



Annual Compliance Conference Webinar Series 2025

3 – 12 June 2025



International Trade Compliance (Customs | Sanctions | Export Controls)

3 - 4 June 2025



Annual Compliance Conference

International Trade Compliance (Sanctions | Export Controls | Customs)

3 – 4 June 2025

Anti-bribery and Corruption and Economic Crime

5 June 2025

Antitrust Compliance

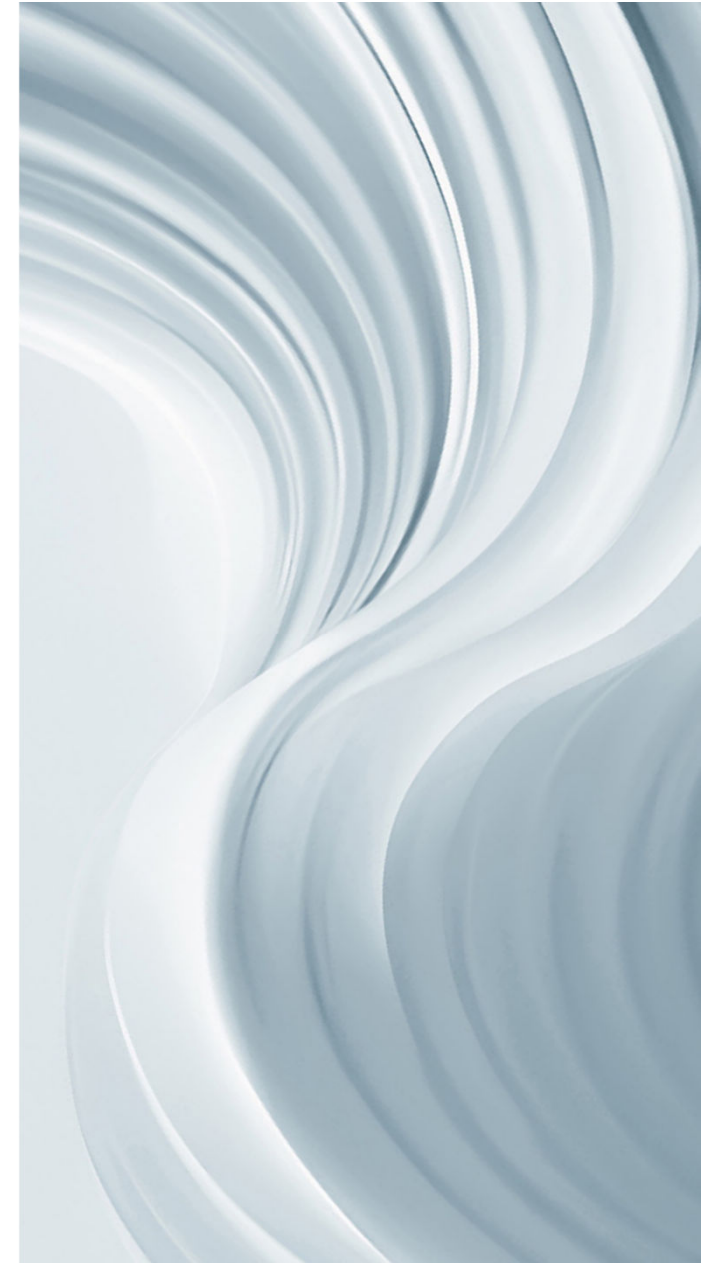
10 June 2025

ESG, Supply Chain and Product Compliance

11 June 2025

International Trade Compliance (Sanctions | Export Controls)

12 June 2025





Key global customs trends, tips & updates: Latest developments shaping the markets

