

# SMU-TA CET CONFERENCE

## FUTURE OF TAXES IN DISRUPTIVE TIMES

17 August 2017

**Date:** 17 August 2017

**Time:** 9.00am to 5.15pm  
(includes networking  
breakfast)

**Venue:**  
York Hotel Singapore, Carlton  
Hall Level 2, 21 Mount  
Elizabeth Road, Singapore  
228516

**Seminar Fee:**  
SGD 321 (includes GST)

**This conference is designed  
for:**  
business and tax community,  
tax / finance /  
accounting / legal  
professionals, academics,  
government policy makers  
and tax administrators

**Closing date for registration:**  
4 August 2017

**Registration:**  
Please email the completed  
registration form to  
[tax\\_academy@iras.gov.sg](mailto:tax_academy@iras.gov.sg)

**For enquiries, please email:**  
[tax\\_academy@iras.gov.sg](mailto:tax_academy@iras.gov.sg)

The SMU-TA Centre for Excellence in Taxation is pleased to present its annual conference on “Future of Taxes in Disruptive Times”.

The global economy has barely improved; the political scenes have been anything but exciting. Tax reforms continued to be high on many governments’ agendas while the international tax developments continued unabated, the latest being the signing of the Multilateral Instrument for treaties. This conference will take a hard look at implications and possible expectations of these developments.

Be there at the conference! Hear from policy makers, renowned speakers and thought leaders as they make sense of these developments and discuss the future of taxes.

Distinguished speakers and panellists include, Prof Dr Jeffrey Owens, Prof David Rosenbloom, Chief Executive Officer/Director General of Inland Revenue Board of Malaysia, Chief Tax Policy Officer of Ministry of Finance, Singapore and many more.

### *About SMU-TA Centre for Excellence in Taxation*

*SMU-TA Centre for Excellence in Taxation (SMU-TA CET) is set up by the Tax Academy of Singapore and the Singapore Management University, with a mission to produce robust research in international and regional tax issues for policy-development and engagement of the international tax community. The SMU-TA CET is the first centre in Singapore that is dedicated to the research on taxation.*

*The SMU-TA CET reserves the right to cancel the event, or make changes to the schedule, venue and speakers.*

*All information stated in the brochure is correct at time of publication and subject to change.*

Visit  
<http://accountancy.smu.edu.sg/cet/>, <https://www.taxacademy.sg/>

Supported by:

- 8.15am **Registration**
- 9.00am **Networking Breakfast**
- 9.30am **Welcome Remarks**
- 9.35am **Opening Remarks by Guest-of-Honour**  
Ms Indranee Rajah  
Senior Minister of State for Law and Finance  
Singapore
- 9.45am **Disruptive Trends in Taxation**
- A. Overview  
Prof Dr Jeffrey Owens  
Chairman, SMU-TA CET Technical Advisory Panel  
Director, WU Global Tax Policy Center  
Institute for Austrian and International Tax Law  
WU (Vienna University of Economics and Business)
- B. Asia perspective  
Mr Ho Khoon Ming  
Head of Tax, KPMG Asia Pacific
- C. US perspective  
Prof David Rosenbloom  
Director, International Tax Program  
New York University School of Law
- D. Technology perspective  
Ms Shermin Voshmgir, Founder, Blockchain Hub
- 10.45am **Panel Discussion:**  
**Disruptive Trends in Economy and Taxes: Where are they heading?**
- Facilitator:**  
Prof Dr Jeffrey Owens  
Chairman, SMU-TA CET Technical Advisory Panel
- Members:**
- Ms Indranee Rajah  
Senior Minister of State for Law and Finance
  - Datuk Sabin Samitah  
Chief Executive Officer / Director General of Inland Revenue  
Inland Revenue Board of Malaysia
  - Mr Ho Khoon Ming  
Head of Tax, KPMG Asia Pacific
  - Prof David Rosenbloom  
Director, International Tax Program  
New York University School of Law
  - Ms Shermin Voshmgir  
Founder, Blockchain Hub

