

The IMF Resident Representative in Ukraine Mr. Priscilla Toffano Delivered a Lecture for Tax University Students in Irpyn

At the State Tax University in Irpyn near Kyiv, a guest lecture was held by Priscilla Toffano, an international expert in finance and economics who has been working at the International Monetary Fund (IMF) since 2013.

The event attracted high interest among the student youth, who attended the meeting to personally interact and discuss current economic policy issues with an IMF specialist.

The guest began her speech with a historical overview, introducing the audience to the founding of the IMF as the institutional basis of the modern global monetary system and its operational policies.

During the lecture, Priscilla Toffano addressed important topics, including:

- Current issues of fiscal policy in Ukraine and positive changes that have occurred in the country in recent years.
- Ensuring adequate revenues to finance state needs.
- Minimizing fiscal risks.
- Aligning fiscal practices with EU standards.

Throughout the lecture, the expert emphasized progress in several important areas, including:

- Effective management of public investments.
- Modernization of tax authorities: implementing functional organization, creating a unified legal department and a fiscal risk management department, improving audits, and digitalization.
- Optimization of tax policy: quantitative assessment and streamlining of tax benefits, expanding the tax base, and clear delineation of responsibilities between the Ministry of Finance and the State Tax Service.

During the conversation, students actively asked questions and participated in discussions.

The youth were interested in the speaker's opinion on globalization processes and issues related to Ukraine's financing. Students asked about the sources of repayment of international credit obligations by our country, including through the aggressor, and how to minimize corruption risks. Ms. Toffano noted that the youth, especially those sitting in this elegant auditorium, are crucial for changing the situation for the better: "Either you contribute and make efforts to change the status quo, or you remain in it."

Regarding financing issues, Ms. Toffano noted the uniqueness of the assistance provided by an international financial organization to a state at war. This was made possible largely due to Ukraine's convincing and positive image in the world.

At the end of the lecture, the university head, Dmytro Serebriansky, thanked Ms. Toffano for her visit, the time spent, and the knowledge she generously shared with the students.

It is worth noting that the IMF Representative's visit, initiated by her, began with a tour of Irpin and Bucha, places with a tragic history and numerous civilian casualties. Additionally, the guests inspected the destroyed infrastructure of the educational institution, including the Central Building. Sad memories were shared by university lecturer Anton Zverev, who was at the university during the occupation and faced the enemy directly.

The event was held with the support of the Ministry of Finance of Ukraine and with the participation of our alumni, First Deputy Minister of Finance of Ukraine, Denys Uliutin. He announced that new meetings are planned soon, which will give students the opportunity to interact with renowned practitioners, helping the youth to develop their potential, become stronger, and achieve high results.