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Factsheet for case **HR-2020-12/391**

Support for persons in the sector arts and entertainment

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Country	Croatia, applies nationwide
Time period	Temporary, 15 March 2020 - 15 June 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 30 April 2020)

Background information

The arts, entertainment and recreation industries are among the most affected activities, since concerts, theater plays and other cultural events are being cancelled or postponed due to the COVID-19 outbreak. Around 25% of persons active in the sector are self-employed or independent artists, without adequate institutional support, so for them the situation is very challenging. Furthermore, there are many single-person owned companies which are also very vulnerable in the current situation. An appeal to government and local authorities for urgent assistance was launched on 15 March by the Independent theater producers, authors and performers, and the Association of Concert Promoters and signed by more than 1,300 persons, most of whom are freelancers or independent authors in the sector.

Content of measure

The Ministry of Culture announced on 1 April an emergency aid payments for freelance artists whose contributions are paid from the budget of the Republic of Croatia and who can prove that due to special circumstances conditioned by the coronavirus they have been prevented or significantly impeded from performing artistic activities.

The Ministry of Culture allows emergency payments from HRK 1,625 (€ 217) to HRK 3,250 (€ 433) net a month to independent artists whose contributions are paid from the budget of the Republic of Croatia and who can prove that due to special circumstances they have been prevented or significantly impeded from performing artistic activities.

The said emergency payment is planned for three months - from 15 March to 15 June 2020 - and will be subject to review each month, depending on the inflow of funds from the state budget.

Use of measure

The Ministry of Culture invites professional associations and representatives of specific sectors in the field of culture, who will be particularly affected by the social and economic consequences of the epidemic, to integrate all analyzes and preliminary estimates and submit them to the Ministry. The government is preparing a proposal for measures for entrepreneurs who will be able to prove the losses incurred in the context of the epidemic. Given the diversity of artistic fields, the Ministry of Culture calls on all professional associations and representatives of the independent cultural sector, in times of crisis identified as particularly fragile, to submit impact assessments so that the proposed measure is as accurate as possible and adapted to all segments of the independent cultural sector and their creators. Around 1,000 people are believed to request financial support from the Ministry.

Actors, target groups and funding

Actors	Target groups	Funding
National government Other social actors (e.g. NGOs)	One person or microenterprises	National funds

Social partners

Role of social partners	No involvement
Form of involvement	No involvement

No involvement.

Sectors and occupations

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

Economic area	Sector (NACE level 2)
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R - Arts, Entertainment And Recreation	R90 Creative, arts and entertainment activities
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This case is not occupation-specific.

Sources

- 14 March 2020: Appeal of urgent assistance to independent artists (www.tportal.hr)
- 15 March 2020: Barbarić, T. (2020). Korona je slomila kulturnjake, nadaju se hitnoj pomoći države: 'Ljudima je ugrožena egzistencija' (www.tportal.hr)
- 15 March 2020: Ministarstvo kulture (2020). Potpore samostalnim umjetnicima koji profesionalno obavljaju samostalnu umjetničku djelatnost i kojima se doprinosi plaćaju iz proračuna Republike Hrvatske (www.min-kulture.hr)
- 06 April 2020: The list of positively rated requests for support to freelance artists, data for March 2020 (www.min-kulture.hr)
- 27 April 2020: The Ministry of Culture awarded grants to independent artists (www.tportal.hr)