

Global Wealth Tax – Policy Brief

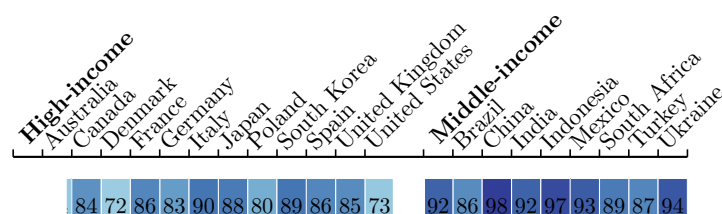
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Figure 1: Support for a Global Wealth Tax (in percent).

Global tax on millionaires to finance low-income countries



1 Introduction

Fabre et al. (2023) survey attitudes toward global policies in 20 among the largest countries and find near consensus for a global tax on millionaires that would finance low-income countries. The world's richest 1% (those with a wealth above €900,000) own 38% of global wealth (Chancel et al. 2022), and the wealth in excess of €1 million represents 24% of global wealth. It is logical that the other 99% massively support taxing the wealthiest. What is more interesting, 90% of Americans and 92% of Europeans want to pool at least 10% of the revenues of a global wealth tax to finance low-income countries. When asked the preferred amount that should finance low-income countries, the average answer is one third.

In this policy brief, we propose a global wealth tax and specify how its revenues should be allocated between countries (Section 2), we estimate the distributive effects of such a tax (Section 3), and show that it would be strongly supported all over the world (Section 4).

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2 Design

While action at a global level reduces tax avoidance, taxing wealth at the national level already significantly makes a dent on inequality and generates important revenues. The implementation of national wealth taxes should therefore not be delayed by the wait of a global wealth tax. We call like-minded political parties of all countries to include a wealth tax proposal in their platform, and implement it when they arrive in power. We propose below a design of wealth tax that can be replicated in any country so that national wealth taxes would be compatible and part of a global wealth tax system.

A 2% tax on wealth in excess of \$5 million would raise \$816 billion each year (0.85% of the Gross World Product), half of it coming from the U.S. and less than \$1 billion from all low-income countries (28 countries home to 700 million people) combined.

3 Distributive effects

4 Support

[Fabre et al. \(2023\)](#) a tax on all millionaires in dollars around the world to finance low-income countries that comply with international standards regarding climate action [which] would finance infrastructure and public services such as access to drinking water, healthcare, and education

Bibliography

L. Chancel, T. Piketty, E. Saez, & G. Zucman. World Inequality Report 2022. 2022. [1](#)

A. Fabre, T. Douenne, & L. Mattauch. International Attitudes Toward Global Policies. 2023. [Link](#). [1](#), [2](#)