

Global Labour Tax Summit

Tax is everyone's business

17-18 September 2015, Geneva, Switzerland



Programme

(at 7 September)

Room V, International Labour Organisation (ILO), Geneva, Switzerland

WEDNESDAY 16 SEPTEMBER

19:00 – 23:00 Dinner and guest speakers: "Making Tax Sexy"

- **George Turner**, Journalist and Director of "Finance Uncovered";
- **Simon Bowers**, Business Correspondent, The Guardian

Venue: Restaurant "Nomades" – 18 rue des Grottes, Geneva

THURSDAY 17 SEPTEMBER

8:00 – 8:30 REGISTRATION

8:30 – 9:00 Welcome and opening remarks

- **Rosa Pavanelli**, General Secretary, Public Services International (PSI)
- **Hubert Schillinger**, Director of the FES Geneva Office

Conference Convenor: Daniel Bertossa, Director Policy and Governance, PSI

9:00 – 10:45 Session 1: Tax is everyone's business

The role of public finance for general welfare, the impact of the current system on workers, development, public services and privatisation, the environment and inequality.

- **Joel Odigie**, Human and Trade Union Rights Coordinator, ITUC Africa - Tax and development
- **Susana Ruiz Rodríguez**, Head of Intermón Fiscal Justice Campaign, Oxfam International - Even It Up: Tax and Inequality
- **Karim Bangoura**, Expert Comptable Associé, SYNDEX - Tax and workers' rights - a case study in manufacturing
- **Rosa Pavanelli**, General Secretary, Public Services International - Funding public services

Moderator: Simon Bowers, Business Correspondent, The Guardian

10:45 – 11:15 BREAK

11:15 – 12:45	Session 2: Tax and corporate power
	<p>How much money do they get away with, how do they do it, who helps them, how can they be stopped and why don't we hear more about it?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • John Christensen, Executive Director, Tax Justice Network - How much, who and how? • Jason Ward, Senior Global Strategist, International Transport Workers Federation - Corporate case studies from a union perspective: Chevron and the Australian Senate Tax enquiry • Krishen Mehta, former Partner PricewaterhouseCoopers – The challenges posed by MNC's and their service providers and lobbyists <p>Moderator: Nadja Salson, Policy Officer for Tax and National Administration, European Federation of Public Service Unions (EPSU)</p>
12:45 – 14:15	LUNCH
14:15 – 15:45	Session 3: Who makes the rules, who influences them and who benefits?
	<p>The OECD, our national governments, business interests, media, right wing think tanks, the UN, SDG's and the global financial institutions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raffaele Russo, Head of BEPS Project, Centre for Tax Policy and Administration, OECD – BEPS: Are we doing enough? • Michael Keen, Deputy Director, Fiscal Affairs Department, IMF - Spill over effects and prospects for an FTT • Simon Bowers, Business Correspondent, The Guardian - Vested interests in the tax debate <p>Moderator: John Christensen, Executive Director, Tax Justice Network</p>
15:45 – 16:15	BREAK
16:15 – 17:45	Session 4: Union and alternative responses - identifying priorities
	<p>Identifying alternative policy options, success stories and trade union priorities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manuel F. Montes, Member of the Independent Commission on Reform of International Corporate Tax (ICRICT) – What are the alternatives? • Krishen Mehta, Former Partner PricewaterhouseCoopers – Can we work with the BEPS outcomes and still take control of our own tax destinies? • Jan Willem Goudriaan, General Secretary, European Federation of Public Service Unions – Opportunities in Europe • Adhemar S. Mineiro, CUT Brazil – National solutions in a development context <p>Moderator: Erika Dayle Siu, ICRICT Consultant</p>
17:45 – 18:00	WRAP UP AND CLOSE
18:00 – 19:00	DRINKS AND LIGHT FOOD
19:00 – 20:30	FILM SCREENING: THE PRICE WE PAY - directed by Harold Crooks
	<p><i>Venue: Room V, ILO, Geneva</i></p>

FRIDAY 18 SEPTEMBER

9:00 - 9:20 WELCOME BACK AND SUMMARY OF PREVIOUS DAY

9:20 – 11:00 Session 5: Union and alternative responses – building power

Having the tax debate, highlighting the alternatives, who are our allies and what are they doing, telling our stories and building hope for change

- **George Turner**, Journalist and Director of “Finance Uncovered” – Exposing the extent of abuse
- **Carl Leinonen**, Field Director for Global Organizing, SEIU - The campaign against McDonalds - Union campaigns and strategy
- **Adriano Campolina**, CEO ActionAid - Civil society action

Moderator: Daniel Bertossa, Director Policy and Governance, PSI

11:00 – 11:30 BREAK

11:30 – 13:00 Session 6: Finding the opportunities

Where will the debate go, how can we influence policy, why is labour important?

- **Rudy De Leeuw** – ITUC Vice-President and President FGTB Belgium – Opportunities for Labour in the G20 and OECD
- **Dereje Alemayehu**, Convenor, Global Alliance for Tax Justice – Opportunities in the developing world
- **Eva Joly**, Member of the European Parliament - Options for Europe (tbc)
- **Erika Dayle Siu**, ICRICT Consultant – Global opportunities

Facilitator: Tove Maria Ryding, Co-ordinator of the Policy and Campaigns Group of The Global Alliance for Tax Justice (GATJ) and Tax Coordinator, EuroDAD

13:00 – 14:30 LUNCH

14:30 – 16:00 Session 7: Building a labour strategy

What next?

- Co-ordinating activity
- Strategy and tactics
- Building capacity
- Commitments to act

Facilitator: Daniel Bertossa, Director Policy and Governance, PSI

16:00 – 16:15 CLOSE