their consent.<sup>88</sup>

Many companies use an employee privacy notice to put employees on notice that their personal data may be processed in connection with litigation. Still, there can be heightened sensitivity to document preservation and collection in EU jurisdictions, particularly to U.S.-style imaging of entire hard drives, servers, or email accounts. Counsel should be aware of what data processing purposes have been

communicated to EU employees, and what employees' reasonable expectations may be. Going beyond such expectations is no longer merely a potential labor matter; it is now a possible GDPR violation.

## 2. Works Council Agreements

A number of European jurisdictions—including Belgium, France, and Germany—permit employees to enter into collective agreements with management.<sup>89</sup> One of the common types of such collective agreements is a “works council agreement,” concluded between the company’s “works council”—which is elected by and represents the company’s employees—and management.

Historically in Europe, works council agreements could contain special or customized data privacy rules for foreseeable intra-company data uses. It was not uncommon for works council agreements to contain procedures to be followed when the company needed to process and produce employee data to respond to litigation.

The GDPR continues to permit companies and labor to conclude works council agreements for this purpose.<sup>90</sup> Counsel should be aware of the potential for such agreements to exist, and of the potential for such agreements to contain rules or procedures that must be followed when conducting discovery in connection with U.S. investigations. The restrictions in such agreements can be significant. For example, works council agreements may require U.S. counsel to work with the local works council to create preservation, collection, review, and/or redaction procedures. Such agreements could also, for example, require document review to be conducted locally, or preclude U.S. counsel from directly interacting with EU document custodians without notice to, or approval of, the works council. Counsel should be prepared to comply with works council agreements during discovery, as violating them could arguably constitute wrongful data processing in violation of the GDPR.

## 3. Lawful Basis Requirement

The GDPR codifies what EU law describes as the “lawfulness principle”—all processing of EU data must be based on one of six statutorily enumerated lawful processing bases:

- Consent: The affected individual has consented to the processing;<sup>91</sup>
- Contract: Processing is necessary for the company to conclude or perform a contract with the individual affected by the processing;<sup>92</sup>
- Legal compliance: Processing is necessary for the company to comply with obligations imposed on it by statutes of the EU or its Member States;<sup>93</sup>
- Vital Interest: Processing is necessary to protect the “vital interests” of the individual affected by the processing (e.g., physical safety);<sup>94</sup>
- Public Interest: Processing is necessary for the performance of tasks carried out “in the public interest” of the EU or a Member State, or “in the exercise of official authority”;<sup>95</sup>
- Legitimate Interests: Processing is necessary for the company to pursue its legitimate interests, and the countervailing privacy interests of the affected individuals do not outweigh the company’s interests.<sup>96</sup>

Of the above, only “Consent” and “Legitimate Interests” are generally available to support the data processing conducted in connection with document production. Note, however, that there are key differences between each legal basis that can affect whether companies should rely on consent or their legitimate interests to support collection, review, and production:

- Consent must be given by a “clear affirmative action” of the affected individual that specifically authorizes the company to process the individual’s data for document discovery,<sup>97</sup> such as a signed consent declaration. Also, consent can be withdrawn at any time.<sup>98</sup> Thus, if a company obtains consent from an EU document custodian to collect, review, and produce his documents, the custodian can potentially revoke his consent, in whole or in part, at any time during the U.S. proceedings. Such a revocation may preclude the company from relying on or producing certain records relating to that custodian. Still, European companies or local works

councils may expect consents to be obtained from document custodians prior to collecting their ESI; U.S. counsel should be ready to address the issue.

- Legitimate interests permit the company to rely on its own legitimate interest in exercising legal rights, or defending against legal claims, to conduct discovery. Thus, no written declaration from document custodians or other employees would be strictly required. Still, individuals retain a right to “object” to processing that a company bases on its legitimate interests, so long as the individual can show that the objection is based “on grounds relating to [the individual’s] particular situation.”<sup>99</sup> When such an objection is made, the company must evaluate the request and document its decision as to whether its interests in establishing, exercising, or defending the legal claims at issue are “compelling”; to the extent they are not, the processing must stop.<sup>100</sup> It is conceivable that custodian or other employee objections may preclude a company from relying on or producing certain records relating to the objecting individual, although such a determination would be made on an individual basis.

The decision as to which legal basis best fits a particular case should be made on a case-by-case basis. The company and its prior discovery practices, the number of EU custodians, the potential volume of EU production, and local regulatory expectations for obtaining consent may be relevant.

#### 4. Transfer Restrictions

One key aspect of EU data protection law is its restrictions on transfers of personal data outside the EU. The GDPR’s general rule is that EU personal data cannot be transferred outside the EU. Any such transfers must be based on a statutorily recognized basis for transfer.<sup>101</sup> The EU’s transfer restrictions have clear relevance for companies’ ability to transfer relevant records to the United States as part of document collection, review, or production.

This section will note the major bases for data transfers and briefly note their potential applicability to U.S. document discovery in support of securities enforcement proceedings:

- **Adequacy determination:** Personal data can be freely transferred to any country the EU Commission has formally decided provides “adequate protection” for personal data.<sup>102</sup> As of January 2019, twelve countries have been deemed adequate;<sup>103</sup> the United States is not included. Instead, within the U.S., individual U.S. companies can be deemed to provide adequate protection for EU data if they register with the U.S. Department of Commerce as self-certified participants in the EU-U.S. Privacy Shield Framework.<sup>104</sup> Thus, a U.S. affiliate that is Privacy Shield certified could receive transfers of EU data, but it would be bound by the Privacy Shield’s restrictions on further transferring such data to new recipients.<sup>105</sup> However, U.S. government recipients, such as the SEC or DOJ, cannot join the Privacy Shield Framework.
- **Standard Contractual Clauses:** Personal data can be transferred to recipients outside the EU if the EU company transferring the data, and the non-EU recipient of the data, have executed contractual clauses approved by the European Commission (the “Standard Contractual Clauses”).<sup>106</sup> It is not uncommon for corporate affiliates to execute the Standard Contractual Clauses amongst themselves, permitting intra-company data transfers. However, companies that receive data under the Standard Contractual Clauses are generally restricted from transferring the data to a new recipient, even if in some circumstances some may read the Clauses as supporting arguments that they contemplate permitting compelled disclosures to “law enforcement” agencies.<sup>107</sup> Standard Contractual Clauses are not generally executed with litigation opponents, and particularly not with adverse U.S. government parties.
- **Derogations:** When neither an “adequacy” determination nor the Standard Contractual Clauses are available, the GDPR permits companies to rely on statutory “derogations” from the EU’s general data-transfers prohibition to transfer personal data outside the EU.<sup>108</sup> Potentially relevant derogations include:

- Transfers for litigation purposes: The GDPR permits transfers outside the EU when “the transfer is necessary for the establishment, exercise or defense of legal claims.”<sup>109</sup> Note that this derogation is not a blanket authorization to transfer data outside the EU in connection with litigation, but instead an authorization to transfer such data as is “necessary” to establish, exercise, or defend against specific claims or defenses. As a derogation from a general prohibition on transfer, the amount of data deemed “necessary” for U.S. litigation will likely be interpreted narrowly by EU regulators. Thus, even when relying on this derogation to transfer EU data to the United States in connection with U.S. document discovery, companies should consider working with counsel to structure collection, review, transfer, and production such that the data ultimately transferred to the United States can be defended as “necessary” in light of the claims and defenses asserted in the litigation.
  - One-time transfer for compelling interests. If no other statutory basis for transferring data to the U.S. is available, companies can nonetheless transfer data to the U.S. if (a) the transfer is not repetitive; (b) the transfer concerns only a limited number of individuals; (c) the transfer is necessary for the company to pursue compelling legitimate interests which are not overridden by affected individuals’ privacy interests; (d) the controller has conducted a written assessment of all the circumstances surrounding the transfer and has provided suitable privacy safeguards; (e) the company specifically notifies affected individuals about the transfer; and (f) the company notifies the local privacy supervisory authority of the transfer.<sup>110</sup> Transfers in the discovery context are theoretically possible under this derogation, but given the need to involve privacy regulators, may remain seldom.
5. Transfer Restrictions on Compelled Disclosures—Requirement for an MLAT?

Document production in securities enforcement actions is generally assumed to be compulsory, be it due to applicable procedural rules or the propounding of a subpoena. The compulsory nature of production arises from the fact that, if a company does not produce as requested by the government, the government can obtain an administrative or court order compelling the company to produce. Prior to the GDPR, European privacy law contained no rules expressly addressing situations where production of records was compelled by a U.S. court or agency. Now, however, the GDPR contains a new provision that may—or may not—restrict transfers of personal data to the United States in compelled-production scenarios. Article 48 GDPR states:

Any judgment of a court or tribunal and any decision of an administrative authority of a third country requiring a [company] to transfer or disclose personal data may only be recognized or enforceable . . . if based on an international agreement, such as a mutual legal assistance treaty, in force between the requesting third country and the [EU] or a Member State, without prejudice to other grounds for transfer pursuant to this Chapter [V of the GDPR on international transfers].

