P.R.I.M.E. Finance

Panel of Recognized International Market Experts in Finance

An Economist's Perspective



Chudozie Okongwu P.R.I.M.E. Finance Annual Conference 2019 4 & 5 February, Peace Palace, The Hague

An Economist's Perspective

Analyse transaction

- What was it meant to do?
 - Hedge / reduce costs / make gains?
 - Likely effectiveness given what was known?
 - More complex than necessary?
- Scenarios
 - Likelihood?
 - Risk vs. Return/Price?



An Economist's Perspective

- Portuguese Transport companies against Banco Santander Totta
- Structured and leveraged swaps
- Presided by Justice Blair in UK High Court 03/2016
 - "….the fact that a swap is not a hedge does not mean that it is necessarily speculative…"⁽¹⁾
 - "Even though the swaps were risky does not mean that they cannot be seen as managing interest rates" ⁽²⁾
 - "...it could be said that all swaps contain an element of speculation ... The same could be said of most investments." ⁽³⁾

Notes

- (1) Final Judgement, Paragraph 217, page 43
- (2) Final Judgement, Paragraph 221(4), page 43
- (3) Final Judgement, Paragraph 231, page 46

