

If Bill Gates walked the talk he'd be a lot more credib...

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Bill Gates has, [according to the Guardian](#), warned '*that should the Conservatives go ahead and abandon the UK's overseas aid spending pledge it would reduce the country's influence in the world and mean more lives lost in Africa.*'

I agree with him. That is right.

But I think the warning would be a lot more credible if Microsoft tried to pay all its taxes in full in all the countries in which it operates. It does, however, [still play tax games in Ireland](#) (and no doubt elsewhere) at considerable cost to the UK, and no doubt many developing countries.

And Microsoft does not do country-by-country reporting so we can truly understand its tax performance.

My message is simple. Bill Gates needs to walk the talk. Then more people might listen.