

JULY TO DECEMBER 2020

LATEST NEWS

New CFE Executive Board Elected for 2021 - 2022

At the virtual General Assembly meeting held on 25 September 2020, a new Executive Board for the period of 2021-2022 was elected. The new Executive Board will take up their duties on 1 January 2021.

The General Assembly, the governing body of CFE Tax Advisers Europe, unanimously re-elected Piergiorgio Valente as President (Managing Partner, Valente Associati GEB Partners and Crowe Valente, and Professor at Link Campus University, Rome, Italy). Martin Phelan was also unanimously re-elected as Secretary-General (Partner, Head of William Fry Tax Advisers, Ireland), as was Branislav Kováč in the position of Treasurer (Partner VGD SLOVAKIA, s.r.o., Board Member of the Slovak Chamber of Tax Advisers, Slovakia).

The General Assembly appointed two board members who will serve as Technical Committee Chairs: Bruno Gouthière as Chair of the Fiscal Committee (Partner CMS Francis Lefebvre and Member of Institut des Avocats Conseils Fiscaux, France) and Philippe Vanclooster as Chair of the Professional Affairs Committee (PwC, Belgium, Board Member of the Institute for Tax Advisers and Accountants, Belgium). Ian Hayes was re-appointed as Chair of the Tax Technology Committee (Council Member of the Chartered Institute of Taxation, United Kingdom).

The General Assembly re-appointed as Vice-Presidents Anna Misiak (Head of Tax Practice and Advisory, Board Member of the Chamber of Tax Advisers, Poland) and Gary Ashford (Partner Harbottle & Lewis, Council Member of the Chartered Institute of Taxation, United Kingdom).

Additionally, the General Assembly appointed as new Vice-President Stella

Raventós-Calvo (President of AEDAF, the Spanish Association of Tax Advisers, Partner, AddWill, Spain). Jiří Nekovář (Partner, Euro-Trend, s.r.o, Czech Republic) was also appointed to the newly created role of Executive Board Director.

CFE-CNDCEC E-Learning Courses & Webinars

Under the Memoranda of Understanding between CFE Tax Advisers Europe and the Consiglio Nazionale dei Dottori Commercialisti e degli Esperti Contabili (CNDCEC) concluded in June 2019, CFE recorded a number of e-learning webinars, with panellists comprised by prominent tax experts, which were live broadcast for CNDCEC members at the time of recording.

On 2 July, the European Register of Tax Advisers Webinar on the topic of “Tax Digitalisation in Practice” was recorded. The speakers at the webinar were Ian Hayes, Chair of the Tax Technology Committee at CFE Tax Advisers Europe, Alberto Trabucchi, Statutory Advisor at Studio di Consulenza Giuridico-Tributaria and Filipa Correia, Chair of the International Tax Committee at IAFEI.

On 3 September, the European Register of Tax Advisers Webinar on the topic of “Transfer Pricing in Practice – news Opportunities & Challenges” was recorded. The webinar was moderated by CFE President, Piergiorgio Valente. The speakers at the webinar were Gary Ashford, CFE Vice-President, CFE Fiscal Committee Delegate, Raffaele Rizzardi, and CFE Tax Policy Manager, Aleksandar Ivanovski.

On 8 October, the European Register of Tax Advisers Webinar on the topic of “COVID-19 Implications on Remote Working and Residence (Double Tax Treaty) Rules” was recorded. The webinar was moderated by Aleksandar Ivanovski, CFE Tax Policy Manager. The speakers at the webinar were Julia Cockroft, Senior Associate at Bristows, LLP, London, Rafal Sidorowicz, Manager, MDDP and Philippe Vandevoorde, Moore, Belgium.

On 5 November, the European Register of Tax Advisers Webinar on the topic of

“COVID-19 Implications on VAT Payments and Credits” was recorded. The webinar was moderated by Aleksandar Ivanovski, CFE Tax Policy Manager. The speakers at the webinar were Albert Folguera Ventura, Partner, Addwill, Spain, Aleksandra Heinzer, CFE Representative at the European Commission VAT Forum and Erwan Loquet, Partner, BDO, Luxembourg.

