

EU VAT Compass

Table of Contents

PART 1

EU VAT Directives (Directive 2006/112 and the corresponding provisions of the Sixth Directive)

PART 2

Operative parts of ECJ judgments in VAT cases 1970 – 2008

PART 3

An overview of the options laid down by the VAT Directive that have been taken up by the individual Member States. Options exercised by the individual Member States as regards:

- The concept of taxable persons: VAT grouping arrangements, VAT status of nontaxable persons supplying new immovable property, registration thresholds.
- Taxable events: transfers of businesses, intra-Community acquisitions thresholds, consignment good and call-off stock arrangements.
- Place and time of taxation: distance selling thresholds, effective use and enjoyment override, cash and accrual based accounting, advance payments.
- Taxable amount: bad debt relief.
- Tax rates: overview of the scope of various types of reduced rates, such as parking rates, super-reduced rates, reduced rates applicable to labour-intensive services.
- Exemptions: scope of the exemption for the letting of immovable property and of several standstill exemptions, various options for taxation.
- Zero rating: provisioning of sea vessels, VAT status of goods under customs control, goods and services acquired by exporters and intra-Community suppliers, VAT warehousing regimes, retail export scheme, national, international and intra-Community passenger transport.
- Deduction and refunds of input tax: exclusions from the right to deduct, non-taxed subsidies included in the pro rata, adjustments of input deductions in respect of unpaid debts, stolen goods and capital goods, refunds of VAT to nonresident traders, refunds of excess input tax.
- Liability to pay VAT under the reverse charge and VAT withholding mechanisms, in the context of simplified triangulation, on the importation of goods, under joint and several liability provisions applicable to the contracting partner, and appointment of VAT representatives.
- Administrative obligations: VAT invoices relating to exempt supplies, time limits for issuing invoices, invoices drawn up by the customer, customer's identification number on invoices, storage of invoices, tax periods, electronic VAT returns, deadlines for filing VAT returns and payment of

VAT, frequency of recapitulative statements, recapitulative statements relating to intra-Community acquisitions.

- Special schemes: flat rate compensation schemes for farmers and globalization as a special form of the margin scheme.
- Appendices: Practical information, including VAT thresholds and rates, contact details of VAT information and refund offices, format of VAT identification numbers.