

List of speakers

Dr Hans-Peter Bauer, Member of the Board, Basel Institute on Governance; former Chairman Wolfsberg Group, Switzerland

Prof Paolo Bernasconi, Peter, Bernasconi & Partner, Studio Legal e Notarile, Lugano, Switzerland

Laviero Buono, Head of Section for European Public and Criminal Law, Academy of European Law, Trier, Germany

Paulo Casaca, European Parliament, Committee on Budgetary Control of the European Parliament, Brussels, Belgium

Joachim Eckert, Presiding Judge, Penal Court No. 1, Munich, Germany

Gretta Fenner, Director, Basel Institute on Governance, Basel, Switzerland

Prof Sabine Gless, Law Faculty, University of Basel, Switzerland

Carlo van Heuckelom, Head of the Financial Crime Unit, Europol, The Hague, Netherlands

Dr Wolfgang Heusel, Director, Academy of European Law, Trier, Germany

Jürg Hunziker, Specialist for Mutual Legal and Administrative Assistance, Directorate General of Customs, Swiss Federal Customs Administration, Bern, Switzerland

Hermann Kästli, Vice-Director, Head of the Legal Affairs and Duties Division, Directorate General of Customs, Swiss Federal Customs Administration, Bern, Switzerland

Lothar Kuhl, Head of Unit D.2., OLAF, European Commission, Brussels, Belgium

Dr Juliette Lelieur, Association for European Criminal research, France

Dr Martin Maurer, Secretary General, Association of Foreign Banks in Switzerland

Stefan Obermaier, Investigator, Unit A.4., foreign aid, OLAF, European Commission, Brussels, Belgium

Prof Mark Pieth, President, Basel Institute on Governance, Basel, Switzerland

Dr Renate Schwob, Member of the Executive Board, Swissbanking, Basel, Switzerland

Prof Dr Joachim Vogel, Faculty of Law, University of Tübingen; Judge, Oberlandesgericht, Tübingen, Germany

Rudolf Wyss, Vice-Director of the Swiss Federal Office of Justice, Bern, Switzerland

Contents

The protection of its financial interests is of central concern to the European Union, and important institutional and legal measures have been taken in this respect. The European Anti-Fraud Office OLAF, the European Parliament's Committee on Budgetary Control or Europol are important institutions in this regard, to name but a few of the major players. The relationship between the European Union and Switzerland is a key issue in this context, as Switzerland is both a potential risk and a critical partner to the European Union's efforts to protect its financial interests. On the one hand, problems may result from Switzerland's role as one of the world's major financial centres and a transit country for enormous amounts of money. On the other hand, the European Union and Switzerland are important trade partners and thus have an interest in cooperating closely in all matters relevant to their respective economies.

Consequently, the protection of the financial interests of both partners is at the heart of the bilateral agreements between the European Union and Switzerland. Notably, the bilateral agreement on combating fraud aims for more intensive cooperation, including the provision of administrative and legal mutual assistance, in the prosecution of offences in the areas of smuggling and indirect taxes (customs duty, VAT, consumer tax), subsidies and procurement. In addition to the fraud agreement, the joint declaration on money laundering is of interest, as it clarifies that Art 2, section 3 of the agreement also encompasses tax fraud and professional smuggling according to Swiss law. Bilateral agreements on the participation of Switzerland in the Schengen and Dublin agreements are the latest accomplishments with regard to these cooperation treaties.

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PROTECTION OF EU AND SWISS FINANCIAL INTERESTS: CHALLENGES FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT AND THE FINANCIAL INDUSTRY

Organisers:

Laviero Buono, ERA, and
Basel Institute on Governance

Languages:

English, French, German
(simultaneous interpretation)

Event number:

307DV83

Basel, 10-11 December 2007

Hotel Hilton, Aeschengraben 31, Basel, Switzerland

Monday, 10 December 2007

08:30 Registration, Coffee and Pastries

09:00 **Keynote Address and Opening Panel**
Chairs and Welcoming Remarks
Mark Pieth
Wolfgang Heusel

Keynote speech
Paulo Casaca

Panel
Rudolf Wyss
Lothar Kuhl
Renate Schwob

11:00 Coffee Break

11:30 **The System of Protecting the Financial Interests of the European Union**
Joachim Vogel
Lothar Kuhl
Joachim Eckert
Chair: Juliette Lelieur

13:00 Lunch

14:00 **Involving Switzerland: Treaties and Institutional Cooperation**
Sabine Gless
Rudolf Wyss
Carlo van Heuckelom
Chair: Gretta Fenner

15:30 Coffee Break

16:00 **Cooperation in Practical Terms - How Can Switzerland Contribute?**
Paolo Bernasconi
Lothar Kuhl
Hermann Kästli
Chair: Sabine Gless

17:45 End of the First Conference Day

19:00 Dinner

Tuesday, 11 December 2007

08:30 Coffee and Pastries

09:00 **Case Studies:**
Case Presenters:
Stefan Obermaier
Jürg Hunziker

10:30 Coffee Break

10:45 **Report from Workshops**
Chair: Laviero Buono

11:15 **Consequences and Challenges for Financial Institutions**
Martin Maurer
Hans-Peter Bauer
Chair: Gretta Fenner

12:30 Lunch

13:30 **Panel Discussion on Key Outcomes of the Conference**
Lothar Kuhl
Hermann Kästli
Hans-Peter Bauer
Chairs: M. Pieth, W. Heusel

15:00 **Closing and Outlook:**
Mark Pieth
Wolfgang Heusel

15:30 End of the Conference

Programme may be subject to amendment

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