

Christian Knotzer, MSc (WU)

Teaching and Research Associate, PhD Candidate WU Vienna University of Economic and Business, Institute for Austrian and International Tax Law



Article 12B UN MODEL (2021)

THE RESPONSE OF THE UN TO THE TAX CHALLENGES ARISING FROM THE DIGITALIZATION OF THE ECONOMY



Art 12B - Automated Digital Services

Objective: Taxing right for the market jurisdiction

(1), (2) & (3): Allocation of taxing rights

(4): Definitions for net tax option under (3)

(5) & (6): Scope

(7): Priority for Arts 12 & 12A in case of overlaps

(8): PE/FB-proviso

(9) & (10): Sourcing rules (payer state)

(11): Arm's length clause

Scope - Cross-border Automated Digital Services

Art 12B(5) & (6)

- Digital: provided on the Internet or another electronic network
- Automated: minimal human involvement from the service provider
 - Threshold for "minimal human involvement"?
 - Focus on service provider, not service recipient
- Little value added of exemplary and indicative list of Art 12B(6)

Allocation of taxing rights

Art 12B(1), (2) & (3)

- (1): Non-exclusive taxing right for residence state
- (2): Taxing right for the source state (payer state)
 - Tax rate (suggestion of "modest" rate, i.e. 3 or 4% in UN Commentary)
 - Alignment with tax rates in Arts 12 & 12A?
- (3): Net tax option for service provider (s = source state)
 - Tax rate_s * Qualified profits
 - Qualified Profits = 30% * (adj. PBT/_{Revenue} * Revenue[ADS]_s)
- Elimination of double taxation: Credit method (Art 23A(2))

Relation to other provisions & Pillar 1

Arts 12, 12A & Pillar 1

- Relation to other rules? E.g. overlap with Art 12 (software), Art 12A?
- Coexistence with Pillar 1?
 - "Withdrawal of all existing DSTs and relevant similar measures"
 - Complex revenue sourcing vs simple but imprecise payer-principle?

Implementation & Administration

UN MLI & Collection

- Implementing Art 12B in the DTT network via UN MLI?
- No exclusion of B2C ADS collection issues





LinkedIn