This provision is new to the GDPR, and its ambiguous language potentially gives rise to both strict and permissive interpretations. A strict interpretation would read an “MLAT requirement” into the GDPR, i.e., data cannot be transferred outside the EU in response to a non-EU request for evidence—such as a U.S. administrative subpoena—unless an MLAT is in place with the recipient state.<sup>111</sup> In contrast, a more permissive reading would view an MLAT as one of many available bases for transfers to satisfy a non-EU request for evidence. Such a reading would emphasize that Article 48 of the GDPR expressly states it is “without prejudice to other grounds for transfer” set forth in the GDPR, thus permitting companies to continue relying on any of the above-outlined bases for transferring data to the United States, irrespective of whether an MLAT is in place.

It is unclear how EU courts and regulators will interpret Article 48 of the GDPR. Within the U.S., the case of *United States v. Microsoft Corp.* resulted in discussion of whether Article 48 requires the United States to conclude MLATs with EU Member States for U.S. government agencies to compel production of data located within the EU.<sup>112</sup> In

*Microsoft*, the FBI issued a subpoena to obtain the content of emails of a Microsoft user that had been stored on a server located in Ireland. Microsoft refused to produce the emails, arguing that the FBI must use the MLAT in force between the United States and Ireland to obtain the emails. The case was never decided because it was mooted by passage of the Clarifying Lawful Overseas Use of Data Act (CLOUD Act).<sup>113</sup> Nonetheless, prior to being mooted, amicus briefs were filed by EU stakeholders that evinced a diversity of opinion as to how Article 48 should be read. For example, the European Commission argued that Article 48 makes MLATs “the preferred option” for discovery-related transfers, but that other GDPR-recognized bases for transfers remain available to companies.<sup>114</sup> In contrast, French, German, Irish, and Polish industry associations suggested Article 48 should be read as establishing that “foreign demands for data are not recognizable in the EU unless domesticated through an MLAT or other agreed-upon framework.”<sup>115</sup>

Regulatory expectations and jurisprudence relating to Article 48 are likely to evolve as the GDPR is applied to more cross-border proceedings. Developments in the EU may also respond to and/or anticipate the evolving law in the United States under the CLOUD Act. In light of the ambiguity surrounding Article 48, companies should work with counsel to determine the potential risks of responding to U.S. demands for production, and to structure appropriately risk-adjusted procedures to collect, review, and transfer data in response to such demands.

### **Q 11.13.3 Do blocking statutes play a role in ensuring GDPR compliance in EU document discovery?**

Lastly, independent of the GDPR, some European jurisdictions maintain blocking statutes prohibiting the production of evidence in response to U.S. evidence requests. Blocking statutes are discussed in detail in QQ 11.13 to 11.15. Blocking statutes generally are not considered privacy rules, but their scope of application may overlap with privacy restrictions, and their effects on discovery may be similar. Blocking statutes and privacy restrictions tend to be best addressed in tandem at early stages of discovery, so that appropriate responses to the competing demands of U.S. discovery and foreign statutory requirements can be structured.

### **Q 11.13.4 Do GDPR rules apply within the United Kingdom?**

Since the U.K. is a Member State of the EU, the GDPR applies within the U.K. to the same extent as it does within other EU jurisdictions. Thus, the above analysis for the EU can be applied to the U.K. as well, including the fine levels for privacy violations. The U.K. has one of the EU's more active and well-staffed privacy enforcers, the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO),<sup>116</sup> confirming that the increased risk profile generally associated with privacy violations in EU jurisdictions will be present in the U.K. as well. Thus, as is the case when discovery affects other EU jurisdictions, companies should begin working with specialized privacy counsel as soon as it becomes apparent that responses to U.S. government requests may require document production from the U.K.

However, it bears noting that the U.K. voted to exit the EU in the U.K.'s 2016 Brexit referendum. The U.K. was originally scheduled to exit the EU on March 29, 2019, at 11:00 pm GMT; however, this deadline has been extended to October 31, 2019. If no Brexit ultimately occurs, the GDPR will continue to apply in the U.K. as it does at present. However, if Brexit occurs, the post-Brexit privacy law in force in the U.K. will depend on the agreement—if any—reached between the U.K. and the EU. In November 2018, the EU and U.K. jointly released a draft Brexit Agreement that would have provided for limited but significant post-Brexit application of the GDPR within the U.K.;<sup>117</sup> however, the U.K. Parliament did not accept this draft agreement. If the U.K. and EU do not reach an agreement—a “no deal” Brexit—the U.K. has passed data protection “Exit Regulations”<sup>118</sup> that govern the privacy law that will be in force as of March 29, 2019: (a) the GDPR will remain in force in the U.K. as so-called “retained EU law,”<sup>119</sup> albeit henceforth titled as the “UK GDPR”;<sup>120</sup> (b) a Data Protection Act the U.K. passed in 2018 (the “DPA 2018”), originally conceived as supplementing the GDPR, will remain in force to supplement the “UK GDPR”; and (c) the UK GDPR and the DPA 2018 will be significantly modified to remove internal references to EU laws, rules, regulations, and institutions.

Thus, depending on the result of the Brexit process, the law in force in the U.K. may soon vary from its current state. Companies should work with specialized counsel early in the discovery process to

ensure that document discovery conforms to the privacy requirement in force, or anticipated to soon be in force, in the U.K.

**Q 11.14 How does Russian privacy law apply to document production in connection with securities enforcement actions?**

Russian law similarly regulates and protects personally identifiable information (PII) under a number of laws and regulations, including:

- the Federal Law on Personal Data of 27 July 2006 No. 152-FZ (as amended), (the “PD Law”), which regulates the processing of PII;
- the Federal Law on Information, Information Technologies and the Protection of Information of 27 July 2006 No. 149-FZ (as amended), which regulates the searching, receipt, transfer, production and distribution of PII;
- the Labor Code of the Russian Federation of 30 December 2001 No. 197-FZ, which regulates the personal data of employees and the employers’ corresponding obligations relating thereto;
- regulations of Russian authorities in the data protection sphere; and
- decisions of the Russian government relating to personal data.

Unlike U.K. law, Russian law does not distinguish between the data controller and the data processor, and instead applies equally to all “data operators” that organize or carry out the processing of personal data and records, either manually or electronically.<sup>121</sup> The processing of personal data for the purpose of promoting goods, work, or services in the market is allowed only if the prior consent of the person referenced in the personal data (the “data subject”) has been obtained or if the data falls within certain exceptions.<sup>122</sup> Examples of data falling within these “exceptions” include data that was previously made publicly available by or under the instruction of the data subject; data that is processed for the protection of the life,

health or other legitimate interests of the data subject; and data that is processed in accordance with an international treaty or pursuant to Russian law.<sup>123</sup>

Under Article 22 of the PD Law, PII may only be processed by a data operator upon prior written notification of the Federal Service for Supervision of Communications, Information Technology and Mass Media (Roskomnadzor)—the authority that is authorized to protect the rights of personal data subjects—unless certain exemptions apply.<sup>124</sup> A data operator that fails to provide notice to or register with Roskomnadzor is subject to administrative sanctions pursuant to the Code on Administrative Offenses of the Russian Federation.<sup>125</sup>

Ensuring the security of PII is the responsibility of the data operator (generally, the employer).<sup>126</sup> Consequently, prior to transferring the PII to the employer's server outside the territory of the Russian Federation, the employer must assure itself that the foreign country in which the server is located ensures the adequate protection of the PII.<sup>127</sup> Whether a foreign country adequately protects PII is generally determined on the basis of whether that country is a signatory to the Convention for the Protection of Individuals with regard to Automatic Processing of Personal Data, Strasbourg, dated January 28, 1981 (the "Convention").<sup>128</sup> The Russian Federation is a signatory to the Convention; the United States is not.<sup>129</sup>

Breaches of the Russian data protection laws (through illegal collection and dissemination of PII without the consent of the data subject) may result in criminal liability under various provisions of the Criminal Code of the Russian Federation.<sup>130</sup> Penalties may include monetary fines; prohibition on holding certain positions or performing certain activities; compulsory community work or correctional work; arrest; and/or imprisonment.<sup>131</sup> Criminal liability may be imposed on individuals only (for example, the director or manager of the data operator).<sup>132</sup>

**Q 11.15 Do other foreign laws affect the collection and use of information besides those relating to the protection of PII?**

In addition to legislation regarding PII, foreign blocking statutes—which regulate, and in some instances criminalize, the collection and exportation of information requested in the course of foreign legal proceedings—may place conflicting obligations on litigants or other participants in U.S. judicial or regulatory proceedings. While data privacy legislation is intended to protect the personal information of individuals, foreign blocking statutes are intended to protect the sovereignty of the state and its citizens from foreign litigation.

