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l artículo *The Tax Transparency Code — lessons for improvement from Australia’s codes of conduct*, escrito por Paul Latimer, publicado por *Australian Tax Forum* 38(4) 2023, concluye: “*Voluntary disclosure to enhance tax transparency is well-intentioned and is in line with OECD standards. It builds on the policy that disclosure like sunshine is the best disinfectant. The TTC aims to encourage greater transparency, to show that large businesses are paying their “fair share” and to provide a set of principles and minimum standards to guide medium and large businesses on the public disclosure of their tax information. It does not target the bad and instead it upholds the example of the good. ―This article has provided an analysis of the scope and the effectiveness of the TTC by comparison with Australia’s many voluntary, prescribed and mandatory codes of conduct. It has shown that the TTC does not fulfil the comparative criteria set out in the ASIC or ACCC templates for the approval of codes of conduct. It is disappointing to say that the TTC is the kind of code which gives the word “code” a bad name. ―This article has supported the possible move of the voluntary TTC to a mandatory code by legislation like the media code and the gas code subject to the approval criteria in the comparative templates, and if this were to happen, the lessons in this article would apply equally whether the code is voluntary or mandatory. ―Publishing data on corporate tax transparency informs public debate about the corporate tax system and helps to improve awareness, increase community confidence that corporations are paying the right amount of tax and to encourage voluntary compliance.194 However, because subscribing to the code is voluntary, there has been a relatively low uptake of the TTC by businesses and especially by foreign multinational enterprises. What is disclosed is unverified and the data lacks credibility in the absence of enforceability. This is shown by the limited role the TTC has had in informing the public debate in relation to the tax affairs of the targeted businesses. Even so, there is evidence which suggests that the TTC has had some spillover effect where non-disclosing businesses have brought their level of tax avoidance more into line with that of disclosing businesses.195 ―This article has examined the high hopes for the TTC and its current weaknesses as a voluntary code. As enhancing tax transparency is now a live issue following an election promise in 2022 in which the Commonwealth government has flagged mandatory tax transparency, this article recommends that an enhanced TTC would lead to better and meaningful verified disclosure if it were a mandatory code by legislation with the force of law*.” Muchos deseamos que las palabras sean suficientes para comprometer a las personas. Se decía que así fue en el pasado. Gran cantidad de personas con formación detestan las leyes, generalmente porque no las conocen ni quieren conocerlas. Sin embargo, es muy claro que las sociedades modernas a duras penas obedecen la ley y, en cambio, pueden o no acatar otro tipo de obligaciones (incluso contratos). Es lamentable. Mientras trabajamos en la academia para que los contables honren su palabra, habrá leyes.

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