

Global TaxPro

Developing the next generation of globally minded tax leaders

1-year training program

·		
Dates & Timing	Modules	Timing
	 Kick-off Event and Intercultural Training (on-site, Munich) 	24-26 November 2025
	2. Peer coaching sessions (online)	December 2025 - April 2026
	3. From OECD to UN: Who will shape the next era of tax treaty standards? (online)	20 March 2026 - 1 p.m. CET
	4. International Tax Training (on-site, Lisbon)	7-8 May 2026
	5. Mini Secondment (optional)	May-December 2026

Target Group

> Tax professionals involved in international client work across WTS Global who are seeking exchange and networking.

Locations

Concept

- The Kick-off Event will take place in Munich, Germany (WTS offices).
- > The International Tax Training will take place in Lisbon, Portugal (Nova School of Business and Economics).

Fees

Full-board training program (incl. venue and meals), with generous partial sponsorship by WTS Global & WTS Germany. Participant fee: EUR 1950 (excl.: travel expenses and accommodation).

Registration

Please complete the online registration form by Friday, 31 October 2025 (COB).

As places are limited, participation is subject to validation by your firm and final confirmation by the WTS Global Academy. The selection aims to ensure balanced representation across countries and practices.

Certificate

A certificate of attendance from the WTS Global Academy will be awarded to participants upon request.

Cancellation policy

WTS Global will consider making use of its right to charge firms a cancellation fee of EUR 1950 in case of unjustified absences or short-notice cancellations.

Context of the Training

Global TaxPro is the new flagship training program of WTS Global, designed to accompany tax professionals as they take their first steps into the international dimension of their careers.

Originally developed by WTS Germany, the program is now being implemented across WTS Global, offering a shared learning experience to rising talents from multiple member firms, including WTS Germany.

To keep up in today's complex and fast-evolving tax environment, this program is designed to support participants in solidifying their technical foundation, expanding their cross-border perspective, and building strong connections across jurisdictions, laying the groundwork for their future as internationally active advisors.

Structured around two on-site modules (at the beginning and end of the journey) and complemented by virtual sessions, Global TaxPro provides a framework to grow, reflect, and step confidently onto the global tax stage.

The program also promotes international mobility, with short-term secondments arranged by member firms and supported through WTS Global connections.

Program Outline

Session 1: Kick-off Event and Intercultural Training | 24-26 Nov. 2025 (Munich)

> Monday, 24 November | Kick-off with Get-together and Fireside Chat

The kick-off event begins at lunchtime with a get-together. Following a warm welcome and an introduction to the program, participants will focus on getting to know each other and engaging in team-building activities. The first day concludes with a fireside chat and dinner with leaders from WTS Global and WTS Germany.

The kick-off and training sessions will be moderated by an external consultant specializing in intercultural collaboration.

> Tuesday, 25 November | Intercultural Training (Day 1)

The first training day covers essential topics related to cultural understanding and intercultural communication. Participants will explore foundational concepts of culture and various cultural models, including the six cultural dimensions defined by Geert Hofstede. The session will address common stereotypes and examine the image of their own culture abroad. Additionally, participants will engage in a simulation exercise to apply their learning in practical scenarios.

Wednesday, 26 November | Intercultural Training (Day 2)

The second training day will delve into key aspects of intercultural collaboration. Participants will learn to work with culture in their workplace and explore the cultural dimensions according to Edward T. Hall. The session will also cover additional intercultural nuances in professional collaboration. Through case studies and critical incident analysis, participants will gain practical insights.

Session 2: Peer Coaching - Learning from Each Other (online)

Global TaxPro includes two peer coaching sessions, designed to foster reflection, exchange of best practices, and stronger connections across participants.

Peer Coaching I - Collaborative session with peers (December 2025 - February 2026)

The first session is designed to foster a proactive mindset among participants. In small groups of 5 to 6, participants will engage in collegial case consultation, where current cases brought by the participants will be shared and discussed within the group. This collaborative approach allows participants to benefit from the experiences and insights of their peers, fostering a deeper understanding and practical solutions to real-world challenges.

The participants will be equipped with the skills needed at the kick-off to facilitate the session.

Peer Coaching II - Guided by a professional coach (March-April 2026)

The second session is guided by a professional team coach. This 3-hour online session builds on the first round and helps participants explore group dynamics, personal development, and international collaboration through a more structured coaching approach.

