

Giovanna M. Cinelli
National Security Fellow
George Mason University National Security Institute

Chairman Mast, Ranking Member Crow and distinguished members of the Subcommittee, thank you for the opportunity to appear before you today on a topic of crucial importance to the United States, its allies and partners: export controls and how the process has been managed over the last several decades. Although I have practiced law for the past 35 years in the national security field handling a broad range of export control issues, I am here today in my capacity as a National Security Fellow at the George Mason University, National Security Institute (“NSI”). NSI is at the epicenter of impactful thought leadership in the national security field, covering significant issues related to export controls, CFIUS, defense, intelligence, cyber, supply chain and issues within each field.

The views presented today are solely my own and not those of any other individuals or organizations. My perspectives are informed by my background in law, operational experience as a US Naval Intelligence Officer, and my appointments from 1992 to the present to various Federal Advisory Committees at the Departments of State, Commerce and Defense, each of which is tasked with advising the agencies on significant issues related to defense trade, export controls and the interrelationship between these areas as well as foreign direct investment. I have written extensively in the field and look forward to sharing my perspectives with you today on the manner in which the export laws, particularly the Export Control Reform Act of 2018 (“ECRA”) and its implementing regulations, the Export Administration Regulations (“EAR”), affect operational compliance by those subject to their requirements.