



Federation of European Accountants
Fédération des Experts comptables Européens

INFO

Standing for trust and integrity

2 October 2013 – For immediate use

FEE fosters debate towards responsible taxation

Brussels, 2 October 2013 - FEE hosted its third “Tax Day”, a conference bringing together over 150 representatives from the policymakers, business, civil society and tax profession communities. Stakeholders had lively debates on the potential contradiction between economic globalisation and national tax law making and on cooperation and compliance in times of fiscal consolidation. The conference started with a video keynote address of Commissioner Algirdas Šemeta and opening remarks from philosopher, Richard Baron, setting the scene for a fruitful and thought-provoking exchange of views. It included a contribution from the Council Presidency, Mr Rimantas Šadžius, and a concluding panel debate aimed at developing a vision to transform ideas into action.

FEE President, André Killesse, welcomed participants and stressed that tax is a major cornerstone of the accountancy profession. Professional accountants help business comply with their often complex obligations and find out what their fair share of tax is which is particularly important for SMEs and start-ups that cannot afford large tax departments. He also outlined that professional accountants also help governments design better tax regimes, simplify administrative obligations and fight tax fraud.

Panel participants included a large cross-section of representatives: see [Programme](#).

In his closing remarks, FEE CEO, Olivier Boutellis-Taft, emphasised that it was time to end the blame game and that all stakeholders – taxpayers, tax advisors, tax policymakers and civil society – need to listen to each other, cooperate and join forces to move toward responsible taxation.

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NOTES FOR EDITORS

About FEE

FEE (Fédération des Experts-comptables Européens – Federation of European Accountants) is an international non-profit organisation based in Brussels that represents 45 institutes of professional accountants and auditors from 33 European countries, including all of the 28 EU member states.

FEE has a combined membership of more than 700,000 professional accountants, working in different capacities in public practice, small and large accountancy firms, businesses of all sizes, government and education – all of whom contribute to a more efficient, transparent and sustainable European economy.

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