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# DIGITAL ECONOMY SYMPOSIUM 2017

## Reimagining Taxation in The Age of Disruption

15-16 AUGUST 2017 | SINGAPORE MARRIOTT TANG PLAZA HOTEL | SINGAPORE



New Economy Taxation (NET) and the Global Tax Policy Center of the WU (Vienna University of Economics and Business) are proud to present the second Digital Economy Symposium on 15-16 August 2017 in Singapore. This event follows the successful inaugural *Digital Economy Symposium on New Age Tax, Accounting and Valuation Issues* in November 2016 in Singapore.

The Symposium will explore how both businesses and tax administrations are reacting to and managing the disruptive effect of new and emerging business models and technology in Asia, the taxation of the digital economy in the post-BEPS world, including indirect taxes on digital services, as well as the use of new technology to transform tax administration. Participants will have the opportunity to interact with leading regional and international direct and indirect tax, transfer pricing and customs experts, policy makers and administrators, and business leaders in a unique forum.

This year has added significance as it includes a global multi-stakeholder meeting series on the challenges and opportunities presented by Blockchain technology for taxation and tax administration. The first meeting in this series was held in [Vienna, Austria on 15 – 16 March 2017](#) and continues in Singapore at this Symposium, with upcoming meetings in Vienna (18-19 December 2017), New York (22 May 2018), Singapore and China (10-11 September 2018). Apart from transfer pricing, indirect tax and customs valuation perspectives, this meeting series focuses on areas such as beneficial ownership, registries of land and payroll taxes, where distributed open ledger technology could potentially transform taxation and tax administration.

## PROGRAMME

### Digital Economy Symposium: Reimagining Taxation in the Age of Disruption

15-16 August 2017 | Singapore

#### Day 1

Chair: Jeffrey Owens, Director, WU Global Tax Policy Center, Vienna

08:30 – 09:00 **Registration**

09:00 – 09:15 **Opening and Introduction**

*T Y Sim, Founder, New Economy Taxation (NET) Ltd  
Jeffrey Owens, Director, WU Global Tax Policy Center*

09:15 – 10:00 **Digital Economy Taxation: Tax Challenges and Opportunities in the Digital Era**

*Jeffrey Owens, Director, WU Global Tax Policy Center*

10:00 – 10:15 **Break**

10:15 – 12:00 **Session 1: Disruption Explained: Digitalization and Disruptive Business Models in Asia**

- Digitized Old Economy vs Unicorns
- FinTech, Blockchain, Bitcoin, CryptoFinancing
- Sharing Economy, Industrial Revolution 4.0

*By video: Perianne Boring, President/Founder, Chamber of Digital Commerce*

*Panel: Katarina Adam, Professor, Department Business Administration and Engineering, University of Applied Sciences and Technology (HTW) Berlin (keynote speaker)*

*Kwan Chang Yew, Senior Vice President & Head of Group Tax, DBS Bank*

*Annie Pan, Tax Director, Group Tax APAC, RELX Group*

*Yuan Yuan, Research Scientist, IBM Singapore Lab*

12:00 – 13:15 **Lunch**

13:15 – 15:15 **Session 2: Disruption to Traditional International Tax Norms**

- Permanent Establishments in a Digitalized World: Deemed PEs and Digital Presence
- Taxing the Digital Economy from a Policy Perspective: India and China – Disrupters or Pace-Setters?
- Treaties – An Inconvenient Truth? Australia's Diverted Profits Tax, India's Equalisation Levy
- Tax Incentives for the Promotion of High Technology
- Are Small Economies Better Placed to Respond than Big Economies?

*Panel: Jan de Goede, Senior Principal, Tax Knowledge Management, IBFD (keynote speaker)*

*Mukesh Butani, Vice Chairman, ICC Taxation Commission*

*Michael Lennard, Chief of International Tax Cooperation and Trade in the Financing for Development Office (FfDO), United Nations*

*Romario Riskitalla Sibuea, Tax Treaty Analyst, Directorate General of Taxes, Indonesia*

15:15 – 15:30 **Break**

15:30 – 17:30 **Session 3: Braving the New World**

- **Session 3A: The Tax Administration Response**
  - Harnessing Technology to Transform Tax Administration
  - Big Data Opportunities in Exchange of Information and Risk Assessment, and the Potential of Blockchain

*Panel: Jeffrey Owens, Director, WU Global Tax Policy Center*

*John Hutagaol, Director of International Taxation, Directorate General of Taxes, Indonesia*

*Michael Lennard, Chief of International Tax Cooperation and Trade in the Financing for Development Office (FfDO), United Nations*

*P.N. Pandey, Technical Officer, Compliance & Facilitation, World Customs Organization*

- **Session 3B: The Business Response: Disrupt or Be Disrupted**

- Tax Implications of the New Landscape and Changes in Business Models
- Opportunities for Utilizing Technology in Tax Compliance

*Panel: Michael Gao, President of Tax, Huawei Group (keynote speaker)*

*Balaji Balasubramanian, Global Tax Lead for Financial Markets, Standard Chartered Bank*

*Jon Dobell, Global Leader, Global Compliance and Reporting, EY*

*Annalise Foong, Corporate Tax Director, ASMPT*

*Kwan Chang Yew, Senior Vice President & Head of Group Tax, DBS Bank*

*Ketan Madia, South East Asia Leader for Global Enterprise Tax Solutions, PwC*

17:30 – 17:45 **Closing Remarks: Day 1**

#### Day 2

Chair: Darren Koh, Vice-Dean, Singapore University of Social Sciences

09:00 – 10:45 **US Tax Reforms in the Trump Era: Implications for Asia and Impact on the Digital Economy**

