

Deirdre Carroll

PARTNER

Antitrust and
Competition
Brussels

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FOCUS AREAS

Antitrust Civil Enforcement
Antitrust Compliance and
Business Strategy
Antitrust Litigation
Antitrust Merger Clearance
Antitrust and Competition
Artificial Intelligence and
Machine Learning
Environmental, Social, and
Governance
European Competition Law
Third-Party Merger and
Non-Merger Antitrust
Representation

EXPERIENCE

Deirdre Carroll is a partner in the Brussels office of Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati, where her practice focuses on global mergers, agency investigations, and compliance counselling, including on ESG matters. Deirdre regularly represents clients before the European Commission and the UK's Competition & Markets Authority (CMA) and has extensive experience coordinating global merger filings and regulatory investigations. She also works closely with Wilson Sonsini's data protection and privacy team to provide clients with integrated, strategic advice on data-related antitrust counselling and digital platform regulation, including the EU's Digital Markets Act.

She has experience across a wide range of sectors, including tech, advertising (AdTech), financial services, life sciences, aviation, basic industries, and mining.

Deirdre maintains an active pro bono practice. She is a recipient of the firm's John Wilson Award, which is presented annually to attorneys who have demonstrated a significant commitment to the firm's pro bono clients.

Prior to joining the firm in 2015, she was an intern at the European Commission's DG Competition in the Antitrust—Media unit.

Deirdre is a native English speaker, and she is fluent in Irish and French.

CREDENTIALS

Education

- LL.M., European Legal Studies, College of Europe, Bruges (Belgium), 2015
Recipient, Scholarship from the Irish Government
- LL.B., National University of Ireland, Galway (Ireland), 2013
Honours
- Bachelor of Corporate Law (International), National University of Ireland, Galway (Ireland), 2012
First Class Honours
- Diploma in EU Law, Université Toulouse 1 Capitole (Erasmus France), 2011

Associations and Memberships

- Member, Section of Antitrust Law, American Bar Association

Honors

- Recognized as a top author for antitrust and trade regulation by *JD Supra's* "2023 Readers' Choice Awards"
- Recipient, John Wilson Award for pro bono service, 2018 and 2021
- Recognized in the 2021 edition of *The Legal 500*, Europe

Admissions

- State Bar of New York
- Brussels Bar B-List
- Solicitor, Republic of Ireland

MATTERS

Select Matters

Select Regulatory and Counseling Matters

- Advises a leading global technology company on compliance with the EU's Digital Markets Act, Digital Services Act, and similar global initiatives
- Advises an e-commerce company on antitrust compliance, including strategic advice on issues at the intersection of antitrust and data protection together with the Wilson Sonsini data protection team
- Advises a large U.S. semiconductor company on antitrust compliance, including counseling related to regulatory investigations
- Advises a leading communications platform on antitrust compliance and regulatory investigations
- Advised a leading social network on regulatory investigations
- Advised Air France-KLM on the implementation of commitments stemming from Article 101 proceedings before the European Commission
- Advised a client before the UK's CMA in relation to a sector investigation in the construction materials industry

Select Transactional Matters

- Poly on its \$3.3 billion acquisition by HP, Inc.
- DoorDash on its \$8.1 billion acquisition of Wolt
- Bungie on its \$3.6 billion acquisition by Sony
- Zynga on its \$12.7 billion acquisition by Take-Two
- IronSource on its \$4.4 billion merger with Unity
- WaveOptics on its acquisition by Snap
- Plaid on its \$5 billion proposed acquisition by Visa before the UK CMA (Phase I unconditional approval, transaction abandoned for unrelated reasons)
- Outbrain on its proposed acquisition by Taboola, following an in-depth second request by the U.S. Department of Justice and Phase II review by the UK CMA (the parties received clearance from the DOJ, but abandoned the transaction for unrelated reasons)
- Pacific Biosciences on its \$1.2 billion proposed acquisition by Illumina before the UK CMA (transaction abandoned)
- Air France-KLM on its proposed acquisition of joint control of Virgin Atlantic (Phase I unconditional approval before the European Commission) and transatlantic joint venture with Delta
- Coherent on its \$940 million acquisition of Rofin-Sinar before the European Commission and the related divestiture process (Phase I conditional approval)
- Brocade on its acquisition by Broadcom before the European Commission (Phase I conditional approval)
- Dell on its \$76 billion acquisition of EMC before the European Commission (Phase I unconditional approval), the largest pure tech deal in history

