

**The 6th Annual IFSEA International Conference on
Risk, Reward and Reputation Management Issues for Senior Executives & Founders**

Tuesday, 17 June 2025, 8.00 am – 6.00 pm (Closing Drinks 6.00-7.30pm)
Welcome Evening Drinks Reception: Monday, 16 June 2025, 6.00 pm – 8.30 pm
Venue: Saddlers' Hall, 40 Gutter Lane, London EC2V 6BR

Registration for the 6th Annual IFSEA Conference is open – register to [secure your place!](#)

IFSEA 2025 Conference Programme
Keynote speaker: Matthew Syed



Our IFSEA 2025 keynote speaker is best-selling author, award-winning broadcaster and journalist, and international thought leader on leadership, growth mindset and high performance, [Matthew Syed](#).

A former top-ranked table tennis player for England and a two-time Olympian, Matthew is celebrated for his insightful perspectives on mindset and cultural change. His bestselling books, including *Bounce*, *Black Box Thinking* and *Rebel Ideas*, explore the critical role of mindset in achieving high performance and innovation. We are delighted to have Matthew join us at IFSEA 2025!

Monday 16 June 2025	
18.00-20.30	Welcome Evening Drinks Reception
Tuesday 17 June 2025	
08.00-08.30	Registration and Breakfast
	Opening Plenary Session
08.30-09.20	<p>The Investigator's Dilemma: Balancing Complexity, Conflicts, and Human Drama in High-Stakes Cases</p> <p>Emma Bartlett, CM Murray LLP (UK) Denise Drake, Polsinelli (Kansas City, USA) Natacha Lesellier, Flichy (Paris) Emily Kaufer, Air Canada (Canada) Michèle Stutz, MME (Switzerland) Veena Gopalakrishnan, Trilegal (India) (Chair)</p>
09.20-09.30	Welcome – Conference Chair Clare Murray , CM Murray LLP (UK)



	Plenary Session
09.30-10.20	<p>Who Would Lead? Tackling Burnout, Risk and the Reluctance of Future Leaders in an Era of Disposable Leadership</p> <p>Yulia Fedorenko, CM Murray LLP (UK) James Hockin, Withers (UK) Joydeep Hor, People and Culture Strategies (Australia) David Lowe, Rudy Exelrod Zieff & Lowe (San Francisco, USA) Merrill April, CM Murray LLP (UK) (Chair)</p>
	Breakout Sessions
10.25-11.10	<p>Navigating Reverse Discrimination: Addressing Concerns of Those Who Feel Diversity Targets are Working Against Them</p> <p>Claire Dawson, BDBF (UK) Regan O'Driscoll, CC Solicitors (Ireland) Camille Olsen, Seyfath Shaw (Chicago & California, USA) Carl-Fredrik Hedenström, CFH Law (Sweden) (Chair)</p> <p>GC Focus: Too Close for Comfort? Balancing Pressures, Expectations, and Ethics for In-House Counsel</p> <p>Alexandra Badel, M Group (UK) Matthew Dineen, LocatED (UK) Elizabeth Delafosse, GB RailFreight (UK) Jenny Hodges, Aureos (UK) Nick Leale, CM Murray LLP (UK) (Chair)</p>
11.10-11.30	Coffee Break
	Breakout Sessions
11.30-12.15	<p>Breaking the Silence: "Everyone knew but no one did anything" - Tackling Workplace Harassment and Bullying, and Ineffective Regulations</p> <p>Lori L. Deem, Hughes Socol Piers Resnick & Dym, Ltd (Chicago, USA) Mathilde Houet-Weil, Weil et Associates (France) Andrew Pavlovic, CM Murray LLP (UK) Jessica Riggin, Rukin, Hyland & Riggin (San Francisco, USA) Nick Vamos, Peters & Peters (UK) Beth Hale, CM Murray LLP (UK) (Chair)</p> <p>Founder Fallouts: Navigating Board Firings and Crisis Management</p> <p>Elizabeth McEneny, CM Murray LLP (UK) Richard Reice, Sterlington (New York, USA) Martijn van Hall, van Hall Arbeidsrecht (Netherlands) Wendi Lazar, C-Suite Strategies (New York, USA) (Chair)</p>

