Worldwide VAT & GST Rate Changes

Main rate developments, affected sectors and timelines

October 2026

Exclusive source: VATupdate.com



Five main rate developments

Ranked by multinational impact, breadth, timing and operational consequence

1	**Poland | Preferential VAT withdrawn for selected beverages** 5% retail / 8% catering → 23% • 18 pp retail / 15 pp catering	**1 January 2027**	PARLIAMENT APPROVED / PRESIDENTIAL STEP PENDING
2	**United Kingdom | Temporary zero rate for domestic electricity extended** 5% → 0% • 5 percentage-point reduction	**1 October 2026**	BUDGET CONFIRMATION / TEMPORARY RELIEF
3	**Oman | Zero-rating expanded for food, medicines and medical equipment** Previous rate not specified → 0% • Not calculable	**1 October 2026**	FINAL DECISIONS / IMPLEMENTED
4	**Cyprus | Temporary zero-rating for essential goods** Previous rate not specified → 0% • Not calculable	**1 Oct / 12 Oct 2026; separate 2027 extension**	FINAL DECREE / TEMPORARY
5	**Australia | Policy proposal to raise GST to 15% and tax all food** 10% → 15% proposed • 5 percentage-point proposed increase	**No effective date; proposal only**	INDEPENDENT POLICY PROPOSAL

Exclusive source: VATupdate.com

Worldwide rate-change portfolio

October publication portfolio, grouped by type rather than geography

Classification / litigation

Netherlands bicycle maintenance • Netherlands horse exports • UK EV charging

Regional spread

Europe dominates the publication set; material developments also arise in Oman, Australia, Peru and Jamaica.

Policy proposal

Australia: 10% to 15% GST and removal of food exemption proposed by an independent institute

Main sectors

Food and beverages, energy, healthcare, housing, hospitality, tourism, transport electrification and export goods.

Reduced rates / guidance

Cyprus solar • Ireland animal respiratory vaccines • France social housing

Status mix

Final decisions, temporary relief, scheduled reversions, guidance, parliamentary action, court decisions and one independent proposal.

Poland: Preferential VAT withdrawn for selected beverages

PARLIAMENT APPROVED / PRESIDENTIAL STEP PENDING

Specified non-alcoholic beer, dealcoholised wine or cider, drinks with added caffeine or taurine, and qualifying beverages containing at least 20% fruit, vegetable or mixed juice.

RATE CHANGE

5% retail / 8% catering
→ 23%
18 pp retail / 15 pp catering
Permanent measure; no end date reported

SCOPE

Specified non-alcoholic beer, dealcoholised wine or cider, drinks with added caffeine or taurine, and qualifying beverages containing at least 20% fruit, vegetable or mixed juice.

TRANSITION & OPERATING IMPACT

Effective/relevant date: 1 January 2027. Review pricing, tax codes, master data, open orders, invoices, credits and returns. Other transition mechanics: not specified in the VATupdate.com article.

FOUR-POINT TIMELINE

Publication
October 2026

Status
PARLIAMENT APPROVED / PRESIDENTIAL STEP PENDING

Effective
1 January 2027

End / next step
Permanent measure; no end date reported

United Kingdom: Temporary zero rate for domestic electricity extended

BUDGET CONFIRMATION / TEMPORARY RELIEF

Qualifying domestic electricity in Great Britain and charities' non-business use. Northern Ireland remained at 5% initially; VATupdate reports expected UK-wide application from April 2027.

RATE CHANGE

5%
→ 0%
5 percentage-point reduction
Extended into summer 2027; VATupdate articles report 1 July and 31 July, creating a source inconsistency

SCOPE

Qualifying domestic electricity in Great Britain and charities' non-business use. Northern Ireland remained at 5% initially; VATupdate reports expected UK-wide application from April 2027.

TRANSITION & OPERATING IMPACT

Effective/relevant date: 1 October 2026. Review pricing, tax codes, master data, open orders, invoices, credits and returns. Other transition mechanics: not specified in the VATupdate.com article.

