

The Origins of Global Tax Principles: A Review

Vikas Pandey*

Abstract

The global economy of the twenty-first century is fully integrated marketing in addition to being more complex and dynamic. Due to the quick flow of resources from one nation to another—no country has enough resources to generate all the commodities and services it needs—national economies have gotten closer and are now almost borderless. Both commodities and services are transported across borders at the same time. To say that we live in a "global village" is not an exaggeration. The ideas of cross-border business, multinational corporations (MNCs), and non-residents have grown in acceptance and practical utility. Since there are significant effects on both taxations directly and indirectly from this free flow of commodities, services, and capital, the term "Global Taxes" has become popular. Public international law includes international taxation in its scope. The phrase "International Taxation" is not a well-defined notion. To define the phrase, nevertheless, there have been attempts. International taxation, according to Kevin Holmes, is "the set of legislative provisions of various countries that handles the tax elements of cross-border transactions." Both direct and indirect taxes are addressed. It is, thus, a collection of information relevant to the international elements of tax legislation and international tax treaties.

Keywords: Global Taxes, multinational corporations, economy, tax arbitrage

INTRODUCTION

International taxation has a long and complex history, stretching back over several centuries. From its origins in the early days of trade and commerce, the principles and practices of global taxation have evolved significantly to keep pace with the changing needs of economies and societies. In this article, we will examine the origins of global tax principles, exploring how they have developed over time and what they mean for businesses and individuals operating in today's interconnected world. The story of international taxation begins with the earliest forms of cross-border trade and commerce, when merchants and traders sought to minimize the taxes, they paid in multiple jurisdictions. Over time, these efforts led to the development of international tax treaties, which established basic principles for the taxation of cross-border transactions [1–3].

Today, global tax principles continue to evolve, reflecting the changing nature of international business and the growing importance of tax issues in the global economy. Understanding the origins and evolution of these principles is essential for businesses and individuals operating in the global marketplace, as it helps to provide a context for the complex issues and challenges that they face. Global borders have recently become invisible for economic reasons due to the advancement and convergence of the international economy. As globalization and liberalization progress, there are more cross-border economic transactions that span several different countries. The planet has

*Author for Correspondence

Vikas Pandey
E-mail: vikaspandey40@gmail.com

Finance Analyst, Certified Management Accountant, CMA
BHAWAN, Lodi Colony, New Delhi, India

Received Date: February 05, 2023
Accepted Date: March 02, 2023
Published Date: May 05, 2023

Citation: Vikas Pandey. The Origins of Global Tax Principles: A Review. Journal of Taxation and Regulatory Framework. 2021; 4(2): 21–25p.

interconnected communities. Since there is more international integration, earning potential is not limited by national borders and there are options to earn money abroad. Due to the fact that money made in foreign states is taxed both in the resident state and the foreign state, there are complications with international taxes.

The taxing jurisdictions of two countries are engaged in the field of international tax. Every state is free to impose taxes on its citizens because taxes are a matter of sovereign sovereignty. However, conflicts can develop when two states impose taxes on the same asset or person. The issue arises when the same taxpayer is "imposed similar taxes in more than one state with respect to a similar subject material and for identical periods." Consequently, international dual taxation happens when the tax office of two or more nations apply taxes that share the same basis and frequency at the same time in a way that results in a person paying more in taxes than they anticipated (Figure 1). The tax authorities will typically want to tax all revenue sources and gains regardless of whether a person is a resident or not, and this is done on a source-based basis. A country will typically reserve the ability to tax its inhabitants on their worldwide income. According to the source principle, a nation reserves the right to tax both domestically generated income and gains from non-residents as well as the global revenue and gains of its tax citizens [4].



Figure 1. International taxation.

FINANCIAL DOUBLE TAXATION

When two individuals are taxed twice on the same income and assets, economic double taxation occurs.

Countries sign double taxation agreements with other nations based on the OECD model in order to prevent this double taxation. Most industrialized economies use the OECD model to prevent double taxation, while most poor countries—including India—follow the UN model, which is largely based on the OECD model. One of the key differences is the definition of permanent establishment. The Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development is an international organization that plays a very important role. Through a tie-breaking provision, tax treaties prevent double taxation. However, there are instances where persons and corporations are tax residents in more than one jurisdiction, in which case the taxation agreements between the two countries determine the taxing right [4].

