



4 April 2016

1. CFE comments on the BEPS Final Recommendations and the proposal for an EU Anti-Tax Avoidance Directive

The CFE has issued Opinion Statements on the two major initiatives in international corporate taxation in Europe: On 25 March 2016, it commented on the European Commission's proposal of 28 January 2016 for an Anti-Tax Avoidance Directive, and on 1 April 2016, it issued seven Opinion Statements on the OECD's Final BEPS Recommendations of 5 October 2015. The Statements on BEPS were issued together with AOTCA, the Asia-Oceania Tax Consultants' Association.

- CFE Opinion Statement FC 3/2016 on the Anti-Tax Avoidance Directive: [EN](#)
- CFE/AOTCA Opinion Statement FC 4/2016 on the Final BEPS Recommendations (overall statement), and Opinion Statements FC 4a- 4f/2016 on specific BEPS Actions (Actions 1, 4, 5, 8-10, 12 and 14): [EN](#)

2. Discriminatory taxation of legacies to foreign charities: Germany amends its legislation

Germany is going to change its tax law to allow donations to foreign charities the same inheritance tax treatment as donations to German charities. This commitment has led to the closing of an infringement proceeding against the country on 25 February 2016, as the Commission announced on 31 March.

Previously, domestic charities had been granted an exemption from German inheritance tax, whereas similar charities established in other EU/EEA States only enjoyed this exemption if their state of residence granted an equivalent or reciprocal exemption to comparable German charities.

- List of infringement cases: [EN](#) (see Germany)

3. Public consultation on start-ups in the EU

On 31 March 2016, the European Commission launched a public consultation with a view to improve the environment for start-ups in the EU. This consultation addresses entrepreneurs as

well as other stakeholders and is part of the EU Single Market Strategy. Deadline for this consultation is 30 June 2016. The Single Market Strategy also takes up ideas to simplify VAT requirements and puts forward a proposal on business insolvency.

- Consultation website: [EN](#)

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