

International Royalty Flows and Research and Development Responses to IP Box Regimes

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IIEL and ITPF

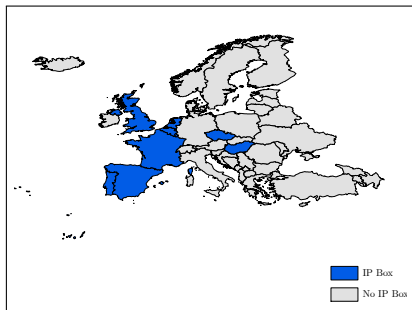
Taxation of Intellectual Property in a Global Economy

March 11, 2016

Introduction

Objectives of IP Box Regimes

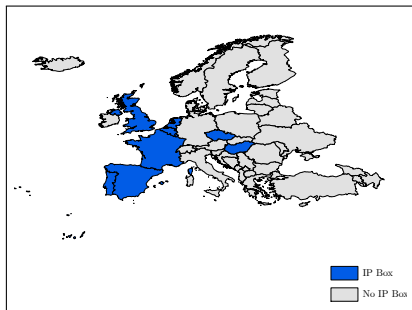
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This project explores whether IP Box regimes accomplish these goals by examining the impact of IP Boxes on

- ▶ U.S. payments for the use of intellectual property made to foreign countries
- ▶ R&D expenditures in majority owned, U.S. foreign affiliates

IP Box Characteristics

Table: IP Box Regimes Currently in Place

Country	Implemented	IP Box %	Main Tax %
Belgium	2007	6.8	33.99
Cyprus	2012	2.5	12.5
France	2000	16.76	35.41
Hungary	2003	9.5	19
Liechtenstein	2011	2.5	12.5
Luxembourg	2008	5.84	29.22
Malta	2010	0	35
Netherlands	2007	5	25
Portugal	2014	15	30
Spain	2008	12	30
U.K.	2013	10	21

Notes: Table taken from Evers, Miller, Spengel 2014. Main Tax % includes the corporate income tax rate and if applicable, surcharges, local income taxes, and other income taxes. When Estimating IP is coded as "Yes," income derived from existing IP (when the box is implemented) qualifies from the preferential; IP box tax rate. When IP income is defined as gross income, IP related expenses may be deducted at the Main Tax %. When IP income is defined as net, IP related income must be deducted at the IP box %.

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Cyprus	2012	2.5	12.5	Yes	Net
France	2000	16.76	35.41	Yes	Net
Hungary	2003	9.5	19	Yes	Gross
Liechtenstein	2011	2.5	12.5	No	Net
Luxembourg	2008	5.84	29.22	No	Net
Malta	2010	0	35	No	Net
Netherlands	2007	5	25	No	Net
Portugal	2014	15	30	No	Gross
Spain	2008	12	30	Yes	Net
U.K.	2013	10	21	Yes	Net

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IP Box Characteristics

Treatment of Existing IP

- ▶ “Existing IP Allowed”: preferential IP tax rate applies to both income derived from new (post box) IP and existing (pre box) IP.
- ▶ “Existing IP Not Allowed”: preferential IP tax rate applies to only newly developed (post box) IP.

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Income Definition; Expense Allocation Rules

- ▶ “Net Income”: preferential IP tax rate applies to IP income net of IP costs.
- ▶ “Gross Income”: preferential IP tax rate applies to only IP income. IP costs are deducted at the applicable pre-box tax rate.

Incentives Created by IP Box Characteristics

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Incentives for IP Payments

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- ▶ To take advantage of the IP box, new IP must be generated.

There is also a stronger incentive to increase R&D when the IP box applies to Gross as opposed to net income.

- ▶ R&D is taxed at the traditional rate that is high relative to the rate of the income generated by the R&D.

Data Sources

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U.S. Payments for the Use of IP [▶ Descriptive Statistics](#)

The U.S. BEA detailed data on international charges for the use of intellectual property.

