



Hogan Lovells | FDI - a global perspective | 2024

Introduction

Global FDI in statistics

During the course of 2023, the screening of foreign direct investment (FDI) continued to be an item at the top of the agenda when planning and executing global M&A transactions, as well as greenfield cross-border investments. Over the past year, well over 5,000 mandatory notifications were made across major economies* which screen FDI on the basis of national security or public order considerations — and this does not even include voluntary notifications or jurisdictions which do not report FDI notification statistics.

These figures demonstrate a continuing trend and desire of governments around the world to scrutinize and, if deemed necessary, intervene in transactions involving FDI, motivated by a number of national security and geopolitical factors, including rising protectionism, securing, strategic autonomy and, more recently, the need to protect critical industries. Over the past year or so, there have been hundreds of interventions by governments either to impose conditions on a transaction or, more rarely, to prevent a deal from going ahead.

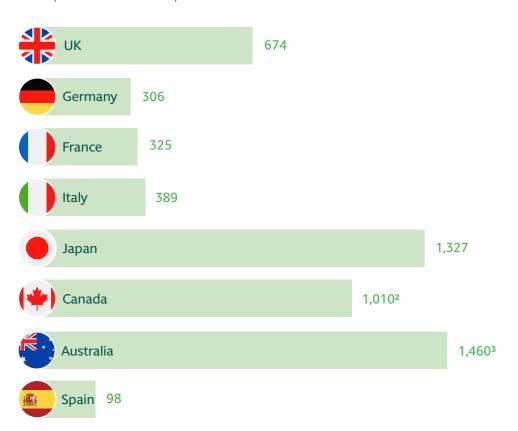
With additional FDI regimes due to go live throughout 2024, this trend looks likely to continue.



 550^{3}

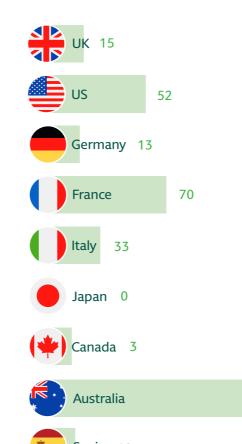
Number of mandatory pre-closing filings

For corporate investments or acquisitions.1



Number of interventions

Remedies, mitigations, restrictive measures, prohibitions etc.



- *For corporate investments and acquisitions. The reporting periods and jurisdictions surveyed are set out in the appendix.
- **1US:** Based on CFIUS's published annual report, among 154 short-form declarations filed in 2022, 44 mandatory short-form declarations were submitted. However, CFIUS does not publish data regarding the number of mandatory long-form notices submitted on an annual basis. 286 long-form notices were filed in 2022.
- ²Canada: Includes mandatory post-closing filings. Mandatory filing obligations apply to all direct and indirect acquisitions of control of Canadian businesses, regardless of potential national security concerns.
- ³Australia: No public data for mandatory filings is available. Once a FIRB application is made, it will become a condition precedent for the closing of the transaction under such application.

Interventions are commonly tax-related in Australia which accounts for the high number.

Risks for M&A transactions and investments

As investors prepare for M&A transactions, turning a blind eye to FDI screening regimes risks missing a mandatory filing requirement, which could result in fines, legally void transactions and even constitute criminal offenses. Depending on the activities of the 'target', the need to make a mandatory notification can arise with investments at very low percentages (of 10% or even lower) depending on the jurisdictions in which the target is active.

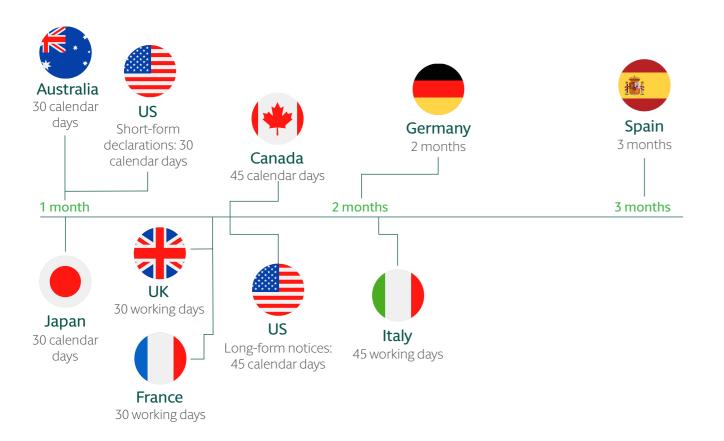
Factoring in differing timelines for FDI regimes across jurisdictions, and other regulatory processes such as merger control and the European Union's new Foreign Subsidy Regulation ("FSR"), can be a challenge and make the execution of M&A activity less certain and more time consuming. Review periods can vary from 30 calendar days up to potentially several months with inconsistent rules

