

ACCOUNTANCY EUROPE.





TAX DAY 2020: WE'RE ALL IN THIS TOGETHER!

Moderator: Rick van der Kleij

WiFi: IPC-Guest



Florin Toma

President, Accountancy Europe

TAX AND ETHICS

Jens Poll IESBA

José Maria Vallejo
Global Head of Tax, BBVA

Chiara Putaturo
Inequality and Tax Policy Advisor, Oxfam EU



International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants® (IESBA®)

Accountancy Europe

Tax Planning Day

Prof. Jens Poll, IESBA Member

February 19, 2020

IESBA Updates



- About IESBA
- Restructured Code
- Key Projects & Initiatives



Landscape and Context

Role of ethics is central in post-crisis world New business models, advancing technologies and increased regulatory oversight are transforming the accountancy profession

Expectations of ethical behavior heightened New Code provides a strong base for:

Developing future ethics and independence standards Reinvigorating PAs to meet their responsibility to act in the public interest



About IESBA

- Independent global standard setter formed in 2005
 - Successor to IFAC Ethics Committee
 - Chaired by Dr. <u>Stavros Thomadakis</u>
- Diverse Board Membership
 - Global representation from Africa,
 Asia, Europe, North America,
 South America with 18 members
 - 9 practitioners, 9 non-practitioners(incl. 6 public members)
 - Official observers: Japan FSA
- Structures and processes facilitated by <u>IFAC</u>

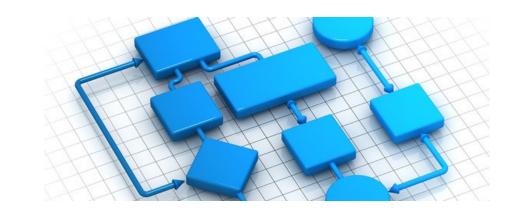




About the IESBA

Due process

- Oversight of PIOB and advice from CAG
- Transparent debate
- Exposure for public comment
- Consideration and disposition of comments received
- Meetings open to the public





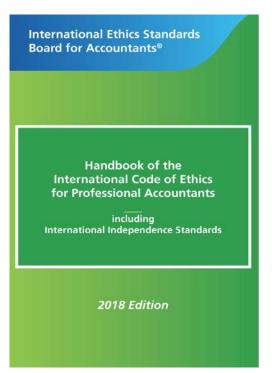
About IESBA Global Adoption of the IESBA Code

Why focus on changes to the Code

- Code is robust, high-quality and globally-operable
- Adopted, used as basis for national ethics standards or ethics codes of IFAC member bodies in 120+ countries
- Adopted by the largest international networks of firms (the <u>Forum of Firms</u>) for transnational audits
- Translated in about 40 languages, including all major UN languages (Chinese, French, Japanese, Russian and Spanish)



Revised and Restructured Code



Became effective June 15, 2019

Lots of helpful resources and more to come:

2018 Handbook | PDF | eCode

Basis for Conclusions

One-page flyer | PowerPoint Slides

Two 90-minute IESBA hosted Webinars

Videos | Articles | Webinars

Featured on **IFAC Gateway**

Country Visits/ targeted outreach

Visit <u>www.ethicsboard.org/restructured-code</u>



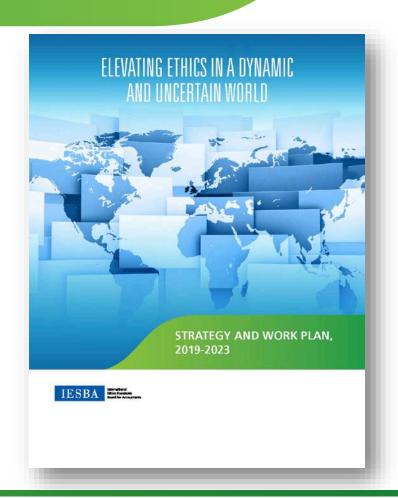
Key Projects & Initiatives

Completing pre-commitments

NAS, Fees and EQR Objectivity: EDs out Q1 2020 New initiatives

Tax Planning

Definition of Public Interest Entities (PIE)
Ongoing close coordination with IAASB





