

# Alex Dimitrief

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## Global Business Leader, General Counsel and Big Law Partner

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Trusted leader of multinational businesses with proven success in building global teams who responsibly embrace risks and drive growth in challenging international markets through complex transactions in collaboration with governments, state-owned enterprises and private-sector companies. Tested expert in corporate governance and widely-recognized champion of diversity and inclusion with a practical approach to building cultures of world-class integrity.

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### General Electric

2007–2019

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#### ***President and CEO, Global Growth Organization, Boston, MA (2018–2019)***

Drove global, cross-business growth through multinational leadership, negotiations and diplomacy. Spearheaded localization strategies across 180+ countries. Served as ambassador for GE before governments and global policy summits and regularly featured in worldwide newspaper and television interviews.

- GGO won \$76B in international orders in 2018 and secured billions in financing for GE's emerging market customers from foreign export credit agencies, sovereign wealth funds, strategic funds and trading houses
- Steered GE through trade and sanction tensions to maintain constructive \$11B presence in China and Russia
- Drove company-to-country engagement on trade, energy, climate change and localization by connecting GE to national agendas and customer needs

#### ***Senior Vice President & General Counsel, Fairfield, CT and Boston, MA (2015–2018)***

Led global team of 5,000+ responsible for GE's legal matters, investigations, compliance and open reporting, government affairs, and environmental health and safety. Served as Corporate Secretary, principal legal advisor to GE Board and Chair of Policy Compliance Review Board. Drove GE advocacy and communications on LGBTQ rights.

- Key adviser to Board of Directors on CEO transition in 2017, fallout after precipitous drop in price of GE's stock in 2017–2018 and revamp of GE's Board and governance
- Secured first-ever rescission of a systemically important financial institution (SIFI) designation for GE Capital
- Restructured Board's Technology & Industrial Risk Committee to refocus on cybersecurity
- Led post-merger compliance integration of 45,000 Alstom employees
- Refreshed compliance program to focus on a culture of robust open reporting, ensuring GE's selection by Ethisphere as one of the World's Most Ethical Companies for 13 consecutive years
- Mobilized bipartisan support to reauthorize U.S. Export-Import Bank over Tea Party opposition and helped secure \$8B for GE's customers from export credit agencies in 10 other countries

#### ***Senior Vice President & General Counsel, GE Capital, Norwalk, CT (2012–2015)***

Oversaw team of 440 attorneys in GE's financial services businesses, which served more than one million businesses and 57 million consumers worldwide. Served on Boards of Synchrony Financial and GE Capital Bank.

- Built risk and compliance infrastructures enabling GE Capital to meet heightened regulatory obligations
- Co-led transformation and deregulation of GE Capital, including Synchrony spin-off, 60+ dispositions of \$205B in assets; secured required approvals from 25 global bank regulators within 6 months

***Vice President & General Counsel, GE Energy, Atlanta, GA (2011–2012)***

Chief legal officer for Power and Water, Oil and Gas, and Energy Management businesses, which employed 100,000 people in more than 165 countries.

- Drove prosecution of patent litigation that ultimately led a principal competitor to exit North American market
- Led successful joint venture formations with XD Electric (China) and InterRao (Russia), including navigation of CFIUS, FCPA and other significant regulatory issues

***Vice President, Litigation and Legal Policy, GE, Fairfield, CT (2007–2011)***

Oversaw global litigation, compliance and enforcement proceedings against GE and its business segments. Helped lead crisis management of GE's exposure from the post-tsunami breakdowns at Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant in Japan. Awarded Chairman's "Hero of Growth Award" in 2009 for successful defense of SEC revenue recognition investigation and financial crisis investigations and lawsuits. Spearheaded industry advocacy efforts to reform the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure governing electronic discovery and the preservation of evidence.

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**Kirkland & Ellis LLP**

Chicago, IL and New York, NY (1986–2006)

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***Senior Partner, Litigation***

Defended clients across a variety of industries in securities litigation and enforcement proceedings and first-chaired jury and bench trials and arbitrations involving commercial, product liability, bankruptcy, intellectual property and environmental disputes. Featured in several national publications for successful outcomes in cases across a broad scope of bet-the-company matters. Appeared before numerous federal and state appellate courts.

