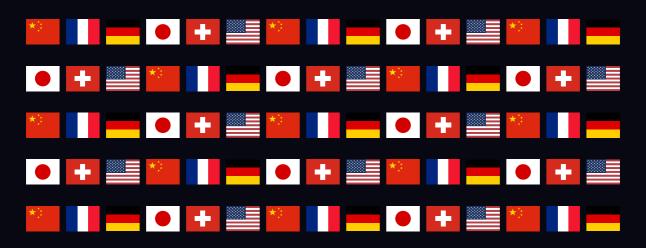
# RISK & COMPLIANCE MANAGEMENT

China





Consulting editor *LALIVE* 

# Risk & Compliance Management

Consulting editors

**Daniel Lucien Bühr** 

**LALIVE** 

Quick reference guide containing side-by-side comparison of local insights into Risk & Compliance Management, including laws and regulations; principal regulatory and enforcement bodies; definitions, processes, standards and guidelines; civil, administrative, regulatory and criminal liabilities (for undertakings, governing bodies and senior management); corporate compliance defence; recent leading cases; risk and compliance framework covering digital transformation; and recent trends.

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### **LEGAL AND REGULATORY FRAMEWORK**

### Legal role

What legal role does corporate risk and compliance management play in your jurisdiction?

Corporate risk and compliance management is recognised as the foundation for sustainable development of undertakings. In a social system governed by the rule of law, legal and compliance is surely among the basic prerequisites for undertakings to achieve long-term growth. As is reiterated by President Xi Jinping, it is crucial to regulate corporate investment and business practices, and to ensure compliance operation and management, so as to fulfil social responsibility.

Law stated - 12 July 2021

### Laws and regulations

Which laws and regulations specifically address corporate risk and compliance management?

Corporate risks could be divided into two levels, criminal risks and administrative risks. Criminal risks are regulated by the Criminal Law and its corresponding judicial interpretations. For criminal risks, among the 469 crimes prescribed by the Criminal Law, there are approximately 150 unit crimes for which an undertaking itself could be deemed the perpetrator. As for administrative risks, they are derived from the respective administrative laws and regulations, such as the Company Law, the Anti-unfair Competition Law, the Anti-Monopoly Law and the Advertisement Law, the Cybersecurity Law, the Personal Information Protection Law, the Data Security Law covering violations such as commercial bribery, monopoly, company illegal operation, illegal advertising, personal information protection and data security.

Compliance management is also an integral element of the above laws and regulations. In addition, there are specified regulations and guidelines published for various types of undertakings, such as the Measures for Compliance Management of Centrally-Governed Enterprises, the Guidelines for Centrally-Governed Enterprises on Compliance Management (for Trial Implementation), the Guidelines for Comprehensive Risk Management of Centrally-Governed Enterprises, the Guidelines for Overseas Anti-monopoly Compliance of Enterprises, the Measures for the Compliance Management of Securities Companies and Securities Investment Fund Management Companies, the Anti-monopoly Compliance Guidelines for Business Operators, the Measures on Compliance Management of Insurance Companies and the Guidelines for Compliance Risk Management of Commercial Banks.

Law stated - 12 July 2021

### Types of undertaking

Which are the primary types of undertakings targeted by the rules related to risk and compliance management?

Generally, undertakings attached to national security, people's livelihood, social public interests and state assets will be of highest priority for risk and compliance management. For example, undertakings in key industries such as financial and telecommunications would usually be required to spend more efforts in risk and compliance management.

It is worth noting that risk and compliance management has been a key management priority for centrally-governed enterprises for many years. And as for listed companies, a recent trend is to classify the listed companies into different risk levels and subject them to differentiated supervision based on the classification results. The listed companies are divided into four classes, namely highest risk, second highest risk, concern and normal, in accordance with the different

degrees of risk and supervision priority.

Law stated - 12 July 2021

### Regulatory and enforcement bodies

Identify the principal regulatory and enforcement bodies with responsibility for corporate compliance. What are their main powers?