- ▶ includes royalties, trademarks, franchise fees
- ▶ data are available for 31 countries during the years 1999–2014
- ▶ includes pre and post implementation data for 5 IP box countries [▶ more](#)
- ▶ 2013: 77% of payments were made between related parties

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U.S. MNE foreign affiliate R&D [▶ Descriptive Statistics](#)

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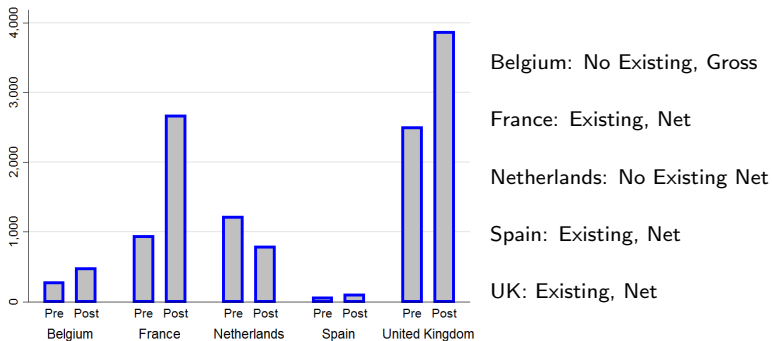
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Data are matched to country GDP, population, corporate tax rates, and corporate tax systems for empirical analysis.

U.S. Payments Response to IP Box Implementation

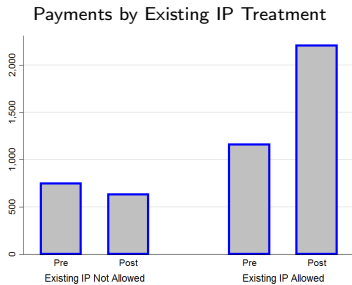
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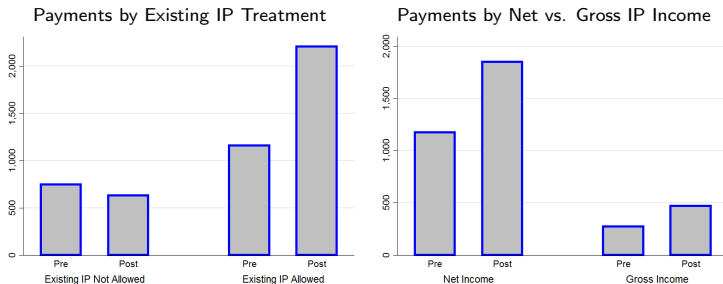
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- ▶ The implementation of an Existing IP Not Allowed box does not have a statistically significant effect on payments for the use of IP from the U.S.
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- ▶ On average, countries that implemented Existing IP Allowed boxes decreased their tax rates on IP income by 65%.
- ▶ When statutory rates are lower than 50%, in order for these countries to have revenue neutral IP boxes, their IP income would have to increase by **MORE THAN 65%** in response to the box.

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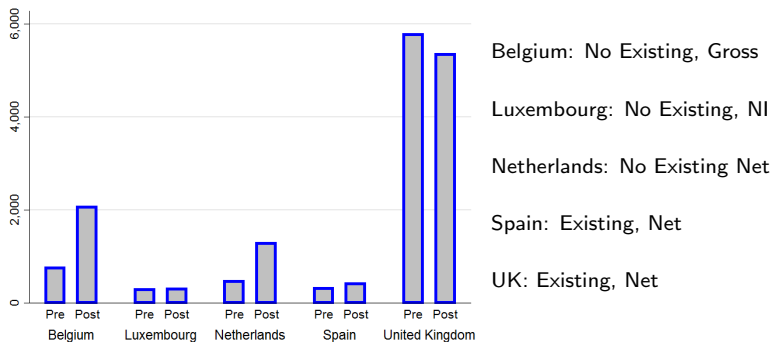
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- ▶ Empirical estimates suggest the international IP income response did not achieve revenue neutrality.

