

Eleonora Wåktare

Managing Director



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As a London-based Managing Director at Macrae, Eleonora represents accomplished partners and groups seeking to move firms. She also advises top US, UK and international law firms looking to strengthen their teams in London, Brussels, Paris, Germany, and Luxembourg.

Eleonora, who began her career as an antitrust lawyer, aims to build long-term relationships with every candidate. She appreciates the importance of establishing trust, maintaining confidentiality and adhering to a transition timeline that meets each candidate's needs. She understands the business, dynamics and cultural differences of competing law firms. By working closely with her candidates to understand their motivations, values and expertise, she is able to effectively identify firms where their practices will thrive and, importantly, where they will flourish on a personal level.

At Macrae, Eleonora has the advantage of being part of a transatlantic team that works collaboratively across offices in London, Washington, D.C., New York, San Francisco, and Palo Alto. This model enables her to leverage an exceptional network of contacts at the highest levels of law firm management, which often results in uncovering unique opportunities for her candidates. Macrae's expansive network also provides substantial benefit to her law firm clients. Not only does Eleonora have a strong understanding of each law firm's operations, reputation and strategic approach in distinct UK and European markets, she can also offer informed insight into how each local office and practice fits into the firm on a global level.

Eleonora believes recruiters can – and should – play a critical role in helping law firms reach their goals of being more diverse and inclusive. She treats every assignment for law firms as a diversity search, introducing top-quality candidates who not only meet a firm's talent needs but who also bring diverse backgrounds and perspectives to the table.

Prior to becoming a recruiter in London, Eleonora enjoyed a varied legal industry career in Brussels. She practiced EU competition law at WilmerHale and Covington & Burling, was a case-handler at the Directorate-General for Competition at the European Commission, and worked as a legal reporter for MergerMarket. At the start of her career, she held internships at Freshfields as well as the European Court of Justice.

Eleonora, who is fluent in English, French, Italian, Swedish and Dutch, holds a Master's degree in Law from the College of Europe (Bruges) and a law degree from the University of Liège. She served as the elected President of the College of Europe Alumni Association in 2011–2017, and is currently a member of the Global Advisory Board for the Women in Law Empowerment Forum (WILEF).