On 3 December, the European Register of Tax Advisers Webinar on the topic of “EU Mandatory Disclosure Regime (DAC6) Update & Practical Implications” was recorded. The webinar was moderated by Aleksandar Ivanovski, CFE Tax Policy Manager. The speakers at the webinar were Brian Duffy, from William Fry, Ireland; Giampiero Guarnerio, from Roedl & Partner, Italy; and Adrian Rudd, from PwC, United Kingdom.

CNDCEC members can enrol in the European Register of Tax Advisers and can attend CFE Academy’s online courses on pertinent issues in European and international tax.

[Update on COVID-19 Impact on CFE Tax Advisers Europe's Activities](#)

Due to the ongoing health risks and travel restrictions caused by the COVID-19 virus, the CFE Executive Board made the decision to hold the CFE European Conference on Tax Advisers’ Professional Affairs online as a virtual conference. The Executive Board also decided that all Technical Committee Meetings scheduled for the first half of 2021 as well as the CFE Annual Forum will be convened online.

It is hoped that the physical meetings of the CFE General Assembly, Technical Committee Meetings and Gala Dinner will be able to be held in person in September 2021 in Seville, and that the CFE European Tax Advisers’ Professional Affairs Conference will be able to be held in Zagreb in December 2021, however it remains uncertain how efforts to confine the coronavirus outbreak will evolve. The Executive Board will closely monitor and evaluate the situation, and keep our Members updated

on whether there will be any impact on any other future CFE events or meetings.

The CFE Executive Board together with the CFE Team continue to work on existing projects and focus on relevant new technical publications and policy developments, in close conjunction with the Member Organisations and in synergy with the work of the EU institutions and the OECD. We encourage you to visit the CFE website and our social media channels to stay informed about the most recent CFE technical work and publications.

MEETINGS & EVENTS

13th European Conference on Tax Advisers' Professional Affairs

The 13th European Webinar Conference on Tax Advisers' Professional Affairs was held virtually on Monday, 30 November 2020, on the topic of "Taxpayer Rights and Legal Certainty in the Digital Era", examining European and global developments in the protection of taxpayers' rights and the impact and implications of technology on taxpayers' rights.

The virtual conference welcomed tax experts and academics, with a panel featuring: Dr Philip Baker QC, Barrister, Queen's Counsel, Field Court Tax Chambers and Visiting Professor, Oxford University, United Kingdom; Professor Nataša Žunić Kovačević Professor, Faculty of Law, University of Rijeka, Croatia; Paul Kraan, Partner, Van Campen Liem, The Netherlands; and Albert Raedler, Policy Officer, DG TAXUD, European Commission. The conference was moderated by Wim Gohres, the outgoing Chair of the CFE Professional Affairs Committee.

Prof. Dr Philip Baker QC opened the conference by introducing to participants the IBFD Yearbook on Taxpayers' Rights and discussed other pertinent issues concerning taxpayer rights, such as the relevance of Article 47 of the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights *vis-à-vis* (non)inclusion of tax proceedings under Article 6

ECHR and whether a dedicated European tax court would be desirable from taxpayers' rights protection perspective.

Paul Kraan then discussed taxpayers' rights in the context of the DAC6 EU Mandatory Disclosure Rules, particularly in relation to the right of confidentiality and professional privilege. He also discussed safeguards for taxpayers found in EU caselaw.

Prof. Dr. Sc. Nataša Žunić Kovačević presented to attendees relevant aspects of the Croatian response to the IBFD Observatory on the Protection of Taxpayers' Rights and recently introduced the institute of Croatian tax procedural law advance tax rulings as means of tax certainty.