Together, both sessions help participants grow their leadership mindset, sharpen their communication skills, and build trusted peer relationships across borders.

Session 3: From OECD to UN: Who will shape the next era of tax treaty standards? | 20 March 2026 (online)

Séverine Lauratet, Partner at FIDAL, and **Francisco Cabral Matos,** Partner at VdA (Vieira de Almeida, Portugal), two leading voices in international tax law, will co-lead this session.

Together, they will offer a timely and insightful exploration of double taxation conventions, tailored not only for those new to the topic, but especially for seasoned tax professionals looking to revisit the fundamentals while gaining perspective on recent developments. Participants will revisit the core purpose of these treaties not only to avoid double taxation, but also to tackle tax evasion and abusive practices that undermine fairness.

A comparative look at the OECD and UN Model Conventions will shed light on their contrasting philosophies: the OECD model prioritizing the residence state's taxing rights, while the UN model seeks to strengthen the source state's ability to tax income, particularly in the context of services and capital gains.

Understanding how these models evolve is key. The most recent update, finalized in March 2025, marks a turning point: the UN Model has been repositioned as an inclusive global framework and introduces stronger taxing rights for source countries, new provisions on digital services, extractive industries, and a subject-to-tax rule, as well as mechanisms for dispute resolution.

A new round of OECD commentary updates is expected to be released soon.

Are we witnessing the early signs of a paradigm shift? Could we be moving away from the long-standing dominance of residence-based taxation and toward a broader acceptance of source-based taxation principles? This session will open the floor to that very question, one that could reshape the global tax treaty landscape as we know it.

Session 4: International Tax Training (NOVA SBE, Lisbon) | 7-8 May 2026

Wednesday, 6 May | Arrival & Welcome Dinner

Participants are expected to arrive in Lisbon in the evening. A welcome dinner will be held at the hotel, providing a first opportunity to connect with peers from across WTS Global in an informal setting.

> Thursday, 7 May | Treaty Fundamentals & Permanent Establishments in Practice

The day opens with a technical deep dive led by **Séverine Lauratet** (partner at FIDAL, France) and **Francisco Cabral Matos** (partner at VdA, Portugal) who will guide participants through the structure and key provisions of the OECD Model Tax Convention. This session will focus on foundational articles such as Article 1 (Persons Covered), Article 4 (Residence), Article 7 (Business Profits), Article 9 (Associated Enterprises), Article 24 (Non-Discrimination), and Article 25 (Mutual Agreement Procedure), while laying the groundwork for advanced discussion on Permanent Establishments (Article 5).

In the afternoon, **Tine Slaedts** (partner at Tiberghien, Belgium) and **Sandra Winter** (partner at WTS, Germany) will take participants through the complexities of Permanent Establishment taxation across different jurisdictions. Through practical case studies and best practices, this session will provide a hands-on understanding of how PE rules are applied in practice, with a focus on grey zones, interpretation trends, and dispute resolution.

Building on this foundation, participants will also explore the Transfer Pricing and VAT implications that inevitably arise once a Permanent Establishment has been identified. These perspectives are essential to ensure full tax compliance and strategic alignment across jurisdictions, especially in light of increasing scrutiny from tax authorities. The goal is to offer participants a 360° view of the operational and fiscal consequences of triggering a Permanent Establishment, bridging the gap between legal qualification and its practical tax impacts.

The day will conclude with a cultural highlight: a hands-on cooking class where participants prepare and enjoy their own dinner together in the heart of Lisbon.

> Friday, 8 May - Leading Across Borders

On the second day, the focus shifts to leadership development with an interactive course on "Emotional Intelligence Across Cultures: Driving Performance Through Collaborative Leadership", delivered by Professor Alexandra Barosa Pereira. This session is designed to help participants enhance their emotional intelligence, strengthen their intercultural communication, and lead more effectively in today's interconnected international tax landscape.

Optional: Mini-Secondment | May-Dec. 2026

To strengthen connections within the WTS Global network and contribute to business development efforts, participants have the exciting opportunity to take part in a Mini Secondment lasting 2 to 4 weeks. This enriching experience is entirely optional, offering flexibility to suit individual preferences. The involved firms will coordinate the arrangements and cover the associated costs, ensuring a seamless process. WTS Global is delighted to support participants by facilitating introductions and helping them make the most of this valuable opportunity.

We look forward to your registration!

WTS Global Academy