

**CFRED's 10<sup>th</sup> Tax Law Seminar:**

**VAT/GST SYSTEMS IN THE GLOBAL ECONOMY**

by

**Prof. Satoshi Watanabe**

*Professor of Economics  
Hitotsubashi University, Japan*

Chaired by: **Prof. Yan Xu**, *Faculty of Law, CUHK*

**20 February 2017, Monday, 12:30 – 1:30p.m.**

*The CUHK Graduate Law Centre, 2/F Bank of America Tower, 12 Harcourt Road, Central*

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VAT/GST is the most common form of domestic consumption tax that has been adopted in many countries throughout the world. Hong Kong has not yet had a VAT or GST.

In this seminar, Professor Satoshi Watanabe will review the nature and the basic mechanisms of the VAT/GST system, with a focus on the role of registration and tax invoice in tax administration. Professor Watanabe will also discuss the difficulties in applying the VAT/GST system to cross-border transactions and recent policy developments on this issue in the world, including the OECD Guidelines on VAT/GST and the “reverse charge” mechanism on imports of digitalised products recently adopted by many countries. Professor Watanabe will emphasise the importance of strengthening cooperation between tax authorities of countries in coping with the difficulties brought about by the globalisation.

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**ABOUT THE SPEAKER:**

**Professor Satoshi Watanabe** is a Professor of Economics, Hitotsubashi University, Japan. He graduated from the University of Tokyo in 1980 and received his Ph.D. in economics from Princeton University in 1985. He has over 20 years working experience on tax and international finance policy at the Ministry of Finance, Japan. He also worked as an economist of IMF and served as the vice chair of Working Party 9, Committee on Fiscal Affairs, OECD from 1999 to 2001. He left the Ministry of Finance in 2002, and joined the Faculty of Economics of Hitotsubashi University in 2005. He was the Dean of School of International and Public Policy of Hitotsubashi University from 2008 to 2010. His research interest includes tax policy and tax laws. He has extensive publications in the area of taxation.

**All are welcome!**  
**Admission is free of charge!**

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