Wednesday 4 June 2025





Speakers



Virusha Subban
(Chair) Partner
Johannesburg



Laya Aoun Hani
Partner
Dubai



Thomas Kukanza
Senior Associate
Brussels



Marcelle Silbiger*
Senior Associate
Sao Paulo

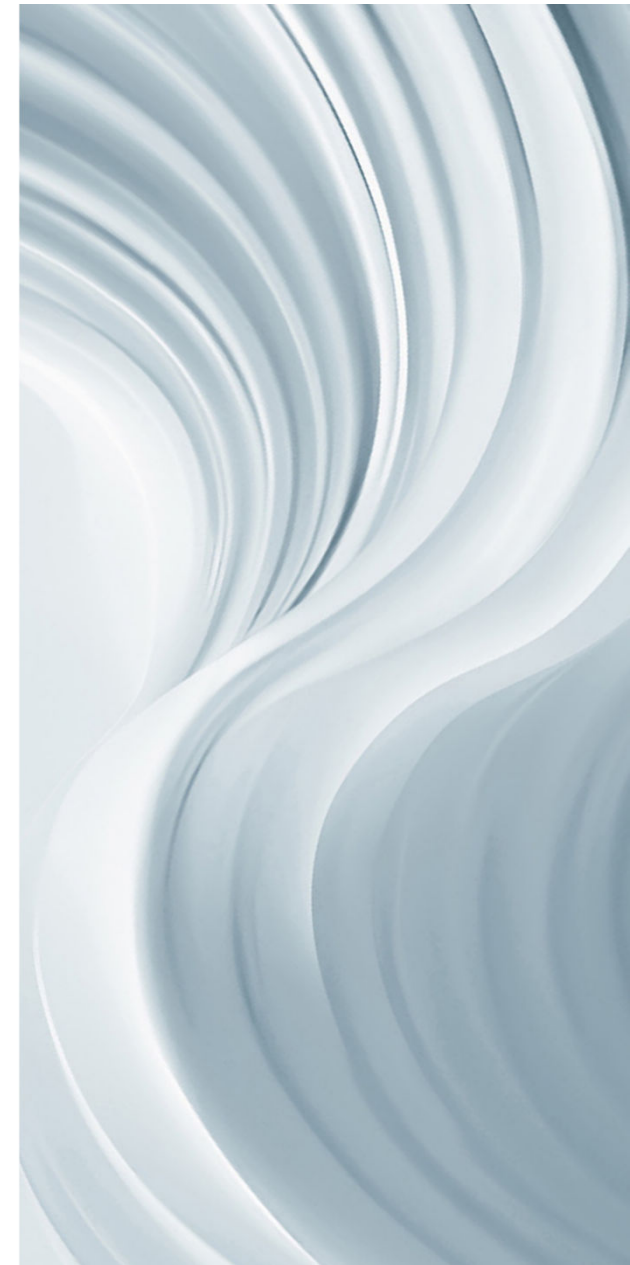


Sylvain Guelton
Senior Associate
London



Kelvin Hong
Senior Associate
London

*Trench Rossi Watanabe and Baker McKenzie have executed a strategic cooperation agreement for consulting on foreign law.



Global Trends in a Glance

Getting ahead of the curve

Customs Compliance

- Customs compliance is taking centre stage in board discussions

Political Shifts

- Customs regulations are changing given geopolitical developments and national goals

Preparedness

- Strategic need to keep up with changes to get ahead of the curve



United States

Hot topics, key trends & top tips



Hot Topics

- Do we even have to say it?
 - Tariffs, tariffs, tariffs
- Surge in trade enforcement actions
- Growing bipartisan momentum to close the de minimis loophole



Key Trends

- Valuation optimization projects
 - Pursuing long term, sustainable solutions
- Transfer Pricing Policy Review
 - Will significant changes to TP policies trigger increased regulatory scrutiny?
- Strong focus on duty deferral programs
- Surety Bond Reassessment!



