

***Madariaga***

**‘Revisiting Taxation in the Wake of the  
Crisis: National or European Tax  
Sovereignty? Tax Competition or Tax  
Harmonization?’**

28 September 2010 09:30-16:30  
Committee of the Regions  
Rue Belliard 101 – 1040 Brussels - Room 52JDE

While debates about whether or not tax competition increased income inequalities or improved efficiency and competitiveness will be restricted to ideological assumptions for years to come, a threefold question needs to be answered now: how can tax competition be kept in a context requiring a reduction of unit labour costs, a deleveraging of public finances in an ageing society, and resources to finance public goods that can no longer be confined to the national dimension?

**9:30 – 10:30 Opening session**

Gerhard Stahl (Secretary General, Committee of the Regions)

Didier Reynders (Belgian Minister for Finance)

Frans Vanistendael (Instructor, International Bureau of Fiscal Documentation)

**Chair:** Jean-Luc Dehaene (MEP, EPP)

**10:30 – 12:00 Is tax competition harmful for employment? Using taxation to reduce labour costs**

John Monks (Secretary General, European Trade Union Confederation)

Philippe de Buck (Director General, BusinessEurope)

Pervenche Berès (MEP, ASDE)

**Chair:** Joëlle Milquet (Belgian Minister for Employment and Social Affairs)

12:00 – 13:30 *Buffet lunch*

13:30 – 15:00 **Tackling tax competition to cope with the new pressures on public expenditure**

Michael Devereux (Oxford Centre for Business Taxation)

Sven Giegold (MEEP, Greens)

Frank Vandenbroucke (Member of the Flemish Parliament, SP.a)

**Chair:** Melchior Wathelet (Belgian Minister for Budget)

15:00 – 16:30 **From tax competition to own resources to finance European public goods**

Stefano Micossi (Assonime)

François Pouget (Université Paris Dauphine)

Guy Verhofstadt (MEP, ALDE)

**Chair :** Paul Magnette (Belgian Minister for Climate and Energy)

16:30 – 17:00 **Conclusions**

Algirdas Šemeta (EU Commissioner for Taxation and Custom Union)