Key Projects & Initiatives - Tax Planning & Related Services

Tax Planning a focus area for policy makers & regulators nationally and internationally:

- Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)
- World Federation of Exchanges
- International Federation of Accountants (IFAC)
- European Parliament/Commission
- UK Tax Authorities
- Professional Accounting Organizations (PAOs)





Tax Planning & Related Services: Terms of Reference

Objectives of the WG:

- a)Gather an understanding of regulatory, practice and other developments in corporate and individual tax planning by PAIBs and PAPPs
- b)Identify and analyze the ethical implications of those developments and determine whether there is a need for enhancements to the Code or further actions
- c)Develop a report and recommendations to the IESBA

Focus

- Focus on ethical behavior of both PAPPs and PAIBs
- Not looking at the legality or morality of tax practices



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TAX TRANSPARENCY

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Director-International Taxation, Iberdrola









Who We Are





- GRI is an **international independent organization** that has pioneered sustainability reporting for two decades.
- The GRI Standards are designed to help communicate an organization's impacts on the economy, the environment, and society
- The GRI Standards are developed through a **transparent**, **multi-stakeholder** process, following the Due Process of the Global Sustainability Standards Board (GSSB) GRI's independent standard-setting body
- The GRI Standards are available as a free public good



Foundation

GRI

101

Starting point for using the GRI Standards

The GRI Standards



Universal Standards

General Disclosures GRI

To report contextual information about an organization

Management Approach GRI

To report the management approach for each material topic

Topic-specific Standards



Select from these to report specific disclosures for each material topic















Why public reporting on Tax?

- Increasingly complex global tax landscape
- Growing calls for tax transparency from a variety of stakeholders including government, investors, civil society, media and the public
- Corporate tax is a fundamental way that the shared responsibility for the wellbeing and prosperity of communities is recognized.
- Increased transparency will lead to increased confidence and accountability in the eyes of stakeholders.











GRI

Summary of contents in the Standard



Management approach disclosures

Disclosure 207-1 Approach to tax

Disclosure 207-2 Tax governance, control, and risk management

Disclosure 207-3 Stakeholder engagement and management of concerns related to tax

Topic-specific disclosures

Disclosure 207-4 Country-by-country reporting





Management approach disclosures

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GRI 207: Tax 2019

Summary of contents in the Standard



Reporting requirements

The reporting organization shall report the following information:

- a. A description of the approach to tax, including:
 - i. whether the organization has a tax strategy and, if so, a link to this strategy if publicly available;
 - ii. the governance body or executive-level position within the organization that formally reviews and approves the tax strategy, and the frequency of this review;
 - iii. the approach to regulatory compliance;
 - iv. how the approach to tax is linked to the business and <u>sustainable development</u> strategies of the organization.

Disclosure 207-1





Summary of contents in the Standard

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Topic-specific disclosures

Disclosure 207-4 Country-by-country reporting

Reporting requirements

The reporting organization shall report the following information:

- a. A description of the tax governance and control framework, including:
 - the governance body or executive-level position within the organization accountable for compliance with the tax strategy;
 - ii. how the approach to tax is embedded within the organization;
 - iii. the approach to tax risks, including how risks are identified, managed, and monitored;
 - iv. how compliance with the tax governance and control framework is evaluated.
- b. A description of the mechanisms for reporting concerns about unethical or unlawful behavior and the organization's integrity in relation to tax.
- c. A description of the assurance process for disclosures on tax and, if applicable, a reference to the assurance report, statement, or opinion.



Management approach disclosures

Disclosure 207-3 Stakeholder engagement and management of concerns related to tax

Summary of contents in the Standard

Reporting requirements

Disclosure

207-3

The reporting organization shall report the following information:

- a. A description of the approach to stakeholder engagement and management of stakeholder concerns related to tax, including:
 - the approach to engagement with tax authorities;
 - ii. the approach to public policy advocacy on tax;
 - iii. the processes for collecting and considering the views and concerns of stakeholders, including external stakeholders.





