

## Measuring What Matters: Launch of the Tax Responsibility & Transparency Index

### *High-level Policy Event*

19<sup>th</sup> April 2024

09:00-13:00 CET at the European Parliament

### CONTEXT

It is widely understood that taxation is a powerful tool to support the financing of essential public services. As such, corporate taxation can play a significant role and provide businesses an opportunity to support local communities. However, after multiple corporate tax scandals, the need for increased **responsible tax conduct** and **transparency** is rising to the top of the agenda in many countries. It is increasingly clear that responsible tax is foundational to **responsible business conduct** and **sustainable development** more generally. Corporations have the duty to pay their fair share of taxes in the countries where economic value is created. In the new era of responsible business, tax has gained momentum in accounting standards, governance standards, and legislation in Europe (EU CBCR Directive), Australia (proposed law on public CBCR), the UK (Tax Strategy disclosure) and the US (FASB Income Taxes Topic 740), as policymakers expect more from companies. Civil society has been at the forefront of encouraging companies to be responsible and transparent in their tax affairs. Investors increasingly see corporate tax avoidance as a ‘red flag’ for broader misconduct and expect enhanced transparency from companies.

The rising expectations of businesses to align with legal and societal requirements are rapidly increasing. Companies can be overwhelmed. They face numerous challenges: such as which data needs to be collected, how to monitor progress, or how to publicly communicate their tax performance. To address these challenges, **CSR Europe** joined forces with the **Fair Tax Foundation** to initiate a collaborative platform consisting of leading businesses and organisations who believe that enhanced responsible and transparent taxation should be the norm. The purpose of this platform was to develop a **Tax Responsibility and Transparency Index** which would enable companies to have better clarity over their tax practices and meet both current and future expectations of civil society, investors, and policymakers.

### ABOUT THE EVENT

On April 19<sup>th</sup>, **CSR Europe** and the **Fair Tax Foundation** are organising a launch event of the Tax Responsibility and Transparency Index, co-hosted by **MEP Paul Tang** at the **European Parliament**. The event will aim to bring together relevant stakeholders and experts who advocate for responsible tax conduct. It will be an opportunity to reflect on the progress made over the years in regard to the tax transparency and responsibility agenda, and how the new Index could play a pivotal role. This event will include interventions from policymakers on the state of play of tax transparency in the EU, investors’ perspectives on the importance of responsible tax conduct, and civil society representatives on the impact of responsible corporate taxation.

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

**Spyros Perikleous**

*Senior Project Manager*

## AGENDA

TIME (CET)	SESSION	SPEAKERS
08:30 – 09:00	Registration & Coffee	
09:00 – 09:10	Welcome & Introductory remarks	<b>CSR EUROPE</b>
09:10 – 09:20	Keynote speech	Paul Tang <i>Member of European Parliament &amp; Chair of FISC-subcommittee on Tax Matters</i> <b>EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT</b>
09:20 – 09:30	Tax transparency in Europe	Benjamin Angel <i>Director, DG TAXUD</i> <b>EUROPEAN COMMISSION</b>
09:30 – 10:10	<p><b>Panel discussion:</b> Current state of play of tax transparency</p> <p>Moderation by Elodie Lamer, <i>Senior Reporter</i>, <b>TAX ANALYSTS</b></p>	<p>Olivia Lally <i>Senior Policy and Advocacy Officer</i> <b>EURODAD</b></p> <p>Sarah Filbee <i>Head of Tax</i> <b>JUPITER ASSET MANAGEMENT</b></p> <p>Alessandro Bucchieri <i>Head of Tax Affairs</i> <b>ENEL</b></p> <p>Axel Hilling <i>Associate Professor</i> <b>LUND UNIVERSITY</b></p>
10:10 – 10:25	Coffee Break	
10:25 – 10:50	Presentation of Index	Paul Monaghan <i>Chief Executive</i> <b>FAIR TAX FOUNDATION</b>
10:50 – 11:10	Listening to platform participants	<p>Reijo Salo <i>VP Corporate Tax</i> <b>FORTUM</b></p> <p>Christian Hjort <i>Senior Lead Tax Counsel</i> <b>ØRSTED</b></p> <p>Anders Tegelberg <i>Head of Tax</i> <b>VATTENFALL</b></p>

<p>11:10 – 11:50</p>	<p><b>Panel discussion:</b> Reactions from stakeholders</p> <p>Moderation by <b>CSR Europe</b></p>	<p>Chiara Putaturo <i>EU Inequality and Tax Policy Advisor</i> <b>OXFAM EU</b></p> <p>Alison Schultz <i>Research Fellow</i> <b>TAX JUSTICE NETWORK</b></p> <p>Sebastien Akbik <i>Corporate Governance Analyst</i> <b>PRI</b></p> <p>José María Vallejo <i>Global Head of Tax</i> <b>BBVA</b></p>
<p>11:50 – 12:00</p>	<p><b>Closing remarks</b></p>	<p><b>CSR EUROPE &amp; FAIR TAX FOUNDATION</b></p>
<p>12:00 – 13:00</p>	<p><b>Networking lunch</b></p>	

**COLLABORATIVE PLATFORM PARTICIPANTS**

**CO-PARTNER**



**MEMBERS**



**KNOWLEDGE PARTNERS**

