

# Preface

This book is written for those affected by the operational and compliance impacts of regulatory frameworks whose purpose is the detection, deterrence and reporting of potential cross border tax evasion.

While most governments have been, for the most part, eager to enter into arrangements that facilitate getting their hands on information about their resident's foreign held assets, the burden of collecting all this information has fallen to the financial institutions of each jurisdiction. The existing frameworks of Know Your Customer (KYC) and Anti Money Laundering (AML) do not completely meet the requirements of GATCA frameworks. Equally, where KYC and AML can be relatively easily compartmentalised within financial institutions, GATCA frameworks create new touch points and new dependencies in and between many different functions in a typical bank, brokerage or other financial institution.

So, this book is written, not just for compliance or legal staff but, as we will amply demonstrate, it is of importance also for sales, relationship management, operations, IT, marketing, on-boarding, risk management and of course the board.

The reason this book has been written is very simple. The regulatory frameworks that comprise GATCA are extremely complex. Most firms do not have sufficient resources to understand those complexities, let alone operationalise any of them in an intelligent way. The object of the book is not to provide a detailed analysis of these regulations. There are others who can do a better job and who focus on the principles and tax theory. While we will give the reader enough background and context to understand each framework, we choose to focus more keenly on the practical implications.

In other words, our job is to understand the theory and complexities and translate them into something that the reader might find useful in their day to day work.

Typically this means that we will be describing the kinds of challenges that we see every day in the international financial services markets. We see what happens when complex regulations hit small or medium sized financial institutions with little or no knowledge, low levels of exposure to the given markets and cultural or linguistic differences - they make compliance problematic at best and totally lacking at worst.

We have said on a number of occasions—regulators don't write regulations based on the size of the firms they regulate, their capacity or their exposure. They are usually written as one size fits all with little or no recognition given to medium and small financial firms. So, the problem really is that one size just does not fit all.

Yateley, UK

Ross K. McGill  
Christopher A. Haye  
Stuart Lipo

G.A.T.C.A.

A Practical Guide to Global Anti-Tax Evasion Frameworks

K. McGill, R.; Haye, C.; Lipo, S.

2017, XIX, 291 p. 12 illus., Hardcover

ISBN: 978-3-319-61782-4