



International Conference on the Shadow Economy and Taxation

22-24 April 2015
Athenee Palace Hilton
Bucharest, Romania

CONCEPT

This initiative is designed to focus delegates on the link between taxation, the shadow economy and illegal trade. The intention is for ITIC to bring together key speakers from the WCO, OECD, INTERPOL, EUROPOL, private-sector experts and renowned academics to focus on a range of shadow economy issues. This is far more than a “tax issue,” as it affects international trade costs and barriers, health policies, law enforcement, and public attitudes to smuggling and evading taxes. It is a concern for several industries (e.g., alcohol, fuel and tobacco products) where legitimate trade is undermined by smuggled products, both counterfeit and genuine, and by undeclared domestic manufacture of excise products. Reducing the shadow economy and illegal trade can provide major benefits for governments that need to protect and expand their revenues.

ITIC is inviting the revenue and customs authorities from several Eurasian countries to participate in the event -- ideally, one representative from the tax policy area in addition to a senior enforcement official from the Customs authority. In this way, Romania will raise awareness of the shadow economy, its component parts and ways of tackling it. It will provide an opportunity for industry representatives to explain the impact of the shadow economy and illegal trade on their businesses, and will allow the delegates to develop closer relations with their counterparts in neighboring countries and in important multilateral organizations.

Program Outline

Interactive format, with presentations by expert speakers to be followed by questions and discussion.

Delegates

Senior treasury/revenue authority/customs officials (1 from each organization) and key decision makers will be invited from the following countries:

- Romania
- Lithuania
- Latvia
- Estonia
- Belarus
- Russia
- Kazakhstan
- Georgia
- Ukraine
- Moldova
- Bulgaria
- Turkey
- Germany
- Hungary
- Poland

Expert Speakers

Speaking commitments from recognized experts have been secured from, among others:

- World Customs Organization: Elena Trefas
- U.S. State Department: David Luna
- OECD: Jack Radisch
- Interpol: Esteban Giudici
- Europol: Carlo van Heuckelom
- Romanian Police: Commissioners Dragos Agapie and Aurelian Costache

Program Agenda

Day One – 22 April	
16.00 – 18.00	Registration of delegates and refreshments Athenee Palace Hilton
18.00 – 18.30	Welcoming Reception Casa Doina Remarks by: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mr. Daniel Witt, President, ITIC• Ms. Cristina Vasiloiu, President, Euromonitor Business Consulting Services• Mrs. Liz Allen, Senior Program Advisor, ITIC• Mr. Claudiu Ardeleanu, Director General, National Customs Authority of Romania
18.30 – 21.00	Opening Dinner Hosted by Euromonitor Business Consulting Services <u>Venue:</u> Casa Doina

Day Two – 23 April

SESSION I: OVERVIEW

9.00 – 9.10	<p><i>Introduction and Welcome</i></p> <p>Co-Chairs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mrs. Liz Allen, Senior Program Advisor, ITIC• Mr. Claudiu Ardeleanu, Director General, National Customs Authority of Romania
9.10 – 10.10	<p><i>An Academic Overview of the Shadow Economy and Illegal Trade</i> – discussion from the academic perspective</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Professor Colin Williams, University of Sheffield Management School• Professor Ernesto Savona, Director, Joint Research Centre on Transnational Crime (TRANSCRIME), Catholic University of Milan
10.10 – 10.30	<p><i>The Shadow Economy – Nature and Extent in Romania</i> – Mr. Dorel Fronea, Former Head, National Customs Authority of Romania</p>
10.30 – 11.00	TEA/COFFEE BREAK
SESSION II: THE PROBLEM	
11.00 – 11.25	<p><i>The Impact of the Shadow Economy on Industry, Commerce and Economic Development</i> – Ms. Andrea Paul, Member of Romanian Parliament</p>
11.25 – 11.40	<p><i>Illegal Trade in Alcohol and Tobacco Products and How to Tackle it</i> – Mrs. Liz Allen</p>
11.40 – 11.50	<p><i>The Impact of Regulation on Illegal Trade in Tobacco Products</i> – Mr. Daniel Witt, President, ITIC</p>
11.50 – 12.20	<p><i>Illicit Trade - The Findings of the OECD Task Force</i> – Mr. Jack Radisch, Project Manager, OECD High-Level Risk Forum</p>

