

EFS Top-Level Seminar 2024

EU Customs Law: Recent Developments and Outlook

▶ 3-day programme, 19 – 21 June 2024

Frank Heijmann
Jikke Biermasz
Claudia Buysing Damsté
Ilona van den Eijnde
Eric Vennekens
Prof. Dr. Walter de Wit
Edwin Vermulst
Dr. Martijn Schippers
Patricio Diaz Javier
Paulette Vanderschueren
Steven Verschuur
Prof. Dr. Johannes Schäffer

**Erasmus
University
Rotterdam**

EFS Top-Level Seminar on EU Customs Law: Recent Developments and Outlook



EFS, Erasmus University Rotterdam

EFS, Erasmus University Rotterdam is a partnership between the tax departments of the Erasmus University Rotterdam's Schools of Law and Economics. EFS has been a leading education and research institute in the areas of international and European taxation for 30 years. Its work concentrates on the operation of indirect taxes, covering both VAT and customs duties, and direct taxes, focusing on individual taxation, corporate taxation and source taxation in an international and/or European context. As well as regularly hosting academic symposia, conferences and lectures, EFS offers a wide range of programmes and toplevel seminars.

Erasmus University Rotterdam

Erasmus University Rotterdam is a global, top-100 research university, where ambitious students prepare for an excellent career. It is one of the biggest universities in the Netherlands, with a student population of around 29,000 and a research community of around 1,600. On the lively and modern campus, students are constantly encouraged to develop their talents and achieve their ambitions in international classrooms of more than 100 nationalities. Its intensive, career-oriented and research-driven degree programmes are matched by an excellent student life in the dynamic and diverse city of Rotterdam. The university's research is strongly focused on societal impact, specifically on health, wealth, governance and culture.

Initiatives to overhaul the EU Customs Union, the enactment of ESG-related trade regulations, trade conflicts, changes in customs valuation and Free Trade Agreement developments, along with fresh case law from the Court of Justice of the European Union, are among the numerous elements influencing the constantly evolving landscape of customs practices.

The EFS 3-day top-level seminar on 'EU Customs, Recent Developments and Outlook' (in English) will ensure you are fully up-to-date with all the important developments in your field. As well as hearing talks by and participating in discussions with prestigious speakers – Frank Heijmann, Jikke Biermasz, Claudia Buysing Damsté, Ilona van den Eijnde, Eric Vennekens, Prof. Dr. Walter de Wit, Edwin Vermulst, Dr. Martijn Schippers, Patricio Diaz Javier, Paulette Vanderschueren, Steven Verschuur and Prof. Dr. Johannes Schäffer – you will also have the opportunity to engage in discussions with your peers.

KEY BENEFITS

- Intensive 3-day programme
- In-depth, interactive sessions
- Max. 25 participants
- Bridging theory and practice
- International networking

EFS is pleased to invite you and other top specialists (see Target Group on page 8) from customs advisory firms, law firms, legal practice, businesses, the judiciary, government bodies, customs authorities and academia to discuss the ever changing landscape of global trade and customs implications of a wide range of topical issues, including measures recently implemented or soon to be implemented across the EU, in an informal setting.

On the first day of the seminar, we will delve into the latest global free trade developments. Despite ubiquitous geopolitical tensions, the world is observing a continuous establishment of Free Trade Agreements. We will discuss the recent trends and bring you up to date with the prevalent issues revolving around Free Trade Agreements. Geopolitical stress also brings heightened attention to anti-dumping and anti-subsidy duties. The employment of these duties is gaining popularity within the European Union, parallel to escalating disputes. The seminar will feature discussions on whether these duties are invoked prematurely and if shifting production is a viable alternative. We will also reflect on contemporary advancements in case laws and Commission practices. Additionally, the first day will encompass dialogues about the novel occurrences in Environmental,

Social, and Governance (ESG) aspects. The implementation of the Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) and deforestation regulations have been activated, necessitating their incorporation in the supply chain. We will elaborate on the present circumstances and examine the practical and legal complications associated with these recent developments.

The second day will be allocated to dialogues on the recent customs valuation developments. The spotlight will be on critical and emergent matters such as undervaluation, the correlation with transfer pricing, the management of transfer pricing adjustments, and the dutiability of royalty payments. Additionally, we'll broach the subject of export controls, a highly relevant topic given the geopolitical pressure stemming from conflicts in Ukraine and Palestine as well as trade disputes between the US and China. These issues have led to the enforcement of trade sanctions and the intensification of export control regulations. The sessions will constitute a blend of concise introductory presentations, punctuated by insights from panelists. Each panelist will provide a unique viewpoint, influenced by their background in litigation/consultancy, academia or business, on these pressing issues.