- 11.45am **Digital Economy and the Challenges and Opportunities for Taxation**
- Mr Chia Seng Chye, Partner and Mr Kor Bing Keong, Partner  
Ernst & Young Solutions LLP
- 12.15pm **Lunch**
- 1.30pm **Multilateral Instrument – Overview**
- Mr Jonathan Stuart-Smith  
Partner, International Tax Services  
Ernst & Young Tax Co.
- 2.00pm **Multilateral Instrument – All about Flexibility**
- Ms Nathalie Bravo  
Research Associate  
Institute for Austrian and International Tax Law  
(WU) Vienna University of Economics and Business
- 2.30pm **Treaty Abuse under a Multilateral Instrument: Does Active Business or Genuine Activity Matter**
- Dr Blazej Kuzniacki  
SMU-TA CET Research Fellow
- 2.45pm **Coffee Break**
- 3.15pm **Dealing with Cross Border Tax Controversies**
- Mr Steven Rudolf Sieker  
Partner, Baker&Mckenzie
- 3.45pm **Facilitating Cross-Border Disputes through the Multilateral Instrument**
- Ms Evelyn Lio  
Assistant Commissioner  
International Tax Affairs and Relations, IRAS

4.15pm

## **Panel Discussion: The Tax World by 2020**

### **Facilitator:**

Mr Chris Woo

Head of Tax, PricewaterhouseCoopers Singapore Pte. Ltd.

### **Members:**

- Ms Doreen Tan  
Chief Tax Policy Officer, Ministry Of Finance, Singapore
- Prof John Hutagaol  
Director of International Taxes, Directorate General of Taxes,  
Ministry of Finance, the Republic of Indonesia
- Mr Jun D. Takahara  
Partner, Deloitte Tohmatsu Tax Co.
- Mr Steven Rudolf Sieker  
Partner, Baker & McKenzie
- Mr Jonathan Stuart-Smith  
Partner, International Tax Services  
Ernst & Young Tax Co.
- Mr Shanker Iyer, Chairman, IFA Singapore Branch
- Assoc Prof Darren N T Koh  
Vice-Dean, School of Law  
Singapore University of Social Sciences

5.15pm

## **Closing Remarks**

## **End of Conference**

**Ms Indranee Rajah**  
**Senior Minister of State for Law and Finance**  
**Singapore**

Ms Indranee Rajah is Singapore's Senior Minister of State for Law and Finance.

She was educated at Raffles Institution, and read law at the National University of Singapore. She was admitted to the Singapore Bar in 1987 and had an active practice in Civil and Commercial Litigation and international arbitration. She was appointed Senior Counsel in 2003. She was Deputy Head of Drew & Napier's Dispute Resolution Department until October 2012, when she left to join the government.

Ms Rajah co-chaired the Working Group (WG) on Legal and Accounting Services, a sub-committee of the 2016 Committee for the Future Economy, the recommendations of which are aimed at transforming the legal and accounting industries in Singapore and catalysing the internationalisation of such professional services.

**Prof Dr Jeffrey Owens**  
**Director, WU Global Tax Policy Center**  
**Institute for Austrian and International Tax Law**  
**WU (Vienna University of Economics and Business)**  
**Chairman, SMU-TA CET Technical Advisory Panel**

Jeffrey Owens chairs the SMU-TA Centre for Excellence in Taxation Technical Advisory Panel. He is the Director of the WU Global Tax Policy Center at the Institute for Austrian and International Tax Law, WU (Vienna University of Economics and Business). He is also the Senior Policy Advisor to the Global Vice Chair of Tax at EY, advisor to the World Bank and UNCTAD and a number of regional tax administration organizations. For over 20 years, Jeffrey led the OECD Tax Work, establishing a major taxation program at the OECD and extensively developed the OECD contacts with non-member countries. He initiated the dialogue with the G20 on taxation and oversaw the G20/OECD initiatives to improve tax transparency, laying the foundation for the Base Erosion Profit Shifting work. Jeffrey is also involved in activities with a number of other NGOs.