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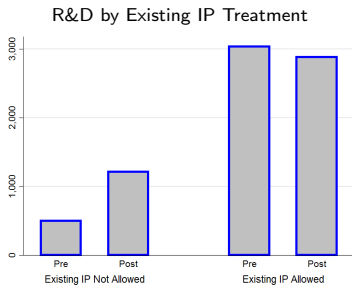
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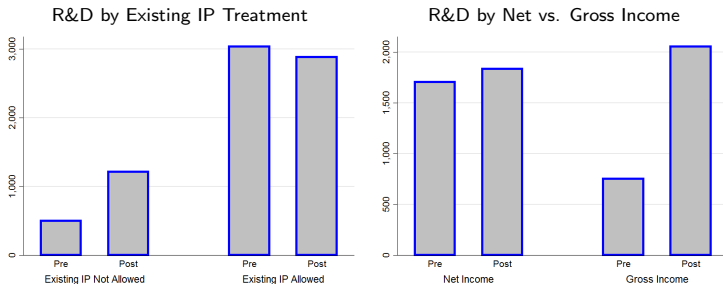
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- ▶ Payments to affiliates for R&D would not garner the tax advantages of the IP box (especially not the Gross Income box).

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Can an IP box both stimulate domestic innovation and limit base erosion?

- ▶ The IP box that achieves both goals counts **Existing IP Income** and applies to **Gross IP Income**.
- ▶ This type of IP Box is also the most costly.

Thank you.

I look forward to your questions and feedback.

Regimes Included in Empirical Analyses

Table: IP Box Regimes included in Royalty Payment and R&D Data

Country	Existing	Gross	Royalty Payments		R&D	
			Included	Changed During	Included During	Changed
Belgium	No	Gross	✓	✓	✓	✓
France	Yes	Net	✓	✓	✓	
Hungary	Yes	Gross			✓	
Luxembourg	No	Net			✓	✓
Netherlands	No	Net	✓	✓	✓	✓
Spain	Yes	Net	✓	✓	✓	✓
U.K.	Yes	Net	✓	✓	✓	✓

Notes: Table 4 describes the tax regimes that are used to estimate the royalty payment and R&D response to IP Boxes and IP box characteristics.

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IP Payment Descriptive Statistics

Table: Descriptive Statistics, US IP Payments Sample

	Obs.	Mean	Std Dev	Min	Max
Payments	420	858.44	1,699.10	0.00	12,406.00
Corpt Tax Rate	420	29.13	7.66	0.00	52.30
1 [Territorial]	420	0.82	0.38	0.00	1.00
GDP per capita	420	27.10	22.65	0.45	102.83
Population	420	14,259.15	32,143.41	6.45	136,427.00
IP Box	420	0.09	0.29	0.00	1.00

Notes: Table 5 provides descriptive statistics for variables used in the US payments analysis. Payments and Population are reported in millions. GDP per capita is reported in thousands.

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R&D Descriptive Statistics

Table: Descriptive Statistics, US MNE Foreign Affiliate R&D Sample

	Obs.	Mean	Std Dev	Min	Max
R&D	844	419.99	1,069.05	0.00	8,272.00
Corp Tax Rate	844	25.42	8.95	0.00	55.00
1[Territorial]	844	0.93	0.26	0.00	1.00
GDP per capita	844	19.21	21.82	0.24	157.09
Population	844	5,832.37	19,354.47	3.65	135,738.00
IP Box	844	0.06	0.23	0.00	1.00
Capital Expenditure	698	2,024.66	4,092.84	0.00	33,841.00
Employees	815	115.48	241.69	0.00	1,419.40

Notes: Table 6 provides descriptive statistics for variables used in the US MNE foreign affiliate R&D analysis. R&D, Population, and Capital Expenditure are reported in millions. GDP per capita and Employees are reported in thousands.