FOUR-POINT TIMELINE

Publication
October 2026

Status
BUDGET CONFIRMATION / TEMPORARY RELIEF

Effective
1 October 2026

End / next step
Extended into summer 2027; VATupdate articles report 1 July and 31 July, creating a source inconsistency

Exclusive source: VATupdate.com

Oman: Zero-rating expanded for food, medicines and medical equipme

FINAL DECISIONS / IMPLEMENTED

Detailed tariff-code lists for food commodities, human medicines and medical equipment, and 62 veterinary medicine/equipment items. Human and veterinary products may require ministry release permits.

RATE CHANGE

Previous rate not specified
→ 0%
Not calculable
Not specified

SCOPE

Detailed tariff-code lists for food commodities, human medicines and medical equipment, and 62 veterinary medicine/equipment items. Human and veterinary products may require ministry release permits.

TRANSITION & OPERATING IMPACT

Effective/relevant date: 1 October 2026. Review pricing, tax codes, master data, open orders, invoices, credits and returns. Other transition mechanics: not specified in the VATupdate.com article.

FOUR-POINT TIMELINE

Publication	Status	Effective	End / next step
October 2026	FINAL DECISIONS / IMPLEMENTED	1 October 2026	Not specified

Cyprus: Temporary zero-rating for essential goods

FINAL DECREE / TEMPORARY

Fresh, chilled or frozen meat and specified seafood from 1 October 2026; bread, milk, coffee, sugar and baby food from 12 October 2026; baby milk, diapers, feminine hygiene products and specified fruit and vegetables during 2027.

RATE CHANGE

Previous rate not specified
→ 0%
Not calculable
31 May 2027 or 31 Dec 2027, depending on category

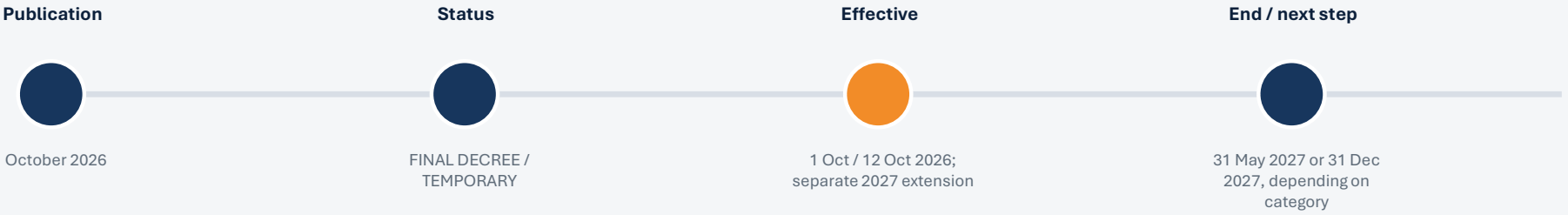
SCOPE

Fresh, chilled or frozen meat and specified seafood from 1 October 2026; bread, milk, coffee, sugar and baby food from 12 October 2026; baby milk, diapers, feminine hygiene products and specified fruit and vegetables during 2027.

TRANSITION & OPERATING IMPACT

Effective/relevant date: 1 Oct / 12 Oct 2026; separate 2027 extension. Review pricing, tax codes, master data, open orders, invoices, credits and returns. Other transition mechanics: not specified in the VATupdate.com article.

FOUR-POINT TIMELINE



Exclusive source: VATupdate.com

Cyprus: Residential photovoltaic systems reduced to 9%

Purchase and installation of photovoltaic systems supplied to residential customers for self-consumption in their homes.

