ArentFox Schiff LLP
Attorneys

Sylvia G. Costelloe

COUNSEL

Sylvia is a trusted advisor in ArentFox Schiff's International Trade practice, focusing on export controls, economic sanctions, CFIUS, and antiboycott matters.



Industries

National Security

Practices

International Arbitration & Dispute Resolution
International Trade & Investment
Corporate & Securities
— US Market Entry and International Transactions

Languages

French
German
Italian
Swedish

Education

University of Oxford, BA, 2011
Notre Dame Law School, JD, cum laude, 2014

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Sylvia regularly advises clients with respect to the Export Administration Regulations (EAR), International Traffic in Arms Regulations (ITAR), and Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) sanctions and embargoes. She helps large and small US and non-US companies understand and comply with the complicated US laws and regulations governing exports and re-exports of goods, software, services, and technology. Sylvia advises clients on international regulatory issues, including civilian and military export controls, economic sanctions, and antiboycott regulations. She frequently assists clients with license applications, commodity classifications, compliance program design and implementation, audits, and voluntary disclosures to various government agencies, including the Directorate of Defense Trade Control (DDTC), the Bureau of Industry and Security (BIS), and OFAC. She also provides clients with guidance on the scope of BIS's Connected Vehicles Rule and how to tailor their supply chains to remain compliant with the rule.

Sylvia also counsels clients on the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States (CFIUS) and its expanded authority under the Foreign Investment Risk Review Modernization Act (FIRRMA). She advises both investors and target companies on transactions involving critical technology, and sensitive personal data, including mergers and acquisitions, venture capital investments, and private equity transactions. She advises clients on the regulatory implications of various transactions and regularly prepares filings for CFIUS review. She also advises clients on the new export controls on emerging and foundational technologies, as mandated by the Export Control Reform Act of 2018 and how they intersect with CFIUS's jurisdiction.

Sylvia has also counseled clients on Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA) and business ethics-related compliance policies and procedures. She has experience in various industries, including telecommunications, electronics, information technology, chemicals, and industrial manufacturing.

Previous Work

Prior to joining ArentFox Schiff, Sylvia served in a clerkship with Judge Kim R. Gibson (Western District of Pennsylvania).

Publications, Presentations & Recognitions

Publications

- Washington Lawyers' Committee's Cases and Other Initiatives Involving Immigration and Refugee Law, *Howard Law Journal*,Fall 2018

Presentations

- AI Regulations Workshop: AI Regulations and Policy , *Society for International Affairs (SIA)*, September 16, 2026
- Everything is Connected: How New Department of Commerce Regulations on Information Technology are Reshaping Supply Chain Security (CLE) , *ABA International Law Section Annual Conference*, May 12, 2026
- State of Trade: Global Trade & Legal Insights 2026, *Women In International Trade Orange County Panel*, March 18, 2026
- Connected-Vehicle AI & Data Compliance Lab , *ACI's 14th Annual Automotive Litigation, Regulation, and Innovation Summit*, March 9, 2026
- State of Trade: Global Trade & Legal Insights 2025, *Women In International Trade Orange County Panel*, March 7, 2025
- EAR / OFAC Export Controls, *Export Compliance Training Institute's Live Export Compliance Seminar*, January 15-16, 2025
- ITAR Export Controls, *Export Compliance Training Institute's Live Export Compliance Seminar*, January 13-14, 2025
- Antiboycott Compliance: Why You Should Care and What You Should Do About It, *Massachusetts Export Center Webinar*, November 14, 2024
- Global Law Trade Insights 2024: A Women-Led Dialogue , *Women In International Trade Orange Country Roundtable*, March 13, 2024
- 2023 Year-in-Review Programs: Export Controls , *American Bar Association International Law Section, Export Controls and Economic Sanctions Committee*, February 21, 2024
- Chips, Batteries, & Charging Stations: Biden Administration in High Gear to Secure the Automotive Supply Chain , *DesignCon 2024*, February 1, 2024
- EAR Enforcement, *Export Compliance Training Institute's ITAR, EAR, and OFAC Export Controls Seminar*, January 18, 2024
- ITAR Enforcement, *Export Compliance Training Institute's ITAR, EAR, and OFAC Export Controls Seminar*, January 16, 2024
- Sanctions - Year in Review, *American Bar Association*, February 27, 2023
- Your Contract is Now Unlawful: What to do when the Sanctions Are Imposed in the Middle of the Deal, *American Bar Association's International Contracts Committee*, February 23, 2023
- 2022 Year-in-Review Programs: Export Controls , *American Bar Association International Law Section, Export Controls and Economic Sanctions Committee*, February 16, 2023

Life Beyond the Law

Sylvia grew up in Europe and Asia, and is fluent in German and French. She enjoys hiking, skiing, rock climbing, reading, and traveling to Europe.

Bar Admissions

California

District of Columbia

Maryland