

CONFERENCE BROCHURE · EDITION 3

CELIS LEADERS DC 26

A STRATEGIC DIALOGUE ON
INVESTMENT SCREENING & ECONOMIC SECURITY

5 - 6 MAY 2026 · WASHINGTON, D.C.

HOSTED BY THE CELIS INSTITUTE · THE HOUSE OF SWEDEN

WELCOME

About Leaders DC

The 2026 **Leaders DC Dialogue** will focus on investment screening and economic security in the United States and key international markets.

Taking place on 6 May 2026, the half-day convening will bring together senior US government officials, representatives from key foreign jurisdictions, and leaders from business, private practice, and academia.

As a satellite event of **CFIS**, Leaders DC provides a high-level forum for strategic exchange — gathering both practical insights and long-term perspectives on the future of investment screening policy in the US and major foreign jurisdictions.

Participation is by invitation only, with **50 senior stakeholders** convening under the **Chatham House Rule** to facilitate candid, constructive dialogue.

Venues

TUESDAY · 5 MAY 2026 — PRE-RECEPTION

Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP

1440 New York Ave., NW, Washington, D.C. 20005

WEDNESDAY · 6 MAY 2026 — MAIN PROGRAMME

The House of Sweden — Embassy of Sweden

2900 K Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20007

Convened by

Steffen Hindelang

Executive Director & Co-Founder, CELIS Institute · Professor of International Investment and Trade Law, Uppsala University

Roland M Stein

Director, CELIS Institute · Partner, Blomstein, Berlin

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About the CELIS Institute

CELIS is the independent, non-profit organisation dedicated to investment screening and economic security.

Across continents, we connect regulators, investors, law firms, and academia in a high-trust environment that rarely exists elsewhere. Together with our stakeholders, we develop best practices and standards that shape the balance between investment security, open markets, and competitiveness.

Our flagship – the **CELIS Forum on Investment Screening (CFIS)** – is the field's first and foremost invitation-only curated forum, where legal-technical expertise meets policy decision-making.

CELIS is non-lobbying and charitable, operating without general core funding or donor agendas. By statute, any surplus is reinvested in our mission.



Tuesday · 5 May 2026

SESSION	VENUE
Leaders DC Pre-Reception	Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP

19:00 EST

Welcome

Jason Hewitt — Partner, Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom (UK) LLP, London

Steffen Hindelang — Professor of International Investment and Trade Law, Uppsala University; Executive Director, CELIS Institute, Berlin

19:05 EST

Keynote and Conversation

Jeffrey Dressler — Managing Partner and Head of Global Government Affairs, SoftBank Group, Washington, D.C.

From 19:30

Drinks & Conversation

Continued discussion among guests

The programme is for informational purposes only and is subject to change, including alterations in featured speakers. Discussions are held under the Chatham House Rule.

Wednesday • 6 May 2026

SESSION	VENUE
CELIS Leaders DC — Main Programme	The House of Sweden, 2900 K St NW, Washington D.C.

12:00 – 12:45

Registration and Light Lunch

12:45 – 13:00

Welcome Remarks

Jonas Wendel — Deputy Head of Mission, Embassy of Sweden, Washington, D.C.

Steffen Hindelang — Professor of International Investment and Trade Law, Uppsala University; Executive Director, CELIS Institute, Berlin

13:00 – 13:30

Opening Keynote

Investment and Trade in a Changing Security Environment

Jonas Wendel — Deputy Head of Mission, Embassy of Sweden, Washington, D.C.

13:30 – 14:30

Fireside Chat

The Future of Investment Screening: Cooperation, Credibility, and Resilience

CHAIR

Michael Considine — Senior Advisor, FGS Global, Washington, D.C.

SPEAKER

Andrew Fair — Deputy Assistant Secretary for Investment Security, U.S. Department of the Treasury, Washington, D.C.

Panel 1

14:30 – 15:00

Coffee Break

15:00 – 16:30

Panel 1 · Regulatory Risk in Multi-Jurisdiction Investment Screening

Lessons from CFIUS and Key Jurisdictions on Managing Regulatory Risk in Parallel Screening Reviews

CHAIR

Jason Hewitt — Partner, Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom (UK) LLP, London

SPEAKERS

Ryan Stoner — Deputy Director, Office of Investment Affairs, U.S. Department of State, Washington, D.C.

Mitsutoshi Kajikawa — Deputy Vice Minister of Finance for International Affairs, Tokyo

Carl Johan Wieslander — Director General, Inspectorate of Strategic Products, Stockholm

Ana-Maria Belacurencu — FDI Specialist, Romanian FDI Screening Commission, Bucharest

Jennifer Danner Riccardi — Senior Trade Adviser, European External Action Service, European Commission, Washington, D.C.

GUIDING QUESTIONS

- Where do divergences in risk assessment and risk thresholds create the greatest uncertainty?
- How do these divergences translate into barriers for investors — including uncertainty around methodology, predictability of outcome, and transaction viability?
- How can authorities and investors anticipate and manage these risks while preserving national security objectives?