FINAL DECREE / RATE REDUCTION

RATE CHANGE

19%
→ 9%
10 percentage-point reduction
Not specified

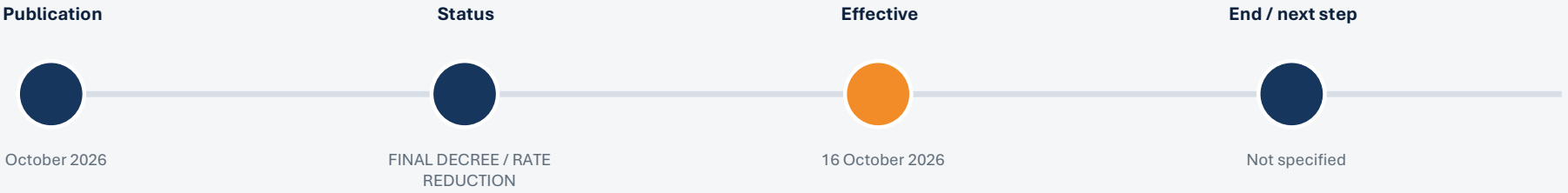
SCOPE

Purchase and installation of photovoltaic systems supplied to residential customers for self-consumption in their homes.

TRANSITION & OPERATING IMPACT

Effective/relevant date: 16 October 2026. Review pricing, tax codes, master data, open orders, invoices, credits and returns. Other transition mechanics: not specified in the VATupdate.com article.

FOUR-POINT TIMELINE



Australia: Policy proposal to raise GST to 15% and tax all food

INDEPENDENT POLICY PROPOSAL

The Grattan Institute proposal would raise the standard GST rate and broaden the base to include all food. It is not government legislation or an enacted measure.

RATE CHANGE

10%
→ 15% proposed
5 percentage-point proposed increase
Not applicable

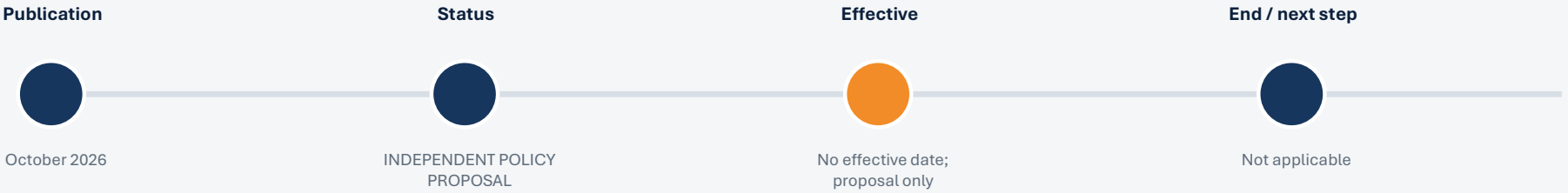
SCOPE

The Grattan Institute proposal would raise the standard GST rate and broaden the base to include all food. It is not government legislation or an enacted measure.

TRANSITION & OPERATING IMPACT

Effective/relevant date: No effective date; proposal only. Review pricing, tax codes, master data, open orders, invoices, credits and returns. Other transition mechanics: not specified in the VATupdate.com article.

FOUR-POINT TIMELINE



Exclusive source: VATupdate.com

Croatia: Temporary energy relief scheduled to expire

Natural gas, district heating and related fees, plus wood fuels including firewood, pellets, briquettes and wood chips.

FINAL / SCHEDULED REVERSION

RATE CHANGE

5%
→ 13%
8 percentage-point increase
Reversion may change if relief is extended again

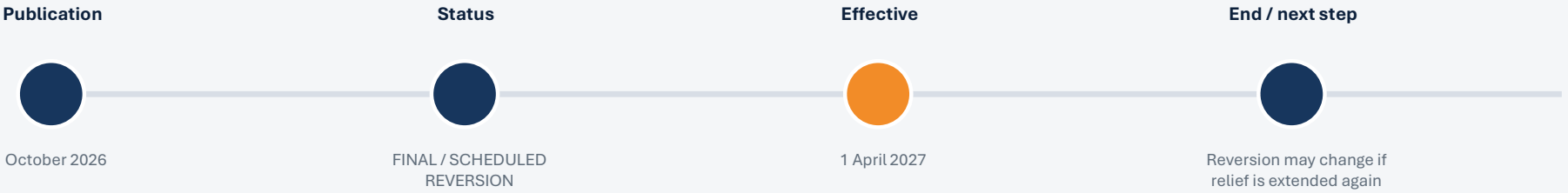
SCOPE

Natural gas, district heating and related fees, plus wood fuels including firewood, pellets, briquettes and wood chips.