The concluding day of the seminar is reserved for explorations into the evolving energy directive. We'll also turn our attention to the innovative proposals championed by the European Commission for the reform of the EU Customs Union. The final session ensures you are fully familiarized with the pertinent transformations in the Court of Justice case law. All sessions are designed to offer ample opportunity for in-depth discussions on each topic covered. As we wrap up the seminar, we'll take time to collectively reflect on the matters discussed and draw broad conclusions.

If you are looking to update and expand your highly specialised knowledge and to network with other leading professionals, sign up now for the EFS top-level seminar on 'EU Customs Law: Recent Developments and Outlook' to be held at the Erasmus University Rotterdam on 19 – 21 June 2024.

I am looking forward to seeing you in Rotterdam.



Kind regards,

Prof. Dr. Walter de Wit
Seminar Director

Programme | 19 – 21 June 2024

Day 1		Wednesday, 19 June 2024	
12.00-12.30	Arrival of participants at Erasmus University Rotterdam		
12.30-13.30	Lunch at 'Erasmus Paviljoen'		
13.30-13.45		PROF. DR. WALTER DE WIT Professor Erasmus School of Law / Seminar Director EFS / Partner EY, The Netherlands	Opening and welcome address
		DR. MARTIJN SCHIPPERS Associate Professor Erasmus School of Law / Seminar Coordinator EFS / Senior Manager EY, The Netherlands	
13.45-14.45		CLAUDIA BUYSING DAMSTÉ Partner PwC	Global FTA developments
14.45-16.15		EDWIN VERMULST Partner at VVGB Advocaten	Recent anti-dumping and/or anti-subsidy proceedings
		STEVEN VERSCHUUR Judge at the EU General Court	
16.15-16.30	Coffee and tea break		
16.30-18.00		DR. MARTIJN SCHIPPERS Associate Professor Erasmus School of Law / Seminar Coordinator EFS / Senior Manager EY, The Netherlands	Supply chain related ESG developments (e.g. deforestation, plastics, CBAM, forced labour, Digital Product Passport) and business solutions
		ILONA VAN DEN EIJNDE PhD Candidate Erasmus School of Law / Senior Manager EY, United States	
18.00	End of programme and return to hotel		
19.30	Dinner at In den Rustwat, Rotterdam		





Day 2 Thursday, 20 June 2024

08.45 **Participants arrive at lecture room**

09.00-10.00



DR. MARTIJN SCHIPPERS
Associate Professor Erasmus School of Law /
Seminar Coordinator EFS / Senior Manager EY,
The Netherlands



PAULETTE VANDER SCHUEREN
Partner at Mayer Brown Europe-Brussels LLP

Topical customs valuation developments
- **CJEU case law update**
- **Undervaluation**
- **Management of transfer price adjustments**
- **Dutiability of intellectual property rights**
- **Series of sales**

10.00-10.30 **Coffee and tea break**

10.30-12.30

DR. MARTIJN SCHIPPERS
PAULETTE VANDER SCHUEREN

Topical customs valuation developments (cont.)

12.30-13.30 **Lunch at 'Erasmus Paviljoen'**

13.30-14.30

DR. MARTIJN SCHIPPERS
PAULETTE VANDER SCHUEREN

Topical customs valuation developments (cont.)

14.30-14.45 **Coffee and tea break**

14.45-17.00



ERIC VENNEKES
Director Export Controls ASML / Deputy Judge
Court of North-Holland



PROF. DR. JOHANNES SCHÄFFER
Professor at Hochschule für Wirtschaft
und Recht Berlin



JIKKE BIERMASZ
Partner at Ploum

Sanctions and export controls

17.00 **End of programme and return to hotel**

18.00 **Departure to Euromast**

18.30 **Dinner at Euromast**



Day 3

Friday, 21 June 2024

08.45

Participants arrive at lecture room

09.00-10.00



PROF. DR. WALTER DE WIT
Professor Erasmus School of Law / Seminar
Director EFS / Partner EY, The Netherlands

Energy directive developments

10.00-10.30

Coffee and tea break

10.30-12.00



FRANK HEIJMANN
Counsellor Customs Permanent Representation
of The Netherlands to the European Union