From a criminal perspective, authorities with criminal enforcement power mainly include:

- the Public Security Bureaus (PSBs), responsible for investigations, criminal detentions, the execution of arrests, and preliminary inquiries in criminal cases;
- the People's Procuratorates, responsible for prosecutions, the approval of arrests, and conducting investigations on criminal violations;
- supervisory commissions, which supervise all public officials, investigate duty-related illegal activities and offences, and carry out anti-corruption work; and
- national security authorities, which investigate and handle cases of crimes that compromise national security, performing the same functions and powers as PSBs.

From an administrative perspective, authorities with enforcement power mainly include:

- the National Development and Reform Commission and its subsidiary bureaus, responsible for overall planning and control of the national economy, and investigating price-related violations;
- the State-owned Assets Supervision and Administration Commission of the State Council, performing duties including strengthing state-owned assets management, promoting the construction of a modern enterprise system for state-owned enterprises, and improving the corporate governance structure;
- the State Administration for Market Regulation, which oversees market regulation, food safety, healthcare compliance, advertisement violations, competition violations, commercial bribery, and anti-monopoly; and its subsidiary bureaus, including the administrations for market regulations at the provincial, municipal, and county levels:
- the China Securities Regulatory Commission and its subsidiary bureaus, responsible for the administration of securities and investigating securities fraud;
- the China Banking and Insurance Regulatory Commission, responsible for unified supervision and management
  of the banking and insurance industry in accordance with laws and regulations, maintaining the legal and sound
  operation of the banking and insurance industry, preventing and resolving financial risks, protecting the legitimate
  rights and interests of financial consumers, and maintaining financial stability;
- the People's Bank of China and its subsidiaries, responsible for carrying out monetary policy and regulation of financial institutions in China, and regulating money laundering activities;
- the Cyberspace Administration of China (CAC), responsible for the overall planning and coordination of network security and relevant supervision and administration; and
- other administrative authorities, such as the State Taxation Administration, the Customs and the Environmental Protection Bureaus, etc.

Law stated - 12 July 2021



### **Definitions**

Are 'risk management' and 'compliance management' defined by laws and regulations?

'Risk management' and 'compliance management' are defined in various regulations and guidelines. For example, 'risk management' is defined by the Guidelines for Comprehensive Risk Management of Centrally Governed Enterprises as the process and methods of providing reasonable assurance to achieve the overall goal of risk management by implementing the basic process of risk management in all aspects of enterprise management and operation, fostering a good risk management culture, and establishing a sound comprehensive risk management system, including a risk management strategy, risk management financial measures, organisational and functional system of risk management, risk management information system and internal control system.

'Compliance management' is defined by the Measures for Compliance Management of Centrally Governed Enterprises as the organised and planned management activities carried out by an enterprise, including the establishment of a compliance system, improvement of an operation mechanism, cultivation of a compliance culture, and strengthening of supervision and accountability, etc, to effectively prevent and control compliance risks, oriented by improving the level of business compliance management and targeting at the enterprise's business management activities and employees' performance of duties. Here, 'compliance risk' refers to the possibility of legal liability, economic or reputation losses, or other negative effects caused by violations committed by an enterprise and its employees in the process of business management.

Law stated - 12 July 2021

### **Processes**

Are risk and compliance management processes set out in laws and regulations?

Risk and compliance management processes are set out in various regulations and guidelines such as the recently released Measures for Compliance Management of Centrally Governed Enterprises, the Guidelines for Comprehensive Risk Management of Centrally Governed Enterprises, the Guidelines for Compliance Risk Management of Commercial Banks, the Guidelines for Enterprise Legal Risk Management, and the Guidelines for Enterprises on the Compliance Management of Overseas Operations, etc.

Law stated - 12 July 2021

### Standards and guidelines

Give details of the main standards and guidelines regarding risk and compliance management processes in your jurisdiction.

