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VAT fraud in the EU Member States

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A study published by the Commission in October 2014 estimates the VAT gap in the EU at EUR 177 billion a year, 16% per cent of the VAT revenue expected by Member States. VAT is an exceptionally important source of the revenues of all Member States, on average, about 20% of state revenues come from VAT in the EU, and the if the latest estimate is right, 1 from every 6 VAT euros expected by EU Member States are lost, mostly to fraud. This is a serious situation which calls for an assessment of the achievements and failures of the VAT reform process and attempts at the improvement of enforcement that started with [a Commission Communication on the need for a coordinated strategy against fiscal fraud in May 2006](#), the main developments of which are summarized [here](#) and [here](#).

Agenda

12.30-13.00

Registration

13.00-13.10

Opening remarks by the co-hosts

13.10-13.25

(**Fabiola Annacondia**, International Bureau of Fiscal Documentation (IBFD), Manager of the VAT & Topicals Knowledge Group; Editor of IBFD's International VAT Monitor and EU VAT Compass)

13.25-13.40

Europol's perspective on intra-community VAT fraud (**Carlo van Heuckelom**, Head of Business Area, Economic Crime)

13.40-14.10

Perspectives on the Hungarian situation

- Macro-economic implications and missing policy instruments (**Balázs Romhányi**, Economist, Hungarian National Bank)
- Blowing the whistle on VAT fraud and its consequences, or the lack thereof (**András Horváth**, whistleblower, former official of the National Tax Authority)
- State capture, corruption and EU funds (**András Lukács**, President of the Clean Air Action Group)

14.10-14.30

The Romanian case

The experience of the National Anti-corruption Directorate (**Paul Dumitriu**, Deputy Chief Prosecutor of the Section for Combating Offences Assimilated to those of Corruption within the DNA)

14.30-14.50

Reflections from the European Commission (**Donato Raponi**, Head of Unit, Value Added Tax, European Commission, DG Taxud)

14.50-15.20

Questions and answers

15.20-15.30

Closing remarks from the co-hosts

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Benedek Jávor

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