Summary of contents in the Standard

Management approach disclosures

Disclosure 207-1 Approach to tax

Disclosure 207-2 Tax governance, control, and risk management

Disclosure 207-3 Stakeholder engagement and management of concerns related to tax

Topic-specific disclosures

Disclosure 207-4 Country-by-country reporting

Reporting requirements

The reporting organization shall report the following information:

- a. All tax jurisdictions where the entities included in the organization's audited consolidated financial statements, or in the financial information filed on public record, are resident for tax purposes.
- b. For each tax jurisdiction reported in Disclosure 207-4-a:
 - i. Names of the resident entities;
 - Primary activities of the organization;
 - iii. Number of employees, and the basis of calculation of this number;
 - iv. Revenues from third-party sales;
 - v. Revenues from intra-group transactions with other tax jurisdictions;
 - vi. Profit/loss before tax:
 - vii. Tangible assets other than cash and cash equivalents;
 - viii. Corporate income tax paid on a cash basis;
 - ix. Corporate income tax accrued on profit/loss;
 - x. Reasons for the difference between corporate income tax accrued on profit/loss and the tax due if the statutory tax rate is applied to profit/loss before tax.
- c. The time period covered by the information reported in Disclosure 207-4.

Disclosure 207-4



Alignment with OECD BEPS (Action 13)

Note: this is for illustrative purposes only and should not be relied upon for reporting purposes.



Summary comparison with OECD BEPS CBCR Template

Item	GRI 207: Tax 2019	OECD BEPS (Action 13)
Data aggregation	Data to be reported by country	Data to be reported by country
Total revenues	×	✓
Revenue from third parties	✓	✓
Revenue from related parties	Between jurisdictions only	✓
Profit/loss before tax	✓ can be consolidated	✓ summed
Tax paid (on cash basis)	✓ flexibility to report withholding tax separately	✓
Tax accrued – current year	✓	✓
Tangible assets or other than cash and cash equivalents	✓ can be consolidated	√ summed
Number of employees	✓ flexibility to use calculation method of choice	✓ FTE basis
Reasons for the difference between corporate tax accrued on profit/loss and the tax due if the statutory tax rate is applied to profit/loss before tax.	✓	×







Implementation

- GRI 207 is a topic-specific Standard
- GRI 207 will be effective for reports or other materials published on or after 1 January 2021.
- The reporting organization may use reasons for omission as set out in *GRI 101:* Foundation 2016 to build up to complete reporting (for specific reporting requirements or across tax jurisdictions) over a number of reporting cycles

 Visit the GRI Standards website www.globalreporting.org/standards for more resources