TRANSITION & OPERATING IMPACT

Effective/relevant date: 1 April 2027. Review pricing, tax codes, master data, open orders, invoices, credits and returns. Other transition mechanics: not specified in the VATupdate.com article.

FOUR-POINT TIMELINE



Exclusive source: VATupdate.com

Ireland: Animal respiratory vaccines move to 9%

Respiratory vaccines for animals only. Other animal vaccines remain subject to VAT; the requested broader zero rate was not adopted.

RATE REDUCTION

RATE CHANGE

Previous rate not specified
→ 9%
Not calculable
Not specified

SCOPE

Respiratory vaccines for animals only. Other animal vaccines remain subject to VAT; the requested broader zero rate was not adopted.

TRANSITION & OPERATING IMPACT

Effective/relevant date: Not specified in the VATupdate.com article. Review pricing, tax codes, master data, open orders, invoices, credits and returns. Other transition mechanics: not specified in the VATupdate.com article.

FOUR-POINT TIMELINE

Publication	Status	Effective	End / next step
October 2026	RATE REDUCTION	Not specified in the VATupdate.com article	Not specified

France: Reduced VAT framework for social housing clarified

GUIDANCE UPDATED

Approved lease-to-own housing, designated urban-renewal housing, solidarity real leases, qualifying land and specified social or medico-social premises, subject to income, price, zoning and institutional conditions.

RATE CHANGE

Standard treatment varies
→ 5.5% / 10%
Not calculable
Not specified

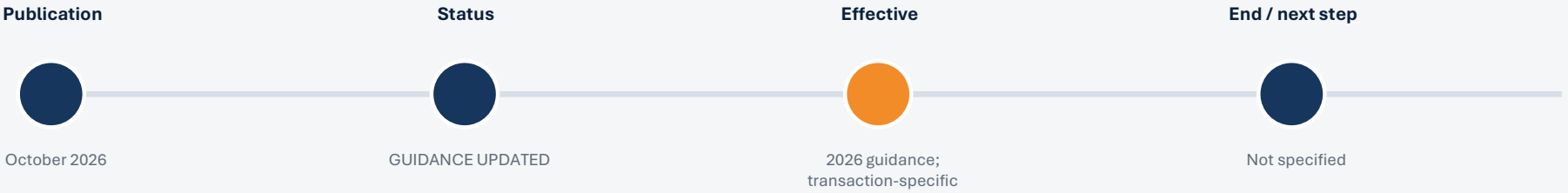
SCOPE

Approved lease-to-own housing, designated urban-renewal housing, solidarity real leases, qualifying land and specified social or medico-social premises, subject to income, price, zoning and institutional conditions.

TRANSITION & OPERATING IMPACT

Effective/relevant date: 2026 guidance; transaction-specific. Review pricing, tax codes, master data, open orders, invoices, credits and returns. Other transition mechanics: not specified in the VATupdate.com article.

FOUR-POINT TIMELINE



United Kingdom: Public and workplace EV charging confirmed at 20%

BUDGET CONFIRMATION / GUIDANCE

Electricity supplied through public and workplace EV charge points. Supplies through 31 October 2026 remain subject to litigation according to VATupdate.

