

EMTA WEBINAR: Will There Be a Deal With Venezuela?

March 24, 2022

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### **RAMIRO BLAZQUEZ (MODERATOR)** **BancTrust**

Ramiro Blazquez is currently Head of Research & Strategy at BancTrust & Co. He holds an MSc in Financial Engineering from Birkbeck College, The University of London, and an MA in Economics from Universidad Torcuato Di Tella (Argentina). In addition, he pursued graduate studies in Finance at Universidad de San Andrés, where he also obtained his Economics degree.

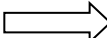
Prior to joining BancTrust, Ramiro was leading the research team at an Argentine brokerage house. In the previous ten years, he worked as Senior Latam Economist for HSBC Global Research, covering the major South American countries. He was also an economist at the IMF's Argentina office, Managing Director at Universidad Di Tella's Center for Financial Research (CIF) and adviser for the Presidential office during Fernando De la Rúa's term.

Ramiro has taught several courses at Universidad Torcuato Di Tella, both at graduate and undergraduate levels. He is a former Chevening Scholar, a fellowship granted by the United Kingdom's Foreign Commonwealth Office.

### **FULVIO ITALIANI** **D'EMPAIRE**

Fulvio Italiani is considered the leading corporate, M&A and finance lawyer in Venezuela. He has participated in most of the significant restructuring, acquisition, financing and oil and gas transactions taking place in Venezuela in the last years. Fulvio Italiani has been consistently ranked as a star individual for M&A/Corporate and top ranked (tier 1) for Banking/Finance by *Chambers Latin America* and top ranked (tier 1) for M&A/Corporate and Banking/Finance by *The Legal500*.

Fulvio was honored with the "Outstanding Contribution to the Legal Profession" award at the 2013 Chambers Latin America Awards for Excellence. According to *Chambers & Partners*, Fulvio Italiani was selected for the prestigious award in recognition of "his business skills and legal expertise which have been of great benefit to national and multinational companies investing in the challenging economic climate of Venezuela." *Chambers & Partners* also mentioned that Fulvio "handles some of the largest financing and M&A deals in the country" and "is particularly celebrated for his dedication to his clients and his ability to find creative solutions to the most challenging problems." Fulvio has also been named on of "Latin America's Top 50 Legal Stars" by *Latin Business Chronicle*.

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Fulvio Italiani is a partner in D'Empaire, a premier Venezuelan law firm. Before becoming a partner at D'Empaire, Fulvio Italiani worked as an associate at the New York office of Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP from 1993 to 1996. He studied law at Universidad Católica Andrés Bello, Caracas (J.D. summa cum laude, 1990). He is fluent in Spanish, English and Italian.

**RISA GRAIS-TARGOW**  
**Eurasia Group**

Risa Grais-Targow leads Eurasia Group's coverage of Venezuela, Ecuador, Central America, and the Caribbean. In this capacity, she helps clients to understand riskier markets that are often characterized by opaque institutions and volatile politics. She worked closely with clients to help them navigate the post-Chavez era in Venezuela, including the prospect for meaningful economic reform and the government's commitment to servicing its debt amid rising liquidity constraints.

Risa, who holds a master's degree in international economics and Latin American studies from Johns Hopkins' School of Advanced International Studies, previously covered Latin America for the US Department of Treasury, Alcoa Inc., the Albright Stonebridge Group, the Institute of International Finance, and Dow Jones Newswires. She earned her bachelor's degree in political science and Latin American studies from Bard College.

**HANS HUMES**  
**Greylock Capital Management**

Mr. Humes is Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Greylock Capital Management.

He is a member of the Institute of International Finance's (IIF) Principles Consultative Group (PCG) for the Principles for Stable Capital Flows and Fair Debt Restructuring in Emerging Markets, Market Monitoring Committee and the Working Group on Reconciliation of Past Due Sovereign Debt.

**THOMAS WYAT LARYEA**  
**Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe**

Thomas Laryea is a recognized international law and policy expert, with a specialty in sovereign debt restructuring.

He formerly worked at the International Monetary Fund, where he was responsible for advising on the IMF's legal relations in finance and economic surveillance with each of its member countries. At the IMF, he advised on sovereign debt restructuring and debt relief cases, including Argentina, Greece, Grenada, Jamaica, Iraq, Liberia, Seychelles. Subsequently, he has continued to advise on the most high profile sovereign debt restructuring matters, including Argentina, Belize, Mozambique, Suriname, Sudan, Ukraine and Venezuela.

He holds a doctorate law degree from the University of Pennsylvania Law School. He is admitted to practice law in Washington DC, New York and England & Wales.