INSIGHTS

Select Publications

- Co-author, "EU's New Foreign Subsidies Regulation Adds Complexity to M&A Deals with an EU Dimension," Wilson Sonsini Alert, February 9, 2023
- Co-author, "European Commission Moves Forward with Open Antitrust Cases Against Expected Gatekeepers," Wilson Sonsini Alert, January 4, 2023
- Co-author, "Some Light Holiday Reading: Draft Procedural Guidance on the EU's Digital Market Act Open for Consultation," *The WSGR Data Advisor*, December 12, 2022
- Co-author, "U.S. Legislators and State Attorneys General Raise Antitrust Concerns Regarding ESG Collaborations," Wilson Sonsini Alert, November 21, 2022
- Co-author, "EU Court Opinion: Competition Authorities May Consider Data Protection Breaches in Their Investigations," *The WSGR Data Advisor*, November 10, 2022

- Co-author, “D(MA)-Day: Formal Adoption of the EU Digital Markets Act,” *The WSGR Data Advisor*, July 20, 2022
- Co-author, “EU to Open San Francisco Office to Advance Its Digital Regulation Agenda,” *The WSGR Data Advisor*, April 27, 2022
- Co-author, “EU Adopts New Rules to Significantly Limit the Power of Tech Platforms,” *The WSGR Data Advisor*, March 30, 2022
- Co-author, “EU Parliament and Council Take Next Steps to Advance Major New Rules for Digital Platforms,” *The WSGR Data Advisor*, February 25, 2022
- Co-author with L. Boylan and B. Buffler, “CMA Levies Record Fine on Facebook for Deliberate Breach of Hold-Separate Order in Probe of GIPHY Takeover,” *Wilson Sonsini Alert*, October 21, 2021
- Co-author with S. Taheny, “European Commission Publishes Guidance Paper on Member State Referrals for Merger Review Even Where National or EU Thresholds Are Not Met,” *Wilson Sonsini Alert*, April 8, 2021
- Co-author with L. Signoret, “Incoming: Increased UK Enforcement in Digital Markets,” *Wilson Sonsini Alert*, April 8, 2021
- Co-author with C. Burton and others, “European Commission Proposes New Rules for Digital Platforms,” *Wilson Sonsini Alert*, January 12, 2021
- Co-author with S. Batohi and A. Keck, “The Impact of COVID-19 on Merger Reviews: Practical Considerations for Global Deals,” *Wilson Sonsini Alert*, March 20, 2020
- Co-author with S. Batohi, “Producing Internal Documents to the UK Competition and Markets Authority: Better Get It Right the First Time,” *Wilson Sonsini Alert*, January 22, 2020
- Co-author with S. Batohi, “When “Voluntary” Does Not Mean Voluntary—Stricter Enforcement of Procedural Rules in UK Merger Control,” *Wilson Sonsini Alert*, January 21, 2020
- Co-author with J. Bank and M. Foto, “Excessive Pricing in the Pharmaceutical Industry: How Much is Too Much?” *The Antitrust Report*, Lexis Nexis, December 2018
- Co-author with P. McGeown, “Caveat Emptor: Are Lengthier EC Merger Reviews the New Norm?” *WSGR Alert*, January 18, 2018
- “Purchaser Approval Decisions: A Practitioner’s Guide to ‘Phase III’ Merger Control in Europe,” *The Antitrust Report*, Lexis Nexis, December 2017

Select Speaking Engagements

- Speaker, “A Changing World: Increasingly Aggressive Antitrust Enforcement Targeted at Technology Here and Abroad,” *Wilson Sonsini MCLE Day*, December 15, 2022
- Speaker, “World Justice Challenge 2021: Advancing the Rule of Law in a Time of Crisis,” *World Justice Project*, April 14, 2021