IBFD Course Programme
Principles of International Taxation
Amsterdam, 14 - 18 October 2019
Principles of International Taxation

Amsterdam, 14 – 18 October 2018

Need a good base to start your career in international tax? This course will provide the essential knowledge you need and give you the confidence to achieve more in international tax.

Overview and Learning Objectives
This five-day tax course is designed to provide participants with all the essential aspects of international taxation. The first three days are dedicated to the fundamental concepts relevant to the interpretation and application of tax treaties. This introduction provides participants with the conceptual tools to fully grasp issues discussed on Day 4 and Day 5. Day 4 deals with the principles of transfer pricing and how these principles apply to business restructurings and intra-group services. Day 5 provides an overview of basic tax planning structures, an insight into the application of the most common anti-avoidance provisions and the impact of the OECD’s Base Erosion and Profit Shifting (BEPS) project on tax treaty provisions.

This is an interactive course with a maximum of 32 participants. Participants will have access to relevant online collections on the IBFD Tax Research Platform for a period of two weeks.

Field of Study
Taxes

Who Should Attend?
The course is suitable for practitioners in tax advisory firms, tax specialists in commerce and industry, government officials who regularly encounter issues related to cross-border taxation and anyone who desires to deepen or develop a comprehensive understanding of international taxation principles. While the course is suitable for practising professionals, it may also be considered a useful starting point in the preparation for the CIOT’s Advanced Diploma in International Taxation examination (ADIT – Paper I). Further information about this qualification can be found at www.adit.org.uk.

Course Level and Prerequisites
This is an introductory-level course. Participants should have a basic knowledge of the domestic law of at least one country as it relates to corporate taxation, specifically, taxation of foreign income derived by resident companies and domestic-source income received by non-resident companies. In addition, a very basic understanding of the function of double tax treaties would be helpful, but the course will proceed on the assumption that course participants are new to dealing with tax treaties. This will ensure that they can get a full grasp of transfer pricing and tax planning issues on Day 4 and Day 5.
Day 1  Basic Principles of International Tax Law

08.30 - 09.00  Registration

09.00 - 09.20  Welcome and IBFD Overview

09.20 - 11.00  Introduction to International Tax Law

- Role of tax treaties
- Relationship between tax treaties, domestic law and EU law
- The format and structure of tax treaties
- Scope of tax treaties
- Types of allocation rules in tax treaties
- Double tax relief

11.00 - 11.20  Break – Refreshments

11.20 - 12.45  The Concept of Residence

- The concept of residence
  - individuals
  - companies
- US savings clause
- Treaty tie-breaker rules
- Dual residence issues and tax treaties

12.45 - 14.00  Lunch

14.00 - 15.40  Double Tax Relief Methods

- Double tax relief methods – credit and exemption
- Losses and double tax relief
- Limitations on relief
- Conditions for relief
- Tax sparing credit

15.40 - 16.00  Break – Refreshments

16.00 - 17.00  Case Study
Day 2  Tax Treaties Focusing on the Current Version of the OECD Model

09.00 - 10.40  The Permanent Establishment (PE) Concept

- Basic rules for the PE concept
- Auxiliary and preparatory activities
- Construction site PE
- Agency PE
- Service PE
- E-commerce issues relating to the PE concept

10.40 - 11.00  Break – Refreshments

11.00 - 11.45  The Permanent Establishment (PE) Concept (continued)

11.45 - 12.45  Taxation of Cross-Border Business Activities

- Allocation of taxing rights over cross-border business activities under tax treaties
  - articles 7, 8, 9, 14 and 21
- Profits from shipping, inland waterways transport and air transport
- Income from independent personal services
- Taxation of technical services fees

12.45 - 14.00  Lunch

14.00 - 15.40  Attribution of Profits to PEs

- Article 7 of the OECD Model (business profits)
- Determination of business profits
  - arm's length principle
  - allocation of expenses
- The authorized OECD approach
- Further developments

15.40 - 16.00  Break – Refreshments

16.00 - 17.00  Case Study
Day 3  Tax Treaties Focusing on the Current Version of the OECD Model

09.00 - 11.00  Treatment of Employment Income

- Remuneration derived from employment
  - general rules
  - international hiring-out of labour
- Directors’ fees
- Income derived by entertainers and sportspersons

11.00 - 11.20  Break – Refreshments

11.20 - 12.45  Treatment of Investment Income

- Passive income (i.e. cross-border dividends, interest and royalties)
- Income from immovable property
- Capital gains
- Article 21 of the OECD Model (other income)
- Concept of beneficial owner

12.45 - 14.00  Lunch

14.00 - 15.40  Non-Discrimination and Triangular Cases

- Article 24 of the OECD Model (non-discrimination)
- Non-discrimination and taxation of business profits
- Triangular cases involving PEs
- Non-discrimination and withholding tax attributable to PEs

15.40 - 16.00  Break – Refreshments

16.00 - 17.00  Case Study
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<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>09.00 - 10.30</td>
<td><strong>Introduction to Transfer Pricing</strong></td>
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<td>- Significance of transfer pricing</td>
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<td>- Applying the arm's length principle</td>
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<td>- Latest developments</td>
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<td>10.50 - 12.45</td>
<td><strong>Introduction to Transfer Pricing (continued)</strong></td>
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<td>12.45 - 14.00</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
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<td>14.00 - 15.40</td>
<td><strong>Transfer Pricing and Intra-Group Services</strong></td>
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<td>- Introduction</td>
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<td>- Identification of intra-group services</td>
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<td>- Transfer pricing methods</td>
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<td>- Service charge computation</td>
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<td>15.40 - 16.00</td>
<td>Break – Refreshments</td>
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<td>16.00 - 17.00</td>
<td><strong>Case Study</strong></td>
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Day 5  Tax Treaties and International Tax Avoidance

09.00 - 10.40  Basic Tax Planning Schemes

- Holding companies, hybrid entities and hybrid financial instruments
- Debt push-down and acquisition financing
- Supply chain management
- Double dips
- Withholding tax planning
- Financing structures

10.40 - 11.00  Break – Refreshments

11.00 - 12.45  Basic Tax Planning Schemes (continued)

12.45 - 14.00  Lunch

14.00 - 15.40  Anti-Avoidance Rules

- General anti-avoidance rules (GAAR)
- Controlled foreign company (CFC) regimes
- Anti-tax haven provisions
- Limitation on benefits (LOB) provisions

15.40 - 16.00  Break – Refreshments

16.00 - 17.00  Anti-Avoidance Rules (continued)