

"International tax news, explained"

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### HAPPY FRIDAY!

**OECD's problem:** Tax authorities incur significant costs in collecting VAT from online sales.  
**OECD's solution:** Force the **online marketplaces** ("digital platforms") to do the VAT collection – **unpaid, of course!**

Speaking of problems... **Taj** has pointed out a **small problem** with the **French DST**: **95%** of the tax burden will be borne by French consumers and businesses, and the **global internet companies** will bear only **5%**. **Don't tell the Yellow Vests!**

Hey, I have an **idea!** Force all of the **global internet companies** to collect tax (for free) for the tax authorities, **instead of imposing the DST**. That way, the cost will hit the **intended target!** Free collection services instead of tax!

We now have the **Library Card Test**: benchmark an activity against the ease of obtaining a library card. First application: it's easier to **incorporate an anonymous shell company in the US** than to obtain a library card (not kidding). **Next week** we'll apply the test to the **purchase of a semi-automatic rifle in the US**.

**Korea** is making itself attractive for venture capitalists, **China** is giving away bonus input tax credits, and the **Dutch** have jumped into bed with the **French** and **Germans** (the Gouda in the sandwich)!

Have a great weekend!

**Steve**

### IN TODAY'S VIDEO PODCAST

*(For ITB video subscribers, please log in to access the video and documents/reports)*

1. Digital taxation
2. VAT collection and digital platforms
3. Other global developments
4. Asia Pacific
  - China, India, Japan, Korea
5. Europe
  - EU, Greece, Norway, Romania, UK,
6. Africa
  - UN Economic Commission for Africa
7. Middle East & Central Asia
  - Saudi Arabia
8. Americas
  - Argentina, Bermuda, Canada, Chile, US
9. Treaties
10. Worth reading

### WORTH READING

Alexander Haller & Vikram Chand

"Application of the Arm's Length Principle to Physical Cash Pooling Arrangements in Light of the OECD Discussion Draft on Financial Transactions"

Intertax, Kluwer Volume 4 (2019) Issue 4 (subscription service)

### MEANWHILE

Overhead at breakfast at an international tax conference in London:

"So what type of Brexit do you want?"

"Bacon and eggs, thanks – I'm starving"

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