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Factsheet for case PL-2020-14/664

Tarcza anty kryzysowa: measures supporting solo self employed and freelancers

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|--------------|---|
| Country | Poland, applies nationwide |
| Time period | Temporary, started on 01 April 2020 |
| Type | Legislation or other statutory regulation |
| Category | Income support to workers and those laid off – Extensions of support to workers not covered by any kind of protection scheme |
| Case created | 16 April 2020 (updated 23 April 2020) |

Background Information

Following the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemics the government proposed the legislative package of measures intended to counter-act the direct economic effects of the public health crisis. The package, commonly referred to as the Anti-crisis Shield, consist of three legislative acts which all came into force on 1 April.

Of the three acts, the Act amending the Act on Special Measures regrading Prevention, Counteraction and Combating COVID-19 Other Contagious Diseases and Crisis Situations Related and Some Other act of Law is the key piece of legislation regarding the unfolding economic crisis. The Act (abbreviated as the “Special Act”) is a follow-up to the initial ad-hoc regulation introduced in early March.

Ustawa z dnia 31 marca 2020 r. o zmianie ustawy o szczególnych rozwiązaniach związanych z zapobieganiem, przeciwdziałaniem i zwalczaniem COVID-19, innych chorób zakaźnych oraz wywołanych nimi sytuacji kryzysowych oraz niektórych innych ustaw.

Content of measure

The original act deals mostly with reorganization of work (allowing for a wide use of online work, not to be confused with telework of home-office) and care allowances for parents of children aged up to 8 forced to temporarily provide personal care due to closing of care facilities and schools.

In the area of income support for people performing work on basis other than employment the Special Act offers i.a. financial support. The aid is available for self-employed and free-lancers (holders of contracts for performing specific tasks or *umowa o dzieło*, in Polish). The aid is on request, some conditions apply.

Use of measure

Self-employed and free-lancers may request the public aid to cover their income lost as a result of halting operations in the amount of 80% of the national minimum wage. In case of freelancers with the reported income below 50% minimum wage, they can request the amount of all their income. Self-employed paying taxes on the basis of a tax card (simplified form of a corporate income tax) may claim an allowance in a lump sum of 1,300 PLN (some 290 EUR). In all cases the allowance has a form of a one-time payment. In all cases the aid is not available to those whose monthly revenue in the preceding month exceeded the average pay multiplied by three.

Actors, target groups and funding

| Actors | Target groups | Funding |
|---------------------|--------------------------------|----------------|
| Company / Companies | One person or microenterprises | National funds |

Social partners

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| Role of social partners | Informed |
| Form of involvement | Bi-or tripartite social dialogue bodies |

Information provided to Social Dialogue Council, yet no consultations carried.

Sectors and occupations

This case is not sector-specific.

This case is not occupation-specific.

Sources

- 01 April 2020: The Act amending the Act on Special Measures regarding Prevention, Counteraction and Combating COVID-19 Other Contagious Diseases and Crisis Situations Related (Ustawa z dnia 31 marca 2020 r. o zmianie ustawy o szczególnych rozwiązaniach związanych z zapobieganiem, przeciwdziałaniem i zwalczaniem COVID-19, innych chorób zakaźnych oraz wywołanych nimi sytuacji kryzysowych oraz niektórych innych ustaw (prawo.sejm.gov.pl))