The main processes for risk and compliance management are stipulated in various regulations and guidelines, which are by large similar, with certain variances for the specifics.

For instance, the Measures for Compliance Management of Centrally-Governed enterprises provide that the establishment of these processes include the following elements:

- · improvement of the organisation structure and definition of the roles and responsibilities;
- establishment of sound compliance management systems, which include a fundamental policy for the overall management and specific guidances for key areas and businesses, and inspection of the implementation;
- establishment of an operating mechanism with multiple functions regarding compliance and risk management,

including identification, evaluation, early warning, review, reporting, whistleblowing, rectification, and accountability of violations, etc;

- · development of compliance culture and awareness; and
- · enhancement of information technology.

The Guidelines for Compliance Risk Management of Commercial Banks provide the basic elements for risk and compliance management in financial sectors, as follows:

- · compliance policies;
- · organisation structure and resources of the compliance management department;
- · compliance risk management plan;
- · identification of compliance risks and the management procedures; and
- · compliance training and educational system.

The Guidelines for Enterprises on the Compliance Management of Overseas Operations provide that such processes include the following steps:

- setting up compliance management structure (such as compliance committee, compliance officer, etc);
- · establishing compliance management system (such as internal policies);
- designing and implementing compliance management operation mechanisms (such as compliance training and compliance reporting);
- · risk identification, assessment, and disposal;
- · compliance monitoring, audit, review, and improvement; and
- · compliance culture development.

Additionally, On 12 October 2022, the national standard GB/T 35770-2022 Compliance Management Systems—Requirements with Guidance for Use Compliance Management Systems came into effect. Equivalent to the international standard ISO 37301:2021, this standard introduces the process for building up compliance management systems and provides common elements of the processes.

- Plan: the elements include commitment at all levels, determining the scope, compliance policy, roles and responsibilities, and obligations and risks.
- Do: the elements include support, competence and awareness, communication and training, operation, controls and procedures, and documentation.
- Check: the elements include internal audit, management review, monitoring and measurement, raising concerns, and investigation process.
- Act: the elements include managing noncompliance and continual improvement.

Law stated - 12 July 2021

### **Obligations**

Are undertakings domiciled or operating in your jurisdiction subject to risk and compliance governance obligations?

Centrally-governed enterprises are legally required to assume risk and compliance governance obligations.



And for all types of undertakings domiciled or operating in China, the Data Security Law and the Personal Information Protection Law stipulate the obligation to establish data compliance management systems and other related compliance obligations.

In addition, certain types of entities in China are subject to specific compliance governance obligations according to relevant laws, regulations, and guidelines.

For instance, the Measures on Compliance Management of Insurance Companies provide that insurance companies shall appoint a chief compliance officer and set up a compliance management department. The above-mentioned officer and the department are entitled to the rights of information access, investigation, and reporting. Their independence from other departments shall also be ensured. Similar governance obligations are imposed on commercial banks and centrally governed state-owned enterprises.

For other types of companies, it is recommended and best practice to employ independent compliance professionals and establish a department responsible for compliance management, rather than compulsory legal obligations.

Law stated - 12 July 2021

### What are the key risk and compliance management obligations of undertakings?

Key elements for risk and compliance management generally include:

- setting up compliance management structure (such as compliance committee, compliance officer);
- establishing compliance management system (such as code of conduct and internal policies);
- · providing adequate training to the employees and third parties;
- · establishing and maintaining effective reporting channels;
- · establishing comprehensive compliance accountability system;
- · compliance monitoring, audit, review and improvement; and
- · compliance culture development.

Law stated - 12 July 2021

### LIABILITY

### Liability of undertakings

What are the risk and compliance management obligations of members of governing bodies and senior management of undertakings?

For board of directors, their main compliance management responsibilities include:

- · approving the strategic planning, basic system and annual report of corporate compliance management;
- promoting the improvement of the compliance management system;
- · deciding on the appointment and dismissal of the person in charge of compliance management;
- · deciding on the setup and functions of the compliance management department;
- · studying and deciding on the major issues related to compliance management; and
- · determining the handling of violations according to the authority.