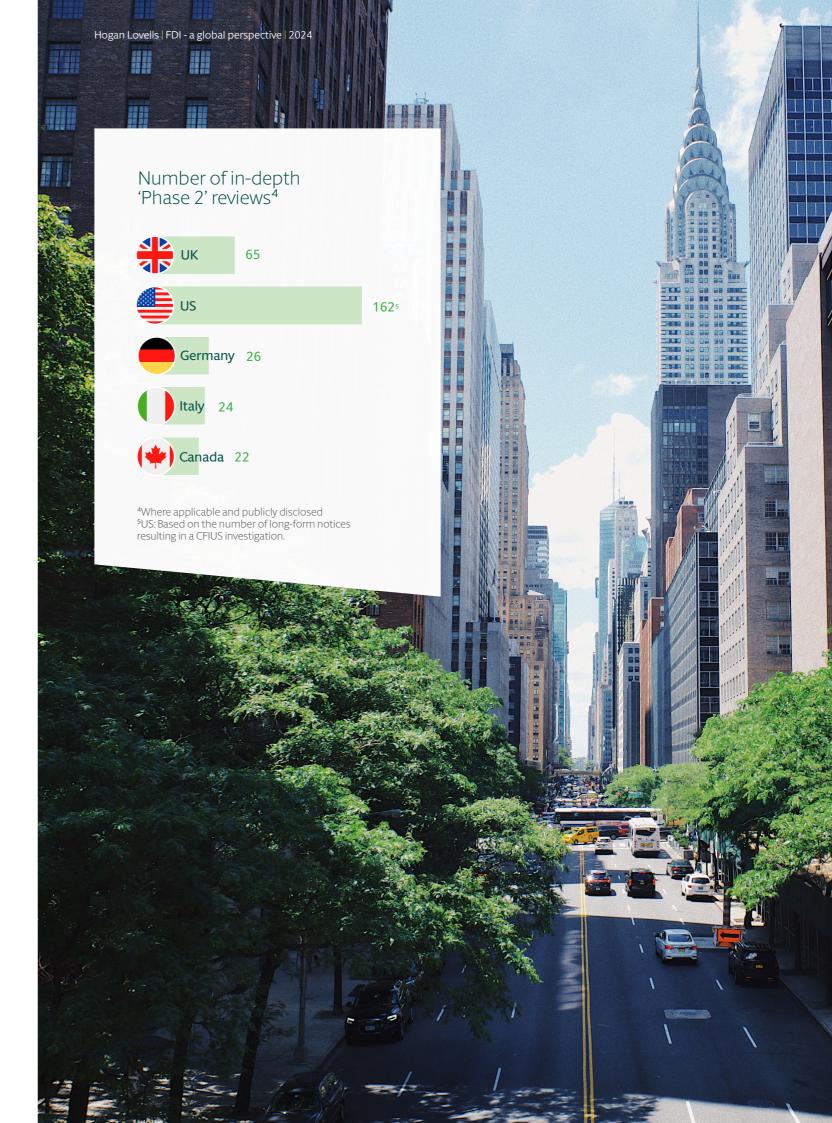
on whether these periods may be paused or re-set if the authority asks questions. In addition, the risk of a deal being subject to in-depth scrutiny – even if ultimately there are no national security concerns or conditions imposed – all need to be factored into transaction planning as heightened scrutiny can significantly delay closing.

Hogan Lovells has a global FDI team consisting of experts in national security, trade law, regulatory procedures and corporate M&A that helps clients navigate the uncertainties that FDI questions can pose for global transactions. Working at the intersection of business and government, Hogan Lovells is uniquely placed to advise clients on transactions that may fall under one or more FDI screening regimes around the world.

'Phase 1' review timeline

(excluding pre-notification, clock stoppages, time for acceptance etc.)





Focus on origin of investment and common sectors of interest

It is perhaps unsurprising that the US, UK, France, Germany, Singapore and China feature commonly in the countries of top investors for making FDI notifications. Some countries, including notably the UK, even require certain domestic investments to be notified on a mandatory basis.