- Defended Morgan Stanley and its internet research analysts in conflict-of-interest investigations by New York Attorney General Eliot Spitzer and the SEC; despite its industry-leading position, Morgan Stanley was one of only two investment banks not charged with fraud or other intentional misconduct
- Secured enterprise-critical modifications to United Airlines CBAs and retiree benefits as lead trial counsel in successful Chapter 11 proceedings; principal author of "Informational Briefs" that encapsulated airline industry's troubled history and have since become standard practice in major bankruptcies

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**Prior Employment**

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***White House Fellow, Office of Political & Intergovernmental Affairs, Washington, DC (1985–1986)***

***Honors Intern, Office of the Solicitor General, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC (1985)***

***Analyst, House Republican Research Committee, U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, DC (1982)***

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**Education and Awards**

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J.D., *magna cum laude*, Harvard Law School, 1985

Managing Editor, *Harvard Law Review*

B.A., *summa cum laude*, Economics and Political Science, Yale College, 1981

Phi Beta Kappa; Patterson Prize for best political science essay, "Congressional Influence Reconsidered"

Honorary Doctor of Laws for championing diversity and inclusion around the globe, New York Law School, 2018

Named one of "Global GC 20," *Financial Times*, 2017

James Madison Legacy Award for supporting the teaching of civics and American history, ConSource, 2016

"100 Most Influential in Business Ethics" for Corporate Culture, Ethisphere, 2016

Financial Services Lawyer of the Year, The Legal 500, 2014

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## Not-for-Profit Service

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Ronald McDonald House Charities, Global Board of Trustees, 2017–present  
GE-Reagan Foundation Scholarship Program, Advisory & Selection Committees, 2011–present  
Bottom Line, Annual Boston Gala Chair, 2018  
Boston Children’s Hospital, Board of Trustees, 2017–2019  
National Women’s Law Center, Annual Gala Chair, 2017  
New England Council, Board of Trustees, 2016–2018  
Leadership Council on Legal Diversity, 2010–2017  
Ronald McDonald House of New York, Board of Directors, 2012–2016  
Westport Country Playhouse, Board of Trustees, 2011–2016  
Constitutional Rights Foundation of Chicago, Board of Directors, 2002–2012; Chair, 2004–2006  
RAND Institute for Civil Justice, Board of Overseers, 2008–2011  
Institute for Conflict Prevention & Resolution, Board of Directors, 2007–2010  
Facing History and Ourselves, Co-Host, Annual Dinners, Chicago 2007, New York 2012  
American Red Cross of Greater Chicago, Board of Directors, 2005–2007

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## Publications

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[Employee Reporting is Best Line of Defense Against Corporate Misconduct](#), Bloomberg Law Insight, August 2019  
[Employee Reporting is Best Line of Defense Against Corporate Misconduct](#), LinkedIn, July 2019  
[A Few Parting Thoughts on GE](#), A World of Opportunity (GE Leadership Blog), January 2019  
[Skip the New ‘Civility Courses’ and Think Like a Lawyer](#), *Law360*, October 2018  
[The NFL’s \(Well-Intentioned\) Hypocrisy on Patriotism](#), LinkedIn, September 2018  
[Looking Back and Ahead – Advice from a Global Company Leader](#), Law.com, August 2018  
[The Intractable Hourly Rate](#), Bloomberg Law Insight, Nov 2016 (with David Marriott)  
Billing, in *Successful Partnering Between Inside and Outside Counsel*, Thomson Reuters Westlaw and the Association of Corporate Counsel, Chapter 14, 2012 (with Kate O’Leary)  
[Mission Creep at the FTC? The Legal Backgrounder](#), Vol. 17, April 2002 (with Pamela Auerbach)  
Taking Federalism Seriously, 36 *DePaul Law Review* 463, 1987 (with Mitchell E. Daniels, Jr.)  
[A Map to Nowhere – The Gerrymandering Decision](#), *Chicago Tribune*, August 1986  
Note, Procedural Due Process & Public Employees, 97 *Harvard Law Review* 1780, 1984

