

Subcommittee on Tax Matters The Chair

D(2025)1806

To the Chair of the Committee(s) in charge of taxation

## D 300423 23.01.2025

## Subject: Invitation to an Interparliamentary Conference (IPC) on "EU Tax Symposium 2025: Strengthening competitiveness and fairness to build prosperity", co-hosted by the European Parliament and the European Commission, on 18 March 2025 in Brussels

Dear colleague,

Priorities in EU tax policy include the elimination of tax obstacles to cross-border economic activity and the fight against harmful tax practices, tax evasion and tax avoidance. The power to introduce, remove or adjust taxes lies in the hands of the Member States. If the EU does act in this area, the Member States decide on a Commission proposal by unanimity, while the European Parliament has the right to be consulted.

Still, the European Parliament via its Subcommittee on Tax Matters (FISC) has in the recent years taken up an important political role, influencing legislation and putting new issues on the agenda. Together with national parliaments, the European Parliament wants to continue to be an important player and represent the voice of EU citizens in the design of EU taxation policy.

Exercising this important role involves many challenges and therefore, **together with the EU Commissioner responsible for taxation, Wopke Hoekstra, I would like to invite all national parliaments** to a discussion on the future challenges that the EU and its Member States will be facing in the tax area in the coming years.

This Interparliamentary Conference (IPC) or "*EU Tax Symposium 2025*" is the second conference in the field of taxation as it follows up the EU Tax Symposium 2023 on "*Challenges ahead and changes needed*" which was a great success, notably due to the active participation of national parliaments (around 70 MPs were present in October 2023).

The "*EU Tax Symposium 2025*" will be co-hosted with the European Commission and take place on **Tuesday**, **18 March 2025 from 08:15 to 19:30** (CET) in the Hemicycle of the European Parliament in Brussels. There will be a **gala dinner the evening before (on Monday**, **17 March**, from 18:30 (CET) onwards, tbc) **should you be able to attend**. A networking cocktail will also be served on Tuesday, 18 March 2025 following the conference, from 18:00 (CET) onwards.

This event will bring together representatives of the European and national Parliaments as well as high-level representatives of the European Commission and the Council of the European Union, tax experts and stakeholders.

As you will see from the enclosed draft programme, we have divided the discussions into four panels and key note speeches on the role of taxation in contributing to competitiveness and fairness. A lively exchange of views with the audience is planned in all panels.

The Subcommittee on Tax Matters is convinced that this event will provide an opportunity to learn from each other, to raise awareness about common challenges and to share ideas on how to strengthen competitiveness and fairness in the EU. We sincerely hope that you will be able to accept our invitation and we are looking forward to welcoming you to this IPC on 17 March evening for the gala dinner and/or on 18 March 2025 for the conference.

Yours sincerely,

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Pasquale Tridico FISC Chair

Copy:

- Aurore Lalucq, Chair of the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs
- Esteban González Pons, Vice-President for relations with national parliaments
- Katarina Barley, Vice-President for relations with national parliaments
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