

SIPAC Completes First-Ever International Compliance Roadshow for China

Peters & Peters, Howse Williams and Control Risks
Combine for Series of International Compliance Roadshows
in Beijing, Shanghai and Shenzhen





Following the successful launch of the initial series of SIPAC's regional roadshows earlier this year, SIPAC was pleased to organize the first SIPAC specialist practice area-focused roadshow last week, hosting international compliance events in Beijing, Shanghai and Shenzhen.







The roadshow events featured partners from SIPAC member firms Peters & Peters (London) and Howse Williams (Hong Kong), as well as our friends from Control Risks. Topics covered included

- UK Foreign Policy on China A Legal and Compliance Perspective (Michael O'Kane, Peters & Peters)
- Enforcing Arbitral Awards Practical Challenges and Global Perspectives (Vlad Meerovich, Peters & Peters)
- Alternative Payment Mechanisms and Al: Regulatory and Compliance Insights (UK/EU/US) (Charlotte Tregunna, Peters & Peters)
- Al and Data Privacy: Navigating Emerging Regulatory Frameworks (Paul Haswell, Howse Williams)
- Crypto Regulation in Hong Kong: New Laws, Stablecoin Regime, and Cross-Border Payment Opportunities (Jason Chan, Howse Williams)
- China Outbound Investment Risks and Corporate Due Diligence: Leveraging Al for Investigations and M&A (Thomas ZHANG and Carmen LIU, Control Risks)

The first session in Beijing was held in parallel with the ground-breaking meetings of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO), held in nearby Tianjin, providing an important additional geopolitical context for the presentations as the geopolitical tectonic plates were shifting in real time at an extraordinary pace. The impact of AI and blockchain payment technologies will have equally dramatic impact on the management of China outbound transactions and cross-border disputes going forward.

For the three sessions in Beijing, Shanghai and Shenzhen, a total of more than 200 people registered to attend in person, with another 400+ participating online for the live-streamed portions of the Shenzhen session.

Productive One-on-One Visits to Leading Chinese Law Firms

In between roadshow sessions, the SIPAC team was able to set up one-to-one visits to leading Chinese law firms by the Peters & Peters delegation, including

- King & Capital, China's most prominent white-collar criminal defense law firm, represented by the head of the firm's international practice, Libin ZHANG, who was originally trained under legendary "old China hand" Jerome Cohen at Paul Weiss
- Chance Bridge Law Firm, represented by Elizabeth Xiangdong LIU, who is one of the most prominent compliance experts in China, having been tabbed to restructure the export control compliance functions at ZTE in the aftermath of the restructured US sanctions on the company
- The compliance team of the Beijing office of Haiwen & Partners, including Fangzheng LI, former China
 police officer, and Jianyuan YANG, head of the compliance team, as well as Julia ZHANG, who
 coordinates relationships with SIPAC on behalf of the firm, and Shuaiqi YUAN of the firm's international
 practice group, who worked for many years in the DC office of Perkins Coie
- Global Law Office, represented by Alan ZHOU, one of the leading compliance lawyers in China, with a
 particular focus on the life science/pharma/med-tech sectors, Jacky LI, a former police officer in
 China responsible for serious fraud cases, and Jenny CHEN, formerly of McDermott Will and Emery,
 who specializes in compliance, investigations and data security
- JunHe, represented by Qing DI, Cheng SHEN, and Alan LI, who all specialize in dispute resolution and compliance
- Zhong Lun, represented principally by Gary GAO, former Chinese judge with extensive experience in investigations and compliance advisory work, together with Tessa WANG, who had worked for Debevoise & Plimpton in New York, and Rui YANG, who had worked for many years in Linklaters in Shanghai









At each of these stops, the synergies between the Peters & Peters team, with their extensive background and experience in business crimes, sanctions litigation, related civil litigation and arbitration, etc., and the compliance and white-collar criminal defense teams of these top Chinese law firms was readily apparent. With the increasing global expansion of Chinese business interests and operations, it was clear to all that compliance and business crimes legal matters would similarly become increasingly international in nature and scope, presenting many opportunities for collaboration.