For transactions and investments subject to detailed scrutiny, there are some common themes but also some variation, which likely reflects the relative strengths of the various economies. Military and defence sectors across most jurisdictions are amongst the most scrutinized sectors. There is also increasingly a focus on high-tech areas including computing, artificial intelligence, semiconductors and cyber-security as well as infrastructure sectors and mining.



Top 3 countries of investment

(by number of notifications)



Key sectors of focus

(by number of in-depth 'Phase 2' reviews)



UK



Advanced materials





Defence





Sensitive personal



Critical technologies



Critical infrastructure



Health & biotech

Germany



Engineering



Information and Communication Technology



France



Strategic infrastructure





Goods and services



Italy









Japan









Cyber security-related



Canada



Scientific research



Mining (particularly critical minerals)



Computer system design



Australia





Residential real estate



Commercial real estate



Spain



Information and communications



Professional, scientific and technical activities



Manufacturing industry



Hogan Lovells global FDI team is highly skilled and has the knowledge to help execute your transactions and investments

Due to the complexity and intricacies in the regulations, understanding the FDI regimes is crucial for cross-border investors. Identifying the applicable laws and carefully assessing the potential concerns upfront can minimize the risks and is essential to the strategic planning and execution of any transaction.

There are already over 35 active FDI regimes in major economies around the globe and, in 2024 alone, there are set to be at least another 5 new regimes in Europe alone, which will start screening investments.

In addition, there are potentially significant revisions of the rules being considered in major jurisdictions including the UK, Germany and the EU.

Given the rapidly evolving legal landscape, our expert global FDI team can assist investors with indepth knowledge and comprehensive strategies to address FDI issues.

Please refer to the Contacts page for a list of our experienced contributors able to assist.

Also check out our Global FDI Guide which provides insight into and comparison of FDI screening regimes in 20+ key jurisdictions in the Americas (Brazil, Mexico, USA), Asia-Pacific (Australia, China, Hong Kong, India*, Indonesia, Japan, Mongolia, Singapore and Vietnam), and EMEA (France, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Poland, Spain and the United Kingdom).

Outlook for FDI regimes in 2024





Contacts



Dr. Falk Schöning
Global Regulatory
Brussels, Berlin
T +32 2 505 0906
T + 49 30 80 09 30 000
falk.schoening@hoganlovells.com



Lourdes Catrain
Global Regulatory
Brussels, Madrid
T +32 2 505 0933
T + 34 91 3498200
lourdes.catrain@hoganlovells.com



Stefan Kirwitzke
Global Regulatory
Brussels
T +32 2 505 0971
stefan.kirwitzke@hoganlovells.com



Christopher Peacock
Global Regulatory
London, Dublin
T +44 20 7296 5630
T +44 20 7296 5630
christopher.peacock@hoganlovells.com



Aline Doussin
Global Regulatory
London, Paris
T +44 20 7296 2961
T +33 1 53 67 47 47
aline.doussin@hoganlovells.com

Robert Gardener



Director of Government Affairs, Global Regulatory London T +44 20 7296 7123 robert.gardener@hoganlovells.com



Casto Gonzalez-Paramo Global Regulatory Madrid T +34 91 349 82 76 casto.g-paramo@hoganlovells.com



Francesca Moretti
Global Regulatory
Milan
T +39 02 720252351
francesca.moretti@hoganlovells.com



Eric Paroche
Global Regulatory
Paris
T +33 1 53 67 47 47
eric.paroche@hoganlovells.com



Sherry Gong
Corporate & Finance
Beijing
T +86 10 6582 9516
sherry.gong@hoganlovells.com



Adrian Emch
Global Regulatory
Beijing
T +86 10 6582 9510
adrian.emch@hoganlovells.com



Charles Bogle
Corporate & Finance
Sydney
T +61 2 9093 3503
charles.bogle@hoganlovells.com



