

Annual General Meeting 2019

4 December 2019

President's Address

Welcome to the 2019 Annual General Meeting.

2019 was another eventful year for tax advisors and practitioners, with significant legislative developments, such as the Tax Consolidation rules, ATAD, and the transposition of the VAT "quick fixes".

It was also an important year for the Institute. The investments that were made in 2018 started coming to fruition. As an Institute, we have striven to keep our members and subscribers up to date on legislative updates with the introduction of The MIT Weekly. This was launched alongside our redesigned website at <u>www.maintax.org</u>, which offers more functionality for users, as well as an enhanced Members' Area which contains materials on tax and VAT matters for our members.

2019 was an eventful and productive year for the MIT, and we continue to set ambitious targets with the sole purpose of driving value to our members, to assist members in maintaining the required levels of technical know-how and to provide a forum within which members can share their know-how and experience on practical issues.

On educational matters, we held various seminars and workshops on topical local and international tax issues. Besides our popular academic courses, the MIT Course on Taxation and the MIT Course on Tax Compliance, this year we introduced two new courses: the MIT Advanced Course on International Tax Law and the MIT Advanced Course on VAT. These advanced-level, interactive courses, were designed for participants who already have a good knowledge of the subject matter but who wished to gain more in-depth understanding of the rules and principles, and offered a forum for peer-to-peer discussion.

In 2019 we held two events in our Masterclass Series, the first on the Controlled Foreign Company Rules and the second on the ATAD II Anti-Hybrid rules, and were honoured to have distinguished international speakers like Prof. Alexander Rust from the University of Vienna and John Petersen, Head of ATP at the OECD.

Once again, the Institute's Annual Tax Conference was a great success, with a line-up of leading local and international speakers, including, Maikel Evers, Advisor to the OECD CTPA, Raffaele Petruzzi, Managing Director of the Transfer Pricing Centre at the Institute for Austrian and International Tax Law, and Jasper Korving from the Deloitte Netherlands Tax Research Department.





I would like to thank my fellow Council members, the Chairpersons of the various Committees, as well as the members who sit thereon, who place themselves at the disposal of the Institute, dedicating time and experience to the events, activities and publications of the Institute, as well as the CTO and the office team. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank George Portanier, the Institute's outgoing CEO, for his dedication and commitment to the Institute over the past few years and to formally welcome Fiona Vassallo, our new CEO.

We thank you for your membership of the Institute, and we look forward to another year of work toward the promotion of education and dialogue on tax matters.

Conrad Cassar Torregiani MIT President