For example, the French blocking statute, French Penal Code Law No. 80-538, prohibits requests for, or disclosure of, documents or information sought as part of discovery in foreign litigation, except in connection with proceedings under the Hague Convention.<sup>133</sup> Failure to comply with this law may result in the imposition of penalties ranging from monetary fines to imprisonment.<sup>134</sup> Similarly, under the U.K. blocking statute, the Protection of Trading Interests Act, the U.K. Secretary of State is authorized to prohibit discovery where it conflicts with the trading interests or infringes on the sovereignty of the U.K.<sup>135</sup> Other countries with similar blocking statutes include Sweden, the Netherlands, Japan, Australia and Canada.<sup>136</sup>

**Q 11.16 How does one typically comply with conflicting obligations to produce documents to the SEC and the data protection laws in foreign jurisdictions?**

Foreign or global litigants may invoke the blocking statute(s) of their home jurisdiction, or the jurisdiction where the requested information is located, in an attempt to avoid producing documents or witnesses in U.S. proceedings and/or limit the scope of the production or testimony. As a consequence, additional proceedings in the United States and the jurisdiction that has enacted the blocking statute may be commenced to determine the parties' respective discovery-related rights and obligations. At that point, litigants may decide it is in their best interest to wait for a ruling by one or more of these jurisdictions

before determining whether and how to respond to discovery requests in U.S. proceedings.

### **Q 11.17 Does the United States defer to foreign blocking statutes?**

U.S. courts—which are not bound to follow foreign law—employ a comity analysis in determining whether the interests of litigants or participants that seek to obtain discovery in U.S. proceedings outweigh the interests of foreign state sovereignty. In conducting this comity analysis, U.S. courts consider seven factors: (1) the importance of the discovery sought, relative to the litigation; (2) the degree of specificity of the discovery request; (3) whether the requested information originated in the United States or abroad; (4) whether alternate means of obtaining the requested information exist; (5) the extent to which noncompliance with the request would undermine the interests of the United States and the interest of any state where the information sought is located or found; (6) whether the party resisting discovery has acted in good faith; and (7) any hardship that would result from compliance with discovery.<sup>137</sup>

Not surprisingly, a number of U.S. courts have found that the application of these factors weighed in favor of production of the requested information. For example, in *In re Global Power Equipment Group, Inc.*, the court held that principles of comity weighed in favor of compliance with the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, notwithstanding the possibility of criminal penalties under the French blocking statute.<sup>138</sup> The *Global Power* court acknowledged that the case—a U.S. bankruptcy proceeding in which the production of documents and witnesses located in the Netherlands, France and Belgium was sought by the plan administrator in connection with proofs of claim filed by a French company against the bankrupt entity—did not implicate broader U.S. interests.<sup>139</sup> Nonetheless, the court found that because the information sought was “central to resolving the contested matter[,]” and because the United States had an interest in “securing the prompt, economical and orderly administration of its bankruptcy cases[,]” the facts of the *Global Power* case weighed in favor of the application of the Federal Rules.<sup>140</sup>

## **Global Coordination**

### **Q 11.18 How have international investigations changed in the wake of the financial crisis?**

The global economic downturn spurred regulators around the world, including the SEC, to a new level of aggressiveness. These regulators have sought increased cooperation and communication with their foreign counterparts, in order to work effectively in a financial world dominated by multinationals and interconnected by global markets. The global reach of the SEC and other regulators presents new challenges for U.S. entities that operate abroad and for non-U.S. entities that operate or publicly trade in the United States.

The cooperation between regulators in the U.S. and the U.K. serves as an archetype of the across-the-board rise in cooperation amongst regulators across the globe. Both the U.S. and the U.K. place the enforcement of securities laws within the purview of a central authority, which promotes efficient cross-border cooperation. Of course, in the United States, the SEC holds that central role. In 2013, the U.K. government transferred the enforcement powers of its chief financial regulator, the Financial Services Authority (FSA), to a new entity, the FCA.<sup>141</sup>

In contrast to the direct lines of communication that exist between regulators in the U.S. and the U.K., communication and cooperation between regulators in the U.S. and the EU necessarily involves additional complications, as no central authority exists in the EU to oversee enforcement of securities laws across the EU Member States. As a result, U.S. regulators must manage relationships and reach agreements with the various EU Member States on an individual basis, which presents administrative hurdles.

The trend toward greater international cooperation between regulators in the U.S. and the U.K. extends beyond the enforcement of securities laws and includes the enforcement of laws related to money laundering, antitrust, bribery and export control, among others. Practitioners should counsel U.S. clients that operate in the U.K., and U.K. entities that operate in the U.S., to expect a further upswing in cross-border regulation and enforcement.

**CASE STUDY: *Libor Investigation***

The investigation into alleged manipulation of the London Interbank Offered Rate (“Libor”) at Barclays plc provides an illustrative example of the effective cooperation between authorities in the U.S. and the U.K.<sup>142</sup> In the U.K., the FSA led the inquiry. In the U.S., separate investigations were launched by the CFTC, the DOJ and the SEC. To facilitate the cross-border cooperation required, the DOJ received relevant documents from the FSA under an MLAT.<sup>143</sup>

The investigation into Libor started in earnest in 2008, after a number of articles appeared in *The Wall Street Journal* that questioned whether banks on the Libor submission panel, including Barclays, submitted Libor rates below the banks’ actual cost of funds in the London interbank market, in order to reduce the banks’ reputational risk.<sup>144</sup> As the investigation developed, another form of alleged manipulation came to light—efforts by traders to affect the official Libor set, through coordination with traders at other panel banks, in order to benefit the traders’ own books.<sup>145</sup>

In June 2012, Barclays became the first major bank to settle with authorities in the U.S. and the U.K. over claims of alleged Libor manipulation, when it reached separate and contemporaneous settlements with each of the U.S. and U.K. authorities involved.<sup>146</sup> Pursuant to the settlements, Barclays agreed to pay, respectively, a \$200 million fine to the CFTC (at the time, the largest penalty ever levied by that body), a \$160 million fine to the DOJ and a \$59.5 million fine to the FSA.<sup>147</sup> Although Barclays avoided any criminal charges, the settlement required the bank to admit that traders and officers of the bank engaged in manipulation.<sup>148</sup> Barclays also agreed to continue its cooperation with the authorities, which the settlement documents highlighted as a factor considered when assessing the financial penalties.<sup>149</sup>

Notably, the global Libor benchmark rate manipulation investigation also gave rise to an important development under U.S. law when, in July 2017, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit vacated the criminal convictions and dismissed the indictment of two former Libor submitters from Rabobank on Fifth Amendment grounds.<sup>150</sup> Although neither defendant was a U.S. citizen, the Second Circuit concluded that, because they had been compelled to testify in a foreign regulatory proceeding by the U.K. FCA, and because their interviews had then been reviewed by a cooperating defendant in their U.S. prosecution, the taint associated with such Fifth Amendment violations undercut not only their convictions, but also their indictment.<sup>151</sup> In particular, the Second Circuit ruled that the Fifth Amendment's prohibition against the use of compelled testimony applies even if the testimony was compelled by a foreign sovereign that was, at the time, under no obligation to avoid self-incrimination.<sup>152</sup> Applying *Kastigar v. United States*,<sup>153</sup> the Second Circuit further held that the Justice Department had failed to meet the "heavy burden" of showing that a cooperating defendant's testimony had not been shaped, altered, or affected by his review of the defendants' FCA interview transcripts.<sup>154</sup>

**Q 11.19 What particular challenges do practitioners face in light of the increased international cooperation amongst regulators?**

The need to coordinate investigations with regulators in several countries and, potentially, to negotiate a settlement with each of those regulators, presents the greatest challenge to attorneys and their clients. In light of the public and media attention paid to cross-border investigations, regulators may compete with one another to secure the highest penalty from the subject of the investigation and, therefore, seek to gain leverage by holding out for a separate settlement. Similarly, a regulator may face unique political pressures in its home country, which affects its willingness or even its ability to enter into a global settlement.

