

**James Class,** *Executive Director, Policy, Gilead Sciences*

James Class leads Gilead’s Global Health Systems, Value and Intellectual Property Policy group from the Washington, DC office. In this current role, he manages a team of global Policy specialists who work cross-functionally throughout Gilead and engage externally with policymakers and stakeholders, including global and multilateral organizations.

James worked for almost a decade at PhRMA with responsibility for diverse public policy issues at the state, federal and international levels. He then spent seven years at Merck, where he held roles in Corporate Strategy, Regional and Country Commercial Operations and Global Public Policy in the US, Russia and Switzerland. At the onset of COVID-19, he led Gilead’s engagement with the World Health Organization on the SOLIDARITY trial. He currently co-chairs Gilead’s Innovation and Policy team for Veklury (Remdesivir).

James holds a PhD with distinction in Russian intellectual history from Georgetown University, has published original research in peer-reviewed publications, and has lived and traveled extensively throughout the world, promoting policies on science-based biologics regulation, pricing, and intellectual property among others. He also established the Board of the Partnership for Safe Medicines and launched the first direct-to-patient counterfeit drug alert system. He has participated in numerous stakeholder initiatives, including with Interpol, WHO, and the USPTO Training Academy.