

LEIDEN-TA ADVANCED TAX TREATIES PROGRAMME 2025

24 February to 1 March 2025 | SINGAPORE

Dates:

24 Feb to 28 Feb or 1 March*
2025

*The Programme comprises five full days (24 Feb to 28 Feb). Saturday 1 March is an additional (complimentary) full-day session offered by ITC Leiden

Time:

9.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m.

Venue:

Discovery Training Room
Revenue House, 55 Newton
Road, Singapore 307987

Fee:

SGD 3,270* (incl. 9% GST)

Non-residents of Singapore who attend this programme in their business capacity and whose course fees are paid by their foreign employers will pay SGD 3,000*, without GST.

** A 10% early bird discount applies if registration is made AND payment received before 24 December 2024*

Certificate of participation:

An electronic certificate of participation will be issued to participants who achieve a minimum attendance rate of 60%.

The **Advanced Tax Treaties Programme** is a collaborative effort between Tax Academy of Singapore and International Tax Center Leiden, Netherlands. This 6-day in-person programme offers participants thorough knowledge of the complex rules provided by tax treaties and on how to apply advanced treaty concepts.

Who should attend

The programme is aimed at tax professionals who are seeking to deepen their insight and expertise in tax treaties. Participants should have at least three years' tax experience and basic knowledge of tax treaties, equivalent to Tax Academy International Tax Programme Level 1.

Non-residents of Singapore have the option to attend the programme online. We strongly encourage, however, attending in-person not only for networking opportunities but also for greater interactivity with the trainers which much enhances the correct understanding of the complex issues that are discussed.

Main topics to be covered

- Key concepts of international taxation
- Introduction to tax treaties and treaty residence issues
- In-depth examination of the structure of the OECD and UN Model Tax Conventions and their distributive rules, with emphasis on the application of the rules on :
 - business profits derived through a foreign permanent establishment
 - foreign investment income: dividends, interest & royalties and immovable property income
 - income from cross-border employment
- Application of the topics above to cases from international tax practice (case studies)

Teaching method

During the first four days, the subjects listed above will be taught through a lecture in the morning and a workshop in the afternoon. The last two days will be fully spent on analyzing and solving real-life case studies.

REGISTRATION

Closing date for registration: 31 Jan 2025

To register, please scan the QR Code or click [here](#) .



Not sure whether the course is not too basic for you? Test your knowledge of tax treaties.

Click [here](#) and provide your answer to either (or both) of the two brief cases you'll see.

If you send in your answer(s), Kees van Raad will be happy to read them and rate your level of understanding tax treaties.

FEE DETAILS

SGD 3,270 (incl. 9% GST)

- The same course fee applies for in-person and online participants
- Fee includes course materials, refreshments and lunch

Non-residents of Singapore who attend this programme in their business capacity and whose course fees are paid by their foreign employers, will pay SGD 3,000, without GST.

ENQUIRIES

For programme enquiries, registration after the closing date and requests by foreign participants who prefer to join online because they reside in time zones that make it difficult or impossible to follow the classes and workshops in real time, please contact Jocelyn Chong at chong_yung_shuen@iras.gov.sg.

PROGRAMME

DAY 1

- Key Concepts of International Taxation
- Introduction to Tax Treaties & Treaty Residence Issues

Monday 24 Feb 2025 | 9.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m.

In order to bring the participants from various backgrounds up to the same level, a quick introduction will be offered on various key concepts of international taxation: (double) taxation of cross-border income and methods to relieve the (juridical and economic) double taxation. Next, the various methods to relieve *juridical* double taxation will be analyzed: both their operation and their advantages & disadvantages. Also, a brief overview is presented of the types of relief countries may offer regarding the *economic* double taxation of dividends at corporate and shareholder levels.

In the second part of the Day 1 session, the connection between a tax treaty's distributive articles and its double taxation relief provisions and the interaction of these rules with domestic taxing provisions will be examined and explained, along with a detailed analysis of the key concepts 'residence' and 'source'. With regard to treaty residence, the treaty's tie-breaker rule and the impact on the 'loser' state's capability to be residence state for purposes of tax treaties with third countries (triangular situations) will be analyzed. Additionally, the impact of significant case law on the issue will be considered.

DAY 2

- *continued*: Introduction to Tax Treaties & Treaty Residence
- Business Profits Taxation under Tax Treaties

Tuesday 25 Feb 2025 | 9.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m.

On this day, after completing the second subject of the preceding day, the main topic will be the contents and application of the distributive rules of OECD Model Article 7: the main rule, and the exception if business is conducted through a 'permanent establishment' (PE) in the other state. Further, the concept of PE of Art. 5 of the OECD and UN Models (physical PE, project PE, agency PE and the UN Model's Service PE) will be thoroughly explained. The practical difficulties encountered in applying Articles 5 and 7 will be examined in detail.

DAY 3

- *continued*: Business Profits Taxation under Tax Treaties

Wednesday 26 Feb 2025 | 9.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m.

On this day, the comprehensive rules of Art. 7 (Business profits) and Art. 5 (Permanent establishment) will be further analysed and discussed.

DAY 4

**– Investment Income - Dividends, Interest & Royalties; Immovable Property
– Income from Employment, Pensions, etc.**

Thursday 27 Feb 2025 | 9.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m.