RATE CHANGE

Disputed for earlier supplies
→ 20%
Not calculable
Permanent treatment; no end date reported

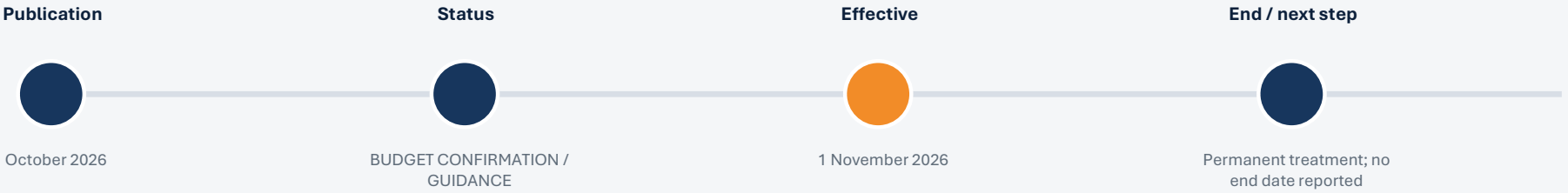
SCOPE

Electricity supplied through public and workplace EV charge points. Supplies through 31 October 2026 remain subject to litigation according to VATupdate.

TRANSITION & OPERATING IMPACT

Effective/relevant date: 1 November 2026. Review pricing, tax codes, master data, open orders, invoices, credits and returns. Other transition mechanics: not specified in the VATupdate.com article.

FOUR-POINT TIMELINE



Exclusive source: VATupdate.com

United Kingdom: Land for registered social-housing providers to be zer

BUDGET CONFIRMATION

Land sold to registered providers of social housing, enabling transfer before the golden-brick stage and improving VAT recovery on related costs.

RATE CHANGE

Previous rate not specified
→ 0%
Not calculable
Not specified

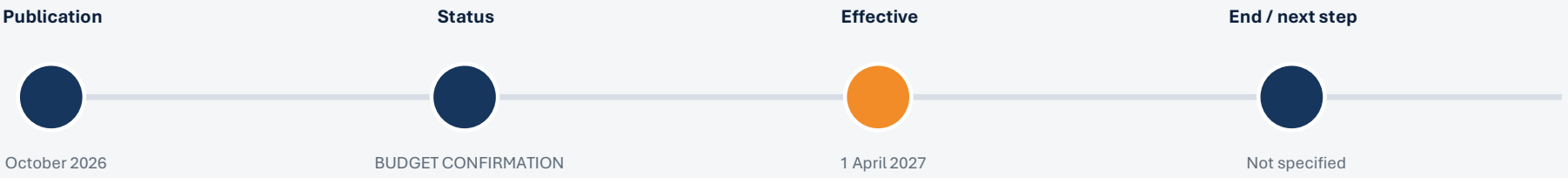
SCOPE

Land sold to registered providers of social housing, enabling transfer before the golden-brick stage and improving VAT recovery on related costs.

TRANSITION & OPERATING IMPACT

Effective/relevant date: 1 April 2027. Review pricing, tax codes, master data, open orders, invoices, credits and returns. Other transition mechanics: not specified in the VATupdate.com article.

FOUR-POINT TIMELINE



Exclusive source: VATupdate.com

Peru: Reduced hospitality IGV scheduled to rise

FINAL / SCHEDULED EXPIRY

Restaurants, hotels and accommodation. VATupdate reports the combined rate including the 2% municipal promotion tax moving from 10.5% to 15%.

RATE CHANGE

8% IGV
→ 12% IGV
4 percentage-point increase
Reduced regime ends on 31 December 2026

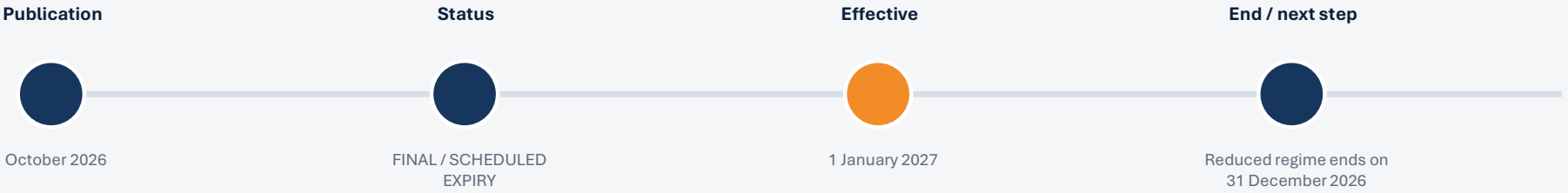
SCOPE

Restaurants, hotels and accommodation. VATupdate reports the combined rate including the 2% municipal promotion tax moving from 10.5% to 15%.