	Breakout Sessions
12.15-13.00	<p>Handling Scandals Across Borders: Navigating HR Challenges and Crisis Management</p> <p>Persephone Bridgman-Baker, Carter-Ruck (UK) Ming Evans, Smiths Plc (UK) Harry Jones, Polsinelli (Texas, USA) Gus Sellitto, Byfield Reputation Counsel (UK) Lindsey Wagner, Wagner Legal PC (California & Ohio, USA) (Chair)</p> <p>Reevaluating Retirement: The Case For and Against Mandatory Ages in Professional Partnerships</p> <p>Carol Davis KC, Littleton (UK) Amy Shulman, Outten & Golden (New York, USA) (Chair) Daniel Sutherland, Fox Williams (UK) Victoria Tomlinson, Next-Up (UK) Johannes Traut, Seitz (Germany)</p>
13.00-14.00	Lunch Break
13.30-14.00	Lunch & Learn Discussion
	Afternoon Plenary Session
14.00-14.30	<p>PR and the Hidden Circles of Power and Influence</p> <p>Matt Nixon, Stork & May (UK)</p>
	Breakout Sessions
14.35-15.20	<p>Shielding Your Team: Enhancing Safety and Security in the Modern Workplace: what more should you do to shield your people from physical violence and online harm, and how do you prepare for the potential aftermath?</p> <p>Anne Davies, Fisher Broyles (UK) Suzanne McKie KC, Farore Law (UK) Kristen Prinz, The Prinz Law Firm (Chicago, USA) Andre Royer, Borden Ladner Gervais LLP (Canada) David Fisher, CM Murray LLP (UK) (Chair)</p> <p>Dad Shift: Global Trends in Parental Leave and Their Impact on Work and Family Life</p> <p>Brian MacDonough, Sherin & Lodgen (Boston, USA) Jef Michielsens, Bellaw, Van Eeckhoutte, Taquet & Clesse (Belgium) Emma Sangeelee, Edwin Coe (UK) Clothilde Verdier, Netflix (Netherlands) Atul Gupta, Trilegal (India) (Chair)</p>



	Breakout Sessions
15.20-16.05	<p>Leading Through Strikes: Executive Strategies for Union Engagement</p> <p>Carlos Pareja Frade, Augusta (Spain) Jennifer Platzkere Snyder, Dilworth Paxson (Philadelphia/NY, USA) Jonathan Tuck, Baker McKenzie (UK) Danny Kaufer, Borden Ladner Gervais LLP (Canada) (Chair)</p> <p>Private Equity in Professional Services: Strategic Insights for Firm Owners</p> <p>David Yewdall, Global Employer Services, BDO (UK) Matthew Doughty, CEO Insurance Services, DWF Group (UK) Ken Fowlie, Stowe Family Law LLP (Chair) Corinne Staves, CM Murray LLP (UK)</p>
16.05-16.25	Coffee & Drinks Break
	Afternoon Plenary Session
16.25-17.15	<p>Keynote Speaker – Matthew Syed</p> <p>We are delighted to be joined by Matthew Syed, two-time Olympian, award-winning broadcaster and journalist, international thought leader on leadership, growth mindset and high performance, and best-selling author (Bounce – The Myth of Talent & The Power of Practice, Black Box Thinking – The Surprising Truth about Success and Rebel Ideas – The Power of Diverse Thinking). Mathew also hosts the BBC Radio 4 series Sideways, which explores the ideas that shape our lives with stories of seeing the world differently.</p>
	Closing Plenary Session
17.15–18.00	<p>Ethical Leadership in Turbulent Times: Navigating Authoritarianism, Geopolitical Upheaval, and Economic Challenges (<i>Samoan Circle Debate</i>)</p> <p>Kelly Dermody, Lief Cabraser Heimann & Bernstein (California, USA) Gavin Foggo, Fox Williams (UK) Andrew Frank, KARV (New York, USA) Megan Mathias, Hinshaw (Chicago, USA) Terese Connolly, Taft (Chicago, USA) Linky Trott, Edwin Coe (UK)</p> <p>Facilitators: Mark Risk, Mark Risk PC (New York, USA) Kelsey Murrell, CM Murray LLP (UK)</p>
18.00-19.30	Closing Remarks Evening Drinks Event

Please note: All timings and speakers are subject to change

Conference Registration

IFSEA Conference Registration fees are as follows:

- Standard Registration Fee for Non-IFSEA Members: £395 plus VAT
- IFSEA Members & Speakers: £295 plus VAT
- In-house Counsel & HR Professionals: registration fee waived

Please register your place for the conference [here](#) or [download the application form](#).