According to the OECD model, the resident state will grant tax relief for the tax that was spent in the country of source in exchange for the source country's right to tax earnings from the presence of the PE [5, 6].

The 30 countries that make up the OECD are among the richest and most developed in the world; as a result, they have recently witnessed an erosion of their tax bases due to the proliferation of tax havens as well as the formation and growth of domestic enterprises abroad.

The industrialized countries have attempted to safeguard their tax bases by passing various anti-avoidance laws. The Controlled Foreign Companies system, transfer pricing, and thin capitalization are the three anti-avoidance methods employed by the tax authority of these nations most frequently (Figure 2). The OECD has acknowledged these measures and included them in the model, indicating that they are in accordance with fundamental international tax norms.

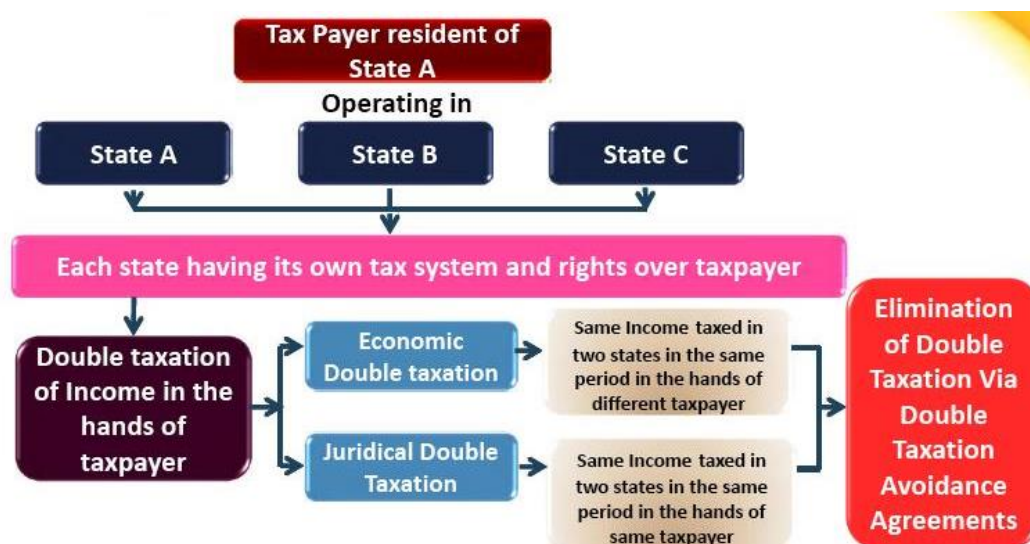


Figure 2. Basic concept of international taxation.

Slender Capitalization

An foreign investment can be financed with stock, internal or external debt, and the latter two may require a group guarantee from the lender, making the process complicated. Dividends are not tax deductible, although interest is, thus this is significant. Thin capitalization laws really address excessive debt by limiting the amount of debt that is subject to interest deductions, which helps tax authorities safeguard their revenue base in relation to inward investment. In order to receive tax benefits and ensure that the capital of the firm is very small or thin, thin capitalization is a process where money is injected into a company in the form of loans rather than shares. Since loan interest is typically deductible for determining taxable profits, companies that have a bigger debt component in their capital structure might reduce their tax obligations. This is demonstrated by an extraordinarily high debt-to-equity ratio [4, 5]. In contrast, dividends are not tax deductible. A portion or all of the interest will be prohibited as a cost or, depending on the provisions of the relevant country's domestic legislation, more commonly recognized as dividends, if the company's debt or equity ratios surpass a specified norm [7].

International Business Under Control

The main principle of international tax is that a subsidiary's profits are exempt from taxation in the jurisdiction of the parent until and until they are distributed to the parent as dividends. By offering a different method of taxing at the level of the parent business, controlled foreign company laws assist tax authorities in protecting their revenue base in regard to outward investment. In a setting where all group transactions are conducted at arm's length, CFC (Controlled Foreign Company) rules are in effect.

As international business becomes increasingly complex, it is critical for companies to have a strong understanding of the risks and opportunities that come with operating in a global marketplace. With governments around the world implementing greater controls and regulations, it is essential for companies to be proactive in managing these challenges while taking advantage of the many benefits that international business offers. This article will explore the strategies and approaches that companies can use to successfully navigate the ever-evolving landscape of international business [7].