TRANSITION & OPERATING IMPACT

Effective/relevant date: 1 January 2027. Review pricing, tax codes, master data, open orders, invoices, credits and returns. Other transition mechanics: not specified in the VATupdate.com article.

FOUR-POINT TIMELINE



Exclusive source: VATupdate.com

Jamaica: Tourism GCT increase deferred to April 2027

Tourism activities and short-term rentals supplied through platforms such as Airbnb and Booking.

FINAL / DEFERRED

RATE CHANGE

10%
→ 15%
5 percentage-point increase
Permanent measure; no end date reported

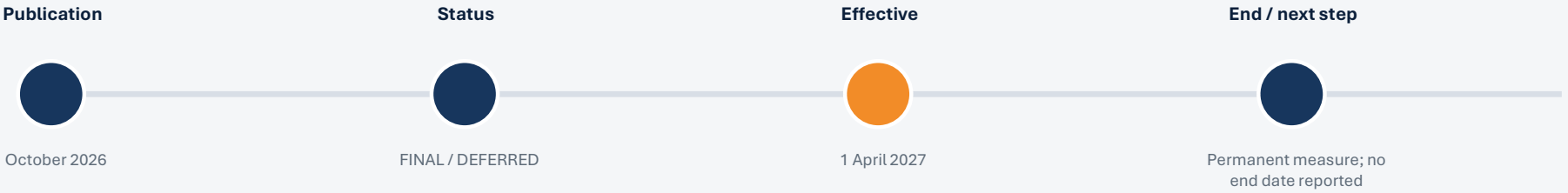
SCOPE

Tourism activities and short-term rentals supplied through platforms such as Airbnb and Booking.

TRANSITION & OPERATING IMPACT

Effective/relevant date: 1 April 2027. Review pricing, tax codes, master data, open orders, invoices, credits and returns. Other transition mechanics: not specified in the VATupdate.com article.

FOUR-POINT TIMELINE



Exclusive source: VATupdate.com

Moldova: Tiered VAT reform replaces planned flat 20% approach

FINAL / TIERED REFORM

Essentials at 8%; agri-food, HoReCa and tourism at 12%; energy becomes tiered. VATupdate also reports 20% on e-commerce parcels below EUR 150 from 1 October 2026.

RATE CHANGE

Planned flat 20%
→ 8% / 12% tiered; energy tiered
Not calculable
Not specified

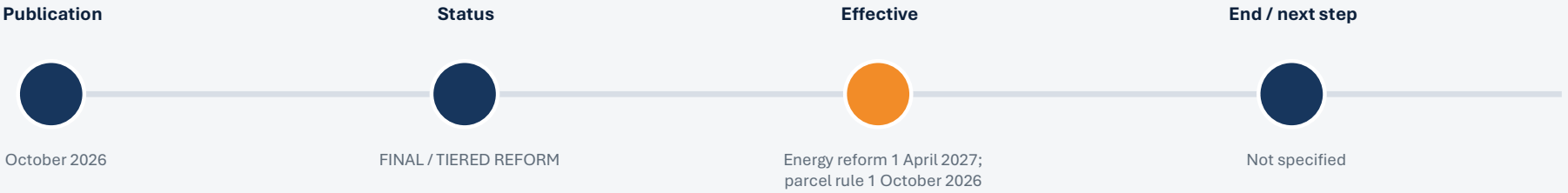
SCOPE

Essentials at 8%; agri-food, HoReCa and tourism at 12%; energy becomes tiered. VATupdate also reports 20% on e-commerce parcels below EUR 150 from 1 October 2026.

