

# AKIN GUMP LAUNCHES CROSS-PRACTICE CUBA INITIATIVE

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**International law firm Akin Gump has announced the launch of a cross-practice initiative devoted to advising clients on legal and lobbying strategy with regard to opportunities in the Cuban market.**

The move follows the thawing of relations between Cuba and the US - marked by the formal opening of embassies in the countries respective capitals this year - and growing efforts by US and international businesses to secure a foothold on the island in sectors such as telecoms, hospitality, agriculture and healthcare.

The launch of the initiative builds on the firm's existing work in emerging markets and dovetails with the arrival at the firm of Anya Landau French, a noted international relations professional with significant experience in US-Cuba affairs, who joins as senior advisor.

Scott Parven, a partner in Akin Gump's public law and policy practice will lead the Cuba policy

initiative.