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Table: US Payments for the Use of Foreign Intellectual Property

Dependent Variable: Specification	Log Payments				
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
IP Box	-0.262 (0.199)	-0.370 (0.225)	-0.445* (0.227)	-0.353 (0.231)	-0.433* (0.222)
Tax Diff	0.003 (0.011)	0.001 (0.011)	0.001 (0.015)	0.005 (0.010)	0.008 (0.013)
1[Territorial]	-0.142 (0.147)	-0.185 (0.148)	-0.219 (0.129)	-0.132 (0.147)	-0.151 (0.134)
Existing x IP Box		0.587** (0.277)	0.612** (0.244)		
Gross x IP Box				0.336 (0.230)	0.390* (0.219)
OECD Only			✓		✓
Country, Year FE	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Controls	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
R-Squared	0.466	0.477	0.545	0.471	0.537
Countries	31	31	17	31	17
Countries x Years	420	420	243	420	243

Notes: The dependent variable in all specifications is the log of U.S. payments for the use of foreign intellectual property. Observations are at the foreign country-year level. Specifications (3) and (5) limit the analysis to OECD countries. All specifications include country and year fixed effects as well as controls for foreign affiliate GDP per capita and population. Standard errors are clustered at the country level.

*** indicates statistical significance at the 1% level, ** at 5%, and * at 10%.

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Table: US MNE Research & Development in Foreign Affiliates

Dependent Variable:	Log Research and Development				
Specification	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
IP Box	0.264*	0.485**	0.463**	0.142	0.134
	(0.153)	(0.195)	(0.180)	(0.150)	(0.175)
Tax Diff	-0.001	-0.001	0.001	-0.001	0.007
	(0.002)	(0.002)	(0.009)	(0.002)	(0.009)
1[Territorial]	0.013	0.032	0.016	0.019	-0.008
	(0.066)	(0.063)	(0.082)	(0.065)	(0.082)
Existing x IP Box		-0.586***	-0.682***		
		(0.202)	(0.195)		
Gross x IP Box				0.616***	0.597***
				(0.153)	(0.176)
European Only			✓		✓
Country, Year FE	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Controls	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
R-Squared	0.466	0.491	0.411	0.485	0.399
Countries	116	116	32	116	32
Countries x Years	844	844	280	844	280

Notes: The dependent variable in all specifications is the log of U.S. MNE research and development taking place at foreign affiliates. Observations are at the foreign country-year level. Specifications (3) and (5) limit the analysis to OECD countries. All specifications include country and year fixed effects as well as controls for foreign affiliate GDP per capita and population. Standard errors are clustered

at the country level. *** indicates statistical significance at the 1% level, ** at 5%, and * at 10%.

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Table: U.S. MNE Foreign Affiliate Investment and Employment

Dependent Variable: Specification	Log Capital Expenditure			Log Employment		
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
IP Box	-0.09 (0.10)	-0.17 (0.12)	-0.12 (0.12)	-0.03 (0.03)	-0.03 (0.04)	-0.03 (0.03)
Tax Diff	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.00 (0.00)	-0.00 (0.00)	-0.00 (0.00)
1[Territorial]	-0.08 (0.12)	-0.09 (0.12)	-0.08 (0.12)	0.06** (0.03)	0.06** (0.03)	0.06** (0.03)
Existing × IP Box		0.25* (0.15)			0.00 (0.04)	
Gross × IP Box			0.14 (0.12)			0.03 (0.03)
Country, Year FE	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Controls	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
R-Squared	0.288	0.291	0.289	0.694	0.694	0.694
Countries	112	112	112	116	116	116
Countries × Years	698	698	698	815	815	815

Notes: The dependent variable in Specifications (1)–(3) is the log of U.S. MNE capital expenditure taking place at foreign affiliates. The dependent variable in Specifications (4)–(6) is the log of U.S. MNE employment taking place at foreign affiliates. Observations are at the foreign country-year level. All specifications include country and year fixed effects as well as controls for foreign affiliate GDP per capita and population. Standard errors are clustered at the country level. *** indicates statistical significance at the 1% level, ** at 5%, and * at 10%.