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## Speaking Engagements

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- Panelist, “Working Across the C-Suite,” Page Society Annual Conference, Boston, September 2019
- Panelist, “Secrets of Success,” Benesch General Counsel Symposium, Akron, OH, August 2019
- Panelist, “Navigating a Corporate Crisis,” University of Chicago Law School, May 2019
- Keynote Speaker, “Working Wiser,” Global Counsel Leaders Circle, Washington, May 2019
- Panelist, Inaugural Am Law 100 Conference on Gender Parity, Georgetown Law School, May 2019
- “Restoring Civil Discourse in America,” Bill of Rights Awards Dinner, Constitutional Rights Foundation, November 2018
- Panelist, “A New Era of Paradigm Shift,” Kiev International Economic Forum, October 2018
- Panelist, “How Can Global CEOs Support the UN’s Sustainable Development Goals?”  
Future Investment Initiative, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, October 2018
- Panelist, “The Globalization Challenge,” Minority Corporate Counsel Association’s Creating Pathways to Diversity Conference, New York, September 2018
- “Corporate Culture and the Evolving Role of Lawyers,” Richards Kibbe Speaker Series, New York, September 2018
- Panelist, “[Men in the Mix](#),” National Summit for Achieving Long-Term Careers for Women in Law, Northwestern University, June 2018
- [Commencement Speaker](#), New York Law School, June 2018 (beginning at 1:00 of ceremony video)
- Panelist, “The Future of Energy,” Summit of the Americas, Lima, Peru, April 2018
- Panelist, “New Frontiers: Emerging Technologies and Political Risk,” Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, March 2018
- Panelist, “Renewable Energy, Future Cities,” Innovation to Impact Forum, MIT, March 2018
- “General Counsel Interview,” 34<sup>th</sup> International Conference on the FCPA, Washington, D.C., November 2017
- Panelist, “The Role of Law in Protecting and Embedding Value,” *Financial Times Live: The Rule and Role of Law*, New York, November 2017
- Panelist, “Fostering the Industrial Internet to Accelerate Economic Growth and Transformation,” Information Technology & Innovation Foundation, Washington, D.C., September 2017
- Keynote Speaker, Annual Conference, Ethics & Compliance Initiative, Washington, D.C., April 2017
- Panelist, “General Counsel: Who Hires, Who Fires, Who Determines Diversity in Selection of Outside Counsel,” Just the Beginning, Thurgood Marshall Courthouse, New York, September 2016
- “Importance of Business and Commercial Ties in Helping to Build a Foundation for Constructive Engagement Between Countries,” St. Petersburg International Legal Forum, May 2016
- [Opening Keynote](#), Annual Ethics Summit, Ethisphere, New York, March 2016
- Guest Lecturer, “Everything You’ve Always Wanted to Ask a Client But Were Afraid to Ask,” Husch Blackwell University, Washington University School of Law, St. Louis, January 2016
- Panelist, “The Future of Civil Litigation,” Sedona Conference, April 2011
- Panelist, “[Update on the Federal Rules Advisory Committee](#),” 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Symposium on Civil Justice Issues, George Mason University Judicial Education Program, December 2010
- “The Cost of Litigation,” Conference on Civil Litigation, Standing Committee on Rules of Practice and Procedure, Duke University School of Law, May 2010 (with the Searle Institute)
- Panelist, “Accountability in Managing Major Litigation,” Hollingsworth LLP 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Seminar on Toxic Torts, Washington, D.C., April 2009
- Keynote Speaker, “Defending GE, Its Products & Its People,” Hollingsworth LLP 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Seminar on Toxic Torts, Washington, D.C., April 2008
- Automotive Recalls Reconsidered, International Bar Association, Paris, September 1995

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## Interviews & Podcasts

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[GE to Invest in Healthcare and Power Projects in Africa](#), K24TV Kenya, September 2018

[Talking Edge: Can GE Get Its Groove Back?](#) The Edge TV, April 2018

[Interview: Alex Dimitrief](#), Diversity and Inclusion Report U.S., *GC Magazine*, 2017

[Sneak Peek](#), *Why Integrity Matters*, Business Ethics Leadership Alliance, September 2017

[Conversa com Alex Dimitrief](#), Escola de Direito de São Paulo, May 2017

[Ethics & Compliance](#), GE Korea TV, April 2017

[In-House Counsel Profile: Alex Dimitrief](#), *National Law Journal*, February 2017

[Five Insights from GE's Alex Dimitrief](#), *Law360*, January 2017

[Divesting, Investing and Innovating](#), *The Resilient Series*, November 2016

[GE's GC Says "There's No Such Thing as a Small Case,"](#) *Above the Law*, August 2016

[The General Counsel of GE Thinks Lawyers Are The Answer](#), *Above the Law*, August 2016

[Podcast](#), *The CLO & Pro Bono Series*, August 2016 (with Kate O'Leary)

[An Interview with Alex Dimitrief](#), *Business Law Today*, November 2014

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## Representative Media Mentions

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[GE To Those Who Complain About Global Regs: "Grow Up, Get it Done,"](#) Law.com, November 2017

[A Lesson from GE: You Can Get Fired for Sticking With That White Shoe Law Firm](#), Bodhala.com, February 2017

[Law Firms Are Terrible at Billing Says GE's GC](#), Law.com, November 2016

[From Immigrants' Son to Legal Chief of an American Icon](#), *Corporate Counsel*, Fall 2015

Jacob Gershman, ["To Kill or Not to Kill All the Lawyers? That is the Question,"](#) *The Wall Street Journal*, August 18, 2014

[In the Driver's Seat](#), *Harvard Law Bulletin*, Summer 2012

C. Gasparino, *Blood on the Street*, 2005 (research analyst investigations)

[Pushing the Envelope](#), *The American Lawyer*, January 2004 (United Airlines bankruptcy)

["Best Defense Verdicts,"](#) *National Law Journal*, November 2000 (IPSOS jury trial victory)

["Next Generation of Killer Litigators,"](#) *Illinois Legal Times*, 1996 (first jury trial victory)