

# CATALIN TRIPON

J.D. (ONTARIO), LL.M. & S.J.D. (HUNGARY), B.C.L. (ROMANIA)

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## PROFILE SUMMARY

- Several years of multi-jurisdictional experience in tax/customs/trade law, corporate/commercial law, administrative/regulatory disputes.
- Litigation experience before Boards/Commissions/Tribunals, including CRA Chief of Appeals and the Canadian International Trade Tribunal.
- Certified Trade Compliance Specialist endorsed by the Canadian Society of Custom Brokers.
- Licensed in operating CAED export declaration system, and operational knowledge of EXCOL export permit system.

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

**Barrister and Solicitor**, Lex Tripon

April 2016 – Present

*Lex Tripon is my private business law practice located in Toronto, Canada.*

- Advocated before the Canada Revenue Agency in tax objections concerning Income Tax Notice of Assessment and TFSA contributions' deductions.
- Applied for cancelation and waiver of penalties and interest in connection to GST and payroll obligations, negotiated a payment schedule for the same, and advised clients in voluntary disclosure matters with a significantly high success rate.
- Advised clients in customs/trade issues concerning importation in Canada of luxury consumer goods, as well as carriage of goods by truck.
- Strategically advised corporate clients in matters regarding shareholders' buyout, private corporations' sales of shares, retraction from an Employee Share Ownership Plan in a private corporation, and director's remedies for oppression and fraudulent misrepresentation.
- Provided customised advice for incorporation of non-for-profit and business corporations, drafted shareholders agreements, amendments of corporate by-laws, and other corporate instruments.
- Drafted and/or reviewed meticulous commercial agreements, including, but not limited to: clinical study agreements, co-location agreements, franchising contracts, privacy and cookie policy.

**Counsel**, Ontario Racing Commission (ORC)

June 2014 – December 2015

*The ORC regulated the horse-racing sector in Ontario having its offices in Toronto, Canada. In January 2016 it became a division of the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario.*

- Advised the Ontario Racing Administration in corporate and contractual matters. This involved, inter alia, drafting Memoranda of Understanding, Government Subsidies Agreements, Legal Memoranda concerning Licensing or Mergers of Horsemen Associations, etc.
- Represented the Ontario Racing Administration as the Counsel for the Respondent before the Ontario Racing Commission over matters concerning licensing requirements and rules of racing.
- Created and initiated pleadings that were responsible for establishing the precedent that racetrack rulings were to be treated as Court Orders by the Registrar of the Ontario Superior Court.

**Student-At-Law**, Canadian International Trade Tribunal

November 2013 – September 2014

*The Canadian International Trade Tribunal (CITT) investigates and/or adjudicates cases having to do with federal government procurement, customs, antidumping, and excise matters, and is located in Ottawa, Canada.*

- Provided counsel to the Members of the CITT in appeals from determinations, re-determinations and advance rulings of the Canada Border Services Agency pertaining to tariff classifications of imported goods.
- Drafted legal memoranda regarding applications for inquiries filed by suppliers alleging violations of procurement rules under NAFTA, AIT, WTO and/or bilateral trade agreements. Prepared statements of reasons for decisions rendered following the inquiries. Two of the cases referred to the outcome of a public tender exceeding \$140 million.
- Completed detailed legal research on international trade law matters such as: developments in the parallelism principle applied to safeguard measures, a particular analysis on potential reference to the Federal Court, and the position of CITT's counsel in proceedings before CITT as opposed to other Federal administrative tribunals.

**Lawyer,** Vilau & Mitel SCA

January 2010 – June 2010

*Vilau & Mitel is a leading boutique business law firm located in Bucharest, Romania.*

- Crafted commercial due diligence reports, legal memoranda and various corporate legal documents resulting in increased business for our firm.
- Conducted legal research and composed planning reports to develop and implement cutting-edge practice areas in EU funded infrastructure construction projects.
- Composed in-depth and innovative research reports with respect to carbon dioxide market certificates that were recognized by the greater bar.

**Lawyer / Legal Advisor,** Babiuc, Sulica & Associates

March 2003 – March 2006

*Babiuc, Sulica & Associates is a well-regarded firm in Bucharest, Romania. Before passing the bar, I was privileged to work there as a Legal Advisor.*

- Negotiated and prepared effective transnational commercial agreements by exercising a win/win approach.
- Excelled at Solicitor's work such as drafting of Legal Memoranda, preparing and submitting annual corporate filings, due diligence reports, etc.

## **LICENSING AND EDUCATION**

2014	Called to the Ontario Bar.
2010 – 2013	Juris Doctor (J.D.) University of Ottawa Faculty of Law – Ottawa, Canada.
2005	Called to the Bucharest Bar.
1999 – 2003	Doctorate in Juridical Sciences (S.J.D.), International Business Law (Magna Cum Laude) Central European University, Legal Department – Budapest, Hungary.
1997 – 1998	Master of Laws (LL.M.), International Business Law (with Honours) Central European University, Legal Department – Budapest, Hungary.
1990 – 1997	Bachelor of Civil Law (B.C.L.) University of Bucharest Faculty of Law – Bucharest, Romania.

## **INTERESTS AND ADDITIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS**

- Secretary, International Law Section–Ontario Bar Association. 2015 – 2017
- Member of the University of Ottawa Moot Court Team in the National Bowman Tax Moot Court Competition. 2012 - 2013
- Published the SJD dissertation: "Foreign Direct Investment in Romania" by the Scholars' Press in Germany in 2015, after the initial publication on Social Science Research Network in 2004.