

The tax justice deadline

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Tax Justice has, I think, got a deadline. It summarises what we believe in, which is:

Democracy, and that tax is the price we pay for it.

Equality, because societies that aim for equality provide best opportunity for all and are happier as a result: progressive taxation of income and wealth contributes to and pays for that equality.

Accountability, by taxpayers for the tax they owe; by corporations about where they are, what they do and what tax they pay and by government on how much they collect and spend.

Development, whether internationally - where assistance to poorer nations is vital - or nationally to give the disadvantaged the best chance. Only tax can deliver this assistance.

Liberation, for people from poverty. The resources to deliver that freedom exist but are being hidden by tax evasion, tax avoidance and tax havens.

International cooperation on taxation to make sure that all tax is paid in the right place at the right time and in the right amount.

National tax systems that are fit for purpose, fair and which charge a broad tax base to tax at rates that are democratically set and subject to budgets approved by parliaments.

Economic management using taxation to correct market failures and to help achieve the goals of full employment, sustainability and equality.