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Factsheet for case GR-2020-12/694

Extension of expired or expiring unemployment benefit payments

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Country	Greece, applies nationwide
Time period	Temporary, 20 March 2020 - 30 June 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

In the context of the “emergency contingency measures to address the effects of the coronavirus COVID-19, to support society and entrepreneurship and ensure the uninterrupted operation of the market and public administration”, the Greek government introduced a regulation/extension of unemployment benefits in order to support the unemployed. The extension concerns the regular unemployment benefit, the long term unemployed benefit and the unemployment benefit of the self-employed.

The relevant law: Art 7 of the Official Gazette A68, March 20, 2020 and art 24 of the Official Gazette A75, March 30, 2020).

Content of measure

Pursuant to the new measure, the duration of the unemployment benefits that have expired or expire during the first quarter of 2020 is extended for 2 months after their expiry. The extension concerns the regular unemployment benefit, the long term unemployed benefit and the unemployment benefit of the self-employed.

Regarding the amount, beneficiaries of the regular unemployment benefit will receive in total, for the two months, up to €798.50 (up to €399.25 monthly), increased by 10% for each dependent of the beneficiary unemployed.

The beneficiaries of the self-employed unemployment benefit will receive up to €720 (up to €360 monthly) in total and the beneficiaries of the unemployment benefit will receive up to €400 (up to €200.00 monthly) in total.

Use of measure

According to an estimate by the OAED Commander , about 200,000 unemployed people, who ended their unemployment benefit in January, February, March and April 2020 will get a two-month extension. In addition another 155,000 long-term unemployed will receive the aid.

Actors, target groups and funding

Actors	Target groups	Funding
National government	Self-employed Unemployed	National funds

Social partners

Role of social partners	Not applicable
Form of involvement	Not applicable

The government has designed and implemented this measure. The measure was considered positive.

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)
- 30 March 2020: Act of Legislative Content of 30.03.2020 "Measures to combat the pandemic of coronavirus COVID-19 and other urgent provisions" (www.et.gr)