
DIJSSELBLOEM: FIGHT TAX AVOIDANCE TO BOOST EU EQUALITY

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07.09.2016

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Fighting tax avoidance should be a cornerstone of a push by EU authorities for greater equality as they seek a response to a rise in populism across the continent, the head of eurozone finance ministers said on Tuesday (6 September).

Large multinational corporations must be made to help meet society's costs, Jeroen Dijsselbloem said, following last week's European Commission ruling that iPhone maker Apple should pay €13 billion of back taxes to Ireland.

EU SAYS APPLE MUST REPAY €13 BILLION OVER ILLEGAL IRISH TAX DEAL

The European Commission said on Tuesday (30 August) that US tech company Apple must repay €13 billion in back taxes after ruling that a series of Irish tax deals were illegal.

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Every individual or company should contribute its fair share, he told a gala dinner organised by think-tank Bruegel.

That means ...increasing tax compliance. This is a fundamental issue to fairness.

He also said bank owners and investors should foot the bill if their institution failed, rather than taxpayers, and urged reforms of tax systems to reduce the fiscal burden on labour.

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Multinationals who benefit from well educated workforces should help pay for their schooling, says @J_Dijsselbloem. *cough*Apple*cough*

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Labour markets should be adapted to help workers move more easily between sectors, and the focus on the importance of education sharpened.

Dijsselbloem repeated his opposition to calls for more integration within the EU at a time when our fundamentals are so unstable and people question the legitimacy of the EU.

At a summit on Sept 16, leaders are to consider ways of reinventing the Union after Britain voted to leave in June.

PREPARATION FOR ROME TREATY ANNIVERSARY TO BEGIN IN BRATISLAVA

The Bratislava summit on 16 September will launch a reflection on what needs to be done to overcome the problems the EU faces, which could result in a clearer vision to be formulated in March 2017 □ the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the Rome Treaty □ the Slovak Presidency said.

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