Back-up slides



Time period – for questions only





Management approach disclosures

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Topic-specific disclosures

Disclosure 207-4 Country-by-country reporting

GRI 207: Tax 2019

Time period



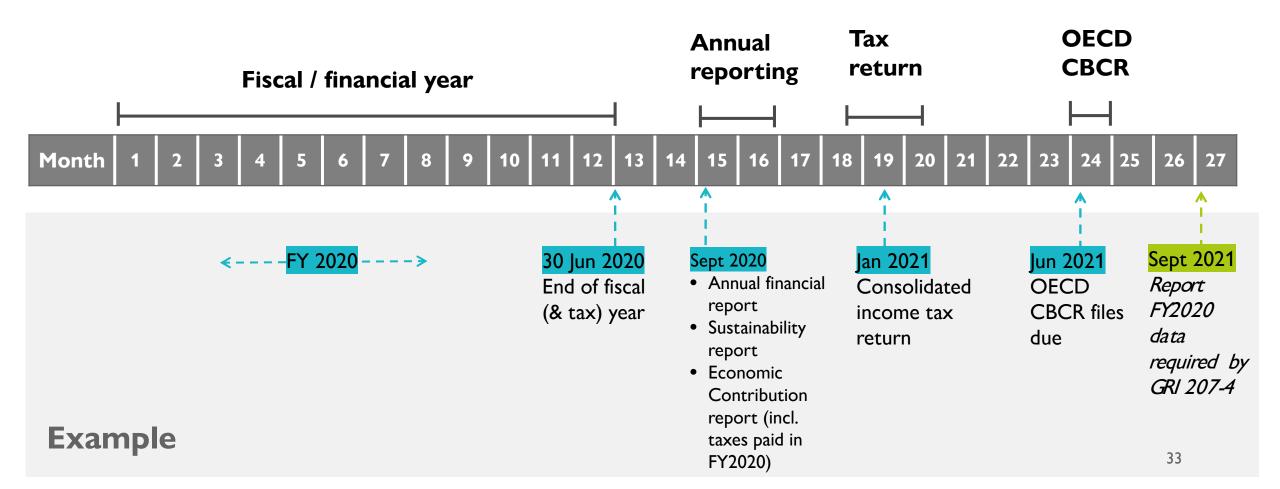
2.1 When compiling the information specified in Disclosure 207-4, the reporting organization shall report information for the time period covered by the most recent audited consolidated financial statements or financial information filed on public record. If information is not available for this time period, the organization may report information for the time period covered by the audited consolidated financial statements or the financial information filed on public record immediately preceding the most recent ones.





What does this mean?

Existing practice



TAX TRANSPARENCY

Mia D'Adhemar

Senior Manager, GRI

Stefan Crets

Executive Director, CSR Europe

Jose Luis Migoya Vargas

Director-International Taxation, Iberdrola







The European Business Network for Corporate Sustainability and Responsibility







Our Vision



































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System Change









Scale













2030 Strategy: Leadership & Engagement

Foundation



Our Mission: People, Materials, & Markets



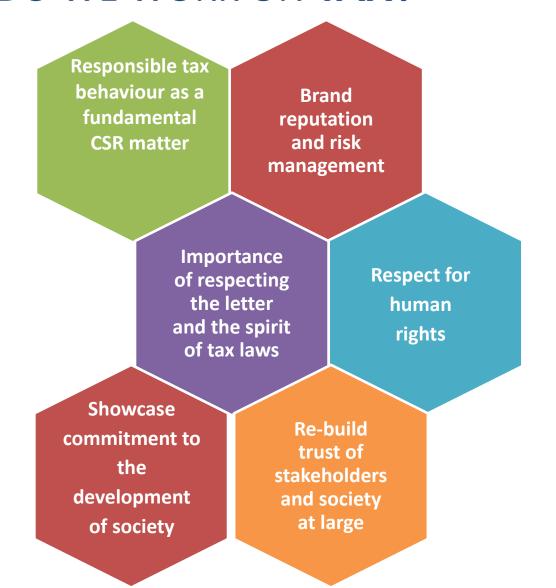






PROJECT ON RESPONSIBLE TAX BEHAVIOUR: WHY DO WE WORK ON **TAX?**

Tax is an unavoidable issue for responsible companies



Tax responsibility
is a critical
resource for the
implementation
of the
Sustainable
Development
Goals (SDGs)



CSR Europe's work on Tax Timeline

2020



2019

2017-2018

Development of assessment tool and first rolling out

Blueprint for Responsible and Transparent Tax Behaviour together with PwC NL Pilot

- Roll out service offer for companies & National Partners
- •COP on tax

2016

Expert
Roundtable,
webinars and 11 calls with biz,
CSOs, partners







A Blueprint for Responsible and Transparent Tax Behaviour Key features of the blueprint:

Clarifies the concept of responsible and transparent tax behaviour by breaking it down into six theme areas

Analyses and assesses examples of specific measures and initiatives implemented by participating companies









Includes an **Inventory** of the various mandatory and voluntary initiatives, principles and guidelines that already exist concerning responsible tax behaviour;

Identifies useful takeaways for inspiration to companies that wish to invest further in responsible and transparent tax behaviour.







