INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND WTO
HARNESSING OPPORTUNITIES AND MITIGATING RISKS

Our international trade group is dedicated to assisting clients in maximising the opportunities and minimising the risks deriving from the ever increasing regulation of international trade in goods and services.

Our trade team is comprised of seasoned private practitioners from across our competition, regulation and trade, corporate crime and investigations, and disputes practices, and includes a former head of Trade Policy and WTO law at the European Commission’s Legal Service. We have extensive experience advising both companies and sovereign governments on matters across the full spectrum of international trade law, including:

- **WTO law** - acting in WTO dispute settlement proceedings and WTO trade negotiations, as well as developing strategies for our clients to best use WTO law in order to achieve practical results outside the context of formal dispute settlement;

- **Trade Agreements** - acting in dispute settlement proceedings under EU free trade and economic partnership agreements;

- **Investor-state dispute settlement** - acting for investors as well as for respondent States;

- **Trade policy** - assisting international companies and government bodies with international trade negotiations, whether in the framework of WTO negotiations, free trade agreements or bilateral treaties;

- **Brexit advice** - advising WTO members on the impact of Brexit on their EU trade agreements as well as rolled-over EU trade agreements with the UK post-Brexit;

- **Economic sanctions and export controls** - advising on EU financial and trade
sanctions as well as on EU export control regimes (military and dual-use goods);

- **Customs issues** – assisting clients with a range of customs issues relating to inter alia, tariff classification, rules of origin, special customs procedures and payment and repayment of duties;

- **Market access issues** – advising both EU and non-EU international companies on strategic issues pertaining to their EU market access;

- **Trade defence instruments** – routinely advising clients on specific aspects of both EU and WTO anti-dumping and anti-subsidy rules, as well as representing clients in proceedings before the EU Courts.

Furthermore, our team are not only experts in international trade law but also in all aspects of EU law, aimed at either implementing the EU’s international trade obligations or regulating EU import and export flows of goods and services. This means that our trade team benefits from the necessary experience and expertise to provide comprehensive advice to companies operating in and/or exporting to the EU and to help them navigate the intricate network of international trade-related rules, whether defined at international, EU or national level.

**RELATED LINKS**

- [COMPETITION (TRADE) NOTES BLOG](#)
- [BREXIT HUB](#)
- [THE VIEW FROM BRUSSELS](#)
ACCOLADES

TIER 1 FOR EU AND COMPETITION: TRADE, WTO, ANTI-DUMPING AND CUSTOMS
LEGAL 500 UK 2020

TIER 3 FOR TRADE, WTO, ANTI-DUMPING AND CUSTOMS
LEGAL 500 EMEA 2020, BELGIUM/UK
LODE VAN DEN HENDE, HEAD OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND WTO LAW, IS RECOMMENDED FOR TRADE & CUSTOMS
WHO’S WHO LEGAL 2019
LODE VAN DEN HENDE, HEAD OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND WTO LAW, IS RECOGNISED AS A “LEADING INDIVIDUAL” FOR TRADE, WTO, ANTI-DUMPING, AND CUSTOMS

LEGAL 500 UK 2020
SENIOR ASSOCIATE MORRIS SCHONBERG IS RECOGNISED AS A "RISING STAR" FOR TRADE, WTO, ANTI-DUMPING, AND CUSTOMS  

LEGAL 500 UK 2020
**RECENT EXPERIENCE**

**NORD STREAM 2 (OWNED BY GAZPROM)**

On its landmark legal challenge of an EU Directive extending EU gas law to the Nord Stream 2 pipeline (while excluding all other similar pipelines) - this involves the first ever investor-state arbitration procedure against the EU under the Energy Charter Treaty and a challenge in the EU Courts.

**PROSPERITY UK**

Advice and assistance to the Alternative Arrangements Commission on EU and international trade law issues in relation to the Irish Backstop and other elements of the Withdrawal Agreement Alternative Arrangements for the Irish Border.

**UNITED CARTON INDUSTRIES COMPANY**

In an anti-dumping investigation concerning cardboard paper initiated by the Gulf Cooperation Council.

**ROSNEFT AND GAZPROM NEFT**

In a web of innovative and highly technical court proceedings before the UK courts, the European General Court and the Court of Justice of the European Union challenging EU trade and financial sanctions.
A SOVEREIGN WEALTH FUND

Advice on the market economy status of China in the discussions in the WTO and more generally in relation to the approach adopted by the US and the EU

BREXIT ADVICE

Advice and assistance to several public and private entities on the potential consequences of Brexit for the future trade relationship between the EU and the UK and the UK and third countries

OUR PEOPLE

LODE VAN DEN HENDE
PARTNER, BRUSSELS
+32 2 518 1831
Lode.VanDenHende@hsf.com

ERIC WHITE
CONSULTANT, BRUSSELS
+32 2 518 1826
eric.white@hsf.com

MORRIS SCHONBERG
SENIOR ASSOCIATE, BRUSSELS
+32 2 518 1832
Morris.Schonberg@hsf.com

SUSANNAH COGMAN
PARTNER, LONDON
+44 20 7466 2580
Susannah.Cogman@hsf.com

ANDREW CANNON

DANIEL HUDSON

PHILIP PFEFFER

LUKAS MALY