Top Tips

- First Sale for Export
 - Request ruling from CBP?
 - Reasonable care approach?
- Leveraging Customs Procedures
 - Duty Drawback
 - Reconciliation
 - Chapter 98
 - Temporary Importation under Bond

Latin America

Hot topics, key trends & top tips



Hot Topics

- Customs Valuation and TP
- New import system in Brazil
- Brazilian VAT tax reform and effects to supply chain structures
- Ambitious deregulation of the economy in general, and foreign trade in particular (Argentina)



Key Trends

- Increase in customs inspections regarding valuation, tariff inspection, origin
- Increase in trade measures investigations (Colombia)
- Trade facilitation (Argentina / Mercosur)
- Promoting mechanisms for exports (e.g., private free trade zones in Peru)



Top Tips

- Constant health checks on imports made with related parties
- Boost customs and trade compliance related to origin, tariff classification, valuation, method of payment and traceability of supply

European Union

Hot topics, key trends & top tips



Hot Topics

- Digitisation of customs administrative processes
 - Transition to EU Customs Data Model (EUCDM) & Phasing out of Single Administrative Document
 - Single Window and the EU Customs Data Hub
- Clarification from the ECJ in the *Tauritus* case on customs valuation when the final price is unknown at the time of importation
- Brexit reset: SPS and ETS



Key Trends

- Harmonisation of customs data and decision making
- Greater scrutiny and enforcement of e-commerce and non-tariff barriers (CBAM, EUDR, sanctions)
- Need for harmonised customs valuation decisions across the EU – but Binding Valuation Information (BVI) not expected before 2027



Top Tips

- Evaluate and map the quality of information shared with customs brokers and customs authorities
- Cross-functional collaboration within corporate structures to effectively address compliance challenges

United Kingdom

Hot topics, key trends & top tips



Hot Topics

- Customs valuation
- Compliance with special procedures
- Free trade agenda
 - Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP)
 - UK – India FTA



Key Trends

- Ongoing modernisation and simplification
 - De minimis removal
 - Guarantee waivers
 - Customs technical handbooks



Top Tips

- Increased enforcement of inward processing
 - Bills of discharge
- Transparency and collaboration with HMRC
- Intersectionality with Russian sanctions

Asia Pacific

Hot topics, key trends & top tips



Hot Topics

- Free trade agenda
 - ASEAN upgrades and GCC
 - Thailand: EFTA and new FZ
- Changes in customs enforcement
 - Malaysia: new VD framework
 - Indonesia: new audit framework
 - Korea: penalty and look back period
- Removal of de minimis
- Origin certification centralization



Key Trends

- Origin scrutiny
 - Malaysia: Israel and semiconductors
 - China: bonded operations
- Focus on custom evasion
 - Japan: anti-dumping duties
 - Korea: enhanced data collection
 - Thailand: post-clearance audits and excise tax
- Deregulation of import rules



Top Tips

- Health checks and disclosures
 - clear trend of audit ramp ups particularly on origin and duty evasion
- Consider trade remedies as part of business arsenal
 - sword and shield
- Assess China + 1 strategy
 - diversification of supply chain

Africa

Hot topics, key trends & top tips



Hot Topics

- African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA)
 - Regional integration
 - Digitization and automation
 - Sustainability and environmental
 - Improved trade facilitation and border management
- African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA)
- Kenya – UK Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA)
- Nigeria AEO 2025



Key Trends

- Customs compliance by multinationals
- Combatting illicit trade
- Revenue collection and economic development:
- Public-Private Partnerships
- Climate change adaptation



Top Tips

- Value chain opportunities for African and global investors:
 - Agro-processing
 - Pharmaceuticals
 - Transport and logistics
 - Automotives
- Proactive health checks
- Customs and trade compliance should be high up on the C Suite agenda

Middle East

Hot topics, key trends & top tips



Hot Topics

- Regional Federal Decree No. 9 (17 Feb 2025) ratifies the UAE-US Customs Cooperation & Mutual Assistance Agreement.
- KSA Bonded-Zone Rules effective 8 Mar 2024 – duties, VAT & excise suspended inside zones.
- Al-Rawdah UAE-Oman SEZ (cross-border free zone) launched May 2025 to boost re-export logistics.
- Rise in customs audits on free zone companies.



