





# Tax Reform 2008

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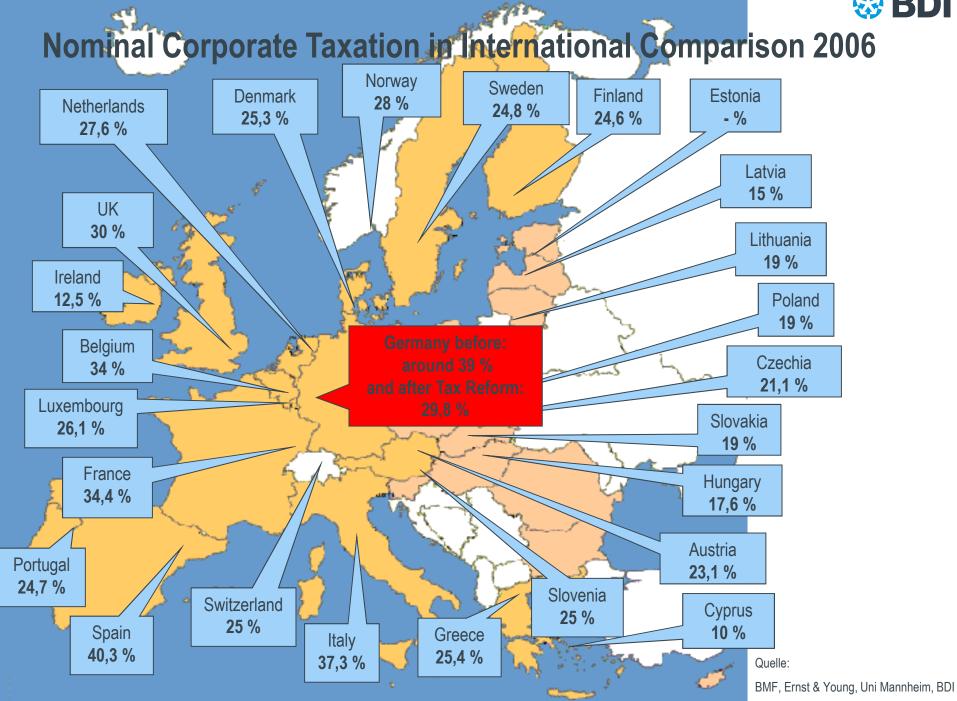
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Tax Reform 2008

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- Interest Deduction Ceiling
- Business restructuring







### Tax Reform – Tax relief measures:

1) Relief for corporations:

Reduction of corporate tax rate

2) Relief for partnerships:

Implementation of a corporate level lower individual income tax

3) Withholding tax:

25 % (1st January 2009)



## **Tax Reform – Financing measures:**

#### 1) Trade Tax:

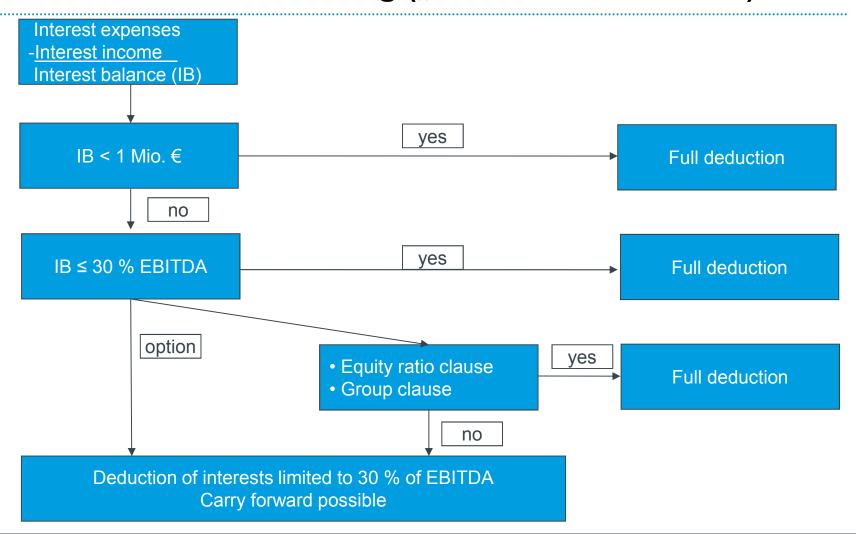
- No deduction of trade tax anymore
- No stepped tariff anymore for partnerships
- Addition of financing expenses amounting to 25%

### 2) Individual and corporate income tax:

- Tightening of the shell company purchase rules
- Interest Deduction Ceiling ("Interest Barrier rule")
- Shifting of functions: Taxation of hidden assets (e. g. know-how)

**BDI** 7

# Interest Deduction Ceiling ("Interest Barrier rule")





# Interest Deduction Ceiling ("Interest Barrier rule")

**Example (economic approach):** 

Deficit (taxable result): ./. 20 Mio.

Interest costs = Interest balance: 60 Mio.

depreciation and amortization: 10 Mio.

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→ EBITDA: 50 Mio.

→ Decutible interest costs: 15 Mio.

→ non-deductible: 45 Mio.

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Fictitious profit: 25 Mio.

 $\rightarrow$  Tax burden: 7 – 11 Mio. (depends on legal form)



## **Shifting of Functions**

#### Package-deal

• Taxation of profit opportunities

Taxation of advantages or profit opportunities that cannot be regarded as an intangible.

#### • Target:

Companies that deduct research and development expenses in Germany but transfer the subsequent production and distribution of the new product to avoid taxation of profits in Germany.

- Compliance with EU Law and the OECD?
- → Arm's length
- → Disrimination of cross-boarder transactions

