

Complimentary Seminar

Fighting Financial Crime: What role should EU policy-makers play?

Tuesday 21st January 2014 - 14.00 to 18.00
Room 6Q1 Jan, ASP Building, European Parliament, Brussels

Marietta Giannakou MEP, Head of the Greek EPP Delegation to the EP
In conjunction with:

DRAFT AGENDA

14.00-14.15 Introduction & Welcome

Marietta Giannakou, Member of the European Parliament and Head of the Greek EPP Delegation to the European Parliament & Vishal Marria, Senior Director, Fraud & Financial Crime, SAS

14.15-14.30 Opening keynote speech

Jonathan Taylor, Vice-President of the European Investment Bank (EIB)

14.30-15.30 First session: Fighting Money Laundering

Money laundering is a form of financial crime whereby money coming from illegal or unethical sources is made to look like it was earned legitimately. The threats associated with money laundering and terrorist financing are constantly evolving. With this view, the EU is currently reviewing its Anti-Money Laundering legislation to reinforce the vigilance by banks, lawyers, accountants and other professionals with clearer rules and a more targeted risk-based approach. This session will give an overview of the current status of anti-money laundering rules and practices and will discuss how the fight against money laundering is progressing at government and industry level.

- *Marietta Giannakou, Member of the European Parliament and Head of the Greek EPP Delegation to the European Parliament*
- *Prof. Christos Gortsos, Secretary General of the Hellenic Bank Association*

15.30-16.00 Coffee break

16.00-16.15 Remarks on the importance of fighting fraud from a European perspective

Giovanni Kessler, Director-General of the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF)

16.15-17.45 Second session: Fighting Tax Fraud

As governments struggle to reduce their budget deficits, preventing fraud and evasion has the potential to put billions back into the public purse. It is estimated that around one trillion euro is lost to tax evasion and tax avoidance in the EU every year. Tax authorities around Europe are continuing to make progress, although the complexity of the nature of tax fraud is making it difficult to adopt a systematic approach to detect, prevent and manage tax fraud. The EU has elevated the fight against tax fraud and tax evasion to one of its top policy priorities.

This session will discuss what measures EU governments and industry are currently trying to implement in order to fight tax fraud and will explore how current and future rules and practices can become more effective.

- **Jérôme Bryssinck**, *Director of Government Fraud Solutions, EMEA & AP*
- **Harry Theoharis**, *Secretary General for Public Revenue, Ministry of Finance, Greece*
- **Yannic Hulot**, *Director, Special Tax Inspectorate, Belgium*

17.45-18.00 Conclusions

Marietta Giannakou, *Member of the European Parliament and Head of the Greek EPP Delegation to the European Parliament*