

Snell & Wilmer



Roxana Vatanparast

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Main Bio

Roxana Vatanparast is a member of the firm's commercial finance practice group. Her experience includes structuring, negotiating, documenting, and closing large scale real estate finance transactions, including loan origination, loan assumption, loan modification, and equity transfer transactions. Additionally, she advises financial technology startups on financial regulatory compliance and privacy laws. She has experience advising clients in the banking, finance, technology, and retail industries.

In addition to her legal practice, she is a scholar who regularly writes, teaches, and speaks on data privacy and data protection laws, digital currency and financial technology, climate impacts of blockchain, artificial intelligence, and machine learning technologies, and the law and global governance of telecommunication infrastructures.

She holds a LL.M. and Ph.D. from the University of Turin and has been a visiting researcher at Sciences Po Law School, Paris, as well as the Institute for Global Law & Policy at Harvard Law School. Prior to joining Snell, she was a Visiting Fellow with the Program on Science, Technology and Society at Harvard Kennedy School and an Affiliate with the Center on Global Legal Transformation at Columbia Law School.

Admitted to practice only in the state of California.

Representative Experience

- Advised commercial lenders on real estate finance and asset-based finance transactions
- Advised financial technology startups on financial regulatory compliance, user agreements, and obtaining a California finance lenders license
- Advised retail and technology clients on privacy law compliance
- Advised retail clients on co-branded credit card deals
- Advised technology clients on geo-filtering and geo-blocking laws

Education

- University of Turin (Ph.D., Law & Institutions, cum laude, 2020)
- International University College of Turin (LL.M., Comparative Law, Economics and Finance, 2016)
- University of California, Hastings College of the Law (J.D., International Law Concentration, 2008)
- University of California, San Diego (B.A., Political Science – International Relations, B.A., Philosophy, cum laude, 2005)

- *Phi Beta Kappa*

Professional Memberships & Activities

- European Society of International Law, Interest Group on International Law & Technology, Organizing Committee Member (2020-Present)
- European Society of International Law (2019-Present)
- European Law Institute, Fellow (2018-Present)
- Iranian American Bar Association, Northern California Chapter, Co-President of the Board (2015)

Representative Presentations & Publications

- “Societal Constitutionalism and Digital Technology,” Participant, Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law, Germany (June 2022)
- “Cyber International Law”, Guest Lecturer, Universidad de los Andes, Bogota, Columbia (February 2022)
- “Connecting the World-Island: What Will China’s PEACE Cable Bring to Pakistan and East Africa?” Panelist, Harvard Davis Center for Russian and Eurasian Studies & Harvard Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies, Cambridge, MA (October 2021)
- “Law, Digital Technology, and Society: The Impacts of the GDPR on the Global South, Guest Lecturer, University of Muhammadiyah Malang, Malang, Indonesia (May 2021)
- “‘Of Nations Linked Together:’ Cables, the League of Nations, and Imagined Global Communities,” Presenter, Harvard Kennedy School, STS Circle, Cambridge, MA (March 2021)
- Law and Technology Initiative, Guest Lecturer, University of Manchester School of Law, Manchester, UK (February 2021)
- “The Code of Data Capital: A Distributional Analysis of Law in the Global Data Economy,” Author, *juridikum – Austria’s Critical Law Review* (April 2021)
- “Data Governance and the Elasticity of Sovereignty,” Author, *Brooklyn Journal of International Law* (2020)
- “Designed to Serve Mankind? The Politics of the GDPR as a Global Standard and the Limits of Privacy”, Author, *Heidelberg Journal of International Law* (December 2020)
- “Data Waste”, Co-Author, *Harvard International Law Journal Online* (April 2020)
- “The Infrastructures of the Global Data Economy: Undersea Cables and International Law,” Author, *Harvard International Law Journal Online* (April 2020)
- “The Submerged Infrastructures of the Global Data Economy: Undersea Cables and International Law,”, Presenter, Harvard Kennedy School, Graduate Research in Science, Technology & Society (GRiSTS) Conference (September 2020)
- “The Copyright Act’s Preemption of Right of Publicity Claims,” Co-Author, *Communications Lawyer* (July 2008)

Previous Professional Experience

- Independent Consulting, Legal Consultant (2010-2021)
- Bryan Cave LLP, Associate (2012-2015)
 - Recruiting Committee

- Sheppard, Mullin, Richter & Hampton LLP, Associate (2008-2010)

Bar Admissions

- California

Court Admissions

- Supreme Court of California
- United States District Court, Central District of California
- United States District Court, Northern District of California
- United States District Court, Eastern District of California