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Critical Sanctions Risks for Chinese Companies in the UK

In particular, the Peters & Peters team described their recent work in assisting multiple major Chinese companies which had been sanctioned by the UK government simply for engaging in otherwise lawful business transactions. In each case, the Chinese company's products had reportedly found their way into the hands of the Russian military, which was deemed to be undermining the interests and integrity of Ukraine.

However, in each case, the sanctions had been imposed based solely on published media reports, without evidence that the products had been directly or knowingly supplied by the Chinese company to the Russian military, rather than through the conduct of third parties outside of the control of the Chinese manufacturer.

Notwithstanding the absence of due process and direct evidence, the impact of these sanctions was quite harsh, resulting in the freezing of accounts maintained with foreign branches of UK banks, and third parties declining to enter into new business relationships with the company or to maintain existing business relationships. This was recognized as one area among many which may be ripe for cross-firm collaboration and cooperation.



Other Key Meetings and Support



Through the kind introduction of Elizabeth LIU of Chance Bridge, the SIPAC/Peters & Peters delegation was able to meet with the Commercial Legal Services Center (CLSC) of the China Council for the Promotion of International Trade (CCPIT) in Beijing. CCPIT was represented by Linjie WANG, Deputy Director of CCPIT CLSC, as well as Yan WU and Quan ZHOU from the Division for Trade Friction Response of CLSC.

CCPIT CLSC serves more than 370,000 enterprises across China. Issues of main concern for these companies include compliance, sanctions, export controls and international dispute resolution, all

areas which align perfectly with the expertise of Peters & Peters.

The CCPIT side was also very interested in learning more about SIPAC's other initiatives in respect of IP and data privacy global panels, recently launched on an initial basis with Zhong Lun, as well as SIPAC's plans to launch global retainer arrangements in respect of cross-jurisdiction day-to-day legal services for subsidiaries of Chinese companies around the world. Further meetings will be scheduled with CCPIT to explore this cooperation in more detail.

In addition, SIPAC was able to coordinate with the Peking University School of Transnational Law (STL) in Shenzhen to organize a special presentation to STL students and alumni by Michael O'Kane of Peters & Peters, who addressed the impact of geopolitics on the potential civil and criminal liability of Chinese companies abroad. This was followed by a closed-door session with selected STL alumni attended by the Peters & Peters and Control Risks teams.

STL alumni in attendance at this closed-door session included Legal Head at Smoore, Legal Director at Luxshare Communications, General



Counsel at GEM, Legal Counsel at Alibaba, and Legal Directors from two leading Chinese smartphone manufacturers, among others. Since all of these Shenzhen-based companies have expanding global operations, it is proposed that the STL alumni group maintain continuing connections with the SIPAC global network.

Moreover, we were once again pleased to welcome President LIU of the Shenzhen Corporate Counsel Association (SZCCA) to the Shenzhen session, who was also able to invite senior personnel from 14 of Shenzhen companies to join us at the roadshow. Companies represented included FIYTA, Hive Box, BIOKANGTAI, Huanlejia Food Group, SHBC, etc. SIPAC and SZCCA have a long-term relationship and will continue to explore more ways to broaden the cooperation between the two organizations.

SZCCA

深圳市企业法律顾问协会

SHENZHEN CORPORATE COUNSEL ASSOCIATION



Special Features of the Shenzhen Sessions



As had been the case with all previous SIPAC roadshows this year, we were very honored once again to be hosted by the Shenzhen Court of International Arbitration (SCIA) in their extraordinary facilities in the Qianhai District, which is designated as the focal point for development of international legal professional resources for the Greater Bay Area region.

This time, we were particularly privileged to have Sandra PENG, Deputy Legal Counsel of the Department of International Cooperation and Development of SCIA make a formal presentation on enforcement of arbitration awards in China, which was the perfect complement to the presentation of Vlad Meerovich of Peters & Peters, who described how Chinese companies who had secured an arbitration award in China or elsewhere may be able to enforce that award more effectively in the UK against counterparties from anywhere around the world.

Following the conclusion of the Shenzhen session, Ms. PENG was kind enough to conduct a tour of the SCIA facilities for our delegation members, including a walk-through of the newly completed international arbitration floor, which is fully capable of hosting in-person and online international arbitrations for parties

anywhere around the world, and more particularly in respect of cross-border disputes involving Chinese parties.