The tax treaty rules on investment income vary with the nature of the investment. Immovable property income is typically subject to ordinary taxation in the source country, whereas income from intangible rights (shares, debts, and intellectual property rights) is usually subject to flat-rate gross-basis taxation in the source country with the residence country taxing it again, with a tax credit provided for the source country tax. The taxation of investment income gives rise to numerous interpretational and practical issues, the most important ones of which will be touched upon in this day's topic.

The grown international mobility of labor has greatly increased the importance of OECD Model Articles 15 through 20, each of which deals with a particular type of service income. With the rise of cross-border secondment of employees by Multinational Enterprises (MNEs), the issue of how to deal with temporary cross-border employment in multiple states has become increasingly important. The operation of these rules and the issues involved will be explained through practice-based examples.

DAYS 5 and 6

– Case Studies involving issues covered in the four preceding days

Friday 28 Feb & Saturday 1 Mar 2025 | 9.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m.

These two days will be entirely dedicated to applying the knowledge and insight acquired during the first four days of the programme, to complex tax treaty case studies which are based on real life scenarios. On Day 5 (Friday), we will analyze a series of smaller cases each dealing with a number of interrelated tax treaty issues. The analysis of these cases will enhance the participants' insight how to deal in practice with cross-border cases.

Day 6 (Saturday) is a complimentary session offered by ITC Leiden to all participants who have signed up for the full five-day programme. On this additional day a large, comprehensive case study will be presented and discussed. The case study will illustrate the fine points of treaty interpretation and application and will provide the participants with a better understanding of the complexities that may arise in real-life international tax practice and of the fine points of tax treaty interpretation and application.

All timing indicated reflects Singapore time.

In the event the programme does not meet the minimum enrolment, TA will postpone it to a later date.

Trainers

“Both Prof Kees and Sid are experts in tax treaties and I benefited a lot from this course. They were able to share with us **real life cases and how to make reference to the OECD commentary.** I like the course structure, with Prof Kees giving a theoretical overview of the topic and Sid going through the operation of rules using case studies in the afternoon. **This way of teaching reinforces what I have learnt, especially the step-by-step structured approach in analysing every case.** Many thanks and kudos to both of them.”

“Kees clarity of thought and presentation of the key concepts was second to none. I had been hoping to participate in his programs for a long time and was pleased to finally have an opportunity.”

“Mr Siddharth, you were able to explain the concepts clearly, and answer our questions well.

I am grateful for your guidance/views on which sections of the material were more important, as compared to others.”

Most impactful components of the learning process

“Interactive sessions”

“Learning case studies, it helped me to understand the theoretical and practical aspects of tax treaties”

Training Materials

“Great materials and very structured approach to learning.”

“The materials were well sectioned, and the case studies and workshops provided application of the topics discussed”

ABOUT THE SPEAKERS

Kees van Raad

Chairman, International Tax Center Leiden

Kees van Raad is chairman of the International Tax Center Leiden, of counsel to Loyens & Loeff and Professor em. of International Tax Law at the University of Leiden. He is also chair of the International Fiscal Association's Jury for the annual Mitchell B. Carroll Prize, a past member (1986-2006) of IFA's Permanent Scientific Committee and an Honorary Member of IFA. He is a member of the Advisory Panel of BRITACOM (the tax branch of the organization set up to develop and implement China's Belt and Road Initiative). Further, he was a member (1999-2012) and chairman (2006-2012) of the European Association of Tax Law Professors and a member (2003-2015) of the Supervisory Board of the Max Planck Institute for Tax Law and Public Finance in Munich, Germany.

He has published comprehensively on issues of international tax law, and in particular on tax treaties. Further, he has lectured in more than 30 countries, has held visiting professorships at many universities abroad and is a frequent speaker at foreign conferences, congresses and seminars.

Siddharth Parekh

Teaching Associate, International Tax Center Leiden

Siddharth is a partner at Sunil G Parekh & Co, Chartered Accountants, a Mumbai based tax and accounting firm and focuses on advising clients on international tax and transfer pricing issues. He has previously worked in the international tax team of EY in their London and Mumbai offices. A chartered accountant from the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India, he obtained in 2014 his postgraduate Adv LLM in International Tax Law degree from Leiden University, where he worked as a teaching assistant and continues to lecture on international tax law.

ABOUT THE ORGANIZERS

International Tax Center Leiden (ITC Leiden)

The International Tax Center Leiden (ITC Leiden) was created in 1998 to provide comprehensive instruction programs in international tax law. In addition to the programs taught in the Netherlands, ITC Leiden offers short courses (typically 1-3 weeks) around the world. Prof. Kees van Raad, its founder and chairman, manages the various programs. In China, ITC Leiden has offered each summer a free-of-charge full week program for Chinese students specializing in tax.

Tax Academy of Singapore

Tax Academy of Singapore is a not-for-profit institution set up by the Inland Revenue Authority of Singapore in collaboration with the international accounting firms - Deloitte, EY, KPMG and PwC, the Singapore Chartered Tax Professionals, the Institute of Singapore Chartered Accountants and the Law Society of Singapore. Our mission is to raise professional competency of the tax community and develop our standing as a leading centre for taxation and regional tax knowledge hub. The academy offers structured tax courses, seminars and conferences and provides a platform for tax professionals both locally and from overseas, to engage in professional exchanges.