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*Special Committee on Financial Crimes, Tax Evasion and Tax Avoidance*

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## COORDINATORS' MEETING

Monday, 11 June 2018  
19.30 to 21.30  
Louise Weiss S4.1  
Strasbourg

### Summary of Coordinators recommendations

Present:

Bureau: Petr Jezek (Chair)

Coordinators: Dariusz Rosati (EPP Coordinator)  
Tom Vandenkendelaere (EPP Deputy Coordinator)  
Peter Simon (S&D Coordinator)  
Monica Macovei (ECR Coordinator)  
Nils Torvalds (ALDE Coordinator)  
Molly Scott Cato (Greens Substitute Coordinator)  
Miguel Viegas (GUE Substitute Coordinator)

Co-Rapporteurs: Jeppe Kofod (S&D)

A. Adoption of draft agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

B. Chair's announcements

<b>ITEMS FOR DECISION</b>
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C. Mission to Washington - 16 to 18 July 2018

The Coordinators endorsed the draft programme of the mission.

The list of Members taking part in these mission is as follow:

Members	Language	Group
Petr JEZEK, Chair	CS	ALDE
Ludek NIEDERMAYER, Co-Rapporteur	CS	EPP
Jeppe KOFOD, Co-rapporteur	DA	S&D
Alain LAMASSOURE	FR	EPP
Paul TANG	NL	S&D
Wolf KLINZ	DE	ALDE
Sven GIEGOLD	DE	Greens
Stelios KOULOGLOU	EL	GUE
Mario BORGHEZIO	IT	ENF

D. Participation of non TAX3 Members to the missions

The Coordinators agreed that Mr Stelios Kouloglou (GUE), member of the Delegation for relations with the United States, could participate in the mission to Washington.

E. Mission to Latvia

The Coordinators took note of the draft programme. The mission will take place on 30-31 August. The secretariat was tasked to plan meetings starting already on Thursday afternoon and to finish the mission on Friday around noon in order to have better press coverage.

The political groups are invited to provide the Secretariat, by 20 June, with the names of their participating Member(s).

- F. Hearing of 25 June: how to react to the refusal of Council's Presidency to participate in an exchange of views with the TAX3 Committee?

The Chair was instructed to contact Ms Monika Panayotova, Deputy Minister for the Bulgarian Presidency, in order to invite her to the TAX3 meeting of 25 June.

Furthermore, the Coordinators were informed of the unavailability of Ms Lapecorella to take part in this meeting. The Secretariat will liaise with the Chair of the Code of Conduct Group to find a suitable date.

The Coordinators also took note of Commissioner Jourova's presence at the meeting.

- G. How to react to the refusal of an invited speaker to participate in a hearing? Should the Committee react as a whole?

The Coordinators agreed to adopt a coordinated and common approach when reacting publicly to the refusal of an invited speaker to participate in a hearing. If needed, a written consultation will take place.

- H. Hearing 21 June: State of play

The Coordinators have been made aware of Appleby and McKenzie's refusal to participate in the hearing of 21 June. The reasons invoked by these companies were not accepted by coordinators. Given the impossibility to enter in dialogue with these companies and learn about their usual practices, it was decided to invite investigative journalists who could elaborate on the practices of these two companies, as demonstrated in the Paradise Papers.

Apple also declined the invitation due to an ongoing court litigation. The Coordinators agreed to meet them during the mission in Washington DC and to organise a public hearing after the Court's decision.

Furthermore, the Coordinators agreed to invite the Kering Group to the hearing.

- I. Hearing of 26 September on "The third country dimension in the Fight against Tax crimes, Tax Evasion and Tax Avoidance"

The Coordinators endorsed the draft programme of the hearing.

## ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION / INFORMATION

### J. Complaint to the Ombudsman

The Coordinators took note of the views of the EP Legal Service regarding the lodging of a complaint with the Ombudsman. The EP legal Service explained that such a complaint is only available to citizens and not to institutions such as the European Parliament. It also clarified that there is no element yet to lodge a complaint because the Council recently informed the Chair of the TAX3 Committee that it is still working on the request for access to documents made in April 2018.

In addition, the Legal Service advised to rely on the respect of the principle of sincere cooperation between EU Institutions as a basis of future exchanges with the Council as regards access to documents.

### K. Cooperation with the LIBE Committee as regards with Malta

The Coordinators expressed their support for a strong cooperation with the working group created by the LIBE Committee.

### L. Next hearings of the TAX3 Special Committee of 28 June - state of play

The Coordinators took note of the programme of the following hearings:

- 28 June am - Joint TAX3/TERR hearing on "The use of tax frauds – including VAT carousel fraud- to finance terrorism"
- 28 June am - Hearing on "VAT Fraud"

### M. Joint TAX3/ECON hearing with Financial Ministers of France, Germany and Luxembourg on 10 September in Strasbourg

The Coordinators took note of the invitation letters sent to the Ministers of Finance of Germany, France and Luxembourg.

### N. Access to documents: state of play

The Coordinators were informed of the reply received from Commissioners Moscovici and Jourova suggesting changes in the agreement for the exchange of confidential documents. They also noted that no reply has been received yet from the Chair of the Code of Conduct Group as regards the request for access to documents sent on 25 April.

Minister Goranov informed the Committee that the Council secretariat will reply soon to the request sent on 25 April.

O. Other business

P. Time and date of next Coordinators' meetings

- Monday 25 June (timing to be confirmed)
- 13 September, from 10.00 to 12.00, Strasbourg (new slot)