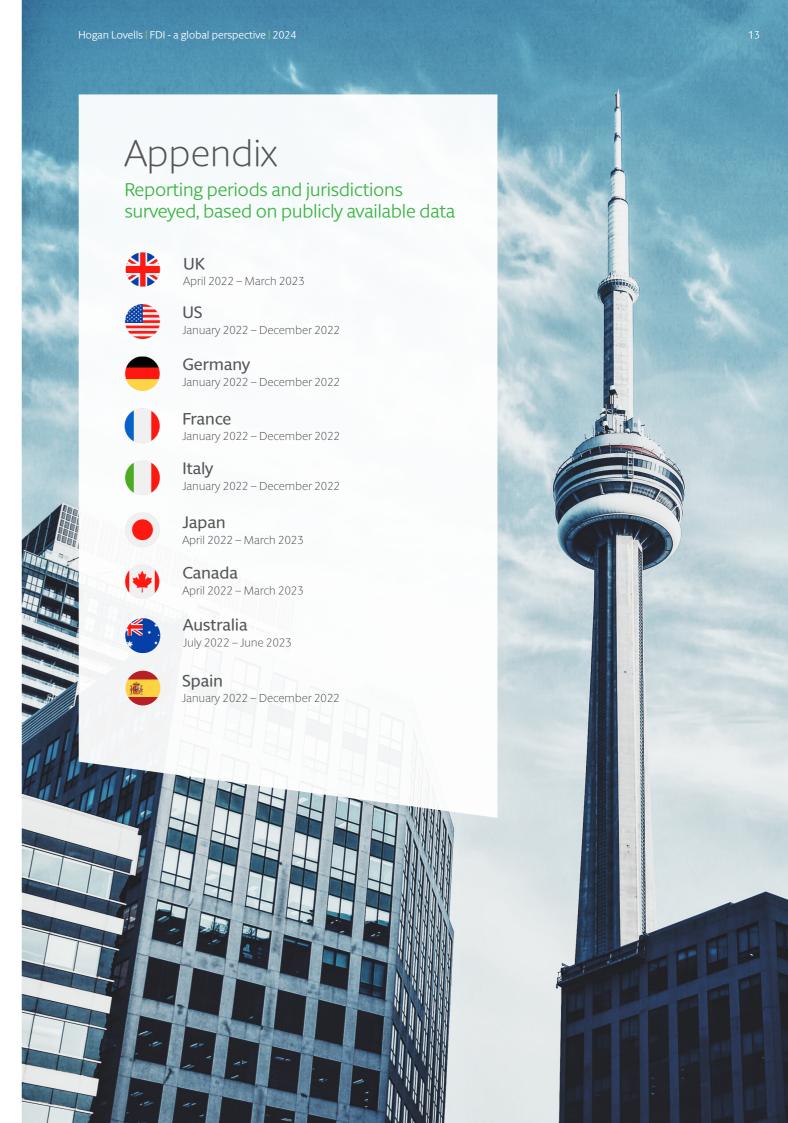
Wataru Kamoto
Corporate & Finance
Tokyo
T +81 3 5157 8163
wataru.kamoto@hoganlovells.com



Brian Curran
Global Regulatory
Washington, D.C.
T +1 202 637 4886
brian.curran@hoganlovells.com



Anne Salladin
Global Regulatory
Washington, D.C.
T +1 202 637 6461
anne.salladin@hoganlovells.com



Alicante

Amsterdam

Baltimore

Beijing

Berlin

Birmingham

Boston

Brussels

Budapest*

Colorado Springs

Denver

Dubai

Dublin

Dusseldorf

Frankfurt

Hamburg

Hanoi

Ho Chi Minh City

Hong Kong

Houston

Jakarta*

Johannesburg

London

Los Angeles

Louisville

Luxembourg

Madrid

Mexico City

Miami

Milan

Minneapolis

Monterrey

Munich

New York

Northern Virginia

Paris

Philadelphia

Riyadh

Rome

San Francisco

São Paulo

Shanghai

Shanghai FTZ*

Silicon Valley

Singapore

Sydney

Tokyo

Warsaw

Washington, D.C.

*Our associated offices

www.hoganlovells.com

"Hogan Lovells" or the "firm" is an international legal practice that includes Hogan Lovells International LLP, Hogan Lovells US LLP and their affiliated businesses.

The word "partner" is used to describe a partner or member of Hogan Lovells International LLP, Hogan Lovells US LLP or any of their affiliated entities or any employee or consultant with equivalent standing. Certain individuals, who are designated as partners, but who are not members of Hogan Lovells International LLP, do not hold qualifications equivalent to members.

For more information about Hogan Lovells, the partners and their qualifications, see www. hogan lovells.com.

Where case studies are included, results achieved do not guarantee similar outcomes for other clients. Attorney advertising. Images of people may feature current or former lawyers and employees at Hogan Lovells or models not connected with the firm.

© Hogan Lovells 2024. All rights reserved. WG-REQ-1236.