

California's New International Trade Reps

Emily Desai, California Trade and Investment Representative – Europe, Middle East and Africa

Emily joined the International Group at GO-Biz in 2019 responsible for foreign direct investment (FDI). In that role, she worked with the state's Economic Development Organizations promoting investment in California. She was promoted recently to the position of California Trade and Investment Representative for Europe, Middle East and Africa. Emily brings over ten years of experience from the public and private sectors. Most recently, she worked from 2014 – 2019 on international affairs and trade issues for the United States Congress as a Senior Project Manager, International Affairs and Trade at the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO). While at the GAO, Emily led project teams reporting to Congress on issues related to Internet freedom, anti-money laundering, maritime trade and shipping, U.S. small business financing, tax and budgetary policy, and workforce training. Emily also served as a Policy Consultant for the Pacific Institute doing research and policy development in the areas of the environment and sustainable development. She has a BS in Public Administration with honors from the University of Arizona and an MPP from U.C. Berkeley's Goldman School of Public Policy. Emily is fluent in English and proficient in Spanish.