Ideally, an entity or individual subject to a cross-border investigation would reach contemporaneous settlements with the entire group of regulators involved, rather than a piecemeal settlement over an extended period. JPMorgan recently fell short of this preferred outcome, however, when it settled claims that it failed to adequately supervise traders who incurred, and then tried to hide, large trading losses. From 2007 through 2012, the Chief Investment Officer (CIO) at JPMorgan accumulated a large position in credit default indices.<sup>155</sup> The credit default indices were tied to various credit default swaps—a financial instrument that acts as an insurance policy or hedge against a borrower’s potential default on a loan or other obligation.<sup>156</sup> At the end of 2011, the portfolio managed by the CIO contained over \$50 billion notional in credit default indices, which the firm had accumulated, in large part, through the efforts of one CIO trader in London, whom the press eventually referred to as the “London Whale.”<sup>157</sup>

At the end of February 2012, traders in the CIO realized that the position in credit default indices, which included a very large short position, would likely suffer catastrophic losses if market trends continued.<sup>158</sup> To avert the predicated losses, traders in the CIO decided to “defend” the short position in credit default indices.<sup>159</sup> This strategy required the traders to sell a substantial number of securities to put downward pressure on the market price, which would benefit the short position of the CIO portfolio.<sup>160</sup> Specifically, on February 29, 2012, the CIO sold, on net, more than \$7 billion of a particular credit default index, which, as the traders planned, substantially forced down the market price.<sup>161</sup> Despite this effort, however, the position continued to lose value, and, in an attempt to hide the size of the mounting losses, the traders changed the method used to mark the portfolio to market, which overstated the position’s value.<sup>162</sup> Ultimately, JPMorgan reported losses of approximately \$6 billion and had to restate its previously released financial statements for the first quarter of 2012.<sup>163</sup>

In September 2013, JPMorgan agreed to pay a total of over \$920 million in penalties to four regulators: \$200 million to the SEC; \$300 million to the U.S. Office of the Controller of the Currency; \$200 million to the U.S. Federal Reserve; and \$222 million to the FCA.<sup>164</sup> The settlement with the SEC also required JPMorgan to admit that it

had violated federal securities laws by, among other things, its failure to adequately supervise the traders involved.<sup>165</sup>

As noted, unlike Barclays, JPMorgan failed to reach a contemporaneous settlement with each of the several regulators that investigated its conduct. Specifically, the September 2013 settlement did not involve the CFTC, and the CFTC sought an admission of wrongdoing related to the actual trades involved, separate from the inadequate supervision that JPMorgan previously admitted.<sup>166</sup> To support its position, the CFTC relied on a key provision of the Dodd-Frank Act.<sup>167</sup> That provision prohibits the use of “any manipulative or deceptive device” in connection with a swap or futures contract.<sup>168</sup> The scienter or state-of-mind required for the offense includes recklessness.<sup>169</sup> When JPMorgan and the CFTC eventually reached a settlement, in October 2013, JPMorgan admitted that its traders acted recklessly when they tried to protect the doomed short position.<sup>170</sup> Under the terms of the settlement, JPMorgan paid an additional \$100 million in monetary penalties and agreed to implement enhancements to its supervision and control systems.<sup>171</sup> In the press release that accompanied the settlement, the CFTC acknowledged the assistance provided by the FCA, as well as the SEC and the U.S. Attorney’s Office for the Southern District of New York.<sup>172</sup>

### **Q 11.20 What problems could develop as the SEC and other regulators seek to extend their enforcement of U.S. securities laws outside the borders of the United States?**

Predictably, some countries resent the effort by the SEC to extend the reach of U.S. securities laws and policies abroad. Therefore, not all cross-border matters result in friendly cooperation between U.S. and foreign regulators or in eventual settlement. For example, in May 2012, the SEC charged Shanghai-based Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu CPA Ltd. for its refusal to provide audit work papers related to a Chinese company under investigation by the SEC. The SEC alleged that the Chinese Deloitte affiliate violated a provision in the 2002 Sarbanes-Oxley Act that requires foreign public accounting firms to

provide, upon SEC request, work papers that concern companies that publically trade in U.S. markets. In 2010, the firm had provided the work papers to the Chinese Securities Regulatory Commission, which had acted in response to a SEC request. The SEC and the Chinese Securities Regulatory Commission, however, had been unable to reach an agreement that would result in the delivery of the work papers to the SEC. Therefore, the Chinese Deloitte affiliate found itself in an unenviable position, caught in the middle of a disagreement between two sovereign nations. In late January 2014, an ALJ with the SEC ruled that Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu CPA Ltd., among others, had violated U.S. rules by failing to turn over its work papers related to audits of Chinese companies under SEC investigation. The trial judge recommended the Chinese affiliates be suspended from auditing Chinese companies listed in the United States for six months. Shortly thereafter, the SEC and Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu CPA Ltd. filed a joint motion to dismiss, without prejudice, the subpoena enforcement action that the SEC filed against Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu CPA Ltd. The SEC agreed to dismiss the enforcement action after the Chinese Securities Regulatory Commission turned over a substantial number of documents to the SEC. The resolution of this discovery dispute did not resolve the larger administrative action.

U.S. regulators continue to assert jurisdiction over foreign corporations that trade in the U.S. Attorneys that represent such clients should take note of that fact and advise the client on the need to comply with U.S. securities laws. Attorneys should also anticipate the difficulty in complying with U.S. law if the relevant law conflicts with the laws of the company's home jurisdiction. For that reason, the U.S. attorney should, upon the engagement of the foreign client, familiarize him or herself with the laws of the foreign jurisdiction and consult with foreign counsel as soon as possible.

**Q 11.21 What areas outside of securities regulation have experienced a rise in international cooperation between regulators?**

The effort to combat corruption has benefited from the continued growth in regulatory cooperation and enforcement. In 2016, the SEC initiated more than thirty enforcement actions related to alleged FCPA

violations, and, for its part, the DOJ initiated approximately twenty separate prosecutions.<sup>173</sup> In 2016, corporate fines in FCPA cases topped \$2 billion for the first time in the history of the FCPA.<sup>174</sup> In 2013, one of the largest settlements ever at the time, in the amount of \$398 million, involved the first coordinated action by U.S. and French authorities in a major foreign bribery case.<sup>175</sup> In 2014, one settlement with the DOJ in the amount of \$772 million involved coordination between authorities in the U.S., Indonesia, Switzerland, the U.K., Germany, Italy, Singapore, Saudi Arabia, Cyprus, and Taiwan.<sup>176</sup>

In December 2016, the SEC and DOJ announced separate settlements with international conglomerate Teva Pharmaceutical Industries Limited related to allegations that Teva paid bribes to foreign government officials in Russia, Ukraine, and Mexico.<sup>177</sup> As part of its settlement, Teva agreed to pay more than \$236 million in disgorgement and interest to the SEC plus a \$283 million penalty in a deferred prosecution agreement with the DOJ.<sup>178</sup> Additionally, Teva was required to retain an independent corporate monitor for at least three years.<sup>179</sup> Also in 2016, the SEC and DOJ entered into a global settlement with Odebrecht S.A., a Brazilian construction conglomerate and Braskem S.A., a Brazilian petrochemical company, totaling \$3.5 billion in total penalties among authorities in the United States, Brazil, and Switzerland arising out of their scheme to pay millions of dollars in bribes to government officials around the world.<sup>180</sup> This resolution now stands as the largest global foreign bribery settlement of all time.<sup>181</sup> As part of the settlement, Odebrecht agreed to pay approximately \$260 million to the DOJ, while Braskem agreed to pay approximately \$95 million to the DOJ and \$65 million to the SEC.<sup>182</sup> The remainder is to be paid to authorities in Brazil and Switzerland.<sup>183</sup>

Several important recent developments in the law and policy governing FCPA enforcement bear mentioning. With regard to governing law, in July 2018, the district court in *SEC v. Cohen* applied the five-year statute of limitations under 28 U.S.C. § 2462 to dismiss an SEC FCPA enforcement action.<sup>184</sup> In doing so, the trial court invoked the U.S. Supreme Court's reasoning in *SEC v. Kokesh*<sup>185</sup> to find that SEC requests for prospective injunctive relief—so-called “obey the law injunctions”—are at least partially punitive such that they, like the SEC's parallel FCPA claims for disgorgement and civil penalties,

accrue at the time a bribe is paid (rather than when contract benefits are realized) and are not subject to equitable tolling.<sup>186</sup> In August 2018, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit held in *United States v. Hoskins* that theories of accessory or ancillary liability are legally unavailable to expand the scope of individuals statutorily subject to SEC or DOJ jurisdiction under the FCPA.<sup>187</sup> In particular, the Second Circuit concluded that the categories of individuals and entities subject to FCPA jurisdiction had been narrowly drawn by Congress so as to indicate an affirmative legislative policy not to reach, specifically including on a conspiracy or accessory basis, individual foreign nationals who engage in corrupt activity outside the U.S. while employed by or acting as an agent of a foreign company.<sup>188</sup>

The DOJ has also made four important policy announcements with respect to FCPA enforcement over the past eighteen months. First, in November 2017, the DOJ announced its FCPA enforcement policy, codifying a presumption against prosecution if a company self-discloses corrupt activity, fully cooperates in the government's investigation, and remediates through, among other things, termination of culpable personnel and the adoption of compliance improvements.<sup>189</sup> The FCPA enforcement policy also provides for a 50% reduction from the fine guideline range set by U.S. Sentencing Guidelines, assuming corporate self-disclosure, cooperation, and remediation.<sup>190</sup> Second, in July 2018, DOJ announced extension of its FCPA enforcement policy to merger and acquisition transactions, facilitating disclosure by acquiring/successor companies of corrupt activity discovered through due diligence or post-acquisition.<sup>191</sup> Third, in October 2018, DOJ issued a formal memorandum clarifying that imposition of a corporate monitor to resolve corporate criminal liability (including under the FCPA) is disfavored “[w]here a corporation’s compliance program and controls are demonstrated to be effective and appropriately resourced at the time of resolution.”<sup>192</sup> And finally, in November 2018, DOJ relaxed the requirement that companies disclose the identity of all individuals involved in criminal activity as a condition precedent to the extension of cooperation credit.<sup>193</sup> DOJ policy now provides that cooperating companies need only disclose the identity of those “substantially involved” in criminal activity to obtain cooperation credit.<sup>194</sup> Taken together, these policy pronouncements demonstrate the DOJ’s desire to foster self-disclosure, cooperation, and remediation without the

corresponding fear that the government will deny cooperation credit and seek to impose a monitorship as a result.

