

Special Committee on Financial Crimes, Tax Evasion and Tax Avoidance
The Chair

D 300709 21.01.2019

Vice Mayor of Barcelona
Ms. Janet Sanz
Plaça Sant Jaume 1
08002 - Barcelona
Spain

Subject: *Invitation to a public hearing organised by the European Parliament Special Committee on Financial Crimes, Tax Evasion and Tax Avoidance (TAX3) on the 'Impact of tax evasion and money laundering on local real estate markets, in particular in European cities' on Tuesday, 5 February 2019, from 9.00 a.m. to 12.00 p.m., in Brussels*

Dear Ms Sanz,

As you may be aware, the European Parliament set up the TAX3 Committee on 1 March 2018 with the mission, inter alia, to build on and complement the work carried out by the TAXE 1 and TAXE 2 Special Committees and the PANA Inquiry Committee on tax avoidance, tax evasion and money laundering.¹

Within this framework, the TAX3 Committee organises a hearing on the 'Impact of tax evasion and money laundering on local real estate markets, in particular in European cities'. The hearing will consist of two panels on 'Real estate, speculation and money laundering' and 'How to fight against price increase in the real estate sector resulting from tax opportunities and money-laundering?'.¹

I would like to invite you to a public hearing that the European Parliament Special Committee on Financial Crimes, Tax Evasion and Tax Avoidance (TAX3) will hold on **Tuesday, 5 February 2019 from 9.00 a.m. to 12.00 p.m. in Brussels.**

I would like to invite you to speak in the first panel in your capacity of Vice-Mayor of Barcelona in charge of the Environment, Mobility and Real Estate, to share your field-based assessment of this particular issue.

The session will start with a short introduction by each of the invited speakers, which should not exceed seven minutes. The introductory remarks will be followed by an exchange of views with Members of the TAX3 Committee, during which time speakers will be invited to respond to observations made and questions posed to them.

¹ European Parliament decision of 1 March 2018 on setting up a special committee on financial crimes, tax evasion and tax avoidance (TAX3), and defining its responsibilities, numerical strength and term of office (2018/2574(RSO)).

After your confirmation, we will be sending some questions to you prior to the meeting in preparation of the panel. We will also send you some practical information, including the room in which the meeting will take place.

Please note that the European Parliament does not accept any liability for the content of the information received, hence the provider of the information remains solely and fully liable for compliance with applicable requirements under domestic legislation and for the content of the information provided.

I would like to inform you that, on the basis of the Rules of Procedures of the European Parliament (Rule 115), debates in Parliament are public and Committees shall normally meet in public. Therefore, the meeting you are invited to attend will be web-streamed and photographs may be taken and made accessible online and/or published in parliamentary newsletters. Please inform us whether you have any objection with regards to those potential photographs being published on our website and/or in our newsletters.

I would also like to inform you that, without any objection on your part, by accepting this invitation you accept that any statement or presentation you submit to the committee with a view to the meeting may be published on our website. Written replies requested by the committee in preparation of the meeting or initial written statements to be made by a speaker at the beginning of the meeting are made publicly available on our website subsequently to the meeting. CVs may also be published on our website (they should contain only the relevant information for the purpose of the meeting). You retain your right to access and rectify the data included thereof in accordance with the data protection legislation in force.

For further information, please do not hesitate to contact Ms Cécile Remeur (tel.: +32 2 283 27 84, cecile.remeur@europarl.europa.eu) for content-related questions or the Secretariat of the TAX3 Committee (tax3-secretariat@europarl.europa.eu) for logistic questions.

I remain at your disposal for further discussions on this matter.

Yours sincerely,



Petr Ježek

Annex: provisional programme



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Special Committee on Financial Crimes, Tax Evasion and Tax Avoidance

PUBLIC HEARING

**ON THE "IMPACT OF TAX EVASION AND MONEY LAUNDERING ON
LOCAL REAL ESTATE MARKETS, IN PARTICULAR IN EUROPEAN
CITIES"**

TUESDAY, 5 FEBRUARY 2019

9.00 - 12.00

Room:

BRUSSELS

DRAFT PROGRAMME

09.00 - 09.05 Welcome by the TAX3 Chair

09.05- 10.35 First panel: real estate, speculation and money laundering

- Ms **Femke Halsema**, Mayor of Amsterdam (tbc)
- Ms **Janet Sanz**, Vice-Mayor of Barcelona and Member of the City Council in charge of Real Estate, Environment and Mobility.
- Mr. **Christoph Trautvetter**, Public policy expert at Netzwerk Steuergerechtigkeit

Discussion with TAX3 Members

10.35 - 11.55 Second panel: How to fight against price increase in the real estate sector resulting from tax opportunities and money-laundering?

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- OECD representative. If available the author of the 2007 study on 'Report on tax fraud and money laundering vulnerabilities involving the real estate sector'. (tbc)
- Financial transparency international representative, Ms **Maíra Martini** author of the 2017 study 'Doors wide open: corruption and real estate in four key markets'. (tbc)

Discussion with TAX3 Members**11.55 - 12.00 Conclusions by the TAX3 Chair**