

## VAT focus

## 2017 EU VAT rates and compliance information

The table below summarises the standard rates of VAT currently in force in each member state, as well as other useful information such as their VAT registration, distance selling and Intrastat thresholds. Standard rates remain stable around the EU, with only two countries making changes in the past year. Greece increased its rate by 1% to 24% on 1 June 2016 while, on 1 January 2017, Romania completed its plan to reduce its standard rate to the pre-financial crisis level of 19%.

As usual, many countries have adjusted their Intrastat thresholds for the new year, but there is little change to the other data. Sweden and Luxembourg have both raised their VAT registration thresholds for local businesses, and Estonia intends to do the same in 2018. However, any benefits of this trend will















**Sarah Halsted**

BDO

Sarah Halsted is BDO's VAT marketing and technical senior manager, responsible for reporting on VAT developments both within BDO and for its client publications and events – UK and international. Sarah worked in HMRC and as a VAT consultant in practice before moving into her technical role and has extensive experience of VAT and other indirect taxes. Email: sarah.halsted@bdo.co.uk; tel: 020 7893 2916.

not extend to inward investors because member states are so far retaining their nil registration limits for non-resident businesses.

The big news of the last 12 months is of course the UK's decision to leave the EU which, once realised, will remove it from distance selling and Intrastat regimes. Brexit is not expected to take effect until March 2019 at the earliest, so the UK's VAT system will continue to operate under EU rules for the time being. ■

Country	Country Code	Local term for VAT	Format of VAT number	VAT registration annual limit	Distance selling limit	Current standard rate	Frequency of VAT returns	Intrastat threshold	Deadline for Intrastat declaration
 Austria	AT	UST	ATU12345678	€30,000 (nil limit for non resident businesses)	€35,000	20%	M (monthly)/ Q (quarterly)/ A (annual)	A (arrivals): €750,000 / D (dispatches): €750,000	10 working days
 Belgium	BE	BTW	BE 0123.456.789	No limit (option for small business enterprise scheme if turnover <€25,000)	€35,000	21%	M/Q + annual sales listing	A: €1.5m D: 1m	20 days
 Bulgaria	BG	DDS	BG1234567890 or BG123456789	BGN 50,000	BGN 70,000 (€35,791)	20%	M	A: 410,000 BGN / D: 240,000 BGN	14 days
 Croatia	HR	PDV	HR12345678901	HRK 230,000 (nil limit for non-resident businesses)	HRK 270,000 €38,831	25%	M/Q + annual sales listing	A: 1.7m HRK D: 750,000 HRK	15 days
 Cyprus	CY	VAT	CY12345678X	€15,600	€35,000	19%	Q	A: €100,000 D: €55,000	10 days
 Czech Republic	CZ	DPH	CZ12345678 CZ123456789 CZ1234567890	CZK 1,000,000 (nil limit for non resident businesses)	CZK 1,140,000 (€42,153)	21%	M/Q	A:CZK 8m D:CZK 8m	12 working days
 Denmark	DK	MOMS	DK12345678	DKK 50.000 (nil limit for non resident businesses)	DKK 280.000 (€37,557)	25%	M/Q/6 monthly	A: 6m DKK D: 4.5m DKK	10 working days
 Estonia	EE	KM	EE123456789	€16,000 (nil limit for non resident businesses)	€35,000	20%	M	A: €200,000 D: €130,000	14 days
 Finland	FI	ALV	FI12345678	€10,000 (nil limit for non resident businesses)	€35,000	24%	M/Q/A (annual)	A: €550,000 D: €500,000	10 working days
 France	FR	TVA	FR12345678901	€82,800 goods €33,200 services (nil limit for non resident businesses)	€35,000	20%	M/Q	A: €460,000 D: NIL (simplified form for dispatches <€460,000)	10 working days
 Germany	DE	MWST	DE123456789	None (option for 'small business special scheme' €17,500 preceding year; €50,000 current year)	€100,000	19%	M/Q/A	A: €800,000 D: €500,000	10 working days
 Greece	GR	FPA	EL 012345678	None (option for 'small business special scheme' if turnover is less than €10,000 )	€35,000	24% (17% in some Greek islands)	M/Q	A: €150,000 D: €90,000	Last working day of the month following the reference month

Country	Country Code	Local term for VAT	Format of VAT number	VAT registration annual limit	Distance selling limit	Current standard rate	Frequency of VAT returns	Intrastat threshold	Deadline for Intrastat declaration
 Hungary	HU	AFA	HU 12345678	None (option for 'small business special scheme' if turnover is less than 8m HUF)	€35,000	27%	M/Q/A	A: 170m HUF D: 100m HUF	15 days
 Ireland	IE	VAT	IE 1234567XA (individuals) IE 1234567XH (non-individuals)	€37,500 services €75,000 goods €41,000 intra EU acquisitions (nil limit for non-established traders)	€35,000	23%	M/ 2 monthly/ 4M / 6 monthly/ A	A: €500,000 D: €635,000	23 days
 Italy	IT	IVA	IT 12345678901	Nil	€35,000	22%	Q/A	A: NIL D: NIL	25 days
 Latvia	LV	PVN	LV 12345678901	€50,000 (nil limit for non-resident businesses and Latvian businesses supplying non-residents)	€35,000	21%	M/Q	A: €180,000 D: €100,000	10 days
 Lithuania	LT	PVM	LT123456789 or LT123456789012	€45,000	€35,000	21%	M/6 monthly	A: €280,000 D: €200,000	10 working days
 Luxembourg	LU	TVA	LU 12345678	€30,000 (nil limit for non-resident businesses)	€100,000	17%	M/Q/A	A: €200,000 D: €150,000	Hard copy: 6 working days Electronic format (compulsory for >€350,000): 16 working days
 Malta	MT	VAT	12345678	No limit	€35,000	18%	Q/A	A: €700 D: €700	10 days
 Netherlands	NL	BTW or OB	NL123456789B01	No limit	€100,000	21%	M/Q/A	A: €1m D: €1.2m	10 days
 Poland	PL	VAT	PL1234567890	150,000 PLN (nil limit for non-resident businesses)	160,000 PLN (€37,300)	23%	M/Q	A: 3m PLN D: 1.5m PLN	10 days
 Portugal	PT	IVA	PT123456789	No limit (but a €10,000 exemption threshold applies to some local businesses)	€35,000	23% (22% Madeira, 18% Azores)	M/Q	A: €350,000 D: €250,000	15 days
 Romania	RO	TVA	RO + 2-10 digits	220,000 RON (nil limit for non-resident businesses)	118,000 RON €26,353	19%	M/Q/6 monthly /A	A: 900,000 RON / D: 900,000 RON	15 days
 Slovakia	SK	DPH	SK 1234567890	€49,790 (nil limit for non-resident businesses)	€35,000	20%	M /Q	A: €200,000 D: €400,000	15 days
 Slovenia	SI	DDV	SI12345678	€50,000 (nil limit for non-resident businesses)	€35,000	22%	M /Q	A: €120,000 D: €200,000	15 days
 Spain	ES	IVA	ESX12345678 or ES12345678X or ESX1234567X	No limit	€35,000	21%	M/Q/A	A: €400,000 D: €400,000	12 Days
 Sweden	SE	MOMS	SE1234567890 01	No limit	30,000 SEK (nil limit for non resident business)	25%	M/Q	A: SEK 9m D: SEK 4.5m	13-18 days
 UK	GB	VAT	GB123456789	£83,000 (£85,000 from 1 April 2017) (nil limit for non-resident businesses)	£70,000 €89,493	20%	M/Q/A	A: £1.5m D: £250,000	21 days