Panel 2 & Closing

16:30 – 16:45

Coffee Break

16:45 – 18:15

Panel 2 · What's the Deal About Data?

Security, Mitigation, and Trust

CHAIR

Danielle Myles — Senior Editor, fDi Intelligence, Milan

SPEAKERS

Meena Sharma — Director, Office of Investment Security Policy and International Relations, U.S. Department of the Treasury, Washington, D.C.

Evan Sills — Partner, Kirkland & Ellis, Washington, D.C.

Paul Telleen — Director, Office of Foreign Investment and National Security, U.S. Department of Energy, Washington, D.C.

John Carlin — Partner, Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison LLP, Washington, D.C.

GUIDING QUESTIONS

- How are data access risks to national security assessed and mitigated?
 - How can businesses structure data governance protocols and cybersecurity measures to pre-emptively address screening concerns and signal trust?
 - What practical challenges do investors and companies face in implementing data-related mitigation measures across jurisdictions?
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18:15 – 18:30

Closing Remarks

From 18:30

Drinks Reception & Cocktail Bites

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Please contact **Joanna K Thomsen** at jkt@celis.institute*



CELIS INSTITUTE

Engagement Opportunities

FIVE PRACTICAL WAYS TO ENGAGE

Do you want to join us in advancing better regulation of foreign investment in the context of investment security, open markets, and competitiveness? We offer practical ways to engage — each designed to align with your individual goals.

Forum Sponsor

Partner with us on high-level convenings such as the **CELIS Forum on Investment Screening (CFIS)**, regional Thought Leaders events, and focused policy dialogues rooted in legal excellence – including CELIS Leaders DC.

What you get

- **Premier visibility** among senior decision-makers in an invitation-only environment.
- **Strategic positioning** on priority topics shaping investment screening and economic security.
- **Tailored networking** across government, industry, and legal practice.
- **Strengthened reputation** as a thought leader, recognised by your clients as a shaper of the present and future economic security compliance landscape.

Sponsorship packages are fully customisable to match your specific goals, visibility needs, and budget – ensuring a partnership that fits perfectly. For details, please contact Joanna K Thomsen at jkt@celis.institute.



Commission & Support

Commission Research, Training, or Advisory

Engage CELIS for comparative research, tailored training, or technical advisory on investment screening and related regulation.

WHAT YOU GET

- **Independent, evidence-based analysis** grounded in your context.
- **Practical training** that builds institutional capacity.
- **Hands-on advisory** — from risk assessments to best-practice legislative design.
- Delivered by our **global expert network** to help policymakers and practitioners make informed, effective decisions.

Become a Donor

Individuals and foundations can back our non-profit work through donations — providing vital, unconditional support for our research and education.

WHAT YOU GET

- **Recognition** on our website, early updates, and invitations to exclusive gatherings with thought leaders and policymakers.
- Your contribution **strengthens independent, non-lobbying research** and helps sustain the investment screening community's long-term resilience.
- CELIS is **recognised as charitable under German tax law** — by statute, any surplus is reinvested in our mission.

Upcoming CELIS Events

Invite-only convenings hosted by the CELIS Institute. Leaders DC sits within a 2026 programme of high-trust, small-room gatherings on four continents.



5 – 6 May 2026

CELIS Leaders DC — You are here

A Strategic Dialogue on US–EU Investment Screening and Economic Security. Hosted at The House of Sweden, Washington, D.C.



June 2026

CELIS Salon Chile

A focused policy salon convening Latin American regulators, investors, and counsel on emerging investment–security frameworks in the region.



July 2026

CELIS Leaders Singapore

The Asia–Pacific edition of CELIS Leaders, gathering senior officials, investors, and counsel on regional investment–security cooperation.



7 – 9 October 2026

CFIS 26 — CELIS Forum on Investment Screening · Brussels

The flagship event of the CELIS Institute, now in its 8th year. Europe's first and foremost invitation-only forum on investment screening and economic security.



November 2026

CELIS Leaders Tokyo

The inaugural Tokyo edition of CELIS Leaders, bringing the trans–regional dialogue on investment screening to Japan and East Asia.

CFIS 26

The world's leading small-room, high-trust forum on investment security.

The **CELIS Forum on Investment Screening (CFIS)** is the flagship convening of the CELIS Institute and, now in its eighth year, the world's foremost forum on investment screening and economic security.

CFIS 26 takes place against a backdrop of fragmenting trade rules, deepening US–China rivalry, and ongoing conflict on European soil – dynamics reshaping how governments and businesses think about sovereignty, resilience, and openness.

WHAT SETS CFIS APART

- **Forward-looking** – grounded in expert analysis, the Forum explores the future of economic security.
- **Closed door** – strict Chatham House Rule; no public sessions.
- **No spectators, only contributors** – the line between panellist and participant disappears.
- **Curated balance** – government ≈35 %, business ≈35 %, legal practice ≈20 %, academia ≈10 %.
- **Rooted in Europe, engaged globally** – voices from the Americas, East and Southeast Asia, and beyond.

Participation is by invitation only and limited to **60 speakers and 60 attendees**. To register your interest, contact jkt@celis.institute.





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