

Rolling Stones and the Netherlands

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Most people think that tax havens are small islands with palm trees, remote from anywhere.

But that just isn't true. For example, [Accountancy Age](#) has reported how the Rolling Stones have used the Netherlands to reduce the tax rate on tier royalties to under 2% in the last 20 years by locating their royalty collecting company in the Netherlands.

The Netherlands is a tax haven. It's a serious tax haven. It set out to be so. That remains its objective. And I'll be saying quite a lot more about this over the coming month or two. Watch this space....

Which does however beg the question - how the heck can we expect people to pay tax when many of the government's of the world are dedicated to ensuring they don't? MAD (mutually assured destruction) was a feature of the Cold War. But it's just as relevant to international tax.