Themenheft "Fiscal Equalization in Europe"

Contribution "EU Taxes for the EU Budget in the Light of Sustainability Orientation – a Survey"

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Figure 2 shows the tax structure in EU 15 and EU 28 countries in 2002 and 2014. The different taxes are expressed as a percentage of total taxation. Taxes on labour reach about 50% in overall tax revenues on average in the EU15 and about 47% in the EU28 in 2014, while the value added tax reaches 18.8% (EU15) and 22.1% (EU 28) respectively. Capital taxes (excluding taxes on property) amount to 15.0% (EU15) and 14.2% (EU28), taxes on property range between 4.3% (EU28) and 5.8% (EU15). Environmental taxes make up for a share of 6.7% (EU15) and 7.4% (EU28) respectively. Other taxes on consumption are calculated as the residual of taxes on consumption minus the value added tax and environmental taxes and range between 3.8% (EU15) and 4.9% (EU28). The calculation is based on data of the European Commission, 2016 (Taxation Trends). Averages are calculated as arithmetic means due to data restrictions. The shares of individual taxes do not add up exactly to 100% due to rounding. For further explanations please see chapter 3.2. Sustainability gaps in taxation in the EU