



From the Director



Dear friends and colleagues

Do Australians think our national debt is a problem, or the tax system is unfair? As we head into an early budget (3 May) and an early election (2 July), the [latest ANUpoll](#) on the topic of taxation and equity, is launched at [Parliament House today](#). I will be providing analysis of the report for the media alongside its authors Jill Murray and Ben Phillips.

The ANUpoll suggests that the nation is divided on whether the national debt is the most important economic problem but most would prefer to raise taxes rather than cut spending to deal with it. And there is widespread confusion about which welfare payments cost the most, and how progressive our tax system really is. See the [Austaxpolicy blog analysis by Ben Phillips](#).

We have been extending our research relationships in the region and next month, we will welcome a Korean delegation to discuss gender budgeting, co-operatively with non-government organisation, the [National Foundation for Australian Women](#). We will also be meeting with young members of Parliament from India, and Ministry of Finance officials from Indonesia, on tax and transfer issues.

We look forward to welcoming Professor Eva Eberhartinger, Vienna University to present our next TTPI seminar on research findings about behavioural responses to tax planning, 24 May 2016, 12.30 - 1.30pm, at Crawford School. We also are delighted to announce the arrival of our first Endeavour postdoctoral research fellow, Assistant Professor Tereza Rogic-Lugaric of the University of Zagreb, Croatia. Tereza will be researching co-operative tax compliance between taxpayers, administrators and tax intermediaries.

Finally, we are pleased to announce Professor Judith Freedman of Worcester College, Oxford will be visiting TTPI in July this year as our International Visiting Fellow. Professor Freedman is a Pinsent Masons Professor of Taxation Law, and Associate Dean for Development, Oxford Law Faculty, Director of Legal Research, Centre for Business Taxation and joint Editor of *British Tax Review*. During her visit Professor Freedman will be presenting a public lecture on business taxation. We will keep you posted on the event.

Latest from the Austaxpolicy Blog

[ANUpoll: Government's deficit dilemma with a confused electorate](#)

26 April 2016, by Ben Phillips

['Middle-Class Welfare': What is the evidence?](#)

22 April 2016, by Alan Tapper.

Alan presents new fiscal incidence research about Australia's welfare system.

TTPI Seminar Series

The next TTPI seminar is on Tuesday 24 May 2016, 12.30-1.30pm, **Tax rate biases in tax planning decisions: experimental evidence**, by Professor Eva Eberhartinger, Vienna University of Economics and Business. More details on the event and registration are available on our [web](#).

Don't forget to follow the Blog on Twitter [@Austaxpolicy](#) for regular articles, briefs and interesting fiscal news.

As always, please circulate this information and newsletter widely to people who you think may be interested.

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For more information on TTPI, please email tax.policy@anu.edu.au or visit our [website](#).

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