

Dear Cavling Comittée

I should like to very warmly recommend Mads Nilsson, Troels Kingo Larsen and Bo Elkjær from DR for this year's Cavling award, along with Matias Seidelin from Jyllands-Posten.

The DR team was the first to shine a light on the hitherto underreported story of VAT fraud and terrorism in Europe.

Their documentaries are meticulously researched, compelling and gripping and they have acted as a powerful wake-up call to governments, tax authorities and policy-makers in Europe.

The European Commission had the honour of hosting a special film screening with Troels, Mads and Bo on September 5, 2017 in Brussels to showcase their work. Excerpts of their documentaries were screened and they took many questions from a large audience about how they uncovered the vast network of fraudsters and their links with terrorist groups. The screening was attended by Pierre MOSCOVICI, European Commissioner for Taxation and Customs, and many policy makers, including members of the European Parliament who have subsequently also praised these journalists' work.

The DR team have also inspired many other reporters who attended the event to continue looking into this large-scale fraud that costs EU governments billions of euros a year.

This media attention has helped to spur discussions at EU level regarding reforming the VAT system so as to make it fraud-proof and closed to criminals.

You can find some photos of the event here and we also have video footage if needed:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/146315122@N05/sets/72157688656447325/with/36252361653/>

I copy Stephen Quest, Director-General of TAXUD, the European Commission's tax arm, which hosted the event with the DR team.

Please do not hesitate to get in touch should you require more information.

Yours sincerely,
Vanessa Mock

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Spokesperson for Financial Services, Taxation and Customs



European Commission
Spokesperson's Service