For senior management, the main compliance management responsibilities include:



- establishing and improving the organisational structure of compliance management according to the decision of the board of directors;
- · approving the specific system requirements for compliance management;
- approving the compliance management plan and taking measures to ensure the effective implementation of the compliance system;
- identifying compliance management processes to ensure that compliance requirements are integrated into the business area;
- promptly stopping and correcting non-compliance with business operations, and conducting accountability or proposing suggestions for handling violations according to the authority; and
- other matters authorised by the board of directors.

Law stated - 12 July 2021

### Do undertakings face civil liability for risk and compliance management deficiencies?

Deficiencies in risk and compliance management will not necessarily occasion civil liability to undertakings. Nevertheless, if these deficiencies lead to any conduct that infringes the legitimate rights and interests of other parties, undertakings may face civil liability for this infringement.

For instance, due to inadequate compliance management, if a company commits commercial bribery to obtain an improper advantage against its competitors, those competitors may bring civil actions against the company for the unfair competition, seeking for compensation.

From an internal perspective, if any deficiency infringes the rights of the employees, such as personal information leakage, those employees may also sue the company and claim for damages.

Law stated - 12 July 2021

# Do undertakings face administrative or regulatory consequences for risk and compliance management deficiencies?

Deficiencies in risk and compliance management will occasion administrative or regulatory consequences if such deficiencies directly or indirectly lead to any administrative violations committed by undertakings.

For instance, in 2020, one Chinese local bank was fined more than 10 times for administrative violations related to loaning mismanagement, violation of the prudent operation rules, and other types of non-compliant business operation. Particularly for prudent operation rules, pursuant to the Law on Banking Regulation, they shall include risk management, internal control, capital adequacy ratio, quality of assets, reserves for losses, risk concentration, affiliated transactions, or liquidity of assets. And the violation of the prudent operation rules, including deficiencies in risk management and internal control, would be subject to fine, suspension of business, and revocation of business licence (under serious circumstances).

Law stated - 12 July 2021

### Do undertakings face criminal liability for risk and compliance management deficiencies?

Among the 469 crimes prescribed by the Criminal Law, there are approximately 150 unit crimes for which a company could be qualified as the perpetrator, and for these unit crimes, a company will be held criminally liable if:



- a collective decision has been made by the management of the company, or an individual decision by the relevant responsible personnel on behalf of the company, such as the legal representative; and
- the crime is committed in the name of the company and the illegal proceeds go to the company.

Deficiencies in risk and compliance management will occasion criminal liability if these deficiencies directly or indirectly lead to any criminal violations committed by undertakings. Conversely, if a company is subject to criminal liability, it is likely that there are deficiencies in risk and compliance management for the company's business operation.

Law stated - 12 July 2021

### Liability of governing bodies and senior management

Do members of governing bodies and senior management face civil liability for breach of risk and compliance management obligations?

If the breach of risk and compliance management obligations leads to any conduct that infringes the legitimate rights and interests of other parties, undertakings may face civil liability for such infringement. Under these circumstances, a director, supervisor, or senior management may be held liable for compensating the loss to the company if he or she violates laws, administrative regulations, or the company's articles of association during the performance of duties in accordance with the Company Law.

Law stated - 12 July 2021

Do members of governing bodies and senior management face administrative or regulatory consequences for breach of risk and compliance management obligations?

Breach of risk and compliance management obligations may occasion administrative or regulatory consequences to directors and senior management if such breach leads to any administrative violations.

For instance, in 2020, some senior management in banking industry were fined, given warnings and prohibited from engaging in banking due to those banks' non-compliance with the prudent operation rules (which includes risk management) as prescribed by the Law on Banking Regulation. Another example is for data compliance, person directly in charge may be subject to fine and administrative custody if a company fails to fulfil those mandatory data compliance obligations imposed by the Cybersecurity Law and the Data Security Law.

