

Jersey is not an obstacle to UK citizenship based taxat...

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There's [a letter in The Times](#) this morning which in the interests of public debate I am going to reproduce in full:

Sir, Despite Clive Stafford Smith's eminence as a lawyer, his proposed solution to the "kerfuffle" surrounding non-doms lacks the simplicity that he implies ("[just pay up in full](#)", letter, Mar 8).

US citizenship is clearly the citizenship of a single federal state that is entitled to tax its nationals as it so wishes. By contrast, those holding British citizenship include people from the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man, which are separate historic jurisdictions that are not represented in the UK Parliament but have their own governments and legislatures.

The people of Jersey have, for the past millennium, shown loyalty to their sovereign while claiming the right to not be subject to any form of taxation to which they had not consented. It would surely not be "fair enough" from a constitutional perspective either to seek to override the ancient rights and privileges enjoyed by islanders or to consider them any less British.

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[Clive Stafford Smith](#) is, I admit, one of my heroes — a man who has dedicated himself to saving those on death row.

And Geoffrey White is a lawyer who works in a cowardly island that is a secrecy jurisdictions - which are places that intentionally create regulation for the primary benefit and use of those not resident in their geographical domain. That regulation is designed to undermine the legislation or regulation of another jurisdiction. To facilitate its use secrecy jurisdictions also create a deliberate, legally backed veil of secrecy that ensures that those from outside the jurisdiction making use of its regulation cannot be identified to be doing so.

If evidence is needed of my claim see what he's written. No, he's saying to the UK, you can't charge fair taxes because we're going to stop you.

But he ignores the solution (of course). That is that the real people of Jersey — those with Jersey issued passports — could be exempted from this charge if that was considered desirable and appropriate.

But he does not seek to suggest that obvious and easy solution. He just uses his 'Britishness' to undermine the UK's tax system and necessary reforms to it to make it more effective — not least by ensuring tax is paid by those who avail themselves of the services of the Jersey finance industry and its tax exile offering.

It's time professional people changed their tune: their duty is to support tax systems - not undermine them.