



## WORLD TAX SUMMIT

October 13 to 15

**COVID-19 has plunged the world economy into an unprecedented deadlock.  
Some solutions could emerge from discussions between prominent tax experts**

Montreal, September 16, 2020 – At a time when the need for efficient and fair taxation has never been so pressing, TaxCOOP2020 is providing an opportunity to debate new ideas in the pandemic and post-pandemic period. The aim is to encourage international tax cooperation and demonstrate that, to succeed in modernizing our tax regimes, discussions can no longer take place behind closed doors. From now on, they must be public and worldwide. The World Tax Summit-TaxCOOP2020 will be held online October 13 to 15, Montreal time (EDT).

TaxCOOP2020 will feature some 100 conference speakers, including Pascal Saint-Amans (Director, Center for Tax Policy and Administration, OECD), Vítor Gaspar (Director of Tax Affairs, IMF), Navid Hanif (Director of Financing, Sustainable Development Office, UN), Mariana Mazzucato (Professor at UCL, named among the 50 most influential people of 2020 by *GQ* magazine), Joshua Bengio (Professor, Department of Computer Science and Operational Research, *Université de Montréal*; ACM AM Turing Prize 2019, expert in Artificial Intelligence), Nina Olson (Executive Director, Center for Taxpayer Rights, U.S.A.), Arthur Laffer (economist and adviser to presidents Reagan and Trump, creator of the “Laffer curve”), Vito Tanzi (Director, Dept. of Public Finances, IMF – 1981-2000, creator of the “Tanzi effect” – 1977), Jeffrey Owens (Director, Center for Tax Policy and Administration, OECD – 2000-2012, Director, WU Global Tax Policy Center, Vienna, since 2012) and Québec Finance Minister Éric Girard, who will speak during the morning session on October 14, which is being organized by the tax administrations, Canada Revenue Agency and Revenue Québec.

Registration on the [taxcoop.org](https://taxcoop.org) site, the first 2000 ones are free, the following are at 5 \$ CAD.

Highlights of the conference will include the opening session with Mariana Mazzucato, Arthur Laffer and Vito Tanzi, all major actors of the period who will discuss taxation in times of crisis.

Still on October 13, a major debate will pit popular libertarian economists Dan Mitchell and Véronique de Rugy against the presidents of Patriotic Millionaires, Erica Payne and Morris Pearl, around this crucial question in times of crisis: should we tax the rich more ?

In the afternoon session, Joshua Bengio (AI specialist, professor at the *Université de Montréal*) and Xavier Oberson (tax expert, professor at the University of Geneva) will examine taxation of new types of taxpayers – artificial intelligence and robots – and analyze the issue at the global level. The 35 young people aged 35 and under selected by TaxCOOP as leaders of the future in taxation, will then start a brainstorming session.

On the evening of October 13, a citizen’s gathering will bring together leaders from Canadian and international organizations who might be styled tax justice experts.

On the morning of October 14, tax administrations will guide sessions concerned with solutions and the future. In the afternoon, TaxCOOP is proposing an unusual initiative by bringing together

major leaders and thinkers from African nations whose constitutions refer to a fair share of tax, in order to identify how this could be used to prevent and counter aggressive tax avoidance.

To close the conference, in the evening TaxCOOP will present a premiere by showing the documentary, *Fast & Dangerous: A Tax Race to the Bottom*. The trailer can be seen here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qgxyOSQa0Ss>

After having started in in Montreal in 2015, TaxCOOP conferences have been presented at the World Bank in 2016, the UN in Geneva in 2017, the OECD in Paris in 2018, and in Madrid in December 2019 as part of COP25. Strengthened by all these events, this year's conference has secured an exceptional participation. We are proud to be welcoming to Canada (virtually), conference speakers recognized around the world.

TaxCOOP2020 World Tax Summit promises to be a unique event in the taxation field, where the boundaries between the virtual and the real will be fluid and offer both spectators and speakers a unique occasion to contribute to the advancement of taxation on a global scale.

As part of this World Tax Summit broadcast from Montreal, the morning of October 16 will be specially dedicated to the Québec perspective and its leadership in tax matters. Québec's reaction to the challenges related to the pandemic, the globalization of markets and the issue of electronic commerce will be discussed, as well as tax havens, a "Netflix tax" and taxation of the GAFAM.

TaxCOOP2020 acknowledges the support and contribution of its partners, Revenue Québec, Canada Revenue Agency, the *Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec*, and the Association of Professional Chartered Accountants of Québec.

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#### **About TaxCOOP**

TaxCOOP aims to foster broad collaboration and a profound reflection, which is essential to the establishment of an effective and equitable tax system, if we are to meet the great challenges facing our world. TaxCOOP has rapidly advanced as a major international tax event and is included in the Global Tax50 ranking of *International Tax Review*, which lists the 50 most influential people and organizations in the tax field, worldwide.

[taxcoop.org](http://taxcoop.org)

[#taxcoop2020](https://twitter.com/taxcoop2020)

#### **Information and interviews:**

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