Panelist Bios: Offshore Funds and Investment Products

Christopher D. Christian, '98, Partner, Dechert LLP (Moderator)

Christopher D. Christian, a member of the firm's Policy Committee and Deputy Chair for Strategic Growth, advises U.S. and European asset managers and investment funds and their boards of directors, including funds organized under the European Union directive on Undertakings for Collective Investment in Transferable Securities (UCITS) and funds organized in other jurisdictions offered on a private basis.

Mr. Christian's practice has a significant international component. He advises offshore funds on compliance with U.S. regulatory requirements and routinely counsels European retail and institutional funds on organization, registration, corporate governance, and global distribution issues. He has assisted clients in coordinating offering advisory services and various types of investment funds in compliance with local law in jurisdictions in Europe, Asia, the Middle East, and Latin and South America.

Mr. Christian is also the architect of Dechert's World Compass, an innovative marketing compliance subscription service that offers investment firms advice in more than 100 jurisdictions.

Mr. Christian has been recognized as a leading lawyer for investment funds by Chambers USA. In a recent edition, a client stated: "Chris is very knowledgeable and explains things clearly and concisely." "We trust Chris's judgment and business know-how immensely." Previous editions noted that "He understands the whole picture very well. He has an encyclopedic knowledge of regulation" and highlighted his "impressive understanding of cross-border regulation and a deep knowledge of industry practices and regulatory expectations," also noting that "he is particularly well known for handling matters related to foreign-domiciled funds and UCITS." He is also recognized in Chambers Global as a Foreign Expert in Ireland. In the latest guide, a client states that he is an "excellent attorney and an invaluable resource to us in building our UCITS franchise." In a past edition, clients said, "He is an innovator and has produced an amazing platform to help clients with product distribution and UCITS worldwide. A unique, worldwide expert who has developed amazing tools and has a lot of practical knowledge of how the markets work." He has also been recognized in The Legal 500 (U.S.) and IFLR1000 in the area of investment funds.

Mr. Christian is the former Chair of the International Bar Association's Investment Funds Committee and was recently selected as Chair of the Irish Funds North America Distribution Working Group. He has spent considerable time working in Dechert's London office and is a frequent conference speaker.

Education

- Brandeis University, B.A., 1995
- The Catholic University of America, Columbus School of Law, J.D., 1998, cum laude
- Georgetown University Law Center, LL.M., Securities and Financial Regulation, 1999

Admission

- District of Columbia
- Massachusetts

JP Saulnier, Associate General Counsel, GQG Partners

JP Saulnier is Associate General Counsel with GQG Partners LLC, a global boutique asset manager focused on active equity portfolios. Mr. Saulnier is responsible for legal and regulatory support of GQG's non-US business across both institutional strategies and commingled investment products. Mr. Saulnier joined GQG in 2020. His prior experience includes various roles with other global asset managers including Associate General Counsel at Lord, Abbett & Co., Vice President and Counsel at Neuberger Berman and Vice President and Counsel at AllianceBernstein. Mr. Saulnier began his career as an associate with Stroock LLP. He has worked in the financial services industry since 1999.

Mr. Saulnier earned a BA from Trinity College (CT) and a JD from UCLA School of Law.

Admission

- New York

Eva M. Mykolenko, Associate Chief Counsel, ICI Global

Eva M. Mykolenko is Associate Chief Counsel, Securities Regulation with the Investment Company Institute and ICI Global. Mykolenko advocates on behalf of U.S. and global, regulated funds and their investors to securities regulators and multinational organizations in the United States and abroad. She started with the Institute in 2008 after more than eight years in private practice at Willkie Farr & Gallagher LLP and Shearman & Sterling LLP. While in private practice, Mykolenko advised mutual fund, hedge fund, and investment adviser clients on a variety of compliance, regulatory, and transactional matters. Mykolenko received her undergraduate degree from the University of Michigan and her law degree from the University of Michigan Law School.

Admission

- New York
- District of Columbia

Julia O'Toole, Securities Law Program, Class of 2024

Julia O'Toole is a third-year law student at the Catholic University of America, Columbus School of Law. Ms. O'Toole is a member of the Securities Law Program, and President of the Securities Law Students Association. She has been a legal intern at the Investment Company Institute since May 2023, monitoring and analyzing legislative and regulatory developments involving the investment management industry. Before joining the ICI, she interned with the SEC in the Division of Enforcement where she researched, analyzed, and compiled a chronological timeline, drafted a subpoena, and participated in meetings with a team of SEC attorneys and opposing counsel on a whistleblower case. She was also a legal intern with Accenture in the Office of the General Counsel. Ms. O'Toole received her B.A. in Political Science from Virginia Tech.