

Programme

8:30–9:00		*Registration and morning coffee*
OPENING		
9:00–9:10		**Tax Forum: why now** **Jānis Taukačs** | Sorainen
CASE LAW OF THE COURT OF JUSTICE OF THE EU		
9:10–9:40		**Recent CJEU case law on abuse in tax matters** **Dr. Simon Whitehead** | Copenhagen Business School, University of Vienna
9:40–10:10		**The NEO GROUP case: from judgment to practice** **Dr. Aistė Medelienė** | Sorainen Lithuania
TAX AND THE LAW		
10:10–10:30		**Tax criminal proceedings in Germany: key principles and practical insights** **Dr. Lars Kutzner** | WTS, Berlin
10:30–11:00		*Coffee break*
11:00–11:45		**Taxpayer rights protection and human rights in the Latvian tax system** **Prof. Philip Baker KC** | Field Court Tax Chambers
11:45–12:20		**Tax trade-offs: the challenges of building a fair tax system** **Prof. Rita de la Feria** | University of Leeds
12:20–12:50		*Coffee break*
LATVIAN PRACTICE AND THE FUTURE		
12:50–13:10		**Supreme Court (Senate) case law in tax matters: latest insights** **Diāna Makarova** | Supreme Court of Latvia
13:10–13:30		**Latvian tax policy challenges for the next policy period** **Dr.oec. Kārlis Ketners**
13:30–13:50		**Artificial intelligence challenges in tax law** **Dr.oec. Māris Jurušs** | Riga Technical University
13:50–14:00		**Closing remarks and Q&A** **Jānis Taukačs** | Sorainen

The programme is subject to minor changes. Presentations will be held in Latvian and English, without interpretation.

Speakers



Prof. Rita de la Feria | *University of Leeds*

Professor of Tax Law at the University of Leeds and Visiting Professor at the University of Oxford. Tax reform adviser to the Government of Timor-Leste and member of the UK Office for Budget Responsibility Advisory Panel.



Prof. Philip Baker KC | *Field Court Tax Chambers, London*

King's Counsel and Visiting Professor at the University of Oxford, a leading expert on tax and human rights. Director of the Observatory on the Protection of Taxpayers' Rights.



Dr. Simon Whitehead | *Copenhagen Business School, University of Vienna*

Lawyer with 37 years of experience, more than 25 of them on EU law tax cases, including Marks & Spencer and FII. Now focused on academic work.



Dr. Aistė Medelienė | *Sorainen Lithuania*

Sorainen partner and co-head of the Lithuanian tax practice with more than 20 years of experience in tax disputes. Independent expert for the European Commission in EU double taxation disputes.



Dr. Lars Kutzner | *WTS, Berlin*

WTS partner in Berlin, expert in tax criminal law and internal investigations with more than 20 years of experience, including at Noerr, Dentons and PwC.



Diāna Makarova | *Supreme Court of Latvia*

Judge of the Supreme Court of Latvia since 2020, previously nearly 10 years at the State Revenue Service. Specialises in tax and finance law, public procurement and utilities regulation.



Dr.oec. Kārlis Ketners | *Latvian Academy of Sciences*

Doctor of Economics, corresponding member of the Latvian Academy of Sciences and partnership professor at Vytautas Magnus University. Researches public finance, tax policy and budget reform.



Dr.oec. Māris Jurušs | *Riga Technical University*

Associate Professor at Riga Technical University and director of the Customs and Tax Administration study programme. Formerly at the Ministry of Finance and PwC, co-author of a book on tax and artificial intelligence.



Jānis Taukačs | *Sorainen Latvia*

Sorainen partner and head of the Latvian tax practice, working in tax law since 1995. Legal 500 Hall of Fame for tax in Latvia.