

*Le belle tasse. Ciò che i bambini ci insegnano sul bene comune*, Einaudi, Turin, 2011, 86 pp.

Taxes are usually seen as something 'bad', because they imply sacrifice. It is rather surprising to hear them described as 'nice'. Why would anyone say they are 'nice'? The answer is that they allow us to live together, they are the basis of coexistence in society. We are all called upon to contribute to public spending and they enable us to meet goals that concern everyone. And this is possible only through taxation. This means making a personal sacrifice, but it is for the common good. In real life, however, we often lose sight of the connection between the two aspects, and so, mistakenly, only the idea of sacrifice remains. This misunderstanding needs to be addressed. So, one day, Professor Fichera was asked to explain taxes to a group of children. "I accepted the invitation and, for some reason, the first thing that came to mind was to give out chocolates to the children." From this sprang a useful and interesting role-play. And this book.