Law stated - 12 July 2021

Do members of governing bodies and senior management face criminal liability for breach of risk and compliance management obligations?

The Criminal Law adopts a dual punishment system for unit crime, which means both the company and the responsible persons are subject to the criminal liabilities with only a few exceptions otherwise prescribed in the Criminal Law. Therefore, breach of risk and compliance management obligations may occasion criminal liability to directors and senior management if such breach leads to any crimes committed by the company, and the following elements need to be satisfied simultaneously:

• the crime is expressly stipulated in the Criminal Law that 'the persons who are directly in charge and the other persons who are directly responsible for the crime' shall be penalised, such as production and sale of fake or

substandard goods, tax evasion, bribery and illegal business operation;

- · the crime is committed in the name and under the control of the will of the company; and
- directors and senior management act as the persons who are directly in charge or who are directly responsible
  for the crime, playing the role of determining, approving, inspiring, conniving or directing in the crime committed
  by the company.

Law stated - 12 July 2021

### **CORPORATE COMPLIANCE**

### Corporate compliance defence

Is there a corporate compliance defence? What are the requirements?

Corporate compliance may serve as a defence from the following perspectives.

On a criminal level, one type of defence strategy that is commonly adopted by companies is using corporate compliance as part of the evidence to prove the alleged criminal conduct is committed by employees as an individual crime, rather than a unit crime. There are no clear standards or requirements for such defence, and the People's Court would usually consider the elements such as the design, implementation, and effectiveness of the corporate compliance program.

Taking commercial bribery as an example, the bribery acts of an employee of a company could be deemed as either an individual crime, or a unit crime, depending on various considerations including the company's involvement in the bribery act (such as whether the conduct of bribery is based on the decision-making of the company), the possession of the illegal gains, and whether the bribes are offered in the name of the company or the individual employee. If the charge is raised against the individual employee, then the company would not be held accountable for the crime. One representative case is that in 2016, one local pharmaceutical company was charged with the crime of bribery committed by a unit. In its defence, the company used the evidence that the code of conduct and other internal policies explicitly prohibit gift-giving and any other types of bribery, together with the other evidence to support its defence that the bribery was committed by one senior executive for the benefit of him or herself, rather than the company. The People's Court eventually ruled for the company in this case.

In addition, since March 2020, the Supreme People's Procuratorate has been promoting pilot programmes on corporate compliance reforms, including 'non-arrest based on compliance', 'non-prosecution based on compliance', and 'leniency application based on pleading guilty'. After a compliance inspection programme is initiated, the People's Procuratorates can conduct compliance visits to the companies involved in the case, reach compliance supervision agreements with the companies, request the companies to establish or improve their compliance systems within a certain period of time, and review and evaluate the results. Based on the circumstances of the case and the review results, the People's Procuratorates would determine whether to approve the arrest, change the compulsory measures, or prosecute. If the companies face prosecution, the People's Procuratorates may put forward suggestions for lenient sentencing. Under the circumstances where the People's Procuratorates decide not to prosecute, and the companies are subject to administrative penalties, the People's Procuratorates may give an opinion on lenient punishment to the competent authorities concerned.

On an administrative level, in accordance with the Anti-Unfair Competition Law amended in 2019, the acts of bribery committed by the employee of a company shall be deemed as the conduct of the company, unless the company has evidence to prove that such acts of the employee are irrelevant to seeking for transaction opportunities or competitive advantages for the company. However, no specified regulations or judicial interpretations regarding what evidence would be most valid have been made available. Some local regulations (such as the Shanghai Anti-Unfair Competition Regulations) contain provisions encouraging companies to establish compliance management systems of anti-bribery and anti-unfair competition and in practice, some multinational and local companies have already implemented

compliance projects and preventative measures such as providing regular compliance training and requiring employees' written compliance commitment letters in preparation for any potential legal liability concerns. Furthermore, it has been suggested by the former State Administration for Industry and Commerce in a press conference in November 2017, that if the business operator has set up measures that are legitimate, in compliance, and reasonable, and has adopted effective inspection on the implementation, the company could be relieved from the legal liabilities.