12.20 – 13.00	<p>Panel Discussion / Q and A – on the interface between the Shadow Economy and Illegal Trade, moderated by Mr. Daniel Witt</p> <p>Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. David Luna, Senior Director, National Security and Diplomacy, Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs, U.S. Department of State • Professor Colin Williams • Professor Ernesto Savona • Mr. Dorel Fronea
13.00 – 14.00	LUNCH
14.00 – 14.20	Illegal Trade – Industry Perspective – Mr. Pierre Souverain, Senior Regional Security Manager, Pfizer
14.20 – 15.00	Measuring Illegal Trade in Alcohol Beverages – Mr. Lance Hastings, Head of Regulatory and Tax Affairs, SAB Miller; and Lourdes Chavarria, Euromonitor
15.00 – 15.30	TEA/COFFEE BREAK
SESSION III: SOME SOLUTIONS	
15.30 – 16.00	Case Study on Tackling Illegal Trade: the UK Comprehensive Tobacco Strategy – Mr. Euan Stewart, Head of Intelligence, H.M. Revenue and Customs
16.00 – 16.25	Legal Assistance on Illicit Trade and IP Crime – Mr. Esteban Giudici, Legal Officer, Interpol
16.25 – 16.50	Tackling Illegal Trade and Money Laundering – Mr. Carlo van Heuckelom, Business Manager of Operations Department, Economic Crime and Forgery of Money, Europol
16.50 – 17.20	The Work of the WCO in Tackling IPR Fraud – Ms. Elena Trefas, WCO

17.20 – 18.00	<i>The Use of Investigative Techniques in Tackling Illegal Trade and Money Laundering</i> – Mr. Richard Kusnierz, Director of Data Analytics, Haymarket Risk Management
19.00	Reception Hosted by ITIC <u>Venue:</u> Garden Terrace, Athenee Palace Hilton

Day Three – 24 April

SESSION III: SOME SOLUTIONS (CONTINUED)

9.00 – 09.20	<i>International Industry Perspective</i> – Mr. Louis Bonnier, Policy Adviser Business Action to Stop Counterfeiting and Piracy (BASCAP), International Chamber of Commerce
09.20 – 09.40	<i>How Technology Can Help</i> – Mr. Brian Lee, Technical Chair, Digital Coding and Tracking Association (DCTA)
09.40 – 10.10	<i>Legal Tools and Mechanisms for Tackling Illegal Trade in Tobacco Products</i> – Mr. Esteban Giudici, Legal Officer, Interpol
10.10 – 10.30	<i>Comments</i> – Commissioner Mr. Dragos Agapie, Director, Center for International Police Cooperation, Romanian Police; and Mr. Carlo van Heuckelom, Business Manager of Operations Department Economic Crime and Forgery of Money, Europol
10.30 – 11.00	TEA/COFFEE BREAK
11.00 – 11.30	<i>Broadening the Tax Base and Reducing the Informal Economy through Presumptive Taxation</i> – Mrs. Liz Allen
11.30 – 12.15	<i>The Way Forward</i> – discussion from the academic perspective <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Informal economy - Prof. Colin Williams• Illegal trade - Prof. Ernesto Savona, and Professor Mircea Cosea, President, Economic Strategy and Prognosis Foundation

<p>12.15 – 12.45</p>	<p><i>The Way Forward for Eastern Europe</i></p> <p>Moderated by Mr. David Luna, Senior Director, National Security and Diplomacy, Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs, U.S. Department of State</p> <p>Panel Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Claudiu Ardeleanu, Director General, National Customs Authority of Romania • Mr. Robert Uzuna, Corporate Affairs Director, SAB Miller • Mr. Louis Bonnier, BASCAP, International Chamber of Commerce • Chief Commissioner Mr. Aurelian Costache, Deputy Director, Economic Crime Unit, Romanian Police
<p>12.45 – 13.00</p>	<p>CONCLUSIONS AND CLOSURE OF CONFERENCE</p> <p>Mr. Daniel Witt and Ms. Cristina Vasiloiu</p>
<p>13.00 – 14.00</p>	<p>CLOSING LUNCHEON</p>