

Dear Moderators:

The following information pertains to the Vanderbilt Journal of Transnational Law's upcoming symposium, titled Sovereign Conduct on the Margins of the Law. The symposium will consist of four panels, all focused on the conduct of sovereigns in the international sphere.

The first panel will focus on the immunity issues surrounding sovereign wealth funds and state owned enterprises. The participants in this panel include:

- [Prof. Larry Cata Backer](#), Professor at Pennsylvania State University Law School. His research focuses on the understanding of constitutional and enterprise law. His most recent work touches on the regulation of multinational corporations, sovereign wealth funds, transnational constitutionalism, and the convergence of public and private law. He also researches issues of governments as private actors in global markets, the development of law and social norm systems to regulate business and human rights.
- [Mr. Mark E. Plotkin](#), Partner at Covington and Burling LLP. His work, in part, focuses on the national security aspects of foreign investments by state owned enterprises. He also addresses cases before the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States (CFIUS), anti-money laundering (AML), and Bank Secrecy Act (BSA) matters, USA PATRIOT Act, Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act and Dodd-Frank Act compliance issues, as well as other banking-related regulatory, defense and security matters.
- [Prof. Pammela Saunders](#), Professor at Drexel University Law School. Her scholarly interests are focused on issues related to the regulation of institutions and actors across national borders. Her current research explores the effectiveness of different strategies to regulate transnational corporations and to promote corporate social responsibility.
- [Prof. Nicholas Howson](#), Professor at the University of Michigan Law School. His research focuses heavily on China. He lived in China for many years and worked both as a scholar at Shanghai's Fudan University (1983 to 1985), Beijing University, China People's University and the Chinese University of Politics and Law (1988), and Shanghai's East China University of Politics and Law (2008)—and as a practicing lawyer based in Beijing (from 1992 to 1994 and from 1996 to 2003).

The second panel will be an interdisciplinary panel on the involvement of sovereigns in cybercrime to perpetrate tax evasion and money laundering. The participants in this panel will include:

- [Mr. Eric Blinderman](#), Chief Executive Officer at Therium, Inc. and a seasoned international and commercial litigator during his tenure at Prosauer Rose LLP.
- [Ms. Tiffany McLee](#), Intelligence Analyst at the National Cyber-Forensics Training & Alliance (NCFTA) specializing in cyber threats affecting the financial services industry. Previously, she was a senior Anti-Money Laundering investigator for a financial institution. In this role, she was responsible for performing analysis and investigation of complex financial transactions to identify potential money laundering, terrorist financing, and other financial crimes.
- [Mr. Donald Good](#) previously worked for 20 years at the FBI, most recently as the Deputy Assistant Director of the FBI's Cyber Intelligence Outreach and Support Branch. Currently he is employed at Navigant.
- [Dr. Magnus Hörnqvist](#), Professor at Stockholm University. His research focuses on investigating the central issues in modern critical social theory, the obscene excitement in the 'war on terror'

and the placid pleasures of prison reformers and spectators. Dr. Hörnqvist recently wrote on this topic in his article “Sovereign encounters with organized crime and money laundering in the realm of accountants.”

- [Dr. Rainer Hülsse](#), Professor at Ludwig-Maximilian University of Munich. His research focuses on the issues surrounding global governance, theories of international relations, and international money laundering.

The third panel will focus on the Argentinian debt crisis and other similar issues. The participants will include:

- [Prof. Anna Gelpern](#), Professor at Georgetown Law. She has published articles on financial integration, debt contracts, and development and has co-authored a textbook on International Finance. In addition, she has contributed to international initiatives on financial reform and sovereign borrowing, most recently as an expert for the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development.
- [Prof. Mark Weidemaier](#), Professor at University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Law School. His research interests involve the intersection between contracts and dispute resolution in domestic and international settings, as well as issues related to the structure and enforcement of government debt.
- [Prof. Veronica Santarosa](#), Professor at the University of Michigan Law School. Her research interests include law and economics, financial economic history, and law and development. Her current projects empirically and theoretically examine how legal innovations and political institutions affect firms and financial markets now and throughout history.
- [Prof. Tim Samples](#), Professor at the University of Georgia’s Terry College of Business. His research focuses on legal issues affecting international investment, particularly in the areas of sovereign finance and energy.
- [Prof. Rodrigo Olivares-Caminal](#), Professor at the Queen Mary University of London. His research focuses on international finance and insolvency law. He has acted as a Sovereign Debt Expert for the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), Senior Insolvency Expert for the World Bank / IFC and as a consultant to several multilateral institutions in Washington DC and Europe, Central Banks and Sovereign States as well as in several international transactions with law firms.

The fourth panel will be a discussion regarding banking regulations and terrorism financing. Vanderbilt Law School Professor Michael Newton will participate in this discussion alongside:

- [Ms. Alma Angotti](#), Managing Director in the Global Investigations & Compliance practice. In this capacity, she counsels financial services clients regarding compliance with anti-money laundering and terrorism financing regulations.
- [Prof. Richard Gordon](#), Professor and Director of the Financial Integrity Institute at Case Western Reserve University School of Law. Before teaching, he was senior counsel and a senior financial sector expert at the International Monetary Fund (IMF). In that role he served on the select IMF Task Force on Terrorism Finance and co-led the IMF and World Bank’s involvement in anti-money laundering and terrorism financing.