**Q 11.22 What areas beyond corruption prevention have experienced a rise in international cooperation among regulators?**

In addition to the enforcement of anti-corruption laws, U.S. authorities have continued to work with foreign governments to enforce U.S. tax laws and to identify undeclared assets of U.S. citizens in overseas accounts. In 2013, one of the most politically charged cross-border tax investigations moved towards a possible conclusion when the DOJ and the Swiss Federal Department of Finance announced a settlement program that offered amnesty from criminal prosecution to Swiss banks that self-reported possible tax-related offenses under U.S. law.<sup>195</sup> This announcement followed a program unveiled by the Swiss government, in the spring of 2013, that allowed Swiss banks under investigation by the DOJ to turn over data on Swiss bank accounts held by U.S. citizens—a break from the country’s traditional bank privacy laws.<sup>196</sup> These developments have allowed the DOJ to begin assessing, on an individual basis, the culpability of banks that elect to participate in the program, with an eye towards possible settlement of civil claims against culpable banks. For example, the DOJ announced in early 2016 that it had imposed more than \$1.3 billion in penalties on eighty banks since March 2015 under the program.<sup>197</sup>

## Notes to Chapter 11

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1. 15 U.S.C. § 78u(a).
2. *Id.* § 78u(b) (“[A]ny member of the Commission or any officer designated by it is empowered to administer oaths and affirmations, subpoena witnesses, compel their attendance, take evidence, and require the production of any books, papers, correspondence, memoranda, or other records which the Commission deems relevant or material to the inquiry.”).
3. *See* CFTC v. Nahas, 738 F.2d 487, 491 (D.C. Cir. 1984) (refusing to enforce an investigative subpoena served on a foreign citizen in a foreign state).
4. *See* 31 U.S.C. § 5318(k)(3)(A)(i); *In re* Grand Jury Proceedings (Bank of Nova Scotia), 691 F.2d 1384 (11th Cir. 1982).
5. SEC, DIV. OF ENF’T, ENFORCEMENT MANUAL § 3.3.6.2 (2017) [hereinafter ENFORCEMENT MANUAL], [www.sec.gov/divisions/enforce/enforcementmanual.pdf](http://www.sec.gov/divisions/enforce/enforcementmanual.pdf).
6. INT’L ORG. OF SEC. COMM’NS, MULTILATERAL MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING CONCERNING CONSULTATION AND COOPERATION AND THE EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION (May 2012), [www.iosco.org/library/pubdocs/pdf/IOSCOPD386.pdf](http://www.iosco.org/library/pubdocs/pdf/IOSCOPD386.pdf).
7. *Id.* ¶ 7(b).
8. *Id.* ¶ 10(a)(ii).
9. *See id.* App. A.
10. *See, e.g.*, Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters art. 4, U.S.–Switz., May 25, 1973, 27 U.S.T. 2019; Judicial Assistance: Criminal Investigations art. 6(1), U.S.–Neth., June 12, 1981, 35 U.S.T. 1361.
11. For example, the MLAT between the United States and the European Union requires the parties to provide assistance to “a national administrative authority, investigating conduct with a view to criminal prosecution of the conduct, or referral of the conduct to criminal investigation or prosecution authorities. . . .” Agreement on Mutual Legal Assistance between the United States of America and the European Union art. 8 § 1, U.S.–EU, June 25, 2003, T.I.A.S. No. 10-201.1.
12. *See* Convention of 18 Mar. 1970 on the Taking of Evidence Abroad in Civil or Commercial Matters, opened for signature Mar. 18, 1970, 28 U.S.T. 2555, T.I.A.S. No. 7444.
13. *See id.* art. 1.
14. *See id.* (requiring a “judicial authority” of a signatory state to issue a Letter of Request to obtain evidence abroad).
15. *See* Intel Corp. v. Advanced Micro Devices, Inc., 542 U.S. 241, 247 n.1 (2004) (“[A] letter rogatory is the request by a domestic court to a foreign court to take evidence from a certain witness.”) (emphasis and citations omitted).
16. *See* 28 U.S.C. § 1781(b) (authorizing U.S. courts to transmit and receive letters rogatory or letters of request); FED. R. CIV. P. 28(b) (authorizing the taking of

depositions abroad pursuant to letters rogatory); *Barnes & Noble, Inc. v. LSI Corp.*, No. C 11-02709 EMC LB, 2012 WL 1808849, at \*2 (N.D. Cal. May 17, 2012) (“[a] court has inherent powers to issue letters rogatory”); *United States v. Staples*, 256 F.2d 292, 292 (9th Cir. 1958) (same). Section 1781 also empowers the Department of State to transmit and receive letters rogatory or letters of request, either “directly” or “through suitable channels.” 28 U.S.C. § 1781(a).

17. See 22 C.F.R. § 92.66(b) (“Letters rogatory may often be sent direct from court to court.”).

18. *Id.*

19. See U.S. DEP’T OF STATE, BUREAU OF CONSULAR AFF., Preparation of Letters Rogatory, <https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/legal/travel-legal-considerations/internl-judicial-asst/obtaining-evidence/Preparation-Letters-Rogatory.html>.

20. See *id.*; 22 C.F.R. § 92.54.

21. See U.S. DEP’T OF STATE, *supra* note 19.

22. See *id.* However, FED. R. CIV. P. 28(b)(4) provides that evidence obtained in response to a letter of request or letter rogatory “need not be excluded merely because it is not a verbatim transcript, because the testimony was not taken under oath, or because of any similar departure from the requirements for depositions taken within the United States.”

23. See ENFORCEMENT MANUAL, *supra* note 5, § 3.3.6.2.

24. Ian L. Schaffer, *An International Train Wreck Caused in Part by a Defective Whistle: When the Extraterritorial Application of SOX Conflicts with Foreign Laws*, 75 FORDHAM L. REV. 1829, 1835 & n.53 (2006).

25. *Id.*

26. See U.S. DEP’T OF STATE, *supra* note 19.

27. *United States v. Schwimmer*, 892 F.2d 237, 243 (2d Cir. 1989).

28. See Case C-550/07, *Akzo Nobel Chems. Ltd. and Akcros Chems. Ltd. v. Comm’n of the European Cmty.*, 2010 E.C.R. 00000 (holding that attorney-client privilege is inapplicable where in-house counsel “does not enjoy the same degree of independence from his employer as a lawyer working in an external law firm does in relation to his client”); see also Case 155/79, *AM & S Eur., Ltd. v. Comm’n of the European Cmty.*, 1982 E.C.R. 1575 (holding that privilege is not available where lawyer was “bound to the client by a relationship of employment”).

29. *Gucci Am., Inc. v. Guess?, Inc.*, 271 F.R.D. 58, 65 (S.D.N.Y. 2010).

30. *Anwar v. Fairfield Greenwich Ltd.*, 982 F. Supp. 2d 260, 264 (S.D.N.Y. 2013) (quoting *Astra Aktiebolag v. Andrxx Pharm., Inc.*, 208 F.R.D. 92, 98 (S.D.N.Y. 2002)) (internal quotation marks omitted).

31. *Id.*

32. *AstraZeneca LP v. Breath Ltd.*, No. 08-1512, 2011 WL 1421800, at \*1 (D.N.J. Mar. 31, 2011).

33. *Id.* at \*5.

34. *Id.* at \*8.

