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Factsheet for case **FR-2020-12/478**

Exceptional support measures for intermittent workers and employees in the cultural sector

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| Country | France, applies nationwide |
| Time period | Temporary, started on 15 March 2020 |
| Type | Legislation or other statutory regulation |
| Category | Income support to workers and those laid off – Income support for unemployed |
| Case created | 10 April 2020 (updated 16 April 2020) |

Background Information

On 19 March, the government has announced exceptional support measures for intermittent entertainment workers (which corresponds to a special status allowing workers in the entertainment sector to access unemployment compensation between two short-term employment contracts) and employees in the cultural sector in the context of the health crisis. The aim is not to penalize those who receive unemployment benefit and risk losing it during the pandemic, as well as those who no longer acquire rights to unemployment insurance due to the cessation of all activities in the cultural and performing arts sector.

Content of measure

In order to limit the social impacts of the health crisis linked to the coronavirus epidemic, which particularly affects intermittent workers in the entertainment sector (performers and seasonal workers) and other employees (short contracts, etc.) in the cultural sector, the government has decided to neutralise the period starting on 15 March and ending at the end of the confinement of the French population for :

- the calculation of the reference period giving entitlement to unemployment insurance and social rights for casual entertainment workers (performers and technicians), so as not to penalise casual workers who cannot work and acquire rights during this phase of the coronavirus epidemic;
- the calculation and payment of unemployment insurance benefits for casual entertainment workers (performers and technicians) and other employees (short contracts, etc.) in the cultural sector, so that people who lose their rights during this phase of the epidemic can continue to receive compensation.

Use of measure

According the last data available, 192,907 workers were employed under the status of "intermittents du spectacle" between April and June 2019.

Source: http://www.pole-emploi.org/files/live/sites/peorg/files/documents/Statistiques-et-analyses/S%26I/si_20.003_intermittents_2019T2.pdf

On 18 March, the trade union SFA-CGT (Syndicat français des artistes interprètes - CGT) estimated that more than 15,000 performers were deprived of work and income.

Actors, target groups and funding

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

Social partners

| | |
|-------------------------|---------------------|
| Role of social partners | Consulted |
| Form of involvement | Direct consultation |

Even the measure is decided by the government, representative social partners on sectoral level have been consulted by the Ministry of Labour and the Ministry of Culture, before the announcement of temporary adjustment of the specific unemployment scheme of the "intermittents" of the live performance and audiovisual sector.

Sectors and occupations

This case is sector-specific (only private sector).

| Economic area | Sector (NACE level 2) |
|--|--|
| J - Information And Communication | J59 Motion picture, video and television programme production, sound recording and music publishing activities |
| R - Arts, Entertainment And Recreation | R90 Creative, arts and entertainment activities |
| | R91 Libraries, archives, museums and other cultural activities |

This case is not occupation-specific.

Sources

- 19 March 2020: Mesures exceptionnelles de soutien aux intermittents et salariés du secteur culturel dans le cadre de la crise sanitaire (Press release) (travail-emploi.gouv.fr)
- 25 March 2020: Ordonnance n° 2020-324 du 25 mars 2020 portant mesures d'urgence en matière de revenus de remplacement (www.legifrance.gouv.fr)