

Francesco Cannas, PhD

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PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

International tax lawyer and academic with over 10 years of experience in EU and cross-border taxation, VAT and the digital economy. Combines legal expertise with advisory work for international clients and institutions. Has taught and supervised at graduate and doctoral level across Europe and Asia. Focused on indirect taxes, compliance frameworks and comparative tax law.

CORE EXPERTISE

International & EU Tax Law • VAT & Indirect Taxes • Cross-Border Transactions • Digital Economy & Crypto Taxation • Tax Compliance & Risk Management • Taxpayer Rights & Disputes • Comparative Tax Law • Executive Training

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Alfaisal University (Saudi Arabia) – Assistant Professor, Taxation | 2025–present

University of Turin (Italy) — Assistant Professor, Tax Law | 2023–2025

Monash University Malaysia — Senior Lecturer & Chief Examiner | 2021–2023

University of Hasselt (Belgium) — Postdoctoral Researcher | 2019–2022

Earlier appointments: Adjunct Professor, University of Eastern Piedmont • Adjunct Professor, University of Milan • Visiting Researcher, National University of Singapore • Visiting Researcher, Singapore Management University

LEGAL & ADVISORY EXPERIENCE

- Tax advisory for European and international clients (cross-border structuring, VAT, compliance and regulatory matters)
- Contributor to technical studies commissioned by European institutions on EU tax law
- Member of international working groups on cooperative compliance and tax certainty
- Regular lecturer for professional training programs for lawyers and chartered accountants

DOCTORAL SUPERVISION & ADVANCED TEACHING

- Member, PhD Advisory Committee – Hasselt University & Ghent University (Belgium)
- Instructor, doctoral course “Philosophy of Research,” PhD in Business – Monash University
- Supervisor of graduate and postgraduate dissertations in international tax law

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- EU VAT Categories and the Digital Economy (monograph), 2022
- VAT Treatment of Crypto Art and NFTs – Intertax, 2024
- Taxpayer’s Right of Defence in the International Context – World Tax Journal
- Additional articles in EC Tax Review, European Taxation, International VAT Monitor

EDUCATION

- PhD, International Business Taxation – Vienna University of Economics and Business (WU)
- LL.M., International Tax Law – Vienna University of Economics and Business (WU)
- Master in Corporate Tax Law – Bocconi University
- M.A. in Law – University of Turin

PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

- Admitted to the Italian Bar (Attorney-at-Law)
- Spanish Chartered Accountant (Economista Colegiado)

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- Editorial Committee Member – Rivista di Diritto Tributario Internazionale; Diritto e pratica tributaria internazionale; Rassegna tributaria attualita’