

Lourdes Catrain

Partner

Brussels

Madrid

Biography

According to clients, Lourdes' "*vast knowledge and experience is calming in the most stressful situations*". Her practice focuses on international trade law and policy, including market access and regulatory matters involving economic sanctions, export controls, customs, and environmental and competition law issues relating to trade.

In the area of economic sanctions, in addition to advisory work, she's regularly involved in securing licenses, voluntary disclosures and related investigations and in assisting corporates with compliance programmes.

She helps governments and industry in anti-dumping, anti-subsidy and safeguard investigations. In the EU's largest trade dispute with China, solar panels, she represented the interests of a key EU upstream supplier which forcefully defended free trade. She's secured an amendment on the product scope of the UK measures on behalf of a leading US fuels producer.

Lourdes' in-depth knowledge of the EU institutions and the WTO has allowed her to assist governments to navigate free trade and investment negotiations. She also advises on WTO compatibility of EU trade and regulatory measures which impact trade (e.g., CBAM).

Lourdes also led the FDI filings related to EUR12.3bn acquisition by GE of Alstom's energy activities.

She advises clients in a broad range of industries and



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Languages

English
Italian
French
Spanish

Practices

International Trade and
Investment

Industries

Energy and Natural Resources

Areas of focus

Export Controls

Foreign Direct Investment (FDI)

services, including: life sciences, oil and gas, agricultural, chemicals, electronics, steel and general consumer goods sectors.

Representative experience

Secured a significant victory for Pfizer in a case before the EU Court of Justice, case C-182/19, in relation to the customs classification of Thermacare.

Obtaining the annulment before the EU General Court of Qualitest's listing in the EU Iran Sanctions Regulation T-421/11.

Successful representation of the Government of Indonesia in the EU anti-subsidy investigation concerning imports of biodiesel.

Acting for a leading polysilicon manufacturer in the EU anti-dumping and anti-subsidy investigations against solar panels originating from China.

Assisting a sovereign government in Latin America in its successful free trade agreement negotiations with the EU.

Assisting a leading Spanish renewable corporation to navigate through the EU Russia economic sanctions including its divestment of assets in Russia.

Acting for various oil and gas western corporations with economic sanctions matters including securing licenses authorizations from various EU Member States.

Assisting a major U.S. industrial petrochemical conglomerate on a voluntary self disclosure in connection with a breach of export control laws in several EU jurisdictions.

Assisting a major U.S. services provider on addressing export control issues in its acquisition of assets in the EU.

Representing DelSolar Ltd. in the EU anti-dumping and anti-subsidy investigations against solar panels originating from China.

Advising Alcatel-Lucent on U.S. and EU export control and sanctions issues in connection to the sale of

Education and admissions

Education

J.D. Facultad de Derecho,
Universidad Complutense de
Madrid

LL.M., University of Michigan
Law School

Bar admissions and qualifications

Brussels (E-List)
Madrid

Accolades

"Her vast knowledge and experience is calming in the most stressful situations; she is very diplomatic in the way she handles everything," says one source. "She is always clear from a time management perspective and in terms of setting expectations, which makes the work easy to manage from our side."

Chambers Global 2020

"Lourdes Catrain is reputed for her expertise in sanctions and export embargoes. Her impressive experience also includes interventions in EU anti-dumping expiry reviews and tariff matters." "She gives practical, crisp advice rather than a theoretical thesis."

Alcatel-Lucent to Nokia. In particular, we handled the due diligence and regulatory filings.

Providing one of the world's leading diversified mining and smelting groups on-going operational legal advice on economic sanctions, including sensitive operational and financial questions.

Advising various clients on EU customs requirements, including classification, valuation and rules of origin, and internal procedures.

Advising a global pharmaceutical corporate with respect to the review of its customs valuation following the ruling of the Hamamatsu (C-529/16) court case.

Assisted a Middle East country on a valuation matter concerning whether fees paid under an exclusive distribution agreement should be added to the customs value of imported goods.

Awards and rankings

- Leading Individuals for Customs, Trade, WTO and Anti-Dumping - Belgium, *Legal 500 EMEA*, 2020-2024
- Ranked for International Trade/WTO, *Chambers Europe*, 2014-2024
- Ranked for International Trade/WTO, *Chambers Global*, 2013-2024
- Trade & Customs, Global Leader, *Who's Who Legal*, 2007-2023
- Trade & Customs – International Sanctions, Global Leader, *Who's Who Legal*, 2019-2022
- Foreign Investment Review, Global Leader, *Who's Who Legal*, 2019
- Best in International Trade for Women in Business Law, *Euromoney Europe Award*, 2014-2016
- MVP, International Trade, *Law360*, 2013
- Most highly regarded individuals, Trade and Customs, *Who's Who Legal*, 2011

Latest thinking and events

■ News

- At the crossroads of IP and Russia sanctions: what IP Rights holders need to know

■ News

- HMG uses national security powers to order the disposal of a UK company acquired by Chinese investor

■ News

- New EU Sanctions against Russia's destabilising activities - Regulation 2024/2642

■ Insights and Analysis

- Sanctions: The end of the beginning? Moving into a new era of anti-circumvention and enforcement

■ News

- Upcoming EU regulation concerning forced labour in supply chains

■ Insights and Analysis

- FDI didn't know that...