Why an engaged ACE network is key to EU tax policy



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Jon Lacey (Microsoft)

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### Overview

### New EU Tax Rules (e.g, Pillar 2, BEFIT, HOT, TP, Public CbCR etc) require MS support

- Tax rules initiated in the Commission and require unanimity in Council. EU Parliament has an advisory role
- Effectiveness of these rules depends on **consistent implementation and application**, which starts in the Directive, ends in enactment by individual MS legislation and administration by Tax Authorities
- Most proposals impact all of our members

### The ACE Network should cooperate to support our members throughout the legislative process

- Cooperation can guide debates in the Council to prevent bad policy and inconsistent implementation
- The ACE Network can share updates on their MS' implementation, best practices for advocacy (e.g., for consistency), and reinforce key messages at MS level

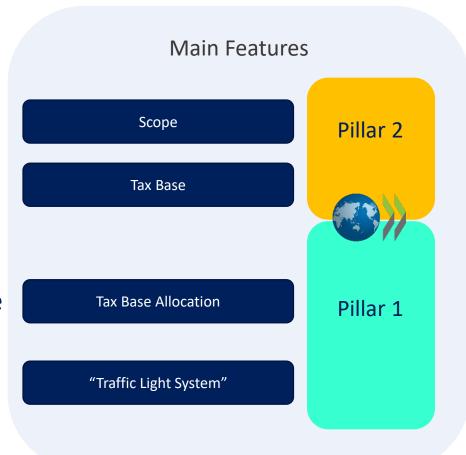


# Business in Europe: Framework for Income Taxation (BEFIT)



## BEFIT: Changing how corporates are taxed

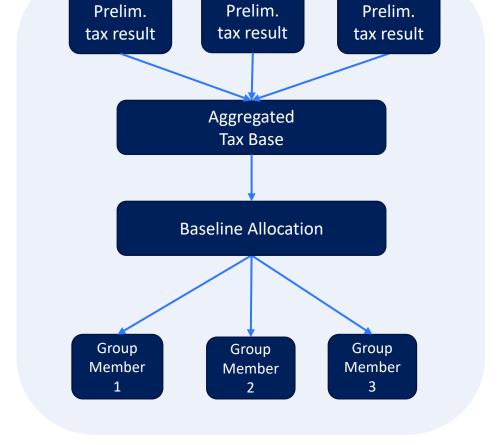
- One common framework across the EU
- Takes inspiration from the OECD/G20 "Two Pillar Solution" to the Digitalisation of the Economy
  - From Pillar 2: Scope, Tax Base Computation
  - From Pillar 1: Tax Base Allocation and Transfer Pricing Simplification
- Mandatory for EU members of a group with global annual combined revenues of EUR 750 million or more
- Optional for EU members of other groups (of smaller size)





## Calculating the Taxable Base

- 1. In scope companies will provide preliminary tax results to the EU based on their **financial accounts**, with **limited tax adjustments**
- 2. The aggregated tax base will be derived
- 3. The aggregated tax base will be allocated to each BEFIT group's members via the **transition** allocation rule
  - Reflects the average of the taxable results of group members in the last 3 fiscal years
  - May pave the way to a permanent allocation method: formulary apportionment
- MS receive a share for each group member to be taxed nationally
  - Subject to additional national tax adjustments





## **BEFIT Timeline**

#### 2025

Expected Pillar 1
MLC entry into force
1 January 2025: start
of application of
Undertaxed Profits
Rule (as per
Directive)

#### 30 June 2035

End of Transition Period (if no COM proposal and/or agreement on it, transitional provisions become permanent)

#### 12 Sep 2022

COM proposes BEFIT







1 July 2028

**BEFIT Effective Date** 





#### 1 January 2024

Start of application of Pillar 2 Directive (Income Inclusion Rule) + Amount B of Pillar 1 to be transposed into the OECD TP Guidelines



Submission of the first GloBE Information Return

#### 1 July 2031

Commission review of the transition rule, potentially proposes a permanent allocation system (formulary apportionment)



# Public Country-by-Country Reporting (CbCR) Directive Implementation



## New Public Reporting Requirements

### Who will it cover?

- Non-EU Headquartered Companies with:
  - A €750m threshold and a medium or large subsidiary in the EU, or
  - Branches in the EU that meet the net turnover requirements (below)
- Companies that meet two of the following criteria:
  - €8m net turnover
  - €4m balance sheet
  - 50 employees on average
- Non-EU parented banks which fall beyond the scope of CRD IV with above-threshold revenues

### What will be reported?

Companies will have to publish a report including...

