



Special Committee on Financial Crimes, Tax Evasion and Tax Avoidance

COORDINATORS' MEETING

Thursday, 12 April 2018

14.00 to 16.00

Paul-Henri Spaak (PHS) 4B001

Brussels

Summary of Coordinators recommendations

Present:

Bureau: Petr Jezek (Chair)
Ana Gomes (4th Vice-Chair)

Coordinators: Peter Simon (S&D Coordinator)
Nils Torvalds (ALDE Coordinator)
Molly Scott Cato (Greens Substitute Coordinator)
Martin Schirdewan (GUE Coordinator)
Mario Borghezio (ENF Coordinator)

A. Adoption of draft agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

B. Chair's announcements

The Secretariat will provide the Coordinators with a scoreboard as regards the state of implementation by the Commission and MS of recommendations made by the European Parliament in the Dodds/Niedermayer, TAXE1, TAXE2 and PANA Reports.

ITEMS FOR DECISION

C. Indicative timetable for the report

The Coordinators endorsed the following timetable for the report:

FINAL REPORT	
Draft final report available in EN	9 November 2018
Consideration of draft report	27 November 2018
Deadline for amendments	17 December 2018
Consideration of amendments	Early January 2019
Vote on final report in TAX3 Committee	End of February 2019
<i>Debate / vote in Plenary</i>	March II or April 2019

D. New meeting on 28 June

The Coordinators were informed of the addition of a new slot on 28 June am. This meeting will consist of a hearing divided in two panels.

The first panel will focus on the link between Tax and Financial crimes (in particular VAT carousel fraud) and terrorism financing and will be organised jointly with the TERR Committee.

The second part will focus on: "Do the Paradise Papers show loopholes in the EU legislation or problems in cross border cooperation between Member States?".

E. Indicative program of hearings and workshops till the end of 2018

The Coordinators endorsed the following indicative programme of hearings and workshops until end of 2018:

Date	Topic
<p>Thursday, 26 April 2018 9.00 - 12.30</p>	<p>Combat money laundering in the EU banking sector (including cooperation between financial supervisors and FIU's)</p>
<p>Tuesday, 15 May 2018 14.00 - 18.00</p>	<p>The fight against harmful tax practices within the European Union and abroad: EU list of non-cooperative tax jurisdictions; list of potential aggressive tax measures in the EU (follow-up of PANA recommendation); transparency and reform of the group</p>
<p>Thursday, 7 June 2018 14.00 - 17.30</p>	<p>Workshop</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Presentation of 2 studies - Digital taxation and crypto currencies - Commission's report on national schemes granting EU citizenship to investors (if released by that time) - aggressive tax planning in the framework of the European Semester
<p>Thursday, 21 June 2018 9.00 - 12.30</p>	<p>The Slovakia case + possibly VAT fraud (if preparation of the 28 June hearing shows that the second panel of this hearing is not sufficient)</p>
<p>Monday, 25 June 2018 15.00 - 18.30</p>	<p>Hearing with multinational companies and intermediaries involved in the Paradise Papers</p>
<p>Thursday, 28 June 2018 9.00 - 12.30</p> <p>Joint TAX3/ TERR Committee meeting</p>	<p>First part; jointly with TERR: Tax and financial crimes (notably VAT carousel fraud) connected to Terrorism Financing</p> <p>Second part: Do the Paradise Papers show loopholes in the EU legislation or problems in cross border cooperation between Member States?</p>

Date	Topic
<p>Monday, 10 September 2018</p> <p>19.30 - 21.30 (Strasbourg)</p>	<p>Digital taxation: how internet companies can avoid/evade tax and taxation of the digital economy (including the need to review a multitude of bilateral tax agreements with third countries)</p> <p>The French, German and Luxemburgish Finance Ministers will be invited in a separate panel</p>
<p>Wednesday, 26 September 2018</p> <p>15.00 - 18.30</p> <p>pending authorisation from EP President</p>	<p>The third country dimension in the Fight against Tax crimes, Tax Evasion and Tax Avoidance</p> <p>Panel 1: Risks in the field of tax policy associated with Brexit :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - How Brexit will affect issues that already exist with tax and financial policy of certain British Crown Dependencies? - Possible solutions to the EU-UK tax relations in the context of Brexit <p>Panel 2:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lessons to be learned from other EU-third countries trade agreements (Norway, Switzerland, ...) - How bilateral tax treaties can facilitate tax abuse and trade agreements facilitate illicit financial flows - Impact on developing countries
<p>Thursday, 27 September 2018</p> <p>14.00 - 17.30</p>	<p>Presentation of studies</p>
<p>Thursday, 11 October 2018</p> <p>9.00 - 12.30</p>	<p>Presentation of one study (if hearing of 27 September is not sufficient)</p> <p>And</p> <p>Golden visas and other national schemes providing tax privileges (freeports, Special Economic Zones): impact on anti-money laundering and tax evasion rules</p>

Date	Topic
<p>Tuesday, 27 November 2018</p> <p>15.00 - 18.30</p>	<p>Exchange of views with one Commissioner (preferably Commissioner Vestager) on the state of implementation of the TAX1, TAX2, PANA and Dodds-Niedermayer reports</p> <p>+ Consideration of draft report</p>
<p>Monday, 10 December 2018</p> <p>19.30 - 21.30 (Strasbourg)</p> <p>Committee meeting</p>	<p>Exchange of views with 2 Commissioners (preferably Moscovici and Jourova) on the state of implementation of the TAX1, TAX2, PANA and Dodds-Niedermayer reports</p>

F. Studies and briefings to be commissioned for the TAX3 Committee

The Coordinators endorsed the following list of studies:

- 'Golden Visas' schemes and residency programmes in Member States: their features, their use and the risks they bear in relation to financial crime
- Free zones and free ports: How are they operated in the light of existing tax cooperation agreements (DAC/CRS), anti-money laundering legislation and other arrangement of similar nature
- An overview of shell companies in the EU: Magnitude, economic impact and remaining loopholes
- VAT fraud: economic impact, challenges and policy issues
- Crypto-currencies and blockchain: legal context and implications for financial crime, money laundering and tax evasion
- Impact of digitalisation on international tax matters: challenges and remedies

In addition, the Coordinators agreed to ask the Commission to provide, ahead of the exchange of views with Commissioners at the end of the year, the state of implementation and transposition by Member States of the AML Directive and the Directive on Administrative cooperation.

Finally, the Chair was instructed to send a letter to the Internal Consortium of Investigative Journalists (ICIJ) to ask them to provide anonymised data concerning an existing shell company which could be used in the framework of the study on shell companies.

G. Destinations for missions

The Coordinators agreed that the TAX3 Committee should organise missions to:

- Washington
- Isle of Man

Another possible destination will be decided at the next Coordinators' meeting.

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

H. Meeting of 16 April with Commissioner Jourova

The Coordinators were informed of the unavailability of Commissioner Jourova due to an overlap with a debate in plenary. She will be replaced by Ms Alexandra Jour-Schröder, Director of Criminal Justice (DG JUST).

I. Hearing on "Combat of Money Laundering in the EU banking system" on 26 April 2018)

The Coordinators endorsed the draft programme of the hearing.

J. Other business

- The ENF Coordinator's suggestion to send a letter to ICIJ asking them to investigate the case of Mr. Muxtar Ablyazov released by the French judicial authorities in 2016 will be discussed at the next coordinator's meeting.

K. Time and date of next Coordinators' meeting

- Tuesday, 15 May 2018, 10.30 to 12.30, Brussels