TRANSITION & OPERATING IMPACT

Effective/relevant date: Energy reform 1 April 2027; parcel rule 1 October 2026. Review pricing, tax codes, master data, open orders, invoices, credits and returns. Other transition mechanics: not specified in the VATupdate.com article.

FOUR-POINT TIMELINE



Exclusive source: VATupdate.com

Thailand: Reduced 7% VAT retained until September 2027

All sales of goods, services and imports when the current reduced-rate decree expires.

FINAL EXTENSION / SCHEDULED DEFAULT

RATE CHANGE

7% retained
→ 10% statutory default
3 percentage-point scheduled increase
7% decree expires 30 September 2027; further extension considered likely by VATupdate

SCOPE

All sales of goods, services and imports when the current reduced-rate decree expires.

TRANSITION & OPERATING IMPACT

Effective/relevant date: Potential reversion 1 October 2027. Review pricing, tax codes, master data, open orders, invoices, credits and returns. Other transition mechanics: not specified in the VATupdate.com article.

FOUR-POINT TIMELINE

Publication
October 2026

Status
FINAL EXTENSION / SCHEDULED DEFAULT

Effective
Potential reversion 1 October 2027

End / next step
7% decree expires 30 September 2027; further extension considered likely by VATupdate

Exclusive source: VATupdate.com

Netherlands: Bicycle maintenance card qualifies as a separate reduce

COURT JUDGMENT

A bicycle sale and accompanying maintenance service card were separate supplies with separate consideration; the discount allocated to the bicycle was respected.

RATE CHANGE

21% asserted by authority
→ Reduced rate upheld; percentage not stated
Not calculable
Not applicable

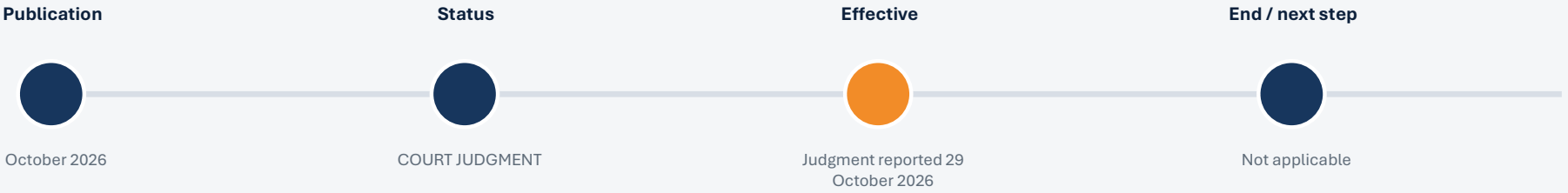
SCOPE

A bicycle sale and accompanying maintenance service card were separate supplies with separate consideration; the discount allocated to the bicycle was respected.

TRANSITION & OPERATING IMPACT

Effective/relevant date: Judgment reported 29 October 2026. Review pricing, tax codes, master data, open orders, invoices, credits and returns. Other transition mechanics: not specified in the VATupdate.com article.

FOUR-POINT TIMELINE



Netherlands: Export zero rate turns on the nature of interim EU use

NATIONAL COURT DECISIONS

Separate horse-export cases reached different outcomes. Training or selection activity tied directly to export could preserve zero-rating, while substantive competition use in the EU could break the material and temporal link.

RATE CHANGE

0% claimed
→ 0% upheld or denied depending on facts
Not applicable
Not applicable

SCOPE

Separate horse-export cases reached different outcomes. Training or selection activity tied directly to export could preserve zero-rating, while substantive competition use in the EU could break the material and temporal link.

TRANSITION & OPERATING IMPACT

Effective/relevant date: Decisions reported during October 2026. Review pricing, tax codes, master data, open orders, invoices, credits and returns. Other transition mechanics: not specified in the VATupdate.com article.

FOUR-POINT TIMELINE