Albert Raedler closed the conference by introducing the Roadmaps published by the European Commission concerning a planned Communication taking stock of taxpayers' existing rights in the EU and a Recommendation to Member States to facilitate the implementation of taxpayers' rights and simplify tax obligations. The planned initiatives form part of the Commission's Tax Package Action Plan, within the section on Simplifying EU Tax Rules for Competitiveness in the Single Market. The initiatives aim to improve awareness of taxpayers' rights throughout the EU, and the Recommendation will reflect on how Member States may accommodate their tax laws' related procedures to better respect and make more effective such rights. The projects will also examine how Member States can improve the relationship between taxpayers and tax administrations. Mr Raedler explained that a public consultation concerning the project will take place in 2021.

[IAFEI Conference on How CFOs Handle the Economic & Financial Challenges in the COVID-19 Era](#)

On 3 July, CFE President, Piergiorgio Valente and Chair of the CFE Tax Technology Committee, Ian Hayes, spoke at The International Association of Financial Executives Institutes (IAFEI)'s webinar on the topic of "How CFOs Handle the

Economic and Financial Challenges in the COVID-19 Era”.

Sapienza University of Rome Master Seminar

On 10 July, CFE President, Piergiorgio Valente gave a masters seminar at the Sapienza University of Rome, on the topic of “International Fiscal Policy and Transfer Pricing Strategy in the Wake of COVID-19”.

European Commission Address to CFE Member Organisations & Delegates on the 2020 Tax Package

On 17 July, the European Commission, represented by Ionna Mitroyanni, Deputy Head of Unit, Company Taxation Initiatives, DG Taxation and Customs Union, presented to the CFE the European Commission’s 2020 Tax Package, which was published on 15 July 2020.

The Tax Package included a 25 step Tax Action Plan, a Communication on Tax Good Governance in the EU & Beyond, and a Proposal for a Council Directive to revise the Directive on Administrative Cooperation to extend EU exchange of information rules to information on income generated by sellers on digital platforms.

CFE will monitor developments concerning the Action Plan closely, and has already provided input to consultations concerning the evaluation of the VAT scheme for tour operators and travel agents, the Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism and Energy Taxation Directive.

In relation the Commission’s Communication on Tax Good Governance, CFE was pleased to be reappointed as a member of the European Commission’s Platform for Tax Good Governance, Aggressive Tax Planning and Double Taxation. The Platform provides an excellent opportunity for CFE to exchange views and have an open

dialogue with the European Commission concerning significant taxation issues facing the tax profession and wider society.

28th Congress of the Brescia Ordine Dei Dottori Commercialisti e Degli Esperti Contabili

On 16 October, CFE President, Piergiorgio Valente, gave a presentation concerning transfer pricing value chain analysis during the 28th congress of the Brescia *Ordine Dei Dottori Commercialisti e Degli Esperti Contabili*, on the topic of “The Globalization of Businesses between Economy, Law and Taxation Following COVID-19”.

IAFEI Conference on Artificial Intelligence - A Practical Guide to Finance & The Future

On 10 November, CFE President, Piergiorgio Valente and Chair of the CFE Tax Technology, Ian Hayes, spoke at The International Association of Financial Executives Institutes (IAFEI)’s webinar on the topic of “Artificial Intelligence – A Practical Guide to Finance & The Future”.

IAFEI Global 50th World Congress - The Pivotal Role of the CFO

The International Association of Financial Executives Institutes (IAFEI) held its 50th World Congress virtually on Friday, 11 December 2020, on the topic of “The Pivotal Role of the CFO: 6 Pillars to Drive Change and Enhance Value”.

CFE President, Piergiorgio Valente, introduced the IAFEI CFO Declaration during the congress, and CFE Tax Policy Manager, Aleksandar Ivanovski, gave a presentation during a panel discussion on tax in the boardroom. Ian Hayes, Chair of the CFE Tax Technology Committee, also participated in the conference, in a panel

discussion on technology leadership.

