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Factsheet for case GR-2020-12/695

Financial support for suspended and dismissed employees

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Country	Greece, applies nationwide
Time period	Temporary, 20 March 2020 - 30 April 2020
Type	Legislation or other statutory regulation
Category	Income protection beyond short-time work – Income support for unemployed
Case created	16 April 2020 (updated 04 May 2020)

Background information

The government with the article 11 of 20 March 2020 Legislative Act (Government Gazette A' 68) in conjunction with the article 3 of the Circular of Ministry of Labour no 123339/404/12.03.2020, in the context of the “emergency contingency measures to address the effects of the coronavirus COVID-19, support society and entrepreneurship and ensure the uninterrupted operation of the market and public administration”, introduces an extraordinary financial aid to employees whose work has been suspended.

Content of measure

The special purpose indemnification, amounting to €800, is provided to all employees whose employment contract is under suspension because they are employed by enterprises that

- a) are under suspension by order of the public authorities, and
- b) are significantly affected by the extraordinary measures addressing COVID-19, based on their activity code (primary or secondary).

The indemnification covers the period from March 20 to April 30, 2020 and is not offset with any sums due. Employees dismissed or voluntarily resigned during the period March 1 to 20, are also entitled to the indemnification. The expense for the indemnification, as well as the insurance coverage of the employees, is covered by the state, provided that certain required procedures are followed.

Not eligible are employees that

- a) are employed in companies whose activities were not included in the businesses affected by COVID-19,
- b) work by telecommuting,
- c) work as safety personnel.

Use of measure

According to the data, by 22/4/2020, approximately 686,000 workers received the extraordinary financial aid. In addition, 160,000 applications are expected after the list of professions eligible for the aim has been extended.

Actors, target groups and funding

Actors	Target groups	Funding
National government	Employees Unemployed	National funds

Social partners

Role of social partners	Not applicable
Form of involvement	Not applicable

The government has designed and implemented this measure.

Sectors and occupations

This case is not sector-specific.

This case is not occupation-specific.

Sources

- 20 March 2020: "Urgent measures to address the consequences of the spread of the coronavirus COVID-19, to support society and entrepreneurship and to ensure the smooth functioning of the market and public administration." (O.G A' 68/20-3-2020) (www.et.gr)
- 28 March 2020: Inter-ministerial decree of the Ministers of Finance and Labor No. 12998/232 "support measures for employees of private sector employers to address the effects of coronavirus COVID 19" dated 28/3/2020. (www.et.gr)