

Disclaimer: This factsheet has not been subject to the full Eurofound evaluation, editorial and publication process.

Factsheet for case RO-2020-16/372

Allowance for self-employed and non-standard workers

Factsheet generated on 06 May 2020, 20:54

Country	Romania, applies nationwide
Time period	Temporary, started on 16 April 2020
Type	Legislation or other statutory regulation
Category	Income protection beyond short-time work – Extensions of income support to workers not covered by any kind of protection scheme
Case created	08 April 2020 (updated 03 May 2020)

Background information

Freelancers, authorized individuals, individuals deriving incomes exclusively from copyright and related rights are not covered by any social protection mechanism, such as unemployment benefit, etc. The activity of these categories is defined by the Civil Code and not by the Labor code, consecutively, the freelancers do not have any entitlements resulting from an employment relationship. Exceptionally, due to the impact of COVID-19 pandemic, that resulted in the interruption of activity of thousands of freelancers, the Government decided they shall benefit from an indemnity of 75% of the average gross salary for 2020 (RON 5,429 = €1,100) during the entire state of emergency.

Content of measure

GEO 30/2020 establishes that professionals within the meaning defined by the Civil Code, such as authorized individuals, as well as the individuals deriving incomes exclusively from copyright and related rights and the persons who entered into individual employment conventions based on Law 1/2005, who interrupt their activity as a result of COVID-19 during the state of emergency instituted by the Decree shall benefit from an indemnity of 75% of the average gross salary for the year 2020 (RON 5,429 = €1,100). Similarly, trainers, athletes, masseurs, physical therapists, whose activities have been suspended during the state of emergency, at the initiative of the sports organisation, shall benefit from an indemnity of

75% of their monetary rights, within the same threshold applicable to employees (maximum 5,429 RON=€1,100). These indemnities will be borne from the state budget, and will require payment of social security contributions and health insurance contributions in compliance with the provisions of the Fiscal Code.

Use of measure

Romania has about 1,7 million self-employed, most of them in agriculture. However, most of the self employed are not eligible for the indemnity provided by the state - most of the self-employed are not legally registered as such, others don't fulfill the legal criteria. By now, it is difficult to estimate the number of beneficiaries of this measure, but most probably it will not exceed 100.000.

Actors, target groups and funding

Actors	Target groups	Funding
National government Public employment service	Self-employed Workers in non-standard forms of employment	National funds

Social partners

Role of social partners	Consulted
Form of involvement	Direct consultation

The social partners have been consulted in the framework of the National Tripartite Social Dialogue Council.

Sectors and occupations

This case is not sector-specific.

This case is not occupation-specific.

Sources

- 30 March 2020: GEO 32/2020 (www.mmuncii.ro)