

When and Where

Date : Thursday **26th March 2026**

Time: 6:30 to 9:00 pm

Venue : The offices of Gard (HK) Limited

30th Floor, The Centrium, 60 Wyndham Street, Central, Hong Kong

What is it about

In an increasingly volatile world, geopolitical risks—such as trade wars, regional conflicts, and shifting alliances—can disrupt supply chains, markets, and operations. Sanctions compliance means strictly following complex international regulations (US, EU, UN, and others) that prohibit dealings with sanctioned countries, entities, or individuals. Non-compliance risks severe fines, reputational damage, and legal consequences. Effective management through due diligence, risk screening, and proactive compliance strategies is now essential for secure international business and financial transactions.

Speakers / Presenters:

Sammy Smallbone (Senior Corporate Lawyer/ Sanctions Adviser, Gard Japan)

- Sammy is a qualified Barrister and Solicitor of England and Wales. Before joining Gard in 2018, he spent nine years in private practice specializing in shipping and commercial dispute resolution in London and Hong Kong. Since 2022, Sammy has developed significant experience in geo-political risks and sanctions compliance including related regulatory reporting in the P&I and marine insurance sector. For the Gard Group, he assesses risks and provides advice on sanctions compliance across multiple jurisdictions.

Malene Wang (Managing Director / Senior Lawyer, Gard Hong Kong)

- Malene is dual-qualified as a solicitor in England & Wales and Hong Kong. She spent 7 years specialising in maritime and commercial disputes at English law firms in London and Hong Kong before joining Gard Hong Kong in 2020 as a Defence lawyer, advising on a wide variety of dry shipping disputes and contractual clauses. She is now the Managing Director of Gard Hong Kong and continues to handle a portfolio of shipowner and charterer accounts in Hong Kong, Mainland China, Taiwan and Korea. Malene has a masters degree in computer science and prior to becoming a lawyer, she worked as a computer programmer in investment banks and hedge funds in New York and London. She is natively fluent in English and Mandarin.

Registration: 6:30 pm

Details of the presentation: 7:00 - 8:00 pm including Q&A

Networking drinks: 8:00 – 9:00 pm

Reserving seats: There is no charge for this presentation. The presentation shall be followed by a networking session over some food and drinks.

Please secure your place by registration through email to secretary@nautinsthk.com

Warm Regards,

*Dr. Kaushik Roy/
Chairman
Nautical Institute
Hong Kong branch*

*Capt. John YU/
AFNI Secretary
Nautical Institute
Hong Kong branch*