Key Trends

- GCC-Wide Shift from 8-Digit to 12-Digit HS Codes.
- AI-Powered Automation in Dubai Customs; The AI Munasiq platform, launched in Feb 2025, uses AI to classify goods via text and image input.
- Pre-Arrival Digital Clearance Surge in Abu Dhabi in particular.

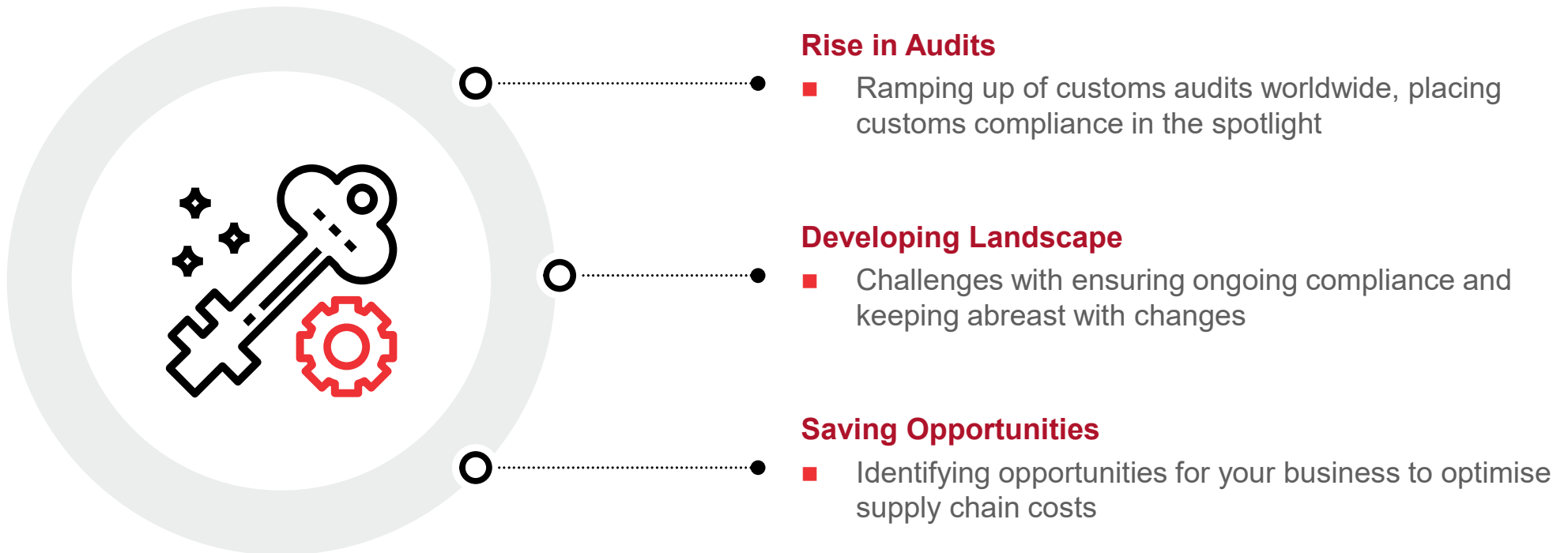


Top Tips

- Upgrade master data to 12-digit HS codes before 1 Jan 2025.
- Exploit new duty-suspension zones – KSA Bonded Zones & the new Al-Rawdah SEZ.
- Leverage “AI Munasiq” for instant classification + customs duty checks.
- File early through TAMM/ATLP in Abu Dhabi to join the 72 % pre-arrival fast lane.
- Address customs requirements as part of your corporate and supply chain structure: possibility to obtain a business code and act as IOR.

Key Takeaways

Tackling challenges and identifying opportunities



Questions

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Tomorrow's sessions

Latest anti-bribery and corruption developments in the UK and US

Thursday 5 June, 2.00 – 3.00 pm BST | 3.00 – 4.00 pm CEST | 9.00 – 10.00 am EDT

Global enforcement priorities and challenges

Thursday 5 June, 4.30 – 5.30 pm BST | 5.30 – 6.30 pm CEST | 11.30 am – 12.30 pm EDT

