

EuropeanIssuers & EY Joint Panel: Business Taxation in the EU

Governments and businesses operate in an ever changing environment, shaped by transformative global trends such as environmental challenges, demographic and geopolitical dynamics and technological innovation. Against this backdrop, businesses are in the continuous process of transformation by creating long-term value with attention to their environmental and societal impact and governance. The EU tax framework should enable businesses to prosper on the internal market and support businesses in making this transition.

The European Commission has developed its vision for business taxation in the medium to longer term. Its Communication on Business Taxation for the 21st Century was issued this Spring and complements other EU initiatives in the area of taxation, such as the 2020 Action Plan on fair and simple taxation supporting the recovery strategy; and the 2020 Communication on Tax Good Governance in the EU and beyond. And in July the Commission released a range of environmental tax measures under the Fit for 55 Agenda. Also, the Commission had to postpone the release of its digital levy proposal due to the ongoing global negotiations by amongst others the G20 and the OECD on the future international tax framework. These negotiations are intended to lead to fundamental changes in the allocation of taxing rights between countries and to the introduction of global minimum tax levels.

In this turbulent environment the interaction between businesses and policy makers is important to come to well-designed tax policies which meet the policy aims set by governments and help businesses prosper.

On 09 December 2021, EuropeanIssuers and EY therefor are hosting a very timely discussion on the EU's business taxation strategy, with special attention to:

- **The expectations on businesses:** how tax departments have moved from being cost centres to being omni centres, which requires teams with different skill sets and a different leadership approach
- **The expectations on policy makers:** how to create predictability and tax certainty for businesses in uncertain times, so that these businesses can drive the transformation desired by the societies they are part of
- **The expectations on co-operation between governments and businesses:** how tax policies need to be embedded in business reality, in particular by recognizing diversity in business models and in industry environments
- **The promise of technology:** how technology can form the basis of better tax policies and more efficient and effective administration of tax legislation once introduced

Agenda

09 December 2021

13.30 – 14.30 (CET)

13.30 – 13.35 Opening Remarks *by Luc Vansteenkiste, Chairman of EuropeanIssuers*

13.35 – 14.10 Panel Discussion on the Business Taxation in the EU

Moderator: Mr Luc Vansteenkiste, Chairman, EuropeanIssuers

Speakers:

- Mr Gerassimos Thomas, Director-General, DG Taxud, European Commission
- Ms Bridget Walsh, EY EMEA Tax Managing Partner

14.10 – 14.25 Q&A Session

14.25 – 14.30 Closing Remarks *by Luc Vansteenkiste, Chairman of EuropeanIssuers*