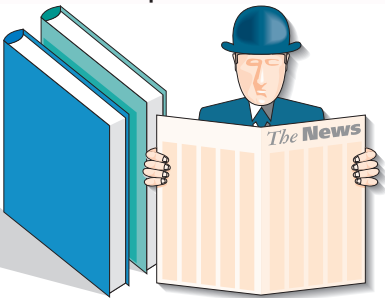


VAT on publications

Britain is unique among EC member states in not imposing VAT on books, magazines and newspapers. The Newspaper Society has warned that a fifth of Britain's 1,256 regional newspapers would be forced to close if VAT is imposed at the full rate



	Books %	Newspapers and magazines %
UK	0	0
Denmark	25	0
France	5.5	2.1
Spain	3	3
Italy	4	4
Greece	4	4
Portugal	5, 30*	5
*Portugal applies a higher rate on pornographic books		
Netherlands	6	6
Belgium	6	6
Germany	7	7
Luxembourg	12	12
Ireland	0	12.5