35. *Veleron Holding, B.V. v. BNP Paribas SA*, No. 12-cv-5966, 2014 WL 4184806, at \*5 (S.D.N.Y. Aug. 22, 2014).
36. *Id.*
37. *Id.* at \*6.
38. *Id.*
39. *Id.*
40. *See Renfield Corp. v. E. Remy Martin & Co., S.A.*, 98 F.R.D. 442 (D. Del. 1982).
41. *See id.* at 444.
42. *See id.* at 444–45.
43. *See id.* at 445.
44. Client Memorandum by Willkie Farr & Gallagher LLP, *Beware: Legal Privilege Rules Differ Between the U.S. and the EU* (June 19, 2008), [www.willkie.com/-/media/Files/Publications/2008/06/Beware%20%20Legal%20Privilege%20Rules%20Differ%20Between%20the\\_/Files/LegalPrivilegeRulesDifferBetweenUSandEUpdf/FileAttachment/LegalPrivilegeRulesDifferBetweenUSandEU.pdf](http://www.willkie.com/-/media/Files/Publications/2008/06/Beware%20%20Legal%20Privilege%20Rules%20Differ%20Between%20the_/Files/LegalPrivilegeRulesDifferBetweenUSandEUpdf/FileAttachment/LegalPrivilegeRulesDifferBetweenUSandEU.pdf).
45. *See Case 155/79, AM & S Eur., Ltd. v. Comm'n of the European Cmty.*, 1982 E.C.R. 1575.
46. *See id.* ¶ 21.
47. *See id.* ¶ 25.
48. *See Case C-550/07, Akzo Nobel Chems. Ltd. & Akros Chems. Ltd. v. Comm'n of the European Cmty.*, 2010 E.C.R. 00000.
49. *See id.* ¶¶ 14, 47–51.
50. *See Council Regulation (EC) No. 1/2003, art. 20, O.J. (L 1) 04/01/2003.*
51. *See In re Parmalat Sec. Litig.*, No. 04 MD 1653, 2006 WL 3592936, at \*4 (S.D.N.Y. Dec. 1, 2006); *see also* FED. R. EVID. 502.
52. *See, e.g., In re Sealed Case*, 877 F.2d 976, 980 (D.C. Cir. 1989) (“Short of court-compelled disclosure or other equally extraordinary circumstances, we will not distinguish between various degrees of ‘voluntariness’ in waivers of the attorney-client privilege.”) (citation and footnote omitted).
53. *See, e.g., In re Vitamin Antitrust Litig.*, Misc. No. 99-197, 2002 WL 35021999, at \*28 (D.D.C. Jan. 23, 2002) (finding defendants disclosed documents to European Commission voluntarily after defendants failed to show that defendants objected to disclosure and that failure to respond would have subjected defendants to sanctions).
54. *Parmalat*, 2006 WL 3592936, at \*3.
55. *Id.*
56. *See id.* at \*4.
57. *See id.*
58. *See id.* at \*5–7.
59. *See Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 Apr. 2016 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Directive 95/46/EC (“General Data Protection Regulation”), Official Journal of the European Union L 119 at 1–88 (May 4, 2016).*

60. See [Act on the Protection of Personal Information], Act No. 57 of 2003, *translation at* [www.cas.go.jp/jp/seisaku/hourei/data/APPI.pdf](http://www.cas.go.jp/jp/seisaku/hourei/data/APPI.pdf) (enacted in 2003 and effective as of April 1, 2005).

61. See Federal Law on Personal Data, July 27, 2006, No. 152-FZ [hereinafter PD Law], *translation at* [https://iapp.org/media/pdf/knowledge\\_center/Russian\\_Federal\\_Law\\_on\\_Personal\\_Data.pdf](https://iapp.org/media/pdf/knowledge_center/Russian_Federal_Law_on_Personal_Data.pdf).

62. See Information Technology (Reasonable Security Practices and Procedures and Sensitive Personal Data or Information) Rules, 2011, Gen. S.R. & O. 313(E).

63. See Personal Information Protection and Electronic Documents Act, S.C. 2000, c. 5.

64. See Article 31 of the UAE Constitution of 1971; UAE Federal Law No. 3 of 1987; Articles 378 and 379 of the UAE Penal Code.

65. See Ley Federal de Protección de Datos Personales en Posesión de Particulares [LFPDP] [Federal Law on the Protection of Personal Data Held by Private Parties], Diario Oficial de la Federación [DO], 5 de julio de 2010 (Mex.), *translation at*, [https://iapp.org/media/pdf/knowledge\\_center/Mexico\\_Federal\\_Data\\_Protection\\_Act\\_July2010.pdf](https://iapp.org/media/pdf/knowledge_center/Mexico_Federal_Data_Protection_Act_July2010.pdf).

66. See Computer Processed Personal Data Protection Law (Taiwan) (amended and retitled in 2010 as the Personal Information Protection Act).

67. See *Final Rule: Privacy of Consumer Financial Information (Regulation S-P)*, Exchange Act Release No. 42,974, Investment Company Act Release No. 24,543, Investment Advisers Act Release No. 188, [www.sec.gov/rules/final/34-42974.htm](http://www.sec.gov/rules/final/34-42974.htm).

68. *Id.*

69. *Id.*

70. See NEXT Fin. Grp., Inc., Exchange Act Release No. 56,316, 2007 WL 2409851 (Aug. 24, 2007); see also NEXT Fin. Grp., Inc., Exchange Act Release No. 349, 2008 WL 2444775 (ALJ June 18, 2008).

71. See NEXT Fin. Grp., Inc., Exchange Act Release No. 56,316, 2007 WL 2409851 (Aug. 24, 2007).

72. Woodbury Fin. Servs., Inc., Exchange Act Release No. 59,740, 2009 WL 960760 (Apr. 9, 2009) (Woodbury consented to the entry of the Order without admitting or denying any of the findings.).

73. Press Release, SEC, No. 2016-112, *Morgan Stanley Failed to Safeguard Customer Data* (June 8, 2016), [www.sec.gov/news/pressrelease/2016-112.html](http://www.sec.gov/news/pressrelease/2016-112.html).

74. *Id.*

75. See Press Release, SEC, No. 2011-86, *SEC Charges Brokerage Executives with Failing to Protect Confidential Customer Information*, [www.sec.gov/news/press/2011/2011-86.htm](http://www.sec.gov/news/press/2011/2011-86.htm).

76. *Id.*

77. *In re* Craig Scott Capital, LLC, Exchange Act. Release No. 77,595, 2016 WL 1444441, at \*1 (Apr. 12, 2016).

78. *Id.* at \*5–6.

79. See Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the

Council of 27 Apr. 2016 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Directive 95/46/EC (“General Data Protection Regulation”), Official Journal of the European Union L 119 at 1–88 (May 4, 2016) [hereinafter GDPR].

80. *See id.* art. 94(1) (“Directive 95/46/EC [i.e., the Data Protection Directive] is repealed with effect from 25 May 2018.”).

81. *See id.* art. 83. The GDPR contains a two-tiered fining regime. Article 83(4) GDPR identifies a lower tier of violations that can be fined at up to €10 million or 2% of worldwide annual turnover, whichever is greater. More serious violations can be fined at a second tier of up to €20 million or 4% of worldwide annual turnover, whichever is greater. *See id.* art. 83(5). The legal issues discussed in this article can be sanctioned under the higher, second-tier fines.

82. *See id.* art. 82 (“Any person who has suffered material or non-material damage as a result of an infringement of this Regulation shall have the right to receive compensation . . . for the damage suffered.”).

83. *See id.* art. 4(1) (“[P]ersonal data’ means any information relating to an identified or identifiable natural person (‘data subject’); an identifiable natural person is one who can be identified, directly or indirectly, in particular by reference to an identifier such as a name, an identification number, location data, an online identifier or to one or more factors specific to the physical, physiological, genetic, mental, economic, cultural or social identity of that natural person.”).

84. *See id.* art. 4(2) (“[P]rocessing’ means any operation or set of operations which is performed on personal data or on sets of personal data, whether or not by automated means, such as collection, recording, organisation, structuring, storage, adaptation or alteration, retrieval, consultation, use, disclosure by transmission, dissemination or otherwise making available, alignment or combination, restriction, erasure or destruction.”).

85. *See id.*

86. *See id.* art. 5(1)(b) (“Personal data shall be [ ] collected for specified, explicit and legitimate purposes and not further processed in a manner that is incompatible with those purposes . . . (‘purpose limitation’).”).

87. *See id.* art. 6(4) (permitting personal data to be “further processed” (i.e., re-used) for “another purpose [that] is compatible with the purpose for which the personal data [were] initially collected” if certain statutory prerequisites are satisfied).

88. *See id.* art. 6(4) (permitting personal data to be “further processed” (i.e., re-used) based on individuals’ consent).

89. *See, e.g.,* BETRIEBSVERFASSUNGSGESETZ (Works Constitution Act), Ch. 2 (permitting creation of works councils) (Ger.).