Combining Tax Arbitrage with Hybrid Conflict

Exploring the Intersection of Tax Arbitrage and Hybrid Conflict: The Benefits and Risks of Utilizing Both Strategies" the practice of tax arbitrage or exploiting differences in tax laws across jurisdictions to minimize tax liability, has been a popular strategy for corporations and individuals for decades. However, the rise of hybrid conflict, which involves a combination of conventional military tactics and non-military means such as cyberattacks, has introduced new risks to the practice. In this article, we will examine the intersection of tax arbitrage and hybrid conflict, exploring the benefits and risks of utilizing both strategies [8–10].

On one hand, tax arbitrage can provide significant financial benefits, allowing corporations and individuals to lower their tax liability and increase profits. On the other hand, hybrid conflict has the potential to disrupt tax arbitrage strategies, as governments respond to cyberattacks by increasing their control over cross-border transactions and financial flows.

This creates a complex landscape, in which corporations and individuals must weigh the benefits of tax arbitrage against the risks posed by hybrid conflict. To succeed, they must have a deep understanding of both tax laws and the evolving threat landscape and be able to adapt quickly to changing circumstances.

The intersection of tax arbitrage and hybrid conflict presents both opportunities and challenges for corporations and individuals. By carefully considering both strategies, and seeking expert advice where necessary, it is possible to maximize the benefits of tax arbitrage while minimizing the risks posed by hybrid conflict.

India's Evolving Role in the Global Tax Landscape

India has emerged as a major player in the global economy in recent years, with its growing influence in international business and finance. As a result, the country is becoming increasingly important in the world of international taxation, with a range of challenges and opportunities that must be carefully managed. This article will examine India's role in the global tax landscape, exploring the key issues and considerations that companies and individuals must address when operating in this complex and rapidly evolving environment.

From navigating complex tax laws and regulations, to managing cross-border transactions and financial flows, international taxation is a complex and challenging field. India's growing importance in the global economy means that these issues are becoming increasingly important for companies and individuals operating in the country.

However, despite these challenges, there are also many opportunities for companies and individuals to take advantage of the country's growing role in the global tax landscape. With its large and rapidly growing economy, India offers a wealth of opportunities for businesses and investors, and understanding the key issues and considerations in international taxation is essential for success in this dynamic and rapidly evolving environment.

CONCLUSION

The basic concepts of international taxation are essential for companies and individuals operating in a global marketplace. Understanding the key principles and practices of international taxation, including tax treaties, transfer pricing, and double taxation, is crucial for success in today's interconnected world. Companies and individuals must also be aware of the ever-evolving nature of the global tax landscape and be prepared to adapt to changes in tax laws, regulations, and practices as they occur.

Despite the challenges posed by international taxation, there are also many opportunities for companies and individuals to take advantage of the benefits of a global marketplace. From maximizing

tax efficiency to accessing new markets and customers, the rewards of operating in a global economy can be substantial. By having a solid understanding of the basic concepts of international taxation, companies and individuals can successfully navigate the challenges and opportunities of international business.

REFERENCES

1. Slemrod J. Tax principles in an international economy. *World Tax Reform: Case Studies of Developed and Developing Countries*. 1990:11-24.
2. Mazzoni G. Present at the Creation: Archival Research and Evidence on the Origins of the Single Tax Principle. *Intertax*. 2019 Oct 1;47(10).
3. Kotsogiannis C, Lopez-Garcia MA, Myles GD. The origin principle, tax harmonization and public goods. *Economics Letters*. 2005 May 1;87(2):211-9.
4. Radu ME. International double taxation. *Procedia-Social and Behavioral Sciences*. 2012 Oct 24;62:403-7.
5. Irish CR. International double taxation agreements and income taxation at source. *International & Comparative Law Quarterly*. 1974 Apr;23(2):292-316.
6. Raad KV. Nondiscrimination in international tax law. *Nondiscrimination in International Tax Law*. 1997:1-312.
7. Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). (2017). *Base Erosion and Profit Shifting (BEPS)*. Paris: OECD Publishing.
8. Guttentag, J. (2015). International taxation: U.S. tax policy and treaty negotiations. *Tax Law Review*, 68(1), 1-40.
9. Altshuler, A., & Grubert, H. (2017). *US Transfer Pricing: The basics and beyond*. Oxford University Press.
10. Köhler, M. (2015). The principle of taxation in international double tax treaties. In *International Taxation and Multinational Activity* (pp. 11-33). Springer.