**Prof David Rosenbloom**  
**Director, International Tax Program**  
**New York University School of Law**

Professor H. David Rosenbloom became director of the International Tax Program in 2002. He is a member of Caplin & Drysdale, a law firm he rejoined in 1981 after serving as international tax counsel and director of the Office of International Tax Affairs in the US Department of the Treasury from 1978 to 1981. A frequent speaker and author on tax subjects, Rosenbloom has taught international taxation and related subjects at numerous law schools including Stanford, Columbia, the University of Pennsylvania, and Harvard. He has also served as a tax policy adviser for the US Treasury, the OECD, USAID, and the World Bank in Eastern Europe, the former Soviet Union, Senegal, Malawi, and South Africa.

**Mr Kor Bing Keong**  
**Tax Partner - Indirect Tax Services**  
**Ernst & Young Solutions LLP**

Bing Keong is a Tax Partner with Ernst & Young Solutions LLP - Indirect Tax Services. He has more than 20 years of professional experience in GST consulting and compliance work. He also conducts GST workshops on a regular basis. Bing Keong is an Accredited GST Advisor with the Singapore Institute of Accredited Tax Professionals Limited (SIATP).

**Mr Chia Seng Chye**  
**Tax Partner – Tax Services**  
**Ernst & Young Solutions LLP**

Seng Chye is a Tax Partner with Ernst & Young Solutions LLP - Tax Services. He has more than 20 years of experience in assisting his clients on corporate income tax advisory and compliance matters. He is the Technology Tax Leader for EY Singapore. He regularly advises clients on tax issues relating to structuring and financing transactions, IP planning, profit repatriation strategies, cross-border transactions. Seng Chye is an Accredited Tax Advisor with the Singapore Institute of Accredited Tax Professionals Limited (SIATP).

**Mr Jonathan Stuart-Smith**  
**Partner, International Tax Services**  
**Ernst & Young Tax Co.**

Jonathan Stuart-Smith is the International Tax Services Leader at EY Japan, with over 25 years of experience. He has worked in Tokyo for 13 years and has also worked in London, Hong Kong and Singapore. He practices in the areas of corporate structuring, M&A, reorganizations, financing, supply chain, intellectual property and tax treaty analysis. He advises multinational companies and funds in sectors including life sciences, technology and real estate. He holds a BA (Hons) in Industrial Economics from the University of Nottingham and is a Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales.

**Ms Nathalie Bravo**  
**Research Associate**  
**Institute for Austrian and International Tax Law**  
**Vienna University of Economics and Business (WU)**

Nathalie Bravo is a research associate at the Institute for Austrian and International Tax Law, a collegiate of the Doctoral Program in International Business Taxation (DIBT) at WU (Vienna University of Economics and Business) and a recipient of the DOC Fellowship awarded by the Austrian Academy of Sciences. She is writing her doctoral thesis on “A Multilateral Instrument for Updating the Tax Treaty Network”. The dissemination of the preliminary results of her PhD research allowed Nathalie to conduct an internship at the Center for Tax Policy and Administration of the OECD, where she contributed to the work under Action 15 to develop a multilateral instrument to implement tax treaty-related BEPS measures.

**Dr Blazej Kuzniacki**  
**Research Fellow, SMU-TA Centre for Excellence in Taxation**

Blazej Kuzniacki specialises in the field of cross-border income taxation with reference to national, international and European Union tax law. Before his collaboration with the Singapore Management University – Tax Academy Centre for Excellence in Taxation as a Research Fellow, Blazej completed the full time PhD research program at the Department of Public and International Law, University of Oslo.

