



11th Annual Eurasia Tax Forum

30 June-2 July 2015

Brussels

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| Tuesday, 30 June | |
| Venue: Sheraton Hotel, Place Charles Rogier 3 | |
| 3:00-6:00 PM | Registration Sheraton Hotel |
| 3:30-5:30 PM | Pre-Conference Roundtable: Eurasia in a Changed Global Context Sheraton Hotel This roundtable will draw on economic and political expertise to translate for corporate executives how the impact of lower energy prices, regional disputes and global tensions is influencing the direction of economic and fiscal policy in Eurasian markets. Chair: Wayne Barford, Former Assistant Commissioner, Australian Taxation Office Speakers: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Marat Terterov, Principal Coordinator, Energy Charter Secretariat• Christian Cleutinx, Senior Fellow, Netherlands Institute of International Relations Clingendael – CIEP |

Evening

Welcoming Dinner

Remarks:

Hon. Sander Loones
Vice Chairman, Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs
European Parliament

La Maison du Cygne
Rue Charles Buls 21

Wednesday, 1 July

Venue: WCO Conference Facility, Rue du Marche 30

9:00-9:15 AM

Opening Remarks

Daniel Witt, President, ITIC

9:15-9:30 AM

Welcoming Remarks

Hon. Othmar Karas, Member, European Parliament;
Chairman, Delegation to the EU-Russia Parliamentary Cooperation Committee;
Member, Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs and Special Committee
on Tax Rulings

9:30-12:30 PM

Session One: Regional Trade Blocs in a Global Economy

- *How do we minimize conflict and polarization in a world of competing trade blocs?*
- *Coexistence between the EU and the Eurasian Economic Union*
- *The tax and trade nexus in economic policy making*

Chair: Dave Hartnett, Former Permanent Secretary, Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs

Presentations:

- Heinz Zourek, Director General, Tax and Customs, European Commission
- Timur Suleimenov, Member of the Board, Minister of Economy and Financial Policy, Eurasian Economic Commission (EEC)
- Professor Jeffrey Owens, Director, Global Tax Policy Center, Institute for Austrian and International Tax Law, Vienna University of Economics and Business

10:45-11:15AM

Coffee Break

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| | <p>Session One: Regional Trade Blocs in a Global Economy (continued)</p> <p>Panel:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dmitry Kiyko, Deputy Minister of Finance, Belarus • Sergey Shtogrin, Auditor of the Accounts Chamber, Russian Federation • Giorgi Tabuashvili, Director General, Georgia Revenue Service • Ardak Tengebayev, Vice Minister of Finance, Kazakhstan |
| 12:30-1:45 PM | Lunch |
| 2:00-3:30 PM | <p>Session Two: The Challenge of Global Tax Issues</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BEPS • FATCA and Moves toward Better Information Exchange • Trends toward Multilateralism <p>Co-Chairs: Dave Hartnett, Former Permanent Secretary, Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs; and Wayne Barford, Former Assistant Commissioner, Australian Taxation Office</p> <p>Presentation: Professor Jeffrey Owens, Director, Global Tax Policy Center, Institute for Austrian and International Tax Law, Vienna University of Economics and Business</p> <p>Panel:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Natalia Kornienko, Head of Tax Department, Gaidar Institute for Economic Policy, Russian Federation • Roman Nasirov, Commissioner, State Fiscal Service, Ukraine • Ardak Tengebayev, Vice Minister of Finance, Kazakhstan |
| 3:30-4:00 PM | Coffee Break |

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| <p>4:00-5:30 PM</p> | <p>Session Three: Tax and Shadow Economy Linkages</p> <p>This session will explore the interface between tax compliance, tax enforcement and efforts to counter illicit trade and shadow-economy activities. It will include key findings from ITIC's 2nd International Conference on the Shadow Economy and taxation, held in Bucharest (April 2015).</p> <p>Chair: Blake Marshall, Vice President, ITIC</p> <p>Presentations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Piotr Stryszowski, Project Manager, Directorate for Public Governance and Territorial Development, OECD • Dorel Fronea, Former Head, National Customs Authority of Romania <p>Panel:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Liz Allen, Program Advisor, ITIC • Dmitry Kiyko, Deputy Minister of Finance, Belarus • Elena Razumova, Deputy Head of the Experts Department, Analytical Center of the Russian Federation |
| <p>Evening</p> | <p>Dinner</p> <p>Rouge Tomate 190 Avenue Louise</p> |

Thursday, 2 July

Venue: WCO Conference Facility, Rue du Marche 30

9:00-10:30 AM

Session Four: Tax Trends Roundtable

This session will focus on the top tax trends as identified by delegates in a pre-conference survey (“What Keeps Eurasian Tax Officials Awake at Night?”)

Co-Chairs: Professor Sijbren Cnossen, University of Pretoria; and Dave Hartnett, Former Permanent Secretary, Her Majesty’s Revenue and Customs

10:30-11:00 AM

Coffee Break

11:00-1:00 PM

Session Five: VAT vs. Sales Tax

This panel will examine the feasibility of replacing the VAT by a retail sales tax, collected at the retail stage per se or under a comprehensive reverse-charge mechanism. A sales tax is currently under consideration in Kazakhstan and has also been the subject of discussion in Russia and other Eurasian countries.

Chair: Azamat Amrin, Head, Tax and Customs Policy Department, Ministry of National Economy, Kazakhstan

Presentation: Professor Sijbren Cnossen, University of Pretoria

Discussants:

- Suren Karayan, First Deputy Minister of International Economic Integration and Reforms, Armenia
- Natalia Kornienko, Head of Tax Department, Gaidar Institute for Economic Policy, Russian Federation

1:00-1:30 PM

Review and Conclusions

ITIC’s forward-looking approach to developing “Next Generation” leaders includes plans for identifying up-and-coming public-sector officials for future Forums in 2016 and developing a regional research network.

Co-Chairs: Daniel Witt, President, ITIC; and Timur Suleimenov, Minister of Economy and Financial Policy, Eurasian Economic Commission (EEC)

1:30-2:30 PM

Closing Luncheon