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Norway: Definition of collective dismissal

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Norway

Phase:

Management

Type:

Definition of collective dismissal

Last modified: 10 February, 2021

Native name:

Arbeidsmiljøloven; Arbeidsmarkedsloven

English name:

Working Environment Act; Labour Market Act

Article

1-2, 15-2, 15-7 (Working Environment Act); 8 (Labour Market Act)

Description

If the employer is to fall under the scope of legislation on collective dismissal, at least 10 employees must be laid off within 30 days. The shipping, hunting and fishing, and military aviation sectors are excluded from the legislation, as well as civil servants.

Economic reasons for restructuring are accepted in legislation where dismissals need to be 'objectively justified', and the employer has to demonstrate that no suitable alternative work is available.

When deciding whether a dismissal is objectively justified by curtailed operations or rationalisation measures, the needs of the undertaking shall be weighed against the disadvantage caused by the dismissal for the individual employee.

Comments

A notice does not have to be given in order to meet the definition. A declaration of intent is enough.

The definition in the Working Environment Act is equal to the definition found in the Labour Market Act.

Cost covered by

Not applicable

Involved actors other than national government

National government only

Thresholds

Company size by number of employees:

10

Number of affected employees:

10

Sources

- [Working Enviroment Act](#)
- [Arbeidsmiljøloven](#)
- [Arbeidsmarkedsloven](#)
- [EMCC - Legal framework for restructuring](#)
- [Ius Laboris \(2011\), Individual Dismissals Across Europe, Brussels](#)

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