- Description of activities
- Number of FT employes
- Revenue
- P/L before income tax
- Income tax accrued (current year)
- Income tax paid (cash basis)
- Amount of accumulated earnings

... on a **per country basis** for EU and "non-cooperative tax jurisdictions", and an **aggregate basis** for the rest of the world

### Implementation status

- 22 June 2023 transposition deadline
- Effective first AP commencing after 22
   June 2024
- Implementation optionality:
  - Safe-guard clause
  - Website publication
- Transposition status (as at Aug 2023)
  - 12 MS adopted legislation
  - 4 published draft legislation
  - 11 Not initiated transposition
- Key Deviations
  - Early application (RO 1 Jan 2023;
     SE 31 May 2024)
  - Reporting deadline (ES 6 months after P/E)
  - Scope extended to EEA (FR, RO, SE)

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# The Importance of ACE Network Cooperation



## The Value of an Engaged ACE Network

#### **Consistency is key**

- EU tax legislation's success relies on sound policy and consistent implementation across member states
- Inconsistent implementation can create complicated reporting/compliance requirements across member states, increasing liability risk and decreasing members' appetite to invest in the EU
- Consistency starts with strong harmonization requirements in the Directive, and ends with proportionate implementation in the capitals

#### **ACE** has the power

- An active ACE Network can monitor consistent implementation across EU governments and share risks of divergence, implementation status updates, and best practices for advocacy on different packages
- ACE cooperation can also assert pressure on the Council through national governments







## Thanks!



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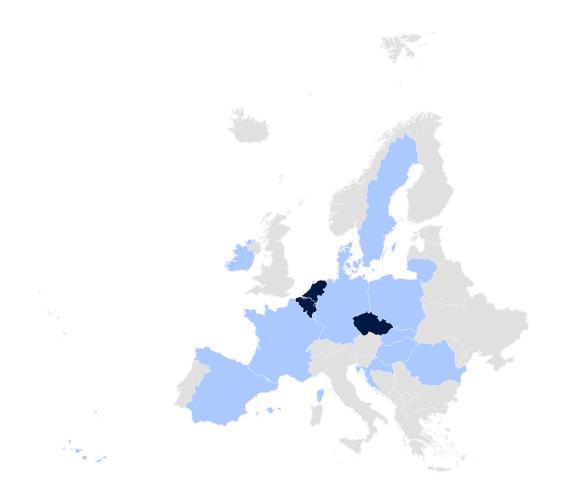
## Back-up





## **CbCR Implementation: Legislative Status**

- Draft legislation Released
- Legislation passed

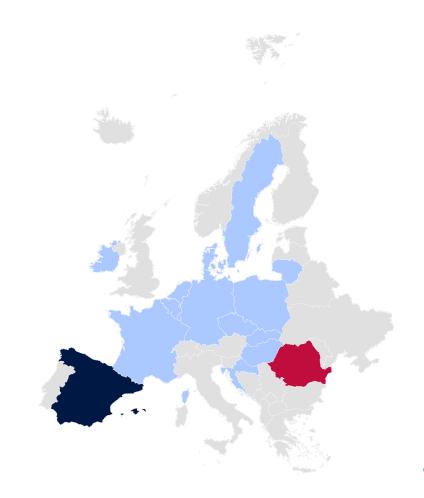




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## CbCR Implementation: Reporting Timeline

- Early Reporting
- First reporting year on or after 22 June2024
- First reporting year on or after 1January 2023





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## **CbCR Implementation Issues**

Safe-guard clauses

(HU, SL, GE)

Additional data requirements

(HU, FR, SWE, RO)

**Shorter Reporting Deadlines** 

(ES)

**Exceeding** minimum standard

**Early Adoption** 

(RO, SWE)



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# Business in Europe: Framework for Income Taxation (BEFIT)



## **Administration of Common Rules**

- One-Stop-Shop procedures
- BEFIT Group Information Return will be dealt with centrally via the Filing Authority
- BEFIT Teams
  - Representatives from each tax authority
  - Outcome of Aggregation & Allocation of the tax base
  - Permanent coordination structure
  - Audits remain at local level but are coordinated by the BEFIT teams