Proposal to reform the EU Customs Union

12.00-13.00

Lunch at 'Erasmus Paviljoen'

13.00-15.00



PATRICIO DIAZ GAVIER
Customs Lawyer and Litigator – Diaz Gavier

Recent ECJ cases in customs and
import-VAT matters and legislative
UCC-developments



PROF. DR. WALTER DE WIT
Professor Erasmus School of Law / Seminar
Director EFS / Partner EY, The Netherlands

15.00-15.30

Wrap up, closing remarks, conclusions and certificates awarded to participants

15.30

Meeting and drinks at 'Erasmus Paviljoen'

Programme Management



◀ PROF. DR. WALTER DE WIT

Programme Director /
EFS Board Member

Walter de Wit is Professor of European and International Customs Law at the Erasmus School of Law. He is also a partner at EY, advising clients on indirect taxation and international trade, including customs duties.



◀ DR. MARTIJN SCHIPPERS

Programme Coordinator

Martijn Schippers is Associate Professor at the Erasmus School of Law and is specialized in EU Customs Law. He is also a Senior Manager at EY and is part of EY's Global Trade and Sustainability Group in the Netherlands.



Rotterdam

With a population of over 600,000, Rotterdam is the second largest city in the Netherlands and the centre of the Rotterdam–The Hague metropolitan area. With residents of over 170 different nationalities, Rotterdam is a truly multicultural city. From Brazilian, Polish and Iranian restaurants to African and Asian supermarkets: you'll find it all in Rotterdam.

Rotterdam is famous for having the largest port in Europe, while the River Maas also runs through the 'skyscraper city'. And behind the modern skyline, with its innovative and *avant garde* architecture, you'll find an atmospheric and historic city centre.

The city's international character is also reflected in its cultural activities, including the international art exhibited at the Museum Boijmans Van Beuningen (currently closed for refurbishment) and the Kunsthal. Depot Boijmans Van Beuningen has opened in September 2021 and is the first art storage facility in the world that offers access to a museum's complete collection. Every January you can watch movies from all around the world during the International Film Festival, while in summer you can enjoy the Summer Carnival and the North Sea Jazz festival.

General information

Dates

From Wednesday 19 June (12.00 hrs) to Friday 21 June (16.00 hrs) 2024.

Venue

The seminar will be held at the Erasmus University Rotterdam campus, Woudestein.

Accommodation

EFS can arrange hotel accommodations for you. EFS has made arrangements with the hotel located right next to the Erasmus University. Part of that arrangement is a reduction on the room rate. If you wish to make use of this possibility please indicate this on the course registration form. EFS will then increase the course price by the cost of the hotel accommodation. Due to the agreements EFS has made with Novotel, the hotel costs are also due if the reservation for the hotel accommodation is cancelled within one month before the start of the course. If registration for hotel accommodation is made within one month before the course, EFS and Novotel cannot guarantee that a hotel room is available and a different (higher) room rate may apply. We further to our general terms and conditions which apply to hotel accommodation arranged by EFS for the course participant.

The amounts for hotel accommodation are as follows, per night: € 190,- (Wednesday to Friday).

Fee

€ 2,750 (including all seminar materials and meals).

Language

The seminar will be in English.

Target Group

EFS looks forward to welcoming experienced indirect tax specialists who want to discuss recent and future developments in customs and to network with peers from the following backgrounds:

- customs advisory services (senior managers, directors and partners)
- multinationals (senior customs managers and heads of customs)
- legal practice (associates and partners)
- judicial authorities (judges in customs at courts of first instance or higher/supreme courts)
- government bodies (senior policy advisors and heads)
- customs authorities (heads of customs)
- academia (PhD researchers and assistant, associate and full professors)

Group size

As the group will comprise a maximum of 25 participants, you can be assured of optimal and active participation.

Disclaimer

EFS reserves the right to change the policy, programme, fees and any other items referred to in this brochure.

Accreditation / Continuing professional development

The programme is accredited and you will therefore be eligible for continuing professional development ('Permanent Education') points in line with the rules applied by your own professional organisation. This programme comprises 16 hours of tax-related study, based on the professional development required by the Dutch Association of Tax Advisers. You can find more information about this on the EFS website and on the website of your professional organisation.

Certificate

All participants will receive a certificate of attendance issued by EFS, Erasmus University Rotterdam.



Contact / To apply

For more information, please contact:

Dr. Martijn Schippers

Programme Coordinator, Top-Level Seminar EU Customs Law

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