*Panel: H. David Rosenbloom, James S. Eustice Visiting Professor of Practice and Taxation, NYU School of Law (keynote speaker and moderator)*

*Jeffrey Owens, Director, WU Global Tax Policy Center*

*Stephen Phua, Associate Professor, Faculty of Law, National University of Singapore*

10:45 – 11:00 **Break**

11:00 – 12:30 **Session 1: Transfer Pricing in the Digital Age**

*Panel: Darren Koh, Vice-Dean, Singapore University of Social Sciences (moderator)*

*Mukesh Butani, Vice Chairman, ICC Taxation Commission*

*Melani Dewi Astuti, MAP/APA Analyst, Directorate General of Taxes, Indonesia*

*Andrew Fairfoull, Global Value Chain Transformation Leader, PwC*

12:30 – 14:00 **Lunch**

14:00 – 15:30 **Session 2: Growing Indirect Tax Challenges in Asia-Pacific**

- Taxing Digital Supplies: VAT and Digital Levies
- Valuation Rules for VAT, Transfer Pricing and Customs Duties

*Panel: David White, Associate Professor of Taxation, Victoria University of Wellington (moderator)*

*Tracey Kuuskoski, APAC Indirect Tax – VAT/GST Director, EY*

*P.N. Pandey, Technical Officer, Compliance & Facilitation, World Customs Organization*

*Abhishek Shah, Indirect Tax Head, Asia Pacific, Caterpillar*

*Satoshi Watanabe, Professor of Economics, Hitotsubashi University*

15:30 – 15:45 **Break**

15:45 – 17:15 **Learning Lab: Applying Technology to Tax**

*An innovative, ground breaking first that will include "live demonstrations" where Vertex Inc. and other technology partners will describe and showcase the latest solutions in applying technology to tax.*

*Panel: David DeStefano, CEO, Vertex Inc.*

*David Deputy, Director of Strategic Development and Emerging Markets, Vertex Inc.*

*Ching Ne Tan, Partner, Digital Tax Services, PwC Singapore*

17:15 – 17:30 **Closing**

## SPEAKERS



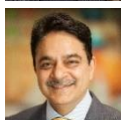
**Katarina Adam**  
Professor, Department of Business Administration and Engineering  
University of Applied Sciences and Technology (HTW)  
Berlin, Germany



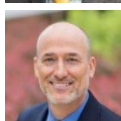
**Balaji Balasubramanian**  
Global Tax Lead for the Fixed Income Businesses of Financial Markets  
Standard Chartered Bank, Singapore



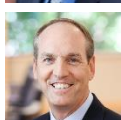
**Perianne Boring**  
President/Founder  
Chamber of Digital Commerce, USA



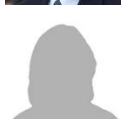
**Mukesh Butani**  
Vice Chairman  
ICC Taxation Commission



**David Deputy**  
Director of Strategic Development and Emerging Markets  
Vertex Inc., USA



**David DeStefano**  
President and CEO  
Vertex Inc., USA



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Directorate General of Taxes, Indonesia



**Jon Dobell**  
Partner, Global Leader, Global Compliance and Reporting  
EY Australia



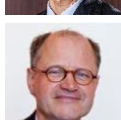
**Andrew Fairfoull**  
Partner, Global Value Chain Transformation Leader  
PwC Singapore



**Annalise Foong**  
Corporate Tax Director  
ASMPT, Singapore



**Michael Gao**  
President of Tax  
Huawei Group, China



**Jan de Goede**  
Senior Principal, Tax Knowledge Management  
IBFD, Netherlands



**John Hutagaol**  
Director of International Taxation  
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Vice-Dean  
Singapore University of Social Sciences, Singapore



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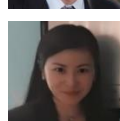
**Ketan Madia**  
International Tax Partner, South East Asia Leader for Global Enterprise Tax Solutions  
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**Michael Lennard**  
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United Nations, USA



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RELX Group, Singapore



**P.N. Pandey**  
Technical Officer, Compliance & Facilitation  
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**Stephen Phua**  
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**Romario Riskitala Sibuea**  
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**H. David Rosenbloom**  
James S. Eustice Visiting Professor of Practice and Taxation  
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**Abhishek Shah**  
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Caterpillar, Singapore



**Ching Ne Tan**  
Partner, Digital Tax Services  
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**Satoshi Watanabe**  
Professor of Economics  
Hitotsubashi University, Tokyo, Japan



**David White**  
Associate Professor of Taxation  
Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand



**Yuan Yuan**  
Research Scientist  
IBM Singapore Lab, Singapore

## New Economy Taxation

New Economy Taxation (NET) Ltd is a non-partisan organization with members from academia and industry who are passionate about the New Economy and its impact on taxation. NET is committed to the pursuit of excellence in high quality research, information and education on international taxation to explore the implications of technological advancements and the constantly evolving business models of the New Economy, particularly in the Asia-Pacific region.

## WU Global Tax Policy Center

WU Global Tax Policy Center is one of the leading think tanks on the interface between tax policy, tax administration and tax law in today's global economy. It has brought together tax policy makers, tax administrators, tax practitioners and researchers from around the globe. The Center provides a forum for discussions on tax policy formulation and implementation, drawing upon the experiences of developed and developing countries and economies in transition.



<Scan for PowerPoint presentations and background materials>

### Enquiries:

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