

Dentons' pick of global regulatory trends to watch in 2016

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As government priorities change, and business models and technology evolve, businesses need to look ahead to the regulatory landscape that will govern their conduct over the next year. In this report, Dentons' team of lawyers weigh in on regulatory trends to watch in 2016 in the US, Europe, Canada and China.

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Competition/antitrust law

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Competition authorities around the world will continue to aggressively pursue cartels, while also closely scrutinizing firms with market power for unilateral anti-competitive behavior. Innovative business models, such as Uber, have created new challenges for competition agencies who are responding through advocacy, policy-making and enforcement.

Foreign investment review and national security

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Governments' review of foreign investment is being streamlined in some countries, such as China and Canada, but is also expanding to address perceived threats to national security.

Cybersecurity and international data transfer

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In 2016, cybersecurity will dominate the agenda of the C-Suite. However, that will not be the only data governance concern for organizations. Re-tooling how organizations move data internationally will also be a major pre-occupation of general counsel and privacy officers.

Economic sanctions and trade

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The recent certification that Iran has met its obligations under the P5+1 Nuclear Agreement resulted in the US and EU relaxing substantial portions of their sanctions measures against Iran. On November 5, 2015, the draft text of the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) Agreement was released. Businesses within the TPP zone can begin to analyze the potential benefits resulting from tariff elimination and other preferential trading terms.

Anti-corruption

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Our experts anticipate vigorous prosecution of corruption in major jurisdictions. The US will be looking for more disclosure to obtain cooperation credit while the UK has entered its first Deferred Prosecution Agreement in an anti-bribery case.

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