Sensitive Geopolicy

January 13, 2026

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01

Space Law & Policy

Architecting the infrastructure for the final frontier.

Sovereign Space Strategy

Drafting national laws and establishing space agencies.

Recent Instructions:

National Legislation

Advised a sovereign European state in drafting its national space legislation.

Space Agency Establishment

Advised a state on the establishment and legal structure of its national space agency.

Spaceport Architecture

Advised a sovereign Latin American state on the development and legal architecture of its national spaceport.

Treaty Compliance

Counseled a European launch services provider on international

treaty compliance and liability exposure.

Track I Dialogue

Engaged in Track I dialogue with a South East government for an APAC government on aviation and aerospace rights.

Government Partnership

Counseled a private satellite station developer on government-commercial partnership structures.

Policy Development

Advising a sovereign entity on the regulatory strategy for safety certification in space operations.

Commercial Space Operations

Regulatory approvals for satellites, launches, and constellations.

Recent Instructions:

Satellite Launch Licensing

Advised a major US satellite operator on launch and licensing of non-geostationary satellite stations in a Gulf state.

Multi-Orbital Constellations

Advised a US satellite manufacturer on export control compliance for a multi-orbital constellation.

Spectrum Coordination

Advising on International Telecommunication Union (ITU) filings and spectrum priority rights.

Launch Liability Exposure

Advised a European launch services provider on cross-border launch operations and third-party liability exposure.

Safety Certification

Advised a private satellite station developer on regulatory strategy and safety certification.

Export Control (ITAR/EAR)

Advised a US satellite manufacturer on export control compliance for sensitive space technologies.

Non-Geostationary Licensing

Securing landing rights for non-geostationary satellite constellations in the Middle East.

Aerospace & Defense

Support for defense contractors, drones, and state security.

Recent Instructions:

Drone Acquisition

Advised an Asian defense firm on acquisition and legal operation of advanced unmanned aerial drones.

Defense Tax Concessions

Tax dispute for a US defense contractor arising from defense and security agreement tax concessions.

Space Tourism Discrimination

Counseled a Space Tourist on a discriminatory arbitration

claim against a major US space tourism firm.

Export Controls (Defense)

Advised a US satellite manufacturer on export control compliance for dual-use technologies.

Aviation Rights

Engaged in Track I dialogue regarding aviation rights and airspace sovereignty.

Government Procurement

Counsel to a heavy civil engineering contractor on a turnkey project dispute with a State operator.

Military-Civil Fusion

Advising on the regulatory implications of dual-use technologies in the aerospace sector.

02

Fiscal Policy & Tax Controversy

Resolving high-value tax disputes and shaping fiscal compliance strategies.

Indirect & Direct Tax Disputes

Over 300 tax dispute procedures have been litigated through our United Arab Emirates office.

Recent Instructions:

Production Wastage Tax

USD 120 million tax dispute for a tobacco manufacturer arising from production moisture loss and wastage.

Permanent Establishment

USD 40 million tax dispute for a technology MNC arising from permanent and fixed establishment status.

Retrospective Tax

USD 90 million tax dispute for a publicly listed developer in relation to retrospective property development taxes.

Mandated Markdowns

USD 30 million tax dispute for an energy utility company arising from government-mandated markdowns.

Defense Concessions

Tax dispute for a US defense contractor arising from defense and security agreement tax concessions.

Utility Tariffs

Counsel to a domestic public utilities company in dispute with the Federal government over tariffs.

Warehouse Contracting

Litigating a tax dispute regarding whether warehouse services are considered contracting and leasing, or goods.

Regulatory & Licensing Fiscal Issues

Managing the fiscal impact of regulatory changes and licensing fees.

Recent Instructions:

Tobacco Licensing

Due diligence to a tobacco manufacturer on licensing issues arising from novel health licensing regulations.

Permit Revocation

Counsel to an education services provider vis-à-vis a licensing authority for revocation of permit.

Digital Rights Sales

Counsel to a leading e-commerce business on government issues arising from sales of digital rights.

Free Zone Authority

Counsel to a free zone authority in an administrative dispute with the Federal government.

VASP Licensing Fees

Claims against unlicensed virtual asset service providers and advice on fiscal compliance.

Financial Services Regulation

Counsel to a service executive under investigation by a financial services regulatory authority.

Excise Tax Compliance

Advising a tobacco manufacturer on excise tax compliance for new products.

Economic Policy & Sanctions

Navigating the intersection of law, economics, and international relations.

Recent Instructions:

Anti-Trust Policy

Counsel on effective anti-trust measures to mitigate abuse of market and cross-border anti-competition.

State Oil Trade

Advising on state secrets and fiscal liability related to oil trade.

Export Control Compliance

Advised a US satellite manufacturer on export control compliance.

Sovereign Wealth Defense

Advising a large holding company on defending against injunctions in London, New York, and the UAE.

Treaty Claims

Representation in UNCITRAL proceedings under the OIC treaty between a Jordanian investor and EMEA State.

Investment Protection

ISDS dispute under BIT between a Chinese technology conglomerate and an EMEA State.

Cross-Border Mergers

Counsel on regulatory compliance with a securities authority for a cross-jurisdictional reverse merger.

Government Affairs & Regulation

Managing the interface between private business and public authority.

Administrative Law

Challenging government decisions and administrative overreach.

Recent Instructions:

Federal vs. Free Zone

Counsel to a free zone authority in an administrative dispute with the Federal government.

Utility Tariff Challenge

Counsel to a domestic public utilities company in dispute with the Federal government over tariffs.

Licensing Revocation

Counsel to an education services provider vis-à-vis a licensing authority for revocation of permit.

State Entity Arbitration

Emergency arbitration proceedings between a construction firm and a State entity.

Government Agency Dispute

Construction dispute between a Jordanian contractor and a government agency.

Judicial Review

Advising on the probability of enforcement of foreign

judgments and administrative orders in the UAE.

Regulatory Investigation

Counsel to a service executive under investigation by a financial services regulatory authority.

Legislative Drafting & Reform

Shaping the policies that govern future industries.

Recent Instructions:

National Space Legislation

Advised a sovereign European state in drafting its national space legislation.

Track I Dialogue

Engaged in Track I dialogue with South East government for APAC government on aviation rights.

Lobbying Strategy

Advised a commercial space firm on federal lobbying strategy before Congress and executive agencies.

Infrastructure Legislation

Support of launch, spectrum, and space infrastructure legislation.

National Agency Formation

Advised a state on the establishment of its national space agency.

Novel Regulation Advisory

Due diligence to a tobacco manufacturer on licensing issues arising from novel health licensing regulations.

Anti-Trust Measures

Counsel on effective anti-trust measures to mitigate abuse of market.

Sovereign Defense & Immunity

Pursuing and defending States and State-owned entities in international forums.

Recent Instructions:

OIC Treaty Defense

UNCITRAL proceedings under the OIC treaty between a Jordanian investor and EMEA State.

BIT Dispute (Dutch)

ICSID proceedings under a BIT between a Dutch holding conglomerate and an EMEA State.

BIT Dispute (Chinese)

ICSID proceedings under a BIT between a Chinese technology conglomerate and an EMEA State.

BIT Dispute (Indian)

UNCITRAL proceedings under a BIT between an Indian manufacturer and an EMEA State.

BIT Dispute (US)

ICSID proceedings under a BIT between a US major developer and an EMEA State.

State Secrets Privilege

Advising on the scope of liability and penalties regarding state secrets (related to oil trade).

Police & Interpol

Representation of high-net-worth individuals in interactions with INTERPOL and local police authorities regarding Red Notices.