UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

COURSE SYLLABUS

International and Comparative Corporate Taxation

2223-5-A5810241

Learning objectives

Tax is an important part of the business environment. With the growth in globalization and the expansion of cross border flow of investments, tax plays a major role in the decision-making process.

Therefore, the ability to accommodate the distinctions of various tax systems around the globe and to understand the policy considerations behind them is what this course is aimed at.

Contents

This course offers a comparative analysis of various solutions that are adopted by several tax systems as a response to increasing common international tax problems of their corporate income tax systems.

First, the basics of international taxation will be explained.

Second, the common core of tax systems of industrialized countries in relation to basic corporate domestic and international tax problems will be identified.

Third, different corporate tax models (and their circulation) among different countries will be analyzed.

Finally, a closer look at the US and Italian corporate tax mechanisms for the resolution of the tax problems discussed earlier in the course will be taken.

In the first part of the course, also the theory and methods of comparative taxation (tax models, formants and common core in corporate tax law) will be illustrated and the economic principles of taxation (efficiency, vertical and horizontal equity, simplicity) will be described so to critically analyze tax policy issues and compare different corporate tax designs.

Detailed program

- Methods and theories of comparative tax law;
- Definition, history and reasons of corporate tax law;
- Role of business in tax law: the reasons behind the taxation of corporate entities; the incidence of corporate taxes; the relationship between corporate and individual level of income taxes; determination of corporate tax base and tax rates;
- The international tax regime: international tax as international law (the benefit principle and the single tax principle);
- The concept of tax residency;
- The concept of source (with a focus on the concept of permanent establishment);
- Taxation of inbound business transactions;
- Taxation of outbound business transactions;
- Taxation of multinationals and cross border investments;
- International corporate tax planning;
- Taxation of reorganizations and cross border reorganizations;
- Prevention of tax avoidance and evasion; enforcement tools: the BEPS project and the EU measures.

Prerequisites

In order to better understand the subject, it is requested a basic legal and economic knowledge, regarding, more specifically, the sources of law, private law and enterprise organization law.

Teaching methods

Lectures and practical training on selected cases. Additional material (cases, new tax law rules, articles) can be recommended to those students who want to study the subject in detail.

Assessment methods

Attending students:

Written exam in the first session at the end of the course (with the possibility to also take an oral exam).

Not attending students:

Oral exam.

Textbooks and Reading Materials

R. AVI-YONAH - N. SARTORI - O. MARIAN, Globlal perspective on income taxation law, Oxford University Press, 2011 (excluded chapters 3II and 4).

Sustainable Development Goals

REDUCED INEQUALITIES