Additionally, the Administrative Penalty Law provides that where a party concerned has sufficient evidence to prove that the party has no subjective fault, no administrative penalty shall be imposed on the party. Although there is no official interpretation of the standard of proof for no subjective fault, it is commonly believed that compliance measures would be an important element in corporate defence.

Law stated - 08 February 2023

### **Recent cases**

Discuss the most recent leading cases regarding corporate risk and compliance management failures.

In July 2022, the ride-hailing titan DiDi was imposed by the Cyberspace Administration of China a massive fine equivalent to 8.026 billion yuan over serious violations of the Cybersecurity Law, the Data Security Law, the Personal Information Protection Law, and the Administrative Penalty Law. In addition, the CEO and President of the company were fined 1 million yuan respectively. This is a typical example reflecting the corporate risk and compliance management failure in digital sectors.

In December 2022, the academic database China National Knowledge Infrastructure (CNKI) was fined 87.6 million yuan for the monopolistic practices of abusing market dominance, demonstrating the continued concern of China's competent authorities over the exclusive arrangements for platform companies and unfairly high prices for companies in the public interest sector in recent years.

Law stated - 08 February 2023

### **Government obligations**

Are there risk and compliance management obligations for government, government agencies and state-owned enterprises?

Risk and compliance management obligations for government and government agencies are mostly obligations to supervise. For instance, the China Banking and Insurance Regulatory Commission is responsible for supervising, inspecting, and assessing the effectiveness of the risk and compliance management of commercial banks. The State-owned Assets Supervision and Administration Commission of the State Council is responsible for actively promoting the compliance management of the centrally governed state-owned enterprises.

As for state-owned enterprises, mainly centrally governed state-owned enterprises, their key risk and compliance management obligations include:

- establishing compliance management systems, including a fundamental guide and specific policies tailored for key compliance areas as well as businesses with high compliance risks;
- developing a compliance risk identification, evaluation, and early warning mechanism;
- · maintaining the compliance review mechanism;
- strengthening compliance risk response and reporting mechanism;



- · developing a mechanism for rectification of non-compliance;
- · providing a platform for whistleblowing;
- · strengthening the accountability for violations;
- improving the synergistic operation mechanism of compliance management, legal management, internal control, risk management, etc;
- · regularly carrying out assessment and evaluation of the compliance management system;
- · cultivating compliance culture and awareness by means of training and education; and
- · enhancing the development of information technology for compliance management.

Law stated - 08 February 2023

### **DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION**

### Framework covering digital transformation

Please provide an overview on the risk and compliance governance and management framework covering the digital transformation (machine learning, artificial intelligence, robots, blockchain, etc).

Digital transformation is in principle governed by the Cybersecurity Law, the Data Security Law, and the Personal Information Protection Law, along with the corresponding implementation rules. While there are no specific rules for the risk and compliance governance and management framework, the general requirements on cybersecurity and data protection include:

- · multi-level protection scheme;
- · personal information protection and important data protection;
- · critical information infrastructure protection; and
- · network information content control.

In addition, the general requirements for data security include:

- · a data security management system;
- · data security training;
- · data security risk monitoring and reporting of data security incidents;
- · protecting important data and core data; and
- · restricting data provided to foreign judicial and law enforcement agencies.

More specifically, the requirements for personal information protection include:

- an internal management system and operating procedures;
- · category-based management of personal information;
- · technical security measures such as encryption and de-identification;
- · access control on personal information processing and training; and
- an emergency response plan for personal information security incidents.

For blockchain, a high-level regulation, the Management Regulation for Blockchain Information Services took effect in



February 2019, which stipulates some general requirements for record filing and security. In January 2021, the draft for a national standard, the Blockchain Information Services Security Specifications, was released for public comments, which provides more specified technical requirements covering the collection, processing, publishing, transfer, storage, and disposal of data in blockchain information services.