**Mr Steven Rudolf Sieker**  
**Partner, Baker & McKenzie**

Steven Sieker practices exclusively in the area of tax law, and is recognized as a leading individual in tax as well as private client and wealth management by Chambers Asia Pacific, Citywealth Leaders List and Guide to the World's leading Tax Advisers. Mr. Sieker has authored a wide range of key articles and publications, including the Hong Kong volume of the CCH series Tax Planning and Compliance in Asia. He is a member of the Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners (STEP), and was an executive director of STEP and the Canadian Chamber of Commerce in Hong Kong. Mr. Sieker is admitted as a solicitor in Hong Kong, England and Wales, and is qualified as a barrister and solicitor in Alberta, Canada.

**Mr Shanker Iyer**  
**Chairman, IFA Singapore Branch**  
**Founder & Chairman, Iyer Practice**

Shanker Iyer is the Founder and Chairman of Iyer Practice, a specialist advisory firm, with offices in Singapore and Hong Kong. He qualified as a Chartered Accountant in London and was a Partner of a leading accounting firm in the UK for over 10 years. Shanker is Chairman of the International Fiscal Association, Singapore Branch, and is also Chairman of the Singapore International Chamber of Commerce's Tax Policy Committee. With extensive experience spanning over four decades, Shanker has built an expertise in advising privately-held businesses, high net-worth individuals and family offices, on a wide range of international tax, regulatory, immigration and trust matters.

**Assoc Prof Darren N T Koh**  
**Vice-Dean, School of Law**  
**Singapore University of Social Sciences**

Associate Professor Darren Koh is currently Vice-Dean of the School of Law and is the Head of the Master of Taxation programme at the Singapore University of Social Sciences. He is both a Barrister and a Chartered Accountant and has worked as adviser, and in-house counsel around the world in London, Hong Kong, Kobe, Geneva, Cincinnati and Singapore. Darren has a keen interest in international taxation, and in particular, in the field of transfer pricing and the tax efficient supply-chain structuring.

**Mr Jun D. Takahara**  
**Partner, Deloitte Tohmatsu Tax Co.**

Jun Takahara is a Partner in Deloitte Tohmatsu Tax Co. in Tokyo and Deloitte's Asia Pacific International Core of Excellence in Hong Kong. He advises clients in a broad range of industries, including banking, insurance, private equity, real estate, technology and consumer goods, on international tax matters related to investments and business operations in Japan. Jun is a member of the legal bars of New York and New Jersey and a Maine CPA. Jun earned his BA from Earlham College, and his Juris Doctor from the American University Washington College of Law.

**Ms Shermin Voshmgir**  
**Founder Blockchain Hub**

Shermin is the Founder of BlockchainHub and runs BlockchainHub Berlin. She is on the advisory board of the Estonian e-residency program, a curator of the DAO and regularly speaks at conferences and consults on Blockchains & Smart Contracts. Shermin did her PhD in IT-Management at the Vienna University of Economics, where she used to work as an assistant professor and currently lectures blockchain related topics. Furthermore she studied film and drama in Madrid. Her past work experience ranges from internet start-ups, IT consulting & filmmaking. Among others her films have screened in Cannes and at DOCUMENTA.

**Mr Ho Khoon Ming**  
**Head of Tax, KPMG Asia Pacific**

Khoonming is the Head of Tax of KPMG in Asia Pacific. Since 1993, Khoonming has been advising foreign investors and domestic Chinese enterprises in respect of their investments and operations in and outside China. He also has experience advising on issues related to investment and funding structures, distribution including importation and exportation, profit repatriation and remittance. Khoonming has also advised the Budgetary Affairs Committee under the National People's Congress of China on various tax reforms. Khoonming actively participates in various government consultation projects about the ongoing VAT and BEPS reforms, including the Ministry of Finance and the State Administration of Taxation. Khoonming was recognised by International Tax Review as 2017 Asia Tax Practice Leader of the Year while KPMG was recognised as 2017 Asia Tax Practice of the Year.