

Brussels, 5 December 2017

### **Federation of European Publishers' VAT Resolution**

On 1 December 2016, the European Commission issued a long-awaited and much-needed proposal to allow Member States – if they so wish – to apply the same reduced, super-reduced and zero rates they apply to print books also to books on all kinds of supports. The book industry in Europe welcomed this initiative wholeheartedly as a decisive step towards the end of the unjustified discrimination in the fiscal treatment of books in different formats.

Nonetheless, one year later, we regret to note that not only has this proposal not been adopted yet, but it is not even on the agenda of the ECOFIN Council or its related preparatory bodies, despite it being a positive, forward-looking measure, aimed at encouraging reading and boosting e-commerce, flexible, and in addition voluntary.

With this Declaration, therefore, the Federation of European Publishers and its 29 members – national associations of publishers of books, learning materials, and/or journals in a range of media from all over Europe – gathered in their General Assembly, would like to express their disappointment at this unwarranted delay and strongly encourage all parties involved to work towards a swift conclusion of the process and a positive outcome for the European book sector, culture and citizens.

You will find the list of members of the Federation of European Publishers on the following page.

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Austria: Hauptverband Des Österreichischen Buchhandels  
Belgium: Groep Algemene Uitgevers and Groep Educatieve en Wetenschappelijke Uitgevers / Association Des Editeurs Belges  
Bulgaria: Асоциация “Българска Книга”  
Czech Republic: Svaz Českých Knihkupců a Nakladatelů  
Denmark: Forlæggerforeningen  
Estonia: Eesti Kirjastuste Liit  
Finland: Suomen Kustannusyhdistys Ry  
France: Syndicat National de L’edition  
Germany: Börsenverein des Deutschen Buchhandels  
Greece: Ομοσπονδία Εκδοτών Βιβλίου Ελλάδος  
Hungary: Magyar Könyvkiadó és Könyvterjesztők Egyesülése  
Iceland: Félag Íslenskra Bókaútgefenda  
Ireland: Publishing Ireland  
Italy: Associazione Italiana Editori  
Latvia: Latvijas Grāmatizdevēju Asociācijas  
Lithuania: Lietuvos Leidėjų Asociacija  
Luxembourg: Fédération Luxembourgeoise des Editeurs de Livres  
The Netherlands: Nederlands Uitgeversverbond  
Norway: Den Norske Forleggerforening  
Poland: Polska Izba Książki  
Portugal: Associação Portuguesa de Editores E Livreiros  
Romania: Federația Editorilor Din România  
Serbia: Удружење Издавача И Књижара  
Slovakia: Združenie vydavateľov a kníhkupcov Slovenskej republiky  
Slovenia: Gospodarska Zbornica Slovenije  
Spain: Federación de Gremios de Editores de España  
Sweden: Svenska Förläggareföreningen  
United Kingdom: The Publishers Association