TECHNICAL RELEASES

Fiscal Committee Opinion Statements

In the second half of 2020, the Fiscal Committee of CFE Tax Advisers Europe published 3 Opinion Statements:

- [FC 5/2020](#) on unharmonized reporting obligations in VAT.
- [FC 6/2020](#) on the EU Consultation on the EU TOMS VAT Regime.
- [FC 7/2020](#) on the EU Consultations on the Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism & Energy Taxation Directive.

Professional Affairs Committee Opinion Statements

The Professional Affairs Committee of CFE Tax Advisers Europe published 2 Opinion Statements in the second half of 2020:

- [PAC 3/2020](#) on the European Commission Public Consultation on an Action Plan for a Comprehensive Union Policy on Preventing Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing;
- [PAC 4/2020](#) on the European Commission initiative/Roadmap of 31 October 2020 for a Communication and Recommendation to Improve the Situation of Taxpayers in the Single Market.

ECJ Task Force Opinion Statements

Between July and December, the ECJ Task Force of CFE Tax Advisers Europe published 2 Opinion Statements:

- [ECJ-TF 2/2020](#) on the CJEU decision of 3 March 2020 in Case C-75/18, *Vodafone Magyarország Mobil Távközlési Zrt.*, on progressive turnover taxes.
- [ECJ-TF 3/2020](#) on the General Court decisions of 15 July 2020 in Cases T-778/16, *Ireland v Commission*, and T-892/16, *Apple Sales International*), on State Aid regarding the Irish tax rulings in favour of Apple.

Joint Opinion Statements

The CFE Tax Advisers Europe published 3 joint CFE Opinion Statements in the second half of 2020:

- [CFE 2/2020](#) on the OECD October 2020 Consultation on Blueprints for Pillar 1 (review of profit allocation and nexus rules to reflect digital business models) and Pillar 2 (global anti-base erosion rules for a minimum effective taxation rate).
- [Joint Statement of CFE Tax Advisers Europe and Accountancy Europe](#) – European Tax Professionals Call for Better Tax Governance.
- [CFE Opinion Statement on Tax Good Governance Priorities](#) - at the commencement of the new mandate of the European Commission's Platform for Tax Good Governance, Aggressive Tax Planning and Double Taxation, CFE Tax Advisers Europe took the opportunity to set out the tax and professional affairs policy issues it identifies as significant concerning taxation and the future.

EU Tax Policy Report

In July 2020, CFE Tax Advisers Europe published its [EU Tax Policy Report](#) covering the period of January to June 2020. The EU Tax Policy Report is a bi-annual publication which provides a detailed analysis of significant primary law and tax policy developments at both EU and international level that have occurred in the previous six months which would be of interest to European tax advisers. It also includes an overview of selected CJEU case-law and relevant European Commission decisions.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

CFE Tax Advisers Europe General Assembly & Technical Meetings January - June 2021

The next CFE General Assembly will take place virtually, via Zoom, on 7 May 2021. CFE Technical Committee meetings will take also place virtually in February and May.

Delegates of the General Assembly and the Technical Committees will have received a calendar setting out all meeting dates for 2021, and will receive in due course official meeting invitations with registration links. The meeting agendas including all the related enclosures, as well as comprehensive guidelines on how to access the meetings.

CFE Tax Advisers Europe Annual Forum 2021

The CFE Forum will be held virtually next year, on Thursday 6 May 2021, with two webinar panels, one focussing on direct tax issues and one focussing on indirect tax. The reminder containing additional information will be sent in due course.

The selection of the remitted material has been prepared by:
Piergiorgio Valente/ Aleksandar Ivanovski/ Brodie McIntosh/ Filipa Correia

CFE Tax Advisers Europe is a Brussels-based association representing European tax advisers. Founded in 1959, CFE brings together 33 national organisations from 26 European countries, representing more than 200,000 tax advisers. CFE is part of the European Union Transparency Register no. 3543183647-05. For further information, please contact Piergiorgio Valente, CFE President or the CFE Brussels Office at info@taxadviserseurope.org.