Further Speakers Confirmed (more to follow):

[Alexandra Badel](#), M Group (UK)

[Elizabeth Delafosse](#), GB RailFreight (UK)

[Matthew Dineen](#), LocatED (UK)

[Matthew Doughty](#), CEO Insurance Services, DWF Group (UK)

[Denise Drake](#), Polsinelli (Kansas City, USA)

[Yulia Fedorenko](#), CM Murray LLP (UK)

[Ken Fowlie](#), Chair, Stowe Family Law LLP

[Andrew Frank](#), KARV (New York, USA)

[Carl-Fredrik Hedenström](#), CFH Law (Sweden)

[Jenny Hodges](#), Aureos (UK)

[David Lowe](#), Rudy Exelrod Zieff & Lowe (San Francisco, USA)

[Megan Mathias](#), Hinshaw (Chicago, USA)

[Elizabeth McEneny](#), CM Murray LLP (UK)

[Jef Michielsen](#), Bellaw, Van Eeckhoutte, Taquet & Clesse (Belgium)

[Kelsey Murrell](#), CM Murray LLP (UK)

[Suzanne McKie KC](#) – Farore Law (UK)

[Regan O'Driscoll](#), CC Solicitors (Ireland)

[Matt Nixon](#), Stork & May (UK)

[Carlos Pareja Frade](#), Augusta (Spain)

[Andrew Pavlovic](#), CM Murray LLP (UK)

[Emma Sangeelee](#), Edwin Coe (UK)

[Daniel Sutherland](#), Fox Williams (UK)

[Victoria Tomlinson](#), Next-Up (UK)

[Johannes Traut](#), Seitz (Germany)

[Linky Trott](#), Edwin Coe (UK)

[Martijn van Hall](#), van Hall Arbeidsrecht (Netherlands)

[Clothilde Verdier](#), Netflix (Netherlands)

[Merrill April](#), CM Murray LLP (UK)

[Emma Bartlett](#), CM Murray LLP (UK)

[Persephone Bridgman-Baker](#), Carter-Ruck (UK)

[Terese Connolly](#), Taft (Chicago, USA)

[Claire Dawson](#), BDBF (UK)

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[Veena Gopalakrishnan](#), Trilegal (India)

[Atul Gupta](#), Trilegal (India)

[Beth Hale](#), CM Murray LLP (UK)

[James Hockin](#), Withers (UK)

[Joydeep Hor](#), People and Culture Strategies (Australia)

[Mathilde Houet-Weil](#), Weil et Associes (France)

[Harry Jones](#), Polsinelli (Texas, USA)

[Danny Kaufer](#), Borden Ladner Gervais LLP (Canada)

[Emily Kaufer](#), Air Canada (Canada)

[Wendi Lazar](#), C-Suite Strategies (New York, USA)

[Nick Leale](#), CM Murray LLP (UK)

[Natacha Lesellier](#), Flichy (Paris)

[Brian MacDonough](#), Sherin & Lodgen (Boston, USA)

[Camille Olsen](#), Seyfath Shaw (Chicago & California, USA)



[Jennifer Platzkere Snyder](#), Dilworth Paxson (Philadelphia/NY, USA)

[Kristen Prinz](#), The Prinz Law Firm (Chicago, USA)

[Richard Reice](#), Sterlington (New York, USA)

[Jessica Rigglin](#), Rukin, Hyland & Rigglin (San Francisco, USA)

[Mark Risk](#), Mark Risk PC (New York, USA)

[Andre Royer](#), Borden Ladner Gervais LLP (Canada)

[Gus Sellitto](#), Byfield Reputation Counsel (UK)

[Amy Shulman](#), Outten & Golden (New York, USA)

[Corinne Staves](#), CM Murray LLP (UK)

[Michèle Stutz](#), MME (Switzerland)

[Matthew Syed](#), Matthew Syed Consulting (UK)

[Jonathan Tuck](#), Baker McKenzie (UK)

[Nick Vamos](#), Peters & Peters (UK)

[Lindsey Wagner](#), Wagner Legal PC (California & Ohio, USA)

[David Yewdall](#), Global Employer Services, BDO (UK)