A BLUEPRINT FOR RESPONSIBLE AND TRANSPARENT TAX BEHAVIOUR

THEM	E AREA	KEY ELEMENT
(A)	AREA 1 TAX PLANNING STRATEGIES	Aligning taxation with value creation
	AREA 2 TAX FUNCTION MANAGEMENT AND GOVERNANCE	Developing the right processes to manage tax
	AREA 3 PUBLIC TRANSPARENCY AND REPORTING	Disclosing relevant tax related information to the public
	AREA 4 INTERACTION WITH TAX AUTHORITIES	Managing relationships with tax authorities & digital transformation of tax administrations
	AREA 5 TAX INCENTIVES	The impact on public finances
②	AREA 6 BUILDING A NARRATIVE TO ACCOMPANY A TAX STRATEGY	How to engage stakeholders with a company's approach to tax

Structure and rationale

- All chapters provide a highlevel snapshot of the current market practice.
- Then zoom in on where the participating company currently stand with respect to the thematic area.



BLUEPRINT TAKEAWAYS TO INSPIRE COMPANIES



Identified trends:

- Publication of Tax Strategy or Tax Policy documents endorsed and approved at Board level.
- Enhanced collaboration between the CSR and Tax departments
- A growing preparedness for enhanced transparency and tax reporting requirements
- Building co-operative compliance relations with tax authorities
- A more open and "pedagogical" approach towards wider stakeholders





Responsible & Transparent Tax Behaviour

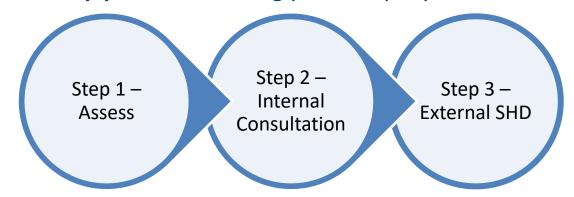
Build Trust in Your Business

Our Service Offer to Companies

Objectives:

- Support companies in assessing the level of transparency and responsibility of their tax behaviour, identifying gaps and areas of improvements in 6 thematic areas.*
- **Help** companies building trust and addressing the growing expectations from the public and policy makers.

Three-step process, involving your company's Tax and CSR Manager**



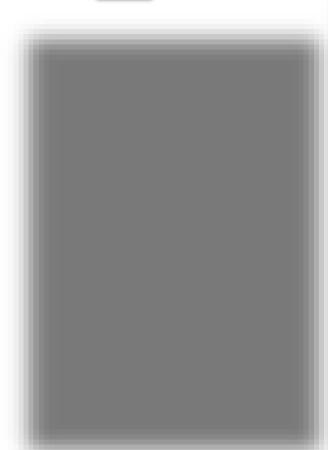
^{*}Identified by our Blueprint

^{**} Companies have also the option to undertake only one or more steps according to their needs.



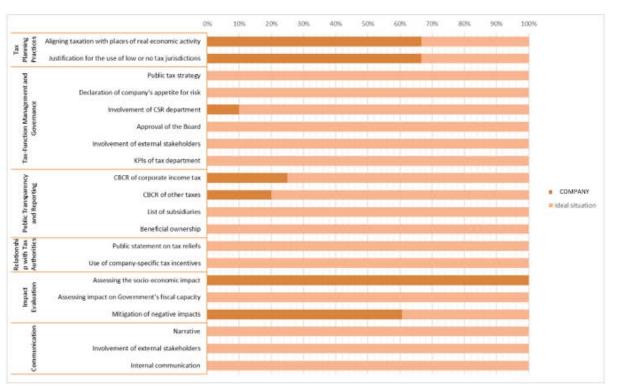


EXAMPLE OF AN ASSESSMENT RESULT



THE COMPANY's performance against the 20 requirements defining responsible tax behaviour:

