

# GUARDING THE GATE:



## SANCTIONS, EXPORT CONTROLS & BUSINESS RESPONSIBILITIES

NOVEMBER 6  
2025

RIGA, LATVIA  
NATIONAL LIBRARY OF LATVIA AND ONLINE

9:00 – 9:15

### KEYNOTE SPEAKER

**BAIBA BRAŽE**  
Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Latvia

9:15 – 9:20

### WELCOME REMARKS

**TOMS PLATACIS**  
Head of FIU Latvia

9:20 – 10:10

### SANCTIONS AND SECURITY: ALIGNING POLICY WITH STRATEGIC GOALS panel discussion

**JOHN E. SMITH**  
Partner and Co-Head of National Security Practice, Morrison Foerster; former Director, US Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC)

**ESTHER BLYTHE**  
Deputy Director for Russia & Belarus sanctions, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO)

**PIA SARIVAARA**  
Sanctions Coordinator and Senior Ministerial Adviser, Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland

**Moderator TOM KEATINGE**  
Director, Centre for Finance and Security, RUSI

10:10 – 10:55

### SANCTIONS ON TRIAL: HOW THE COURTS ARE SHAPING SANCTIONS POLICY panel discussion

**LAILA MEDINA**  
Advocate-General, Court of Justice of the European Union

**KATHERINE FOX**  
Head of Sanctions Litigation Unit, Sanctions Directorate Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO)

**Moderator MĀRIS KLŪGA**  
Senior Analyst of Sanctions Implementation Division, FIU Latvia

10:55 – 11:25

### BREAK

11:25 – 12:10

### SECURING BORDERS, ENFORCING SANCTIONS: THE ROLE OF CUSTOMS AND EXPORT CONTROLS panel discussion

**RAIMONDS ZUKULS**  
Director, National Customs Board, State Revenue Service of Latvia

**FREDERIK LADE BROCH-LIPS**  
Special Advisor, Danish Business Authority

**RŪTA BAJARŪNAITĖ**  
Head of Sanctions Policy, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Lithuania

**Moderator MARTA TILHENA**  
Head of Sanctions Implementation Division, FIU Latvia

12:10 – 12:55

**SANCTIONS IN PRACTICE:**  
BUSINESS RESPONSIBILITY AND COMPLIANCE  
panel discussion

**EDGARS PASTARS**

Adviser, Finance Latvia Association; Partner, COBALT Latvia

**JEFF NIELSEN**

International Sanctions and Export Controls Lawyer, Ramboll

**COLLEEN SINCLAIR**

Deputy Director, Sanctions Bureau, Global Affairs Canada

**Moderator DR KINGA REDLOWSKA**

Head, Centre for Finance and Security at RUSI Europe

12:55 – 14:10

**BREAK**

14:10 – 14:55

**FOLLOWING THE MONEY:**  
RISKS AND RESPONSIBILITIES IN THE FINANCIAL SECTOR  
panel discussion

**SAMUEL COUSINS**

Senior Associate – Sanctions, Ransomware and Risk, ACAMS

**SÉBASTIEN GUILLAUME**

Head of Compliance at the Belgian Ministry of Finance, Treasury

**VITĀLIJS BOGDANOVŠ**

Head of Sanctions compliance, SEB banka

**Moderator MĀRIS VAINOVSKIS**

Senior Partner, Eversheds Sutherland Bitāns

14:55 – 15:40

**SANCTIONS ENFORCEMENT IN FOCUS:**  
REAL CASES, REAL IMPACT  
panel discussion

**TOMS PLATACIS**

Head of FIU Latvia

**RUUD LEEUWENDAAL**

Head of Team Anti-Terrorism Financing and Sanctions, FIOD, the Netherlands

**MARK HANDLEY**

Partner, Duane Morris

**Moderator MARTA TILHENA**

Head of Sanctions Implementation Division, FIU Latvia

15:40 – 16:05

**BREAK**

16:05 – 16:50

**COUNTING THE GLOBAL COST:**  
SANCTIONS AND ECONOMIC CONSEQUENCES  
panel discussion

**BENJAMIN HILGENSTOCK**

Head of Macroeconomic Research and Strategy, Kyiv School of Economics

**MATĪSS MIROŠŅIKOVŠ**

Senior Economist, Latvijas Banka

**Moderator KĀRLIS BUKOVSKIS**

Director of the Latvian Institute of International Affairs and an Associate Professor at Riga Stradins University

16:50 – 17:10

**GUARDING THE GATE:**  
LATVIA’S EXPERIENCE  
interview

**PAULIS ILJENKOVŠ**

Deputy Head of FIU Latvia

**Interviewer ULDIS CĒRPS**

Chairman of the Board, Finance Latvia Association