



Melanie Garcia

Associate

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Melanie Garcia's practice focuses on economic sanctions (OFAC), international trade compliance (BIS), and advocacy before the Executive branch and Congress.

Melanie regularly advises US and multinational companies on matters related to US national security law and policy. As part of her practice, Melanie draws on her robust knowledge of relevant government regulations – including economic sanctions, export controls, and anti-boycott laws – to assist clients with complex compliance issues, including those that may result in investigations and enforcement actions or may require seeking authorization from relevant government agencies. Melanie frequently helps clients develop strategies to address the legal and political issues related to these matters. She provides timely and thoughtful advice to clients in a wide range of industries, including insurance, aerospace, financial services, and manufacturing.

- Regulatory and Government Affairs
- International Trade
- US Law and Policy

Spanish

LANGUAGES SPOKEN

- Spanish

- Melanie has substantial experience and success advocating for clients before the Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC), including proactively seeking authorization for clients to engage in certain activities and assisting clients in enforcement actions.
- Melanie assists clients in developing and improving internal compliance controls, including designing and implementing compliance policies and procedures, providing training on regulatory obligations, and advising on new regulatory challenges.
- With regard to international trade compliance, Melanie advises clients on export control and anti-boycott obligations under the Export Administration Regulations (EAR) and on compliance with the International Traffic in Arms Regulations (ITAR). Melanie brings clarity to clients dealing with this complex regulatory framework by achieving a strong understanding of each client's business and providing succinct and relevant advice.
- Melanie has represented companies on implementing strategies to advocate before Congress and the Executive branch, including before the Departments of State and Commerce, on policy, legislation, and appropriations issues affecting their business interests.

CREDENTIALS

Admissions

- District of Columbia
- Maryland

Prior Experience

Before her legal career, Melanie taught English to freshmen and sophomores at a private school in Florida. In law school, she achieved a strong academic record and gained legal experience working as law clerk at the National Hispanic Media Coalition, where she focused on First Amendment issues.

Education

- J.D., Georgetown University Law Center 2012
- B.A., English, Duke University 2007

INSIGHTS

Publications

US imposes further sanctions and export controls against Russia

25 February 2022

Global Sanctions Alert

The White House emphasized that these newly announced sanctions and export controls will be complemented with similar measures imposed by US allies and partners.

New US sanctions in response to Russia's actions against Ukraine

23 February 2022

Global Sanctions Alert

Additional sanctions are expected that will target Russia's financial, technology, and defense sectors.

The US, EU and UK implement the 'first phase' of New Sanctions in response to Russia's recognition of the independence of the Donetsk and Luhansk regions

23 February 2022

Global Sanctions Alert

Providing you an up to date summary of the latest US, EU and UK "first phase" sanctions in response to Russia's recognition of the independence of the Donetsk and Luhansk regions.

The Russia sanctions and their impacts on commodities companies: Action steps for companies engaged in transactions with Russian gas and energy companies

11 May 2021

Implications of key provisions in President Biden's Executive Order.

Release of Hong Kong Autonomy Act report paves way for sanctions against foreign financial institutions

19 October 2020

The report was required under the Hong Kong Autonomy Act.

- US government sanctions Petróleos de Venezuela, authorizes US persons to engage in certain limited transactions, 29 Jan 2019
- Section 301 additional tariffs on imports of Chinese products: options for high tech and manufacturing companies, 3 Oct 2018
- Section 301 trade action against Chinese products: time for quick action, 4 Apr 2018
- Section 232 trade action - steel, aluminum tariffs: trade war? Mechanisms for possible relief for certain companies and countries, 9 Mar 2018

PRO BONO

- Her Pro Bono work has earned Melanie recognition from the firm and has focused on helping improve the situation of immigrants and non-profit education organizations. Melanie is engaged in multiple DLA Piper initiatives, and serves on the firm's Leadership Alliance for Women and on the steering committee for the firm's Washington, D.C. Diversity & Inclusion Committee.