	Aligning taxation with places of real economic activity	Justification for the use of low or no tax jurisdictions	Public tex strategy	Declaration of company's appetite for risk	(two/sement of CSR department	Approval of the Board	Involvement of external stakeholders	KPIs of tax department	CBCR of corporate income tex	CBCR of other saves	List of subsidiaries	Beneficial ownership	Public statement on tax relefs	Use of company- specific tax incantives.	Assessing the socio-economic impact	Assessing impact on Government's focal capacity	Mitigation of negative impacts	Narrative	Involvement of external stakeholders	Internal communication
# Ideal situation	0.75	6.75	1	0.5	0.5	0.75	0.25	0.5	1	0.5	0.4	0.1	0.25	0.25	0.33	0.33	0.33	0.5	0.5	0.5
CONFA.	0.5	0.5	0	0	0.05	0	0	0	0.25	0.1	0		0	0	0.33	0	0.2	0	0	0







CONCLUSION: It is a matter of integration

We believe that responsible and tax-transparent companies are key to rebuilding social trust and addressing the growing expectations from the public and policymakers alike. Increasing the coherence between tax behaviour and the wider sustainable business strategy also has the potential to better show a company's total contribution to society, manage its reputation and increase its social credentials.



TAX TRANSPARENCY

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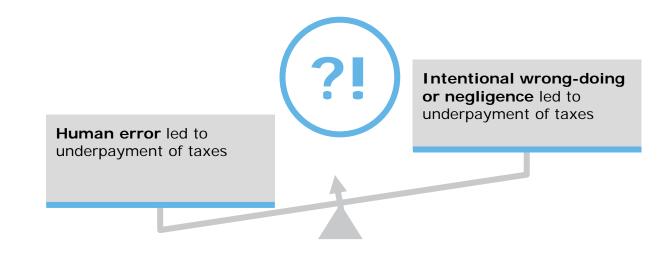
Tax Compliance Management in Germany

Dr. Andreas Kowallik | Deloitte GmbH Wirtschaftsprüfungsgesellschaft Accountancy Europe | Tax Day 2020 | Brussels, 19 February 2020

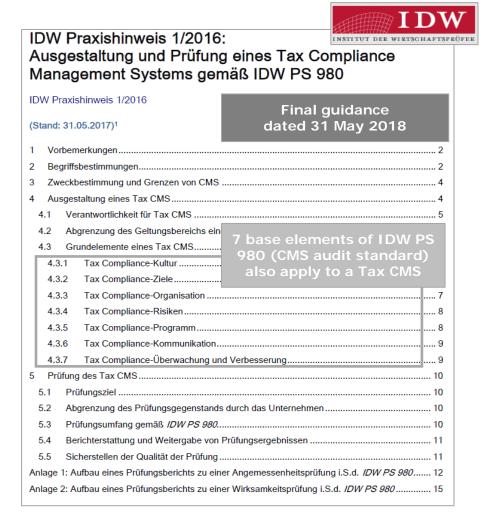
Application decree dated 23 May 2016



Note 2.6: [...] In case the taxpayer has implemented an internal control system for the purpose of tax compliance, this can be an indication that no willful intent or recklessness are given, however, each individual case should be investigated. [...]