90. *See* GDPR, *supra* note 79, art. 88 (permitting EU Member States to “provide for more specific rules to ensure the protection of the rights and freedoms in respect of the processing of employees’ personal data in the employment context, in particular . . . including discharge of obligations laid down by law or by collective agreements”). The GDPR’s recitals expressly recognize that “Member State law

or collective agreements, including ‘works agreements’, may provide for specific rules on the processing of employees’ personal data in the employment context.” See GDPR Recital 155.

91. See GDPR, *supra* note 79, art. 6(1)(a).

92. See *id.* art. 6(1)(b).

93. See *id.* art. 6(1)(c).

94. See *id.* art. 6(1)(d).

95. See *id.* art. 6(1)(e).

96. See *id.* art. 6(1)(f).

97. *Id.* art. 4(11).

98. *Id.* art. 7(3) (“The data subject shall have the right to withdraw his or her consent at any time.”).

99. See *id.* art. 21 (setting forth the right to object to data processing which companies base on their legitimate interests).

100. See *id.* art. 21(1) (“The data subject shall have the right to object, on grounds relating to his or her particular situation, at any time to processing of personal data concerning him or her which is based on point (e) or (f) of Article 6(1) . . . . The controller shall no longer process the personal data unless the controller demonstrates compelling legitimate grounds . . . for the establishment, exercise or defence of legal claims.”).

101. See *id.* art. 44 (“Any transfer of personal data which are undergoing processing or are intended for processing after transfer to a third country . . . shall take place only if, subject to the other provisions of this Regulation, the conditions laid down in this Chapter [V of the GDPR] are complied with.”).

102. See *id.* art. 45(1) (“A transfer of personal data to a third country or an international organisation may take place where the Commission has decided that the third country, a territory or one or more specified sectors within that third country, or the international organisation in question ensures an adequate level of protection. Such a transfer shall not require any specific authorisation.”).

103. The countries currently recognized as providing adequate protection for EU data are: (1) Andorra, (2) Argentina, (3) Canada, (4) Faroe Islands, (5) Guernsey, (6) Israel, (7) Isle of Man, (8) Japan, (9) Jersey, (10) New Zealand, (11) Switzerland, and (12) Uruguay. See EUROPEAN COMM’N, *Adequacy Decisions: How the EU Determines if a Non-EU Country Has an Adequate Level of Data Protection*, [https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/law-topic/data-protection/data-transfers-outside-eu/adequacy-protection-personal-data-non-eu-countries\\_en#dataprotectionincountriesoutsidetheeu](https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/law-topic/data-protection/data-transfers-outside-eu/adequacy-protection-personal-data-non-eu-countries_en#dataprotectionincountriesoutsidetheeu).

104. See, e.g., U.S. DEP’T OF COMMERCE, INT’L TRADE ADMIN., *PRIVACY SHIELD, Benefits of Participation*, <https://www.privacyshield.gov/article?id=Benefits-of-Participation>.

105. For example, the Privacy Shield principle of “Accountability for Onward Transfer” requires the recipient U.S. entity to “enter into a contract with the [new] third-party [recipient] that provides that such data may only be processed for limited and specified purposes consistent with the consent provided by the

individual and that the [new] recipient will provide the same level of protection as the [Privacy Shield] Principles.” U.S. DEP’T OF COMMERCE, INT’L TRADE ADMIN., PRIVACY SHIELD FRAMEWORK, *Accountability for Onward Transfers*, <https://www.privacyshield.gov/article?id=3-ACCOUNTABILITY-FOR-ONWARD-TRANSFER>.

106. See GDPR, *supra* note 79, art. 46(2)(c) (permitting transfers on the basis of “standard data protection clauses adopted by the [European] Commission”).

107. See EUROPEAN COMM’N, Commission decision 2004/915/EC of 27 Dec. 2004 amending Decision 2001/497/EC as regards the introduction of an alternative set of standard contractual clauses for the transfer of personal data to third countries, Clause II.(i)(ii)–(iii). Generally, companies who receive EU data under the Standard Contractual Clauses cannot transfer it to further recipients unless (a) the new recipient itself executes the Standard Contractual Clauses, or (b) affected individuals are notified of the intended transfer and provided with an opportunity to object. See *id.* If a U.S. affiliate has received personal data in the capacity of a “data processor” from EU affiliates, the Standard Contractual Clauses applicable to processors require the U.S. affiliate to promptly notify its EU affiliates about “any legally binding request for disclosure of the personal data by a law enforcement agency,” but they do not expressly prohibit such disclosure. See EUROPEAN COMM’N, Commission Decision of 5 Feb. 2010 on standard contractual clauses for the transfer of personal data to processors established in third countries under Directive 95/46/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council, Clause 5(d)(i). However, EU courts have not weighed in on the issue. EU affiliates will see such a disclosure as creating GDPR enforcement risk subject to the sanctions discussed above. Counsel should thus continue to be willing to work with EU affiliates to create a defensible review and production structure.

108. See GDPR, *supra* note 79, art. 49(1) (permitting transfers based on derogations and setting forth GDPR-recognized derogations).

109. *Id.* art. 49(1)(e).

110. See *id.* art. 49(1).

111. Arguments for a strict interpretation may reference the GDPR’s recitals. See, for example, GDPR Recital 115, stating the following:

Some third countries adopt laws, regulations and other legal acts which purport to directly regulate the processing activities of natural and legal persons under the jurisdiction of the Member States. This may include judgments of courts or tribunals or decisions of administrative authorities in third countries requiring [companies] to transfer or disclose personal data, and which are not based on an international agreement, such as a mutual legal assistance treaty, in force between the requesting third country and the Union or a Member State. The extraterritorial application of those laws, regulations and other legal acts may be in breach of international law and may impede the attainment of the protection of natural persons ensured in the Union by this Regulation.

112. See *United States v. Microsoft Corp.*, 138 S. Ct. 1186.

113. See *id.* (vacating opinion on review and remanding to district court with instructions to dismiss the case as moot in light of the CLOUD Act).

114. See Brief for the European Comm'n on behalf of the European Union, as Amicus Curiae in Support of Neither Party, *United States v. Microsoft Corp.* 138 S. Ct. 1186 (2018) (No. 17-2), at 14.

115. See Brief for Bundesverband der Deutschen Industrie e.V., Deutscher Industrie- und Handelskammertag e.V. [Federation of German Industries] et al. as Amici Curiae in Support of Respondent, *United States v. Microsoft Corp.*, 138 S. Ct. 1186 (2018) (No. 17-2), at 14.

116. See generally INFORMATION COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE, <https://ico.org.uk/>.

117. See EUROP. COMM'N, DRAFT AGREEMENT ON THE WITHDRAWAL OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND FROM THE EUROPEAN UNION AND THE EUROPEAN ATOMIC ENERGY COMMUNITY, AS AGREED AT NEGOTIATORS' LEVEL ON 14 NOV. 2018, [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/sites/beta-political/files/draft\\_withdrawal\\_agreement\\_0.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/sites/beta-political/files/draft_withdrawal_agreement_0.pdf).

118. See DATA PROTECTION, PRIVACY AND ELEC. COMM'NS (AMENDMENTS ETC.) (EU EXIT) REGULATIONS 2019 (U.K.) [hereinafter EXIT REGULATIONS].

119. See EUROP. UNION (WITHDRAWAL) ACT 2018 (U.K.) § 3(2)(a) (retaining "any EU regulation" as U.K. domestic law following Brexit).

120. See EXIT REGULATIONS § 2.

121. See PD Law, *supra* note 61, art. 3.

122. *Id.* arts. 6, 15. While the PD Law generally governs the activities of all sectors and organizations, it does not regulate the processing of PII exclusively for personal or family needs, unless such processing also violates the rights of other individuals. *Id.* art. 1(2).

123. *Id.* art. 6. Note that while the PD Law does not contain any express provisions on territorial effect, some commentators have taken the approach that the PD Law applies to both the processing of personal data located in Russia and the processing of personal data of Russian citizens or residents regardless of whether the data operator is located inside or outside of Russia.

124. See *Protecting the Rights of Personal Data Subjects*, ROSKOMNADZOR (Aug. 20, 2009), [http://eng.rkn.gov.ru/personal\\_data/protecting\\_the\\_righths\\_of\\_personal\\_data\\_subjects/](http://eng.rkn.gov.ru/personal_data/protecting_the_righths_of_personal_data_subjects/).

125. See *Regulatory Acts of the Federal Executive Authorities*, ROSKOMNADZOR, [http://eng.pd.rkn.gov.ru/legislation\\_of\\_the\\_russian\\_federation/judical\\_practice/](http://eng.pd.rkn.gov.ru/legislation_of_the_russian_federation/judical_practice/).

126. See DLA PIPER, DATA PROTECTION LAWS OF THE WORLD—FULL HANDBOOK 636, [www.dlapiperdataprotection.com](http://www.dlapiperdataprotection.com).

