Areas of Work
Economic Sanctions, Export Controls, Vetting & Government Ethics

Overview
Martin Willner focuses his practice on international regulatory compliance issues, with a concentration on sanctions and export controls. He advises clients on US sanctions law and policy and regulations administered by the Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) and assists his clients with license applications and disclosures related to US export controls under the Export Administration Regulations (EAR) and International Traffic in Arms Regulations (ITAR). Martin also advises on issues of public international law.

Martin has represented clients in a number of industries, including aerospace and defense, agriculture, financial services, and metals and mining. He focuses on issues related to Russia, China, Venezuela, Iran, Syria, and North Korea.

Prior to joining Steptoe, Martin worked and interned in a number of US agencies and international organizations including the US Department of Justice’s Office of Foreign Litigation, the State Department’s Office of Counter Threat Finance and Sanctions, the International Court of Justice, and the United Nations Human Rights Committee. In these positions he has worked on issues related to the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme, the Hague Evidence and Service Conventions, treaty interpretation, and diplomatic and sovereign immunity.

Bar & Court Admissions
- District of Columbia
- New York

Clerkships
- H.E. Joan Donoghue, International Court of Justice, 2018-2019
- Hon. Edwin Cameron, Constitutional Court of South Africa, 2017-2018
Education

- J.D., Columbia Law School, 2017, James Kent Scholar; Harlan Fiske Stone Scholar; Head Notes Editor, Columbia Journal of Transnational Law
- B.A., Columbia University, Columbia College, 2012, cum laude

News & Publications

PUBLICATIONS

A Chinese Company Just Acquired My Biggest Customer. What Do I Do?

Export Compliance Manager
June 2020
By: Jack R. Hayes, Martin Willner

Resources

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Sanctions Under the Biden Administration: A Return to 'Smart?'
November 24, 2020
By: Edward J. Krauland, Meredith Rathbone, Wendy Wysong, Jack R. Hayes, Nicholas Turner, Peter Jeydel, Evan T. Abrams, Martin Willner, Nicholas Kimbrell, Jordan Cannon (Law Clerk)

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