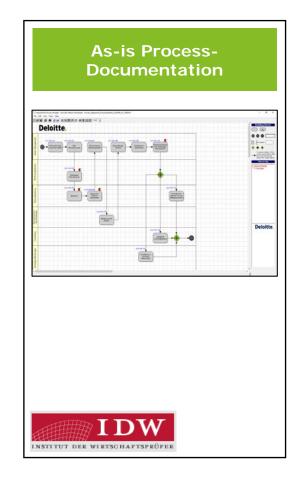


CPA Institute Practice Guidance 1/2016

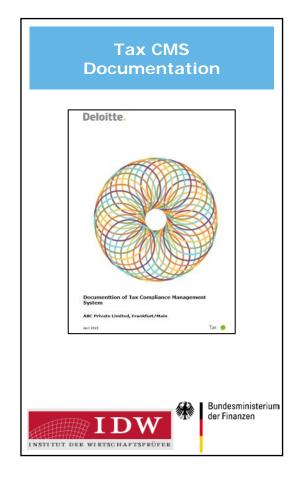




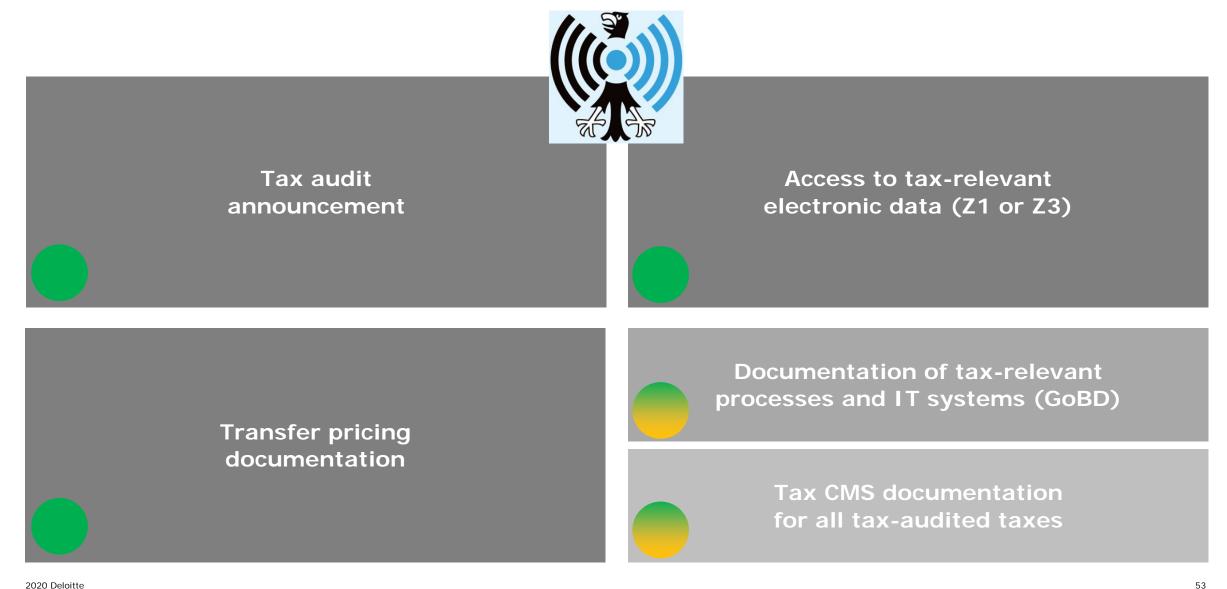
Standard Tax CMS components







Tax CMS in German tax audits



Tax CMS in Germany – What's next?

Monitoring	Contemporaneous	Expedited			
MNEs (sales: €750m+)	Large taxpayers	All taxpayers			
Imperative	Most likely required	Optional			
No regular tax audits	Contemporaneous	Risk-based			
600 - 900	40,668	186,826			
	MNEs (sales: €750m+) Imperative No regular tax audits	MNEs (sales: €750m+) Large taxpayers Most likely required No regular tax audits Contemporaneous			

ICAP 2.0*

CbCR & Tax CMS

^{*}International Compliance & Assurance Program

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#TAXDAYEU

LUNCH

13:00-14:00



GLOBAL MEGATRENDS SCENE SETTER

Asa Gunnarsson
Professor, Umea University



THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT'S WORK ON TAX

Paul Tang

Member of the European Parliament



FRENCH PRIORITIES FOR INTERNATIONAL TAX REFORM

Christophe Pourreau

Director, Tax Legislation Department (DLF)

#TAXDAYEU

FOLLOW-UP DISCUSSION

Asa Gunnarsson

Professor, Umea University

Paul Tang

Member of the European Parliament

Christophe Pourreau

Director, Tax Legislation Department (DLF)

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COFFEE BREAK

15:00-15:15





Femke Groothius

The Ex'tax Project

Xavier Oberson

Professor, University of Geneva

Walter Stahel

Founder of The Product-Life Institute



Benjamin Angel

Director, DG TAXUD, European Commission

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CLOSING REMARKS

Olivier Boutellis-Taft

CEO, Accountancy Europe

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