SIPAC is also in the process of organizing for arbitration partners in SIPAC member firms to register as arbitrators with SCIA. We propose to explore a similar expansion of our cooperation with the Beijing Arbitration Commission (BAC), which has been our long-standing host for the Beijing roadshow sessions.

About the Compliance Roadshow Delegation



PETERS& PETERS

Founded in 1938, Peters & Peters was the first law firm in London to establish a business crime practice. It is now one of the largest and most experienced business crime teams in London and is also top ranked for its expertise in civil fraud and commercial dispute resolution. The firm specializes in handling heavyweight international disputes. Clients turn to them in serious situations, where reputation, livelihood and liberty are at risk.

The firm's Business Crime & Investigations team is the acknowledged leader in its sphere, praised by Chambers legal directory as the "Outstanding financial crime practice, and one of the earliest firms to establish itself in this field". It works closely with its Fraud & Commercial Disputes team, described in the Chambers directory as "London's best civil fraud litigation boutique".



Michael O'Kane Senior Partner



Charlotte Tregunna
Partner



Vlad Meerovich

Partner

About the Compliance Roadshow Delegation





Howse Williams is a leading independent, full-service Hong Kong law firm.

As an independent law firm, Howse Williams is able to minimise legal and commercial conflicts of interest and act for clients in every industry sector. The firm has extensive experience and contacts in Hong Kong and throughout Asia. The partners have spent the majority of their careers in Hong Kong and have a detailed understanding of international business and business in Asia.

The Howse Williams partners and their teams deliver high quality legal advice with a practical approach to solving legal issues in line with clients' objectives. Their advice is clear, commercial and innovative. Their partners are entrepreneurial and provide excellent legal advice in a cost-effective manner.





About the Compliance Roadshow Delegation







Control Risks is a global leader in risk management consulting, dedicated to helping organizations build safe, compliant, and resilient operations. In a rapidly changing international environment, Control Risks leverages deep professional expertise, extensive hands-on experience, and strong data and technology capabilities to provide clients with timely and accurate information and insights, enabling them to effectively manage risks, seize opportunities, and achieve sustainable growth.

The firm serves multinational corporations, domestic enterprises, law firms, government agencies, and non-governmental organizations, including many Fortune Global 100 companies. With an extensive international office network, Control Risks combines global perspectives with local insights to deliver efficient and practical services tailored to clients in different regions.



Thomas Zhang

Principal



Carmen Liu

Upcoming Roadshows – Please Plan to Join Us!

Before we get to SILF 2026 early next year, we still have more roadshows planned, as set out below.

Region	Beijing (Mon)	Shanghai (Wed)	Shenzhen (Fri)
Late September 2025 Western Europe	Sep 22	Sep 24	Sep 26
Early December 2025 Asia	Dec 1	Dec 3	Dec 5
January 2026 US/Canada	To be confirmed	To be confirmed	To be confirmed

Note: The regions and schedule listed above are for reference only and may be adjusted based on actual circumstances.

Sino-International Law Forum 2026
Shenzhen

April 16-18, 2026

More infomation to come!

SIPAC Global Member Firms

SIPAC has established a presence in nearly 50 jurisdictions worldwide through its network of exclusive member firms—each a leading independent full-service law firm in its jurisdiction—providing Chinese clients with professional, comprehensive, and timely local support.





We help build mutual **TRUST** beyond legal borders.

WHO WE ARE

The Sino International Professional Advisory Council (SIPAC) is a global network of outstanding professional service providers built to service all aspects of the global expansion of Chinese business in the context of an evolving geopolitical environment.

OUR OPPORTUNITY

Professional services platforms in China have limited access to international resources. Global professional platforms have limited understanding of China. SIPAC is uniquely positioned to fill this gap.

OUR MISSION

SIPAC's mission is to bring the Sino-Global legal communities together by:

- I. providing Chinese lawyers engaged in cross-border legal work access to the full range of international-standard resources so that Chinese companies can conduct business overseas with confidence, supported by trusted professional advisors, and
- 2. helping leading independent law firms and other professional advisors around the world to develop trusted advisor relationships with their counterparts in Chinese companies and law firms.

SIPAC 2025 CHINA ROADSHOWS

思百库SIPAC全球领先律师中国行

Compliance | 合规专场

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