For artificial intelligence (including machine learning and robots), the National Professional Committee on Governance of New Generation Artificial Intelligence released the Principles of Governance of New Generation Artificial Intelligence – Developing Responsible Artificial Intelligence in June 2019, which establishes the framework and action guidelines for AI governance. In January 2021, a Cybersecurity Standards Practice Guidance, the Artificial Intelligence Ethical Security Risk Prevention Guidelines, was released, contributing to the identification of the related ethical security risks and introducing preventative measures for risk management. And in September 2021, the Code of Ethics for the New Generation Artificial Intelligence was released with the enhancement of risk prevention as one of the management requirements.

Law stated - 01 November 2021

### **UPDATE AND TRENDS**

### Key developments of the past year

What were the key cases, decisions, judgments, policy and legislative developments of the past year?

From a legislation perspective, key developments cover multiple areas including general corporate governance, and specific sectors of antitrust, anti-money laundering, anti-unfair competition, data protection, etc.

With respect to general corporate governance, the Measures for Compliance Management of Centrally Governed Enterprises came into effect on 1 October 2022, raising corporate compliance management to the level of laws and regulations. The national standard GB/T 35770-2022 Compliance management systems—Requirements with guidance for use, and the group standard T/CASMES 19—2022 Effectiveness Evaluation of Compliance Management System for small and medium-sized enterprises were released successively.

In addition, as for companies that are involved in criminal cases, the promulgation of a series of documents, including the Measures to Compliance Construction, Assessment and Review of the Enterprise Involved in Cases (for Trial Implementation), the Guiding Opinions on Establishment of a Third-party Supervision and Evaluation Mechanism for the Compliance of Enterprises Involved in Cases (for Trial Implementation) and the accompanying implementing rules, etc, contribute to the progress of the compliance reform pilot programmes.

With respect to antitrust, the Anti-monopoly Law promulgated in 2008 was amended for the first time. The latest version came into effect on 1 August 2022, improving the system of rules regarding monopoly agreements and concentration of operators and providing institutional solutions in response to practical needs.

With respect to anti-money laundering, the People's Bank of China, the China Banking and Insurance Regulatory Commission, and the China Securities Regulatory Commission jointly issued the Measures on Customer Due Diligence Investigation and Retention of Customer Identification Data and Transaction Records of Financial Institutions. These Measures came into effect on 1 March 2022, as an important approach to enhance anti-money laundering governance as well as effectively prevent financial risks. On 1 December 2022, the Anti-Telecommunication and Network Fraud Law was enacted and provided for rules on financial governance including requirements related to anti-money laundering.

With respect to anti-unfair competition, on 20 March 2022, the judicial interpretation of the Anti-Unfair Competition Law came into effect, focusing on the interpretation of article 2 of the Anti-Unfair Competition Law, counterfeiting and confusion, false propaganda and unfair competition on the Internet, etc.

With respect to data protection, the key development is the clarifciation of the requirements and processes for outbound data transfer. The Measures for Outbound Data Transfer Security Assessment, which took effect on 1 September 2022, set out the security assessment requirement for the outbound transfer of personal information and important data. The draft Standard Contract Provisions on the Outbound Transfer of Personal Information were released for public comment on 30 June 2022. On December 16, 2022, the Cybersecurity Standards Practice Guide - Specification for Secure Authentication of Personal Information Cross-Border Processing Activities was released, clarifying requirements for personal information protection certification.

From a law enforcement perspective, the key enforcement areas include anti-bribery, antitrust, anti-money laundering, and data protection.

Furthermore, 'corporate compliance officer' has been recognised as a new profession by the Ministry of Human Resoures and Social Security since March 2021, which also indicates the necessity and importance of risk and compliance managament in undertaking daily operating procedures.

Law stated - 01 November 2021

# **Jurisdictions**

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