

## Press Release PR 3/2018

### **Press Release: New CFE Executive Board appointed by the General Assembly in London**

CFE Tax Advisers Europe, the European umbrella association of tax institutes and chambers that represent tax advisers, elected a new Executive Board (2019-2020) at the General Assembly on 28 September 2018. The new Executive Board will take up their duties at 1 January 2019.

The General Assembly, the governing body of CFE Tax Advisers Europe, unanimously re-elected **Piergiorgio Valente** as **President** (Managing Partner, Valente Associati GEB Partners and Crowe Valente, and Professor at Link Campus University, Rome, Italy). **Martin Phelan** was elected **Secretary- General** (Partner Head of William Fry Tax Advisers, Ireland), replacing Andrew Clarke who will remain a delegate to the CFE from the Irish Tax Institute (ITI).

The General Assembly appointed two new **Vice-Presidents: Gary Ashford**, Partner Harbottle & Lewis, Council Member of the Chartered Institute of Taxation, United Kingdom and **Anna Misiak**, Head of Tax Practice and Advisory, Board Member of the Chamber of Tax Advisers, Poland. **Petra Pospíšilová** was re-elected as **Vice-President** (President of the Chamber of Tax Advisers of the Czech Republic), whilst **Bruno Gouthière**, Partner CMS Francis Lefebvre and member of Institut des Avocats Conseils Fiscaux, France was elected **Executive Board Member**.

The General Assembly re-appointed **Stella Raventós-Calvo** as **Chair of the Fiscal Committee** (Partner Danbury Abogados, Spain), **Wim Gohres** as **Chair of the Professional Affairs Committee** (Director PricewaterhouseCoopers, NOB - Dutch Association of Tax Advisers, The Netherlands) and **Branislav Kováč** as **Treasurer** (Partner VGD SLOVAKIA, s.r.o., Vice-President Slovak Chamber of Tax Advisers, Slovakia). **Ian Hayes**, Council Member of the Chartered Institute of Taxation (CIOT, United Kingdom) was appointed **Chair** of the newly established **Tax Technology Committee**.

Commenting, CFE President Piergiorgio Valente said:

*“We are delighted with the election of the new Executive Board. The policy priorities of the new Board remain closely related to our vision of drawing EU Member states’ attention to taxpayers’ rights and advancing the rights of tax advisers throughout our Member organisations.*

*We must however never lose sight of the bigger picture: today's economy poses multi-sided opportunities and challenges, brought by innovation as a crucial element of a sustainable growth. Digitalisation must be utilised in a way that serves people: facilitating taxpayer and tax administration relations, enhancing tax compliance whilst cutting on the compliance burden. Equally, digitalisation introduces new ways of producing income: online multi-sided*

*platforms give rise to innovative solutions in the value chain which necessitates a fresh perspective. In absence of regulation, digitalisation entails risks too, like every other revolution in history. We are aware of the risks, and we need to manage them accordingly. The opportunities must nevertheless be utilised for the benefit of the many, not the few.*

*We at CFE Tax Advisers Europe stand ready to address the challenges facing our economies and the tax profession. CFE will make the most out of the new opportunities, for the benefit of our Members, working in close cooperation with our friends and partners at the European Union institutions, the OECD and more globally under the CFE-sponsored Global Tax Advisers Platform (GTAP)."*

#### **Notes for editors:**

[CFE Tax Advisers Europe](#) (formally *Confédération Fiscale Européenne*) is a Brussels-based umbrella association representing the European tax advisers. Founded in 1959, it brings together 30 national organisations from 24 European countries, representing more than 200,000 tax advisers. The General Assembly is the governing body of CFE Tax Advisers Europe, in which each member state is able to be represented by up to six delegates, and observer countries by up to two delegates. The primary responsibilities of the General Assembly are to decide on the acceptance of members and observers, to approve amendments to the governing statutes, to appoint the Executive Board, to adopt the business report of the Executive Board and to approve the accounts and budget for the CFE.

The Executive Board is responsible of the day to day work of CFE Tax Advisers Europe. The Board monitors developments in taxation law and the profession within Europe, and manages CFE's work streams arising from these issues. Work is managed through three committees, the Fiscal Committee, the Professional Affairs Committee and the Tax Technology Committee which are chaired by a member of the Board. Delegates from each of the two committees also form various working groups and subcommittees focussed on specific or time sensitive issues that necessitate specialist input.

GTAP was established by CFE, AOTCA and WAUTI, who collectively represent more than 600,000 tax advisers in Europe, Asia and Africa. [GTAP](#) is an international platform that seeks to bring together national and international organisations of tax professionals from all around the world. GTAP's fundamental principle is that taxpayers' and tax advisers' interests are better pursued and served within a fair and efficient global taxation framework.