

WRITTEN QUESTION P-0232/02
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to the Commission

Subject: VAT issues

The international removals industry, mainly comprised of SMUs, is facing a major problem concerning the payment of VAT on international removals in an appropriate and legal way. It is not always clear for the removers to which national tax authorities VAT payments should be made, and the costs involved in the use of a tax consultant are disproportionate to the amount of VAT due. In addition, tax consultants usually refuse to work with removal firms because of the shared liability.

Is the Commission considering a system by which these amounts of VAT could be paid to a European central body which would redistribute the sums due to the various Member States at a later stage?