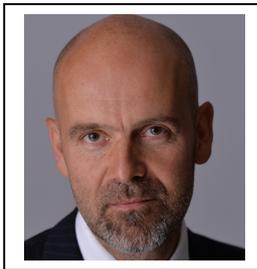




Candidate Motivation Letter

Name of Candidate: CHRISTOPHER TORRENS
Chapter: SHANGHAI
Position: BOARD MEMBER



Motivation Letter

I have been advising multinational companies on business risks in China since 1989. I have gained a deep understanding of the key issues facing European companies operating in this market, accumulating considerable experience in supporting corporate strategies and operations.

As Europe-China relations enter their most sensitive period in three decades, the obstacles facing European businesses in China can be daunting, as companies face a perfect storm of geopolitical tensions, economic pressures, steep domestic competition and an increasingly tough compliance environment. I remain convinced that European companies can continue to succeed and prosper in the China market, and I am eager to use my knowledge and experience to help Chamber members navigate their way through what can often be a challenging landscape.

I have taken part in the Chamber's events in Shanghai since the formation of the city's local chapter nearly 20 years ago. Control Risks has been a corporate member for many years and I have been an active participant in events, including sharing insights with members via presentations and panel discussions. I would greatly appreciate the opportunity to take on greater responsibility, helping strengthen the Chamber further as a platform where members can share successful business practices and learn from each other. With the China market constantly changing, this communication and collaboration is more important than ever before.

As well as serving its members, the Chamber itself needs to pay close attention to its own risks as a foreign commercial entity in China. With my geopolitical and compliance expertise I believe I can add a valuable perspective and contribute to the Board's thinking in this area, helping the Chamber ensure its own resilience and guarantee its long-term future.



Biography

Chris Torrens is a Shanghai-based Partner with Control Risks, where he has worked for 20 years. Control Risks is an independent risk consultancy with 3,000+ employees spread across 37 offices worldwide, including eight offices in Europe and three in China. Chris heads up the East China geomarket, advising European and other multinational corporations in all sectors on risk management issues, particularly in relation to geopolitical, regulatory and compliance risk.

Chris has been in Shanghai since 2019. Before moving back to China he worked in London for a decade, managing a team of 40 risk analysts for the EMEA region. Chris previously worked in Shanghai from 1998 to 2009, and first lived in the city as a Chinese-language student at Fudan University in 1984-85. He has spent a total of 20 years in Greater China, 15 of them in Shanghai.

Chris's other professional experience includes working for: PricewaterhouseCoopers' Advisory practice in Shanghai; the Economist Intelligence Unit in Shanghai; and UK business advisory firm Batey Burn (subsequently acquired by APCO) in Hong Kong.

Chris's book, *Doing Business in China*, was published by The Economist Group in 2010. He is a Certified Fraud Examiner (CFE) and holds an MBA from the China-Europe International Business School in Shanghai. He has a BA Honours degree in Modern Chinese Studies from the University of Leeds in the UK and speaks Mandarin Chinese. Chris lives in Shanghai with his Italian wife and two children. He is a keen cyclist.