127. *Id.*

128. *Id.* at 633, 636.

129. *Convention for the Protection of Individuals with Regard to Automatic Processing of Personal Data* CETS No. 108, COUNCIL OF EUR. (Jan. 28, 1981), [www.coe.int/en/web/conventions/full-list/-/conventions/rms/0900001680078b37](http://www.coe.int/en/web/conventions/full-list/-/conventions/rms/0900001680078b37).

130. [Criminal Code of the Russian Federation], 1996, art. 137, *translation at* [www.legislationline.org/documents/section/criminal-codes/country/7](http://www.legislationline.org/documents/section/criminal-codes/country/7).

131. *Id.*
132. *See id.*
133. Loi 80-538 du 16 juillet 1980, Relative a la communication de documents ou renseignements d'ordre economique, commerical ou technique a des personnes physiques ou morales etrangeres, JOURNAL OFFICIEL DE LA RÉPUBLIQUE FRANÇAISE [J.O.] [OFFICIAL GAZETTE OF FRANCE], July 17, 1980, [www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichTexte.do?cidTexte=JORFTEXT000000515863](http://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichTexte.do?cidTexte=JORFTEXT000000515863).
134. *Id.* art. 3.
135. Protection of Trading Interests Act, 1980, c. 11.
136. *See* Marc J. Gottridge & Thomas Rouhette, 'Blocking' Statutes Bring Discovery Woes, N.Y.L.J. (Apr. 30, 2008), <https://www.law.com/almlID/900005634407/>.
137. *See* Société Nationale Industrielle Aéronautique v. U.S. Dist. Court for the S. Dist. of Iowa, 482 U.S. 522, 544 n.28 (1987); *In re* Glob. Power Equip. Grp., Inc., 418 B.R. 833, 847 (Bankr. D. Del. 2009).
138. *In re* Glob. Power Equip. Grp., Inc., 418 B.R. at 850.
139. *Id.* at 839, 848–49.
140. *Id.* at 848–50.
141. Press Release, U.K., Financial Services Bill Receives Royal Assent (Dec. 19, 2012), [www.gov.uk/government/news/financial-services-bill-receives-royal-assent](http://www.gov.uk/government/news/financial-services-bill-receives-royal-assent).
142. Libor is defined as the rate at which a bank could borrow funds, were it to ask for and then accept interbank offers in the London market. *See* Sara Schaefer Muñoz & Max Colchester, *Barclay's Agius is Stepping Down*, WALL ST. J. (July 1, 2012), [www.wsj.com/articles/SB10001424052702304299704577500982100334286](http://www.wsj.com/articles/SB10001424052702304299704577500982100334286). Financial institutions use Libor as a benchmark for, among other things, floating rate loans. *See id.* Although estimates vary, during the relevant period, Libor served as the benchmark for \$10 trillion in loans to consumers and companies and for another \$350 trillion in derivatives. *See id.*
143. *See* Lindsay Fortado & Kitty Donaldson, *U.S. Libor Probers Said to Seek London Trader Interviews*, BLOOMBERG (Sept. 27, 2012), <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2012-09-27/u-s-libor-probers-said-to-seek-london-trader-interviews>.
144. *See* Carrick Mollenkamp & Mark Whitehouse, *Study Casts Doubt on Key Rate*, WALL ST. J. (May 29, 2008), <https://www.wsj.com/articles/SB121200703762027135>.
145. Jean Eaglesham & David Enrich, *Libor Probe Expands to Bank Traders*, WALL ST. J. (July 24, 2012), <https://www.wsj.com/articles/SB10000872396390443295404577545350903902004>.
146. Max Colchester & Jean Eaglesham, *Barclays Settles Rates Probe*, WALL ST. J. (June 27, 2012), <https://www.wsj.com/articles/SB10001424052702303649504577492400127596634>.
147. *See id.*
148. *See* Press Release, DOJ, No. 12-815, Barclays Bank PLC Admits Misconduct Related to Submissions for the London Interbank Offered Rate and the Euro Interbank Offered Rate and Agrees to Pay \$160 Million Penalty (June 27, 2012),

<https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/barclays-bank-plc-admits-misconduct-related-submissions-london-interbank-offered-rate-and>.

149. *See id.*

150. *United States v. Allen*, 864 F.3d 63 (2d Cir. 2017).

151. *Id.* at 100–01.

152. *Id.* at 68, 101.

153. *Kastigar v. United States*, 406 U.S. 441 (1972).

154. *Allen*, 864 F.3d at 97.

155. *See* Press Release, CFTC, No. 6737-13, CFTC Files and Settles Charges Against JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A., for Violating Prohibition on Manipulative Conduct in Connection with “London Whale” Swaps Trades (Oct. 16, 2013) [hereinafter CFTC], [www.cftc.gov/PressRoom/PressReleases/pr6737-13](http://www.cftc.gov/PressRoom/PressReleases/pr6737-13).

156. *See id.*

157. *See id.*

158. JPMorgan Chase & Co., Report of JPMorgan Chase & Co. Management Task Force Regarding 2012 CIO Losses 34 (Jan. 16, 2013) [hereinafter JPMorgan Chase & Co.].

159. *See id.* at 35.

160. *See id.* at 35–36.

161. *See* CFTC, *supra* note 155.

162. Ben Protesch & Raphael Minder, *Former JPMorgan Trader Surrenders in Spain in ‘London Whale’ Case*, N.Y. TIMES: DEALBOOK (Aug. 27, 2013), [http://dealbook.nytimes.com/2013/08/27/spanish-authorities-arrest-former-jpmorgan-employee/?\\_r=0](http://dealbook.nytimes.com/2013/08/27/spanish-authorities-arrest-former-jpmorgan-employee/?_r=0).

163. JPMorgan Chase & Co., *supra* note 158, at 7.

164. Robin Sidel, Scott Patterson & Jean Eaglesham, *J.P. Morgan Faces a Hard-Line SEC*, WALL ST. J. (Sept. 19, 2013), [www.wsj.com/articles/SB10001424127887324807704579084912809151456](http://www.wsj.com/articles/SB10001424127887324807704579084912809151456).

165. *See id.*

166. Scott Patterson, *J.P. Morgan to Pay \$100 Million in CFTC Pact on ‘Whale’ Trades*, WALL ST. J. (Oct. 15, 2013), [www.wsj.com/articles/SB10001424052702304561004579137992954471608](http://www.wsj.com/articles/SB10001424052702304561004579137992954471608).

167. *See id.*

168. JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A., 2013 WL 6057042, at \*9 (CFTC Oct. 16, 2013).

169. *See id.*

170. CFTC, *supra* note 155.

171. *Id.*

172. *Id.*

173. Gibson Dunn, 2016 Year-End FCPA Update, (Jan. 3, 2017), [www.gibsondunn.com/publications/Pages/2016-Year-End-FCPA-Update.aspx](http://www.gibsondunn.com/publications/Pages/2016-Year-End-FCPA-Update.aspx).

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175. Press Release, DOJ, No. 13-613, French Oil and Gas Company, Total, S.A., Charged in the United States and France in Connection with an International Bribery Scheme (May 29, 2013), [www.justice.gov/opa/pr/2013/May/13-crm-613.html](http://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/2013/May/13-crm-613.html).

176. Press Release, DOJ, No. 14-1448, Alstom Pleads Guilty and Agrees to Pay \$772 Million Criminal Penalty to Resolve Foreign Bribery Charges (Dec. 22, 2014), [www.justice.gov/opa/pr/alstom-pleads-guilty-and-agrees-pay-772-million-criminal-penalty-resolve-foreign-bribery](http://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/alstom-pleads-guilty-and-agrees-pay-772-million-criminal-penalty-resolve-foreign-bribery).

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179. *Id.*

180. Press Release, DOJ, No. 16-1515, Odebrecht and Braskem Plead Guilty and Agree to Pay at Least \$3.5 Billion in Global Penalties to Resolve Largest Foreign Bribery Case in History (Dec. 21, 2016), [www.justice.gov/opa/pr/odebrecht-and-braskem-plead-guilty-and-agree-pay-least-35-billion-global-penalties-resolve](http://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/odebrecht-and-braskem-plead-guilty-and-agree-pay-least-35-billion-global-penalties-resolve).

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182. *See id.*

183. *Id.*

184. SEC v. Cohen, 332 F. Supp. 3d 575 (E.D.N.Y. 2018).

185. *Id.* (citing SEC v. Kokesh, 137 S. Ct. 1635 (2017)).

186. *See id.* at 589–91, 594 (noting that tolling agreements are legally ineffective unless the allegedly corrupt activity purportedly subject to tolling is clearly within the scope of a tolling provision).

187. United States v. Hoskins, 902 F.3d 69 (2d Cir. 2018).

188. *Id.* at 94.

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