European Union; Greece

European Commission Closes Infringement Procedure Against Greece Regarding VAT Exemption of Postal Services

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On 16 November 2023, the European Commission closed the infringement procedure against Greece for not complying with the VAT Directive (2006/112) regarding the broad application of the VAT exemption of postal services, as the Member State concerned also applied the VAT exemption to certain postal services that did not meet the essential needs of the population.

The infringement procedure had been initiated on 9 June 2021 with a letter of formal notice sent to Greece (see European Commission Initiates Infringement Procedure Against Greece for Broad Application of VAT Exemption on Postal Services (10 June 2021)). Since Greece did not provide a satisfactory response to the situation and continued to infringe the VAT Directive (2006/112) by continuing to apply the relevant VAT exemption in a broad sense, the European Commission sent a reasoned opinion on 15 July 2022 (see European Commission Urges Greece to Comply with EU VAT Rules Related to Exemption of Postal Services (20 July 2022)).

The procedure was closed by decision of the European Commission, without explicitly stating the reasons for closing it.

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