



Derek Leatherdale – Managing Director, GRI Strategies Ltd

Derek Leatherdale is Founder and Managing Director of [GRI Strategies Ltd](#), leading work with companies across sectors to improve approaches to corporate governance and management of geopolitical risk exposures.

Before setting up GRI, Derek founded HSBC's group geopolitical risk function. This involved integrating expert geopolitical risk input into all aspects of the group's strategy and risk management and supporting improved governance and oversight across a global portfolio of banking operations - covering investment and corporate banking, markets and asset management businesses, trade finance and other banking services.

The function's work supported HSBC's response to issues and crises where it had strategic exposures, including the Arab Spring and other issues in MENA, the Eurozone debt crisis, Brexit, strategic developments in the US-China relationship and a wide range of emerging market political stability issues globally.

In a subsequent role, Derek led HSBC's global government affairs campaigns and upgraded internal approaches to ensure consistent global engagement with international standard-setters, other international bodies, including the G7 and G20, and key national authorities.

Prior to HSBC, Derek worked in national security and intelligence roles for the UK government.

In association with [The Risk Coalition](#), Derek is the co-author of 'The Extra G – ESG²', innovative leading practice guidance on geopolitical risk oversight and its integration with ESG issues for boards, their risk committees and risk functions. Derek is an Associate Director with The Risk Coalition.

Derek is also Lead Instructor and Course Developer for the DCRO Institute's [Geopolitical Risk Governance](#) course, the first of its kind, focused on how directors and chief risk officers can support their organisations to develop resilience and improve decision-making amidst geopolitical volatility.

Derek is the author of several other pieces of thought leadership (see example [here](#)) examining how firms can develop resilience and enhance decision-making in a more geopolitically contested world, and regularly contributes to expert discussions and speaking events on these topics (see example [here](#)).

Derek holds an MA with Distinction in International Politics from King's College, London.

GRI Strategies is based in the UK. More information is available at www.gri-strategies.com

The Extra G – ESG² is available at www.riskcoalition.org.uk/geopolitical